



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Colonial National
Historical Park

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Colonial National Historical Park News Release

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National Park Service Economic Impact Report for 2014 *Tourism to Colonial National Historical Park creates \$212,172 million in Economic Benefit Report shows visitor spending supports 2,492 jobs in local area*

YORKTOWN, Va. –A new National Park Service (NPS) report shows that over 3 million visitors to Colonial National Historical Park in 2014 spent \$174 million in communities near the park. That spending supported in excess of 2400 jobs in the local area.

“Colonial National Historical Park welcomes visitors from across the country and around the world,” said Superintendent Elaine Leslie. “We are delighted to share the story of this place and the experiences it provides and to use the park as a way to introduce our visitors to this part of the country and all that it offers. National park tourism is a significant driver in the national economy returning \$10 for every \$1 invested in the National Park Service and it’s a big factor in our local economy as well. We appreciate the partnership and support of our neighbors and are glad to be able to give back by helping to sustain local communities.”

The peer-reviewed visitor spending analysis was conducted by U.S. Geological Survey economists Catherine Cullinane Thomas and Christopher Huber and Lynne Koontz for the National Park Service. The report shows \$15.7 billion of direct spending by 292.8 million park visitors in communities within 60 miles of a national park. This spending supported 277,000 jobs nationally, with 235,600 jobs found in these gateway communities, and had a cumulative benefit to the U.S. economy of \$29.7 billion.

According to the 2014 report, most park visitor spending was for lodging (30.6 percent) followed by food and beverages (20.3 percent), gas and oil (11.9 percent), admissions and fees (10.2 percent) and souvenirs and other expenses (9.9 percent).

To download the report visit <http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/economics.cfm>

The report includes information for visitor spending at individual parks and by state.

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To learn more about national parks in Virginia and how the National Park Service works with Virginia communities to help preserve local history, conserve the environment, and provide outdoor recreation, go to www.nps.gov/virginia

Colonial National Historical Park was established in 1930 to preserve the important seventeenth and eighteenth century sites in Jamestown, Williamsburg and Yorktown. The Colonial Parkway continues to link the sites in its 23 miles, and is today recognized as an “All-American road.”

About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America’s 407 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov.

