

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation P.O. Box 1776 Williamsburg, Va. 23187-1776 colonialwilliamsburg.org

Colonial Williamsburg Offers Free Admission for Military Families, Special Programs Over Veterans Day Weekend, Nov. 11-13





WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (Oct. 26, 2022) – Colonial Williamsburg continues its tradition of honoring American military service by offering <u>free admission during Veterans Day weekend</u>, Friday through Sunday, Nov. 11-13, to all active-duty military, reservists, National Guard members, veterans, retirees and their direct dependents. Free admission includes admission to <u>historic trades and sites</u> in the Historic Area, admission to the <u>Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg</u>, and complimentary <u>shuttle service</u>. Special military-themed programming including a military march and commemorative ceremonies honoring America's veterans will be offered throughout the day on Friday, Nov. 11.

The "Honoring Service to America" program, which provides complimentary passes to military guests on Veterans Day and Memorial Day, is made possible once again by a generous grant from The Home Depot Foundation as part of its ongoing commitment to improving the homes and lives of U.S. military veterans and their families. Since 2015, the "Honoring Service to America" program has distributed nearly 51,000 tickets to military families.

Colonial Williamsburg will host a series of special events honoring veterans on Friday, Nov. 11, including:

- A 60-minute <u>Veterans Day Proclamation Ceremony</u> beginning at **10 a.m.** on Palace Green presented in partnership with the Williamsburg Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.
- Cost of War at 1:30 p.m. in the Hennage Auditorium located inside the Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg. Join Colonel George Washington as he discusses the physical and mental toll that the Seven Years' War took on individuals on all sides of the conflict.
- <u>Military March Honoring America's Veterans</u> at **3:30 p.m.** featuring the Colonial Williamsburg Fifes & Drums, Military Programs staff and members of Williamsburg community veterans' groups. The march will begin at Capitol Circle and conclude at Market Square with a military muster and salute to the citizen soldier ceremony behind the Courthouse.
- End of Day Salute at **4:40 p.m**. performed by a lone bagpiper from the roof deck of the Governor's Palace.
- <u>18th-Century Field Music with the Fifes & Drums</u> at **4:40 p.m.** featuring a demonstration of the music and drill of various military ceremonies from an 18th-century soldier's working day in Market Square North behind the Courthouse.
- <u>In Defense of our Liberty</u> evening program offered at **7 p.m.** at the Magazine, in which participants learn about life as a Continental Army recruit. Separate tickets at an additional cost are required. Attendees must be at least 9 years old to participate.

During their visit, military personnel and veterans, and their families are invited to visit the <u>Liberty Lounge</u>, located in the Historic Area directly behind the Millinery on East Duke of Gloucester Street, for complimentary refreshments and the company of fellow service men and women. The Liberty Lounge has welcomed more than 240,000 military guests and their families since opening in 2016. Colonial Williamsburg also offers exclusive military discounts on Colonial Williamsburg hotels, dining, retail, golf and spa listed <u>here</u>.

Free "Honoring Service to America" single-day passes are available at all onsite ticket locations with proper ID. Minor dependents must be accompanied by an adult, and dependents ages 10 and over must present valid dependent ID. Service members need not be present for qualifying guests to receive free Honoring Service to America tickets, which are provided to dependent family members of currently deployed troops with appropriate identification. Veterans who

separated before retirement can bring a copy of their honorable discharge paperwork, form DD 214, as identification of service.

Additional information on the "Honoring Service to America" program and other military offerings is available by visiting <u>colonialwilliamsburg.org</u>, by calling 855-296-6627 toll-free and by following Colonial Williamsburg on <u>Facebook</u> and @colonialwmsburg on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

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About The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation preserves, restores and operates Virginia's 18th-century capital of Williamsburg. Innovative and interactive experiences highlight the relevance of the American Revolution to contemporary life and the importance of an informed, active citizenry. The Colonial Williamsburg experience includes more than 600 restored or reconstructed original buildings, renowned museums of decorative arts and folk art, extensive educational outreach programs for students and teachers, lodging, culinary options from historic taverns to casual or elegant dining, the Golden Horseshoe Golf Club featuring 45 holes designed by Robert Trent Jones and his son Rees Jones, a full-service spa and fitness center, pools, retail stores and gardens. Philanthropic support and revenue from admissions, products and hospitality operations sustain Colonial Williamsburg's educational programs and preservation initiatives.

About The Home Depot Foundation

The Home Depot Foundation, the nonprofit arm of The Home Depot, works to improve the homes and lives of U.S. veterans, support communities impacted by natural disasters and train skilled tradespeople to fill the labor gap. Since 2011, the Foundation has invested more than \$400 million in veteran causes and improved more than 50,000 veteran homes and facilities. The Foundation has pledged to invest half of a billion dollars in veteran causes by 2025 and \$50 million in training the next generation of skilled tradespeople through the Path to Pro program.

To learn more about The Home Depot Foundation visit **HomeDepotFoundation.org** and follow us on **Twitter** @HomeDepotFound and on **Facebook** and **Instagram** @HomeDepotFoundation.