



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Fort Vancouver National
Historic Site

612 East Reserve Street
Vancouver, WA 98661-3811

Vancouver National
Historic Reserve

360 696-7655 phone
360 696-7657 fax

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Media Release

December 8, 2006
For Immediate Release
Kimm Fox-Middleton 360.816.6243

Popular Fort Vancouver Lantern Tours Scheduled to Resume in January 2007 after Successful Inaugural Season

VANCOUVER, WA -In response to overwhelming public demand, the National Park Service is pleased to announce that the evening Fort Vancouver Lantern Tours will be resuming in January 2007 after a successful inaugural season last winter.

In 2007, Lantern Tours will be offered twice in January (Friday, January 5 and Saturday, January 20) and twice in February (Friday, February 2 and Saturday, February 17) from 7:00 p.m to 9:00 p.m. at the reconstructed fort at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site.

“We were stunned at the response we had for this new program,” exclaimed Kimm Fox-Middleton, the park’s Special Events Program Manager. “The Lantern Tour was a new program for Fort Vancouver last winter and one that visitors were very much interested in attending.”

As past event participants can attest, the fort is a very different place once the sun goes down, and the lantern tour is a wonderful opportunity to tour the fort at night. At each event, each adult attending the program will carry their own candle lantern and tour with park staff through some of the fort’s most intriguing buildings, including the Counting House, Fur Store, Kitchen, Chief Factor’s House and Bake House. Led by a park ranger in Hudson’s Bay Company attire, visitors will see first hand what it was like to live at the fort when the sun goes down. At the end of the tour, visitors will enjoy a hot cup of cider while having a chance to ask questions about the site.

“The response to this new event last winter greatly exceeded our expectations,” noted Greg Shine, the site’s Chief Ranger and Historian. “Fort Vancouver has a number of untapped opportunities to share its many layers of history with the public. The surprising

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



success of the Lantern Tour shows us that there is interest in learning about Fort Vancouver in new ways. We are continuing to develop new programs and put exciting new twists on existing programs to make the site as relevant as possible to a public with an increasing variety of interests.”

For further information about these tours and to make a reservation please call the Visitor Center at 360.816.6230.

What: Lantern Tours at Fort Vancouver

When: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on four dates in 2007: Friday January 5; Saturday, January 20; Friday, February 2; and Saturday, February 17.

Where: Reconstructed fort at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, 1001 E. Fifth St.

How Much: \$10 adults and \$7 children. Cash only; please bring exact change.

How to Reserve: Reservations are required; please phone 360-816-6230 to make a reservation.

Background: Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, a unit of the National Park Service, is at the heart of the Vancouver National Historic Reserve. The Vancouver National Historic Reserve brings together a national park, a premier archaeological site, the region's first military post, an international fur trade emporium, one of the oldest operating airfields, the first national historic site west of the Mississippi River, and a waterfront trail and environmental center on the banks of the Columbia River. The partners of the Reserve teach visitors about the fur trade, early military life, natural history, and pioneers in aviation, all within the context of Vancouver's role in regional and national development. The Reserve's vast array of public programs -- including living history events, festivals, cultural demonstrations, exhibits, active archaeology, and other special activities -- create a dynamic, fun, and unique tourist destination for people of all ages.

-NPS-