

WASHINGTON, DC

Our nation's capital boasts a number of interactive experiences for student travelers. National memorials and museums bring our nation's history to life, and government buildings inspire your classroom to examine social issues of the day.

Why Brightspark?

Safety And Security

We regularly conduct strict audits of our vendors, ensuring they act in accordance with safety, security, and quality standards.

Our Tour Directors

You deserve the best, so we only use experienced and enthusiastic Tour Directors who are experts on their destinations.

Quality, Custom Tours

Our programs are designed for you, by you. From STEM-based DC tours to performance trips to some of our country's top music cities, we have a destination for every budget and every passion.

Industry Experience

With over 50 years of experience providing custom tours, Brightspark is a leader in student travel.

Travel Protection & Incident Coverage

With our 24/7 emergency hotline, comprehensive general insurance, and an industry-leading refund guarantee program, we've got you covered.



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Day 1:

- Meet your Tour Director and board your private motor coach.
- Stop for photos in front of the **White House**.
- Explore **Ford's Theatre** and the **Petersen House**. Learn about the events of April 1865, when President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth.
- Drive down **Embassy Row** on your way to the **National Cathedral**, the second largest church in the U.S. and the fourth tallest building in the capital. Among the famous citizens buried at the cathedral are Helen Keller and Woodrow Wilson (the only president buried in the District of Columbia).
- Enjoy a guided evening tour of the **Roosevelt, Jefferson, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorials**.

Day 2:

- Take a group photo in front of the **U.S. Capitol**. Next, get a real-life civics lesson on a tour of the Capitol building, including its famous rotunda. See if your group can find your state's statue throughout the tour!
- Explore the **National Archives**. The building houses the original Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution, and Bill of Rights – known collectively as the "Charters of Freedom." Other documents in the collection include the Emancipation Proclamation and an original version of the Magna Carta.
- Visit the **U.S. Holocaust Museum**. This "living memorial" documents the Nazi rise to power, examines the Jewish experience during World War II, and teaches visitors about the dangers of intolerance. The "Daniel's Story" exhibit specifically showcases a young person's experiences and point of view.
- Walk through the **Lincoln, Vietnam Veterans, Korean War, and World War II Memorials**.
- Enjoy a **Dinner & DJ Cruise** on the Potomac River.

Day 3:

- Travel to **Mount Vernon**. George Washington's estate, dating back to 1735, is one of the most popular historic sites in the country. Your visit includes a tour of the stately mansion and gardens, a pioneer farm, the family tombs, and the Slave Memorial.
- Discover the world of secrets and espionage at the **International Spy Museum**, featuring the largest collection of spycraft tools and artifacts ever displayed to the public. Interactive experiences drop your students into the world of intelligence-gathering, where they can complete missions and test their skills.
- Tour **Old Town Alexandria**, a historic area dating back to 1749. Its streets are filled with boutiques, antique shops, and the nation's oldest continuously-operating marketplace.
- Explore the spookier side of Alexandria with a **Ghost & Graveyard Tour**. Entertaining guides in traditional 18th-century costumes will lead you by the light of a lantern as you weave through tales of folklore, unsolved mysteries, and vengeful spirits!

Day 4:

- Experience military traditions during a visit to **Arlington National Cemetery**. Pay your respects at John F. Kennedy's "Eternal Flame" and witness the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.
- Visit the **Pentagon Memorial**, established in remembrance of the site's 184 victims during the events of 9/11. Continue to the **Marine Corps War Memorial**, famous for its depiction of six soldiers raising the flag at Iwo Jima.
- Explore the **National Museum of African American History and Culture**. The newest Smithsonian museum, it features a collection of over 36,000 artifacts.
- Spend the afternoon at various **Smithsonian institutions**, including the National Air and Space Museum, the National Museum of Natural History, and the National Zoo.
- Depart for home.

