TOUR STAFFORD *Virginia*



Something SPECIAL is BREWING PG 6

PERFECT PLACES TO PLAY OUTDOORS PG 12

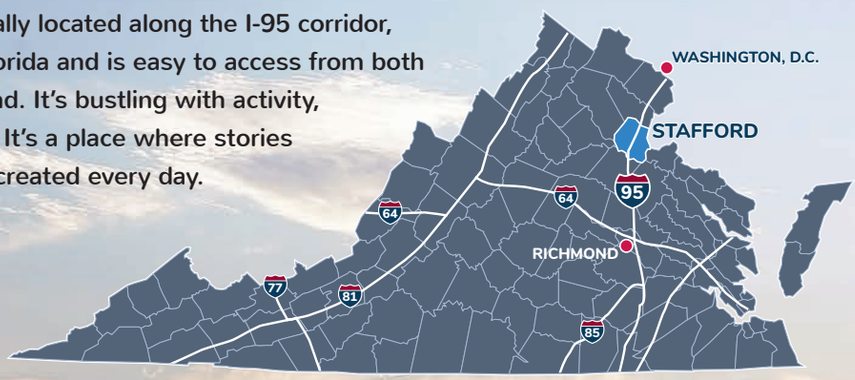
VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS

Government Island

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Relax in the middle of everything.

Stafford County, Virginia, is ideally located along the I-95 corridor, halfway between Maine and Florida and is easy to access from both Washington, D.C., and Richmond. It's bustling with activity, culture and many historic sites. It's a place where stories come to life and new ones are created every day.



STAY CONNECTED

Sign up for a free eNewsletter and stay informed of news, opportunities and special events.

Engage with us on social media:

@TourStaffordVA

Stafford County Visitor Guide | TourStaffordVA.com

Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve

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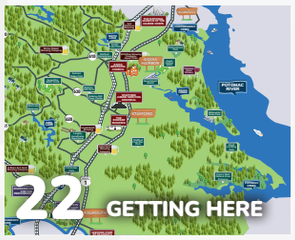








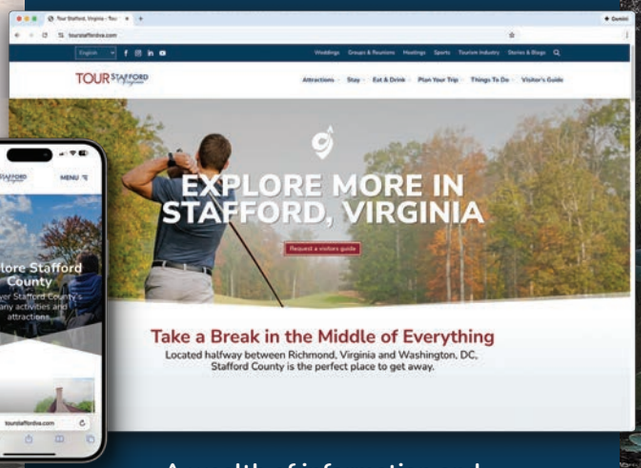






TOUR STAFFORD *Virginia*

Stafford County Tourism, Virginia, is the official Destination Marketing Organization for Stafford County. We proudly promote our community and its many wonderful attractions, restaurants, businesses and parks. We strive for accuracy in this Visitor Guide, but recognize that circumstances may have changed since this was printed. We encourage you to check our website for more up to date information or reach out directly to any businesses mentioned.



A wealth of information and trip planning advice is waiting for you on our official visitor website.

TourStaffordVA.com

STAFFORD VISITOR'S CENTER
224 Washington Street
Falmouth, VA 22405

HOURS: Open daily 10am – 5pm, except Easter Sunday, July 4TH, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day

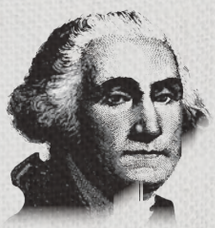
INFO: 540-654-1015

VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS

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Stafford County: A UNIQUE PLACE IN American History.



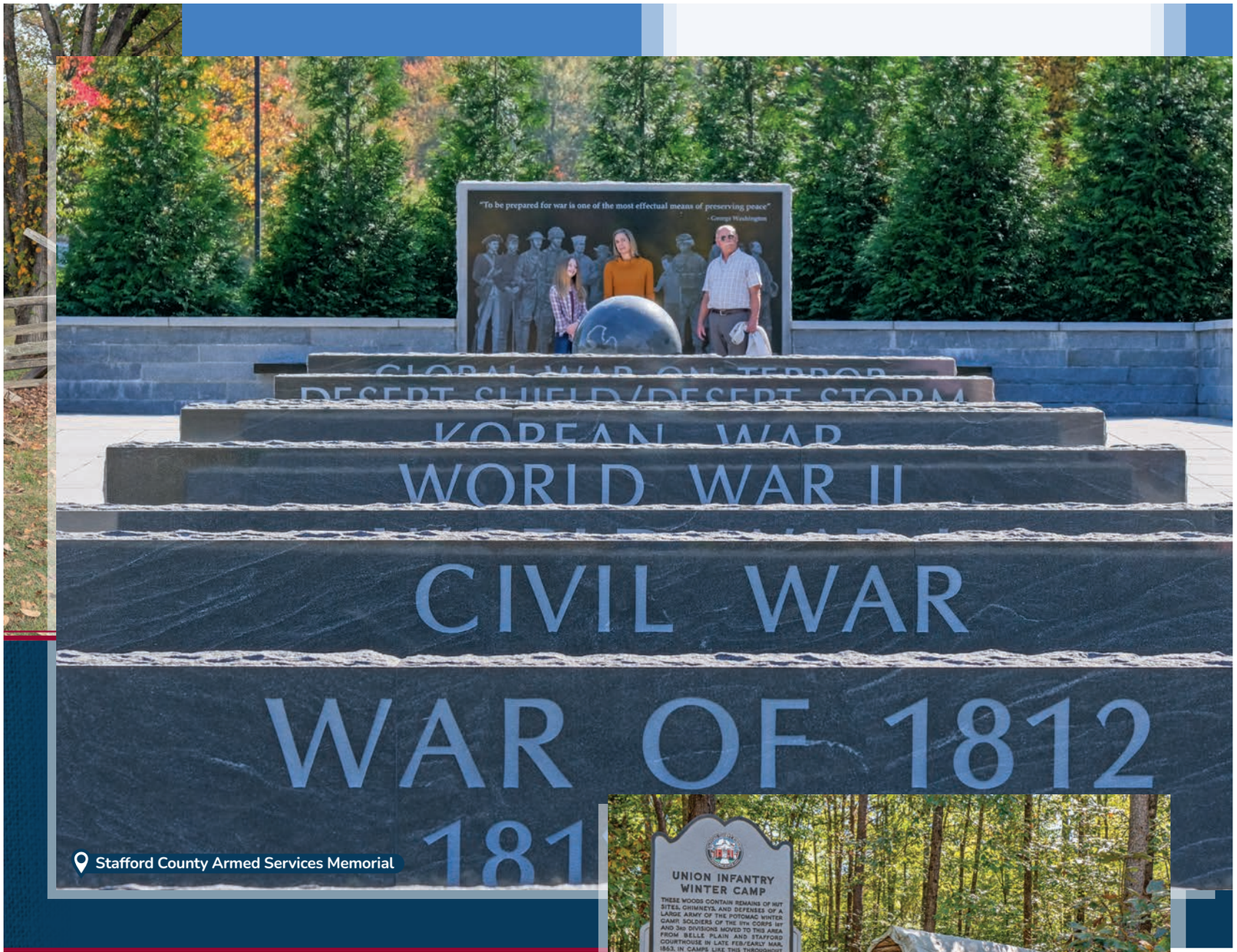
THE FABRIC OF STAFFORD COUNTY IS WOVEN THROUGH THE TAPESTRY OF OUR NATIONAL STORY.

Begin your journey where a young George Washington developed the values that would shape our nation. Washington's childhood home at **Ferry Farm** in Stafford County is linked to the well-known *Cherry Tree* story. The guided tour of the Washington house replica explores the lives of George, his family members, and the enslaved community. After the tour, visitors can walk the grounds with vistas of the Rappahannock River, where a young Washington is said to have thrown a silver dollar across the river.

Stafford County is a place to exercise your mind while you experience nature. **Government Island** is the site of the quarry that provided Aquia sandstone for the U.S. Capitol, White House, and many of the capital's most venerated buildings. Today, it's a 17-acre park featuring walking trails and a boardwalk, as well as interpretive signs detailing its significant history.

Situated on 41 acres, the **Stafford Civil War Park** commemorates more than 135,000 Union troops who occupied

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Stafford County Armed Services Memorial

Stafford County and features a hiking trail, bunkers, cannons, and a replica winter hut.

For more than two centuries, residents of Stafford County have served honorably in our nation's armed forces. From the *Revolutionary War* to the present conflicts around the globe, the **Stafford County Armed Services Memorial** recognizes and remembers their service and sacrifice.

Enjoy the beauty of the Rappahannock River at the **Historic Port of Falmouth.** You can fish, picnic, hike, and float at this park, which was originally an

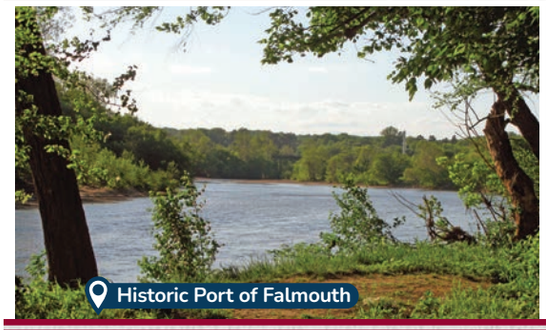


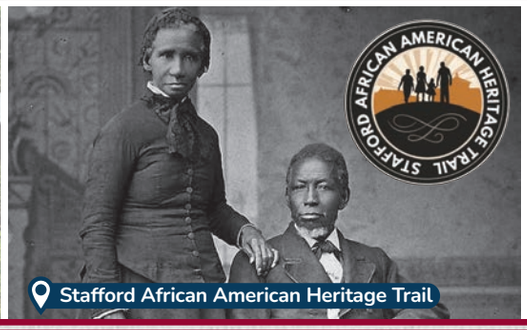
Stafford Civil War Park



Government Island









entryway for ships during the colonial era and the crossing for thousands of enslaved people escaping to freedom.

A mansion home reflecting the Georgian style, **Chatham Manor** predates the *American Revolution* and is the only private residence to be visited by George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Dwight D. Eisenhower. The plantation was the site of a slave rebellion in 1805 and served as a Union headquarters and hospital during the *Civil War*.

The history of African-American life in Stafford County can be explored at sites all around the county. The **African American Heritage Trail** includes places and stories about faith, education, entrepreneurship and more within the Black community. Retrace the route of freedom seekers as the **Trail To Freedom** features ten stops in Stafford County. Also, visit the **Rowser Building**, the only place Black students could receive an education beyond the 7TH grade in Stafford County. Built in 1939 as the *Stafford Training School*, it is listed on the *National Register of Historic Places* and the *Virginia Landmarks Register*. The *Rowser Complex* is also home to the **350TH Celebration Brick Garden** and **The Path to Freedom African American Mural**.

Spirituality has long been the center of life in Stafford County. Constructed in 1757, the **Aquia Episcopal Church** is an architecturally exceptional Georgian brick structure. The congregation's roots

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trace back to 1667; services are still being held today. The Greek Revival **Hartwood Presbyterian Church (1858)** is one more example of the intersection of faith and history.

And, if your hunger for history isn't satisfied, stop in for lunch at **Amy's Café** in Falmouth. Located in a pre-civil war era building that originally housed the **Cambridge Inn**, this popular restaurant serves American favorites in a historic setting.

Find your place in American history as you explore the places and learn about the people who helped shape the course of the United States.

History Lives in Stafford



The historic sites and events of Stafford have shaped our community and nation. Discover the extraordinary stories that make today's Stafford a diverse and dynamic place.

SCAN HERE for **MORE HISTORY**

TOURSTAFFORDVA.COM/history

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6 Bears & A Goat Brewing Company

Something SPECIAL is BREWING.

STAFFORD COUNTY'S VINEYARDS & BREWERIES ARE A TREAT FOR ANY CONNOISSEUR.





In honor of Virginia's 250th anniversary, Stafford's breweries have crafted special beers inspired by our history, community, and spirit. Explore the ***VA250 Beer Collection*** and taste a one-of-a-kind tribute to the Commonwealth's past, present, and future, and download the ***Kegs and Corks Pass*** to start earning points and win prizes!

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6 Bears & A Goat Brewing Company

This veteran-owned brewery features award-winning beers and a full kitchen creating scratch-made foods that can be enjoyed indoors or in their outdoor seating occasionally featuring live music. They also brew their own cider, seltzer and hard iced tea.

1140 International Pkwy., Fredericksburg

Adventure Brewing Company

As one of the oldest breweries in the Stafford and Fredericksburg area, this veteran-owned establishment offers one of the largest selections of craft beers in the region. Live music, a rotating lineup of food trucks and special events like trivia and artisan markets make Adventure Brewing a lively and popular spot for locals and visitors.

33 Perchwood Dr., Unit 101, Fredericksburg

Barley Naked Brewing Co.

Barley Naked Brewing Company is a veteran-owned brewery that serves an award-winning lineup of locally made beers recognized by the *World Beer Cup* and the *Virginia Craft Beer Cup*. The brewery hosts community focused events, like Oktoberfest and St. Patrick's Day, featuring food trucks, live music and games.

15 Tech Pkwy., Stafford

Full Distance Brewing

This veteran-owned brewery's commitment to quality has been recognized at both the *Virginia Craft Beer Cup* and *World Beer Cup*. Known for crafting brews across a wide variety of styles, Full Distance Brewing also hosts special events, music and food trucks.

650 Corporate Dr., Suite 101, Stafford

Highmark Brewery

Celebrate the art of craft beer at Highmark Brewing. In addition to great, local beers on tap and a rotating food truck schedule, local artist Brandon Newton has created a brewpub that is an inspiring creative space for artists, painters, musicians and writers.

390 Kings Hwy., Fredericksburg

Laudenbach Brewing

The biergarten style setting and classic style beers are inspired by the owner's German heritage. The atmosphere is always festive with food trucks onsite and events live trivia night and live music on most Saturdays.

45 Centreport Pkwy., Suite 101, Fredericksburg

Potomac Point Winery

Potomac Point Winery & Vineyard offers an immersive experience that combines European ambiance and Virginia hillside beauty. They have garnered 98 awards for their wine and 34 awards for exceptional dining and have been included on *Virginia's Top Wines* lists in *Forbes Magazine*. Their fine wines and more are available in the gift shop.

275 Decatur Rd., Stafford

Wild Run Brewing Company

Gather around the fireplace and enjoy craft beer at the first and oldest campground brewery in Virginia. Located in the grounds of *Aquia Pines Camp Resort*, Wild Run offers 10 – 13 beers on tap year round.

3071 Richmond Hwy., Stafford

LOVEworks location

Please drink responsibly.

KEGS & CORKS
STAFFORD VIRGINIA

Kegs & Corks is a passport program that links together the wineries and breweries of Stafford County. Use your phone to check-in when you visit any of the local partners and you will automatically begin earning points for prizes.



SCAN HERE
to grab your passport & start your journey

TourStaffordVA.com/kegs-and-corks-pass

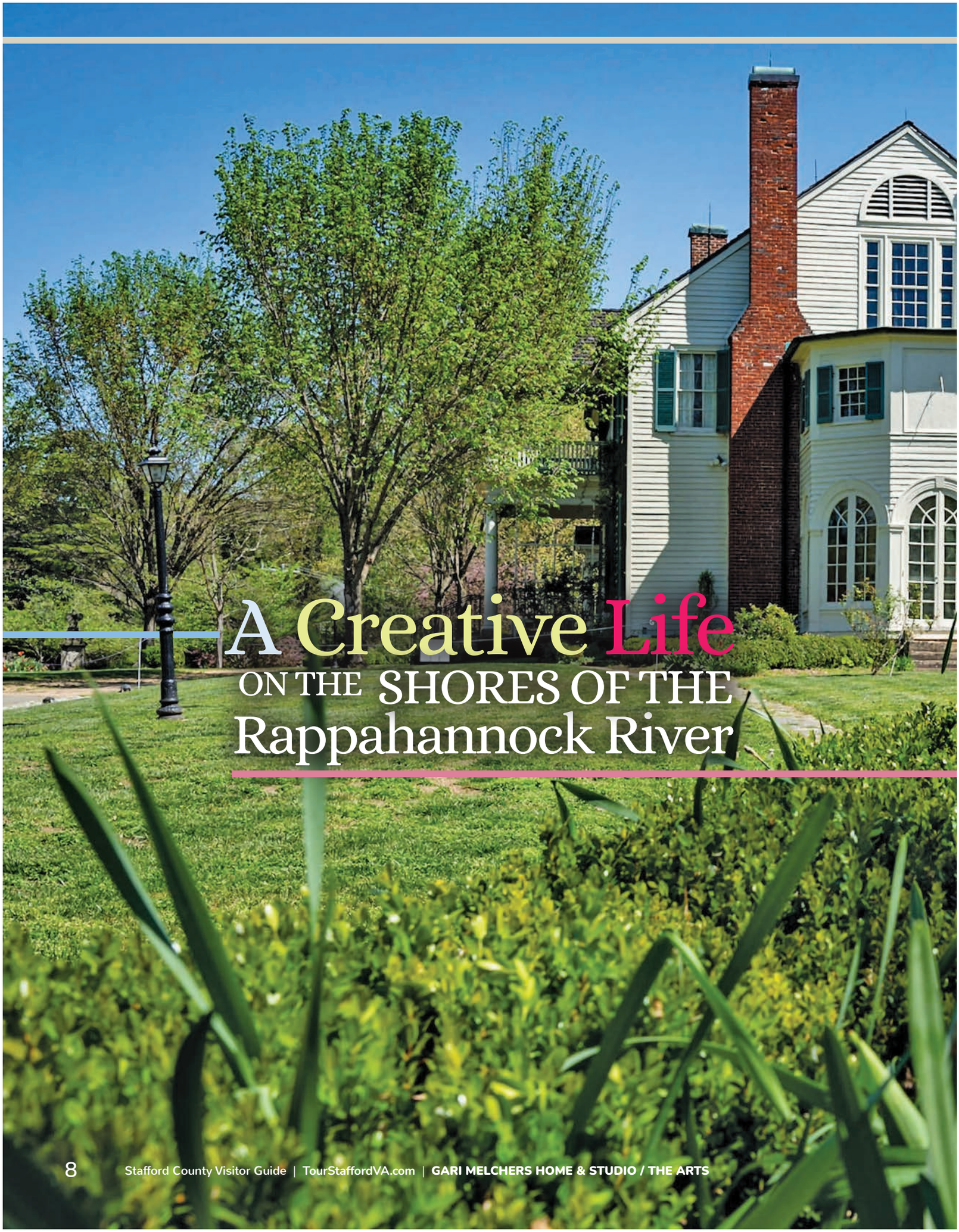


SCAN HERE for all THE DETAILS

TourStaffordVA.com/BreweriesWineries



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A Creative Life ON THE SHORES OF THE Rappahannock River

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> I walked through the house and opening the back door, looked down the hill across the fields and the river. The beauty of Virginia made me wonder how I could have ever left it even for a winter.
>
> — Gari Melchers, 1928

Gari Melchers (1860-1932) was a European-trained Impressionist painter who was instrumental in popularizing fine art in the United States, while also bringing American art to the attention of Europe in 1932. Among his best-known works are the murals depicting War and Peace displayed in the rotunda of the Library of Congress.

Located at 224 Washington Street in Falmouth, Virginia, Belmont was home to Melchers and his wife, Corinne, from 1916 until his death. Corinne continued to live at Belmont until her death in 1955, at which time she bequeathed it to the State of Virginia. The home and studio became a *National Historic Landmark* in 1965.

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The two-story frame home, dating back to 1825, sits on 25 acres, which also includes the stone studio building. The home was modified and renovated through the years, though it reflects the character and tastes of the Melchers, featuring rare and eclectic European antiques collected by the couple. Belmont also serves as an art museum, displaying about 1,600 works of art, including 500 of Melchers' paintings.

A tour of Belmont is an immersive experience that stimulates an appreciation for American art with an international flair.

Dinner and a Show — All from the Same Seat



Imagine enjoying a thoughtfully prepared three-course meal, followed by a Broadway-quality live performance – without ever leaving your seat. That distinctive blend of dining and theater is one of the features that makes the **Riverside Center for the Performing Arts** a stellar destination for date nights, special occasions, and memorable evenings out.

Since opening its doors in 1998, the *Riverside Center* has steadily built a reputation for delivering polished productions in an inviting setting. Its vision, according to CEO and Producing Artistic Director, Patrick A'Hearn, is ambitious but clear.

"The vision is to become the performing arts center for the region," A'Hearn said. "We are offering quality Broadway productions and have become one of the premier regional theaters on the Atlantic coast."

By combining professional theater, quality dining, and a welcoming atmosphere, the *Riverside Center for the Performing Arts* has positioned itself as more than a night at the theater—it's a complete evening out and a cultural cornerstone for the region.

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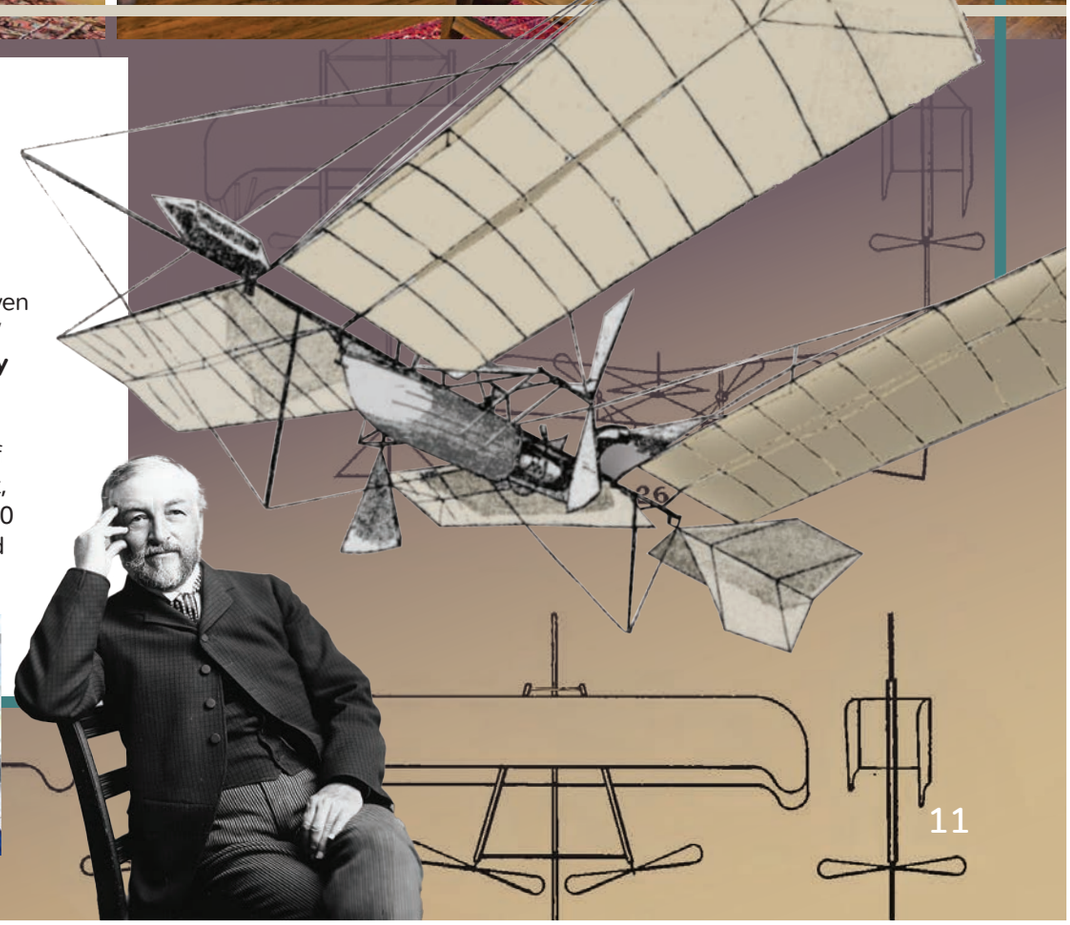




Be Inspired in Stafford.

The world's first unmanned flight happened right here in Stafford County, on May 6, 1896, a full seven years prior to the Wright Brothers' first manned flight. At the **Langley Aerodrome Experience,** located at the *Stafford Regional Airport*, visitors can see an exact replica of Samuel Pierpont Langley's aircraft, *Aerodrome No. 5*, which flew 3,300 feet for more than one minute and thirty seconds above Stafford.





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Aquia Landing

PERFECT PLACES TO PLAY: PARKS, TRAILS & RIVERS

Stafford County may be the perfect mix of urban excitement, artistic delight and outdoor fun. Escaping to our natural wonders is how we relax in Stafford. Hiking, biking, boating, and more are always just minutes away. The Rappahannock and Potomac rivers are scenic, peaceful and offer great fishing. Widewater State Park sits on a peninsula and offers access to both rivers. The park has hiking trails, playgrounds, boat launches and paddle-in camping at designated areas.



Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve



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Nature preserves and parks add up to thousands of acres of forest and miles of trails for walking, running or riding. Aquia Landing is a 32-acre park popular with hikers and anglers. The wooded trails offer great opportunities for viewing waterfowl, songbirds and other wildlife.

SCAN HERE
to find
PARKS, TRAILS & MORE

TOURSTAFFORDVA.COM/outdoors



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TAKE A SWING
AT STAFFORD'S GOLF COURSES

Golf enthusiasts can escape it all for a day on Stafford's great golf courses.

Augustine Golf Club has a 6,817 yard Par 71 Rick Jacobson-designed course tucked among Stafford's gentle rolling hills. It's been recognized by *Golf Magazine* as one of the "The Top 100 Courses you Can Play" and by *Golf Digest* as one of the best courses in Virginia.

Players at **The Gauntlet** face an 18-hole, par 72 championship golf course designed by P.B. Dye. It's known for Hole Four, where your tee shot will have to carry a marsh to a narrow landing area. After that, you'll be faced with a triple-tiered green with the lake to the left and bunkers to the right.

Only have time for nine holes? **Aquia Harbour Golf Club** offers a challenging option with small, well protected greens that put a premium on approach shot and precision putting.

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A BURST OF FLAVOR
IN STAFFORD'S FOOD SCENE

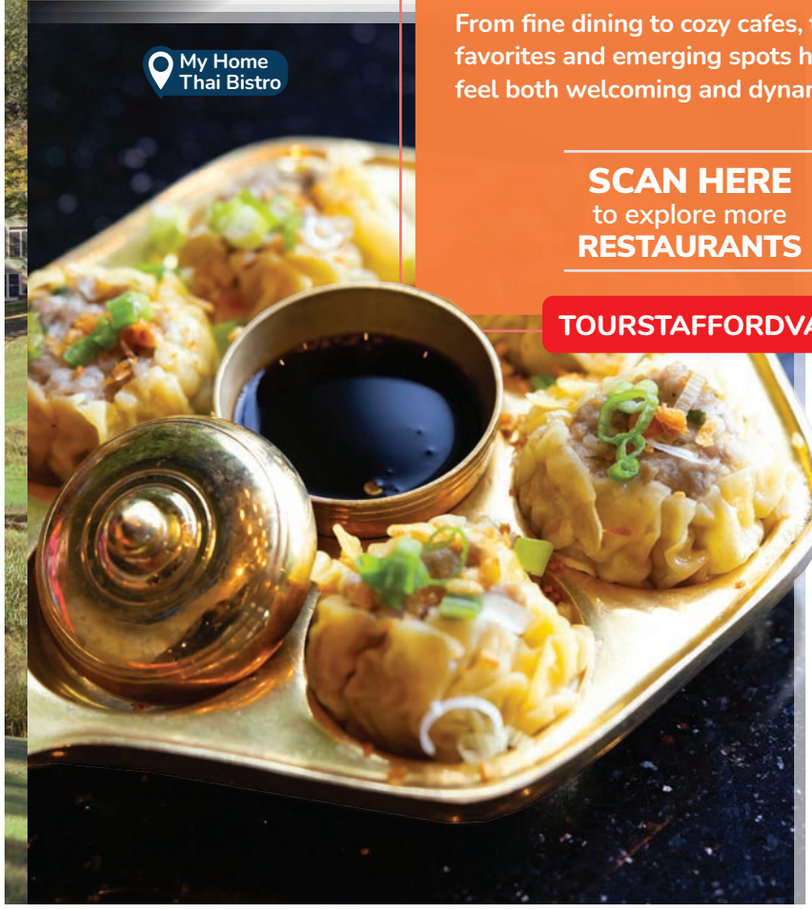
Stafford County, Virginia boasts a vibrant and diverse food scene that reflects both its community spirit and growing culinary ambitions. While the area is historically known for a mix of familiar national chains and local favorites, recent years have seen a noticeable rise in independent eateries and neighborhood gathering spots that offer distinctive flavors and experiences.

The county's dining landscape ranges from upscale, refined fare to more casual and adventurous options. Local favorites include Asian-inspired cuisine, flavorful Latin-American fare and Italian favorites with seafood and wine offerings.

From fine dining to cozy cafes, the mix of established favorites and emerging spots helps Stafford's dining scene feel both welcoming and dynamic.

SCAN HERE
to explore more
RESTAURANTS

TOURSTAFFORDVA.COM/restaurants





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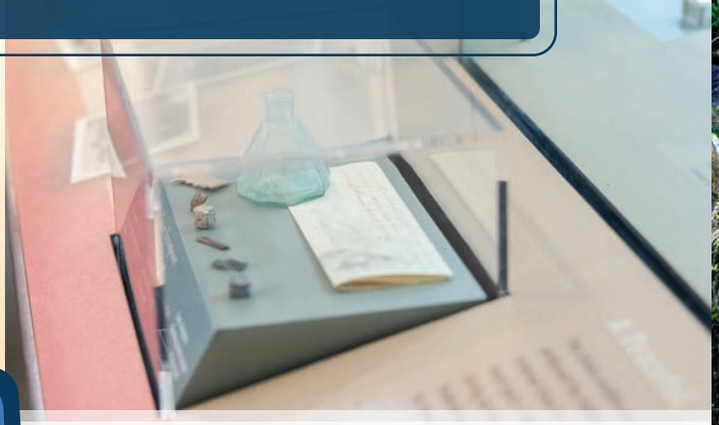
FERRY FARM:
DISCOVERING WASHINGTON'S ROOTS

George Washington's Ferry Farm tells the compelling tale of how a young boy became the first president of the United States.

Recreated from meticulous archaeological study, the replica house at **Ferry Farm** explores the lives of George, his mother Mary, other Washington family members, and the enslaved community.

The visitors center at **Ferry Farm** displays findings from the archaeology digs all over the property that bring Colonial History and Civil War history to life.





3 FUN FACTS

1 **Ferry Farm is still an active archaeological site.**
Even today, archaeologists continue to uncover artifacts from George Washington's childhood, meaning history is literally still being discovered right where he grew up.

2 **The original house was lost for nearly 200 years.**
Archaeologists didn't confirm the exact location of Washington's boyhood home until the early 2000s, using decades of excavation to uncover its footprint before rebuilding it on the original site.

3 **Ferry Farm tells Mary Ball Washington's story, too.**
George Washington's mother's strength, leadership, and resilience helped shape the first president.



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CHATHAM MANOR:

OVERLOOKING AMERICA'S HISTORY

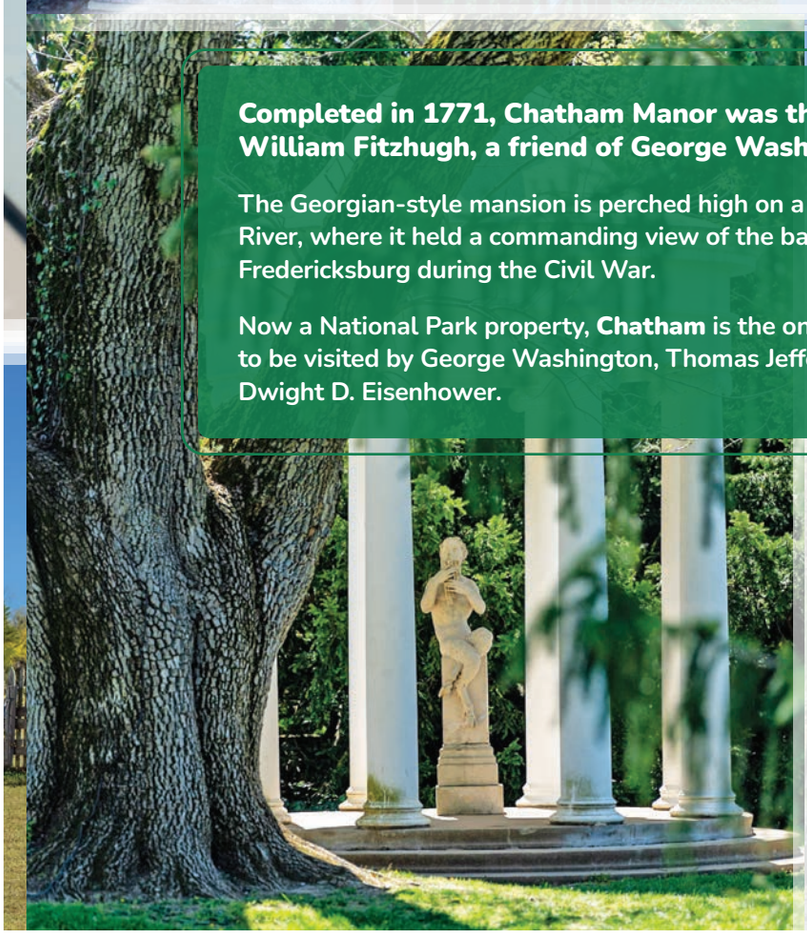
3 FUN FACTS

1. The property originally spanned over **1,000 acres** and included orchards, a mill, and even a **horse racing track**.
2. Notable figures like poet **Walt Whitman** and humanitarian **Clara Barton** cared for wounded soldiers on-site.
3. **It's the only private residence in the U.S. known to have hosted four U.S. presidents:** George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Completed in 1771, Chatham Manor was the home of attorney and planter William Fitzhugh, a friend of George Washington.

The Georgian-style mansion is perched high on a ridge above the Rappahannock River, where it held a commanding view of the battles that raged in Fredericksburg during the Civil War.

Now a National Park property, **Chatham** is the only private home in the United States to be visited by George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Dwight D. Eisenhower.





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Plan a **GIRLFRIENDS GETAWAY** to Stafford, complete with wine tasting, gourmet foods, outdoor fun and topped off with a theatrical performance.





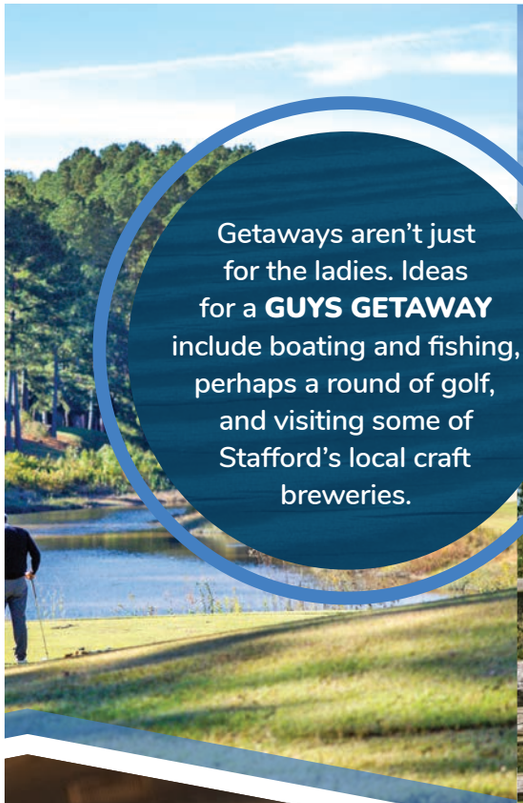
SUGGESTED ITINERARIES

THE COMMON THEME IS FUN

THEMED ITINERARIES ARE A FUN WAY TO FILL A DAY OR A LONG WEEKEND.

The team at Stafford County Tourism has put together some suggestions that range from educational to whimsical. One thing they all have in common is they are meant to be shared with friends and family. Visit our website to create a customized itinerary.

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Getaways aren't just for the ladies. Ideas for a **GUYS GETAWAY** include boating and fishing, perhaps a round of golf, and visiting some of Stafford's local craft breweries.



George Washington's Ferry Farm



Chatham Manor

The **HISTORY LOVERS EXPLORATION** is ideal for families, couples or solo travelers. Options include visiting George Washington's Boyhood Home at *Ferry Farm*; a tour of *Chatham Manor*, the Georgian mansion used as a hospital during the Civil War; and multiple places that tell the stories of rich African American history in Stafford, including the *Trail to Freedom*.

SCAN HERE
TO FIND MANY OTHER EXAMPLES, INCLUDING
BEER LOVERS, DOG-FRIENDLY FUN & MORE

TOURSTAFFORDVA.COM/itineraries

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FEEL THE LOVE

Take a photo at one of the popular **LOVEworks** locations around the county. These creative signs, inspired by the iconic *Virginia is for Lovers* slogan, have become popular photo-ops all around the Commonwealth of Virginia.

LOCATED AT:

- ♥ Highmark Brewery
- ♥ Adventure Brewing Company
- ♥ Potomac Point Winery
- ♥ The Grounds Coffeehouse
- ♥ Barley Naked Brewing Co.
- ♥ 6 Bears & A Goat Brewing Company





FREE THINGS TO DO

Stafford has many great parks that are perfect for hiking, picnics, bird and wildlife viewing and learning about history.

- **STAFFORD CIVIL WAR PARK** is a historic site with eight spots that hosted the Union Army after the *Battle of Fredericksburg*.
- The **STAFFORD MONUMENTS, MARKERS & MEMORIALS TOUR** is a driving route that links more than 25 roadside markers and memorials that tell fascinating and little known stories about the people and places of Stafford County.
- The **STAFFORD ARMED SERVICES MEMORIAL** is a moving tribute to Stafford County residents who have served the United States in every conflict from the Revolutionary War to present day.
- **CURTIS MEMORIAL PARK** is one of several parks that include a disc golf course. See for yourself why disc golf is a popular and fast growing sport.





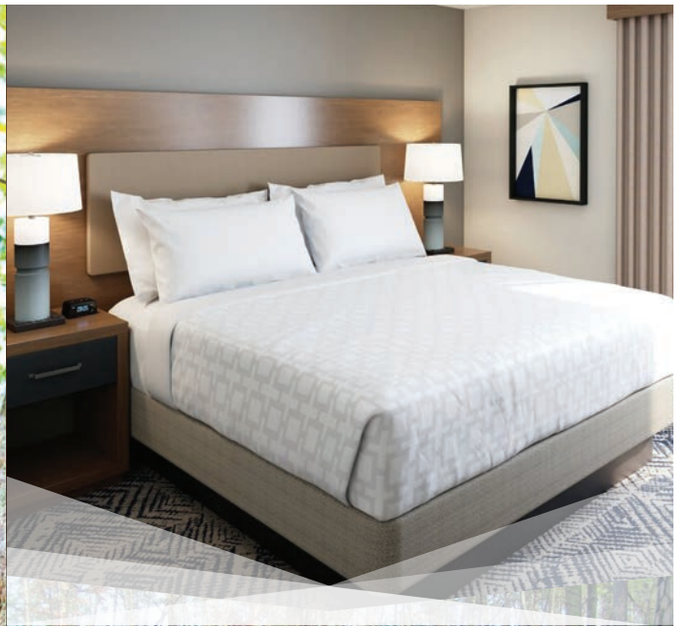
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FAMILY-FRIENDLY
IDEAS

Traveling with kids is both fun and rewarding. It leads to memories that last a lifetime. Stafford County is a great destination for families with kids. We have the perfect balance of active outdoor fun and immersive historic sites. Learning is genuinely fun in Stafford.

- Walk the trails at **GOVERNMENT ISLAND** and see where the stone used in the White House and US Capitol came from.
- Competitive kids will enjoy a round of disc golf at **CURTIS PARK** or **PRATT PARK.**
- See what life was like for George Washington when he was just a kid. Visit his boyhood home at **FERRY FARM** and see the archaeological dig where researchers are still finding significant artifacts.
- After a delicious meal at one of Stafford's restaurants, end a perfect day with a sweet treat at a locally-owned business.







SWEET DREAMS WHERE TO **STAY**

AFTER A DAY OF EXPLORING STAFFORD COUNTY, YOU DESERVE A RESTFUL NIGHT'S SLEEP. Peaceful accommodations can be found at **Aquia Pines Camp Resort,** which features cozy cabins, as well as an RV campground. Stafford also offers many of the great hotel brands that you know and trust, all conveniently located near restaurants and attractions.

SCAN HERE for more **DETAILS**

RESERVATIONS.ARESTRAVEL.COM/HOTEL/LIST/12186?

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GETTING HERE

Getting here is easy; loving it here is even easier. Stafford County, Virginia, is ideally located along the I-95 corridor halfway between Maine and Florida, about 40 miles south of Washington, D.C. and 50 miles north of Richmond, Virginia.

BY RAIL:

There are two Amtrak stations nearby:

· Fredericksburg
· Quantico

Virginia Railway Express (VRE) provides weekday commuter service from Stafford's two stations: Brooke and Leeland to Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C.

MORE INFO: Amtrak.com | VRE.org

BY AIR:

· Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport
· Richmond International Airport
· Washington Dulles International Airport

BY CAR:

NORTH, SOUTH, AND WEST

Take I-95 to exits at mile markers 133, 136, 140, 143, 143, or 148.

EAST

If you're coming to visit us from Southern Maryland or points East, you can cross the Potomac River on Route 301 from Charles County to King George County, VA and then head West on Route 3 to Stafford.

STAFFORD COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:

Local bus information is available through the Fredericksburg Regional Transit.

MORE INFO: RideFred.com 540-372-1222, option 7 for info or assistance.

Travel Distances

Washington, D.C.	44 Miles
Richmond, VA	67 Miles
Baltimore, MD	84 Miles
Norfolk, VA	153 Miles
Philadelphia, PA	186 Miles
Roanoke, VA	193 Miles
Raleigh, NC	234 Miles
New York City, NY	271 Miles
Pittsburgh, PA	279 Miles
Knoxville, TN	493 Miles



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GETAWAYS & SHOPPING GO HAND-IN-HAND.

You'll want to bring home the perfect memento of your stay in Stafford or a gift for someone special. Stafford has plenty of options for shopping, including local small businesses, as well as a vibrant town center with major retail shops. You're sure to find something you'll love.







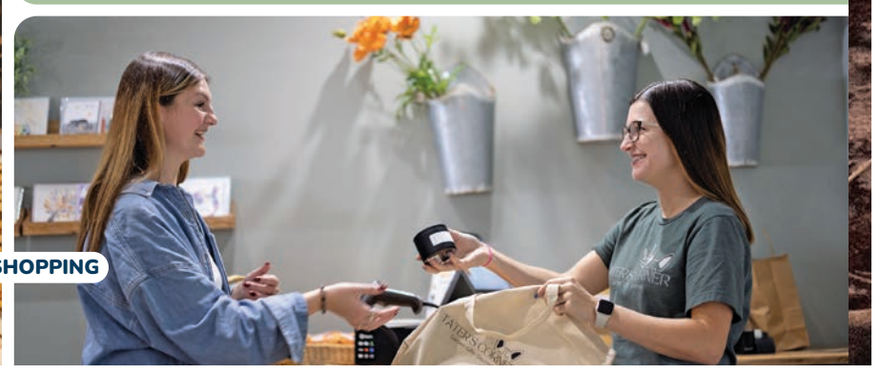
EMBREY MILL TOWN CENTER

You'll feel right at home here because **Embrey Mill Town Center** is a sprawling residential community that includes dozens of local and nationally-known shops and restaurants.



STAFFORD MARKETPLACE

Ideally located close to I-95, **Stafford Marketplace** is a bustling outdoor shopping plaza. It features an eclectic mix that includes popular retailers, like *Target*, *TJ Maxx*, *Old Navy* and many more. There are more than 40 tenants, including restaurants and coffee shops to keep you energized for a full day of bargain hunting.



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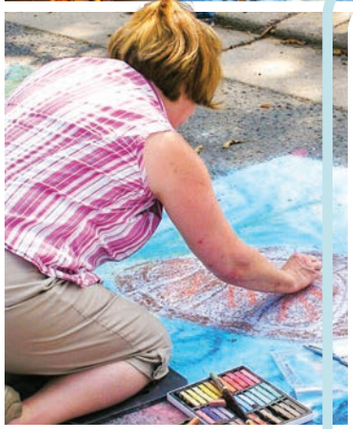


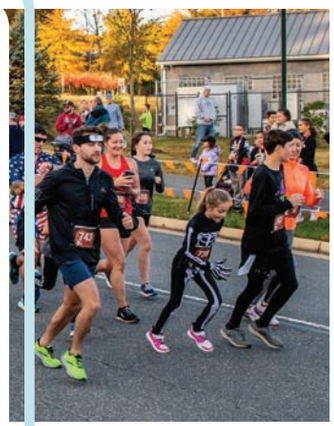


EVENTS

Our communities host a wide range of events year-round, ranging from small town holiday parades to spectacular festivals. You'll find outdoor events at our parks, live performances, and seasonal festivals that celebrate everything from local cuisine to harvest season. Of course, our breweries and wineries offer a full schedule of creative and fun events.

TOUR STAFFORD Virginia









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