



Attractions Big & Small

Charlottesville Historic Walking Tour

(Charlottesville)
0-1 hour drive • \$3

While just ambling through Court Square and admiring the architecture gives the feeling of stepping back in time, families can learn more about Charlottesville's early years by taking a one-hour walking tour given by the local historical society. This tour is great for grown-ups and older children, but a self-guided brochure allows families to set their own pace. Highlights include the Albemarle County Court House, Number Nothing – once a double store building, the Red Land Club on the site of Old Swan Tavern made famous by Jack Jouett, Old Town Hall, Christ Episcopal and First Methodist Churches, Lee Park, the McIntire Library and the Old Village Library, to name a few. **📅** Early April-Oct: Sat 10am, 200 Second Street NE. \$3 donation; children (under 12) and school groups free. Group visits welcome. Food at attraction. www.albemarlehistory.org • (434) 296-1492



Charlottesville Ice Park (Charlottesville)

0-1 hour drive • \$4-\$8

Whether you're captivated by the gracefulness of figure skating or the excitement of hockey, the Charlottesville Ice Park on the Downtown Mall is the place to be for year-round fun. Public skating sessions are held throughout the week as well as classes in figure skating, hockey and broomball. The UVa Ice Hockey and local recreational hockey teams call the ice park home, which makes watching games and practices fun. The figure skating club puts on great shows, and special events are planned throughout the year. Children love to have their birthday parties at the Ice Park, and families enjoy just getting out on the ice and having fun. An on-site pro shop has everything you need, including skate sharpening and repair services. Park for two hours free in the Water Street Garage or at reduced rates at the Omni Hotel. **📅** Public skating hours vary daily, 230 West Main Street. Public skating: adults \$8, children (under 5) \$3.75. Skate rental: adults \$1.50, children (under 5) \$0.25. Group visits welcome. Food at attraction. www.icepark.com • (434) 817-2400

What Readers
Have to Say!

"The Ice Park staff is fabulous; the facility is always clean and welcoming. The location is fantastic – so convenient. The price is right for a day of family fun and we can accomplish other things on the same trip, be it the VA Discovery Museum, City Market or just a trip to the Mudhouse for Mom and Dad."

Tiffany Keaton

Deauville Fallow Deer Farm (Basye)

1-2 hour drive • FREE

If your children love Bambi, they'll be thrilled with a visit to Deauville Fallow Deer Farm in the Shenandoah Valley. Children are welcome at this farm, which is home to a population of 100+ fallow deer that the kids can see up close and personal as the animals graze and run through the farm's country setting. This small organic farm's belief is that it can "show people how to raise their own healthy food on a little bit of land, simply by just doing it," so plan on picking your own veggies while there. The kids can feed the deer and see the chickens. For moms and dads who appreciate fine arts and crafts, the Farm Store has a nice selection of gifts and seasonal food items including venison. **📅** April-Nov: Fri-Mon 10am-4pm; Winter: Sun 10am-4pm, 7648 Crooked Run Road. Free. Donations welcome. Group visits welcome. • (540) 856-2130



Dillwyn Train - James River Rambler

(Dillwyn)
1-2 hour drive • \$12-\$25

If you love the sound of a distant train whistle or have always been mesmerized by the rhythmic passing of train cars at a crossing, this is the kind of experience you and your whole family will treasure for years. Each May and June, the James River Rambler offers 1-1/2 hour trips to Johnson or 3-1/2 hour round trips to New Canton. During your trip you can experience the excitement of traveling



TIP!

Pack your train whistle and striped engineer's cap for a daytrip to Dillwyn! In the spring, the James River Rambler takes riders on a serpentine trip beside the James River where they can enjoy the beauty of Virginia's state tree, the dogwood. Come back for the fall colors in October. There is also a special Civil War re-enactment trip each fall. Most exciting for little ones is a ride with Santa in December. Generally trips are booked two months in advance but the Santa train tickets are sold early – in August – so mark your calendar. Arrive early for your trips so you can be sure to get a seat on the train. The Depot Diner, also on Main Street, is a nice spot to grab a bite to eat.