VIRGINIA CENTRAL

DID YOU KNOW?
Athlete, physician, civil rights activist, philanthropist and tennis advocate – these are just a few of the civic accomplishments of Dr. Robert Walter “Whirled” Johnson. He was the first Black doctor to receive staff privileges at Lynchburg General Hospital. And because of the segregation served up on white-owned tennis courts, Johnson built his own courts and supported young players – including Arthur Ashe and Althea Johnson, the first Black man and woman to win Wimbledon.

INSTAGRAM-WORTHY
Your hopes for a photo op will climb as you make the ascent to Stone Mountain Vineyards. Situated 3,700 feet high in the foothills of the Blue Ridge, the tasting room gives away free, soul-refreshing views that stretch uninterrupted over Virginia’s Piedmont. The vineyard takes advantage of the location, too, since the steep mountain slopes prevent vine damage from spring frost and summer humidity. You’ll appreciate this distinction as you sip the delightful wines and snap awe-inspiring pics.

ASK A LOCAL
“What I love about my region is taking friends from elsewhere who have always heard about the Blue Ridge Mountains to see them. We visit one of the many wineries with breathtaking views of our ridges, and people are amazed by how blue they really are! They immediately fall in LOVE with Virginia!” – Okhu Beach, Lock ‘N’ Music Festival

BUCKET LIST
Picture whitewater rafting and you probably envision rivers far from a big city. Not so with the James River, which flows right through downtown Richmond. It spills over ancient rocks and challenging rapids to offer natural class III and IV whitewater rafting. Given the forested banks and wildlife cameos – including bald eagles and great blue herons – you might forget you’re in the city. But afterwards, you’ll enjoy being mere minutes from restaurants, breweries and a multitude of urban conveniences.

NOTABLE NEIGHBORHOOD
Previously overlooked despite a rich history and contemporary gems, Old Towne Petersburg has revived its image to the benefit of residents and visitors alike. Bustling businesses occupy historic buildings, showing off a wealth of architecture – virtually every popular style of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Diverse local restaurants, antique shops, boutiques, craft shops and the award-winning Trapezium Brewing all call Old Towne home. Need a celebrity rec? Steven Spielberg filmed much of his award-winning “Lincoln” movie here!

HIDDEN GEM
The phoenix has soared from the ashes, transforming a deserted quarry to a natural marvel: The Quarry Gardens at Schuyler. Soapstone was mined here between the 1950s and 1970s, then the property became a dumpsite. After years of clean-up by man and Mother Nature – and the reintroduction of native plants, the Quarry Gardens offers trails, pollinator gardens, wetlands, multiple diverse plant communities, and a visitor center with exhibits on local flora and ecosystems and on the soapstone industry.

WHAT’S NEW
The Civil Rights in Education Heritage Trail® now covers 53 sites throughout 14 counties. Learn of powerful, under- and untold stories of what life was like for African Americans, Native Americans and women fighting for an education in the early days of this country. Walk in the shoes of real-life heroes: Maceo Conrad Martin, who fought for a state park allowing African Americans (now Twin Lakes State Park); Barbara Johns and other children at the Moton School who peacefully sought for equal rights; and many more.

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vg meets environmental standards of the virginia green program
provides printed material in braille

buses/groups welcome

pet-friendly facility

admission required

ada-compliant

offers access for people who are blind or have low vision

meets environmental standards of the virginia green program

provides assistive listening systems

provides sign language

provides descriptions by a trained audio describer

historic homes, battlefield.

804-861-2408; pamplinpark.org. America’s Civil Rights in Education Trail Stop and historic site. Historic Southside High School

14101 Boydton Plank Rd., Dinwiddie; 804-469-4500; discoverdinwiddie.com Over 500 square miles of awesome, with everything from farms to historic cemeteries by the downtown pedestrian mall.

virginia is for lovers

52 virginia is for lovers

adventure for everyone

find your own adventure on our 40 miles of urban trails, skiing year-round or kayaking the James River.

dining with a view

to the delight of foodies, innovative chefs have made LYH home, serving gourmet cuisine for all palates.

art worth the drive

our city has long been a home to passionate artists creating works for stage, street and gallery.

take our craft beer crawl

there are no shortage of ways to wet your whistle at our abundance of breweries, wineries and tasting rooms.

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lynchburgvirginia.org

all roads lead to sites of historic importance to our nation and fun places to explore our connection to the world.

use your camera phone to scan QR codes for ideas on how to spend your time with us.

our lodging, dining and retail community is wiping down surfaces, perfecting their “mask smile” and ready to help visitors feel #travelconfidently.

this is Lynchburg.

It’s not just the beautiful surroundings or bounty of adventures that make Lynchburg such a desirable destination – it’s the people who make Lynchburg the best small city in America. From the boutique owner selling her own designs, to the chef wowing diners with exciting new dishes, to the hotelier making sure the beds are cozy and warm, these are the experiences that will have you coming back time and time again.

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CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 5
Ruraline History River Water Trail 217 Pleasant Grove Dr., Palmyra; 434-589-2016; 271 Pleasant Grove Dr., Pleasant Grove House Museum 1865.

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