



Washington DC

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STUDENT DESTINATION GUIDE

Study in Washington DC, the Capital of the United States!

The nation's capital. Those three words neatly sum up Washington's global importance as governmental entity and its enormous appeal as a tourist destination.



Washington may be best known for the White House and national monuments but there's much more to this city – a very vibrant nightlife, a large mix of cultures and cuisines and some great little neighborhoods to explore or even live in. A perfect city in which to study!

Washington D.C. is a very important city as it's the capital of the United States. Best known for the White House, its many monuments and important museums, Washington actually has a lot more than this to offer too and is a great place to attend English courses. Washington D.C. is not a huge city and has a population of only about 590,000 people. This compact size makes also an attractive city for many language travel students.

Experience a mixed culture when you study in Washington! You might expect Washington D.C. to be full of American born business men and women, but the city is actually a long way from the stereotype! About 50% of the population arrived in Washington within the last 5 years and there are many immigrants from many parts of the world. This means when you're on your language immersion program you'll run into people from all over the world! English is however the main language spoken here.

D.C.'s embarrassment of must-see riches—museums, monuments, memorials, galleries—makes putting together a sightseeing itinerary one truly daunting task. The United States Capitol and the White House define the jurisdictional entity known as the District of Columbia. The Mall, that green swath stretching from the foot of Capitol Hill west to the awe-inspiring statue of Abraham Lincoln, is where it's at for visitors, encompassing not only the National Gallery of Art, six memorials and one monument but many of the museums identified with one of the world's largest and most remarkable educational organizations, the Smithsonian Institution.

But that's just part of the picture; Washington also has vibrant neighborhoods, a cosmopolitan diversity and cultural facilities second to none. With so much to see and do, spring's pale pink explosion of cherry blossoms is the lovely icing on a very special city.

Essentials:

The seat of the federal government, the United States Capitol should be near the top of any visitor's must-see list. Its main ceremonial space, the Rotunda, is filled with paintings, frescoes and an encircling frieze that together present more than 400 years of U.S. history.



Climb the steps of the Lincoln Memorial and contemplate Daniel Chester French's powerful sculpture of our 16th president, serenely seated in a colossal armchair. Then turn around and look to the east for an inspiring view that takes in the Reflecting Pool and the green expanse of West

Potomac Park. Few cities are lovelier than Washington in springtime. Daffodils, tulips and dogwoods are all in bloom, along with the city's thousands of Japanese cherry trees. Take a walk around the Tidal Basin when the blossoms are at their glorious peak, normally early April.

Get dressed up and attend a concert, play, opera or dance performance at the world-class The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Gaze upon the Rembrandt, Monet and other works that are part of the superlative collection of paintings in the West Building of the National Gallery of Art.

Then take the underground concourse to see the ultramodern East Building's impressive exhibits of modern art. Spend the afternoon hanging out in Georgetown. Home to some of Washington's most politically and socially prominent citizens, the city's oldest neighborhood has trendy shops and restaurants galore as well as that are a pleasure to stroll quiet, leafy streets lined with handsome brick residences.

Let your imagination soar like the wondrous array of aircraft at Washington's most popular museum, the National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institution.

Wander among the flowers, plants and trees in the conservatories of the United States Botanic Garden. It's a restful, rejuvenating way to spend an hour in the middle of a hectic day of sightseeing.

Head to Nationals Park and check out Major League Baseball's newest team, the Washington Nationals—D.C.'s long-awaited successor to the much-loved Washington Senators.

Washington has some very lively neighborhoods where you'll find some great nightlife including live music, clubs, bars and restaurants. And with a large proportion of migrants from around the world, you can dine out in Washington and eat something different every night! Vietnamese, Chinese, Ethiopian and Italian are just some of the cuisines on offer, so there's bound to be something to suit language travel students from around the world!



What does DC have that so many other cities in the US do not? Why should you offer Washington as a new destination to study?

In a few words Washington DC is:

- 1. A MUST-SEE CITY:** One of the world's most talked-about destinations, DC attracts nearly 18 million visitors each year. People come from around the world to see all that the nation's capital has to offer.
- 2. AN ACCESSIBLE CITY:** With three airports, a convenient Metro system and plenty of pedestrian-friendly sidewalks, DC is easy to get to and around.
- 3. ACCESS TO POWER:** DC is a power center with a robust economy. Everything happens here: business, politics, journalism, law, etc. Put your students in direct connection with leaders in the political sphere, world diplomacy, media, research and industry, plus dozens of the top colleges and universities in the US. Employment rates in and around DC are also among the highest and best paid in the country. Opportunities for internships, networking, and life-changing connections are all here.
- 4. WALLET-FRIENDLY ATTRACTIONS:** There's no place that matches the assortment and quality of world-class and educational free attractions that await you in DC, from the magnificent memorials and monuments on the National Mall to world famous sites like the National Gallery of Art, the Library of Congress, and the museums of the Smithsonian Institution.
- 5. AN INTERNATIONAL CITY:** A true global village, DC is home to people of all different cultures, plus more than 150 embassies and international cultural centers.
- 6. A CITY THAT CELEBRATES:** Festivals, special events, citywide conventions and cultural events are always on the calendar in DC, giving your students the chance to immerse themselves in the American experience.

Washington DC city guide–Lonely Planet travel video:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s3axMLV_eVI&list=PL5AihMSKvkNg33khk3JAaPqzkro4WRx3T&index=2

Our videos:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bimW7O0WqQI>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgv5dM1wUfk>