

**Mid-Atlantic Tours & Receptive Services**

*The Leader in Tours to our Nation's Capital and the Mid-Atlantic Region*

**MARS**

800-769-5912

## **Christmas Season at the Gaylord!**

### **Holiday Dinner at Monticello**

*Washington, D.C. & Charlottesville, VA*

**December 9 - 14, 2010**

**5 Nights – 6 Days**

#### ***Featuring:***

- *Accommodations at the Gaylord National Resort on the Potomac*
- *Candlelight tour of Mount Vernon at Christmas*
- *Candlelight tour of Monticello at Christmas*
- *Private Holiday Dinner at Monticello*



*A grand holiday experience in Washington, D.C. with accommodations at the fabulous Gaylord National Resort on the Potomac. A spectacular 18-story glass atrium welcomes you to the hotel, offering sweeping views of the Potomac River, Washington, D.C. and Old Town Alexandria, while a river meanders through the lush, multi-level indoor gardens. Come and discover for yourself the jewel of the capital region decorated for the holidays.*

Visit our *On-Line Group Tour Catalogue* at [www.takeafuntrip.com](http://www.takeafuntrip.com)

## Day One, Thursday December 9, 2010

4:00pm	<p>Arrive at <b>National Harbor</b>. <b>Check in</b> the “new” <b>Gaylord National Resort</b> on the <i>Potomac</i>. <b>Baggage</b> handling included.</p> <p><b>The Resort Features:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2,000 luxurious guest rooms, including more than 100 lavish suites</li><li>• 400,000 square feet of exhibition and meeting space</li><li>• A soaring 18-story glass atrium that will crown the hotel, with spectacular views of national monuments, historic landmarks, and the Potomac River</li><li>• A private marina offering sailing, fishing and other water sports</li><li>• Relache, a 20,000-square-foot spa and fitness center with indoor lap pool</li></ul> <p>Taking Washington, D.C. by storm is the “new” <b>Gaylord National</b>, incorporating the best that America has to offer. The hotel is architecturally magnificent, located on the waterfront with spectacular views of the city from the tower. The rooms are custom furnished in rich fabrics, crown molding, and spacious baths. Gaylord National is the crown jewel of National Harbor where everything is sparkling.</p> <p><b>National Harbor</b> is a premier destination unlike anything you’ve ever seen – a “new” river front city just minutes from the Nation’s Capital. National Harbor is an exciting, sprawling community that includes fine restaurants, unparalleled shopping, stunning office space and lavish residences. National Harbor brings together recreation, work, living and entertainment in a way that has never been done before.</p> <p>A variety of shopping options and retail stores will line Fashion Avenue. Entertainment will include a dueling piano bar, Irish pub, jazz club, and more!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Water Taxi</b> service is available from National Harbor to Old Town Alexandria. The crossing is approximately 20 minutes by passenger boat and round trip tickets can be purchased on your own.</li></ul>
Dinner	<p>Enjoy <b>dinner on your own</b> this evening at the resort or you may choose to explore the ants adjacent to the resort.</p> <p>The Central Concierge will place your dinner reservations for you. You may choose from dining establishments such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Restaurants and café’s located in the hotel: <b>Old Hickory Steakhouse; Moon Bay Coastal Cuisine; Pienza Italian Market; National Past Time Sports Bar &amp; Grill.</b></li><li>• Whether you have a craving for Mexican or Italian, American or Chinese, the restaurants at the National Harbor are sure to suit your fancy. Bistros, grills, and fine dining will all cater to visitors of National Harbor. There are exciting dining experiences here you won’t find anywhere else. Restaurants located in National Harbor: <b>Bobby McKey’s; Bond 45; Cadillac Ranch; Elevation Burger; Foster’s Downeast Clambake; Grace’s Mandarin; Ketchup; McCormick &amp; Schmick’s; Rosa Mexicano; and Sauciety.</b></li></ul>
Evening	<p>Watch the <b>Ceremonial Lighting of a 65 foot Tree.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Nightly snowfall inside the Gaylord Atrium</b></li><li>• <b>Voices of Gaylord Concert – Sounds of the Season</b>, an epic live performance of holiday music.</li><li>• <b>Brightest Star Fountain Show</b>, a heartwarming narration of the classic Christmas story, choreographed with dancing water, whimsical lighting, fog and special effects.</li></ul> <p>Meals: None</p>

## Day Two, Friday December 10, 2010

Breakfast	Enjoy a <b>full breakfast this morning at Pienza Italian Market in the Gaylord.</b>
Morning	<p>Tour the <b>Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception</b>. Built in the Byzantine Romanesque style, the Shrine contains the world’s most extensive collection of 20<sup>th</sup>-century mosaics and an impressive array of other artwork. The Shrine is the largest Roman Catholic Church in the United States and among the largest churches in the world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Visit <b>The United States Botanic Garden</b>, a living plant museum. Exhibits interpret the role of plants in supporting earth’s diverse and fragile ecosystems and in enriching human life.</li></ul>

Established by Congress in 1820, the U.S. Botanic Garden is one of the oldest botanic gardens in North America.

- ❖ **See the outdoor train garden, enter the Conservatory and enjoy a colorful display of poinsettias and other winter-blooming tropical plants, and the National Mall in miniature, a replica created with natural plant materials.**

Lunch	Enjoy <b>lunch on own</b> and free time to shop in <b>Old Town Alexandria</b> . There are many restaurants, cafés, and eateries, to choose from. Alexandria was a once thriving seaport for the young American nation. Today it is a charming historic city with a small-town feel. The free <b>King Street Trolley</b> will take you to all of the antique shops and contemporary art galleries that line the cobblestone streets of this neighborhood
Afternoon	<b>Shop for your last minute Christmas gifts!</b> Since its beginnings as a colonial village, the people of Alexandria have brought home exotic bounty to share and sell. That world-class shopping experience continues today with unique and award-winning boutiques, arts & antiques, tasty treats and many other gifts and specialty stores that are sure to please. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The <b>Torpedo Factory Artists Studio</b> is located on the waterfront at the end of King Street, housing the workshops of many local artisans. You can watch the artists at work and make a purchase right on the premises.</li><li>• Visit <b>Christ Church</b>, a beautiful example of Georgian church architecture, dating from 1773. Silver plaques mark the pews of George Washington, who served as a vestryman, and of Robert E. Lee. <b><u>Disclaimer: Christ Church may close at any time without notice due to weddings/funerals for the members of the Parish.</u></b></li></ul>
Dinner	Enjoy <b>dinner</b> tonight at <b>Overwood Wood-Fired American Kitchen</b> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>During dinner, enjoy a guest speaker who will discuss colonial history in Alexandria, holiday traditions, and colonial culture.</b></li></ul>
Evening	Arrive at <b>Mount Vernon for a special Candlelight Tour</b> . "Mrs. Washington" hosts an enchanting evening of candlelit tours, fireside Christmas caroling, and hot cider and ginger cookies. The Mount Vernon by Candlelight tour includes the first and second floors, featuring characters from the Washingtons' world guiding visitors through the home and adding ambiance and authenticity to a traditional Christmas evening at Mount Vernon. "Mount Vernon by Candlelight" is the only time of year when the estate is open to the public for special evening tours. Mount Vernon's modern buildings include merry music and the opportunity for holiday shopping until 9 p.m. Meals: B, D

### **Day Three, Saturday, December 11, 2010**

Breakfast	Enjoy a <b>full breakfast</b> this morning at <b>Pienza Italian Market</b> in the Gaylord.
Morning	Depart with <b>GUIDE</b> . <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Take a <b>VIP</b> tour of <b>The White House (TBA)</b>. "The President's Palace," as it was called in the beginning, has been the official home of every U.S. President except George Washington. <b>Groups must acquire a White House appointment by writing to their Congressman or Senator so a previously arranged White House tour time may be scheduled. Scheduled tours may be cancelled without notice.</b> <b>Note: If entrance is denied to White House the GUIDE will take the group on a tour of monuments and memorials.</b></li><li>• Depart and drive <b>Embassy Row</b> en route to tour the <b>Washington National Cathedral</b>. After the Civil War, the powerful and socially elite built large mansions along Massachusetts Ave. After the Great Depression, many of the families who built these homes went broke. Today, the area is known as <b>Embassy Row</b>. Embassies, associations, foundations, and clubs have claimed and restored these lovely homes.</li><li>• Tour the <b>Washington National Cathedral (pending reservation acceptance and availability)</b>. In a city of impressive monuments, memorials, and historic sites, the National Cathedral is unique. Standing higher than the Washington Monument, it is the sixth largest church in the world. This 14<sup>th</sup>-Century-style Gothic wonder is situated on 57 acres and took 83 years to build. Helen Keller and Woodrow Wilson, the only President buried within Washington, DC, are interred here. It is a living symbol of our country's heritage of faith and</li></ul>

	religious freedom.
Lunch	<p>Arrive at <b>Union Station and enjoy lunch on own.</b> The city's main train station is a classic Beaux-Arts design of monumental proportions. Restored to its original grandeur in the 1980's, Union Station features a large food court, a movie theater, shops and kiosks. <b>Bus Parking fee NOT included.</b></p> <p>❖ While at <b>Union Station stop and view the Norwegian Train Exhibit.</b> Model train winds through a miniature, Norwegian winter wonderland with farms, a fishing village, churches, a ski jump and more.</p>
Afternoon	<p>Arrive at Ford's Theatre for Seating. <b>Guide drops.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See <b>A Christmas Carol</b> in historic <b>Ford's Theatre.</b> Restored, as it was the night John Wilkes Booth shot President Abraham Lincoln, Ford's is still an active theater. Visit the lower-level museum exhibiting Lincoln Memorabilia, Booth's diary and one of his boots.</li> <li>• Depart and stop by the <b>Pageant of Peace in Ellipse Park</b> across from the White House. This is the site of nightly choral performances, a Nativity scene, a burning Yule log, the <b>National Christmas Tree</b> and a spectacular display of lighted Christmas trees representing each state and territory of the United States.</li> </ul>
Dinner	<p>Enjoy <b>dinner</b> this evening at <b>Tony &amp; Joe's</b> on the waterfront in Georgetown. Begin with a garden salad with Dijon Vinaigrette. Your meal includes a fresh medley of vegetables and roasted red potatoes. You may choose the <b>(1) Maryland Style Crabcakes, (2) Atlantic Salmon Filet, (3) Chicken Marsala, (4) New York Strip Steak, or (5) Tri Colored Tortellini Seafood Alfredo with scallops and baby shrimp.</b> Dessert will be fresh fruit or Tiramisu. Coffee, Tea or Soda are included. <b>Please choose entrée upon arrival.</b></p>
Evening	<p>Depart on an illuminated monument tour of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drive by the <b>White House illuminated at night.</b></li> <li>• Drive by the <b>Capitol.</b></li> <li>• Drive by <b>The Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima Statue).</b> One of the largest bronze statues ever depicts the American Flag being raised on Mount Suribachi during World War II and commemorates all marines who have died in battle since 1775. The view from this hillside looking across the <i>Potomac</i> into Washington is spectacular.</li> <li>• Walk through <b>The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.</b> Two months after President Kennedy's assassination in November 1963, Congress designated the National Cultural Center as a "living memorial" to Kennedy, and authorized \$23 million to help build what was now known as the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.</li> <li>• <b>Drive by other sites as time permits.</b></li> </ul> <p>Meals: B, D</p>

### **Day Four, Sunday, December 12, 2010**

Breakfast	Enjoy a <b>breakfast buffet</b> at <b>Pienza Italian Market</b> in the resort this morning.
Morning	<p>Depart with <b>Guide.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stop at <b>The National World War II Memorial.</b> This <i>newest memorial</i> honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the U.S. during World War II, the more than 400,000 who died, and the millions who supported the war effort from home. Symbolic of the defining event of the 20th Century, the memorial is a monument to the spirit, sacrifice, and commitment of the American people to the common defense of the nation and to the broader causes of peace and freedom from tyranny throughout the world.</li> <li>• Stop at <b>The Vietnam Veterans Memorial.</b> This privately funded memorial has drawn millions who have come to touch the over 50,000 names, make pencil rubbings and leave flowers, letters, flags and personal mementos.</li> <li>• Stop at <b>The Lincoln Memorial,</b> overlooking the Reflecting Pool, was patterned on a classic Greek temple. Inside, inscriptions from his Gettysburg Address and Second Inaugural Address flank the 19-foot marble statue of our 16th President.</li> <li>• Stop at <b>The Korean War Veterans Memorial.</b> The triangular field contains nineteen ground troopers, clad in foul weather ponchos, fully equipped for battle. Representing those who supported the ground troops are hundreds of faces etched on a polished granite wall.</li> </ul>

- Drive by the **Air Force Memorial** built on a hillside overlooking the **Pentagon**. The memorial is bold and graceful and truly representational of the Air Force. Central to the design are three stainless steel spires which soar skyward. The highest of the spires ascends 270' above the 3-acre elevated promontory site. Other key elements of the Memorial include a bronze Honor Guard, inscription walls, and an open glass Chamber of Contemplation, all landscaped to create a park and parade ground overlooking the nation's capital.
  - Drive by the **Pentagon**.
- Lunch Enjoy **lunch on your own** at the **Old Post Office Pavilion**, a splendid example of Romanesque architecture, crowned by a 315-foot clock tower. This former headquarters of the Postal Service, now restored, houses federal offices, restaurants, shops and boutiques, and an elegant courtyard. Ride the glass elevator through the nine-story atrium to a spectacular view of the city's skyline and to the tower's bell chamber!
- Afternoon Tour **Hillwood Museum and Gardens at Christmas! (pending reservations acceptance. Hillwood is not guaranteed).**  
 ❖ **During the Holiday season Hillwood displays their 19<sup>th</sup> century holiday decorations that are a take-off from *The Nutcracker*. These decorations will take your breath away!**  
 The mansion is the former home of cereal heiress Marjorie Merriweather Post and features one of the most comprehensive collections of eighteenth and nineteenth-century Russian Imperial art outside of Russia, as well as an extensive collection of eighteenth-century French decorative arts. Highlights include a diamond crown worn by Empress Alexandra at her marriage to Nicholas II; Beauvais tapestries designed by François Boucher; two Imperial Easter eggs by Carl Fabergé; *La Nuit* by William-Adolphe Bouguereau; and a collection of costumes and accessories worn by Mrs. Post or her family. The greenhouse and formal gardens are set among 25 acres of wooded hillsides located in the heart of Washington, D.C.
- Return to the resort to rest and relax.
- Dinner Evening Enjoy free time and **dinner on own** this evening.  
 Bring a little twinkle to your holidays at the **24<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Festival of Lights at Watkins Regional Park**. Don't miss this spectacular holiday drive-through event of more than one million twinkling lights! This year's Festival features fun new displays, including Santa flying a helicopter and driving a fire truck.
- Visit the **Washington DC's Temple Visitor's Center's Festival of Lights** to see a live nativity scene, listen to a **live musical performance\***, and experience over 250,000 lights and tree displays from around the world. Tens of thousands of lights adorn the grounds of this Oz-like temple looming above the skyline.
  - Enjoy a **Live Musical Performance** in the Visitor's Center's auditorium.
- Meals: B

### Day Five, Monday, December 13, 2010

- Breakfast Enjoy a **full breakfast** at **Pienza Italian Market** prior to checking out. **Baggage** handling included.  
**Baggage** handling included. **Note: Baggage will be picked up prior to departure. Please leave bags you wish picked up by bellman inside your room two hours before departure. Make sure only those bags you wish picked up by the bellman are inside the door, keeping those items and carry-on bags needed (toiletry etc.) in separated area.**
- Morning Enjoy the amazing holiday display **ICE!** Unforgettable holiday memories at Gaylord National Resort. **ICE** Is a walk-through life-size winter wonderland sculpted entirely of 2 million pounds of ice.
- Depart for Charlottesville, VA.
  - Check in to the **Courtyard Charlottesville North. Baggage handling is included.**
- Lunch Enjoy **lunch on own** at the Woodgrill Buffet or Ruby Tuesdays located beside the hotel.
- Afternoon Arrive at the **University of Virginia**. Meet **Thomas Jefferson** at the **Lawn entrance** of the **Rotunda**.
- Jefferson's architectural talents are evident in the classic beauty of the **University of Virginia**. He patterned the **Rotunda** in his original "**Academical Village**" after the Roman Pantheon, and is still the focal point of the grounds.

Evening/Dinner Catch the **shuttle to the house:**

- Take a **candlelight tour** of **Monticello**, the mountaintop home of Thomas Jefferson. The house is a remarkable integration of classical architecture and modern innovation designed by Jefferson and built on the mountain top where he had played as a boy. Mr. Jefferson named his home Monticello, meaning *Little Mountain* and always used the Italian pronunciation of Monticello (*mon-ti-chel-oh*). We'll also visit the spectacular Gardens and Mulberry Row, the plantation "street" along which Monticello slaves lived and labored.
  - Enjoy a **private dinner** this evening at **Monticello. Menu TBA.**
- Meals: B, D

### **Day Six, Tuesday, December 14, 2010**

Breakfast Enjoy a **full breakfast** at the hotel prior to checking out. **Baggage handling is included.**  
Morning Depart for home.  
Meals: B

## **From \$899.00 per person Double Occupancy**

**Minimum 30. Numbers below subject to price increase.  
30 paid + 1 comp in single occupancy or higher.**

**Prices are Net, Non-Commissionable.  
Based on availability and pricing at time of reservations.  
All proposals are subject to change.  
Rates may be adjusted based on fuel surcharges, tax change(s),  
and/or currency exchange rate changes(s).**

**Tour includes:** 5 nights accommodations, 5 breakfasts, 3 dinners (including one in Monticello), baggage handling, Show at Ford's Theatre, ICE Tickets, admissions and guide service as stated in the itinerary, taxes and gratuity, **and gratuity is not included for Guide Service.**

MARS is a wholesale operator that offers competitive pricing at NET, Non-commissionable rates which are based on cash transactions. Credit card, individual payment processing, and credit card transactions may be quoted upon request.

All itineraries are subject to change. Every attempt will be made to include all sites mentioned within this itinerary. At times, circumstances beyond our control such as lines, traffic, closures, weather and late arrivals can severely restrict timing and cause items to be excluded. All timing, except scheduled appointments, is approximate. It is strongly suggested that the timed itinerary be utilized by the driver, escort, and/or group leader and guide only. We suggest that more general itineraries be supplied to the tour participants. Mid Atlantic assumes no liability for itinerary exclusions, or guarantees that all sites be visited within the itinerary.

Any cash stipends included in tours are at the sole risk of the client and any cash stipends that are not delivered, lost, stolen or in any way misplaced or missing will not be the responsibility of Mid Atlantic and will not be reimbursed. Mid Atlantic assumes not risk in the shipping or handling in any way of cash stipends. Mid Atlantic discourages utilizing cash stipends on any and all tours.

**Note:** At times Restaurant menus may change at the discretion of the Restaurant Management. These circumstances are beyond the control of Mid-Atlantic Receptive Services. Mid-Atlantic will notify the client of any changes that occur.

FL405 Capital Xmas and Monticello

### **Mid-Atlantic Tours & Receptive Services**

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