



## Capital Region USA - Fast Facts

**Capital Region USA Inc**, the tourism marketing coalition between the States of Virginia and Maryland and the city of Washington, DC.

**Size:** 50,821 square miles covering the states of Virginia and Maryland and the District of Columbia, located on US East Coast.

**Population:** 13.5 million

**Visitor Numbers:** The UK is the region's most important source market, delivering 243,000 visitors in 2007, an increase of 24% in leisure travellers over the previous year.

**Capital:** Washington, D.C., also known as the District of Columbia, is the capital city of the United States of America. It is designated as a "federal district" and is not a state itself, nor is it part of any state. The state capital of Maryland is Annapolis. The state capital of Virginia is Richmond.

### Holiday Options within the Region:

- City breaks and culture in DC, Annapolis, Richmond or Baltimore
- Beach holidays along the 38 miles of golden sand from Virginia Beach to Ocean City
- Mountain hiking in the Blue Ridge Mountains and Shenandoah National Park
- Fishing in the thousands of rivers and lakes, in Chesapeake Bay or the Atlantic Ocean
- Scenic drives along the Skyline Drive and Blue Ridge Parkway
- The Historic Triangle of Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown and Yorktown, from the first English settlement 400 years ago, through to the War of Independence from the British and the American Civil War.
- Skiing at Wintergreen, The Homestead, Bryce and Massanutten in Virginia and at Wisp in Maryland
- The Crooked Road Music Trail in West Virginia
- Luxury and spa experiences based in the cities and the mountains
- Busch Gardens Europe and Paramount's Kings Dominion world class theme parks
- Animal encounters, including kayaking with dolphins and wading with the harbour seals.
- Golf at the 400 courses throughout the region
- White water rafting, sailing, mountain biking, horse riding, rock climbing, cave exploring and a myriad of other high and low adrenalin activities.
- Wine trails in Virginia and Maryland
- Explore African American heritage, from the first slaves brought over by European settlers, through their participation in the Civil War and the Civil Rights movement of the 1950's to their final emancipation.

**Climate:** Temperate. Spring and Autumn are the most comfortable times of the year, although moderate winters are not uncommon. Further south in Virginia, winters may be even milder. Late summer tends to be quite hot and humid.

**Airports:** Direct scheduled flights from the UK are available into Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD) and Baltimore/Washington International Airport (BWI), the region's primary airports. Scheduled services are also available to: Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, Richmond International, Newport-News Williamsburg International, Charlottesville-Albemarle, Roanoke Regional, Shenandoah Valley Regional and Lynchburg Regional airports.

Baltimore/Washington International Airport (BWI) is located in Maryland is 29 miles northeast of Washington, 10 miles south of Baltimore city and 20 miles north of Maryland's capital city, Annapolis. Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD) is located 29 miles to the southwest of Washington in Virginia, and even closer to such attractive cities as Alexandria and Arlington

**Rail Services:** Washington's Metrorail subway system links all parts of Washington with neighbouring Maryland and Virginia suburbs. MARC commuter trains connect Washington and Baltimore, Maryland. Virginia Railway Express trains connect Manassas and Fredericksburg, Virginia, with Washington. Amtrak national passenger rail service is headquartered in Washington and connects major cities throughout the entire region with the rest of the country.

**Primary Industries:**

*Washington:* Federal government, tourism, trade associations, law, higher education, medicine/medical research, publishing.

*Maryland:* Manufacturing, high technology, biosciences and agriculture.

*Virginia:* High-tech, tourism, manufacturing, agriculture and fisheries.

**Tourist Information:**

*Washington, DC and Capital Region USA UK Office*

Tel: 020 8339 6048

Website: [www.CapitalRegionUSA.co.uk](http://www.CapitalRegionUSA.co.uk)

*Destination DC*

Website: [www.washington.org](http://www.washington.org)

*Maryland Office of Tourism Development*

Website: [www.mdwelcome.org](http://www.mdwelcome.org)

*Virginia Tourism Corporation*

Website: [www.virginia.org](http://www.virginia.org)

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