

Washington: Pride of the Nation

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The AAO returns to Washington, D.C., for its annual meeting May 1-4. With many of the most important historical monuments and museums in America within easy walking distance of the Convention Center, the nation's capital may prove a serious distraction for orthodontists and their families. Here, in our annual preview of the convention city, JCO offers some suggestions on how to spend your time.

Climate and Transportation

Although the glorious cherry blossoms will be gone, early May should be much more pleasant than this winter's snowstorms might indicate. Plan for highs in the low 70s and lows in the 50s, with a chance of rain.

Three major international airports are within reach of the city. Reagan National is the closest to town, with average one-way fares of \$14 for either taxis or SuperShuttle. From Washington Dulles International Airport, expect to pay \$60 for a cab or \$29 for the shuttle. Baltimore-Washington International Airport is the farthest, with fares averaging \$90 for a taxi and \$37 for the shuttle.

The Washington Metro is one of the most efficient public-transportation systems in the country. The rechargeable SmarTrip card is a convenient and economical payment method that can be purchased in advance online (www.commuterdirect.com). It also works on the DC Circulator, a bus line serving the central city.

Attractions

Old Town Trolley Tours visit all the famous monuments on both daytime and "moonlight" schedules. These tours are among many attractions included in the VISITicket (www.visiticket.com), which offers one-, two-, three-, and five-day passes. Guided walking tours are also available through **Washington Walks**. For a quirkier way of seeing the District, try **City Segway Tours**.

The **Smithsonian Institution** is America's greatest collection of museums. Although most of them are located in close proximity on the National

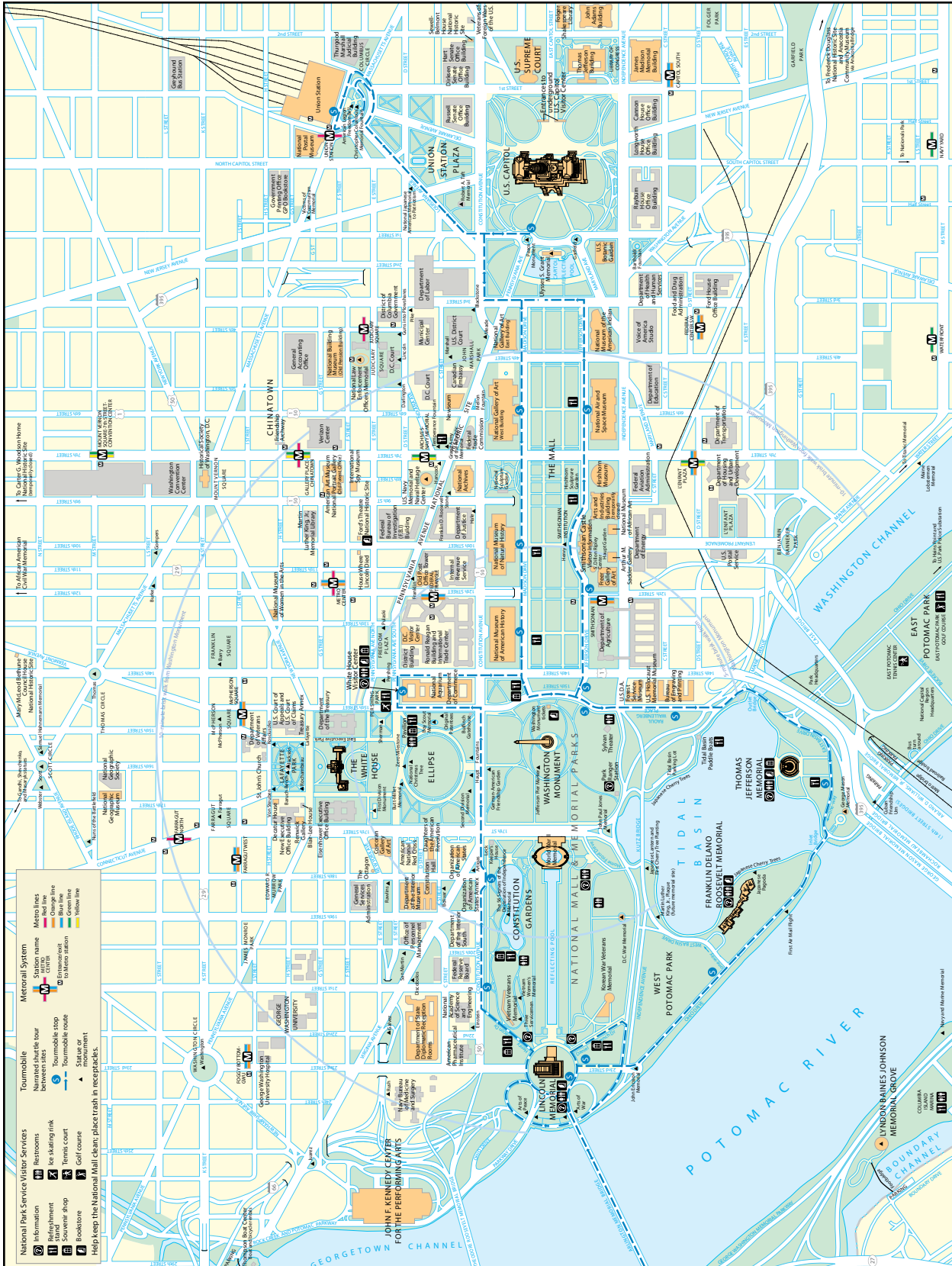


The Smithsonian Institution's "Castle" on the National Mall. (Photo courtesy of the Smithsonian Institution.)

Mall, it would take much longer than four days to take in all they have to offer. Here are the highlights on display during the AAO convention period. The **American Art Museum** offers exhibits on "Graphic Masters", "Framing the West: The Survey Photographs of Timothy H. O'Sullivan", "The Art of Gaman: Arts and Crafts from the Japanese American Internment Camps", and "Christo and Jeanne-Claude: Remembering the *Running Fence*". Its **Renwick Gallery** branch features a permanent exhibit of American craft artists. The fascinating **American History Museum** offers a new show on "The Star-Spangled Banner" and a traveling display from the National Museum of African American History and Culture called "Ain't Nothing Like the Real Thing: How the Apollo Theater Shaped American Enter-

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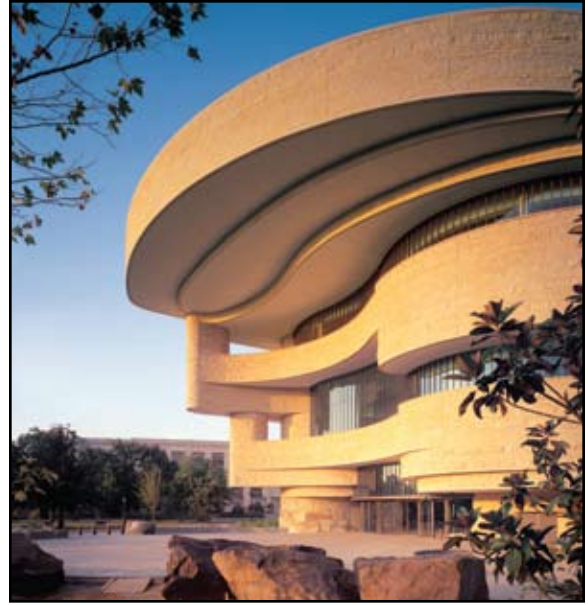


(Map courtesy of U.S. National Park Service.)

tainment”. The **Anacostia Community Museum** has ongoing exhibits on “The African Presence in Mexico” and “Black Baseball in the District of Columbia”. The **Freer Gallery of Art** highlights Japanese ceramics, Chinese painting, and Whistler’s “Nocturnes”. Connected to the Freer by an underground passage, the **Arthur M. Sackler Gallery** is a must-see for connoisseurs of Asian arts and crafts. The **Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden** is showcasing the artists John Gerrard and Chris Chong Chan Fui, along with “ColorForms” from the museum collection. The **National Air and Space Museum** has opened a large new facility near Dulles Airport to display the air- and spacecraft that could not be accommodated at its familiar National Mall building (a mandatory stop for children). At the **National Museum of African Art** is an exhibition of “Artful Animals”. The relatively new **National Museum of the American Indian** offers “IndiVisible: African-Native American Lives in the Americas” and “Brian Jungen: Strange Comfort”. The **National Museum of Natural History** is showing “A Rare Encounter: The Hope and Wittelsbach-Graff Diamonds” and “Since Darwin: The Evolution of Evolution”. The elegant **National Portrait Gallery** features “One Life: Echoes of Elvis” and “Portraiture Now: Communities”. The **National Postal Museum** presents “FDR & Stamps of the Great Depression”, “Abraham Lincoln Certified Plate Proofs”, and “An Alphabet of Philately”. Finally, the **National Zoological Park** is one of the world’s best zoos.

Other indispensable Washington museums are the **National Gallery of Art**, featuring “From Impressionism to Modernism: The Chester Dale Collection” Spanish painting and sculpture, and the art of Mark Rothko, Hendrick Avercamp, and Allen Ginsberg; the **Corcoran Gallery of Art**, highlighting the photography of Eadweard Muybridge; and **The Phillips Collection**, showing abstract works of Georgia O’Keeffe. Bibliophiles will want to visit the **Folger Shakespeare Library** and the **Library of Congress**.

More specialized attractions include **Arlington House**, **The Robert E. Lee Memorial** at Arlington National Cemetery; the National



The Museum of the American Indian has recently opened on the National Mall. (Photo courtesy of the Smithsonian Institution.)

Center for White House History at **Decatur House**; the Federal-period **Dumbarton House** in Georgetown; the **Hillwood Estate, Museum, and Gardens**, Marjorie Merriweather Post’s luxurious home; the **International Spy Museum**; the **Marian Koshland Science Museum**; the **National Museum of Crime & Punishment**; the **Newseum** showcase of journalism history; the **U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing** (weekdays only, reservations required); and the **U.S. National Arboretum**. George Washington’s home, the **Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens**, features a display of Washington’s denture and last tooth.

Performing Arts

Spring is prime time for concerts and plays in Washington; half-price tickets can be purchased as available at TicketPlace (www.ticketplace.org). The **Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts** offers a full slate of performances, highlighted by W.A. Mozart’s *Marriage of Figaro* from the Washington National Opera (April 24-May 7). The National Symphony Orchestra presents the superb

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Washington National Cathedral, the sixth largest cathedral in the world, constructed between 1907 and 1990. (Photo © Bill Jonscher, Dreamstime.com.)

French pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet in a new work by Guillaume Connesson and the *Concerto for the Left Hand* by Maurice Ravel (April 29-May 1). Also at the Kennedy Center are the Biava Quartet in “An Evening of French Jewish Music” (April 29), Shen Wei Dance Arts from China (April 29-30), cabaret singer Laura Benanti (April 30), a celebration of the centennial of Broadway composer Frank Loesser (May 3), cellist Zuill Bailey and pianist Orion Weiss (May 4), and the long-running “comedy whodunit” *Shear Madness*.

Other chamber-music performances include the Jack Quartet at Coolidge Auditorium in the Library of Congress (April 30), the Ariel Quartet at the Corcoran Gallery (May 2), and mezzo-soprano Anna Radziejewska and pianist Mariusz Rutkowski at **The Kreeger Museum** (May 5). The magnificent **Washington National Cathedral** offers tours and exhibits, a lecture by author Isabel Allende (April 30), and 12:30 p.m. organ demonstrations on Mondays and Wednesdays. In a series leading up to this summer’s national convention of the American Guild of Organists, **National City Christian Church** is presenting a recital by David Chalmers (April 30). Rock-music fans can take in Dire Straits guitarist-songwriter Mark Knopfler with singer Pieta Brown at **The Warner Theatre** (May 2).

On the stage, the Folger Elizabethan Theatre offers Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*, while the **Shakespeare Theatre Company** presents Pierre Corneille’s *The Liar* and a remote-video performance of Alan Bennett’s new play, *The Habit of Art*, from the National Theatre of London (May 3). The historic **Ford’s Theatre**, in addition to offering tours (by reservation), features a dramatic reimagination of Lincoln’s assassination in a Richard Hellesen play called *One Destiny*. **The Studio Theatre** performs Neil LaBute’s *Reasons to Be Pretty* (through May 2).

Musical-theater offerings include Harvey Fierstein in *Fiddler on the Roof* at **The National Theatre**, *Little Shop of Horrors* at Ford’s Theatre, and Duke Ellington’s *Sophisticated Ladies* at Arena Stage in the **Lincoln Theatre**. For live jazz, visit the **Bohemian Caverns** or the **HR-57 Center for the Preservation of Jazz & Blues**. Outside the city, the **Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts** presents singer-songwriter John McCutcheon (April 29), fiddler Bonnie Rideout (April 30), and its “23rd Annual Evening of Comedy” (May 1). Washington’s best-known comedy troupe, the Capitol Steps, performs every Friday and Saturday in the Amphitheater inside the **Ronald Reagan Building**, while visiting comics can be seen at the **DC Improv**.

Restaurants and Nightlife

Restaurant recommendations are provided by our sister publication, *Sommelier Journal* (www.sommelierjournal.com). As a world capital, Washington offers excellent examples of many regional cuisines.

The landmark **Equinox** plans to reopen in April, under chef Todd Gray, after a devastating fire. Similarly eclectic American fare can be found at **CityZen** in the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, **Nora** in Dupont Circle, **Palena** in Cleveland Park, and **Proof** in the Penn Quarter. More traditional menus are combined with outstanding wine lists at **Charlie Palmer Steak** and **The Jockey Club**.

Georgetown’s venerable **Citronelle** tops the list of French restaurants, followed by the Flemish-influenced **Marcel’s**. The innovative **Komi** in

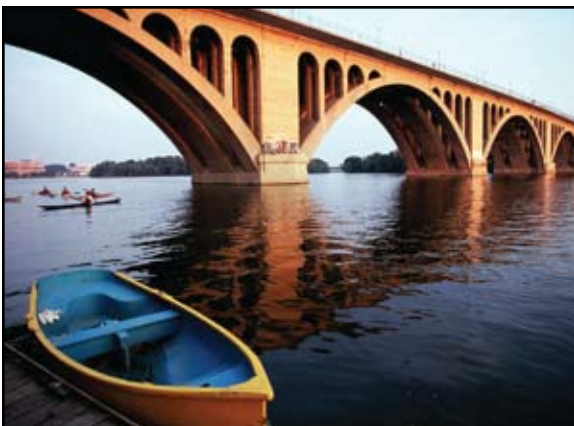
Dupont Circle and the Greek **Cava Mezze** on Capitol Hill are the Mediterranean standard-bearers. Other ethnic leaders are the northern Italian **Tosca** and the Indian **Rasika**, both in the Penn Quarter. Best seafood restaurants are **Kinhead's** in Foggy Bottom and **BlackSalt** in the Palisades.

For late-night live music and drinks, try **Blues Alley**, **Eighteenth Street Lounge**, **Local 16**, **Madam's Organ Restaurant and Bar**, **Marvin**, **The Red & the Black Bar**, **The Rock and Roll Hotel**, or **The Zoo Bar Café**. Theme-oriented establishments include the **Metropolitan Champagne Bar** in the Napoleon Bistro & Lounge and **The Brickskeller Dining House & Down Home Saloon**, which boasts the world's largest beer selection.

Sports and Recreation

The **Washington Nationals** return home for a series with the Atlanta Braves at the charming Nationals Park May 4-6. During the convention, the **Washington Capitals** are likely to be involved in NHL playoffs at the Verizon Center. Outdoor enthusiasts should check out the **Rock Creek Park Nature Center and Planetarium** or the **Thompson Boat Center**, both close to downtown.

The golf season will be in full swing by early



Kayakers enjoy an early evening on the Potomac River at Georgetown Bridge. (Photo © Charles Knox; Dreamstime.com.)



Dupont Circle, a cosmopolitan neighborhood of historic homes, restaurants, bookstores, and galleries. (Photo © Christopher Howey, Dreamstime.com.)

May. Top metro-area public-access layouts include **Augustine Golf Course** in Stafford, Va.; **Lansdowne Resort** in Lansdowne, Va.; **Stonewall Golf Club** in Gainesville, Va.; **Swan Point Yacht & Country Club** in Swan Point, Md.; the **TPC at Avenel** in Potomac, Md.; and **Westfields Golf Club** in Clifton, Va.

Shopping

Prime shopping districts in the Washington area are downtown's **Gallery Place** (in Chinatown) and the **Old Post Office Pavilion** (in a 315-foot clock tower); Barracks Row, including the Beaux Arts **Union Station**; Chevy Chase, Md., featuring the new **Collection at Chevy Chase**; Dupont Circle, offering bookstores and boutiques; Friendship Heights, with the **Mazza Gallerie**; Georgetown, including **The Shops at Georgetown Park**; and the massive **Tysons Corner Center** in McLean, Va.

Leading galleries include **Connor Contemporary Art**, **Govinda Gallery** (pop and folk art, Foggy Bottom), **Hemphill Fine Arts** (contemporary), **Industry Gallery** (modern industrial), **The Old Print Gallery** (Georgetown), **Studio Gallery** (contemporary), and **Susquehanna Antique Company** (Georgetown).

DIRECTORY

Attractions	Address*	Phone**
American Art Museum	Eighth and F Streets N.W.	(202) 633-1000
Anacostia Community Museum	1901 Fort Place S.E.	(202) 633-4820
Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial	Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA	(703) 235-1530
Arthur M. Sackler Gallery	1050 Independence Ave. S.W.	(202) 633-1000
City Segway Tours	624 9th St. N.W.	(877) 734-8687
Corcoran Gallery of Art	500 17th St. N.W.	(202) 639-1700
Decatur House	748 Jackson Place N.W.	(202) 842-0915
Dumbarton House	2715 Q St. N.W.	(202) 337-2288
Folger Shakespeare Library	201 E. Capitol St. S.E.	(202) 544-7077
Freer Gallery of Art	Jefferson Dr. and 12th St. S.W.	(202) 633-1000
Hillwood Estate, Museum, and Gardens	4155 Linnean Ave. N.W.	(202) 686-8500
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden	Independence Ave. and 7th St. S.W.	(202) 633-1000
International Spy Museum	800 F St. N.W.	(202) EYE-SPY-U
Library of Congress	First St. S.E. and Independence Ave.	(202) 707-9779
Marian Koshland Science Museum	Sixth and E Streets N.W.	(202) 334-1201
Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens	3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy, Mount Vernon, VA	(703) 780-2000
National Air and Space Museum (National Mall) (Udvar-Hazy Center)	Independence Ave. and 7th St. S.W. 14390 Air and Space Museum Parkway, Chantilly, VA	(202) 633-2214 (703) 572-4118
National Gallery of Art and Sculpture Garden	Fourth St. and Constitution Ave. N.W.	(202) 737-4215
National Museum of African Art	950 Independence Ave. S.W.	(202) 633-4600
National Museum of American History	1400 Constitution Ave. N.W.	(202) 633-1000
National Museum of Crime & Punishment	575 Seventh St. N.W.	(202) 393-1099
National Museum of Natural History	Tenth St. and Constitution Ave. N.W.	(202) 633-1000
National Museum of the American Indian	Fourth St. and Independence Ave. S.W.	(202) 633-1000
National Portrait Gallery	Eighth and F Streets N.W.	(202) 633-8300
National Postal Museum	2 Massachusetts Ave. N.E.	(202) 633-5555
National Zoological Park	3001 Connecticut Ave. N.W.	(202) 633-4800
Newseum	555 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.	(202) 292-6100
Old Town Trolley Tours	2640 Reed St. N.W.	(202) 832-9800
The Phillips Collection	1600 21st St. N.W.	(202) 387-2151
Renwick Gallery	1661 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.	(202) 633-7970
Smithsonian Institution Information Center (The Castle)	1000 Jefferson Dr. S.W.	(202) 633-1000
U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing	14th and C Streets S.W.	(202) 874-2330
U.S. National Arboretum	3501 New York Ave. N.E.	(202) 245-2726
Washington Walks	819 G St. S.W.	(202) 484-1565

*Washington, D.C., unless otherwise specified.

**10-digit dialing required.

DIRECTORY (cont.)

Performing Arts

Performing Arts	Address*	Phone**
Bohemian Caverns	2001 11th St. N.W.	(202) 299-0800
DC Improv	1140 Connecticut Ave. N.W.	(202) 296-7008
Ford's Theatre	511 Tenth St. N.W.	(202) 347-4833
HR-57 Center for the Preservation of Jazz & Blues	1610 14th St. N.W.	(202) 667-3700
Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts	2700 F St. N.W.	(202) 467-4600
The Kreeger Museum	2401 Foxhall Road N.W.	(202) 338-3552
Library of Congress, Coolidge Auditorium	First St. S.E. and Independence Ave.	(202) 707-5502
Lincoln Theatre	1215 U St. N.W.	(202) 328-6000
National City Christian Church	5 Thomas Circle N.W.	(202) 232-0323
The National Theatre	1321 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.	(202) 628-6161
Ronald Reagan Building Amphitheater	1300 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.	(202) 397-SEAT
Shakespeare Theatre Company	610 F St. N.W.	(202) 547-1122
The Studio Theatre	1501 14th St. N.W.	(202) 332-3300
The Warner Theatre	1299 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.	(202) 783-4000
Washington National Cathedral	3001 Wisconsin Ave. N.W.	(202) 364-6616
Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts	1635 Trap Road, Vienna, VA	(703) 255-1900

Restaurants and Nightlife

BlackSalt	4883 MacArthur Blvd. N.W.	(202) 342-9101
Blues Alley Jazz Supper Club	1073 Wisconsin Ave. N.W.	(202) 337-4141
The Brickskeller Dining House & Down Home Saloon	1523 22nd St. N.W.	(202) 293-1885
Cava Mezza	527 Eighth St. S.E.	(202) 543-9090
Charlie Palmer Steak	101 Constitution Ave. N.W.	(202) 547-8100
Citronelle	3000 M St. N.W.	(202) 726-5000
CityZen	1330 Maryland Ave. S.W.	(202) 554-8588
Eighteenth Street Lounge	1212 18th St. N.W.	(202) 466-3922
Equinox	818 Connecticut Ave. N.W.	(202) 331-8118
The Jockey Club	2100 Massachusetts Ave. N.W.	(202) 835-2100
Kinthead's	2000 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.	(202) 296-7700
Komi	1509 17th St. N.W.	(202) 332-9200
Local 16	1602 U St. N.W.	(202) 265-2828
Madam's Organ Restaurant and Bar	2461 18th St. N.W.	(202) 667-5370
Marcel's	2401 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.	(202) 296-1166
Marvin	2007 14th St. N.W.	(202) 797-7171
Metropolitain Champagne Bar	1847 Columbia Road N.W.	(202) 299-9630
Nora	2132 Florida Ave. N.W.	(202) 462-5143
Palena	3529 Connecticut Ave. N.W.	(202) 537-9250
Proof	775 G St. N.W.	(202) 737-7663
Rasika	633 D St. N.W.	(202) 637-1222
The Red & the Black Bar	1212 H St. N.E.	(202) 399-3201
The Rock and Roll Hotel	1353 H St. N.E.	(202) 388-ROCK
Tosca	1112 F St. N.W.	(202) 367-1990
The Zoo Bar Café	3000 Connecticut Ave. N.W.	(202) 232-4225

DIRECTORY (cont.)

Sports and Recreation

Sports and Recreation	Address*	Phone**
Augustine Golf Course Lansdowne Resort	76 Monument Drive, Stafford, VA 44050 Woodridge Parkway, Lansdowne, VA	(540) 720-7374 (703) 729-4071
Rock Creek Park Nature Center and Planetarium Stonewall Golf Club	5200 Glover Road N.W. 15601 Turtle Point Drive, Gainesville, VA	(202) 895-6070 (703) 753-5101
Swan Point Yacht & Country Club	11550 Swan Point Blvd., Swan Point, MD	(301) 259-0047
Thompson Boat Center	2900 Virginia Ave. N.W.	(202) 333-9543
TPC Potomac at Avenel	10000 Oaklyn Drive, Potomac, MD	(301) 469-3700
Washington Capitals	Verizon Center, 601 F St. N.W.	(202) 737-9838
Washington Nationals	1500 S. Capitol St. S.E.	(202) 675-NATS
Westfields Golf Club	13940 Balmoral Greens Ave., Clifton, VA	(703) 631-3300

Shopping and Galleries

Collection at Chevy Chase	5471 Wisconsin Ave., Chevy Chase, MD	(301) 654-2292
Connor Contemporary Art Gallery Place	1358 Florida Ave. N.E. 701 Seventh St. N.W.	(202) 588-8750 (202) 393-2121
Govinda Gallery	1227 34th St. N.W.	(202) 333-1180
Hemphill Fine Arts	1515 14th St. N.W.	(202) 234-5601
Industry Gallery	1358 Florida Ave. N.E.	(202) 399-1730
Mazza Gallerie	5300 Wisconsin Ave. N.W.	(202) 966-6114
Old Post Office Pavilion	1100 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.	(202) 289-4225
The Old Print Gallery	1220 31st St. N.W.	(202) 965-1818
The Shops at Georgetown Park	3222 M St. N.W.	(202) 342-8190
Studio Gallery	2108 R St. N.W.	(202) 232-8734
Susquehanna Antique Company	3216 O St. N.W.	(202) 333-1511
Tysons Corner Center	1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, VA	(703) 847-7300
Union Station	50 Massachusetts Ave. N.E.	(202) 289-1908

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