



WASHINGTON DC

Monday 7 May - Monday 14 May 2018

With the strong flavour of its 176 embassies, its numerous international financial headquarters, its linear imperial city plan with magnificent architecture to boot, and the truly breath-taking quality of its fine art, heritage and science collections, Washington DC is unmatched anywhere in the world. Here, in the huge National Archives, are the original copies of the Declaration of Independence by which the 13 colonies separated themselves from the Great Britain in 1776 and the Constitution with its problematic clauses and amendments. Here is the presidential residence, burnt by the British in 1812 and rebuilt as a crystalline and understated Neoclassical 'country house'. Here, the Smithsonian's American History Museum where the capital's narrative begins with drawing of its layout by Pierre L'Enfant, is tactfully positioned in a specially created 'District of Columbia' so as not to offend either the northern or southern states. Here, too, we seek greater understanding of the United States as an uneasy polyglot society: through visits, especially, to both the National Museum of the American Indian, and the timely superb new African-American Museum. Here, too, are some of the grandest and most beautiful memorials ever built viscerally dominating the huge green space of the Mall: the thrusting obelisk of the Washington Monument, still the world's tallest stone structure; the Jefferson Memorial, gleaming like an ancient temple; the Lincoln Memorial, with the weary figure of Lincoln set against the etched words of his Gettysburg address, and the unforgettable Vietnam War Memorial. Here, too, the very essence of the classic enlightened Capital is expressed through one of the greatest art collections in the world, the National Gallery of Art at the Smithsonian with 4,000 masterpieces from all over the world (vs. National Gallery London with 2000); and the National Museum of American Art, whose eye-opening paintings eloquently express proud independence from European influence. There are smaller unique collection museums, too - the glorious Phillips Museum beloved for its sun-filled Renoir 'Luncheon of the Boating Party', or the Hirshhorn with its art of the post-World War II period, and the Kreeger Museum with true masterpieces by artists of the 19c and 20c. As we step off an elevator into the Diplomatic Reception Rooms of the brutalist State Department, we are transported, as only in America we could be, into glorious 18c interiors. This Inscape American tour will tell the thrilling story of how a great Capital City encompasses and expresses the needs and aspirations of all the nation's peoples. It may not always succeed, but what heroism there is in the material evidence of aspiration!

MONDAY 7 MAY

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| 09.40 | Depart London Heathrow on British Airways |
| 12.45 | Arrive Dulles Airport for transfer to Hotel Lombardy, Foggy Bottom |
| 3.00 | Arrive Hotel Lombardy |
| 4.00 | Introductory walk on the Mall |
| 6.00 | Optional Dinner in Cafe Lombardy |

TUESDAY 8 MAY

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| 09.30 | Taxi to Museum of the American Indian |
| 10.00 | Museum of American Indian |
| 12.00 | Optional Lunch in Mitsitam Cafe in the museum |
| 2.00 | Taxis to National Museum of American History |
| 2.30 | National Museum of American History |
| 4.00 | Return to Hotel by Metro |
| 6.30 | Taxi to Welcoming Group dinner at the Kennedy Centre Roof Terrace Restaurant |

WEDNESDAY 9 MAY

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| 09.00 | Taxis to US Capitol |
| 09.30 | Capitol, tour of Rotunda and private tours of Halls of Senate and Old Senate Chamber |
| 10.30 | Coffee |
| 11.00 | Walk to Library of Congress for private tour of Jefferson Building and Thomas Jefferson Library with Mark Dimunation, chief of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division or Eric Frasier Senior Reference Librarian |
| 12.30 | Optional Lunch in Library of Congress Restaurant |
| 2.00 | Taxis to African-American Museum for introductory tour |
| 4.00 | Return to hotel. Free time and free evening |

THURSDAY 10 MAY

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| 09.00 | Leave for State Department Diplomatic Reception Rooms |
| 09.30 | Tour of State Department Diplomatic Reception Rooms |
| 11.30 | Taxi to National Museum of American Art |
| 12.00 | National Museum of American Art part 1 |
| 1.00 | Optional Lunch in National Museum of American Art |
| 2.30 | National Museum of American Art part 2 |
| 4.00 | Return to hotel |
| 6.30 | Group dinner at El Chalan |

FRIDAY 11 MAY

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| 09.30 | Taxi to National Archives |
| 10.00 | National Archives tour including Declaration of Independence and United States Constitution |
| 11.30 | Walk to National Gallery of Art East Wing |
| 12.00 | Optional Lunch in National Gallery of Art East Building cafe |
| 2.00 | National Gallery of Art East Building part 1 Matisse to |
| 3.30 | Tea |
| 4.00 | National Gallery of Art East Building part 2 Braque to Pollock |
| 5.00 | Return to Hotel. Free Evening |

SATURDAY 12 MAY

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| 09.00 | Leave for private visit to Phillips Collection |
| 09.30 | Phillips Collection |
| 11.00 | Coffee and free time |
| 12.00 | Leave Phillips Collection |
| 1.00 | Optional Lunch at the Tryst in the Phillips Collection |
| 2.30 | Leave for Kreeger Collection of works from Degas to Kandinsky |
| 3.00 | Private visit and refreshment in Kreeger Collection |
| 5.00 | Return to hotel |
| 7.00 | Closing Group dinner in Georgetown at Filomena |

SUNDAY 13 MAY

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| 10.30 | Taxi leaves for Freer Gallery to see Whistler's Peacock Room |
| 11.00 | Freer Gallery |
| 12.00 | Walk to National Gallery of Art |
| 12.15 | Garden Cafe for Closing Group Brunch Buffet |
| 2.00 | National Gallery of Art Part 1 Duccio to Leonardo |
| 3.30 | Tea |
| 4.00 | National Gallery of Art Part 2 Vermeer to Monet |
| 5.00 | Free time |
| 6.00 | Leave for airport via hotel to collect baggage |
| 6.45 | Arrive airport |
| 9.40 | Flight to London |

MONDAY 14 MAY

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| 09.50 | Arrive London Heathrow |
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Hotel Lombardy
2019 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20006

We turned to Historic Hotels Association for suggestions for the most appropriate hotel for our Inscape members. We read no further than this before booking!

The Hotel Lombardy offers the rare advantage of a heritage accommodation evocative of a comfortable, small-town home in the center of the nation's capital. This is no coincidence: Hotel Lombardy's first incarnation was as a private residence (1929) converted to a classic European-style hotel in 1994, beautifully preserving the distinguished red-brick and limestone facade. The hotel overlooks historic Pennsylvania Avenue and is decorated with ornate Oriental woollen rugs and original local art.

COST £2695 members, £2745 non-members, £495 Single Room Supplement, £350 deposit, including private transfer from and to Washington Dulles airport, 6 nights' accommodation in the Hotel Lombardy, opening drink, all breakfasts, four dinners with wine, all transport within Washington DC, all entries and guided tours, all private visits, tuition, services, tips, VAT. Price excludes flights. If you would like help booking your flight online, please phone the office.