

Preamble 2026 Exploration Guides

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Now that you're a Mason Patriot it's time for you to get out there and explore the local area! George Mason's central location allows you access to a wide variety of activities in the Washington, D.C. area. Not sure where to start? Check out some example trips below! Scan the QR code to learn more about transportation options available to you, including details on metro stops closest to GMU!

Restaurants:

Ben's Chili Bowl

Washington, D.C. - American

Busboys and Poets

Washington, D.C. - American

Matchbox

Washington, D.C. - American

Old Ebbitt Grill

Washington, D.C. - American

The Dabney

Washington, D.C. - American

Milk & Honey

Washington, D.C. - Brunch

Georgetown Cupcake

Washington, D.C. - Dessert

Le Diplomate

Washington, D.C. - French

&pizza

Washington, D.C. - Italian

Zaytinya

Washington, D.C. - Mediterranean

Bistro Aracosia

Washington, D.C. - Middle Eastern

Joe's Seafood, Prime Steak, & Stone Crab

Washington, D.C. - Seafood

Oohhs & Aahhs

Washington, D.C. - Soul Food

Founding Farmers

Washington, D.C.- American

Fiola Mare

Washington, D.C.- Seafood

Rasika

Washington, D.C.- Indian

Museums & Cultural Institutions:

Artehouse

Washington, D.C.

International Spy Museum

Washington, D.C.

Smithsonian American Art Museum

Washington, D.C.

Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum

Washington, D.C.

National Gallery of Art

Washington, D.C.

Museum of Natural History

Washington, D.C.

Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture

Washington, D.C.

Monuments & Memorials:

George Mason Memorial

Washington, D.C.

Jefferson Memorial

Washington, D.C.

Lincoln Memorial

Washington, D.C.

Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial

Washington, D.C.

National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial

Washington, D.C.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Washington, D.C.

World War II Memorial

Washington, D.C.

Shopping:

Chevy Chase Pavilion

Washington, D.C.

CityCenter DC

Washington, D.C.

Gallery Place

Washington, DC

Georgetown Park

Washington, DC

Mazza Gallerie

Washington, DC

National Harbor National Harbor, MD

Entertainment & Recreation:

National Zoo

Washington, DC

Rock Creek Park

Washington, DC

Union Market

Washington, DC

Georgetown

Waterfront

Washington, DC

Anacostia Park

Washington, DC



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- ★ **Ben's Chili Bowl**
Washington, D.C. - American
- Busboys and Poets**
Washington, D.C. - American
- Matchbox**
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- Old Ebbitt Grill**
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- Georgetown Cupcake**
Washington, D.C. - Dessert
- Le Diplomate**
Washington, D.C. - French
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- Bistro Aracosia**
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- Joe's Seafood, Prime Steak, & Stone Crab**
Washington, D.C. - Seafood
- Oohhs & Aahhs**
Washington, D.C. - Soul Food
- Founding Farmers**
Washington, D.C.- American
- Fiola Mare**
Washington, D.C.- Seafood
- Rasika**
Washington, D.C.- Indian

Museums & Cultural Institutions:

- Artechose**
Washington, D.C.
- International Spy Museum**
Washington, D.C.
- Smithsonian American Art Museum**
Washington, D.C. FREE
- ★ **Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum**
Washington, D.C. FREE
- National Gallery of Art**
Washington, D.C. FREE
- Museum of Natural History**
Washington, D.C. FREE
- ★ **Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture**
Washington, D.C. FREE

Monuments & Memorials:

- George Mason Memorial**
Washington, D.C. FREE
- Jefferson Memorial**
Washington, D.C. FREE
- Lincoln Memorial**
Washington, D.C. FREE
- Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial**
Washington, D.C. FREE
- National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial**
Washington, D.C. FREE
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial**
Washington, D.C. FREE
- World War II Memorial**
Washington, D.C. FREE

Shopping:

- Chevy Chase Pavilion**
Washington, D.C.
- CityCenter DC**
Washington, D.C.
- Gallery Place**
Washington, DC
- Georgetown Park**
Washington, DC FREE
- Mazza Gallerie**
Washington, DC
- National Harbor**
National Harbor, MD

Entertainment & Recreation:

- National Zoo**
Washington, DC FREE ★
- Rock Creek Park**
Washington, DC FREE
- Union Market**
Washington, DC
- Georgetown Waterfront**
Washington, DC
- Anacostia Park**
Washington, DC FREE



★ =Patriot
Favorites
FREE =Free

Preamble 2026 Exploration Guides

FAIRFAX/NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Now that you're a Mason Patriot it's time for you to get out there and explore the local area! George Mason's central location allows you access to a wide variety of activities in the Fairfax/NOVA (Northern Virginia) area. Choose your own adventure from the list below! Scan the QR code to learn more about transportation options available to you as a Mason student.

Restaurants/Coffee Shops:

Artie's Classic American
Fairfax, VA – American

Gathering Grounds
Fairfax, VA – Coffee Shop

Founding Farmers
Reston, VA – American

Arigatou Sushi
Fairfax, VA – Asian

Kogiya Korean BBQ
Annandale, VA – Asian

Another Broken Egg
Fairfax, VA – Breakfast

The Halal Guys
Fairfax, VA – Halal

Auld Shebeen
Fairfax, VA – Irish

Bellissimo Restaurant
Fairfax, VA – Italian

Dolce Vita Italian Restaurant & Wine Bar
Fairfax, VA – Italian

Ozzie's Good Eats
Fairfax, VA – Italian

Mazadar Restaurant
Fairfax, VA – Middle Eastern

Neisha Thai Restaurant
Fairfax, VA – Thai

Sister's Thai
Fairfax, VA – Thai

De Clieu
Fairfax, VA – Coffee Shop

Attractions:

Burke Lake
Fairfax, VA

Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim
Fairfax, VA

Fairfax Museum and Visitor's Center
Fairfax, VA

George Mason's Gunston Hall
Lorton, VA

Workhouse Arts Center
Lorton, VA

Manassas National Battlefield Park
Manassas, VA

Great Falls
McLean, VA

George Washington's Mount Vernon
Mt Vernon, VA

National Museum of the Marine Corps
Quantico, VA

Meadowlark Botanical Gardens
Vienna, VA

Roer's Zoofari
Vienna, VA

Shopping/Entertainment:

University Mall Theaters
Fairfax, VA

Patriot Pawsibilities Cat Lounge
Fairfax, VA

Fair Oaks Mall
Fairfax, VA

Fairfax Corner
Fairfax, VA

Clay Cafe Studios
Falls Church, VA

Burke Lake Mini Golf
Fairfax, VA

Tysons Corner Center
Tysons, VA

Potomac Mills
Woodbridge, VA

Dave & Buster's
Fairfax, VA

Fairfax Escape Room
Fairfax, VA

Fairfax Escape Room
Fairfax, VA

Monster Mini Golf Chantilly
Chantilly, VA



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Fairfax, VA – Coffee Shop

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Reston, VA – American

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Fairfax, VA – Asian

★ **Kogiya Korean BBQ**
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Another Broken Egg
Fairfax, VA – Breakfast

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Fairfax, VA – Italian

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★ **Ozzie's Good Eats**
Fairfax, VA – Italian

Mazadar Restaurant
Fairfax, VA – Middle Eastern

Neisha Thai Restaurant
Fairfax, VA – Thai

★ **Sister's Thai**
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De Clieu
Fairfax, VA – Coffee Shop

Attractions:

Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim
Fairfax, VA

Fairfax Museum and Visitor's Center
Fairfax, VA 

George Mason's Gunston Hall
Lorton, VA

Workhouse Arts Center
Lorton, VA 

Manassas National Battlefield Park
Manassas, VA 

Great Falls
McLean, VA

George Washington's Mount Vernon
Mt Vernon, VA

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Shopping/Entertainment:

University Mall Theaters
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Patriot Pawsibilities Cat Lounge
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Fair Oaks Mall
Fairfax, VA

Fairfax Corner
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Clay Cafe Studios
Falls Church, VA

Burke Lake Mini Golf
Fairfax, VA

Tysons Corner Center
Tysons, VA

Potomac Mills
Woodbridge, VA

Dave & Buster's
Fairfax, VA

Fairfax Escape Room
Fairfax, VA

Fairfax Escape Room
Fairfax, VA

Monster Mini Golf Chantilly
Chantilly, VA



★ =Patriot Favorites

 = Free

Preamble 2026 Exploration Guides Example Trips!

FAIRFAX/NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Start on campus

Scan the QR code below to learn about all the parking and transportation options available to you on campus.

Walk to University Mall Across the Street

University Mall is a quick 10 minute walk from Lot K! You can find lots to do there including these highlights:



University Mall Theaters

Patriot Pawsibilities Cat Lounge

Gathering Grounds-Coffee Shop

Walk to Old Town Fairfax OR take the CUE bus

Old Town Fairfax is a 15 minute walk from George Mason when leaving from Rappahannock River Parking Deck! If you would prefer to take the CUE Bus there's a CUE Bus stop next to Rappahannock River Parking Deck. You can take the Gold 1, Green 1, or Green 2 lines (scan the QR code below for more info). The CUE Bus is free! There you can find lots of restaurants and shops to check out including:



Woody's Ice Cream

Sister's Thai

De Clieu



Take the Gunston-Go Bus to Fair Oaks Mall

Need to do some last minute shopping? Take the Gunston-Go Bus (scan the QR code to find full routes) and head over to Fair Oaks Mall which has over 160 stores and restaurants!

