SCHOOL TOUR INFORMATION

Washington Heritage Museums

Mary Washington House
1200 Charles Street
540–373–1569

Rising Sun Tavern
1304 Caroline Street
540–371–1494

Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop
1020 Caroline Street
540–373–3362

www.WashingtonHeritageMuseums.org/learn
Office@WashingtonHeritageMuseums.Org
540–373–5630
1300 Charles St, Fredericksburg, VA 22401
SCHOOL TOUR
ADMISSION

For Students

Special Opportunity in January & February only: $1.00 per student, per museum. This is limited to the first 25 schools who schedule tours on a first come, first served basis for students in the City of Fredericksburg, Stafford, Spotsylvania, King George & Caroline Counties.

March through December: $4.00 per student, per museum.

For Adults

Washington Heritage Museums requires at least a 1:6 ratio for adults to students.

Teachers: FREE, discount is limited to 2 per classroom.
Chaperones: $6.00 per adult, per museum, year-round.

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All museums accept credit cards, cash or checks for payment. WHM charges a 3% credit card convenience fee. All checks should be made payable to Washington Heritage Museums.

Payment Policy
An invoice will be sent upon confirmation to the email address on file. Payment in advance of a field trip is encouraged, but payments may be made on the day of the tour.

No refunds will be issued for students who are absent the day of the tour.

Delays and Cancellation
The museums follow the Fredericksburg School System and close when their schools close for snow days.

In the event your school system announces a delayed opening, your tour is considered to be cancelled. Please call the Washington Heritage Museums office (540-373-5630) to reschedule.

School tours generally begin before the museums open to the public. A minimum of one business day’s notice is required to cancel, except for school system cancellations or delays.
HELP PRESERVE HISTORY!
A Guide on How to Behave in Museums

Avoid Touching Museum Objects
Natural oils and dirt on our fingers will damage historic objects and walls, and any food or gum indoors can attract insects and rodents that eat museum objects and the museum. Please sit on the floor instead of leaning on the wall if you are tired and cannot stand.

Be Mindful of Fellow Visitors
Make sure you are being respectful towards other visitors so that everyone can enjoy the displays. Keep your phone off, do not take photos with flash, avoid making loud noises, and only ask questions when your interpreter is ready to take them. Avoid pushing, shoving, or jumping down steps. Remember the golden rule: Treat others how you want to be treated!

Follow Your Leader’s Direction
If you don’t remember how to preserve our history, ask an adult! They will help you stay organized and locate information during your visit. Stay with your group and have a great time learning!
HELP YOUR GROUP LEARN
A Guide on How to Be a Group Leader

Communicate with the Staff
If your students will visit the museum store afterwards, please let us know as you make your reservation.

Let the museum staff know if there are any accommodations that they need to make to provide the best possible experience for your students. Knowing what to expect will allow our staff to modify our tour to better meet the students' needs.

Do not be afraid to let the guide know during breaks to speak up, go slower, or if a student has a restroom emergency.

Be An Example For Your Group
Remember that your group will follow your example. Follow the rules exactly as you expect your group to and play your part in preserving history too! Wear flat shoes to protect our floors and for your comfort.

Please let the students ask and answer the questions.

If you need to take a phone call or send a text, please step outside of the building to avoid distracting your students, guide, and other visitors.
Learning Objectives

1. An apothecary or a doctor prepared medicines by hand in the 18th-century. These medicines were primarily derived from plants, though a few chemicals were also used.
2. At the time, there was no knowledge of germs or microbes as a cause of illness.
3. Patients did not have the benefit of anesthetics.
4. Most doctors learned as apprentices as there were few medical schools.
5. Some plants are beneficial and still used for medicine today.
6. Hugh Mercer was a local doctor, a famous Revolutionary War general and hero, as well as a friend of George Washington.

Artifacts & Reproductions

- Pill machine.
- Pill tile.
- Still.
- Surgical tools.

Additional Learning Tools

- Live Leeches!
RISING SUN TAVERN

Learning Objectives

1. Charles Washington was a prominent resident of early Fredericksburg and a participant in the American Revolution.
2. The Rising Sun Tavern was a social hub where locals gathered and travelers stopped after hard journeys to eat, sleep, and find entertainment.
3. Fredericksburg was a busy port city and a center of trade on the Rappahannock River in the 18th-century.
4. Enslaved people comprised much of the labor force of the Rising Sun Tavern. This practice was commonplace in many homes and businesses in 18th-century Fredericksburg.

Artifacts & Reproductions

• Playing cards and stamps (to highlight the Stamp Act).
• Piano/Harp-lute-guitar (to highlight live entertainment at taverns).
• Beds/bedroom furniture (to highlight the accommodations people could expect when traveling and the work done by enslaved people).
1. Mary Washington faced challenges as a single mother living in the 18th-century.
2. Mary Washington owned enslaved people. Their lives in Fredericksburg differed from those of enslaved workers on large plantations.
3. Compared to today, people in the 18th-century, particularly women, followed different rules of etiquette that guided their social interactions.
4. The style of 18th-century clothing differed from the one of today. Clothing for children and adults showed similarities and differences.
5. In the 18th century, children enjoyed playing but their toys were different compared to today.

**Artifacts & Reproductions**
- Mary Washington’s teapot.
- 18th-century commode chair (demonstrates multipurpose nature of 18th century spaces).

**Additional Learning Tools**
- 18th-century children’s toys (reproduction).
IMPORTANT LINKS

Before the Tour
If you would like to reserve a time for your tour group, please click the link below or use the QR code to let us know! If the link is broken, send us an email or call to receive a new reservation form link.

https://washingtonheritagemuseums.dm.networkforgood.com/forms/whm-group-tour-reservations

After the Tour
Once you've taken our tours, we ask you to fill out our survey form! Let us know what we did well, and how we could improve. Your feedback is crucial to us as we try to give our visitors the best experience we can.

https://washingtonheritagemuseums.dm.networkforgood.com/forms/after-tour-survey-for-groups

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