

NATCO 37TH ANNUAL MEETING

Learning from the Past, **ADVANCING THE FUTURE**

What To Do & Where To Go in Washington, DC

World-famous museums, inspiring monuments and powerful moments await you in Washington, DC. A diverse and beautiful world capital, DC invites you to explore charming neighborhoods like historic Georgetown and trendy U Street, where you'll find hip shops, inviting restaurants, vibrant nightlife and peaceful parks and gardens. Discover fascinating free attractions like the Smithsonian Institution, National Gallery of Art, National Archives and the Library of Congress.



The *National Zoo* is a must-see. Its most famous residents are a giant panda couple Mei Xiang and Tian Tian. They're also one of the prime attractions in the Asia Trail, a home they share with sloth bears, fishing cats, red pandas and other creatures. The O-line is also popular where visitors can watch the orangutans cross from the Ape House to the Think Tank via high-wire above their heads.

Visit the *National Archives* to see the original Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution. Before you leave, stop by Public Vaults, a permanent exhibition that gives visitors the sensation of walking into the Archives' behind-the-scenes vaults and stacks.



For another "official Washington" experience, visit the *Library of Congress*. It's a treasure trove of Americana, packed with artifacts like the Wright Brothers' flight logs, Bob Hope's collection of jokes and Harry Houdini's catalog of magic tricks.

Touring the *U.S. Capitol* or the *White House* is a tempting option, but it's one that requires a bit of planning. Tours of the White House are only available by advance reservation through your Congressional representative; you may make your request as early as six months before your trip. Same-day tours of the U.S. Capitol are available, but be prepared to wake up early and wait in line. You can beat the line and arrange your Capitol tour in advance by contacting your representative's office. In that same part of town you can find *The*



Newseum – a 250,000-square-foot museum of news – which offers visitors an experience that blends five centuries of news history with up-to-the-second technology and hands-on exhibits, and the *Spy*

Museum which is the only public museum in the United States solely dedicated to espionage and the only one in the world to provide a global perspective on an all-but-invisible profession that has shaped history and continues to have a significant impact on world events.



When looking for entertainment in DC, one thing's for sure: you don't have to spend a dime. All of the city's famous monuments are free of charge, as are the 15 museums in the *Smithsonian* system and the *National Gallery of Art*. DC by Foot offers a free walking tour six

nights a week, departing from the Washington Monument. Or, get off the National Mall and take a free, self-guided tour on one of *Cultural Tourism DC's* neighborhood heritage trails. At the *Bureau of Engraving and Printing* take a free tour and watch the money come hot off the presses. End your day with a free concert or performance on the Millennium Stage at *The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts*, offered nightly.

Capitol Hill/Capitol Riverfront

Capitol Hill stretches beyond the dome to include a residential district of Victorian row houses and tree-lined streets as well as the *Library of Congress*, *Supreme Court*, *Folger Shakespeare Library*, *National Postal Museum* and *Union Station*.



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