

Snapshot

WASHINGTON DC

Sell the US capital to fans of history and gastronomy with Adam Shaw's highlights

star attraction... 

National Air and Space Museum

Take in the US's impressive history of flight and discovery at the National Air and Space Museum, recently reopened after a multi-year renovation. Entry to the museum – the most-visited in DC – is free and it features a plethora of iconic artefacts, among them the Wright Brothers' historic 1903 Wright Flyer, Neil Armstrong's spacesuit and the command module from Apollo 11.



we love... 

Hot new restaurants

DC is full of great places to eat and drink, from the iconic Old Ebbitt Grill to the daring creations of minibar by José Andrés. This year the city is set to see two well-known New York institutions join the 40-plus culinary attractions already on offer in its famous Union Market (pictured). A sister site for Minetta Tavern will serve a blend of Parisian and East Coast dishes, while Stephen Starr's Pastis will offer classic French fare.



take a stroll... 



The National Mall

As the US's political heartland, Washington DC is home to some of the country's most famous buildings. Head to the National Mall for a walk through manicured gardens from Capitol Hill to the Lincoln Memorial via the White House and Washington Monument. Other memorials honour Martin Luther King Jr and veterans of the Vietnam and Korean wars.

book it... 

North America Travel Service

offers a four-night stay at Fairmont Washington DC, near the historic Georgetown district, from £1,415, including flights with United Airlines from Heathrow, for a departure on July 6.

northamericatravelservice.co.uk


make time for... 

The Wharf

This multibillion-dollar waterfront project is home to some of the city's top restaurants, shopping areas and entertainment venues. It has developed as a hub for cultural and community events, including the District's Holiday Boat Parade, Mardi Gras, Oktoberfest and the Running of the Chihuahuas Family Fun Day. Every Wednesday evening in June, July and August, there are free 'Rock the Dock' music concerts, while September's DC JazzFest will host Grammy winners including saxophonist Kenny Garrett and singer Samara Joy.



PICTURES: Matthew Borkoski/Photography; Mark Avino, Smithsonian; Shutterstock/Leonid Andronov, TJ Brown

where to stay... 

Waldorf Astoria Washington DC

Set in the striking Old Post Office building, the Waldorf Astoria opened its doors last year. Just a short walk away from the White House and the capital's other major landmarks, it features 263 rooms and suites, a cocktail bar, a fitness centre and spa, and a Michelin-starred sushi restaurant. The clock tower's observation deck offers stunning views of the city.

hilton.com