



## A CAPITOL CHRISTMAS

December 9-11, 2010

Holiday fun in the DC area begins at Mount Vernon, Washington's home decorated for Christmas. Stay two nights in Alexandria, and stroll and dine in the charming Old Town. Enjoy lunch at gigantic Gaylord Resort in the new National Harbor, and experience ICE!, amazing winter scenes sculpted in ice. Be awed by the glorious National Cathedral, tour Georgetown's Tudor Place, see bright blooms at the US Botanic Garden, and dine in Union Station. Enjoy the Festival of Lights with music at the Mormon Temple Visitors' Center, and delight in Dicken's "A Christmas Carol" performed at historic Ford's Theatre. It's a dazzling tour!

**DAY 1:** Traveling south to the capital area, begin this fun-filled holiday tour at Mount Vernon, George Washington's home on the Potomac River. Arriving around noon, you will have about four hours to explore the beautiful riverside estate, which is decorated for Christmas. Tour the famous mansion as well as the gardens and grounds, including a 4-



acre working farm, a memorial to the slaves who worked here, and the tombs of George and Martha Washington. To better appreciate Washington's life, visit the Ford Orientation Center and the Reynolds Museum, where 25 galleries and theaters present the story of the "Indispensable Man." Enjoy lunch on your own while at

the estate, either in the casual Food Court Pavilion or in the colonial ambience of the Mount Vernon Inn. Late in the afternoon, travel to nearby Alexandria, Virginia, originally surveyed by the young George Washington. You will have about an hour and a half to explore the shops, cafes, and galleries lining the cobblestone streets of the charming Old Town, which was frequented by several of the Founding Fathers. This evening, enjoy a tasty dinner in the Overwood Wood-Fired American Kitchen, an Old Town favorite. After dinner, check into the new Springhill Suites Alexandria (703-224-7777), our spacious accommodations for the next two nights. (dinner)



**DAY 2:** Enjoy the deluxe continental breakfast in the hotel before embarking with our guide on a delightful day brimming with holiday fun. Crossing over the Potomac, drive north along Embassy Row, where foreign embassies, associations, and clubs occupy large mansions, to reach the Washington National Cathedral. Pending availability, tour the impressive cathedral, which is the sixth largest church in the world. Situated on 57 acres and built in 14<sup>th</sup> Century Gothic style, the cathedral is a living symbol of our country's heritage and faith. Next visit Tudor Place, a historic house in Georgetown. Designed by the first architect of the US Capitol, this neoclassical landmark was home to seven generations of the prominent Peter family. Decorated for Christmas, the beautiful home showcases Georgetown holiday traditions through the centuries. Next, enjoy free time and lunch on your own in bustling Georgetown, where genteel brick rowhouses coexist with trendy boutiques, popular bars, and fine restaurants. In mid afternoon, visit the United States Botanic Garden, a living plant museum established by Congress in 1820. The Conservatory boasts a colorful display of poinsettias and other tropical plants in bloom, as well as an outdoor Train Garden and a miniature National Mall made out of plant materials. Motor next to legendary Union Station. Restored to its original glory, this major rail hub now features tony shops and a large food court. Delight in monumental Beaux Arts architecture, take a little time to view the Norwegian Train Exhibit, where a model train winds through Nordic winter scenes, and enjoy dinner at 5:00 PM at America Restaurant in the station's Great Hall. After dinner, motor to the Visitors' Center of the soaring Mormon Temple in nearby Kensington, MD to enjoy the Festival of Lights. See a live Nativity scene, delight in tree displays from around the world and a quarter million twinkling lights, and hear a musical performance. After this wonderful day, return to our hotel in Alexandria for a good night's rest. (breakfast, dinner)



National Cathedral



Tudor Place in Georgetown



**A CAPITOL CHRISTMAS December 9-11, 2010 (continued):**

**DAY 3:** Enjoy the continental breakfast before we check out of our hotel and motor to the opposite bank of the Potomac to reach National Harbor. This new riverfront community is home to shops, restaurants, dramatic office space, lavish residences, and the Gaylord National Resort, a gigantic hotel complex featuring an 18-story glass atrium. You will have



**Gaylord National**

about three hours to explore this imposing area, with admission included to "ICE!", an indoor winter wonderland at the Gaylord created from 2 million pounds of ice kept at 9 degrees. Delight in ten holiday scenes and thrilling ice slides sculpted by artisans from around the world. If you wish, you can also purchase a roundtrip ticket for a scenic boat ride across the Potomac to Old Town Alexandria and back.



**Sculptures at ICE!**

For lunch, enjoy the abundant buffet at the Pienza Italian Market Restaurant at

Gaylord Resort, where several serving stations let you experience the regional flavors of a trip through Italy. Next motor into DC to arrive at historic Ford's Theatre around 2:00 PM. Restored to its appearance on the night it witnessed the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, it remains an active theater. Visit the lower level museum to see Lincoln memorabilia as well as the diary and a boot belonging to his killer, John Wilkes Booth. On a much happier note, experience the theater's production of the classic Dickens holiday tale, "A Christmas Carol." After the show, return home with bright memories of three exhilarating days of holiday fun in the capital area, with expected arrival in Hunt Valley at 6:50 PM, Shrewsbury 7:10 PM, York: 7:30 PM, Red Lion 8:00 PM.



**"A Christmas Carol"**

**DEPARTURES:** CAPE HORN (Red Lion): 8:00 AM      GRANDVIEW PLAZA (Lancaster): 7:40 AM  
 QUEENSGATE (York): 8:30 AM      CAPITAL CITY AIRPORT (New Cumberland): 7:40 AM  
 SHREWSBURY COMMONS (Shrewsbury): 8:50 AM      HUNT VALLEY TOWNE CENTRE (Hunt Valley): 9:10 AM

**NOTE:** Shuttles will be used to pick up passengers at Grandview Plaza and Capital City Airport and transport them to Queensgate, where they will meet the Motorcoach.

**PACKAGE INCLUDES:** Deluxe Motorcoach transportation, 2 nights accommodations, 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 2 dinners, admission to Mount Vernon home, estate, and museums, free time in Old Town Alexandria, tour of Washington National Cathedral (if available), tour of Tudor Place in Georgetown, free time in Georgetown, United States Botanic Garden, Union Station and Norwegian Tree Exhibit, Mormon Temple Visitors' Center Festival of Lights and holiday musical performance, Gaylord National Resort at National Harbor, including ICE!, performance of "A Christmas Carol at Ford's Theatre in Washington, baggage handling, guide, and escort.

**PRICE PER PERSON:** DOUBLE (Occupancy): **\$564**      SINGLE: **\$671**      TRIPLE: **\$523**      QUAD: **\$508**

**DEPOSIT/FINAL PAYMENT/CANCELLATIONS:** A deposit of **\$225** is due within **10 days** of booking. Seat assignments are made based upon when we receive payment for your booked tour. Balance due by **October 9, 2010**. Cancellation date is **October 9, 2010**. Full refund will be given if cancelled by this date except for some tours such as Broadway Shows and Nascar, etc. These may involve non-refundable payments. There is a fee of **\$75** per person for cancellations received after this date. Plus any money for tour features or services paid to suppliers for your reservation, that is not refunded to Red Lion, can not be refunded to you. This includes any expenses we incur as a result of the cancellation. **NO REFUND** for cancellations received within **48 hours** of tour departure. All cancellation calls must be received during regular office hours, no voice mail messages. **NO REFUNDS** for failure to show up on day of tour. **SORRY-NO EXCEPTIONS!** Any refunds will be paid after tour has completed and refunds have been received from suppliers by Red Lion.



**Union Station**

**CANCELLATION/INTERRUPTION INSURANCE:** We recommend you purchase insurance so if you have to cancel your reservation due to illness or a death in the family, you will be able to file an insurance claim to get your money refunded. If purchased within 7 days of your initial payment, pre-existing medical conditions will be waived. The cost is **\$48** per person based on double occupancy. Please fill out, sign, and return form to our office with your check payable to Red Lion Tours & Travel. Call if you would like additional information.