May 24–30, 2020 | Colonial Virginia

Retracing the Life & Times of our Nation’s Founding Fathers

with John Boles

Travel with John Boles

John B. Boles, the William P. Hobby Professor of History at Rice and editor (1983–2013) of the Journal of Southern History, has written widely on various aspects of southern history and the history of Rice University; he authored the biography Jefferson: Architect of American Liberty (2017); he has been very active in training graduate students; and he has been a frequent lecturer both for the Glasscock School of Continuing Studies and for many alumni travel programs. He has won two Brown teaching awards, two graduate student association teaching awards, and the Meritorious Service Award, the Distinguished Alumni Award, and the Gold Medal of the Association of Rice Alumni.

Spend a week retracing the footsteps of the nation’s Founding Fathers, from Williamsburg to Alexandria. From the first contacts between settlers and natives to Thomas Jefferson’s narrow escape from British troops, the story of Colonial-era Virginia is a dramatic one, filled with fascinating characters and lovely places.

Spend a week with renowned historian and scholar, Dr. John Boles, and dive deep into the story of pre-Revolutionary America. This journey begins in Virginia’s earliest colonial settlements, Historic Jamestowne and Colonial Williamsburg. Spend an afternoon exploring Westover, the plantation home that once belonged to the founder of the city of Richmond, William Byrd II. In the Appalachian foothills, the world of Thomas Jefferson comes to life with a private tour at his iconic Monticello, a personalized look at his elegant University of Virginia grounds, and visits to beautiful wineries that showcase the local wine industry Jefferson helped to launch over 200 years ago. The itinerary concludes with a tour of the quaint tree-lined streets of Old Town Alexandria and an in-depth tour of George Washington’s Mount Vernon estate. There is nowhere more welcoming than Virginia to celebrate the Founding Fathers’ legacy in America. We hope you will join us!

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Meet historians and archaeologists at Virginia’s earliest colonial settlements, Historic Jamestowne and Colonial Williamsburg, who share their insights on 400 years of history.
- Learn about the dramatic conclusion of the Revolutionary War during a driving tour of the Yorktown battlefield.
- Step foot in Colonial-era plantation homes to glimpse what 18th-century life was like along the James River.
- Trace Thomas Jefferson’s legacy through Virginia, from Poplar Forest to Monticello to the University of Virginia.
- Embark on in-depth tours of James Madison’s Montpelier and George Washington’s Mount Vernon, evocative of Georgian and Palladian styles that were popular in the elite’s Colonial America experience.
SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020

**Arrivals in Richmond & Historic Jamestowne**

Arrive at the Richmond International Airport on independent flights before transferring as a group to Historic Jamestowne. Discover the history of 17th-century Jamestowne on an in-depth guided tour of the site, preserved by the National Park Service. Continue to the charming Williamsburg Lodge, just steps away from Colonial Williamsburg. Gather this evening for a welcome dinner celebrating the group’s arrival in Virginia.

*The Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg (D)*

MONDAY, MAY 25, 2020

**Colonial Williamsburg & Yorktown**

Spend the morning in Colonial Williamsburg, the old Virginia capital city that has been restored to its 18th-century glory. Explore the circa Revolutionary Era surrounds, paying particular attention to the James Geddy House and Governor’s Palace. The original palace, erected in the early 1700s, burned down shortly after Richmond became the new state capital. The reconstructed palace (rebuilt in the 20th century) is elegantly furnished in the Colonial Revival style, and truly transports visitors back to a time of fashionable balls and elegant dinner parties. Following lunch at a Williamsburg bistro, visit Yorktown Battlefield. Explore the site where, in the fall of 1781, General George Washington and his allied American and French forces besieged Cornwallis’s British army. Return to Williamsburg for an evening enjoyed at leisure.

*The Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg (B, L)*

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020

**James River Plantations**

Travel west along the meandering James River and arrive at Berkeley Plantation, the unspoiled and tranquil mansion representing the best—and worst—of genteel 18th-century life. Berkeley, one of the first plantations in America, was the site of the “official” first Thanksgiving celebration in Virginia and the New World. Arrive at Shirley Plantation, the actual first plantation in Virginia, founded in 1613. The Great House we visit today was completed in 1738 and is currently maintained by direct descendants of original owner Edward Hill I. Enjoy lunch at the bucolic estate before returning to Williamsburg. Along the way, pause at one last estate—the Georgian Westover Plantation. The mansion was built by William Byrd II (best known as the founder of the city of Richmond) from c. 1730–1750 and remains one of the grandest colonial plantations to this day. Back in Williamsburg, the evening and dinner are independent.

*The Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg (B, L)*
WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020

Richmond to Charlottesville

Visit Richmond this morning to discover the capital city’s Colonial-era history. Explore the Virginia State Capitol, the Palladian manse conceived of by Thomas Jefferson and Charles-Louis Clérisseau in the 1780s and the oldest legislative body in the Western Hemisphere. Briefly tour other notable historic sites in Downtown Richmond, including St. John’s Church, site of Patrick Henry’s powerful proclamation, “... give me liberty or give me death!” Continue west to Thomas Jefferson’s Poplar Forest, stopping along the way for a light lunch overlooking the Appomattox River. The plantation house served as a summer retreat for the president and has recently been restored using only tools, materials, and techniques that were available during the 19th century. Jefferson was still president and residing in Washington, D.C., when construction began in 1806, which greatly influenced his decision to build Poplar Forest at a great distance from his public life. Arrive in Charlottesville this evening and settle in before a casual dinner at the Downtown Mall.

Omni Charlottesville Hotel, Charlottesville (B, L, D)

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2020

Jefferson’s Charlottesville

Today is dedicated to Thomas Jefferson’s legacy in and around Charlottesville. The day begins with a visit to the illustrious Monticello, America’s most prominent Palladian estate. Gain exclusive access to the second and third floors, including the iconic Dome Room, where an on-site historian will discuss architectural features and the complexities of family life at Monticello. Visit the newly opened exhibit on Sally Hemings, which grapples with the reality of slavery and finally sheds light on Jefferson’s not-so-secret relationship. Enjoy lunch at Michie Tavern, opened in 1784 and still serving traditional Southern fare to this day. Return to Charlottesville to explore the University of Virginia campus, fondly referred to by students and residents as “Grounds.” Experience Mr. Jefferson’s university, from the iconic Rotunda to the serpentine walls flanking the Lawn and Academical Village. Visit the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library where we are granted access to original university documents detailing the activities of students, faculty, and administrators dating back to the 19th century. Gather later this evening for a private reception held in one of the University’s famous Pavilion Gardens, designed by Jefferson in the 1820s to mirror the landscaping at his Monticello home.

Omni Charlottesville Hotel, Charlottesville (B, L, R)
**FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2020**

**Montpelier, Fredericksburg & Alexandria**

Depart for Alexandria this morning, stopping first at James Madison’s Montpelier. We have the opportunity to tour the historic home and grounds, gardens, and historic outbuildings on the property. The construction of Montpelier (“Phase 1”) began around 1764 and, upon completion at the end of the 18th century, the plantation home stood as one of the largest brick dwellings in Orange County, Virginia. Continue north to the charming city of Fredericksburg, steeped in Civil War history. Driving through town, view beautiful, historic buildings, from the Colonial-era Kenmore to the 19th-century Old Stone Warehouse. Following lunch in downtown Fredericksburg, arrive in Old Town, Alexandria. Check into The Alexandrian, located in the heart of the historic district. Alexandria was claimed as part of the original federal district of the new national capital, the City of Washington, before the District of Columbia retrocession in 1847 that returned the land to the commonwealth of Virginia. Discover more of Alexandria’s unusual history in a walking tour of Old Town before a farewell dinner in a charming restaurant along the Potomac River.

*The Alexandrian, Alexandria (B, L, D)*

**SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2020**

**Mount Vernon & Departures**

The final visit of the program is to Mount Vernon, home of George and Martha Washington. At the estate, learn about how George Washington personally supervised multiple renovations of the property and selected architectural features that expressed his dedication to democratic governance. Transfers are included to both Reagan National Airport (DCA) and Dulles International Airport (IAD) for independent afternoon flights. *(If you are participating in the Washington, D.C. Extension, see the next page for a detailed itinerary.)*

*(B)*
SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2020

Transfer to D.C.

After visiting Mount Vernon, return to Old Town and walk to lunch in a quaint tavern. Tour the nearby Carlyle House, the 18th-century Palladian Revival residence of Scottish merchant John Carlyle. Check into the Mayflower Hotel, a registered Historic Hotel of America built in the 1920s. Gather this evening for a reception at the hotel.

The Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D.C. (L, R)

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020

Museums & Monuments

The day begins with a lecture by Dr. Boles. Visit the National Museum of American History with its collection of nearly three million objects telling the American story. After lunch, tour the National Cathedral, the site of state funerals, memorial services, and presidential prayer services for the past century. The day concludes with a narrated bus tour of some of the nation’s most iconic monuments by moonlight, from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to the Lincoln Memorial and Reflecting Pool.

The Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D.C. (B, L)

MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2020

State Department & Capitol Hill

By special arrangement, enter the Diplomatic Reception Rooms at the U.S. Department of State and the 18th- and 19th-century fine and decorative American art collection within. Later this morning, tour the United States Capitol, both a monument and working office building. Visit the Crypt, Rotunda, and National Statuary Hall. Following an independent lunch in Capitol Hill, tour the Thomas Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress, named for the collection donated to the library by our third president after invading British troops burned the Capitol in the War of 1812. This evening, gather for a farewell dinner at one of D.C.’s top restaurants to celebrate the end of this journey through Virginia and the nation’s capital.

The Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D.C. (B, D)

TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2020

Departures

Transfers are included this morning to DCA and IAD airports to meet independent flights home.

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Extension Tour Cost:
Extension Land Package................................. $1,995
Extension Single Supplement.......................... $495

Extension Inclusions: Hotel accommodations as listed in the itinerary; breakfast daily, two (2) lunches, one (1) dinner, one (1) reception; 2 glasses of wine or beer with included dinner and reception; one group transfer upon departure to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA); one group transfer upon departure to Dulles International Airport (IAD); land transportation by private motor coach as outlined; entrance fees to sites per itinerary; leadership of Dr. John Boles as Rice Study Leader; services of an ISDI tour manager; expert guides for sightseeing activities; gratuities to local guides and drivers; bottled water on daily excursions by motor coach; taxes, services, and porterage fees.

Extension Exclusions: Airfare, airline taxes, and fuel surcharges; airport porterage; individual airport transfers for those who do not participate in the included group transfers; excursions, activities, or meals during traveler’s free time; personal items; personal services; travel extensions; personal insurance for health, baggage, and tour cancellation; passport fees; visa fees; gratuities for hotel housekeeping staff.
TRIP INFORMATION

COLONIAL VIRGINIA

DATES: May 24–30, 2020

TOUR COST:
Land Package ......................................................... $3,695
Single Supplement .................................................... $695

Extension Land Package ........................................... $1,995
Extension Single Supplement ................................... $495

Main Tour price is per person based on double occupancy, with
a minimum of 20 paying participants. Extension price is per
person based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 15 paying
participants. Land prices are calculated as of July 2019 and are subject
to change.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Moderate, good walking ability advised.

DEPOSIT & FINAL PAYMENT: A deposit of $1,000 (Main
Tour) plus $500 (Extension) per paying participant will be
required to guarantee participation in the program. This may
be paid by check, or by Visa or MasterCard. Final payment
will be invoiced and is due on February 14, 2020. Final
payment must be made by check payable to International
Seminar Design, Inc. Registrations will be accepted beyond
this date on a space-available basis with payment in full by
check only.

FLIGHTS: Airfare is not included in the tour price.
Participants are responsible for all aspects of their round-trip
air arrangements into Richmond and out of DCA or IAD.

(ISDI) acts only as an agent for the participant with respect to
transportation, accommodations, and all other services
relating to this tour. ISDI, the Association of Rice Alumni, and/
or their agents assume no responsibility or liability for any
act, error or omission, or for any injury, loss, accident, delay
or irregularity, which may be caused by any defect in any
aircraft, ship, train, bus, or other carrier, or through neglect or
default of any subcontractor or other third party, which may
be used wholly or in part in the performance of their duty to
the participants of the tour. ISDI and the Association of Rice
Alumni reserve the right to cancel any tour prior to departure
for any reason including insufficient numbers of participants,
as well as the right to decline to accept or retain any person
as a member of the tour at any time. If bookings fall below
the minimum required, passengers will be advised of
additional costs or itinerary alterations before departure date.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: All cancellations must be
received in writing by ISDI, and charges are calculated as of
the day notification is received in writing by ISDI. If a tour
member cancels, the following scale of charges is incurred:
There is a non-refundable administrative fee of $500 (Main
Tour) plus $250 (Extension) per person. The costs associated
with any tickets purchased for planned activities (as indicated
in the itinerary) are non-refundable. Written cancellation
received by ISDI on or before February 14, 2020: full refund
minus $500 (Main Tour) plus $250 (Extension) per person
administrative fee. Written cancellation received by ISDI
on or between February 15, 2020 and April 9, 2020: full
refund of any recoverable land costs, less $1,850 (Main
Tour) plus $1,000 (Extension) per person cancellation charge
(includes administrative fee). Written cancellation received
by ISDI on or after April 10, 2020: no refund. After the tour
has commenced, it is not possible to issue any refunds. No
refunds for any unused portion of the tour including, but not
limited to, occasional missed meals or any missed sightseeing
tours. Costs for promotion, staff, and other group expenses
are not refundable. In the case of cancellation, substitutions
are not acceptable. The tour cost is non-transferable, and
no substitutions are allowed. If ISDI or the Association of
Rice Alumni cancels the tour due to low registrations, active
registrants will receive a full refund of all tour payments.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: The purchase of trip cancellation
insurance is strongly recommended for coverage of expenses
in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident.
Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that
you must cancel your participation in a travel program,
trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of
reimbursement. Travel insurance information will be
email to you from the Traveling Owls upon receipt of
your registration.

MAIN TOUR INCLUSIONS: Hotel accommodations as listed
in the itinerary; breakfast daily, five (5) lunches, three (3)
dinners, one (1) reception; 2 glasses of wine or beer with
included dinners and reception; one group transfer upon
arrival from Richmond International Airport (RIC); one group
transfer upon departure to Ronald Reagan Washington
National Airport (DCA); one group transfer upon departure
to Dulles International Airport (IAD); land transportation by
private motor coach as outlined; entrance fees to sites per
itinerary; services of an ISDI tour manager; expert guides for
sightseeing activities; gratuities to local guides and drivers;
bottled water on daily excursions by motor coach; taxes,
services, and porterage fees.

MAIN TOUR EXCLUSIONS: Airfare, airline taxes, and fuel
surcharges; airport porterage; individual airport transfers for
those who do not participate in the included group transfers;
excursions, activities, or meals during traveler's free time;
personal items; personal services; travel extensions; personal
insurance for health, baggage, and tour cancellation; passport
fees; visa fees; gratuities for hotel housekeeping staff.

FOR QUESTIONS OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
Rice Alumni Traveling Owls
Tel: 713-34-TRIPS | Email: travelingowls@rice.edu

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ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. CST 2072963-40, WST 603578109
Enclosed is my credit card information or deposit by check made payable to International Seminar Design, Inc.

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Daytime Telephone  Cell Phone

E-mail Address  □ please send mailings to my email to receive information more quickly


________________________  __________________________
# of persons  Amount Enclosed

LAND PACKAGE DEPOSIT (MAIN TOUR: $1,000 PER PERSON; EXTENSION: $500 PER PERSON):

☐ Check  Make check payable to International Seminar Design, Inc.

☐ Visa  ☐ MasterCard

Card Number  Exp. (mm/yy)

Name as it appears on credit card  Billing Zip Code (if different from above)

ROOMING OPTIONS: (please select)

☐ Double Occupancy; I will share a room with

☐ Single Supplement (Main Tour: $695; Extension: $495)

☐ I would like a roommate but will pay the price of the single supplement if one cannot be found.

EACH PARTICIPANT MUST SIGN (registration invalid without signature)

The undersigned has read the tour itinerary and recognizes and accepts any risks therein. The undersigned also understands and hereby agrees for and on behalf of his/her dependents, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to abide by the conditions set forth in the terms and conditions listed in this brochure and to release and hold harmless the Association of Rice Alumni, International Seminar Design, Inc. (ISDI), and any of their officers, trustees, agents, licenses, or representatives from any and all liability for delays, injuries, or death or for the loss of and/or damage to his/her property however occurring during any portion of, or in relation to, this tour.

Signature Participant 1 / Date  Signature Participant 2 / Date

COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO:
Rice Alumni Traveling Owls
MS-520, P.O. Box 1892 | Houston, TX 77251

Fax: (713) 348-5210

FOR QUESTIONS: Tel: (713)-34-TRIPS | Email: travelingowls@rice.edu