



Welcome to Washington D.C.! Our city is the capital of the United States, the seat of the federal government, and the place where just over 700,000 people call home.

The city was designed by Pierre Charles L'Enfant. It's highly planned and split into four quadrants; Northwest (NW), Northeast (NE), Southwest (SW), and Southeast (SE). Each quadrant is a different size, with the dividing lines being North Capitol Street, South Capitol Street, East Capitol Street, and The Mall. The connecting point of all four quadrants is the US Capitol.

Each quadrant has its own charm and exciting things to see. This scavenger hunt takes you around the city to see some of the lesser known highlights. These all help tell the story of the city, and share the favorite places of the locals who live here.

To earn the Girl Scouts of Nation's Capital Scavenger Hunt patch, you must visit at least 10 places, with at least 2 per quadrant.

NW

Juliette Gordon Low Historical Marker

<https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=92229>

Near Dupont Circle NW DC 20036

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/GP3onj2ssLz6xJ8HA>

Metro: Dupont Circle or Farragut North (Red)

Bus: A29, D50, F19

Girl Scouts will visit the Juliette Gordon Low Historical Marker located in Northwest Washington, DC, honoring the founder of Girl Scouts of the USA. Take a picture of yourself or your troop with the marker.

Zero Milestone

<https://www.nps.gov/places/000/zero-milestone.htm>

E St. NW & Ellipse Road NW

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/uZeEyZkunqtHjYz99>

Metro: Metro Center (Blue, Orange, Silver, Red)

Bus: A29, D50, F19

Scouts will visit the Zero Milestone monument, the historic point from which distances to cities across the United States were once measured. Make sure you take a photo of yourself or your troop pointing in the direction of where you meet!

The Mount Zion and Female Union Band Society Cemeteries

<https://www.mtzion-fubs.org/>

1301 Mill Road NW DC 20007

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/1gQBNhpatWbqAWvQ8>

Metro: DuPont Circle (Red)

Bus: A29, D50, F19

Scouts will visit Mount Zion Cemetery, a historic African American burial ground and Underground Railroad site. Girls will learn about freedom seekers, community protection, and the role Washington, DC played in abolitionist efforts. Remember to be respectful when you take a picture of what was most memorable to you or your troop.

USNO Master Clock

<https://www.cnmoc.usff.navy.mil/Our-Commands/United-States-Naval-Observatory/Precise-Time-Department/The-USNO-Master-Clock/>

3450 Massachusetts Ave. NW DC 20392

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/JFzFRzEAftwsJ5M79>

Metro: Woodley Park-Zoo (Red)

Bus: D90

Scouts will explore the concept of timekeeping by visiting the U.S. Naval Observatory Master Clock, which helps set official time for the United States. Scouts will discuss science, precision, and how time impacts daily life. Take a photo of yourself or your troop in front of the clock to show the official time!

NW

Chinatown Pedestrian Scramble

<https://boundarystones.weta.org/2021/12/03/how-chinatowns-friendship-archway-came-be>

701 H St NW DC 20001

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/poMzQcFv2NQWNx7R6>

Metro: Gallery Place-Chinatown (Red, Yellow, Green)

Bus: D20, D36

Scouts will safely participate in the Chinatown Pedestrian Scramble by crossing the intersection diagonally during the pedestrian-only signal time. Troops will take a group photo and discuss urban design, pedestrian safety, and city planning.

Joke Phone

<https://www.islands.com/1883656/repurposed-payphone-washington-dc-quirkiest-attraction-city-spot/>

3413 Northampton St NW DC 20015

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/WZtAr23DFybGpVMcA>

Metro: Friendship Heights (Red)

Bus: C83

Scouts will locate the historic “Joke Phone” and reflect on how humor, communication, and public spaces evolve over time. Have girls share a favorite joke and discuss how laughter builds community. Take a picture of yourself or your troop as you listen to a joke.

National Museum of American Diplomacy

<https://diplomacy.state.gov>

2201 C St NW DC 20520

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/v2quVZxQu1z43qcu9>

Metro: Foggy Bottom-GWU (Blue, Orange, Silver)

Bus: D96

Scouts will explore the role of diplomacy, global cooperation, and women leaders in international relations through museum exhibits. Take a picture of yourself or your troop in front of the exhibit you enjoy the most.

Howard Theatre

<https://thehowardtheatre.com>

620 T St NW DC 20001

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/2gSQUYeqnq33GMax9>

Metro: Shaw-Howard University (Green, Yellow)

Bus: D4X, D40

Scouts will visit the historic Howard Theatre and research performers they would have liked to see perform there between 1910–1968, such as Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington, or Pearl Bailey. Girls will connect music, culture, and Black history. Take a picture of yourself or your troop at the iconic entryway.

NW

Ben's Chill Bowl

<https://benschilibowl.com/history>

1208 U St NW DC 20009

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/VyDin2udFJbj6zby5>

Metro: U Street/ African-American Civil War Memorial/ Cardozo (Green, Yellow)

Bus: C51, C53

Ben's Chili Bowl has a long history and is a favorite local landmark. Visit the original, U Street NW location and get a Half Smoke, burger, fries, or something else. While you're there, look at all the pictures and history of this pillar of the DC community. Take a picture of your favorite dish, or your favorite photo hanging inside.

Vietnam Women's Memorial

<https://vietnamwomensmemorial.org/>

900 Ohio Drive SW DC 20024

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/ccuu3ozoqMyECT4k7>

Metro: Smithsonian (Blue, Orange, Silver)

Bus: A49

Scouts will visit the Vietnam Women's Memorial to honor the women who served during the Vietnam War. Girls will reflect on service, bravery, and the importance of recognizing women in history. Remember to be respectful when you take a picture of yourself or your troop while you're there.

Girl Scouts' Way near GS Nations Capital Headquarters

<https://www.gscnc.org/en/discover/our-stories/blog/2025/girl-scouts-way.html>

4301 Connecticut Ave. NW DC 20008

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/b5gjtHZH9hNrTvBW9>

Metro: Van Ness UDC (Red)

Bus: D7

Scouts will visit the headquarters of Girls of the Nations Capital to learn how local councils support troops, advocate for girls, and provide leadership opportunities throughout the region. Take a picture of yourself or your troop below the iconic street sign.

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House

<https://www.nps.gov/mamc/index.htm>

1318 Vermont Avenue NW DC 20005

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/G1kEnEFq1o9YVC9G6>

Metro: McPherson Square (Blue, Orange, Silver)

Bus: D50

Scouts will visit the Mary McLeod Bethune Council House to learn about women's leadership, education, and civic engagement. Scouts will explore how Bethune's work aligns with the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Take a picture of yourself or your troop with the most fascinating part of the House.

NE

Belmont Paul Women's Equality National Monument

<https://www.nps.gov/bepa/index.htm>

144 Constitution Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/CwfLYwpvekXnk6k36>

Metro: Union Station (Red)

Bus: C43, C51, D24

This house was home to the National Women's Party, or NWP, for 90 years. Steps from the US Capitol and the Supreme Court, it was where the women's rights movement of the 1920s and 30s was headquartered.

Take a picture of yourself or your troop with the most interesting thing in the House.

Supreme Court

<https://www.supremecourt.gov/>

1 First St NE, Washington, DC 20543

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/XjYVXAKrBuc6iyju6>

Metro: Union Station (Red)

Bus: C43, C51, D24

Home to the highest court in the United States, this iconic building is where cases are decided that shape our nation. Take a picture of yourself or your troop between the columns as you talk about which landmark cases have helped Girl Scouts throughout history, and on into the future.

National Postal Museum

<https://postalmuseum.si.edu/>

2 Massachusetts Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/rbcpLM5UhrEhY9XX8>

Metro: Union Station (Red)

Bus: C43, C51, D24

While visiting this special Smithsonian museum, enjoy the history of sending letters and information across the country. In the largest stamp gallery in the world, find stamps celebrating famous Girl Scout alums, historic events, and more. Can you find the Juliette Gordon Low stamp? Take a picture of your favorite stamp in the gallery!

National Arboretum

<https://www.usna.usda.gov/>

3501 New York Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/FtdpZfXxN8BDjXJ58>

Metro: Stadium-Armory (Blue Orange, Silver)

Bus: C41

While the National Arboretum seems out of the way, it's home to some gorgeous sights and relaxing gardens. You'll forget you're in the bustling capital of our nation. Take a picture of yourself or your troop in your favorite spot in the Arboretum.

NE

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens

<https://www.nps.gov/keaq/index.htm>

1550 Anacostia Ave NE, Washington, DC 20019

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/buzTprNcKS7s1AxV7>

Metro: Deanwood (Orange, Silver)

Bus: C35

This National Park is the only site devoted to cultivated water-loving plants. The history of how it came into existence is rich and a powerful testament to community efforts. Take a picture of yourself or your troop with what's in bloom during your visit.

REI on M NE between Third and Delaware

<https://www.rei.com/stores/washington-dc>

201 M St NE, Washington, DC 20002

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/NgSr54NRZjnF8MSHA>

Metro: NoMa-Gallaudet U (Red)

Bus: C53, C57

While the building is now an REI, office suites, a brewery, and other businesses, there is a reason this building is important to DC history. Take a trip there and see the posters inside the REI, or hanging on the outside of the building, to find out why. Visit Red Bear for lunch, or the coffee shop attached to REI, while you discuss which historic event you would want to have attended. Take a picture of yourself or your troop with your favorite spot at the building.

The Atlas

<https://www.atlasarts.org/>

1333 H St NE, Washington, DC 20002

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/8f7aM9knCfoJcig18>

Metro: Union Station (Red)

Bus: D20

The Atlas was originally one of the movie theaters on H Street NE, built in 1938. It closed after 30 years and wasn't reopened until 2006. Now, it's a vital arts and performing venue. See what events are happening and what you'd like to see. Take a picture of yourself or your troop at the iconic entrance.

SW

Paddle Boats on the Tidal Basin

<https://www.nps.gov/places/000/tidal-basin-pedal-boats.htm>

1501 Maine Ave SW, Washington, DC 20004

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/4hdFkQg2B8DgjGU2A>

Metro: Smithsonian (Blue, Orange, Silver)

Bus: D50

A trip to Washington DC isn't complete without a trip to the Tidal Basin. While the paddle boats need a reservation much of the year, it's still a spot worth visiting. Sit and watch as people find out they're harder to use than you'd expect! Take a picture of yourself or your troop while you're there enjoying the scenery!

Reservations are required from April through October

East Potomac Park Mini Golf

<https://www.nationallinkstrust.org/east-potomac-mini-golf>

972 Ohio Dr SW, Washington, DC 20024

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/pvbmZd3dyxKm82A76>

Metro: L'Enfant Plaza (Blue, Green, Orange, Silver, Yellow)

Bus: D50

The oldest continuously running mini golf course is here in Washington DC. Still open today, why not play a round? Enjoy the view of the river, and take a photo of yourself or your troop at your favorite spot on the course.

Culture House DC

<https://www.culturehousedc.org/>

700 Delaware Ave SW, Washington, DC 20024

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/JpJTUKkzgCnzpQVq5>

Metro: Waterfront (Green)

Bus: C11

Originally a church where locals gathered for over a century, the building is now a work of art itself. It houses exhibits, events, and hosts community programs. While visiting, take a picture of yourself or your troop on your favorite side of the building.

Southwest Duck Pond

<https://www.tclf.org/landscapes/southwest-duck-pond>

950 Sth Street SW

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/qcLD1Uv9vEsb5MU27>

Metro: Waterfront (Green)

Bus: C11

Completed in 1972, the park was conceived as an urban retreat for local residents, office workers, and students of an adjacent school for exceptional children, and was part of a larger effort to enhance and increase recreational space in the neighborhood. A calm oasis in the middle of the city, take a picture of one of the ducks while you're there.

SW

Bureau of Engraving and Printing

<https://www.bep.gov/visitor-centers/washington-dc-tour-and-visitor-center/tour>

301 14th St SW, Washington, DC 20250

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/HxQnB4GVEQhFagJt8>

Metro: Smithsonian (Blue, Orange, Silver)

Bus: D50

Take a tour and watch currency being produced. Learn about the history and some of the high-denomination notes that are no longer in production. Take a picture of yourself or your troop at the most interesting place during the tour.

US Botanical Gardens

<https://www.usbg.gov/>

100 Maryland Ave SW, Washington, DC 20001

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/YubmpVDJSiWe3J6jZ>

Metro: Federal Center, Capitol South (Blue, Orange, Silver)

Bus: D10, D1X

When George Washington wrote a letter in the late 1700s about wanting a national botanic garden in the new federal city, it became the reason the US Botanic Garden was created in 1816. The original location of the gardens is where the current Supreme Court, Library of Congress, Folgers Shakespeare Theater, and surrounding blocks are. The garden was kept open when it moved in 1933, helping it to claim its status as the oldest continuously running botanic garden in the United States. Today, the US Botanic Garden contains around 44,000 plants. These plants are used for exhibitions, research, study, and exchanges with other institutions. There's always something in bloom. Take a picture of yourself or your troop with your favorite plant currently on exhibit.

Ben & Jerry's The Wharf Location

<https://www.wharfdc.com/restaurants/ben-jerrys-ice-cream/>

705 Wharf St SW, Washington, DC 20024

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/BM99M69Gk4MXF5vu6>

Metro: Waterfront (Green)

Bus: D50, C55

A trip to The Wharf isn't complete without a stop for ice cream. Ice cream isn't complete without a fun place to sit and enjoy it. Head there to find out why it's such a fun place for locals to sit. Take a picture of yourself or your troop enjoying this fun spot!

SE

The Big Chair

<https://ggwash.org/view/37647/anacostias-larger-than-life-big-chair-is-full-of-neighborhood-history>

1001-1199 V St SE, Washington, DC 20020

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/3vV4y2pHy8NNSMDS9>

Metro: Anacostia (Green)

Bus: C11, C15, C23, C31, C41, C51

Originally created as an advertisement for a furniture store, this fun statue has become a community monument. Sadly no one is allowed to sit on the chair, but come see a local iconic spot. Take a photo of yourself or your troop with the chair.

Congressional Cemetery

<https://congressionalcemetery.org/>

1801 E St SE, Washington, DC 20003

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/BxWcCR9KYCKV9avY7>

Metro: Potomac Avenue (Blue, Orange, Silver)

Bus: C41, C51

The first burial was in 1807, and is the final resting place for many notable people. They have tours, or you're free to walk around at any time and find some of the famous plots. It's an active burial ground, so take note of funeral services happening during your visit. Remember to be respectful when you take a picture of yourself or your troop while you're there.

Go Go Museum

<https://www.gogomuseumcafe.com/>

1920 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE, Washington, DC 20020

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/2n14HmRKtG9TPVKA7>

Metro: Anacostia (Green)

Bus: C11, C15, C23, C31, C41, C51, C53

Go Go is a style of music that originated in Washington DC in the 60s and 70s. Today, it's part of the city's heartbeat and can be found from street performers, to concerts, to schools. The museum shares the history of the official music of the District of Columbia. Take a picture of yourself or your troop with your favorite part of the museum.

Frederick Douglass National Historic Site Cedar Hill

<https://www.nps.gov/frdo/index.htm>

1411 W St SE, Washington, DC 20020

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/M5s9VrFmQzMRXVMT7>

Metro: Anacostia (Green)

Bus: C15, C23, C31, C11, C41, C51

Cedar Hill is where Frederick Douglass spent the last 17 years of his life. His home is where his legacy is preserved for all to visit. Learn more about his life, his work, and his passion for doing what was right.

Remember to be respectful when you take a picture while you're here.

SE

The Home of the Commandants

<https://www.barracks.marines.mil/History/Home-of-the-Commandants/>

801 G St SE, Washington, DC 20003

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/e4tdVVpWFCcugpPK9>

Metro: Eastern Market (Blue, Orange, Silver)

Bus: C53, C55, D1X, D10

Since their inception in November 1775, the US Marines have had the distinction of being the only branch of the military to protect the President. Thomas Jefferson and Lt. Col. William Ward Burrows, the second Commandant of the Marine Corps, wanted to find a location to house and train the Marines with this honor. They found what is today known as Marine Barracks Washington. Established in 1805, the house was where every Commandant of the Marine Corps lived and continues to still live today. The mansion serves as both their private residence and also a place for official ceremonies. Please be respectful when taking a picture of yourself or your troop while you're there.

Transportation Walk, outside the Department of Transportation

<https://www.capitolriverfront.org/go/walking-museum-of-transportation>

100 Tingey St SE, Washington, DC 20003

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/7q4fWe47Euxmjrwy6>

Metro: Navy Yard-Ballpark (Green)

Bus: C11, C55

Set up as a self guided, non-museum museum, the Transportation Walk has information and items all about transportation history. With exhibits every few steps, you'll walk the perimeter of the Department of Transportation's headquarters. Take a photo of yourself or your troop while you're there.

Anacostia Park Rollerskating Rink

<https://www.nps.gov/anac/planyourvisit/roller-skating.htm>

1500 Anacostia Dr, Washington, DC 20020

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/xUzTc5oKm5GEBXJd6>

Bus: C15, C37, D1X, D10

When Anacostia Park opened, it was a segregated recreation area. It wasn't until 1954 that the park integrated. It's run by the National Park Service and houses the National Park Service's only roller skating pavilion! Enjoy views of the Anacostia River while skating in an outdoor pavilion. Free skate rentals are available Memorial Day through Labor Day. Have fun and don't forget to take a photo of yourself or your troop while you're here!

SE

Anacostia Community Museum

<https://anacostia.si.edu/>

1901 Fort Pl SE, Washington, DC 20020

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/D9T8Ajqx2Tecy1BD7>

Metro: Anacostia (Green)

Bus: C29

Located in the historic Anacostia community, the museum delves into the history and impact of the often overlooked community furthest from opportunity in the Greater Washington DC region. A vibrant local history is told through photographs, exhibits, movies, and more. Use the stories of community connection and work to find how you can do the same in your local community at home. Take a picture of yourself or your troop at your favorite part of the museum.

Honorary Girl Scout Troop Caucus Members

<https://www.girlscouts.org/en/support-us/advocacy/girl-scout-advocacy-center/troop-capitol-hill.html>
and

https://www.legistorm.com/organization/summary/123268/Honorary_Congressional_Girl_Scout_Troop_Caucus.html

1st St SE, Washington, DC 20515

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/f8iAFNmMGU3WHJx16>

Metro: Capitol South (Blue, Orange, Silver)

Bus: 305, 325, D1X, D10, 230, 250, 335, 345, 630, 725, 810, 820, 830, 840

Take a tour of the Capitol and keep your eye out for one of the members of the honorary Girl Scout Troop, Troop Capitol Hill. Established by GSUSA, all female members of Congress are eligible to be members of this troop. They work to advance policy solutions to unleash girls' potential. If your Senator or Representative is a member of Troop Capitol Hill, make sure to have your Girl Scouts write them a letter on what policies you feel will help all girls have courage, confidence, and character. Don't forget to take a picture of yourself or your troop while you're here!

Capitalsaurus Court; First and F SE

https://blogs.loc.gov/inside_adams/2024/01/capitalsaurus/

Capitalsaurus Ct, Washington, DC 20003

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/EraD6bokX1vZYJ5H7>

Metro: Capitol South (Blue, Orange, Silver)

A dinosaur bone found in 1898, only a few blocks from the US Capitol, was catalogued and filed away at the Smithsonian for many years. It took multiple scientists over many decades to determine the bone was from a new species of dinosaur. A paleontologist working for the Smithsonian published an article in 1990, dubbing the new dinosaur "Capitalsaurus". After advocacy by 5th and 6th graders, the "Capitalsaurus" was designated the official dinosaur of the District, and the block where the bone was originally found named "Capitalsaurus Court". Take a photo of yourself or your troop with the street sign and share what your favorite dinosaur is.

Various

The Sign of the State Street of Where You Traveled From

<https://boundarystones.weta.org/2020/09/23/whats-name-state-avenues>

Varies by location

If you're visiting from somewhere outside of DC, find the street with the name of the state you live in. All 50 states have a street, though some are shorter than others. Find a spot somewhere along the street of your state and safely take a picture of yourself or your troop with the street sign!

The Embassy For the Country You Traveled From

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1iUofBx0JzuCFRrus1sb-jDepE9rTlbc&usp=sharing>

Varies by location

There are Girl Scouts of the United States of America members all over the world! USAGSO is the overseas council. If you're visiting from a USAGSO country or a member of a different WAGGGS organization, find the Embassy of the country you're visiting from. You need an appointment to enter, but enjoy seeing the architecture of the Embassy, and what other Embassies are nearby. Be respectful when you take a photo of yourself or your troop while you're there!

One of the Original DC Boundary Stones

<https://www.boundarystones.org/>

Varies by location

Washington DC was originally a square! Land was taken from both Virginia and Maryland to create the seat of government of our nation. The original boundary of the District was marked by stones placed at one mile intervals. These Boundary Stones are the oldest Federal monuments, with many still standing in or near their original placement location from the 1790s. Go on an adventure and find at least one of them. Many are on private property, so be sure to be respectful when visiting. Don't forget to take a picture of yourself or your troop while you find the boundary stone.

National Parks Girl Scout Ranger Program

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/youthprograms/girlscoutranger.htm>

and

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/youthprograms/upload/Girl-Scout-Ranger-Program-Activity-Tracking-Sheet.pdf>

Varies by location

GSUSA and the National Park Service have partnered to create the Girl Scout Ranger Program. If a Girl Scout spends 5 hours doing programs, volunteer work, or service projects at one or more National Park locations, they earn a certificate. By spending 10 hours, the Girl Scout earns a patch! With so many parts of the Scavenger Hunt being National Park locations, and many more in Washington DC, you're sure to earn hours towards your certificate or patch. Junior Ranger programs at different locations count towards the hours as well!

Order patches from here:

<https://npsmailings.nationalservicegear.org/site/product/C-NPS0542-PATCH>