



## SEA, STARS AND SOUTHERN CHARM

### Day 1

Start your tour by enjoying majestic vistas of the world's largest natural harbor from the decks of the **Miss Hampton Harbor Cruise**. During your 2.5-hour lunch cruise through the picturesque Chesapeake Bay, you will sail the waters of Captain John Smith and the First Settlers. Pass historic Fort Wool, a Civil War Island fortress, and Naval Station Norfolk, the largest naval base in the world. Back on land, you'll tour the **Virginia Air and Space Center**, the official visitor center for NASA Langley Research Center, located in charming downtown Hampton, the birthplace of America's space program. The Center features dozens of interactive exhibits, suspended aircraft, and an interactive aviation gallery that spans 100 years of flight and historical displays. You will then depart for **Fort Monroe**, the largest stone fort built in the U.S. Here discover the **Casemate Museum's** Civil War ties through military contraband and learn why the fort became known as the "Freedom Fort." End your day with a short ride to **The Grey Goose**, a restaurant owned and operated by a Hampton native specializing in Old Virginia-style cooking.

### Day 2

Following breakfast, depart for Smithfield, a quaint, charming, historic town incorporated in 1752 and nicknamed "The Ham Capital of the World." Step inside **Historic St. Luke's Church**, circa 1632, America's oldest church of English foundation, and the oldest surviving Gothic architecture. Following lunch at the award-winning **Smithfield Inn**, learn about Smithfield's history and all the charming town has to offer on a walking tour. Stop in the **Visitor's Center**, which shares space with the **Arts Center @319**. Here you'll see local artists at work and you can pick up a map and guide to many of the local shops.

Next visit the **Isle of Wight County Museum** which features a full-scale Country Store, as well as the world's oldest, edible cured ham. In Smithfield's Historic District take a step back in time as you meander through the streets and explore the ice cream parlor, specialty stores and numerous antique and vintage shops. Return to Newport News Tech Center for shopping and dinner on your own.

### Day 3

Start your day by discovering more than 250 living species native to Virginia during your visit to the **Virginia Living Museum**. View endangered animals in their natural habitat and discover the galaxies in the 30-foot planetarium dome. Depart for the **Mariner's Museum**, one of the largest and most comprehensive maritime history museums in the world, housing a treasure trove of more than 35,000 items inspired by human experiences with the sea. A recent addition to the museum is the USS Monitor Exhibit, a \$30 million 63,500 square foot showcase of artifacts, history and accounts of the USS Monitor's career.

Lunch will be "progressive-style," with appetizers served at **Endview Plantation**. Built in 1769, the plantation has survived three wars. At this living history museum you can converse with Civil War soldiers and observe re-enactments of life at Endview in the 18th century. Next move on to the main course at the **Boxwood Inn**, which has served as a hall of records, a general store, a post office, hotel for soldiers, a residence and now a charming bed and breakfast. For dessert, travel to nearby **Lee Hall Mansion**, the only large antebellum plantation house remaining in the area. Once home to an affluent planter, Lee Hall Mansion was used as a Confederate headquarters by two generals in 1862.

Then visit the **American Revolution Museum at Yorktown**, which tells anew the story of the nation's founding, from the twilight of the colonial period to the dawn of the Constitution and beyond. Through comprehensive indoor gallery exhibits, immersive films and outdoor living history, the museum conveys the nature and scale of the Revolution.

Following a brief rest at the hotel, dinner tonight will be at one of the many great restaurants in Newport News.

