



Great Bike Tours

Virginia's Colonial Williamsburg 2026

Jamestown, Yorktown, and Colonial Williamsburg

Join us in 2026 as we celebrate the **250th anniversary of American independence**, by bicycle. In late October we head to Virginia for our six-day bike vacation, where we'll **bike through history**, exploring Virginia's Historic Triangle – Jamestown, Yorktown, and Colonial Williamsburg. Each town played an important role in English Colonial rule in America, for it was in 1607 that the English first landed in the swampy marshes of **Jamestown**, and then 174 years later the British were defeated in the Battle of **Yorktown** (1781), the final major battle of the American Revolutionary War.

Our bike vacation is based in **Colonial Williamsburg**, which in the 18th century was the capital of the Colony of Virginia – Britain's largest and wealthiest colony in the New World. The entire old-town-area has been "frozen in time" and preserved as a living history museum (the largest in America) portraying colonial Virginia on the eve of the American Revolution. Everyone remains in character 24 hours a day – shop keepers, townsfolk, children at play, farm families, marching militia, tavern folks, political figures, and slaves – depicting the days, months, and years leading up to and during the Revolutionary War. Enjoy lots of open-air theatre, visit trade shops, and dine at 18th-century style taverns. **Come, be part of the story**, on your 21st century bicycle!

This easy trip features over 60 miles of paved bike paths, warm fall weather, a centrally located Lodge where we stay for the entire week, not to mention a wealth of fascinating history.

Tour Length

6 Days/5 nights

2026 Tour Date

October 25-30

Tour Start & End

Richmond, VA airport (RIC) or nearby airport hotels

Cost of the 2026 Tour

\$3,595 per person, with a Single Supplement +\$875)



Level of Difficulty

Easy to moderate – 15-40 miles/day, with total mileage of 95-175. No big hills, although mileages are longer than average. 60+ miles of paved bike paths. Cycle at your own pace. Get a lift in the van whenever you like. E-bikes available (limited supply).

Accommodations

All week we stay at the [Williamsburg Lodge](#), within easy walking distance of downtown.

Highlights

- **Explore** old town Colonial Williamsburg, America's largest living-history-museum
- **Enjoy 60+ miles of paved bike paths** throughout the week
- **Unpack only once**, by staying at the Williamsburg Lodge the whole week
- **Dine at historic 18th century taverns**, with servers in costume
- **Cycle through history** at the Colonial National Historic Park, run by the National Park Service
- **Witness America's beginning** during your private guided tour of Jamestown Settlement, a living-history-museum depicting the story of America's first permanent English colony
- **Cycle the newly-completed Virginia Capital Trail**, a paved bike path that connects Jamestown and Richmond – traversing 400 years of history
- **Cycle on quiet country roads** passing cotton and tobacco fields
- **Sip wine** at the Williamsburg Winery, the largest winery in Virginia
- **Marvel** at General Washington reviewing his troops, complete with cannon fire and fife & drum marching bands

What's Included?

- 6 days of cycling and other activities
- 5 nights lodging (at the Williamsburg Lodge in downtown Williamsburg)
- 10 meals (5 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners), catering to all dietary needs
- Free use of our [bikes](#), along with a helmet, rear rack bag, rear safety light and triangle, water bottle, and performance T-shirt. E-bikes available
- Superior level of support throughout your stay (each trip comes with two 15-passenger vans and three professional [bike tour guides](#))
- *Ride with GPS* navigation (using your own device) or paper route notes & maps
- Exclusive GBT activities, including a private walking tour of Colonial Williamsburg and an evening theatrical show
- Admission to the Colonial Williamsburg Historic Area, Jamestown Settlement, Jamestown Island Visitors Center, Yorktown Visitors Center, and the American Revolution Museum
- Full access to our online photo gallery with photos/videos from your trip
- Small group size of 15-20 people (or organize your own [private trip](#))
- Pickup and drop-off at the Richmond International Airport (or nearby hotels)

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 (Sunday) – Arrival in Williamsburg

The tour begins at the Richmond, VA airport (RIC) at 11:00 am (we will also offer pickups from nearby airport hotels). Following our 45-minute van shuttle to Williamsburg, we'll check in to the Williamsburg Lodge, and then at 12:30 pm meet up with your leaders for a bike fitting, safety clinic, and an easy 12-mile ride through Colonial Williamsburg, the College of William & Mary, as well as several other nearby attractions. Everyone will be provided with complimentary tickets for the Colonial Williamsburg Historic Area (valid for the week), allowing admission to 35 exhibition sites, 16 trade shops, numerous museums, regular events, the use of shuttle buses, and admission to more than 100 gardens. Please assemble at 6:15 pm for a Welcome Meeting, followed by dinner together at one of the historic taverns in the old town.

Accommodations:	Williamsburg Lodge, Colonial Williamsburg
Meals included:	Dinner
Cycling Options:	12 miles

Day 2 (Monday) – Williamsburg to Historic Jamestown and back

After breakfast at our hotel, we will begin cycling towards Jamestown, arriving at the Jamestown Settlement in time for our private guided tour at 10:30 am. Jamestown Settlement is a living-history museum that tells the story of America's first permanent English colony. Following your guided tour, we will have lunch together at a nearby brewery. In the afternoon we'll cycle to Jamestown Island, which forms part of the Colonial National Historic Park. On the way we will visit the Glasshouse to observe demonstrations of 17th century glass blowing. Next, we will cycle the 5-mile loop road which provides a self-guided nature tour around the island. Visit the Jamestown Island Visitors Center and walk in the footsteps of the people who founded Jamestown, including Captain John Smith and John Rolfe. You will learn about the Powhatan Native Americans they encountered, most notably Pocahontas. Watch the work being done at the Jamestown Rediscovery archeological dig.

Dinner tonight is on-your-own, back in Colonial Williamsburg.

Accommodations:	Williamsburg Lodge, Colonial Williamsburg
Meals included:	Breakfast, lunch
Cycling Options:	15 or 25 miles

Day 3 (Tuesday) – Williamsburg to Yorktown and back

After breakfast at the hotel, we will begin cycling on the Colonial National Historic Parkway to Yorktown, following a scenic route along the York River. Our first stop will be the Yorktown Battlefield Visitor Center to view the orientation film about the Battle of Yorktown, including the reenactment of the British surrender (on October 19, 1781) to the

combined American and French forces under the command of General George Washington. This battle was the decisive military campaign that effectively ended the six-year struggle of the Revolutionary War and set the stage for a new government and nation.

Once you know everything there is to know about the Battle of Yorktown, our next highlight will be the lovely 9-mile ride through the Yorktown Battlefield. For most of the time we'll be treated to car-free paved paths that wind past the trenches, batteries, and campsites where the armies stayed in October 1781. We start off on the Battlefield Tour Road and then join the one-way Allied Encampment Tour Road. We then head into downtown Yorktown for a delicious picnic lunch prepared by your guides.

In the afternoon you'll have a choice of three activities: cycle the remaining 13 miles back to Williamsburg, take a van shuttle back to our hotel, or spend some time exploring the wonderful American Revolution Museum in Yorktown.

In the late afternoon, we highly recommend you attend the free outdoor musical presentation featuring the Fife & Drums. Dinner is on-your-own tonight in Colonial Williamsburg. After dinner, we'll gather for a private theatrical show entitled *Revolutionary Points of View*.

Accommodations:	Williamsburg Lodge, Colonial Williamsburg
Meals included:	Breakfast, picnic lunch
Cycling Options:	24 or 37 miles

Day 4 (Wednesday) – Layover Day in Colonial Williamsburg

Now that we have explored Jamestown and Yorktown, its time to spend some time exploring Colonial Williamsburg itself. We start the day with a private walking tour, which will provide a great overview of all that Williamsburg has to offer (35 exhibition sites, 16 trade shops, numerous museums, and more than 100 gardens).

After lunch we will offer a short bike ride to the Williamsburg Winery, the largest winery in Virginia. Tours and tastings are available.

Once we get back to Williamsburg, the rest of the day will yours to explore more of the historic downtown area. If available, be sure to catch the free outdoor performance as General Washington reviews his troops, complete with cannon salutes and fife & drum marching band.

Tonight we will all dine together at a local restaurant in Williamsburg. If you have enough energy after dinner, drop in on the fun (and sometimes bawdy) *Gambols* at the local tavern (gambols are games & songs from the 18th century that were popular in taverns at the time).

Accommodations:	Williamsburg Lodge, Colonial Williamsburg
Meals included:	Breakfast, dinner
Cycling Options:	13 miles

Day 5 (Thursday) – Smithfield Ham Ride

Today we've planned a lovely bike ride on the other side of the James River, in Surry County, which will require a short ferry trip each way. We will cycle past peanut and cotton fields on our way to Smithfield, known for their wonderful hams. This will be one of our longest bike rides of the week at 43 miles, and you may get a ride in the van whenever you like. Lunch is on your own today in Smithfield.

Our farewell dinner tonight will be hosted by the Williamsburg Lodge itself. For a little culture after dinner, we suggest heading over to the local Parish Church for some free 18th Century music (organ & harpsichord) by candlelight.

Accommodations: Williamsburg Lodge, Colonial Williamsburg
Meals included: Breakfast, dinner
Cycling Options: 18 or 43 miles

Day 6 (Friday) – Virginia Capital Trail to Richmond

After breakfast we leave Colonial Williamsburg to cycle the newly-completed Virginia Capital Trail, a dedicated multi-use trail that connects Virginia's past and present capitals – Jamestown and Richmond – traversing 400 years of history. The trail features interpretive signs, historic Plantations, and numerous Revolutionary War and Civil War battlefields. Enjoy lunch at a local tavern at the 20-mile mark.

Although this 52-mile trail does go all the way to downtown Richmond, we will be ending our ride at the 40-mile mark, and after our celebratory ice cream, we'll take everyone to the nearby Richmond International Airport (or hotels near the airport). We anticipate arriving at the airport at around 3:00 pm.

Accommodations: on your own in Richmond, VA
Meals included: Breakfast
Cycling Options: 20 or 40 miles

If you require further information regarding travel logistics, please request our “Virginia Travel Information” document.

We hope you enjoy your Virginia Colonial Williamsburg Bike Vacation in October. If you have any questions, or would like to confirm some spaces on this trip, please contact us soon.