



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Colonial National  
Historical Park

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## COLONIAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK News

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### Colonial National Historical Park Joins the National Park Service “Find Your Park” Campaign *National Park Week 2015 Encourages Everyone to “Find Your Park” Free Admission Saturday April 18, 2015*

Yorktown, Va. –Colonial National Historical Park is joining the National Park Service’s 2016 Centennial Campaign: “Find Your Park”. This effort is a broad public engagement campaign to reintroduce the national parks and the work of the National Park Service to a new generation of Americans, inviting them to visit and get involved. This two-year effort will begin in April 2015 and run throughout the National Park Service’s 100th anniversary year in 2016. “Find Your Park,” is a collaboration with the National Park Foundation, the official nonprofit partner of the National Park Service.

The National Park Service and the National Park Foundation will team up with partners to produce programs, events, and activities that will drive broad awareness, deepen engagement, and increase support for America’s national parks, the work of the National Park Service, and its partners. In addition to making all of our nation’s national parks go-to destinations, the campaign will highlight the historic preservation and outdoor recreation work the Service does with communities across the country and the value it brings to Americans every day. These efforts are designed to raise support and introduce a new, more diverse generation of millennials and children to the national parks. First Ladies Michelle Obama and Laura Bush will co-chair the campaign, calling on Americans to “Find Your Park” to enjoy their public lands.

As part of National Park Week and National Junior Ranger Day, Colonial NHP joins other parks, programs and partners across the country to encourage everyone to “find their park” and share their stories online at [FindYourPark.com](http://FindYourPark.com). “Find Your Park” invites the public to see that a national park can be more than a place -- it can be a feeling, a state of mind, or a sense of American pride. Beyond vast landscapes, the campaign highlights historical, urban, and cultural parks, as well as the National Park Service programs that protect, preserve, and share nature, culture, and history in communities nationwide.

“Find Your Park” is also the theme for this year’s [National Park Week](http://NationalParkWeek.com), April 18 – 26, 2015. As part of National Park Week and National Junior Ranger Day, special children’s programs will be offered free of charge on Saturday, April 18 at Historic Jamestowne. Younger visitors can become National Park Service Junior Rangers and receive a special National Junior Ranger patch by participating in games and activities during their park visit. **Admission to the park that day is free!** “This is an exclusive opportunity, said Superintendent Elaine Leslie, to reintroduce ourselves to the public and expand their understanding of who we are and how we affect their lives. A key piece of our efforts to increase our relevancy, create new connections, and build support is the Find Your Park public awareness campaign.”

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

## National Find Your Park Campaign

Family-friendly activities for all ages will be presented by students from Jamestown High School's Rho Kappa Honor Society between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. No reservations are needed for the following:

\*Living History Characters will be roving the historic site throughout the day answering visitors' questions about life at Jamestown during the seventeenth-century. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

\*Children's games and dancing, [outside on historic site] ongoing from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

\*Mock Archaeology Dig Box, [outside on historic site] ongoing from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

\*Hands-on Craft Demonstrations for children inside the Historic Jamestowne Visitor Center will be ongoing from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

\*5-mile Bike Tour of the Jamestown Island Drive Loop: Students leading the bike tour will stop at several locations to discuss the ecology and history of Jamestown Island (the Island Drive Loop will be closed to vehicle traffic). Participants must bring their own bikes and equipment--bug spray and bottled water are recommended: 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

\*A one-hour guided walking tour of the Jamestown Island Drive Loop: Students leading the walking tour will stop at several locations to discuss the ecology and history of Jamestown Island (the Island Drive Loop will be closed to vehicle traffic). Participants should bring bug spray and bottled water: 1:00 p.m. [Total walking distance about 3 miles]

\*45-minute guided walking tours of the historic site allowing visitors to meet various living history characters imparting their personal stories about daily life at Jamestown during the 17<sup>th</sup> century: 11:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. [Total walking distance about 300 yards]

At Yorktown, children 14 and under, accompanied by an adult, can participate in a ranger-led walk of the battlefield. The walk will begin and end at the Yorktown Battlefield Visitor Center. All attendees must register at the Visitor Center information desk to participate. The walk will encompass approximately 1.5 miles and take about 1.5-2 hours to complete. The ranger will share stories about the battle, the battlefield, and famous historical figures. Participants are encouraged to bring totes or backpacks and a snack. Cold water will be provided by the National Park Service at the halfway point and upon return to the Visitor Center. Completion of the walk will earn each registered, fourteen and under participant, a commemorative pin, certificate, and knowledge of stuff they never knew!

All participants are encouraged to use sun screen, wear an appropriate hat, and closed-toed shoes or boots. Participants in sandals will not be allowed on the walk! Pre-registration is not permitted. All registration is done the morning of the walk, between the hours of 9 and 11 a.m. at the Yorktown Battlefield Visitor Center. The Youth Battlefield Walk will begin at the visitor center at 11:15 a.m. There is no charge to participate, nor a charge for the commemorative pin or certificate. There is also no admission fee charged for Junior Ranger Day! So, leave the mobile devices at home, come outdoors and "FIND YOUR PARK!"

*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](http://www.nps.gov).*



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