

★ NATIONAL HARBOR ★



① Shopping Galore.

Tanger Outlets, opened November 2013, offers access to more than 85 brands that sell clothing, accessories, footwear, home furnishings and other specialty items, including Coach, Banana Republic, Nike, Steve Madden, Gap, and many more. In addition to the Tanger Outlets, there are many boutiques along the waterfront that sell everything from artwork and jewelry to handcrafted chocolate and organic bath products.

TOP 10 THINGS TO SEE, DO, AND EXPERIENCE



Just 15 minutes from downtown Washington, D.C., National Harbor is a premier destination stretching across the scenic Potomac River. Before National Harbor officially opened in 2008, it was the site of a plantation in the 1800's. The plantation home eventually was burned down and the land was sold many years later to make way for exciting new development in the metropolitan D.C. area. Though National Harbor has a community of only 3,788 residents, it attracts more than 12 million visitors each year, making it a popular destination for tourists and Maryland residents alike. This 300 acre city, which boasts the largest hotel in the Washington D.C. area, is bustling with entertainment, arts, and culture. During your visit make sure to check out these Top 10 attractions in National Harbor, Maryland.



③ Great Eats.

National Harbor has more than 25 different restaurants and there is definitely something for every taste. There are many great steakhouses like McCormick & Schmick's and Old Hickory's. National Harbor also offers Thai, Italian, Mexican, and Portuguese restaurants. If you are looking for fast fresh food, make sure to check out Freshii and Baja Fresh. Don't forget to indulge your sweet tooth at Pinkberry frozen yogurt and Cake Love, a bakery started by Food Network host Warren Brown.



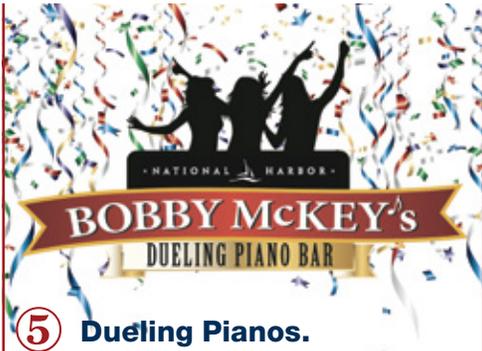
② Take a ride on the Capital Wheel.

The Capital Wheel, which opened May 2014, offers one of kind views 167 feet above Washington D.C. A ride on the observation wheel costs \$15 and offers priceless views of the White House, national monuments, and Prince George's County. Each seat, called a gondola, has room for eight people, so make sure to bring a few friends too!



④ Visit the Plaza.

Enjoy the free summer events at National Harbor's Plaza! On Sunday evenings, bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy movies on the Potomac. Want to hear great music from up and coming bands? Make sure to enjoy the Summer Music Series on Friday nights. If you are feeling like you have some energy to burn, lace up your gym shoes and enjoy waterfront fitness on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights with local guest instructors from WillPower Functional Fitness.



5 Duelling Pianos.

Catch a show at Bobby McKey's Piano Bar, DC's first and only dueling piano bar. Teams of 2-4 piano players compete against each other nightly in a unique competition that involves audience participation. Audience members give random song requests and each team competes to see who performed it better. It is like nothing you have every experienced and is a must see at National Harbor.



8 Unleash your Inner Child.

National Harbor Children's Museum is cultural and educational hub that inspires children and adults to care about and improve the world. In 2003, Congress designated it the only national museum focused on children. The museum programs and exhibits focus on the six following tenets: the arts, civic engagement, environment, global citizenship, health and well being, and play.



10

Relax and Refresh.

After a long day of shopping and sightseeing, visit Relache Spa, located in the Gaylord National Resort. Named one of the "Top 100 Spas of America" in 2011, Relache, which means take a break in French, offers a relaxation lounge with views of the river. Pamper yourself with a massage, facial, or any of the other luxurious services this spa offers.



6 Cruise the River.

National Harbor offers many ways to see the River. If you are looking for an in depth tour, consider sightseeing cruise where you can experience the beauty and learn about the history and landmarks of Washington D.C. and Prince George County. You can also take a water taxi to various stops along the river, including Washington. D.C.



9 Get Adventurous.

Rent a pedal boat or kayak to get an up-close perspective of the Potomac River at one of the three marinas off of National Harbor. SJ Koch does private electric boat rentals for up to 10 people that you get to drive on your own, after taking a 45 minute training course.



For the latest on National Harbor, visit their website at: nationalharbor.com



7 Experience Art.

National Harbor is home to many art galleries that host free gallery showings. They also have lots of public art including the Awakening Sculpture. The Awakening is a 70-foot statue of a man struggling to free himself from the Earth that is embedded in the ground. The Awakening was originally installed in Hains Point, Washington D.C., before being moved to National Harbor.



Kandice Cole, a University of Chicago alumna, is author of the blog, Vulnerability is Sexy. Her writing has been featured on Bentlyly, Roots of She, Young Luxe Mom and Wild Sister Magazine, to name a few. She can be reached at vulnerabilityissexy@gmail.com