

# VIRGINIA

## Beach

It has been my goal to explore some of the oldest parts of Colonial America. This trip during March Break 2024 will be able to see all but a small segment of the vast history of the USA.

### **Friday, March 8, 2024**

Finish work. Be sure everything has been packed, and rush off to bed. The plan is to wake up very early and do the 13-hour drive to get to the main campsite that we will be staying at.

### **Saturday, March 9, 2024**

**Wake:** 12:00 AM (midnight) **Leave:** 12:30

**Erie/Buffalo Border Crossing** - the border at this time is usually lightly occupied. Hopefully there will be minimal delay in crossing.

T: 2:10 D: 192 KM A: 2:40 S: 10 L: 2:50

**The Big Coffee Pot** - A photo op of a large coffee pot. Maybe a sign that coffee is needed at this point. A very long drive to get here. Almost the halfway point to today's final destination.

T: 4:30 D: 393 KM A: 7:20 S: 10 L: 7:30

**Welcome to Maryland Sign** - our first time entering the state of Maryland. Pull to the side of the road and snap a pic of this moment.

T: 44 D: 67 KM A: 8:15 S: 5 L: 8:20

**Antietam National Battlefield** - there is an audio tour of the bloodiest USA battle ever.

T: 41 D: 62 KM A: 9:00 (opens at 9:00) S: 2:30 L: 11:30

**The Fauquier History Museum at the Old Jail** - \$5 entry fee.

T: 1:30 D: 111 KM A: 1:00 S: 1:00 L: 2:00

**First Landing Campsite - Location 31** - We will be here for our longest-ever single stay at a campground. It is located beside an active military base that holds exercises of various types. There could be loud noises. The campsite is beside a major roadway so it will also be noisy.

In 1607, settlers landed here and built towns we will visit on this trip.

**IT IS STILL WINTER. NIGHTS WILL HAVE A LOW OF ZERO DEGREES AND DAY HIGHS ARE 10 DEGREES.** Bring heater, extra blanket, toques, mitts, long-johns, Hot Pockets and winter coats.



**Time  
changes tonight!**

# Sunday, March 10, 2024

**Wake:** 7:00 **Leave:** 8:00

**Williamsburg Visitor Center** - The bulk of the next few days will be this location and two other related sites nearby. Park at the visitor center for a free bus shuttle around Williamsburg. The buildings that are part of the historic town tour will have this flag that is the background image of this page.

Buy the *America's Historic Triangle Ticket*. It is \$120 each.

It is good for:

- All of Colonial Williamsburg, including both museums
- Historic Jamestowne
- Jamestown Settlement
- American Revolution Museum
- Yorktown Battlefield

All locations open at 9:00 and close at 5:00

Consider walking into William and Mary University for the second oldest university in USA. At this location is the Muscarelle Museum of Art and the Crim Dell Bridge which according to legend, any couple that crosses the bridge together will be in love for life.

Distance to and from the Campsite is 85 KM (1:10).

Sunset:  
7:00

**Consider:** If done Williamsburg early, consider doing the mural tour in Virginia Beach and walk along the boardwalk for statues are more art.

# Monday, March 11, 2024

**Wake:** 7:00 **Leave:** 8:00

**Yorktown Battlefield** - A very important battlefield of the American Revolution. Opens at 9:00. Admission is included with the America's Historic Triangle Ticket. Sites to visit while here:

- Self-guided audio tour of the battlefield
- The visitor center
- American Revolutionary Museum
- Cemetery
- Moore House (might not be open)
- Nelson House (might not be open)

T: 1:00 D: 70 KM A: 9:00 S: 4:00 L: 1:00

**Return to Williamsburg if there is still stuff to explore -**

Williamsburg is large enough that we might not have gotten it all done.

T: 26 D: 27 A: 1:30

**Ripley's Believe It or Not! Williamsburg** - There are combo packages that might make the expensive \$32 admission worth it. Closes at 7 PM for 4D movies.

Across the road is **Bubba's Ice Cream Shack**. Within walking distance is **Christmas Mouse** and **Wallace's Trading Post**. These stores close late.

**Return to camp** - T: 1:15 D: 90

# Tuesday, March 12, 2024

**Wake:** 7:00 **Leave:** 8:00

**Jamestown Settlement** is the last of the American Historic Triangle Ticket locations. This is where settlers came in 1607 and started the USA.

T: 1:15 D: 96 KM A: 9:00 (opens at 9:00) S: 3:30 L: 12:30

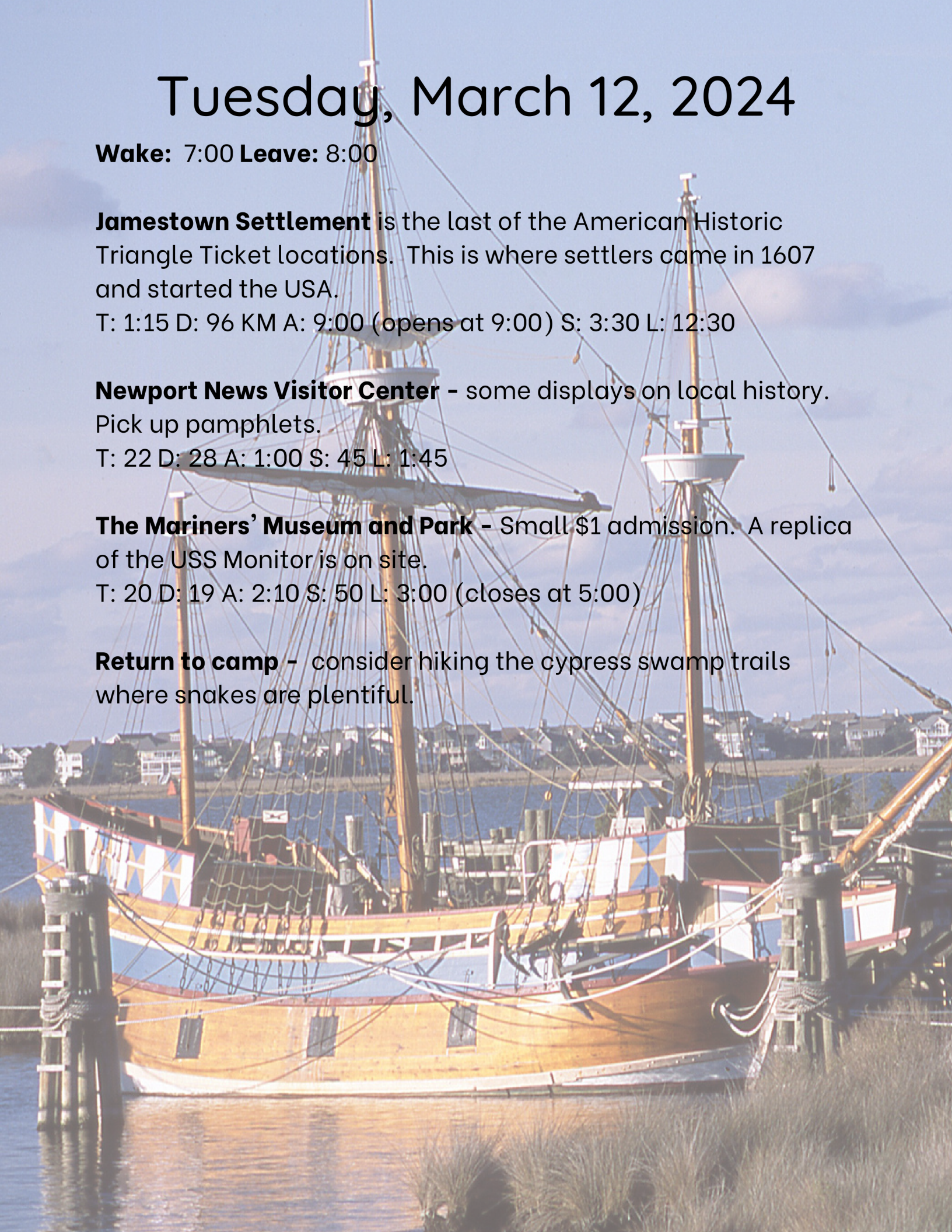
**Newport News Visitor Center** - some displays on local history. Pick up pamphlets.

T: 22 D: 28 A: 1:00 S: 45 L: 1:45

**The Mariners' Museum and Park** - Small \$1 admission. A replica of the USS Monitor is on site.

T: 20 D: 19 A: 2:10 S: 50 L: 3:00 (closes at 5:00)

**Return to camp** - consider hiking the cypress swamp trails where snakes are plentiful.



# Wednesday, March 13, 2024

**Wake:** 7:30 **Leave:** 8:30

**Norfolk Botanical Garden** - free with Reciprocal Membership.

What potentially be in bloom:

- Camellias
- Snowballs (in the border garden)
- Daffodils (in garden wide)
- Laurustinus
- Magnolia (arboretum)
- Cherry (canal walk)
- Butterfly house might be open

T: 26 D; 17 A: 9:00 (opens at 9:00) S: 1:15 L: 10:15

**Hermitage Museum and Gardens** - free self guide tours

T: 19 D: 14 A: 10:30 S: 1:00 L: 11:30

**Chrysler Museum of Art** - free with free on-site parking.

T: 15 D; 18 A: 12:00 S: 2:30 L: 2:30

**Mural Tour of Neon District** - walk from Chrysler Museum.

S: 90 L: 4:00

Walk the **Virginia Beach Boardwalk** - there are statues. It is a 9-kilometre round trip. Paid street parking. See the Atlantic Ocean.

T: 25 D: 30 A: 4:30 S: 2:00 L: 6:30

**Return to Camp**

# Thursday, March 14, 2024

**Wake: 8:00 Break Camp Leave: 9:30**

**USS Wisconsin/Nauticus** - Opens at 10. \$18 **FIND STREET**  
**PARKING NEAR HERE.**

T: 30 D: 27 A: 10:00 S: 2:00 L: 12:00

**MacArthur Memorial** - walk to this location. Free entry.

A: 12:10 S: 90 L: 1:40

**Casemate Museum Fort Monroe** - likely free entry. Drive into and around Fort.

T: 32 D: 28 A: 2:15 S: 90 L: 3:45

**Red Roof Inn Chester** - confirm that they have a microwave in the room.

T: 1:30 D: 138 A: 5:15

Nearby is **Kroger and Target** for supper

# Friday, March 15, 2024

**Wake - 7:15 Breakfast at hotel. Leave: 8:30**

**Virginia State Capitol** - MUST find street parking. Free tours on the hour.

**Executive Mansion Tour** - free. Walk from the Capitol.

**White House of the Confederacy** - walk. Possibly free.

T: 17 D: 24 A: 9:00 S: 4:00

**Poe Museum** - \$10. Street parking.

T: 10 A: 1:30 S: 1:00 L: 2:30

**Maymont** - LAST TOUR IS AT 3:00.

A: 2:40 S: 1:30 L: 4:10

**Find somewhere to eat. *BIG DRIVE.***

**Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham Hazelton/Bruceton Mills**

T: 5:00 D: 445 KM A; 10:00



# Saturday, March 16, 2024

**Wake:** 7:00 Breakfast at hotel **Leave:** 7:50

**BAYERNHOF MUSEUM** - [MUST CALL 412-782-4231 TO SCHEDULE A TOUR.](#) TOURS BEGIN AT 10:00 AND ARE 2.5 HOURS LONG.

T: 1:50 D: 169 KM A: 9:40 S: 3:00 L: 12:40

**The Andy Warhol Museum** - Park at the Children's Museum and walk for about 12 minutes to Andy Warhol. \$25/person. Seven floors.

T: 17 D: 12 KM A: 1:00 S: 2:00 L: 3:40

Consider **St Peter Catholic Church** which is close to our parking spot. Hopefully, it is open for viewing.

**Home is over 5 hours away.** Stop at Harvey's in Grimsby.

T: 6:00 D: 511KM A: 9:40