

Senior Services Presentation

Getting Ready for Summer

June 20, 2018

What's Happening Around Town:

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Resources for You and Your Visit Friends and Relatives

- Visit Alexandria is a resource for information for top things to do in Alexandria both for you AND for guests you may have coming in town
 - Check out the Visit Alexandria website, blog, and social media
 - Visit the Visitor Center at 221 King Street
 - Find recommendations like top places for brunch, outdoor dining spots, top things to do this summer, museums, events and more
- Summer is a GREAT time for deals in Alexandria!
 - Hotels
 - Consider our hotels as extra rooms for your out-of-town guests. You get some of the best hotel rates of the year during the summer
 - Plus we have a Summer Saver package with 9 participating hotels offering free parking and free Key to the City museum passes
 - Shopping Deals
 - **The Alexandria Sidewalk Sale is August 11 & 12**
 - More than 50 shops in Old Town and Del Ray offering lowest prices of the year – up to 80% off
 - Festive atmosphere with tables outside and excitement from shoppers looking for deals
 - Free parking at meters
 - Dining Deals
 - **Alexandria Summer Restaurant Week Friday, August 17 through Sunday, August 26**
 - More than 50 restaurants in Old Town, Del Ray, Carlyle and the West End
 - 10 days and 2 weekends
 - \$35 for 3 courses OR \$35 dinner for two as well as specials for lunch
 - NEW this year: Brunch!

What's Happening This Summer

- USA/Alexandria Birthday Celebration
 - One of the city's most beloved traditions is the USA/Alexandria Birthday Celebration
 - Saturday, July 7

- Oronoco Bay Park. Bring lawn chairs, blankets and a picnic and enjoy live music by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, patriotic birthday cake, food vendors and a dazzling fireworks display
 - Festivities start at 6 pm. Grand finale fireworks are at 9:30 pm
 - “Hamilton” Happenings in Alexandria
 - Hamilton is at the Kennedy Center from June to September and Alexandria’s historic sites are getting in on the fun
 - While historians do NOT believe Hamilton visited Alexandria himself, many of his best friends and “frenemies” did
 - Fans of the musical can learn about the politics of the day with special Hamilton-themed tours at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum where Washington, Lafayette, Jefferson, Madison and Burr partied and made history
 - Tomorrow night, June 21: Picture yourself center stage during an evening at The Lyceum where you can try on American Revolutionary War uniforms like the ones seen in “Hamilton”
 - At George Washington’s Mount Vernon, put yourself in the General’s shoes through [“Be Washington: It’s Your Turn to Lead,”](#) a new first-person interactive experience that has introductions to the various scenarios by Chris Jackson, the actor who played Washington in “Hamilton,” plus Alexander Hamilton is represented in the experience as an advisor
 - Boat Cruises
 - You can make the most of our city’s waterfront location by getting out on the river this summer
 - Potomac Riverboat Company offers eight different boat cruises and water taxis.
 - Take the Baseball Boat to Nats Park for the Major League Baseball All-Star Game and most of the Nats home games
 - There will be a new Soccer boat to the new Audi Field, which will be the home field for DC United. The field opens in July
 - Water Taxi to the Wharf, National Mall, Georgetown, National Harbor
 - You can cruise to Mount Vernon
 - Take your dog on a Canine Cruise, offered once a month in the summer
 - Summer Tours
 - Sunny skies and summer breezes practically beg you to get out and explore our historic city, with [dozens of tour offerings by bike, by boat or on foot.](#)
 - You can also beat the heat with fun indoor tours like [The Real World Science Behind Harry Potter](#) at the [Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum](#), with a special tour [for adults](#) on July 28, 2018 and a family-friendly tour on July 29, 2018, in celebration of Harry Potter’s birthday
 - You can also catch a special behind-the-scenes look at the Apothecary on their [Geek Tours](#), offered June 10, July 8 and August 12, 2018.

- Family Festivals
 - The [Annual Friendship Firehouse Festival](#) on August 4 is a kid-favorite, featuring antique fire trucks, craft booths live music and more. Kids receive free fire helmets and get to take a special look inside the City's fire trucks.
 - In Del Ray, the [5th Annual Well Ray Festival](#) on June 23 is a fun way to get healthy as a family, with free exercise classes, lifestyle-inspired tents and more
- Summer Treats
 - And Alexandria is the perfect spot to indulge in summer treats as well!
 - Dolci Gelati near the Alexandria Visitor Center features flavors from founder Dolci Gianluigi Dellaccio who was appointed Italy's "Ambassador of Homemade Gelato" in 2018 and won "Best Gelato Flavor" at the inaugural Gelato Festival America in 2017
 - Nicecream on King Street mixes liquid nitrogen with farm fresh ingredients to create made-to-order ice cream in front of your eyes
 - Other classic spots to cool off include Wisconsin-style frozen custard and popsicles at The Dairy Godmother in Del Ray, handcrafted artisan gelato including banana split and dulce de leche at Casa Rosada Artisan Gelato, and classic homemade ice cream at The Creamery and Pop's Old Fashioned Ice Cream

Wonder Woman 1984

- It's official! Warner Bros., the Virginia Governor's office and Visit Alexandria have announced that Alexandria is one of the filming locations for the new Wonder Woman film
- The other filming locations include DC, the UK, Spain and the Canary Islands
- Called Wonder Woman 1984, it takes place in the 80s
- The film stars Gal Gadot in the title role and Kristen Wiig in the role of the Super-Villain The Cheetah. Chris Pine returns as Steve Trevor.
- The film is set to open in theaters November 1, 2019

King Street Park at the Waterfront

- This summer, the City is busy preparing for the opening of King Street Park at the Waterfront which will happen this October
- The park is the crown jewel of the city's waterfront plan, which has been decades in the making.
- The site joins the City's historic retail corridor and the Potomac River waterfront in a way that we haven't seen in modern history
- Working with the City, Visit Alexandria is coordinating a schedule of seasonal programming at the new park, such as a pop-up beer garden, mobile history exhibits, public art and live music
- This programming is part of the King Street Corridor Initiative, a public/private partnership leveraging the opening of this new park in order to maintain the competitiveness of Old Town amidst the emergence of new highly-funded waterfront destinations in the Washington, D.C. region like The Wharf, The Capitol Riverfront and MGM National Harbor
- Visit Alexandria is leading the fundraising effort to develop a \$350,000 public/private marketing partnership to increase support for programming and events in the new park space. With ten private sector partners committed to date, Visit Alexandria has already raised 80% of the match

Tall Ship Providence

- Looking ahead to 2019, Alexandria will welcome its very own resident tall ship, The Providence
- The ship is a full-scale replica of the Continental Navy's first warship which served under the command of General George Washington
- Built in the 1700s, the original ship's first mission in the American Revolution was to clear the Chesapeake Bay of enemy British ships
- The replica tall ship Providence appears in the Academy Award-winning film Master and Commander and Pirates of the Caribbean
- Providence is projected to arrive at Alexandria's waterfront in May or June 2019 to make the city her permanent home
- The Tall Ship Providence Foundation has acquired the vessel and is undergoing a fundraising campaign to rehabilitate the replica for educational maritime heritage programs
- The public can look forward to public tours, chartered cruises, historical seminars and beer cruises in partnership with Alexandria's own Port City Brewing Company