

## Tall Ships, Entertainment & Food- Enjoy Norfolk's Annual Harborfest!

Norfolk is host to the annual festival favorite, Harborfest! Each June Norfolk celebrates nautical history by displaying tall ships from all over the world, along with maritime events, children's activities, local, regional and national entertainment, delicious food and a spectacular fireworks display all along the downtown waterfront.

### Day 1:

The **Hampton Roads Naval Museum** introduces you to over 200 years of naval history in Hampton Roads. Located next to Nauticus is the **Battleship *Wisconsin***, the largest and last battleship ever built by the U.S. Navy.

Come aboard the **Spirit of Norfolk** or take a front row seat at **Nauticus** for the **Parade of Sails**. Watch tall ships from around the world sail down the Elizabeth River in a spectacular two-hour parade. You will have the best view of the harbor, with 200 boats and vessels to see, as well as several tall ships.

Afterwards, come explore an outdoor festival on the water at **Harborfest**. Ships from countries around the world including Italy, Brazil, Ecuador, Spain and the Netherlands have been invited to Norfolk's waterfront for this spectacular event. Enjoy live music and great food accompanied by art and educational programs. Tall ships open for tours after the Parade of Sails for visitors to explore the decks and talk to sailors.

### Day 2:

Take a 45 minute bus tour of the world's largest naval installation, **Naval Station Norfolk**. A knowledgeable, active duty Navy guide will give a narrated tour of the base highlighting the U.S. Naval Fleet, Admirals Row, and how the base is a working city.

Tour the **Douglas MacArthur Memorial** and discover the compelling story of General Douglas MacArthur, a five star general of the Army and the millions of Americans who served our nation through five wars. Located in downtown Norfolk's restored 1850s City Hall, the complex contains a museum, theater and special exhibit galleries.

Stroll over to **Granby Street**, just one block walking distance from Harborfest. Experience over 30 locally owned and operated restaurants from American Bistro, to Tapas to Mexican. Whatever your taste buds are, Granby will satisfy.

Head back over to **Town Point Park** for **Harborfest** and enjoy over 50 food vendors, live concerts on three stages and fireworks along the downtown waterfront. Do not forget you can jump aboard the **Victory Rover** or **Spirit of Norfolk** for the best seats in the house for the fireworks!

Or experience Virginia's first urban winery at the **Mermaid Winery**. The winery focuses on producing well-balanced wines using Virginia grapes. The wine making process can be viewed from the tasting bar where you can enjoy their creations.

### Day 3:

Take a fun-filled boat ride at **Norfolk Botanical Garden** and explore the waterways or stroll the gardens and discover a variety of plants from the cultivated to the wild. While you are visiting, be sure to experience one of the Garden's popular programs such as Active Gardeners, Creative Gardeners or Garden Design. The Norfolk Botanical Garden's professional horticultural staff will be on hand to share their knowledge and experience and inspire new ideas for your garden.

Shop till you drop at **MacArthur Center** with over 70 retailers anchored by Nordstrom and Dillard's. While there, take part in one of MacArthur Center's special packages include a cooking class at Williams-Sonoma and chocolate tasting at Harry & David.

Stroll through the **Armed Forces Memorial**, which features 20 inscriptions from letters written home by U.S. service men and women who lost their lives in war. The letters have been cast in thin sheets of bronze and are scattered across the ground. Head to **Hermitage Museum and Gardens**, formerly home to the Sloane family, the Hermitage is "home to the arts" with nationally recognized art collection spanning 5,000 years. Art includes contemporary exhibition galleries, working artist studios and 12 acres of gardens and grounds. of foods featuring fresh lobster, pasta, fish, seafood, choice prime rib and their famous she-crab soup.

**Day 4:**

Before you depart for home, head to **Chrysler Museum of Art**, recently expanded and renovated with new galleries and engaging programs to bring the collection to life. Enjoy 5,000 years of art in one of the country's most impressive museums, featuring a newly expanded restaurant, library, gift shop and theatre. [OPENING SPRING 2014]

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