

## **Richmond, VA City Guide**

*Compiled by Winter Shanck 2013*

*Updated 2020*

### **17th St. Farmers' Market**

**Corner of 17<sup>th</sup> and Main Streets**

**Website: <http://www.richmondgov.com/FarmersMarket/>**

The site of the 17th Street Farmers' Market has been a public gathering place since 1737, and is one of America's oldest public markets. The Farmers' Market has always been at the intersection of local commerce for two reasons -- the proximity to the river and the fact that Main Street served as the main road between Richmond and Williamsburg and nearby Shockoe Creek was used by small boats bringing shellfish to awaiting customers. When the Virginia General Assembly officially moved to Richmond in 1779, a "public market" was established. Once a thriving hub of commerce and trading, the Farmers' Market has seen many incarnations. The open-air structure that is there today was built in the mid 1980's and is currently home to a variety of new offerings for the Richmond community. More importantly, consumers, neighbors and farmers are rediscovering each other. For that special Farmers' Market blend of coffee or tea, the crusty breads, the homemade goat cheeses, the aromatic and culinary herbs or the colorful displays of fresh local fruits and vegetables, the Farmers' Market is the place to be. And don't be surprised if there is conversation or music in the air to sweeten the day!

### **The American Civil War Center at Historic Tredegar**

**500 Tredegar St**

**Richmond, VA 23219**

**p: (804) 780-1865**

**Hours: 9a to 5p**

**Admissions: \$16**

**Website: <https://acwm.org/>**

The American Civil War Center at *Historic Tredegar* is the nation's first museum to interpret the Civil War from Union, Confederate, and African American perspectives. Discover a new way of looking at our shared national history that explains much of who we are as Americans today through our signature exhibit, ***In the Cause of Liberty***. Artifacts change regularly so there is always something new to see!

### **Black History Museum and Cultural Center**

**122 West Leigh Street**

**Richmond, VA 23220**

**P: (804) 780-9093**

**Hours: 10a to 5p (Tues-Sat)**

**Admission: \$10**

**Website: <https://www.blackhistorymuseum.org/>**

The Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia was founded in 1981 by Carroll Anderson, Sr. In 1991, the Museum was opened to the public at its present location, 00 Clay Street, in the historic Jackson Ward district of Richmond. The house built in 1832 by German descendant Adolph Dill, incorporates both the Federal and Greek Revival architectural styles. Under the leadership of Maggie L. Walker, the country's first female and Black bank president, the Council of Colored Women purchased the house in 1922. In 1932 it became the Black branch of the Richmond Public library and was named for Rosa D. Bowser, the first Black female school teacher in Richmond. The Museum seeks to become a permanent repository for visual, oral and written records and artifacts commemorating the lives and accomplishments of Blacks in Virginia. Our goal is to become a statewide resource on the many facets of

Black history through exhibitions, discussions and celebrations. The Museum collects documents, limited editions, prints, art and photographs for use in its Black History Archives Program. This program will be of major significance because of the scarcity of written records on the Black experience.

**Byrd Theatre**

**2908 West Cary Street**

**Richmond, VA 23221-3515**

**p: (804) 358-3056**

**Website: <https://byrdtheatre.org/>**

The Byrd Theatre is a cinema in the Carytown neighborhood of Richmond, Virginia. It was named after William Byrd II, the founder of the city.

**Carytown Shopping District**

**West Cary Street between Thompson and Boulevard**

**Website: <https://www.carytownrva.com/>**

Welcome to Carytown in Richmond, Virginia. With locally owned shops, boutiques, restaurants and specialty stores, there's something for everyone in Carytown. Find directions, parking information and much more. Everything you need to make your visit to Richmond, VA and Carytown a great experience. Carytown was voted "Best Neighborhood to Shop In" by Southern Living Magazine's readers.

**Edgar Allan Poe Museum**

**1914-16 East Main Street**

**Richmond, VA 23223**

**p: (804) 648-5523**

**Hours: 10a to 5p (Tues-Sat), 11a to 5p (Sun)**

**Admission: \$9**

**Website: <https://www.poemuseum.org/>**

Called "America's Shakespeare," Edgar Allan Poe created or mastered the short story, detective fiction, science fiction, lyric poetry and the horror story. His dark genius has invited children and adults to read and love literature for over 150 years. Opened in 1922, in The Old Stone House, the museum is only blocks away from Poe's first Richmond home and his first place of employment, the Southern Literary Messenger. Richmond's Poe Museum boasts the world's finest collection of Edgar Allan Poe's manuscripts, letters, first editions, memorabilia and personal belongings. The Poe Museum provides a retreat into early nineteenth century Richmond where Poe lived and worked. The museum features the life and career of Edgar Allan Poe by documenting his accomplishments with pictures, relics, and verse, and focusing on his many years in Richmond.

**InLight Richmond**

**Riverfront Canal Walk**

**Website: <https://www.1708gallery.org/inlight/index.html>**

Organized by 1708 Gallery, InLight Richmond is a public exhibition of light-based art and performances. Each year, InLight Richmond encourages artists to respond to a particular neighborhood in our diverse city, attracting audiences to unique areas of Richmond. InLight Richmond 2013 will be held on Friday, November 8 in Shockoe along the Riverfront Canal Walk between the Turning Basin and 17th Street. The Riverfront Canal Walk between the Turning Basin and 17th Street is marked by the intersections of Shockoe Slip and Shockoe Bottom, the Kanawha Canal, the Floodwall, Interstates 95 and 195, and

railroad lines. It is bordered by the James River, the Virginia Capital Trail, the Richmond Slave Trail, and numerous retail spaces, bars and restaurants, and sites of business. As Richmond's oldest neighborhood, Shockoe has always been a site of transaction and commerce, transition and movement. In the 17th century, Shockoe served as a trading post for furs, rum, and tobacco. It was also a central site for the slave trade. During the Civil War, the Confederate Army burned most of the area to the ground as they retreated from Richmond. Across the 19th century, as industry developed, the canal system became a pivotal component in the passageway from central Virginia to the coast. When rail replaced water transport, Richmond, and Shockoe specifically, became the first site in the world with a triple main-line railway crossing - visible from today's Canal Walk. Markers throughout the site detail this complex and storied past.

**James River Park**

**4401 Riverside Dr.**

**2301 Riverside Dr.**

**2101 Riverside Dr.**

**Richmond, VA 23225**

**Website: <https://jamesriverpark.org/>**

The James River Park System, a unique part of Richmond's Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities, includes over 550 acres of shoreline and islands in the capital of Virginia, extending in 14 sections from the Huguenot Bridge in the west to a half mile beyond the I-95 Bridge in the east. It includes most of the fall line of the James River. Rocks, rapids, meadows, and forests make for an area of unspoiled natural beauty -- a little bit of wilderness in the heart of the city.

**Japanese Garden**

**Maymont Park**

**2201 Sheilds Lake Drive**

**Richmond, VA**

**P: (804) 358-7166**

**Hours: 10a to 5p (daily), 10a to 7p (daily March 15-October 15)**

**Admission: Free**

**Website: <https://maymont.org/estate/gardens/japanese-garden/>**

Maymont's naturalistic Japanese Garden contrasts strongly with the formality of the Italian Garden. Descending into the Japanese Garden and entering through its distinct gates is like stepping onto a different continent. The space is cool, shaded and intimate. Sounds are muted and even children become more introspective and observant. While not a religious garden, the space is unmistakably reflective. Maymont's Japanese Garden is blend of several different styles of Japanese gardens and two distinct periods of design. In 1911, the Dooleys purchased a wedge-shaped section of the Kanawha Canal that bordered Maymont. To create their garden, it is believed they hired Muto, a master Japanese gardener who had designed gardens for other estates along the East Coast. Landscaped gardens originated in China, and around the 7th century they were introduced into Japan by Korean gardeners. The Japanese adapted the Chinese and Korean ideas to suit their own purposes.

**The John Marshall House**

**818 East Marshall Street**

**Richmond, VA 23219**

**Hours: 10a to 5p (Fri-Sat)**

**Admission: \$10**

**Website: <https://preservationvirginia.org/historic-sites/john-marshall-house/>**

This large two-story brick house located in the heart of Richmond's fashionable 19th century "Court End" district was home to John Marshall and his wife Polly, and their family from 1790 until his death in 1835. Marshall is best known as the "Great Chief Justice" for his role in creating the modern Supreme Court. He served from 1801 until his death in 1835 and his influential decisions such as *Marbury v. Madison* helped shape the principle of judicial review. Marshall was a true Founding Father, serving in local, state and national government as well as the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the United States Government. He was also well known locally as a leading member of Richmond society and a gracious and jovial host. Listed on the National and Virginia historic registers, the John Marshall House has undergone remarkably few changes since Marshall's lifetime. The property remained in the Marshall family until 1911 when it was sold to the City of Richmond. Originally slated for destruction in order to make way for the John Marshall High School, the house was saved by local preservationists. Preservation Virginia has operated the John Marshall House as a museum since 1913 and is celebrating a century of preservation. Located in the heart of Richmond's bustling downtown, the Marshall House is walking distance from the Virginia State Capitol, the Library of Virginia, and the Valentine Richmond History Center. Visitors to the site can enjoy a guided tour of the house including a remarkable collection of original furnishings, take a stroll through the colorful garden, visit the museum shop, or even try their hand at the game of quoits (John Marshall's favorite game).

**Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden**

**1800 Lakeside Avenue**

**Richmond, VA 23228**

**Hours: 9a to 5p**

**Admission: \$14**

**Website: <https://www.lewisinginter.org/>**

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden offers year-round beauty on a historic property with more than 40 acres of spectacular gardens, dining and shopping. A classical domed Conservatory is the only one of its kind in the mid-Atlantic. More than a dozen themed gardens include a Children's Garden, Rose Garden, Healing Garden, Sunken Garden, Asian Valley and Victorian Garden. Could dine at the Tea House (Hours: 11:30a to 2:30p, Wed-Sun; Menu: [http://www.lewisinginter.org/Dining/documents/teahousemenu\\_001.pdf](http://www.lewisinginter.org/Dining/documents/teahousemenu_001.pdf))

**Maggie L. Walker Museum**

**600 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street**

**Richmond, VA 23219**

**Hours: 9a to 4:30p (Tues-Sat)**

**Admission: Free**

**Website: <https://www.nps.gov/mawa/index.htm>**

Maggie Walker was a leading African-American civil rights activist and entrepreneur in the early 20th century. Years before American women had the right to vote, Walker established a newspaper and was the first woman to charter a bank in the U.S. Her "urban mansion" in historic Jackson Ward is restored and open to the public. 600 N. 2nd St. Park rangers provide guided tours of an exhibit hall and Mrs. Walker's home. In the exhibit hall, trace Mrs. Walker's life from her early days to her time as a community leader, bank president, and civil rights activist. Continue the tour in Mrs. Walker's historic home, preserved as a tribute to her enduring legacy of vision, courage and determination. Tours last about an hour and are offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you don't have time for a full tour, rangers may be able to offer an abbreviated tour. Before your tour, watch the 12 minute introductory film. *The Maggie Lena Walker Story* captures the spirit of a woman who became a prominent civic leader, financier, and business woman during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**Maymont Park**

**Grounds, Wildlife Exhibits and Gardens**

**2201 Shields Lake Drive**

**Richmond, VA 23220**

**Hours: 10a to 5p (daily), 10a to 7p (March 15-October 15)**

**Admission: \$5 per person suggested**

**Website: <https://www.maymont.org/>**

**NOTE: This is the best place for new visitors to begin.**

Maymont's grounds are admission-free, but donations are requested in many of our indoor exhibits (see below). Fees are required for the Nature Center exhibits and special programs and tours. See our [calendar](#) for a list of upcoming activities. A first visit to Maymont is best started at the Robins Nature & Visitor Center—Maymont's front door—but a history lover will soon find a path to the 1893 Maymont Mansion while a plant lover will find the elaborate Japanese and Italian gardens. And animal lovers will delight in the Nature Center, Wildlife Exhibits and Children's Farm. Seekers of solitude will select the perfect spot under a stately elm or beside a babbling brook.

**Maymont Park (secondary entrance)**

**1700 Hampton Street**

**Richmond, VA 23220**

**Website: <https://www.maymont.org/>**

**NOTE: This entrance provides the easiest access to Maymont Mansion, the Herb Garden, Italian Garden, Garden Hall, and the Maymont Foundation offices in the Carriage House, Stone Barn, Garage, and Coop.**

**Monument Avenue**

**[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monument\\_Avenue](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monument_Avenue)**

With its stunning architecture and beautiful foliage, no trip to the Richmond Region is complete without a drive or walk down this landmark boulevard, which is the only street in America listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Monument Ave. memorializes Virginia natives such as Robert E. Lee. Lee's statue was the first monument erected. In May, 1890 at its unveiling, there were an estimated 100,000 people in attendance. Visit the Virginia Center for Architecture on Monument Ave., a Tudor Revival mansion designed by renowned architect John Russell Pope, most known for designing the National Archives building and the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C. Monument Avenue Historic District encompasses the stretch of "The Avenue" between Stuart Circle in the east and Roseneath Rd. in the west, plus the adjoining 1200 block and 3100-3300 blocks of West Franklin St., and the 1500 block of West Ave. The portion of the Monument Avenue Historic District facing Monument Ave. from the 1200 block of W. Franklin St. to the intersection of Monument and Roseneath Rd. has been designated a National Historic Landmark.

**The Museum of the Confederacy**

**1201 E. Clay Street**

**Richmond, VA 23219**

**p: (804) 649-1861 ext. 100**

**Hours: 10 a to 4p (daily)**

**Admission: \$12**

**Website: <https://acwm.org/white-house-of-the-confederacy/>**

The Museum of the Confederacy traces its origins to the years immediately after the Civil War. Its ancestral organization was the Ladies Hollywood Memorial Association which formed in 1866 to tend

Confederate soldiers' graves in Richmond's Hollywood Cemetery. In 1890, the LHMA rescued from proposed demolition the former Confederate executive mansion and turned it into a museum that opened in 1896. Founded 25 years after Appomattox, housed in an important building, and led by influential women from all of the former Confederate states, the Confederate Museum soon had a large collection of important artifacts. Confronted with challenges in the early 1960s, the Museum's leadership announced bold new plans: to construct a new building for the collection (opened in 1976), restore the White House to its wartime appearance (opened in 1988), and change from being a Confederate shrine into a modern museum with exhibitions based on scholarship. In the early 21<sup>st</sup> century, faced with new challenges, the Museum's leadership again announced a bold new plan: to grow from a single museum site to a multiple site museum system. The Museum of the Confederacy at Appomattox is the first phase of this latest chapter in a long and rich history.

**National Battlefield Park**

**3125 East Broad St**

**Richmond, VA 23223**

**p: (804) 226-1981**

**Hours: sunrise to sunset**

**Admission: Free**

**Website: <https://www.nps.gov/rich/index.htm>**

Richmond National Battlefield Park is located in central Virginia approximately 100 miles south of Washington D.C. The park encompasses a large area with battlefield sites and visitor centers located in the City of Richmond, and Henrico, Hanover and Chesterfield counties. The park commemorates four major actions of the U.S. Civil War: the 1862 Seven Days Campaign, June 26 – July 1, 1862 encompassing Beaver Dam Creek, Gaines' Mill, Glendale (Frayser's Farm) and Malvern Hill; a portion of the 1864 Overland Campaign, May 28 – June 13, 1864, including Totopotomoy Creek and Cold Harbor; the May 15, 1862 naval action at Drewry's Bluff; and actions along the Richmond-Petersburg front, September 29, 1864 -April 2, 1865, encompassing Fort Harrison, New Market Heights, Deep Bottom and Parker's Battery. Visitors are urged to begin their park visit at the National Park Service **Civil War Visitor Center at Tredegar Iron Works** located in Richmond on the James River. The city streets can be difficult to navigate, so watch closely for signs leading from the interstate to the visitor center. The Center offers exhibits and audio-visual programs that introduce the story of Richmond during the Civil War and the battlefields and related sites that surround the city. Park staff will answer questions and provide information to help you make the best use of your time. Also located on the grounds of the historic Tredegar Iron Works is the American Civil War Center, which tells the story of the Civil War from three perspectives: Union, Confederate and African American.

**Richmond Visitor's Center**

**405 North 3rd Street**

**Richmond, VA 23219**

**(804) 783-7450**

**Hours: 9a to 5p (daily)**

The Richmond Region Visitor Center offers a state-of-the-art theater, attraction information, assistance with lodging accommodations throughout the Region, a gift shop with an extensive selection of Richmond Region merchandise and outstanding service from knowledgeable, on-site visitor counselors. Ample parking is available at the parking deck at the corner of 3rd and Marshall Streets.

**RVA Brew Crew Tours**

**Admission: \$35 and up**

**Daily from 5:30p to 10p (Eastern Route on Fridays & Scott's Route on Saturdays) and 11:30a to 3:30p (Western Route on Sunday)**

**Website: <https://www.rvabrewcrew.com/about-us>**

Explore Richmond's craft beverage scene without the obligation of renting an entire vehicle! Whether you're traveling solo or have a small group, our public tours offer a wide variety of destinations (breweries, cideries and distilleries) both in and just outside of the Richmond area. We pride ourselves on being the only brewery tour in town that allows our passengers to create their own experience by giving them multiple options for each stop along the way.

**RVA Historic Tours**

**1301 East Cary Street**

**Richmond, VA 23219**

**Hours: 10:30a to 12:30p (Mon-Fri) and 11a to 1p (Sat-Sun)**

**P: (804) 343-1850**

**Admission: \$38**

**Website: <http://experiencerichmond.biz/>**

Whether you were raised in Richmond or are visiting or just passing through, you will travel through a rich narrative of 400 years of history in one of the most fascinating and oldest cities in America. See the sights and learn about Richmond's landmarks, riverfront, architecture and history. We offer tours aboard our classic air-conditioned trolley with cushioned seats, intricate seat frameworks, and social rather than traditional bus seating. Riders are picked up at our RVA on Wheels main store (1301 East Cary Street) and at the Richmond Visitor's Center (405 North 3rd Street).

**Science Museum of Virginia**

**2500 West Broad Street**

**Richmond, VA 23220**

**P: (804) 864-1400**

**Hours: 9:30a to 5p (daily)**

**Admission: \$15.50 (exhibits), \$19.50 (exhibits + dome)**

**Website: <https://www.smv.org/>**

The Science Museum of Virginia is a catalyst for inspiration, a place that sparks curiosity and generates ideas. Through hundreds of experiential exhibits, awe-inspiring artifacts and interactive technologies, the Museum presents dynamic programming to hundreds of thousands of guests each year. The Museum features permanent exhibitions about space, health, electricity, and the earth—to name a few—and they host visiting exhibitions from around the world. The Dome Theater, at 76 feet, is the largest screen in Virginia and provides guests with the ultimate immersive experience.

**Shockoe Slip's**

**12th and Cary Streets**

**Website: <https://www.virginia.org/listings/HistoricSites/ShockoeSlip/>**

Some things never change. In the shadow of Richmond's financial district along the James River lies a neighborhood of cobblestone streets and alleyways, it's called Shockoe Slip, and it's haunted by history. Shockoe Slip earned its unusual name from the creek that once flowed through it. "Shacquohocan" was the Indian word for the large, flat stones at the mouth of the creek, and "slip" refers to the area's position on the canal basin where boats loaded their cargo. Founded as a small trading post by William Byrd in the early 1600's, Shockoe Slip was the commercial center of Richmond and most of the Western part of the State. A young George Washington surveyed The Kanawha Canal that ran west and became the super waterway for goods until the Civil War. Shockoe Slip literally rose out of the ashes after

retreating Confederate troops burned most of downtown. Railroads and highways in the next century replaced the canals and waterways as major routes of commercial transportation. In the early 1970's an eclectic group of entrepreneurs and architects sparked the area's second rejuvenation. Shockoe Slip's neighborhood has become a prime example of urban restoration and historic preservation. The predominantly Italianate style brick and ironfront buildings, with the ornamental renaissance-style fountain create a European flavor. What was once the only trading area in Richmond is now the City's most fashionable shopping and dining district. The Slip's restored warehouses and taverns house a unique assortment of exclusive apparel stores, galleries, restaurants and hotels.

**South of the James Farmer's Market**

**Bryan Park**

**New Kent Road and West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street**

**Richmond, VA 23225**

**Hours: 8a to 12p (Sat)**

**Website: <https://www.growrva.com/soi>**

The South of the James Farmers Market is an open-air producer-only market where farmers and artisans sell locally-grown and hand-made items including: vegetables, fruit, plants & flowers; meat, cheese, eggs & honey; jewelry, pottery, art, candles, clothing & knitted items; soaps, lotions & essential oils; baked goods & other prepared foods; food trucks, donuts & more.

**The Valentine Richmond History Center**

**1015 East Clay Street**

**Richmond, VA 2319-1527**

**P: (804) 649-0711**

**Hours: 10a to 5p (Tues-Sun)**

**Admissions: \$10**

**Website: <https://thevalentine.org/>**

The Valentine Richmond History Center has been collecting, preserving and interpreting Richmond's 400-year history for over a century. Located in the heart of historic downtown, the History Center is a place for residents and tourists to discover the diverse stories that tell the broader history of this important region. A comprehensive program of exhibitions, tours, special events, research opportunities, school programs and other public programs engage the broadest audience in an ongoing dialogue about the significance and relevance of the city's history.

**Virginia Historical Society**

**428 North Arthur Ashe Boulevard**

**Richmond, VA 23220**

**p: (804) 358-4901**

**Hours: 10a to 5p (Mon-Sat)**

**Admission: \$10**

**Website: <https://www.virginiahistory.org/>**

Discover all that Virginia has to offer during your visit to the Virginia Historical Society. At the VHS, you can see such items as Patrick Henry's eye glasses, an electric streetcar that ran on the first electric streetcar system in the world, gold buttons worn by Pocahontas, the only passenger Kline Kar still in existence, a twelve-foot-tall plaster statue of Arthur Ashe, love letters written by Robert E. Lee, a late nineteenth-century horse-drawn hearse, a 7.5-foot-long musket used to protect a family in a 1644 Indian attack, a seventeenth-century dugout canoe, a 1946 Wurlitzer Jukebox, George Washington's diary, and so much more! Headquartered in the Museum District of Richmond, Virginia, the VHS is both

a museum and a research library. More than 180 years old, the Virginia Historical Society features award-winning exhibitions that are entertaining and educational for visitors of all ages. The society is the only museum with all of Virginia's history under one roof—all centuries, all regions, and all topics covered.

**Virginia Holocaust Museum**

**2000 East Cary Street**

**Richmond, VA 23223**

**p: [\(804\) 257-5400](tel:(804)257-5400)**

**Hours: 9a to 5 (Mon-Fri) and 11a to 5p (Sat-Sun)**

**Admission: Free**

**Website: <https://www.vaholocaust.org/>**

The Virginia Holocaust Museum was founded in 1997 by Mark Fetter, Al Rosenbaum, and one of Richmond's youngest Holocaust survivors, Jay Ipson, in an effort to preserve and educate people on the atrocities of the Holocaust. Housed in five rooms in Temple Beth El's former Brown Education Building, the exhibits immediately attracted substantial numbers of visitors, notably school children. Three years after the dream became a reality, the Museum required additional space to house exhibits and to handle guests. The Virginia General Assembly stepped forward and offered the Museum the abandoned "Climax" American Tobacco Company Warehouse known as the "extra attic." Located in Richmond's historic Shockoe Bottom, the restoration and reconfiguration of the new interior space took almost three years to achieve. The expanded Museum was dedicated in 2003 and has continued to educate the public, seeking to touch both the heart and the mind. The painted railway tracks that guide your visit will likewise assist in drawing together two narratives: the broader historic realities of the Holocaust, and the specific account of the [Ipson family's ordeal](#) and survival. Interspersed with these stories, you will hear the voices of other survivors who created new lives for themselves in Richmond. And, the Museum will impress the fact that genocide tragically persists in our contemporary world. Through docent-led tours, commemorative programs, lectures, films and other events, the Virginia Holocaust Museum strives to educate the public and to promote tolerance towards all, regardless of nationality, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or creed.

**Virginia Museum of Fine Arts**

**200 North Boulevard**

**Richmond, VA 23220-4007**

**P: [\(804\) 340-1400](tel:(804)340-1400)**

**Hours: 10a to 5 (Sat-Wed) and 10a to 9p (Thurs & Fri)**

**Admission: Free**

**Website: <https://www.vmfa.museum/>**

The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, or VMFA, is an art museum in Richmond, Virginia, in the United States, which opened in 1936. The museum is owned and operated by the Commonwealth of Virginia, while private donations, endowments, and funds are used for the support of specific programs and all acquisition of artwork, as well as additional general support. Admission itself is free (except for special exhibits). It is one of the first museums in the American South to be operated by state funds.

The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, together with the adjacent Virginia Historical Society, anchor the eponymous "Museum District" of Richmond (alternatively known as "West of the Boulevard").

**Virginia Museum of History and Culture**

**428 North Arthur Ashe Boulevard**

**Richmond, VA 23220**

**p: (804) 358-4901**

**Hours: 10a to 5p (Mon-Sat)**

**Admission: \$10**

**Website: <https://www.virginiahistory.org/>**

(see Virginia Historical Society)

**Visual Arts Center of Richmond**

**1812 West Main Street**

**Richmond, VA 23220**

**P: (804) 353-0094**

**Hours: 9a to 9p (Mon-Fri), 10a to 4p (Sat)**

**Website: <https://www.visarts.org/>**

The Center provides opportunities for people to express themselves through clay, wood, fiber, painting, photography, printmaking, glass, metal, drawing, writing and the decorative arts. It also offers six exhibitions annually, with work by emerging and established artists and a focus on innovative materials and processes. The Center is located in a newly restored, 30,000-sq.-ft. historic building in the Fan District of Richmond, Virginia. Staffing includes 10 full-time and seven part-time employees, 110 adjunct instructors, and 175 volunteers. The annual operating budget is \$1.7 million.