



*Historic
Garden Week*

**OLD TOWN
ALEXANDRIA**
HOUSE AND GARDEN
WALKING TOUR

**Saturday,
April 18, 2026**
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tulipa
'Kingsblood'

**TOURS BENEFIT RESTORATION OF HISTORIC GARDENS
AND LANDMARKS IN VIRGINIA**

TICKETS ONLINE [GCVIRGINIA.ORG/HISTORIC-GARDEN-WEEK/](https://gcvirginia.org/historic-garden-week/)



OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

HOUSE AND GARDEN WALKING TOUR

Saturday, April 18, 2026

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Hosted By

The Hunting Creek Garden Club The Garden Club of Alexandria

Co-chairs

Betsy Regnell and Maureen Bates

Tickets:

Online: gcvirginia.org \$55 pp.

(at first house you visit with proof of purchase, you will be given a wristband which will provide access to other houses on the Tour)

Local (day of tour only): \$65 pp.

Alexandria Visitors Center,

221 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia

(Tour tickets are NOT sold at the tour houses)

Refreshments: Complimentary light refreshments available at **St. Paul's Episcopal Church 228 S.**

Pitt Street from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (the church will also be open for touring)

Facilities: Alexandria Visitors Center, 221 King Street, The Lyceum – Alexandria's History Museum, 201 S. Washington Street, and The Athenaeum, 201 Prince Street.

Directions: Take exit 177 A-B from the Capital Beltway. Follow signs for Alexandria/Old Town and Rt. 1 North. Look for signs for the **Alexandria Visitors Center, 221 King Street.**

Metro: The nearest Metro Station is King St. (Blue/Yellow line). A free trolley will bring guests from the station to the Visitors Center.

Paid parking recommended: Street parking in residential areas is not recommended. Paid parking is available at: Cameron St. and North St. Asaph St.; Cameron St. and North Pitt St.; South Pitt St. between Prince and King Sts.; North Fairfax St. at King St.; and, North Union St. between King and Cameron Sts.

Photography Policy: Photography of any kind, including via mobile phones, is prohibited at tour properties.

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Equal Housing Opportunity. Each office is independently owned and operated.

Tour Properties

- 1 312 Queen St.
- 2 115 Prince St.
- 3 209 S. Fairfax St.
- 4 511 Prince St.
- 5 317 S. St. Asaph St.

-  **T** *Day-of Ticket Sales*
Alexandria Visitors Center,
221 King St.
-  **R** *Refreshments*
St. Pauls, 228 S. Pitt St.
-  **M** *Marketplace at the Athenaeum*
Athenaeum, 201 Prince St.

Places of Interest

In Old Town Alexandria

- A** Carlyle House,
121 N. Fairfax St.
- B** Farmers' Market,
100 block of N. Royal
Street and Tavern Square
Courtyard
- C** The Lyceum Museum,
201 S. Washington St.
- D** The Lee-Fendall House
614 Oronoco St.

Near Old Town Alexandria
American Horticultural Society
at River Farm,
7931 E Boulevard Dr.

George Washington's Mount
Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon
Memorial Hwy.

Gunston Hall,
10709 Gunston Rd, Lorton

Green Spring Gardens,
4603 Green Spring Rd.

Old Town Supporters

- G** Alexandria Fine Rugs, 423 King St.
- Alexandria Restaurant Partners*
- H** Ada's on the River, 3 Pioneer Mill Way
- I** Barca Pier and Wine Bar, 2 Pioneer Mill Way
- J** Mia's Italian Kitchen, 100 King St.
- K** Corcoran McEneaney, 109 S. Pitt St.
- L** Enchanted Florist, 139 S Fairfax St.
- M** King's Jewelry, 609 King St.
- N** Market Square Shop, 202 King St.
- O** Sara Campbell, 320 Prince St.
- P** The Warehouse, 214 King St.

Supporters from outside Old Town

E.T. Valley Farm At Mont Medi, Sperryville
Merrifield Garden Center, Merrifield
Pohanka Automotive Group, Chantilly

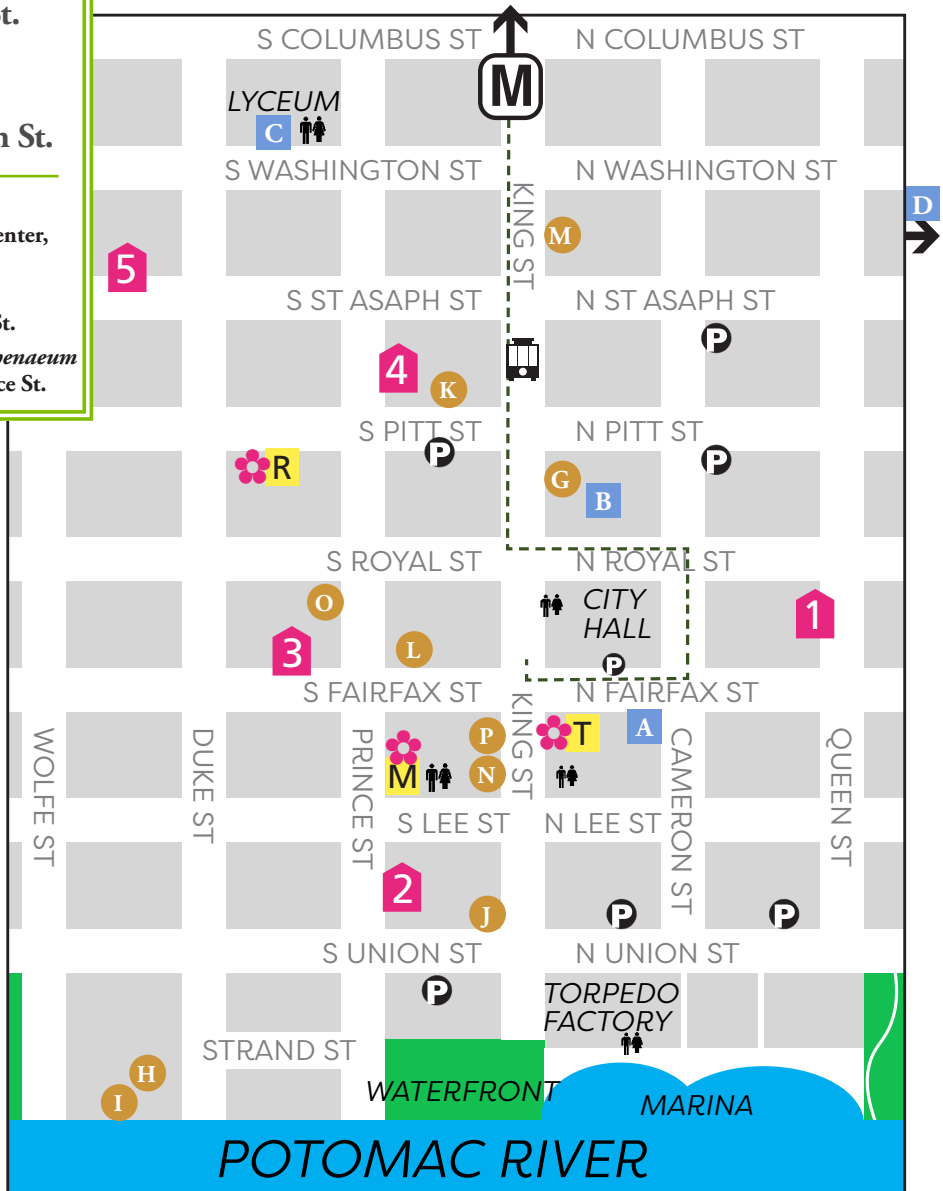


OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA

HOUSE AND GARDEN WALKING TOUR

Saturday, April 18, 2026

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Free King Street
trolley route - - -



Restrooms

Specialty boutique vendors

Marketplace

at the
Athenaeum

201 Prince St.

Open from 9:30 a.m. until
4 p.m. during the tour



Bartlett Tree Experts will have an educational
table and free tree saplings while they last from
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in front of the Athenaeum

Important Information: All properties on this tour are in zip code 22314.

Tour tickets are NOT sold at these locations.

Tickets include admission to the following

Overlooking the Potomac River with views of our nation's capital, Old Town Alexandria exudes charm while protecting its rich historic roots. Founded in 1749, Alexandria was a key seaport before the Revolutionary War, occupied by Union troops during the Civil War, and served as a torpedo production site during World War II. In 1946, Alexandria became the third city in the country to establish a historic district, safeguarding its architectural heritage.

This leisurely walking tour of Old Town Alexandria features private townhomes and secluded gardens along the tree-lined streets of the historic district. Additionally, the tour ticket includes admission to two Garden Club of Virginia restoration projects within a short driving distance — George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens and Green Spring Gardens.

Private Homes, Gardens and Property

1. 312 Queen St.

The house sits on a lot with a rich and layered history dating back to the Colonial era. First sold in 1750 to Jonathan Roe with the condition that a structure be built within two years, the property was transferred in 1752 to William Ramsay, an original trustee and the first mayor of Alexandria, who would serve for 36 years. Ramsay's tenure saw multiple informal transfers of the property, including one that same year to his brother-in-law, Daniel McCarty. A copy of the original deed and indenture from this transaction, notably witnessed by a 20-year-old George Washington—then recently appointed surveyor of Culpeper County—is proudly displayed in the home's main room. The original document, believed to still be in the possession of Ramsay's descendants, bears one of Washington's earliest known signatures. Construction of the current dwelling, excluding the later rear kitchen addition, began around 1796–1797 and was completed in 1798 under the ownership of Isabella Shaw and her husband, John Elton, a local carpenter. Over the centuries, the house has remained closely tied to American history. During World War II, Fleet Admiral William “Bull” Halsey owned the home, and his tenant, George Kennan, would later serve as U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union. More recently, the property was owned by Don Beyer, a former U.S. ambassador to Switzerland and current member of Congress, and his wife, Megan, until it was purchased by the current owner in 2012.

Miguel Estrada, owner



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To toast the artistry of nature and the joy of the season, we invite Garden Week guests to continue the experience beyond the gates.

Visit Ada's On The River, BARCA Pier & Wine Bar, or Mia's Italian Kitchen and ask for Flower Drop – a special off-menu cocktail created exclusively in honor of Historic Garden Week.

Where nature's artistry meets the warmth of the table.



5 properties and gardens and refreshments at

2. 115 Prince St.

Situated on Alexandria's iconic Captain's Row, this elegant townhome combines timeless charm from colonial times, maritime history, and garden beauty. Built in 1783 and surveyed by a young George Washington in 1784, it originally served as a haven for sailors, offering food, lodging, supplies, and a well-used tavern that is now the dining room. After a fire in 1827, the lot sold for just \$100. The current brick house was constructed in 1853 by an Italian ship captain and his Irish wife. From rare documents, we know the history of each owner and have copies of every deed. There are even documented ghost stories. Pine floors, crown moldings, and five fireplaces showcase its enduring character. A detached kitchen once stood in the garden to prevent fires, and the parking space was once a chicken coop. A grand living room, added in 1938, remains largely unchanged. The garden provides a peaceful retreat with blooming camellias, azaleas, star jasmine, roses, and boxwoods.

Cheryl Amyx, owner

3. 209 S. Fairfax St.

The exact age of the house is unknown, but John Kempf is believed to have lived here as early as 1787. Before 1811, it housed a tannery and a coach-building shop. In 1833, a prominent Alexandrian, John Green, purchased it. He operated a furniture factory across the street, now the Green Steam condominiums. It remained in his family until the 1890s, when it was divided into 207 and 209 and handed down to Green's two children. His daughter, Frannie Lee Kemper, received 209. Over the years, many additions were made, such as the dining room and kitchen, after the Civil War. The family room was added a century later, with a second floor built in the early 2000s. In the 1960s, Henry Fowler, Treasury Secretary during the Johnson administration, bought and renovated the home. American Home magazine published an article about it in 1964. The current owners purchased the property in 2015. They excavated the basement to create a wine cellar inspired by Mount Vernon's and added a downstairs bedroom and family room. During construction, they discovered miles of secure telephone lines within the walls, which allowed Secretary Fowler to have direct access to the White House in the 1960s.

Adria Villar and Amir Tayrani, owners



St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 228 S. Pitt St.

4. 511 Prince St.

This historic residence dates to May 7, 1763, when George Washington bought about two acres of land in Alexandria. He built a house for himself on Cameron Street. The remaining land was at the corner of Pitt and Prince Streets, stretching west to what is now 511 Prince Street. Washington constructed two rental houses, and the vacant lots were leased to a builder who, in 1793, built the houses from 503 to 511 Prince Street. After Washington died in 1799, the properties were transferred to Martha Washington. By 1855, William McVeigh, a well-known Alexandria architect and builder, expanded the house. A small hallway room, called a hyphen, between the living and dining rooms, connects the original house to the new addition. By the early 1900s, the house had been converted into a five-unit apartment building; however, by mid-century, it had reverted to a single-family home. Its four finished floors include three bedrooms, a library, a den, an office, and a family room. Initially heated by wood, it contains ten working fireplaces. The current owner has enjoyed this beautiful home since 2001.

Dave Cleary, owner

5. 317 S. St. Asaph St.

The origins of this property date back to a land grant from King Charles II to Sir Richard Berkeley, the then-Governor of Virginia, dated May 2, 1669. It wasn't until around 1750-70 that a simple "flounder" house was built, consisting of a fireplace room with a bedroom above. Flounders were popular at the time, characterized by a high, windowless back and a steeply sloping roof. It is believed that these relatively inexpensive structures were built to meet the requirement of construction within two years of ownership and included a windowless wall to reduce the then-existing "glass tax." In 1820, the front of the house was constructed, which still features the original staircase. By 1860, a bay window had been added to the façade. The kitchen was originally located in the old smokehouse but was later connected to the main structure. A new kitchen was added in 1980. The garden was designed to bloom sequentially throughout the growing season. The decorative millstone in the garden was brought from Hanover County, Virginia, in the early 20th century. This property was opened for Historic Garden Week in 1944.

Ruthie Birch, owner

Marketplace

at the
Athenaeum

201 Prince St.

Open from
9:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.
during the tour



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Places of Interest

GCV Carlyle House Historic Park

121 North Fairfax St.

Carlyle House will be conducting garden tours on April 18th from 11am-3pm. Garden tours are free, donations appreciated. The house will be open from 10am-4pm and tours run on the half hour. A discounted ticket is available for purchase for \$5 for anyone with a valid Historic Garden Week ticket or wristband on April 18th. The garden was completely restored from funds raised by Historic Garden Week. carlylehouse.org

The Lee-Fendall House Museum & Garden

614 Oronoco St.

The Lee-Fendall House was a continuous private home from 1785 through 1969. Built in 1785 by Philip Fendall on land purchased by Revolutionary War General "Light Horse" Harry Lee, the house was home to many members of the prominent Lee family, served as a Civil War hospital from 1863-65, and was the last private residence of labor leader John L. Lewis. Today, the Lee-Fendall House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is one of Alexandria's most popular museum destinations.

With a valid Historic Garden Week ticket or wristband on April 18, 2026, visitors will have the chance to explore the first and second floors of the house, stroll through the museum's iconic garden, and view the temporary exhibition *Shall Not Be Denied: Alexandria Women and the Fight for the Ballot* all free of charge. leefendallhouse.org

River Farm

7931 East Boulevard Dr.

River Farm, headquarters to the American Horticultural Society, aims to be a national showcase for environmentally responsible gardening and horticultural practices. One of George Washington's original five farms, the 25-acre site overlooking the Potomac River features a blend of formal and naturalistic gardens including a four-acre meadow, an orchard, a children's garden, and a teaching garden. HGW visitors will receive free admission, parking and a tour of the manor house between 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. More details at AHSGardening.org

GCV George Washington's Mount Vernon

Eight miles south of Alexandria on the GW Pkwy and situated on the Potomac River lies the home of George and Martha Washington. From the end of the American Revolution in 1783 to his election to the presidency in 1789, Washington replaced outbuildings, reshaped gardens, created new lawns, planted trees and even realigned roads and lanes. With funding from Historic Garden Week, the Garden Club of Virginia has helped to restore Mount

Vernon's bowling green, one of the major landscape features on this vast plantation. Free admission to the grounds only with a valid HGW ticket/wristband on April 18, 2026. The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, owners. mountvernon.org

GCV Green Spring Gardens

4603 Green Spring Rd.

This public garden and historic site include Virginia's only Beatrix Farrand garden, which was recently restored by the Garden Club of Virginia. In 1784, gentleman freeholder John Moss built a brick house on several hundred acres of farmland. In 1942, young power couple Michael and Belinda Straight bought the house and 33 acres and engaged Farrand to design a simple garden room behind the house: a spacious lawn enclosed by a boxwood crescent with a stone retaining wall. The GCV restored the stone wall, rejuvenated the boxwoods, and redesigned a more recently-installed perennial bed to reflect Farrand's signature plant choices. In 1970, the Straights deeded their house and 18 acres to the Fairfax County Park Authority. fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring

Gunston Hall

15 mi. south of Alexandria, off U.S. Rt. 1 on Rt. 242

This 550-acre National Historic Landmark was the home of George Mason (1725-1792), author of The Virginia Declaration of Rights. The estate consists of a Georgian mansion, c.1755, and reconstructed kitchen, dairy, laundry and schoolhouse. The Potomac River is viewed from the historic boxwood garden. While not a current restoration project of the Garden Club of Virginia, the GCV assisted Gunston Hall with landscaping work from 1949-53. gunstonhall.org

St Paul's Episcopal Church

228 S. Pitt St

St. Paul's Episcopal Church began in 1809 in a small building on South Fairfax Street between Prince and Duke Streets. In 1817, one of the Country's most famous architects, Benjamin Henry Latrobe, was chosen to design the present church. Appointed by President Jefferson in 1803 as surveyor of public buildings in Washington, D.C., Latrobe completed the U.S. Capitol begun by William Thornton, and designed Statuary Hall and the former Supreme Court room. In 1807, he completed the White House, designed both porticos and later restored the building after the War of 1812. An outstanding example of American architecture, inspired by the gothic churches in Europe, the interior of St. Paul's is said to have been modeled after St. James Church, Piccadilly, London. The exterior is said to be modeled after Peterborough Cathedral. stpaulsalexandria.com



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