VISIT DC NOW

The Smart Traveler's DC Checklist

Packing & Planning — print me, check me off, stick me on the fridge

BEFORE YOU GO — BOOK AHEAD

- [ ] Museum timed-entry tickets *most Smithsonians are free but need a slot*
- [ ] White House / Capitol tour requests *book weeks ahead — they sell out*
- [ ] SmarTrip card loaded *or the SmarTrip app on your phone*
- [ ] Hotel confirmation saved *screenshot it — cell service gets crushed downtown*
- [ ] Flight / Amtrak confirmation
- [ ] Restaurant reservations *Old Ebbitt, Founding Farmers — book ahead*
- [ ] Event / tour tickets *night tours, Nats game, Kennedy Center*

DOCUMENTS & MONEY

- [ ] Photo ID / driver's license
- [ ] Health insurance card
- [ ] Credit + debit cards *notify your bank you're traveling*
- [ ] Cash ($50–100 small bills) *tips, food trucks, Metro machines*
- [ ] Travel insurance details

★ Smart Traveler Tip
Screenshot your mobile tickets — cell service gets crushed on the Mall on busy days.

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Daily essentials, photo gear & emergency info

■ DAILY ESSENTIALS

- [ ] Broken-in walking shoes *you'll do 15,000+ steps a day*
- [ ] Refillable water bottle *free refill stations in most museums*
- [ ] Sunscreen + sunglasses *the Mall has zero shade*
- [ ] Portable phone charger
- [ ] Light jacket or layers *museums blast the AC*
- [ ] Small daypack *must fit through security scanners*

■ PHOTO GEAR

- [ ] Phone / camera + charger
- [ ] Power bank (fully charged)
- [ ] Extra memory card
- [ ] Selfie stick / mini tripod *check each site's rules first*

✚ EMERGENCY INFO — FILL IN

Emergency contact: _____

Hotel name + address: _____

Nearest hospital: _____

★ **Smart Traveler Tip**

The best free views in DC: sunrise at the Lincoln Memorial, sunset at the Tidal Basin.