



George Washington Birthday Celebration 2024 Schedule

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Alexandria Celebrates George Washington on his 292nd Birthday!

Parade Day Events: Monday, February 19, 2024

George Washington Birthday Parade 1-3 p.m.

The City of Alexandria, Virginia, the adopted hometown of George Washington, celebrates his birthday each year with events throughout February. The highlight will be on February 19, 2024, when guests will line the streets of Old Town Alexandria to cheer on the oldest and largest George Washington Birthday parade in the country. The parade features drum corps, color guards, bands, community and fraternal organizations, youth groups, local merchants, city dignitaries, and, of course, General Washington and Martha Washington. This year, the theme is *George Washington: Alexandria's Original Living Legend* in honor of Alexandria's 275th Anniversary. The Parade Grand Marshals will be *The Living Legends of Alexandria*, an organization that identifies, honors, and chronicles the lives of individuals who have contributed to the community in an exemplary and lasting way that has significantly impacted the quality of life in Alexandria and serves as an inspiration to others. For more information, including parking, maps, route, and status, visit www.washingtonbirthday.com; email gwbirthdayevents@gmail.com.

Thank you to the 2024 George Washington Birthday Celebration Sponsors and Contributors! Bronze Sponsors: Friendship Fire Veterans Fire Engine Association; Kate Waller Barrett Chapter, DAR; Media Tek USA, Inc., Old Dominion Boat Club. Grant: The George Washington Legacy Foundation (GWLF). Hunt for Washington Sponsor: Lafayette College. Parade Donors: Jeanne Jacob & Gerry Frank; Sandra Welch. Sponsorship and Donation Opportunities are still available; visit <https://washingtonbirthday.com/donate> for information.

Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association Breakfast

9–10 :30 a.m.

Cost: \$45 per person, table of 10 \$400

Join the movers and shakers of Alexandria at this historic celebration marking the 250th anniversary of the Friendship Fire Company (1774-2024) and the City's 275th anniversary. For more information and to purchase tickets, contact Bill Kehoe, Secretary, kehoefd@aol.com. Location: The Hilton Alexandria at Mark Center, Terrace Room, 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria.

Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution 11 a.m.

Free, no registration required

Join the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution as they honor the Unknown Soldier of the Revolution.

Location: Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 S. Fairfax St.

Washingtonbirthday.com

Facebook.com/GeorgeWashingtonsBirthdayCelebration

twitter.com/WashingtonBirth

Historic Sites Open on Parade Day

Carlyle House, 121 N. Fairfax Street

Open 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

\$8 per adult; \$3 per child

Christ Church, 118 N. Washington Street

Open 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Free

Freedom House Museum, 1315 Duke Street

Open 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

\$5 per person, City residents free

Friendship Firehouse Museum, 107 S. Alfred Street

Open 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

\$2 per person, City residents free

Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal Street

Open 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

\$5 per person, City residents free

Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 323 S. Fairfax Street

Open 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Free

Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum,

105 S. Fairfax Street

Open 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

\$5 per person, City residents free



Events Throughout February

The Restaurant Cherry Challenge

February 1-15, 2024

The “Cherry Challenge” is a competition among the finer restaurants in Alexandria. Each restaurant will develop its own cherry cocktail, appetizer, entrée, and/or dessert in honor of our distinguished native son, of course! The competing restaurants and their entries will be listed on the George Washington Birthday Celebration website and Facebook page, and the winners will be announced on Parade Day.

“Hunt for Washington”

February 1-28, 2024

Sponsored by Lafayette College

A fun and challenging game to uncover clues about Alexandria and George Washington. The hunt, which should take about 60-90 minutes to complete, will take individuals and families to places in Old Town Alexandria associated with the General. Start by printing a clue sheet from www.washingtonbirthday.com at home and bring it with you as you traverse the heart of Old Town and then use your sleuthing skills to find answers to the clues. Submit your findings to gwbirthdayevents@gmail.com any time before the end of the day on February 28. There are prizes associated with this event! FREE.

American Legion Post 24 Run, Walk, n' Roll

February 1-29, 2024

This George Washington Birthday Commemorative event is intended to build community and enhance the physical, mental, and emotional resiliency of participants—veterans and non-veterans alike. This month-long event encourages participants to run, walk and/or roll on their own for at least 24 miles in increments and routes they choose. Proceeds support Alexandria American Legion Post 24 veterans and youth programs. Registration is \$24 and opens until February 25, 2024. For more information, visit runsignup.com/Race/VA/Alexandria/GWB24RunWalkRoll

“George Washington’s Alexandria” Tours

Every Sunday in February (4th, 11th, 18th & 25th)
2-4 p.m.

Explore historic Old Town Alexandria as George Washington knew it! This popular two-hour guided walking tour will visit sites associated with Washington and his closest colleagues. To register, visit eventbrite.com and search George Washington’s Alexandria. FREE.

Mind your Manners! Balls in Early America

February 9, 6-7 p.m.

February 10, 10-11 a.m.

Gadsby’s Tavern Museum is famous in part because George Washington celebrated his Birthday Ball there, but there’s so much more to the story! From scandal to social class, balls reveal the political intrigue and power structures that were part of early America. Learn more through this specialty tour. \$15 per person, purchase at AlexandriaVA.gov/Shop. Location: 134 N. Royal St.

An Intimate Reception with General Washington

Saturday, February 10, 2024

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Join General Washington at the beautiful and historic Duvall House, where he was feted by leading Alexandrians upon his triumphant return from the Revolutionary War in 1783. The General will share his most poignant memories of the war and answer questions about his life and times. Libations and heavy hors d’oeuvres will be served. \$150 per person, purchase at AlexandriaVA.gov/Shop. Location: Historic Duvall House, 305 Cameron St.

Washington’s Entertainments: A Birthday Event

Saturday, February 17, 2024

6–9 p.m.

George Washington was entertained for his birthday in Gadsby’s Tavern with music and dance. You can mark the occasion with a dinner that features a series of 18th-century entertainments Washington enjoyed in his lifetime, including music, dance demonstrations, toasts, and even a bit of mind reading. Ticket includes four-course dinner with wine and live performances. \$150 per person, purchase at AlexandriaVA.gov/Shop. Location: Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, 134 N. Royal Street

Washington Symposium

Saturday, February 24, 2024

1 p.m.

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial hosts leading scholars of the life and legacy of George Washington, this year around the theme “Commemorating Two-Hundred Twenty-five Years of George Washington’s Death and Funeral.” Admission is free and free parking is available.

George Washington Birthday Gala

Saturday, February 24, 2024

Formal (white tie optional). Reception at 5 p.m. Entertainment in the Memorial Theater at 6:30 p.m. Banquet in the Memorial’s Grand Masonic Hall at 7:30 p.m. The presentation of the George Washington Memorial Award will take place during the banquet. Tickets are \$225. To purchase tickets, visit www.gwmemorial.org. Tickets are limited.