



# PRESIDENTS & PATRIOTS HISTORICAL TOURS

## Inventing America:

### Founding a Nation, Defining the Presidency

May 15 - 23, 2018

Hosted by author and presidential historian Richard Norton Smith

- Commencing in **Philadelphia, PA**, birthplace of the American Republic, we'll tour the newly opened **Museum of the American Revolution** and the **National Constitution Center**.
- A special walking tour of **George Washington's** Philadelphia, including **Independence Hall**, universally referred to as "the birthplace of America" – the **Declaration of Independence** and **U.S. Constitution** were both debated and signed inside this iconic building. The legacy of the nation's founding documents – our universal principles of freedom and democracy – has influenced lawmakers around the world and has distinguished Independence Hall as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Dinner at **City Tavern**. When John Adams arrived in Philadelphia in August of 1774 to attend the First Continental Congress, he was greeted by leading citizens and immediately taken to the tavern he would later call "the most genteel tavern in America."
- We'll visit **Valley Forge**, where on December 19, 1777, Washington's army marched into this camp, tired, cold, and ill-equipped, and was lacking in much of the training essential for success on the battlefield. On June 19, 1778, after a six-month encampment, this same army emerged to pursue and successfully engage the highly trained British Army.
- In Virginia, we'll immerse ourselves in America's founding and her first presidents, with a comprehensive tour of **George Washington's Mount Vernon**, the spectacular estate of **George and Martha Washington**, including authentic colonial era buildings, beautiful gardens, a state-of-the-art museum and education center, and the President's tomb overlooking the Potomac River.
- In Richmond we'll visit the Thomas Jefferson–designed **Virginia State Capitol**, and the nearby home of **Chief Justice John Marshall**, who almost singlehandedly elevated the United States Supreme Court to co-equal status with the executive and legislative branches.
- A full day to explore **Colonial Williamsburg** and **Duke of Gloucester Street**, where we'll meet the tradespeople, shopkeepers, political figures, women, and the enslaved that called Williamsburg home. You'll learn the many challenges of daily life, all set against the backdrop of revolution, and get caught up in the historic moments taking place around you.



*Over, please*

- We'll visit **Jamestown Settlement**, birthplace of representative government in the New World. While there, we'll have an opportunity to explore some of the remarkable ongoing archeological digs that have attracted world-wide interest – most recently, including the discovery of the remains of the Jamestown Colony's earliest leaders.
- Dinner at **Christiana Campbell's Tavern**, George Washington's favorite Williamsburg eatery.
- Explore **Yorktown**, the site of the siege and subsequent surrender of Gen. Cornwallis to Gen. Washington and the French Fleet on October 19, 1781.
- We'll visit **Monticello**, the remarkable mountain-top estate of **Thomas Jefferson**. The beautifully restored plantation includes numerous outbuildings, a nailery, quarters for slaves, plus gardens for flowers, produce, and Jefferson's experiments in plant breeding.
- In **Charlottesville, VA** we'll lunch at historic **Michie Tavern**, built in 1784.
- We'll visit **Ash Lawn**, the home of **James Monroe**, our fourth president, best known for his assertive diplomacy and the hands-off the New World doctrine that bears his name.
- Tour of **Montpelier**, the magnificently restored plantation of **James and Dolley Madison**.
- In **Washington D.C.** we'll visit **Ford's Theater**, site of the assassination of **President Abraham Lincoln** on April 14, 1865. After being shot, the fatally wounded president was carried across the street to the **Petersen House**, where he died the next morning. We've set aside time to see both, along with two new museums that put Lincoln's life and death into historical context – *and were both designed by our tour host Richard Norton Smith*.
- A special Colonial dinner at historic **Gadsby's Tavern** in **Alexandria, VA**.
- We'll visit the **President Woodrow Wilson House**, where we'll get a special glimpse into the private life of the twenty-eighth President of the United States, who led the nation through World War I, won the Nobel Peace Prize and created the League of Nations.
- Behind the scene tour of the **Smithsonian's National Museum of American History** and its newly reimagined exhibits on **American Government and Electioneering**.
- On Capitol Hill, an exclusive tour of **C-SPAN Network's** state-of-the-art broadcast facility and a special meet-and-greet with some of C-SPAN's on-air personalities.
- Tour begins in Philadelphia and concludes in Washington D.C.

**This unique tour is personally led and hosted by noted author and presidential historian Richard Norton Smith. *Reservations are taken on a first-come, first-served basis.***



**ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND PRICING TO BE ANNOUNCED AUGUST 15, 2017**

**[www.presidentsandpatriots.com](http://www.presidentsandpatriots.com)**

**Tour Hotline: (202) 657-7444**