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DAY TRIPS

Calvert County

Savor Solomons

Escape to Solomons at the confluence of the Patuxent River and the Chesapeake Bay. When commercial oyster canning was big business, the village of Solomons was a bustling place. Now, Solomons is seeing new life as visitors search for a taste of the "old" Chesapeake.

Start the day with a visit to the **Calvert Marine Museum**, which traces the rich maritime history and diversity of the Chesapeake Bay. Climb to the top of the **Drum Point Lighthouse**, a screwpile, cottage-type lighthouse beautifully restored. Accessible via shuttle from the museum, you can tour a piece of history at **Cove Point Lighthouse**, the oldest continuously working light in Maryland. To truly appreciate the setting and Solomons, take a leisurely cruise around the island in the Calvert Marine Museum's "bug eye", the **Wm. B. Tennison**. Back on shore, walk into the village for lunch at a waterside restaurant, then stroll along the **Riverwalk** that borders the Patuxent and wander through the gift shops and galleries. The last stop is a visit to **Annamarie Garden**, a thirty acre sculpture park and arts center. Enjoy an exquisite collection of outdoor sculpture, much of it on loan from the Smithsonian Institute. The new Arts Center features rotating exhibits, a gift shop and café. With a busy calendar of programs, special events, and art classes, you will enjoy exploring this exceptional park.



Cove Point Lighthouse

Charles County

Tobacco Trail

Encounter the famous and infamous around and about Port Tobacco, once Maryland's second largest seaport and today, a sleepy small town steeped in history.

Start the morning with a visit to **Smallwood State Park** and tour **General William Smallwood House Museum** (open Sundays in-season) at Marbury. Continue on to the **Port Tobacco Historic District** to tour **Thomas Stone National Historic Site** on Rose Hill Road. Thomas Stone was one of four Maryland signers of the Declaration of Independence, and he and family members are buried there in the family cemetery. Proceed a short distance to **Port Tobacco**, one of the oldest continuous settlements in the U.S. Visit the reconstructed **Court House** (open in-season).



St. Ignatius Catholic Church

The center section of the building was destroyed by fire in 1892, and the Court House was restored between 1965 and 1973. Continue along the designated Religious Freedom Byway for a visit to **St. Ignatius Catholic Church**, one of the oldest active Jesuit Orders in the US. Take in the fabulous view of the Port Tobacco and Potomac Rivers from the historic cemetery. Then enjoy a crab lunch at one of our **Popes Creek** restaurants or continue on to the maritime village of Cobb Island. After lunch, proceed to the **Dr. Samuel A. Mudd House**, home of the physician who set the leg of John Wilkes Booth, assassin of President Lincoln. For a change of pace, catch an evening performance with the Port Tobacco Players or a minor league baseball game at the new Regency Furniture Stadium.

St. Mary's County

Planters and Plantations

In 1634, early settlers established St. Mary's City along the banks of the beautiful St. Mary's River. By the late 17th century, the colony had grown and outlying plantations thrived along the creeks and rivers which formed the economic lifelines to the Chesapeake Bay and the greater world beyond.

Start the day with a visit to **Historic St. Mary's City**, Maryland's premier outdoor living history museum. While there, board the **Maryland Dove**, for a working lesson on colonial seamanship. The original Dove carried the first colonists from England to Maryland. Experience the life and daily concerns of an early colonial family at the

Godiah Spray Tobacco Plantation and learn how colonists interacted with Native Americans at the **Yacomo Woodland Indian Hamlet**.

Don't miss the great new exhibits including the **Print Shop, St. John's Site Museum** and the **1667 Brick Chapel**. End your visit to the 17th century with a stop at **Farthing's Ordinary Shop**.

Stop in historic **Leonardtown** for lunch at one of the several group-friendly restaurants, then travel up the road and into the 18th century at **Sotterley Plantation**.

Enjoy the breathtaking panorama of the Patuxent River and tour the **Manor House**, a unique post-in-ground structure that boasts some of the finest Georgian-period woodwork in America. Hear the stories of generations of planters who called Sotterley home as well as those of the slaves at the **Slave Cabin**. Stroll the picturesque garden and peek into the numerous outbuildings.



Sotterley Plantation

THREE DAY TRIP

Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's Counties

A Trip Through 3 Centuries in 3 Days through 3 Counties

Discover Southern Maryland's unique past – richly preserved in its numerous historic sites, dynamic museums and rural byways.

DAY ONE

Arrive at the **Chesapeake Railway Museum** in **Calvert County** to experience life in the early 1900s and the Chesapeake Beach Railway Co. & Amusement Park history detailed in photos and artifacts in the Railway's only remaining station. Learn the

role the Chesapeake Bay environment had in shaping the cultures of Bayside communities, from prehistoric to present times, at the **Bay History Museum**. Before you leave, take off your shoes and wade into the waters of the Chesapeake Bay at **North Beach Public Beach** or stroll along the boardwalk and wander into eclectic shops and enjoy lunch at one of the restaurants serving mouthwatering seafood delicacies in this quaint seaside town.



Drum Point Lighthouse

Traveling south to see the northernmost natural range of bald cypress trees in the United States at **Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Sanctuary**. Then **ESCAPE TO SOLOMONS ISLAND!** Visit the **Calvert Marine Museum**, which traces the rich maritime history of life found in the Chesapeake Bay. Climb up through the hatch of the **Drum Point Lighthouse**, constructed in 1883. Beautifully restored, complete with furnishings of the era, it has become the waterfront's main attraction. Tour the **Joseph C. Lore & Sons Oyster House**, a restored

seafood-packing house that flourished during the boom & decline of the region's commercial seafood industries. Take a short cruise around the harbor on the historic "bugeye" boat, the **Wm. B. Tennison** and build up an appetite for dinner. After checking into a local hotel, have dinner at any number of waterside restaurants.

DAY TWO

Take a quick drive over the scenic **Thomas Johnson Bridge** to **St. Mary's County** and visit **Historic St. Mary's City**, the first permanent settlement in Maryland and Maryland's first capital. While there, get into the spirit of early colonial life with a visit to the **Godiah Spray Plantation and the Maryland Dove**, a working replica of the square rigged schooner that carried the first colonists from England. Enjoy lunch at restaurant in Lexington Park such as local landmark **Lenny's**, then stroll into the future at the **Patuxent River Naval Air Museum**. Explore the outdoor air park and test your mettle in a navy flight trainer. Travel a few miles on to **historic Leonardtown** for late afternoon shopping in the town's shops and galleries or enjoy the **new waterfront park** along Breton Bay. The sit down to a hearty dinner at one of the town's many restaurants such as the fun Do Dah Deli, the cozy Café des Artistes, or trendy Corbels. Spend the night at one of the county's convenient group-friendly hotels.



The Maryland Dove

DAY THREE

Travel north to the **Dr. Samuel A. Mudd House** in **Charles County**. This early Victorian farmhouse was once home of Dr. Mudd, the physician who treated the broken leg of John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of President Abraham Lincoln. This site is included on **Maryland's Civil War Trail** project entitled, "**John Wilkes Booth: Escape of an Assassin**". While on the way to the museum, you will travel some of

the escape route, passing by the old **Bryantown Tavern** where Booth and other Confederate sympathizers met to discuss their plans and **St. Mary's Catholic**



Dr. Samuel A. Mudd House

Church, where Dr. Mudd is buried. Lunch at **The Crossing at Casey Jones Restaurant** or the **Royal Tea Room in LaPlata**. Travel west to the **Thomas Stone National Historic Site** for a visit to **Harberdeventure**, the plantation home of Thomas Stone, one of Maryland's four signers of the Declaration of Independence. Both Stone and his wife are buried here. This historic site is managed by the National Park Service and includes a Visitors Center that features exhibits and a gift shop. Continue west to the **Historic District of Port**

Tobacco, once Maryland's second largest seaport and listed on early World Maps. Originally the site of the Indian Village of Potopaco, Port Tobacco was the first county seat until it was moved to LaPlata in 1895. At the **Port Tobacco Courthouse** (open seasonally), costumed docents tell the story of this historic area from 1620 to the present. The Port Tobacco area was also home to several Confederate sympathizers during the Civil War. End your visit to the Southern Maryland area by catching a minor league baseball game at the new Regency Furniture Stadium, home of the Atlantic League's Maryland Blue Crabs, or enjoy a Southern Maryland dining experience in **Popes Creek** or further down the road on **Cobb Island** at any one of our waterfront restaurants. Relax by the water while feasting on hot steamed crabs and shrimp, local oysters on the half shell or the fresh catch of the day!

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