



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Washington, D.C.

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Office of Communications Fact Sheet

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National Mall & Memorial Parks Little- Known Facts

Did you know that.....

- More than 25 million people visit the National Mall each year. That's more visitors than Yellowstone, Yosemite and Grand Canyon National Parks combined.
- 8 million visitors are brought to and from the National Mall by an estimated 200,000 tour buses each year.
- Every weekday, over 440,000 vehicles travel along or through the National Mall on Constitution and Independence Avenues and side streets.
- In addition to the World War II Memorial, the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial, Thomas Jefferson Memorial and Ford's Theatre, the National Mall & Memorial Parks includes more than 65 lesser known monuments and memorials. The National Mall runs from the U.S. Capitol west to the Potomac River, and from the Jefferson Memorial north to Constitution Avenue.
- The National Mall is home to more than 26 miles of pedestrian sidewalks and 8 miles of bike trails.
- 10 tons of grass seed and nearly 3,000 yards of sod and turf are installed and planted on the National Mall annually. There are over 300 acres of turf on the National Mall.
- Over 9,000 trees are located on the National Mall; nearly 2,300 are American elm trees, which North American settlers named "the Lady of the Forest." These elm trees line the length of the National Mall, helping to frame the views between the Washington Monument and the U.S. Capitol.
- All of the trees on the National Mall remove an estimated 492 tons of air pollution with an estimated value of \$2.5 million.
- Between 25,000 and 30,000 local sports enthusiasts use the 15 softball fields, eight volleyball courts, two rugby fields, two multi- purpose fields and the Washington Monument grounds for a variety of different sport and recreation activities nearly year-round.
- Three to four tons of trash are collected and removed from the National Mall daily.

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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

- The National Park Service receives and processes more than 6,000 permit applications each year to hold an event on the various spaces that encompass the National Mall. Over 3,800 of these applications are approved. This translates, on average, to over 30 permitted events on the National Mall each and every day.
- The National Cherry Blossom Festival (NCBF), which began in 1935 to celebrate the spring flowering of the cherry trees, draws more than one million visitors to the National Mall during a two- week period each spring. The NCBF is the largest, annual, re-occurring tourist event held anywhere in the Washington Metropolitan area and within the entire National Park System.
- Each year trained National Park Service arborists prune 3,750 Cherry trees, including 12 different species, prior to the National Cherry Blossom Festival.
- Four police departments provide security and protection during major events on the National Mall and adjacent streets. The United States Park Police takes the lead role with assistance from the Metropolitan Police Department, United States Capital Police and the Secret Service.
- More than three- miles of fence are required for the annual July 4th fireworks and concerts.
- At 555- feet, 5 and 1/8- inches, the Washington Monument was the tallest, free- standing structure in the world from for 20 years until the completion of the Eiffel Tower in Paris.
- The National Park Service initiated a visitor hop- on- and- off bus service in 1969. Metrorail subway service began in 1976, with one stop directly on the Mall and two within a few blocks to both the north and south, but no stops close to the west end of the National Mall. Prior to this, visitors were only able to enjoy or see the National Mall on foot or by car.
- There are 47 drinking fountains located on the National Mall.

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