



C O N T A C T

Robin Mamunes or Barbara Ramos • 800-759-0886

[www.vbfun.com/ABA2008](http://www.vbfun.com/ABA2008)

Pre-Marketplace FAM Tours

Shenandoah Valley, January 30 – February 2, 2008 • All Other Virginia FAMs, January 31 – February 2, 2008

ABA VIRGINIA  
FAMILIARIZATION  
REGISTRATION

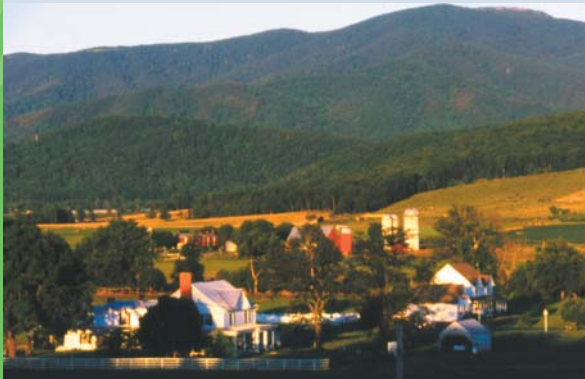
2008

Virginia   
*is for Lovers™*



## The Fabled Shenandoah Valley & Majestic Blue Ridge Mountains (FAM 1)

Picturesque fields dotted with family farms surround cozy, little towns, all accented with the spires of countless church steeples. These vistas of the land of Shenandoah reach out and touch the mountain foothills the entire 250 mile length of this storied valley. "Daughter of the Stars," Breadbasket of the Confederacy," and "The Big Valley." All these nicknames describe the valley that sweeps across the Blue Ridge and Allegheny Mountains. This region features two of the most popular scenic byways in our nation, the Blue Ridge Parkway and Skyline Drive. In addition, along the route are several world-renowned natural wonders, including Natural Bridge and the region's many caverns, among which is Luray Caverns, a U.S. Natural Landmark. Learn of the valley's prominent role during the Civil War, and how communities were changed by this conflict. Discover a region known for historic cities all highlighting Virginia mountain heritage sure to provide a daily allowance of southern hospitality.



### Wednesday, January 30, 2008

Travel to the small community of Bedford to visit the National D-Day Memorial, dedicated to the "Bedford Boys" who suffered the highest casualties with the Allied forces in this WWII invasion of France in 1944.

A short drive has our tour on the famous Blue Ridge Parkway, one of the most popular areas in the national park system. A brief stop at Mill Mountain Overlook will unveil a scenic view of the Roanoke Valley and the iconic Roanoke Star. America's nostalgic steam locomotive era is

highlighted by a visit to the Virginia Museum of Transportation in downtown Roanoke boasting one of the largest collections of rolling stock in the East.

Enjoy a captivating dinner at the renovated Norfolk & Western Railway passenger station with a private tour of the O. Winston Link Museum. Experience America's steam locomotive era through Link's acclaimed photography of the 1950s. Rail artifacts, interactive displays and films compliment the dramatic black and white photography. Meet ABA partners representing southwest Virginia.

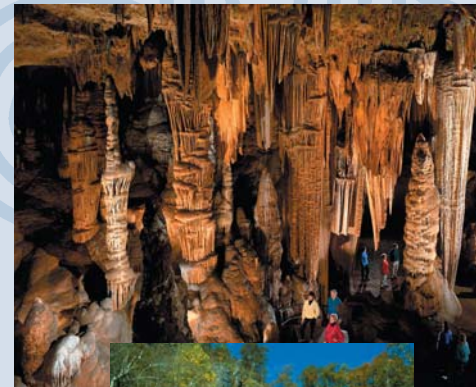
### Thursday, January 31, 2008

Depart this morning for Natural Bridge, a 175 foot tall, ancient natural wonder and Nature Park originally owned by Thomas Jefferson and surveyed by George Washington.

Nearby in the 19th century town of Lexington, visit the Stonewall Jackson House, the only home confederate General Stonewall Jackson ever owned and the General George C. Marshall Museum and Lee Chapel, the final resting place of Robert E. Lee, on the grounds of the historic Virginia Military Institute.

Driving north along one of America's most scenic interstates, I-81, we next encounter a totally different experience as we enjoy the pageantry of spectacular parade floats from famous national celebrations such as the Rose Parade and presidential inaugurations at the American Celebration on Parade.

The northern valley city of Winchester, the place that changed hands over 70 times during the Civil War, is just north along our same route. Discover the American story at the regional history museum complex at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley. The Museum will host a special dinner with ABA partners from the Northern Shenandoah Valley.



*Continued on next page*

## Friday, February 1, 2008

A world of majesty awaits beneath the Shenandoah Valley this morning at Luray Caverns, eastern America's largest and most popular caverns. Explore this US Natural Landmark from well-lighted paved walkways leading through cathedral-sized rooms with ceiling 10 stories high. (weather permitting we will drive along the Shenandoah National Park)

Add to your exploration of the Civil War in Virginia here in the legendary Shenandoah Valley at the New Market Battlefield State Historical Park where 257 Cadets from the Virginia Military Institute made the difference between victory and defeat.

A short drive through some of the Valley's scenic farmland takes you to Harrisonburg surrounded by scenic Rockingham County settled in 1737 by Thomas Harrison and grew up around several natural springs. Today, that history comes alive in Harrisonburg's historic downtown established as one of Virginia's first Cultural Arts Districts. We will enjoy a brief welcome and driving tour of Harrisonburg.

Just south along I-81 is beautifully restored "Main Street" town of Staunton. A visit to the Frontier Culture Museum features four unique, historic farms that illustrate the heritage of Europeans who settled throughout the Shenandoah Valley and the blending of those cultures into America.

While in Staunton, experience the life and legacy of Woodrow Wilson, our 28th President at his birthplace and Presidential Library. Dinner this evening will be downtown among the architecturally-rich variety of shops and restaurants. Enjoy a performance at the American Shakespeare Center's Blackfriars Playhouse, an internationally-acclaimed company that performs Shakespeare's works in the world's only recreation of his prized indoor theatre.

## Saturday, February 2, 2008

This morning depart the rolling patchwork of farm fields and the vistas of Shenandoah for the sandy shores at Virginia Beach.



## Virginia's Presidential Homes of Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Davis (FAM 2)

Central Virginia holds a span of Virginia's rich history. It's where America's great leaders made their imprint, from Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe to Jefferson Davis. Journey back in time for a glimpse into the lives of our founding fathers. Along the way you'll savor fine food, award winning wine and explore your artistic side.

### Thursday, January 31, 2008

Arrive in the capitol city of Richmond and tour the White House of the Confederacy, Confederate States of America President Jefferson Davis' executive mansion (1861-1865), which has been beautifully restored to its wartime appearance.

Drive down Monument Avenue, one of America's most beautiful boulevards. It is the only street in the United States that is a National Historic Landmark.

Explore the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, known for their remarkable permanent collections of more than twenty thousand works of art from almost every major world culture. Marvel at the largest display of Fabergé Russian Imperial Eggs outside of Russia.

Travel to Montpelier, the lifelong home of the Father of the Constitution, architect of the Bill of Rights and the fourth President of the United States, (1809-1817), James Madison. Experience the unparalleled restoration returning the mansion to its original size, structure, form, and furnishings to the home that James and Dolly Madison knew in the 1820s.

Enjoy an elegant array of award winning Virginia wines in a setting that CNN.com has hailed as "Virginia's most scenic winery" at Barboursville Vineyards.

### Friday, February 1, 2008

Get an intimate look at the extraordinary house that the third President of the United States (1801-1809), Thomas Jefferson built and furnished for himself and his family at Monticello. See the unique collection of antique books, artifacts, inventions, art, furnishings, and plantation landscapes that reveal Jefferson's unique mind.

Visit Ash Lawn-Highland the historic house museum and 535-acre working farm of America's fifth President of the United States (1817-1825), and the fourth Virginian to hold the office, James Monroe. Get an authentic view of nineteenth-century life through examples of Early American and Victorian architecture, decorative arts and craft demonstrations.

Michie Tavern (c. 1784) features hearty mid-day fare offered by servers in period attire in a rustic tavern setting. Michie Tavern has welcomed travelers for more than 200 years.

Travel to Thomas Jefferson's private retreat, Poplar Forest. This octagonal house, which is currently undergoing award-winning restoration, is today considered to be the culmination of Mr. Jefferson's architectural genius.

Take a guided tour of Old City Cemetery and Arboretum in Lynchburg to get an overview of this 200-year-old rehabilitated public cemetery and noted 19th century arboretum.

Dine at Historic Sandusky. The home was used as Union headquarters during the 1864 Battle of Lynchburg and the yard and barn as a field hospital. Thomas Jefferson was an occasional guest at Sandusky.

### Saturday, February 2, 2008

On your way to Virginia Beach, stop in Richmond and experience the recently renovated Virginia State Capitol, designed by Thomas Jefferson, home to America's oldest continuous representative assembly, before returning to Virginia Beach.



## Eastern Shore — Chesapeake City, A Coastal Paradise and Unexpected Pleasures (FAM 3)

The Eastern Shore specializes in “Boutique Tours,” smaller, more intimate tours that allow visitors to revel in the scenic beauty and relaxed island pace.

Share in the secrets of this rural peninsula tucked between the broad waters of the Chesapeake Bay and the great Atlantic Ocean. Discover hidden hamlets, fascinating coastal history, and a vital arts community. “Drink in” the Eastern Shore at its wineries and taste the bay’s bounty with fresh fare from the tides seafood.

Find yourself tempted by a host of tour offerings from historic to natural to sporty to fun in the city of Chesapeake. Situated within easy reach of Virginia resort beaches and award-winning amusement parks, acclaimed museums and the birthplace of our country, Chesapeake is the perfect home base for your group tours!

### Thursday, January 31, 2008

Cross over to Virginia’s Eastern Shore via the 17 mile Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel, an engineering marvel of the modern world.

Visit the Eastern Shore Wildlife Refuge’s Visitor Center, where you will meet with an eco-tour operator about exclusive group kayaking tours, including the seaside barrier islands and the only winery-kayak tour in the country.

From seaside to bayside, it’s over to Kiptopeke State Park to tour one of the five new lodges that sleep 16 each, in walking distance to the beach, fishing pier, bike and hiking trails through old growth maritime forests.

Pull into the Victorian town of Cape Charles to meet the mayor of this bayside beauty. Savor Miss Roberta’s famed Eastern Shore scones at the stunning Cape Charles Coffee House, once a popular men’s haberdashery in the glory days of the railroad. Tour the historic downtown and the new Bay Creek Resort and Club.

Travel north to the Barrier Island Center for a tour of a most unusual museum located on the county’s original Poor House Farm. Through extraordinary artifacts and photos, hear the story of the stalwart individuals who once called these shifting sands home.

Hear from Broadwater Bay Ecotours about how your groups can motor out on a refitted oyster monitor boat into this hidden *water-meets-the-sky* world.

Savor the Shore with a wine tasting from the Eastern Shore’s vineyards and lunch at the charming Eastville Inn.

Travel to the Colonial port of Onancock. Visit the Charlotte Hotel boutique hotel and restaurant, and hear all about the Community Theater, shops, and activities. You will meet a Tangier Islander, who will tell you about one of the last remaining working watermen’s hamlet in the heart of the Chesapeake Bay and the boat tours that will take you from Onancock there.

Island Time! On to Chincoteague Island for a seafood dinner, fresh from the docks. Meet local artists and craftsmen who will display their creations while a decoy carver tells you island tales and showcases the rich history of decoys.



### Friday, February 1, 2008

Enjoy breakfast on the coach and a driving tour of Assateague Island before departing Virginia’s Eastern Shore for the mainland.

Arrive Chesapeake and visit Portlock Galleries at SoNo, housed in a historic school house, featuring unique art exhibitions throughout the year.

After lunch, spend the afternoon with the “Stars” at the Sky Theater in the Chesapeake Planetarium, where more than 50,000 students and adults visit each year to view their unique, educational programs.

Explore by coach Chesapeake’s first “central gathering point” TownePlace at Greenbrier, featuring unique restaurants, upscale retail shops and a large outdoor plaza for outside dining and concerts. We’ll check out the first of its kind, Simply Culinary, where you’ll see chefs in action – a true culinary experience.

Enjoy a wine and cheese reception at a circa 1730’s farm house.

Located at the Chesapeake Arboretum, you’ll discover the educational opportunities at this 47-acre garden dedicated to promoting horticultural and environmental awareness through displays, education and research.

While dining, learn about the Battle of Great Bridge. Colonial forces fought on December 9, 1775, against British Crown forces. This defeat led to the British evacuation of Norfolk and later the whole colony.

### Saturday, February 2, 2008

On your last day, explore by coach a portion of the Dismal Swamp Canal Trail which parallels a historic landmark – the Dismal Swamp Canal and the Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. Surveyed by George Washington’s Land Company and hand dug by slaves, you’ll learn of the vital role that the canal and the refuge played as part of the Underground Railroad, the unique eco system and habitats before returning to Virginia Beach.

## Virginia's Historic Triangle — Safari Through History (FAM 4)



Imagine yourself as a time traveler going back to the 17th century to Jamestown. Safari through history to the Colonial period and experience Colonial Williamsburg. Then onto Yorktown where American Independence was won. Travel forward in time to the Civil War-era sites in Newport News, your final stop before returning to the 21st century where you will meet representatives from Busch Gardens Europe and Water Country USA who will present a preview of what's new in the park.

### Thursday, January 31, 2008

Experience **Historic Jamestowne**, site of America's first permanent English Settlement established in

1607. View excavations, visit the Archaerium and watch as costumed craftsmen demonstrate the 17th-century art of glassblowing.

Explore **Jamestown Settlement**, the recreation of America's first permanent English settlement. Visit the new Galleries featuring the World of 1607, showcasing the three cultures that formed our nation, the English, the Indians and the African cultures.

Tour **Colonial Williamsburg**, where history comes to life. Visitors can learn about a variety of colonial activities by visiting the shops of the 18th Century trades people.

Feast on a fabulous dinner while experiencing an extraordinary evening of fun and exotic entertainment by the world's "Most Beautiful Theme Park," Busch Gardens Europe and one of America's "Favorite Water Parks," Water Country USA, where representatives present a preview of what's new in the parks.

### Friday, February 1, 2008

Arrive at **Yorktown Battlefield and Visitors Center** and see where American Independence was won during the American Revolutionary War.

Learn about America's struggle for independence. Historical interpreters depict the daily life of people during the Revolution in outdoor recreations at **Yorktown Victory Center**.

Journey to Newport News for lunch and a tour of the **The Mariners' Museum**, one of the largest and most comprehensive maritime history museums in the world. See the turret of the Civil War ironclad **USS Monitor** in the new **USS Monitor Center**.

Visit the **Virginia Living Museum**, where you'll explore the underwater world of the Chesapeake Bay, the underground realm of a limestone cave, a cypress swamp and a mountain cove.

Prepare for an engaging evening at **The Boxwood Inn**, whose specialty is "dinnertainments."

### Saturday, February 2, 2008

Step back in time at **Lee Hall Mansion**. It is the only large mid-nineteenth century plantation house remaining on Virginia's Lower Peninsula, which served as the headquarters for Confederate Troops during the spring of 1862.

Visit historic **Endview Plantation** which has witnessed momentous events in American history before returning to Virginia Beach.



## Northern Trails and Tales With a Southern Twist (FAM 5)

This tour takes us along the rambling roads of the unspoiled Northern Neck to the hustle and bustle of Northern Virginia, neighbor to our Nation's capitol. You'll meet legendary heroes such as George Washington and Robert E. Lee, as we visit plantation homes and walk in their footsteps in the towns they called home. If it's modern heroes you

are looking for, then the visit to the new National Museum of the Marine Corps will spark your patriotism. Join us for a memorable journey. You'll be glad you did!



### Thursday, January 31, 2008

Visit **Stratford Hall**, the birthplace of legendary Civil War General, Robert E. Lee and boy-

hood home of Richard Henry Lee and Francis Lightfoot Lee, both signers of the Declaration of Independence. A wonderful plantation lunch awaits you in the rustic dining room.

Explore Alexandria, "The Fun Side of the Potomac" on a walking tour of this historic seaport city with a guide in full colonial garb. Then it's off to Gadsby's Tavern for a journey back into the 18th century, dinner and a mini-tradeshow of all that Alexandria has to offer.

### Friday, February 1, 2008

Rediscover George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens. Tour the exciting new Ford Orientation Center as well as the new Reynolds Museum and Education Center where 25 new theaters and galleries tell the detailed story of George Washington's life. More than 500 original artifacts, eleven History Channel videos and immersion theater experiences illuminate the remarkable story of the first American hero.

The National Museum of the Marine Corps is a lasting tribute to U.S. Marines — past, present and future. The museum's soaring design evokes the image of the flag raisers of Iwo Jima and beckons visitors to its 100,000 square foot structure. Follow in the footsteps of Marines: from the yellow footprints that young recruits must fill at boot camp to the boot prints left in the sand of Pacific Island beaches during World War II, in the snow during the Korean War and on Hill 881 South in Vietnam.



Explore by coach the quaint Old Town of Fredericksburg, Virginia. Known for its Colonial and Civil War history, your guide will bring to life the events that shaped the town forever. Ride among more than 350 original 18th- and 19th-century buildings in the 40-block National Historic District. Cover the same ground where great armies under Generals Lee and Grant clashed. Discover Old Town with its delightful mix of antique shops, boutiques and restaurants, all independently owned.

Spend your evening at the Riverside Dinner Theater in Fredericksburg, where you will experience a classic Broadway musical, "Thoroughly Modern Millie," in a state-of-the-art dinner theater. Guests enjoy a choice of four gourmet entrees served at your table. Seating 452 guests, this is Virginia's largest and newest dinner theater.

### Saturday, February 2, 2008

Depart Fredericksburg for Virginia Beach.

## Southern Virginia — It's What Makes Your Heart Race! (FAM 6)

In Southern Virginia, your heart's bound to fall for fast cars, regional cuisine, stunning architecture, outdoor pleasures, and a history that mirrors the national experience with a local twist – and a good 'ol dose of southern hospitality thrown in for good measure.

Feel the heartbreaks and heartbeats from the drama brought to the region during the American Civil War. From historic Pamplin Park, a premier Civil War destination, to Danville, the last Capital of the Confederacy, you'll bear witness to important vestiges of this national tragedy.

The region's pulse runs deep, as it is known as Virginia's Racing Region, with NASCAR classics such as the Martinsville Speedway and the South Boston Speedway. Then it's on to Virginia International Raceway, where drivers turn right and left, for an entirely different racing experience before heading back to Virginia Beach.



### Thursday, January 31, 2008

Visit Pamplin Historical Park & The National Museum of the Civil War Soldier. Take a guided tour through the Petersburg defenses where the Breakthrough Battle occurred on April 2, 1865. Lunch at the Hardtack & Coffee Café located on this 422-acre historic park.

Arrive in South Boston for a whimsical view of Bob Cage's Sculpture Farm. A trip to South Boston just isn't complete without a stop at The Prizery for a quick viewing of the Crossing at the Dan display.

Where else can you find a plethora of flamethrowers, tanks, machine guns, and enough military paraphernalia to suit even the most military minded tourist? The AAF Tank Museum will open their doors for a private glimpse into the most extensive international collection of tank and cavalry artifacts in the world.

End the evening with a tour of the beautifully restored North Theater – a 1947 facility originally planned as Virginia's finest movie house. Step next door for a wonderful culinary dining experience at Intermission.



### Friday, February 1, 2008

Enjoy a delightful period breakfast served by hosts and hostesses in period attire at the Sutherlin Mansion, home of the Last Capital of the Confederacy.

Enjoy a downtown Danville driving tour, home of the Gibson Girl and Millionaire's Row made famous by tobacco heritage.

Visit the Crossing at the Dan, Danville's own entertainment complex and the recently expanded Danville Science Museum for a treat before departing to Martinsville.

The Martinsville Speedway will next set the pace where you will literally experience laps around one of NASCAR's smallest tracks – and oldest too (over 60 years old) that was used during NASCAR's

inaugural season in 1948. The track is known for its 800-ft. straights and turns banked at only 12 degrees.

Lunch at Clarence's Restaurant for down-home Southern style cookin' with "food so great, you'll scrape the plate" – a favorite of the NASCAR teams when in town for the Nextel Cup Races.

Piedmont Arts offers exhibitions from local to international in scope, the museum is a partner of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and has played an important role in the cultural life of Martinsville and Henry County for more than forty years.

Visit one of the state's most extensive collections of natural and cultural history at the Virginia Museum of Natural History. With more than 22 million items in its collections, the museum offers an extraordinary interactive and walk-through experience.

Watch artisans at work in the Southern Virginia Artisan Center and peruse the shop's wide variety of fine local-made arts and crafts. Artisans are representative of the region's artistic heritage.

Travel to Virginia International Raceway, country campus setting for high-energy performance racing. Round out the evening celebrating with cars, cuisine and cards.

### Saturday, February 2, 2008

Depart for Virginia Beach.

# ABA 2008 PRE-MARKETPLACE FAM TOURS REGISTRATION FORM

- Please make copies of this form and complete for each person registering for a tour.
- Tours are open to all ABA Marketplace registered Buyers.
- Maximum of two people per company per tour.
- Registrations will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Tour space is limited.
- All tours will run regardless of number of participants.
- FAM arrival and departure details will be discussed with each participant on a one to one basis.
- Confirmations will be sent to FAM tour participants upon receipt of registration form and registration fee.

**SIGN ME UP!** PLEASE CHECK OFF YOUR FIRST AND SECOND CHOICES: Please make your travel arrangements only upon receipt of FAM confirmation.

- \_\_\_ **Pre FAM #1** — Shenandoah Valley: The Fabled Shenandoah Valley & Majestic Blue Ridge Mountains  
\_\_\_ **Pre FAM #2** — Central Virginia: Virginia's Presidential Homes of Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Davis  
\_\_\_ **Pre FAM #3** — Eastern Shore-Chesapeake: A Coastal Paradise and Unexpected Pleasures  
\_\_\_ **Pre FAM #4** — Historic Triangle: Safari Through History: Williamsburg-Jamestown-Yorktown-Newport News  
\_\_\_ **Pre FAM #5** — Northern Virginia: Northern Trails and Tales with a Southern Twist  
\_\_\_ **Pre FAM #6** — Southern Virginia: It's What Makes Your Heart Race!

**ARRIVAL into Virginia Beach for Shenandoah Valley FAM #1 only:** \_\_\_ January 29, 2008

**ARRIVAL into Virginia Beach for all other FAMS #2-6:** \_\_\_ January 30, 2008

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

e-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

#### CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

\_\_\_ Non-Smoking Room    \_\_\_ One Bed    \_\_\_ Two Beds    \_\_\_ Handicapped Accessible  
\_\_\_ Dietary Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

#### FEES:

\$75.00 per Motorcoach/Buyer delegate & guest

Please make checks payable to ABA. Participant's fee will be refunded upon completion of FAM tour.

No cancellations or refunds will be given after a reservation confirmation is sent to attendee by the FAM tour committee.

#### TO REGISTER:

By fax: Send to Barbara Ramos, fax #804-545-5501

Online: Go to [www.vbfun.com/ABA2008](http://www.vbfun.com/ABA2008) or [www.buses.org/marketplace](http://www.buses.org/marketplace)

Make checks payable: to American Bus Association (please reference ABA Pre-FAM)

MAIL a copy of your registration form with your check, payable to ABA, to:

Barbara Ramos  
Virginia Tourism Corporation  
901 E. Byrd Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

**Registration Deadline:**

**FRIDAY  
DECEMBER 14,  
2007**

**Register now!**