A CAPITOL TO THE SHORE ROAD TRIP

I-64

Interstate 64 (I-64) runs from Missouri to the east coast of Virginia. I-64 in Virginia intersects east–west through the middle of the state from West Virginia over the Blue Ridge Mountains through the rolling hills to the Coastal region, for a total of 299 miles. It is notable for crossing the mouth of the harbor of Hampton Roads on the Hampton Roads Bridge–Tunnel.

Day 1: Richmond

The Richmond region has always had history, for more than 400 years. But unless you’ve stopped by the Capital of the South recently, you might not know that there have been a few more revolutions. There’s been a craft beer revolution, a food revolution, a fashion revolution and an arts revolution. Come see us and find out why we’re a Travel + Leisure Top Destination and National Geographic said we’re a place to travel for food.

ITINERARY

Start your day at the Richmond Region Visitor Center and meet your engaging step-on guide. Embark on an informative and exciting two hour tour of Historic Richmond. Your tour will end at the Virginia State Capitol for a guided walk through the marble walled halls designed by Thomas Jefferson. The Virginia Capitol houses the oldest elected legislative body in North America.

Hop aboard the Riverfront Canal Cruise and while enjoying a perfectly prepared boxed lunch, listen to the tales of the James River and Kanawha Canal. After lunch, travel up one of Richmond’s seven hills to Historic St. John’s Church for Patrick Henry’s “Liberty or Death” reenactment.

Onward to Richmond’s Civil War history and to the American Civil War Museum. Become immersed in the interactive exhibits telling the story of the Civil War from multiple perspectives.

Finish your day strolling along more than nine blocks of unique and locally owned shops and restaurants in Richmond’s Carytown.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Learn about Richmond’s rich history at The Valentine
- Get your thrills at Kings Dominion
- Visit a 16th century English Manor house, Agecroft Hall
- Stroll through 50 acres of themed gardens at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
- Tour the 100 acre estate, gardens and Nature Center at Maymont

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Day 2: Williamsburg

Williamsburg is centrally located 150 miles south of Washington, D.C., midway between Richmond and Virginia Beach. The historic sites in Williamsburg, Jamestown and Yorktown are connected by the 23-mile long Colonial Parkway. Both the James and York rivers flow on opposite sides of the parkway enhancing this scenic drive through history. The greater Williamsburg area offers a variety of programs for adult and student educational and performance groups.

ITINERARY

Arrive at Historic Jamestowne - Tour the original site of the first English colony in America and explore the Archaearium, a museum that houses some of the two million artifacts uncovered since the Jamestown Rediscovery Project began in 1994 then observe artisans practice the art of glassmaking at the Jamestown Glasshouse.

Next head over to Jamestown Settlement for a guided tour of the indoor museum galleries and the recreated fort, Powhatan Indian village and climb aboard replicas of the three ships that made the historic voyage from England in 1607. Interact with interpreters who will make you feel like you’ve gone back four centuries.

Take the Colonial Parkway to Colonial Williamsburg for a group lunch in one of the Colonial Taverns. Complete the afternoon with a guided tour of Colonial Williamsburg, the world’s largest living history museum that takes you back in time where you will get a new understanding of life in the 18th century.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

• Enjoy an evening program or Ghost tour in Colonial Williamsburg

• Tour the battlefields in Yorktown where our independence was won in 1781 and the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown that tells the story of life during that time

• Experience the fun at Busch Gardens Williamsburg including rides, shows and animal encounters

• See the strange and bizarre at Ripley’s Believe It or Not! Museum and 4D Theater

• Go shopping at Williamsburg Premium Outlets and the Yankee Candle Village

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Day 3: Norfolk

Norfolk is more than just an historical seaport on the Virginia waterfront. With big city amenities and small-town charm, Norfolk offers visitors performing arts, shopping, world class art museums, and year-round festivals. Enjoy the Battleship Wisconsin, Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk Botanical Garden, and Naval Station Norfolk, the World’s Largest Naval Base. Then enjoy night life with a performance by the Virginia Arts Festival, Virginia Symphony or Virginia Opera.

ITINERARY

Explore Nauticus, The Hampton Roads Naval Museum and Battleship Wisconsin. Nauticus is a fun and exciting interactive science and technology center exploring the power of the sea. It features more than 150 exhibits, films and exotic aquatic life. The Hampton Roads Naval Museum, located inside of Nauticus introduces you to over 200 years of naval history in Coastal Virginia. Located next to Nauticus, discover Battleship Wisconsin, the largest and last battleship ever built by the US Navy.

Take a bus tour of the world’s largest naval installation, Naval Station Norfolk. A knowledgeable, active duty Navy guide will board the motor coach to give a narrated tour of the base. Or cruise aboard the Victory Rover Naval Base Cruises on a two-hour cruise touring the world’s largest naval base by water.

Dine at Freemason Abbey Restaurant & Tavern. The congregation of the Second Presbyterian Church originally dedicated the structure as a church in 1873. In 1988, renovation began on the over 137 year-old church to refurbish the building into the restaurant it is today. Or enjoy dinner and dancing aboard the Spirit of Norfolk. Savor freshly prepared food in a nautical setting with dynamic professional live entertainment, as you cruise along the Elizabeth River with the Norfolk skyline as your backdrop.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITES

- Visit Virginia’s largest botanical garden, Norfolk Botanical Garden
- Discover the invention of the waffle ice cream cone at Doumar’s
- Stoll over 3,000 years of art history at the Chrysler Museum of Art
- Learn how to sail on the Norfolk’s waterfront with Sail Nauticus
- Explore the Virginia Zoo via train or on foot to see 700+ animals representing more than 150 different species

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Day 4: Virginia Beach

Famous for its iconic boardwalk, distinct beaches, seafood, parks and waterways, Virginia Beach provides groups with the opportunity to experience all the city has to offer through customizable “Live the Life Adventures.” Groups can delight their taste buds with Culinary & Agriculture adventures, go behind the scenes of thrilling performances with Arts & Culture, fly a WWII airplane with Military & History, and get up close with dolphins through Outdoor & Eco-adventures.

ITINERARY

Meet your guide for a Virginia Beach riding tour. You will visit historic Cape Henry Lighthouse, the oldest government built lighthouse in America. Also, you will see the spot where the English Colonists first landed in 1607 at the First Landing Cross.

Next come nose-to-nose with komodo dragons, hedgehogs and more on your visit to the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center. After exploring the aquarium, see the largest population of bottlenose dolphins on the east coast with a dolphin watching boat trip.

Next, take a trip back to a time when the aircraft were spectacular and learn why our heroes never let us down. “Swingtime in the Skies” takes you to the Military Aviation Museum to see one of the largest collections of flying WWI and WWII aircraft in the world. Lunch is also included with Rosie the Riveter.

Then tour the Thoroughgood House, this national historic landmark, built in 1719 reflects the lifestyle of one of Virginia’s first colonists. Also enjoy the English cottage-style gardens.

Tonight, enjoy a walk on the iconic Virginia Beach Boardwalk and dine at one of the many oceanfront group friendly restaurants.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

• Take a Dream Workshop at Edgar Cayce’s A.R.E.
• Learn about Virginia Beach’s heritage at the Surf & Rescue Museum
• Attend a performance at the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts or Zeiders American Dream Theatre
• Attend a live taping of the 700 Club at the Christian Broadcasting Network
• Explore Virginia Beach’s culinary offerings including Oyster Tastings, crab feasts and more

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