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**Durgan Travel Service** *presents...*

**8 Days/7 Nights**

# ***VIRGINIA***

***FEATURING THE NATO FESTIVAL,  
PARADE OF NATIONS, INTERNATIONAL  
TATTOO, COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG &  
AZALEAS IN BLOOM***

**April 2017 Dates available**

**from \$TBA\***

**What is a tattoo?** In this case, an elaborate musical performance or display put on by a military or military group, most notably done in Edinburgh, Scotland.

## **OUR AZALEAS IN BLOOM, NATO FESTIVAL & VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL TATTOO ITINERARY:**

**DAY 1 – BOSTON-BALTIMORE:** Board our motorcoach and depart Boston. Enjoy lunch (*on our own*) en route. Upon arrival, check into Baltimore-area hotel. Freshen up prior to departing for Toby's Dinner Theater, where we will enjoy dinner and a show. We'll experience theater in-the-round, with exciting performances, a live orchestra, and wonderful buffet meal. Return to the hotel for overnight. (D)

**DAY 2 – MILITARY AVIATION MUSEUM-VIRGINIA BEACH:** After breakfast at our hotel, we depart for Virginia Beach. En route we'll cross the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel and enjoy lunch at the Chesapeake Grill. This island provides an opportunity to stop, stretch our legs, grab a bite to eat, cast a line, bird watch, or just take in the natural beauty and sounds of the Chesapeake Bay. An interpretive display of the construction of the Bridge-Tunnel is located just outside the restaurant/gift shop. After lunch, we'll visit the Military Aviation Museum, located at the Virginia Beach Airport, which is home to one of the largest private collections of World War II and Korean War era fighters, bombers, trainers, and seaplanes. Many aircraft have been fully restored to their World War II condition and are available for flight demonstration, static display, movie production or commercials. We'll meet Rosie the Riveter and enjoy a pilot speaker before departing for the hotel and check-in. Tonight we'll enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight. (B, L, D)

**DAY 3 – VIRGINIA BEACH-NATO PARADE OF NATIONS:** After breakfast, we'll enjoy some free time on the Virginia Beach oceanfront boardwalk, which is nearly three miles long and ideal for strolling and biking. We can visit King Neptune, a colossal 34-foot-high bronze statue that rises from the depths of the Atlantic Ocean at 31st Street & Atlantic Avenue, overlooking Neptune Park. Or rent a bike and bike the boardwalk (*rental fees apply and are not included*). Or we can enjoy some famous salt water taffy from the Boardwalk's storefronts. Mid-morning, we'll depart for the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center, one of the top marine science museums in the country. This aquarium recently tripled in size. We'll be immersed in Virginia's marine environment through live animal habitats, interactive exhibits and The Fox Family Channel IMAX 3D Theater. Exhibits include a 300,000-gallon ocean aquarium housing sharks and other large fish; a 70,000-gallon sea turtle aquarium, outdoor harbor seal and river otter habitats; a salt marsh preserve and trail system; a decoy carver, sting ray touch tank, the Chesapeake Bay touch tank and aquarium; and "*Reptiles: The Beautiful and the Deadly*." We can grab lunch (*on our own*) in the museum's Osprey Café before heading for the Dolphin Cruise (*pending availability*). Each tour is narrated by a trained Virginia Aquarium Educator and experienced volunteers who will share their knowledge and answer our questions! After the cruise, we'll head for NATO's International Flag Raising, where all 28 NATO Member Countries participate in a flag-raising ceremony, where all 28 flags are presented with their national anthems played by the US Navy's Fleet Forces Band. This is a colorful display of flags and uniforms of our allied friends and guests stationed here in Norfolk, VA, which is the only NATO Headquarters outside of Europe. Dinner is on our own when we visit the Tattoo Hullabaloo, a free celebration that takes place prior to the Tattoo performance later this evening. From our reserved seats, we'll watch the Virginia International Tattoo Performance. It's a spectacle of military splendor – part parade, part theater, and, sometimes, part circus. The Tattoo features bands and forms of drill display, regimental bands, drums and pipes, massed bugle ensembles, and ends with fireworks to delight all ages! Overnight. (B)

**DAY 4 – VIRGINIA BEACH-NORFOLK BOTANICAL GARDENS:** After breakfast, we'll travel to Nauticus, The National Maritime Center, where we'll enjoy the excitement of the International NATO Festival Parade from our reserved VIP seating. The grand parade features

international floats, marching bands, and more! After the parade, enjoy our boxed lunch before touring the Nauticus, an exciting science and technology center exploring the power of the sea. This high-tech, virtual reality museum allows visitors to explore the rich life of the ocean realm, human uses of the sea through shipping, and the role the port of Hampton Roads has played in world maritime affairs. We can visit the Battleship USS Wisconsin, one of the largest battleships ever built. This mighty ship was used during the Korean Conflict, the Vietnam War, and the Gulf War. Later this afternoon, we'll visit the Norfolk Botanical Gardens. We can visit, by tram, the 155-acre garden, which has one of the largest collections of azaleas, camellias, and rhododendrons on the East Coast. In the bird sanctuary, more than 90 species have been seen frequently. Enjoy a tour of the following gardens: The Colonial Herb Garden, English Border Garden, Four Seasons Garden, Flowering Arboretum, Fragrance Garden, Hofheimer Camellia Garden, Holly Garden, Presidential Garden, Purity Garden, Rhododendron Garden, Sara Lee Baker Perennial Garden, Sunken Garden, and much more! Return to the hotel to freshen up before dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight. (B, L, D)

**DAY 5 – VIRGINIA BEACH-NORFOLK NAVAL TOUR:** After breakfast, we'll travel to The Norfolk Naval Station and meet our step-on guide – a Navy sailor! This is home port to more than 80 ships of the Atlantic Fleet and the world's largest naval installation. Our narrated tour will pass by Atlantic Fleet training centers, aircraft carriers, cruisers and destroyers, amphibious assault vessels, and sleek submarines. A strip of preserved historic homes from the 1907 Jamestown Exposition is included. We'll then travel to the Spirit of Norfolk for our two-hour buffet lunch cruise. Since 1978, the Spirit of Norfolk has delivered a vibrant and unique combination of dining, dancing, entertainment, and breathtaking views of Norfolk harbor and the Navy's Atlantic Fleet. After the cruise, we'll tour the Douglas MacArthur Memorial. An "army brat" with no hometown, the controversial war hero designated this navy town as the site for a monument for himself because it was his mother's birthplace. We'll enjoy a filmed biography of his life. Then we'll enjoy an ice cream cone at Doumar's, home of the original ice cream cone-making machine. Doumar family members are always pleased to fire up their cone-making machine, tell the story of its creation, and serve up a delicious treat. (In 1907 the Abraham Doumar family moved to Norfolk and set up an ice cream concession at Ocean View Park. In 1904, at the St. Louis Exposition, the Doumars were credited with inventing the ice cream cone. In 1905 they made the first ice cream cone machine, which is still in use at Doumar's Restaurant today.) Prior to returning to the hotel, we'll visit the Mermaid Winery (*pending availability*), an urban winery in Norfolk. A member of their staff will tell us more about the wine and the winery. Return to the hotel and enjoy dinner (*on our own*) and free time on the Virginia Beach Boardwalk. (B, L)

**DAY 6 – COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG:** Breakfast will be at the hotel. This morning, we will be hosted on a guided sightseeing tour of Colonial Williamsburg, including admission to the exhibition buildings, the colonial trade shops, and the colonial homes of the Historic District. At noontime, we will pause for lunch (*on our own*) in Merchant's Square in Colonial Williamsburg, followed by some free time to continue exploring the Historic District on our own. Mid-afternoon, we will depart Williamsburg and return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

**DAY 7 – VIRGINIA BEACH~PHILADELPHIA:** After breakfast and hotel check-out, we'll depart for Philadelphia. Arriving in the early afternoon, we will tour the National Constitution Center, the first museum in the world dedicated to honoring and explaining the U.S. Constitution through more than 100 interactive and multimedia exhibits, photographs, film, sculpture, text, and artifacts. The National Constitution Center's mission is to increase popular understanding of, and appreciation for, the Constitution, its history and its relevance to our daily lives. We can have lunch (*on our own*) at the museum's café. Then we'll walk by The State House of Pennsylvania, known today as Independence Hall (*outside only*), where the *Declaration of Independence* and the *U.S. Constitution* were signed. We'll visit the Liberty Bell, America's most cherished artifact cast in honor of the 50th Anniversary of Penn's Charter of Privileges. After hotel check-in, we'll enjoy dinner at a local historical tavern and be joined by Ben Franklin! Overnight. (B, D)

**DAY 8 – PHILADELPHIA~BOSTON:** After breakfast and hotel check-out, we'll depart for Boston. We'll have lunch (*on our own*) en route.

#### **OUR AZALEAS IN BLOOM/NATO & TATTOO SHOWS TOUR INCLUDES ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- ◆ All hotel transfers and daily sightseeing aboard a deluxe, private, temperature-controlled motorcoach.
- ◆ 7 nights' accommodation, in either a First Class or Deluxe Hotel. The single supplement is an additional \$TBA per single. *Limited availability – may be unavailable or subject to surcharge.* Triples' reduction is \$TBA pp; quad reduction is \$TBA pp.
- ◆ 7 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches (L), 4 Dinners (D), 1 Dinner Theater, 1 Brunch Cruise
- ◆ Portage of luggage at the hotel.
- ◆ All room and meal taxes.

**A \$TBA DEPOSIT IS DUE UPON RECEIPT OF FLYER. THE BALANCE IS DUE 75 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.**

## **NATO Festival, Virginia International Tattoo & Azaleas in Bloom /Promo/ml/rd**

**For more information, please contact:**

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