



Aerial view of the National Harbor town center and marina on the banks of the Potomac River.

# NATIONAL HARBOR

The perfect gateway to our nation's capital



Located on 300 acres of the Potomac River, National Harbor offers boaters a resort-like atmosphere and the perfect base from which to explore the nation's capital. The multibillion-dollar, mixed-use development features hotels, restaurants, shops, galleries, residential units, the largest convention center on the East Coast—and a state-of-the-art marina.

The National Harbor Marina has brand new floating docks with fixed concrete piers, gas and diesel fuel, private showers and laundry rooms, and such in-slip amenities as CATV, electrical power, and free WiFi. Slips range from 48 to 60 feet in length, and the marina can accommodate boats up to 120 feet long on a side tie-up. The excellent facilities for groups and clubs included a tented canopy and catering services.

And then there's the rest of the complex.

From the beginning, the project's creators set out to draw leading retailers, hoteliers, and restaurateurs. The result: nowhere else in the Washington, D.C. area will you find so many top-notch amenities in one place. Among the six hotels are a Westin and an Aloft, the hip new kid sister of the W hotel chain (think urban-inspired design and loft-style rooms).

The selection of restaurants is a draw even for D.C. locals. Sample clam chowder and ribeye steaks at McCormick & Schmick's, then swing by CakeLove (brainchild of Food Network-star Warren Brown) for lemon-blueberry tarts and dense, fudgy brownies. Rosa Mexicano has its famed pomegranate margaritas and made-to-order guacamole. At the Old Hickory Steakhouse, there's a dedicated maître de fromage to tend a stellar assortment of some of the world's finest hand-crafted cheeses. Soon-to-open restaurants will only up the ante: Bond 45 (one of New York City's most popular Italian joints, with a killer antipasti bar and yummy thin-crust pizzas), Redeye Grill (shellfish platters, coconut-crusting shrimp).



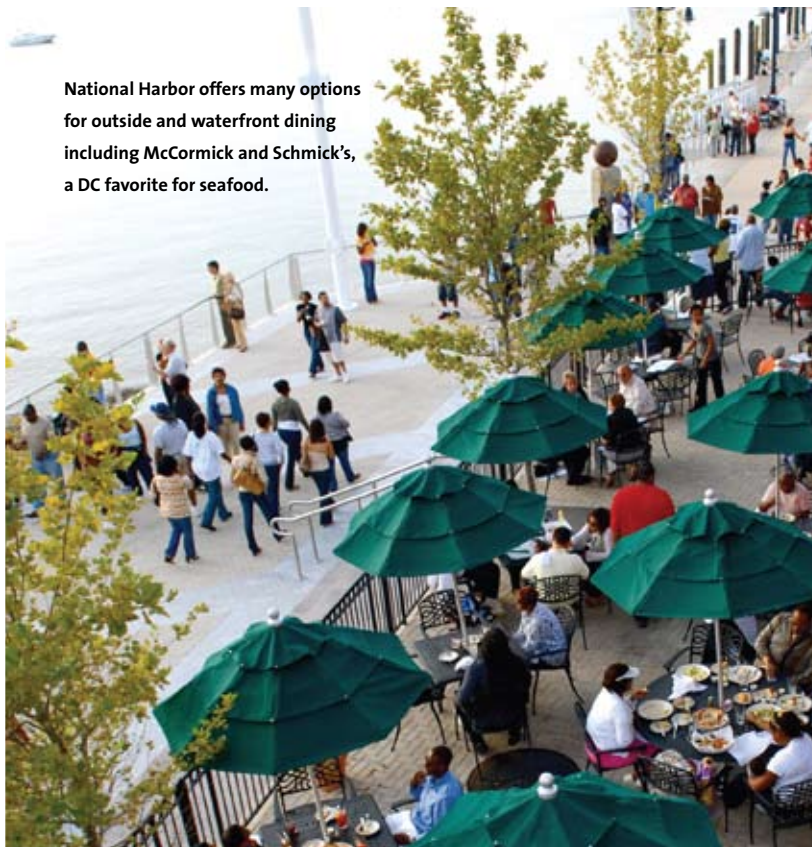
Fresh produce being sold at the American Farmer's Market where farmers, artisans, and bakers sell their wares every Saturday starting in May.



“The Awakening,” J. Seward Johnson Jr.’s, 15-foot high sculpture of a giant struggling to emerge from the earth, lies prominently on the National Harbor waterfront.



The National Harbor banner welcomes visitors to experience this unique new development.



National Harbor offers many options for outside and waterfront dining including McCormick and Schmick’s, a DC favorite for seafood.

## Events Planned for 2009

### MAY

- 2 Sunset Festival and Official Kick-off of Celebrate Sunsets where you will witness some of the most spectacular sunsets in the region and enjoy live music from the Wailers (ticketed event)
- 2-30 Kick-off of American Market, the farmers and craft market that runs Saturdays through September 5
- 7 Jason Aldean (sunset concert/ticketed event)
- 9 Riverfront Revolution 5K & 10K Run
- 14 Gin Blossoms & Tonic (sunset concert/ticketed event)
- 21 Toad and Wet Sprocket (sunset concert/ticketed event)
- 29-31 Yacht Show

### JUNE

- 6-7 Food & Wine Festival
- 20 Beer, Bourbon & BBQ
- 26-28 Jazz Festival

### JULY

- 4-25 American Market, the farmers and craft market every Saturday through September 5

### AUGUST

- 15-16 Country Western Festival
- 22 HarborFest—Musical Festival featuring Fall Out Boy, Counting Crows, Hooba Stank, Better Than Ezra, Thriving Ivory

### September

- 5 American Market
- 12 Celtic Festival
- 25-26 Oktoberfest

### OCTOBER

- 26-27 Oktoberfest

### NOVEMBER

- 27 Tree Lighting & Fireworks
- 28-29 Holiday Market starts and runs every Saturday until Christmas.



Visitors walking along the National Harbor pier

For a drink, head to Bobby McKey's, with its dueling piano players, or hit up Cadillac Ranch for a wild ride on the mechanical bull. Timothy Dean Bistro will open this year and feature an up-scale lounge atmosphere and live jazz.

Shopping options are equally as compelling and diverse. Perennial favorites such as Swarovski, Jos. A. Bank, and Godiva are joined by a bevy of boutiques. South Moon Under stocks items by designers like Free People, Citizens of Humanity, and James Perse. Amber Tree specializes in crafts and fine art from Africa, including jewelry and tribal masks. Political junkies shouldn't miss America!, where you can pick up Republican and Democratic party flags and presidential bloopers DVDs.

In addition to all the great things to do indoors, there's plenty to check out around the grounds. The impressive

collection of public art includes 25-foot-long glass-panel works by local artist Cheryl Foster and "Chesapeake Journeys," a colored-concrete installation by Steven Weitzman, inspired by the bay. The pièce de résistance? "The Awakening," a striking, enormous sculpture of a giant emerging from the sand.

And if you're looking to do something offbeat—or just off-the-grid—National Harbor can satisfy those whims too. Zip around the grounds on a Segway tour. Browse the Saturday farmers market. Retreat to the Relâche spa for a pear-and-apple sugar scrub. Time your visit so that your stay includes a Friday night—during July, August, and September, and enjoy free concerts that are part of the Summer Concert Series. National harbor will also host a ticketed concert series with national acts including The Wailers (May 2nd);

Jason Aldean (May 7th); Gin Blossoms & Tonic (May 14th); Toad and Wet Sprocket (May 21st) and many more.

Regular water-taxi service between National Harbor and Alexandria, Virginia, makes it a snap to explore all that the D.C. area has to offer. The development also runs cruise tours of the Mall-area monuments and George Washington's Mount Vernon.

In short, National Harbor is a boater's paradise. And what's more, this summer the marina has discounts for overnight boaters as well as permanent slip owners, including special offers at many of the restaurants, shops, and hotels.

So what are you waiting for?

For more information visit: [www.nationalharbor.com](http://www.nationalharbor.com). To view a suggested cruise to National Harbor visit [www.marinalife.com/cruises/nationalharbor](http://www.marinalife.com/cruises/nationalharbor). ❖

## Side Trip Recommendations

### MOUNT VERNON

Cruise the Potomac River aboard Miss Christin from National Harbor to Mount Vernon, George Washington's home for more than 45 years. The cruise is narrated, and the grounds-and-house tour is self-guided. Mount Vernon is open seven days a week, every day of the year.

### WASHINGTON MONUMENTS CRUISE

One of the best ways to take in America's monuments and the skyline of Washington, D.C. is by water. This narrated cruise up the Potomac leaves from National Harbor. Stop in Alexandria or Georgetown to shop in the boutiques, eat in the acclaimed restaurants and pubs, and wander along

centuries-old streets, then hop a later boat for the return trip to National Harbor. Highlights include the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial, the Washington Monument, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

### ALEXANDRIA'S OLD TOWN

The charming neighborhood of Old Town is also a historic seaport, but these days it's better known for its excellent selection of antiques galleries, highly acclaimed restaurants, and one-of-a-kind stores. Just opened: Brabo Tasting Room (1600 King St., 703-894-5252), the perfect place to while away the afternoon with a charcuterie plate and a Belgian wheat beer.

### FOR THE KIDS

#### SEADOG CRUISES

45-minute rides and tours on a boat that goes 30 knots!

#### PIRATE ON THE POTOMAC CRUISE

A 40-minute adventure that highlights local pirating history and lore with plenty of colorful yarns. It leaves from Alexandria City Marina in Old Town.

#### BASS FISHING

National Harbor offers a guided bass-fishing service with half- and full-day trips. This is a great way to take your kids fishing, and the guides are terrific.