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WALKINGTOWN DC IS BACK SEPTEMBER 15-23!

More than 70 Free Walking and Biking Tours

Highlight DC's Rich History and Diverse Neighborhoods

Washington, DC (September 6, 2018) – This month, Cultural Tourism DC and its presenting partner, Events DC, will host the 18th annual **WalkingTown DC**, returning with more than 70 free, guided neighborhood walking and biking tours from September 15 to September 23. This popular event introduces DC residents and visitors to the art, culture, and history of Washington, DC through a series of “bite-size” lunchtime tours, after-work “happy hour” tours, and tours throughout the day on weekends.

Whether you are new to Washington, DC or have lived here your entire life, WalkingTown DC gives you a fresh perspective on the city. Get the backstories on selected buildings, personalities and events in the District, past and present.

Discover the art and architecture that made a U.S. Department of the Interior Building a "symbol of a new day" during the Great Depression. Learn about activities at the American University Experiment Station and the U.S. Chemical Warfare Service that left burial pits, debris fields, contaminated properties and groundwater in a section of northwest DC. Hear how Washington's southwest waterfront morphed from a small collection of late 18th-century brick buildings along the Potomac River to a large group of mid-1960s structures of steel and concrete to today's gleaming mixed-use development.

“Events DC is pleased to present WalkingTown DC,” said Greg O’Dell, president and chief executive officer of Events DC. “Getting people to see DC and its neighborhoods as thriving, vibrant places to spend time is key to the city’s economic growth and stability.”

[Cultural Tourism DC](#) (CTDC) began WalkingTown DC in 2000. Professional guides, community leaders, historians, and others who volunteer their time and expertise to share the richness of DC neighborhoods lead the tours. All WalkingTown DC tours are free, open to the public and require advance registration. Tours vary in distance and pace, accommodating all fitness levels, and most are wheelchair and stroller accessible. This year’s tours include several sections of seven of Cultural Tourism DC’s [Neighborhood Heritage Trails](#).

"WalkingTown DC is one of my favorite activities. The guides have a way of weaving time, place, and people into wonderful stories as they share their passion for their subject matter. I've always learned a lot about the soul of Washington, whether walking along as a participant or a volunteer," said Steve Shulman, executive director of Cultural Tourism DC.

Visit <https://www.culturaltourismdc.org/portal/tour-schedule> for more information about the individual tours. High-resolution images are attached. Please credit the photographer and Cultural Tourism DC.

Learn something interesting about Washington during WalkingTown DC? Share it with your fellow urban explorers. Find Cultural Tourism DC on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/CulturalTourismDC>, on Twitter @DCculture, and on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/culturaltourismdc/> using #WTDC and #walkingtowndc.

WalkingTown DC Sponsors

[Walking Town DC](#) is made possible through the generous support of individual donors, its presenting sponsor **Events DC**, the **DC Department of Parks and Recreation** in support of DPR's 2018 Walk/Run Program and DC Mayor Bowser's FitDC Initiative, and the **Washington DC Economic Partnership**.



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About Cultural Tourism DC

Cultural Tourism DC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to deliver memorable experiences and learning opportunities in the areas of heritage, international exchange, and humanities. Through its celebrated signature programs of *Passport DC*, *WalkingTown DC*, *DC Neighborhood Heritage Trails*, and *PorchFest*, Cultural Tourism DC works to broaden, deepen, and diversify audiences for the arts and in DC -- audiences whose participation enriches the creative economy of the city.

About Events DC

Events DC is the face of conventions, sports, entertainment and cultural events within our nation's capital. As the official convention and sports authority for the District of Columbia, Events DC leverages the beauty, history and diversity of the most powerful city in the world to attract and promote an extensive variety of events, resulting in amazing experiences for residents and visitors alike, and generating economic and community benefits for the city.

WALKINGTOWN DC PHOTOS WITH CAPTIONS



Dozens join tour guide, professor and author John Feeley Jr. for a tour of Brookland and learn about its transition from woods and farmland to a trolley car suburb and its status today as a tree-lined, family-friendly urban neighborhood. Photo by Robert Kelleman, courtesy of Cultural Tourism DC©2017



During WalkingTown DC 2017, David Luria led a group on a photography tour of the architecture of the Smithsonian Castle and other buildings on the national mall. Luria showed the group how to take great photos of DC's museums and other great buildings. Photo courtesy of Cultural Tourism DC ©2017



Tour guide Fiona Clem shares the history of Meridian Hill Park, located along 16th Street NW. The park is home to a 13-basin cascading fountain that is the longest in North America and the only equestrian statue of a woman (Joan of Arc) in Washington, DC. Photo by Jagadish Yellapu, courtesy of Cultural Tourism DC©2016