

Appetizer Ninja – Tidewater Region

Indulge your voracious food sampling passion with a variety of Virginia specialties.

AM

Have an authentic Virginia ham breakfast at Williamsburg's Old Chickahominy House before jumping the James for Chippokes Plantation, an 1854 antebellum mansion situated on one of the oldest working farms in the nation.

Noon

Follow the river to Historic Smithfield, a graceful town lined with attractions and free galleries. The Smithfield Ice Cream Parlor dishes out subs, salads, and of course, chilly treats, making it a delicious mid-day stop.

PM

The menu options are to die for at Smithfield Station Restaurant. Fresh seafood, grade A steaks and house specials will make the decision tough. When you're stuffed, stay the night in a cozy waterfront room or even the lighthouse suite!

Hyperlinks

Old Chickahominy House – <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=48444>

Chippokes Plantation - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=14672>

Historic Smithfield - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=10361>

Smithfield Ice Cream Parlor - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=14461>

Smithfield Station Restaurant - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=49099>

Biography Buff – Central Virginia Region

The annals of the past echo into today. Satisfy your need-to-know hunger.

AM

Montpelier, lifelong home of our nation's fourth president, James Madison, is a fantastic start for your knowledge-driven journey. Efforts to restore the home are underway and you can get in on it, too, at the Hands-On Restoration Tent!

Noon

Partake of hearty colonial fare at Michie Tavern, where the recipes date back to the 1700s. Then, off to Richmond and Monument Avenue where Ashe, Maury, Stuart, Davis and Lee stand among mansions and other esteemed honorees.

PM

Sunset dances through century-old trees at Hollywood Cemetery, resting place of 18,000 Confederate soldiers, President John Tyler and other fallen heroes. Explore 'til dusk, then rest at The Jefferson, a grand hotel dating from 1895.

Hyperlinks

Montpelier - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=22152>

Michie Tavern - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=16842>

Monument Avenue - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=12872>

Hollywood Cemetery - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=12802>

The Jefferson Hotel - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=10075>

Ecothusiast – Eastern Shore Region

Reward your appreciation for the natural with inspiring exploration of preserved areas.

AM

Explore the Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge, a rich 752-acre habitat that hosts migratory birds journeying south. Hop aboard a kayak from SouthEast Expeditions for a more intimate wildlife encounter.

Noon

Take in the views from the gazebo at The Inn & Garden Café while enjoying the fresh picks of the day. Continue the peninsula prowl to Assateague Island National Seashore – a preserve for birds and wild horses, and a wildlife-lovers' paradise!

PM

Before you prop your feet, take a gander from atop the Assateague Lighthouse. Breathtaking. Rest peacefully in a Virginia Green B&B - the 1848 Island Manor House bears the seal and it's sure to be a relaxing retreat from an eco-packed day.

Hyperlinks

Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge -

<http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=39560>

SouthEast Expeditions - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=38736>

The Inn & Garden Café - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=40671>

Assateague Island National Seashore - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=10589>

Assateague Lighthouse - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=24647>

1848 Island Manor House - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=28610>

History Addict – Shenandoah Valley Region

Dive into a true story of passion and discovery.

AM

Belle Grove Plantation was the epicenter of the Battle of Cedar Creek and stands nearly unchanged from its 1800s beginning. Journey through the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District to see five major battle areas.

Noon

Perhaps the best way to experience New Market is by walking it. A costumed guide leads you through 90 minutes of rich local history. Then it's off to the Battlefield to see "Field of Lost Shoes" and the Hall of Valor.

PM

Settle into a suite or cottage at By the Side of the Road B&B before rolling up your sleeves and digging in to the area's best barbecue at The Smokin' Pig. A stint in the B&B's oversized jettied tub will ease you into a good night's sleep.

Hyperlinks

Belle Grove Plantation - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=28326>

Battle of Cedar Creek - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=11668>

Shenandoah Valley National Battlefields Historic District -

<http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=32138>

walking it - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=38645>

Battlefield - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=21752>

By the Side of the Road B&B - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=16846>

Smokin' Pig - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=41261>

Le Connoisseur – Northern Virginia Region

Soothe your desire for the finest. Shop, dine and pamper yourself in style.

AM

Those stilettos are hot, but you'll want to go flat today – there are 100 blocks of serious designer shops to hit in the Boutique District of Old Town Alexandria. Find sample sales, couture, consignments and vintage goods.

Noon

Regardless of shoe type, shopped-out feet deserve a Reflexology treatment at Ritz-Carlton Day Spa. Modern French American cuisine is exceptionally prepared and elegantly served at 2941 Restaurant. The waterfront views add to the luxurious ambiance.

PM

Opera, theater, folk, blues, pop and country –Wolf Trap hosts lively acts throughout the year. Noted for extraordinary culinary delights and opulent accommodations, The Inn at Little Washington will be everything you expect and more!

Hyperlinks

Boutique District - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=49173>

Ritz-Carlton Day Spa - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=14300>

2941 Restaurant - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=34769>

Wolf Trap - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=29715>

The Inn at Little Washington - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=15871>

Small Town Hound – Southern Virginia Region

Good things come in small packages! Discover Virginia's gems.

AM

Grab a muffin and mocha at Binding Time Café before perusing the Fayette Street Historic District in Martinsville – center of the African-American community and on the National Register of Historic Places.

Noon

Stroll along Millionaires Row and breathe in the historic air. Homes and churches date from the Civil War in the preserved district. Don't miss the intriguing murals of Danville. They brilliantly depict local history and add flair to the downtown.

PM

Stately homes, tobacco warehouses and factories highlight the South Boston walking tour. A visit to The Prizery is a must! A variety of events occur year 'round. Weary feet – yours and your pets – can rest at Cooper's Landing Inn.

Hyperlinks

Binding Time Café - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=42498>
Fayette Street Historic District - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=48328>
Millionaires Row - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=14887>
murals of Danville - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=42488>
South Boston walking tour - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=31063>
The Prizery - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=35072>
Cooper's Landing Inn - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=34185>

Creative Cat – Heart of Virginia

Find inspiration with a day of arts-intensive wandering through the heart of Virginia.

AM

Rise for a walking tour of the visual arts. Art in Lexington: A Gallery Tour! guides you through eight fine galleries where fine art, contemporary photography and handcrafted jewelry are just some of the originals on view.

Noon

Immerse yourself in the creative process in Buchanan's Gallery By The James. This artist-owned cooperative features pottery, glass, textiles, collage, photography and fine crafts, as well as paintings in oil, watercolor, pastels and acrylics.

PM

Lynchburg's Academy of Fine Arts is a cultural mecca, with visual arts, music, dance and theatre filling the halls of this historic theatre. Witness the cultural revolution with touring performances, or as Academy-mounted shows take the stage.

Hyperlinks

Art in Lexington: A Gallery Tour! – <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=49370&fref=lpstlt>

Gallery By The James - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=37716&fref=lpstlt>

Academy of Fine Arts - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=28928&fref=lpstlt>

Über Rebel – Heart of Appalachia

Tap into the spirit of the pioneers with a day of exploration in the Heart of Appalachia.

AM

Where there once was a railroad for hauling coal, now a 5.8 mile passage winds through a tunnel and over trestles. Hike the Guest River Gorge Trail through a massive rock corridor that is millions of years old, to spectacular scenery, trout fishing, kayaking and canoeing.

Noon

Take a back-road excursion along Cumberland Mountain View Drive, through rugged Daniel Boone country. Find wildlife farms, caving sites, primitive camping and whitewater on the way. Reach the John Flannagan Dam and Reservoir, where some of America's cleanest, clearest water is stored.

PM

Make a trek through the mountains along US 460 to Pounding Mill and nearby Cuz's Uptown Barbeque for a meal that's destination-worthy. This old dairy barn is famous for fresh fish and lobsters flown in, thick prime rib, juicy steaks and fine, fine barbeque.

Hyperlinks

Guest River Gorge Trail – <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=16010&fref=lpstlt>

Cumberland Mountain View Drive - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=15161&fref=lpstlt>

John Flannagan Dam and Reservoir - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=15159&fref=lpstlt>

Cuz's Uptown Barbeque - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=29202&fref=lpstlt>

Bizarro Baby – Shenandoah Valley

The path least taken leads to some unforgettably wacky fare in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley.

AM

Conveniently located off the I-81 Middletown exit, a cup of brew from Calf-A-Coffee will keep you alert and ready for the curiosities of the Jeane Dixon Museum and Library in Strasburg. The psychic's memorabilia will fascinate, and learning all that she predicted is sure to give you a chill.

Noon

Dine on a great steak at the Blue Stone Inn Restaurant in Harrisonburg, where antlers and faces from the past keep you company in every direction. Then head to the Hostetter Museum of Natural History to view fossils, fluorescent rocks, and preserved specimens of all kinds of creatures, including a two-headed calf.

PM

Natural Bridge is home to the naturally offbeat. A visit to Foamhenge at dusk is spectacularly strange, and the Haunted Monster Museum and Dinosaur Kingdom is stranger still. But nothing beats reliving the romance of life on the rails with an overnight stay in the 1926 Caboose, complete with "hobo fire pit."

Hyperlinks

Calf-A-Coffee – <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=42685&fref=lpstlt>

Jeane Dixon Museum and Library - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=22784&fref=lpstlt>

Blue Stone Inn Restaurant - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=41262&fref=lpstlt>

D. Ralph Hostetter Museum of Natural History -

<http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=11819&fref=lpstlt>

1926 Caboose - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=37027&fref=lpstlt>

Rainbow Chaser – Chesapeake Bay

Follow your dreams from dawn to dusk over the Chesapeake Bay.

AM

Sunrise over the Bay shines golden light on one of the oldest beacons in the country, New Point Comfort Lighthouse, standing guard in the spot where Thomas Jefferson commissioned it. Take a guided tour of local waters with Mathews Blueways Water Trails, and slice your way through this paddlers' paradise.

Noon

Visit another time in Gloucester with a Driving Tour of Country Stores & Rural Post Offices, and imagine a simpler life. Then take a Walk Through Historic Gloucester, through Courthouse Circle and along Main Street. There's a story behind every door.

PM

Experience the dreamy feel of sunset on the Chesapeake Bay With Sail Away! Charters. A three-hour cruise aboard the 33-foot skippered sailing vessel, Joie de Vie, will take you into waters once navigated by the earliest dreamers to reach the New World.

Hyperlinks

New Point Comfort Lighthouse – <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=22342&fref=lpstlt>
Mathews Blueways Water Trails - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=37294&fref=lpstlt>
Driving Tour of Country Stores - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=41262&fref=lpstlt>
A Walk Through Historic Gloucester - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=22958&fref=lpstlt>
Sail Away! Charters - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=32893&fref=lpstlt>

Adrenaline Junkie – Blue Ridge

Raise your game to new heights with high-flying, summit-climbing adventures in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains.

AM

Rise with the sun, quite literally, as you ascend in pre-dawn light on an Endeavor Ballooning excursion. Experience what few can claim by watching the sun rise three different times in one day. It's all a matter of altitude, and it's spectacular.

Noon

Make your way to Mount Rogers Highlands to hike the highest peak in the state. At 5,729 feet, the summit is reached via rugged terrain, and promises panoramic vistas, with open balds and wilderness areas. Home to wild ponies and strong winds, it's a brisk climb.

PM

The nearby Virginia Creeper Trail Bike Shop provides shuttle service and mountain bike rentals for the Virginia Creeper Trail. Get in a few hours of riding before nightfall.

Hyperlinks

Endeavor Ballooning – <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=29869&fref=lpstlt>

Mount Rogers Highlands - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=10802&fref=lpstlt>

Virginia Creeper Bike Trail Shop - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=41654&fref=lpstlt>

Virginia Creeper Trail - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=46990&fref=lpstlt>

Front Row Fanatic – Tidewater

It's always performance season here, where you can go from wave- to crowd-surfing without missing a beat.

Noon

If it's spring, follow the sounds of mid-day chamber music. World-class performances in intimate venues are a special treat of the Virginia Arts Festival. If you like to rock out under the sun, head to the oceanfront for Viva Elvis® and the Legends of Rock & Roll, just one of the outdoor concert events in Virginia Beach.

PM

Take in dinner and a show at the state-of-the-art Sandler Center for the Performing Arts, or a comedy show at the Funny Bone, both at Virginia Beach Town Center. Or make it a night under the stars at the Virginia Beach Amphitheater. Really into the blues? Mary Helen's Southern & Creole Cuisine in Hampton is the place for jazz, blues and Creole Soul.

Late Night

Norfolk nightlife is just getting started. Head to The Boot for an eclectic mix of Italian-inspired cuisine and tasty local and traveling music artists.

Hyperlinks

Virginia Arts Festival –

<http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=31639&CharID=487604&fref=lpstlt>

Viva Elvis® and the Legends of Rock & Roll -

<http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=458444&fref=lpstlt>

Virginia Beach Town Center - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=485782&fref=lpstlt>

Mary Helen's Southern & Creole Cuisine -

<http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=38965&fref=lpstlt>

The Boot - <http://www.virginia.org/site/description.asp?AttrID=48504&fref=lpstlt>