

Virginia Library Association 2024 Annual Conference Norfolk City Guide



Courtesy of
The 2024 VLA Conference Committee, the LGBTQIA+
Forum and the VLA Librarians of Color Forum.

Local Transportation

Paddlewheel Ferry

HRT runs three Paddlewheel Ferry boats between Waterside in Downtown Norfolk and across the Elizabeth River to Portsmouth with stops at High Street and North Landing. All HRT vehicles, except light rail, are equipped with electronic fare boxes. Fare boxes accept cash, coins and GoPasses, but cannot make change. Tickets are also available at Visit Norfolk, 232 East Main St. (across the street).
www.gohrt.com/fares

Tide Light Rail

The Tide Light Rail extends 7.4 miles from the Eastern Virginia Medical Center complex east through downtown Norfolk (the closest station is MacArthur Square) to Newtown Road at the border of Virginia Beach. Buy a trip or day pass at any Tide station vending machine (cash, credit, or debit) or online (for the Tide only) before boarding. HRT's GoPass allows you to ride all HRT vehicles as many times as you want within a single day.
www.gohrt.com/routes/light-rail/

Getting Around

F.R.E.D. (FREE RIDE EVERY DAY)

For a lift Downtown, just give F.R.E.D. a call at 757-478-7233. This FREE battery-operated, people mover is available to riders aged 8 and up Tuesday - Thursday 11AM - 8:30PM; Friday - Saturday 11AM - 11:30 PM.
www.downtownnorfolk.org/go/fred

Lime E-Scooters

It's easy to scoot! To find a Lime near you, download and open the Lime app through Google Play or the Apple App Store. Pedego Norfolk at 223 E. City Hall Ave offers electric bike rentals for downtown, trails, and beyond.



Getting There

Amtrak (NFK)

Harbor Park, lot D, 280 Park Ave. (1-mile walk or Tide stop: Harbor Park Station to MacArthur Square Station, 1 block from the Norfolk Waterside Marriott)

Three morning/early afternoon departures and three afternoon/evening arrival times. Free parking.

www.amtrak.com/stations/nfk

Bridges and Tunnels

Most bridges and tunnels are free, but rush hour traffic can be worse on the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel. The Downtown and Midtown tunnels are managed by Elizabeth River Tunnels and there is no toll plaza.

They accept E-ZPass for the lowest rates or you can register to pay-by-plate at their website: www.driveert.com. Within four days of a trip, unregistered motorists can pay at the website through “Missed A Toll” to pay online for travel expense reimbursement, not wait for a statement, or want to avoid the tolling administrative fees of a rental car company.

Parking

Norfolk Waterside Marriott On-Site Parking

Valet daily: \$20; valet hourly: \$1.50

Main Street Garage

230 E. Main St. (connected to the hotel by a walkway) Daily \$13

The garage entrance is on Atlantic St.

Nearby off-site parking includes the Waterside Garage (behind the hotel) and other downtown garages. Daily \$13
Charging stations at Waterside Garage, The Main Hotel, Fountain Park, and listed at www.norfolk.gov/442/Parking



Things To Do On Wednesday

Tours

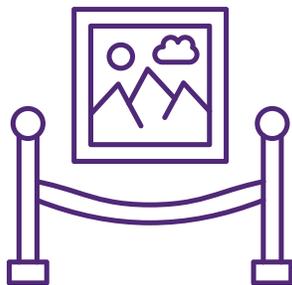
Freemason Street Baptist Church Bell Tower Tour and Noon Recital

Wednesday, 10/16/24

11:45 AM-12:30 PM - FREE

400 E. Freemason St. (.5 mile) (Tide stop: Monticello Station and .1-mile walk)

See and hear the 10-bell chime of Freemason Street Baptist Church, a building designed by Thomas Ustick Walter (architect of the dome of the US Capitol). The musician is librarian Sean Bilby. The tour includes steep steps, but the music can be enjoyed from benches outside beginning at noon. Free parking.



CHRYSLER MUSEUM DISCOUNT

Show your VLA Conference badge in the Chrysler Museum of Art gift shop and receive 10% off your purchase!

Chrysler Museum Tours

Chrysler Museum of Art

One Memorial Place. (1 mile) (Tide stop: York Street/Freemason station and .4-mile walk)

The glass studio and museum are across the street from one another and share free parking. Lunch is available at the café, Zinnia.

www.chrysler.org

Chrysler Museum of Art Perry Glass Studio

Wednesday, 10/16/24

12:00 PM-1:00 PM - FREE

With a special library theme for VLA. Public glassmaking demonstrations at noon, Tuesday- Sunday.

www.chrysler.org/glass

Museum Highlights Public Tour

Wednesday, 10/16/24

11:00 AM - 11:45 AM - FREE

See the collection of artworks from contemporary times to ancient Egypt and the world-class glass collection at the Chrysler Museum of Art.



Things To Do On Wednesday

Tours

Ohef Sholom Library & Archives and Bonk-Rivin Holocaust Collection Tour

Wednesday, 10/16/24

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM - FREE

Ohef Sholom Temple

530 Raleigh Ave. (1.4 miles) (Tide stop: EVMC/Fort Norfolk Station and .5-mile walk)

Tour the largest Judaic book collection in Hampton Roads. The synagogue's library holds over 5,000 books, including 1,400 items in the Bonk-Rivin Holocaust Collection and over 100 Holocaust-related graphic novels and comic books. The Radin Archives includes manuscripts and artifacts dating from the mid-nineteenth century. Parking lot and on-street parking. Host: David Titus.

The Slover Tour

235 E. Plume St. (1 block)

Wednesday, 10/16/24

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM - FREE

Opened in January 2015, The Slover is a unique event space and branch library. The tour includes the architecture, collections, technology, and programming. Host: Bryndis Rubin.

Sargeant Memorial Collection Highlights Tour

Wednesday, 10/16/24

3:30 PM - 4:15 PM - FREE

235 E. Plume St., 2nd Floor (1 block)

Visit Norfolk Public Library's local history & genealogy collection, one of the finest in Virginia, begun in 1927. Host: Troy Valos.

Queer History Walking Tour

Wednesday, 10/16/24

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

FREE; DONATIONS WELCOME

Experience Norfolk's LGBTQ+ history as Cathleen Rhodes, ODU Women's Studies professor and director of the Tidewater Queer History Project, leads you through Norfolk's Downtown to discover where local Queer history started and grew. Donations benefit TQHP. Meet in lobby of the Norfolk Waterside Marriott.





Walk Meet Ups

Thursday Morning Walk Meet-Up

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

Walk the Cannonball Trail - Free. Meet the organizer at the hotel's front door. The route is to St. Paul's Churchyard and to walk the historical Cannonball Trail past many historic places in downtown Norfolk. Moderate rain or shine.

Friday Morning Walk Meet-Up

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

Walk the Elizabeth River Trail - Free. Meet our ERT guide, Kendra Greene, at the hotel's front door. The route will head north on the trail where our host will informally point out some highlights, after 30 minutes make a U-turn, and walk back. Moderate rain or shine.

Music at VLA

The Norfolk Street Choir

Friday, 10/18/24

in Norfolk Ballroom 1 & 2

11:30 AM - 11:50 AM. Free.

The Norfolk Street Choir provides community and an opportunity for Norfolk's impoverished population to participate in a universally uplifting, encouraging endeavor: group singing. Robert Shoup, Founding Director.



Photo credit: The Norfolk Street Choir

Walking and Biking Tours

There are several self-guided walking tours in downtown and more than 60 miles of dedicated bike lanes and shared lane markings in Norfolk.

The Cannonball Trail

Named for the British cannonball lodged high in the church wall, this trail starts at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. It winds along the shoreline of the Elizabeth River and through the districts of downtown Norfolk. Allow two hours to walk the entire trail of 40 sites or just take in a few of the principal attractions.
www.visitnorfolk.com/attraction/the-cannonball-trail

The Elizabeth River Trail

A 10.5 mile-long urban walking and bike trail stretching from Norfolk State University, through Town Point Park along the Cannonball Trail, and continuing along the Elizabeth River ending at the Hermitage Museum and Garden.
www.elizabethrivertrail.org

Queer History Walking Tour of Norfolk

Follow the LGBTQ+-themed tour developed by 2017 Old Dominion University students in Cathleen Rhodes's Queer Studies course and the Tidewater Queer History Project. Use Google Maps to navigate.
www.sites.wp.odu.edu/queerwalkingtour

Waterways to Freedom

A compelling self-guided tour that honors Norfolk's proud participation in the Underground Railroad Network. In the early half of the 19th Century, tens of thousands of enslaved African Americans used local waters to escape north to freedom.
www.issuu.com/visitnorfolk/docs/undergroundrailroad





Things to Do in Norfolk

Walking, eating, and seeing the sights are all popular in Norfolk. Go to www.visitnorfolk.com for the latest in sports, arts & entertainment, family, cultural events and places of interest including restaurants, breweries, BBQ, seafood, dinner and DJ night harbor cruises, museums, theatre, a list of Black-owned businesses, and more. Visitor information and gift shop located at 232 East Main Street.



Things To Do In Norfolk

Bookstores

Eleanor's Norfolk

806 Baldwin Ave #1

Open Wed - Fri, 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM,
Sat and Sun hours vary.

Local intersectional feminist bookstore and bottle shop that also acts as a safe space for community activism, engagement, and learning.
www.eleanorsnfk.com

House of Consciousness Bookstore

633 W 35th St.

This local bookstore is a refuge for lost history, ancient cultures, and revived movements. It is a ritual shop, health emporium, art gallery, classroom, temple, and has an all-vegan restaurant, Jikoni Café.
www.hocbookstore.com

Local Heroes Comics

1905 Colonial Ave.

Open Mon - Sat, 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Sun, 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Local comic shop.

www.localheroescomics.com

Prince Books

109 Main St.

Open Mon - Sat, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Sun, 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Visit Norfolk's independent bookstore in downtown Norfolk.

www.prince-books.com

Museums

Hermitage Museum & Gardens

7637 N. Shore Rd.

Open Tue - Sun, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Featuring a nationally recognized art collection, this early 20th century Arts-and-Crafts estate is located on the shore of the Lafayette River (and the end of the Elizabeth River Trail). Although free, guided tours available for a fee by reservation.
www.thehermitagemuseum.org

Hunter House Victorian Museum

240 W. Freemason St.

Open Wed - Sat, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
(Tide stop: Monticello Station and .3-mile walk)

A rich example of Victorian decorative arts and architecture located in the Historic Freemason District in downtown Norfolk. Tour the Hunter family's collection of furniture, books and decorative objects. Call for tour times and groups.

www.hunterhousemuseum.org



Things To Do In Norfolk

Museums (Continued)

Moses Myers House

323 E. Freemason St.

Sat - Sun, 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM - FREE

Small group tours are available by appointment. The Moses Myers House is the oldest Jewish home in America open to the public as a museum. It offers a glimpse of the life of an early 19th-century merchant family. Part of the Chrysler Museum of Art.

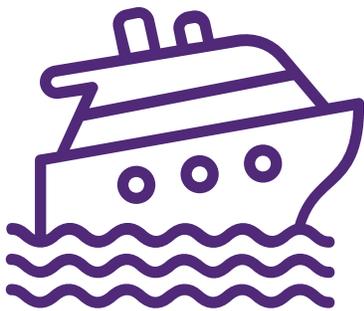
www.chrysler.org

Hampton Roads Naval Museum

1 Waterside Dr. (Inside Nauticus)

Tue - Sat 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Sun
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM - FREE

This U.S. Navy museum houses a rich collection of authentic uniforms, weaponry, underwater artifacts, detailed ship models and artwork.



And More

Doumar's Cones & Barbeque

1919 Monticello Ave.

The world's first ice cream cones are available curbside or dine-in.

Freemason Abby Restaurant

209 W. Freemason St.

A 149-year-old renovated former church.

MacArthur Memorial

198 Bank St.

Tue - Sat, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM - FREE

See the museum and tomb of General and Mrs. Douglas MacArthur. The research library and archives are open to the public by appointment.

www.macarthurmemorial.org

Nauticus: The National Maritime Center

1 Waterside Dr.

Tue - Sat, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Sun,
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM.

Admission charge.

Nauticus is an exciting interactive science and technology center that explores the naval, economic, and nautical power of the sea. Moored here is the Battleship Wisconsin open for self-guided and scheduled tours.

www.nauticus.org

Things To Do In Norfolk

And Even More!

Norfolk Botanical Garden

6700 Azalea Garden Rd.
Daily 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.
Admission charge.
Visit Virginia's largest botanical garden. You can reserve tickets up to 30 days in advance.
www.norfolkbotanicalgarden.org

Selden Market

208 E. Main St.
Selden Market features the area's up-and-coming small businesses in retail, food, and more. For entrepreneurs, the market provides a supportive space for pop-up and store space to develop and grow a new business.
www.seldenmarket.com

Self-guided public art tours

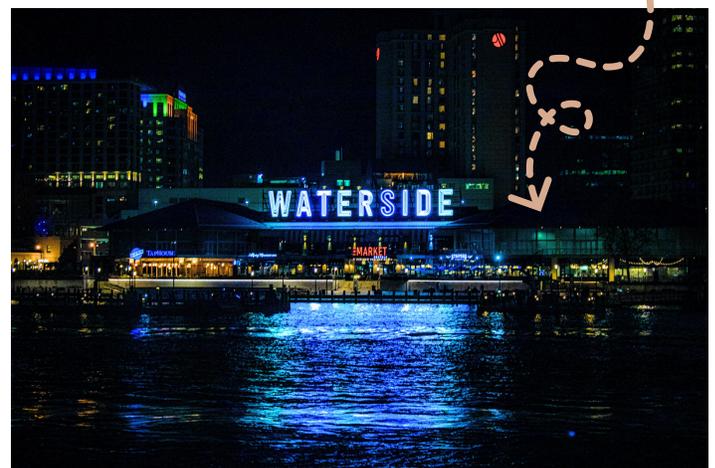
Walk through Downtown Norfolk and appreciate public artworks that celebrate the history of Norfolk's vibrant culture and heritage. Adjacent is more public art in the NEON Arts District and galleries.
www.visitnorfolk.com/things-to-do/public-arts-and-galleries

Virginia Zoo

3500 Granby St.
Open daily, 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Admission charge.
The Virginia Zoo exhibits more than 700 animals on 53 beautifully landscaped acres. The Zoo is committed to education and conservation and offers a fun-filled day for visitors of any age.
www.virginiazoo.org

Waterside District

333 Waterside Dr.
Waterside District, located on the waterfront, features national, regional and local restaurants and offers live music, festivals, and more.
www.watersidedistrict.com





Norfolk Business List

Highlighting BIPOC & LGBTQIA+ businesses and restaurants in Norfolk. Please consider these options as conference breakfast alternatives, as VLA is unable to provide breakfast in the exhibit hall. Call for reservations for large party.

This list is courtesy of the VLA LGBTQIA+ Forum and the VLA Librarians of Color Forum.

Restaurants and Shops In Norfolk

Restaurants

Alkaline

742 W 21st Street
Norfolk, VA 23517
757-395-4300
Asian-owned restaurant
Japanese cuisine

Be A J Juice Bar

3016 E Princess Anne Road UNIT B
Norfolk, VA 23504
757-524-5807
Black-owned restaurant
Juice & smoothie bar

Brothers Norfolk

300 Monticello Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-937-2789
Black-owned restaurant
American cuisine

Crave Bakery + Coffee Bar

200 College Place
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-904-1411
Black-owned restaurant
Coffee shop

E's EATS & GRUB

880 N. Military Highway
Norfolk, VA 23502
757-937-0118
Black-owned restaurant
Soul food restaurant

General Public

147 Granby Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-937-8064
Black-owned restaurant
American cuisine

Luna Maya

2010 Colley Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23517
757-622-6986
Latina-owned restaurant
Latin American cuisine

Major Phillie Cheesesteaks

345 Granby Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-937-2423
Black-owned restaurant
American cuisine

MJ's Tavern

4019 Granby Street
Norfolk, VA 23504
757-648-8942
LGBTQIA+ owned
Gay bar

Oro Azteca Mexican Restaurant

8001 Hampton Boulevard
Norfolk, VA 23505
757-423-0325
Latino-owned restaurant
Mexican cuisine

Restaurants and Shops In Norfolk

Restaurants

PJay's Kitchen

323 Granby Street

Norfolk, VA 23510

757-937-5177

Black-owned restaurant

American cuisine

Rajput Indian Cuisine

742 W 21st Street

Norfolk, VA 23517

757-625-4634

Asian-owned restaurant

Indian cuisine

Republic

437 Granby Street

Norfolk, VA 23510

Black-owned restaurant

American restaurant & cocktails

Saffron Indian Bistro

420 Monticello Avenue #170

Norfolk, VA 23510

757-321-7005

Asian-owned restaurant

Indian cuisine

Sweet Jams Cafe

1146 Church Street A

Norfolk, VA 23504

757-222-9526

Black-owned restaurant

Soul food restaurant

Thai Best Cuisine

8401 Hampton Boulevard #11

Norfolk, VA 23505

757-489-8119

Asian-owned restaurant

Thai & Vietnamese cuisine

Todd Jurich's Bistro

150 W Main Street

Norfolk, VA 23510

757-622-3210

LGBTQIA+ owned restaurant

Bistro with southern flare

Volcano Sushi & Asian Bistro

339 W 21st Street

Norfolk, VA 23517

757-683-2688

Asian-owned restaurant

Sushi restaurant

Ya Ya Asian Gourmet House

109 College Place

Norfolk, VA 23510

757-282-6688

Asian-owned restaurant

Asian wok eatery

Yendidi

5800 Chesapeake Boulevard

Norfolk, VA 23513

757-995-1988

Black-owned restaurant

Ghanian & West African cuisine

Restaurants and Shops In Norfolk

Fashion Shops

Bleubeing Studios

208 East Main Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-639-7234
Black-owned store
Streetwear brand

Details on Granby

132 Granby Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-681-0616
Black-owned store
Custom clothiers & designed suits

Stark & Legum

723 Granby Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-627-1018
Black-owned store
Men's clothier & haberdashery



Restaurants and Shops In Norfolk

Specialty Shops

Flow Latino Barbershop

1020 Fishermans Road
Norfolk, VA 23503
757-937-8101
Latino-owned shop
Barbershop

House of Consciousness Bookstore

633 W 35th Street
Norfolk, VA 23508
757-314-1943
Black-owned store
Bookstore

LGBT Life Center

237 W 25 Street
Norfolk, VA 23517
757-640-0929
LGBTQIA+ owned
Social & health services organization

The Locker Room

426 Granby Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-904-3679
Black-owned store
Barbershop & vintage sneakers

Pure Lagos

251 W Bute Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
510-332-1470
Black-owned store
Artisanal goods

Tiendita Latinos Unidos

2352 Azalea Garden Road
Norfolk, VA 23513
757-904-0356
Latino-owned store
Speciality store & foods

Southeastern Transgender Resource Center

3519 Colley Ave
Norfolk, VA 23508
757-937-3196
LGBTQIA+ owned
Social & health services organization