



2017

## USS ESSEX REUNION

CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA SEPTEMBER 18-24, 2017



### TOURS



**FOR ALL TOURS PLEASE BE AT BUS DEPARTURE LOCATION 15 MINUTES BEFORE SCHEDULED TOUR TIMES**

#### **Tour #1 ~ Aviation Museum ~ Monday September 18<sup>th</sup> ~ 1330-1700**

The Military Aviation Museum is home to one of the largest private collections of World War I and World War II era military aircraft in the world. Each has been beautifully restored to its prior military condition, using original parts whenever possible.

#### **Tour #2 ~ Colonial Williamsburg ~ Tuesday September 19<sup>th</sup> ~ 0800-1730**

Discover Colonial Williamsburg on a **3 hour guided walking tour** and become a citizen of the Revolutionary City. Engage with the local community and experience firsthand the daily struggles of wartime. Meet the townspeople, trades people, shopkeepers, political figures, women, and the enslaved who call Williamsburg home—and learn of their hopes, struggles, and fears in these uncertain times. As you explore the challenges of daily life set against the backdrop of revolution. After the guided tour you will have time for lunch on your own.

#### **Tour #3 ~ USS Wisconsin, Nauticus Museum ~ Wednesday September 20<sup>th</sup> ~ 1300-1700**

Nauticus is a world-class Naval Museum attraction with interesting, engaging and interactive maritime exhibits which features a large collection of naval artwork, ship models and underwater artifacts. Also part of Nauticus is the USS Wisconsin. The Wisconsin is one of the largest and last battleships to be built by the U.S. Navy.



**YOU WILL NEED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN TOUR 4 AND TOUR 5. THEY OVERLAP EACH OTHER.**

#### **Tour #4 ~ Jamestown & Yorktown Victory Center ~ Thursday September 21<sup>st</sup> ~ 0800-1730**

Take a guided tour of historic proportions at Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center – two living-history museums that explore the story of America's beginnings, from the founding of America's first permanent English colony in 1607 to the Revolution and the establishment of a new nation almost two centuries later. Discover artifact-filled exhibition galleries and take part in activities in outdoor living history areas to learn about life in the 17th and 18th centuries. Lunch is included. **This tour has a lot of walking.**

#### **Tour #5 ~ Washington DC & Navy Memorial ~ Thursday September 21<sup>st</sup> ~ 0800-2000**

Take a scenic drive through Virginia and into our Nation's Capital in Washington DC. This is an all day tour. This tour encompasses two distinct features. First; The USS ESSEX LHD-2 Plaque dedication at the Navy Memorial. Then we will tour the US Navy Memorial where all Ships/Squadrons and Individuals are enshrined. The USS ESSEX CV/CVA/CVS-9 is also on display there. Secondly a unique chance for those folks who have never been to our Nation's Capital to visit some of its historic sites such as the Washington Monument, Smithsonian Institute, WWII and Vietnam Memorial to mention just a few. **Travel time is 3-1/2 hrs each way.**

#### **Tour #6 ~ MacArthur Memorial & Local Brewery ~ Friday September 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ 1300-1700**

The MacArthur Memorial is a museum and research center dedicated to preserving and presenting the story of the life of General of the Army Douglas MacArthur. The Memorial also pays tribute to the millions of men and women who served with General MacArthur in World War I, World War II, and the Korean War. Situated in downtown Norfolk, VA the Memorial consists of a museum, archive and research center, education center, theater, welcome center, and a gift shop. A visit to the Memorial will allow you to explore the life of one of America's greatest and most complex leaders. Next we will do a tour and beer tasting at the Big Ugly Brewery. The Big Ugly Brewery was the first microbrewery in Chesapeake, VA. They brew big, bold, brews for Hampton Roads' beer lovers. Their flagship beer is a Russian Imperial Stout.

#### **Tour #7 ~ LHD Tour ~ Saturday September 23<sup>rd</sup> ~ 1245-1630**

We will tour a LHD that is in port and have a short naval base tour.

#### **Tour #8 ~ Spirit of Norfolk Dinner Cruise ~ Saturday September 23<sup>rd</sup> ~ 1840-2230**

Come aboard the Spirit of Norfolk for the perfect mix of dining, entertainment and views. Cruising from Town Point Park in downtown Norfolk you will enjoy amazing views of the mighty Atlantic Fleet while cruising along the Elizabeth River during dinner aboard the Spirit of Norfolk.