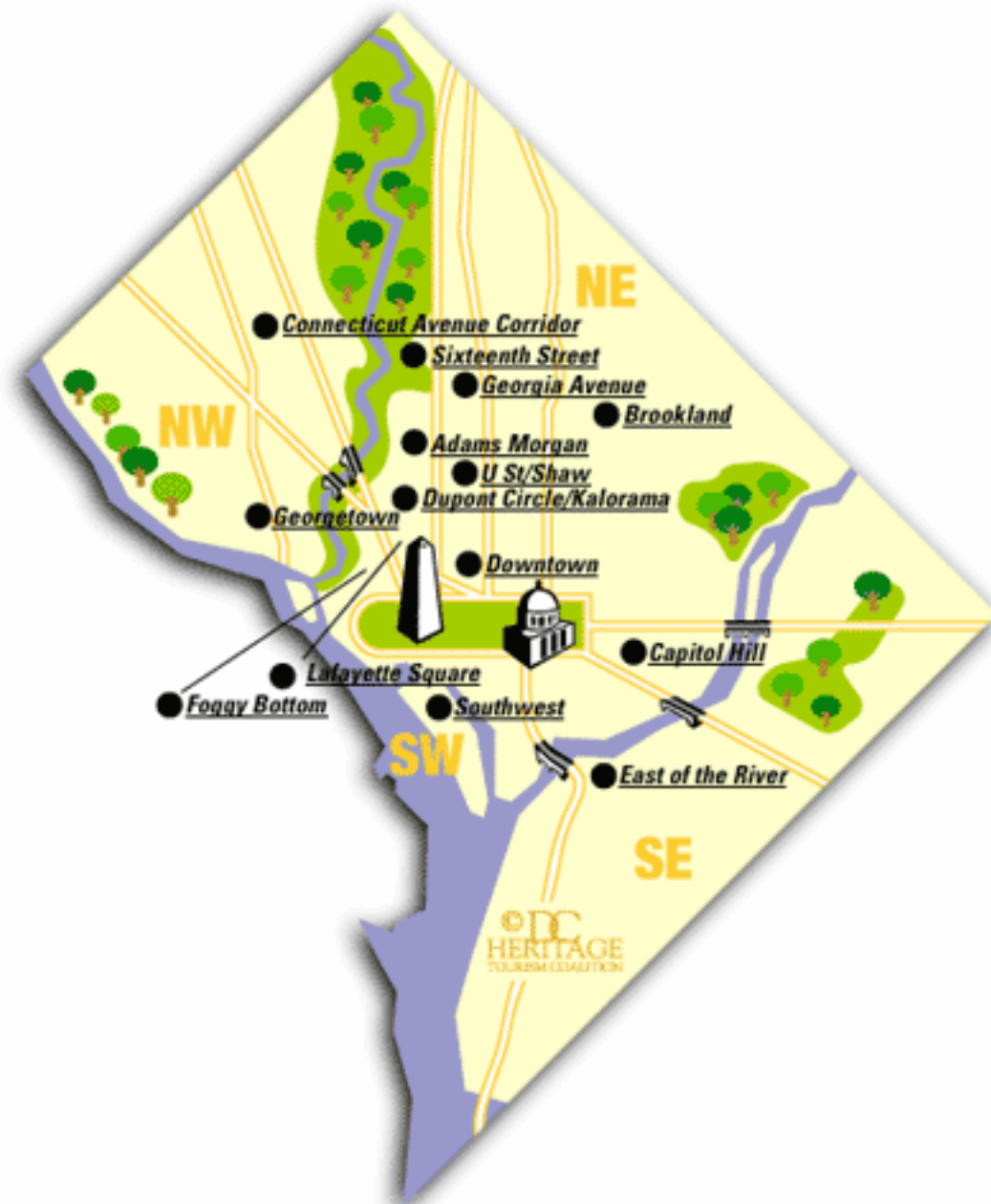


Washington, DC

DC is a great city full of history and culture that becomes home to a large number of UVA alumni. Our nation's capital is truly a diverse region of people, cultures, and lifestyles, making it one of the most exciting cities in the country to live. In addition, its strong economy and diverse industries make it a desirable home for the young professional. With a variety of suburbs and neighborhoods throughout the region, you are sure to find a community that fits your lifestyle. Settled by the Potomac River, the map below generally depicts DC and its suburbs.



HOT SPOTS IN WASHINGTON, DC

Adams Morgan• The heart of Adams Morgan lies at the intersection of Columbia Road and 18th St., NW. Many young people live here, although it is generally not considered the safest of places. At night and especially on the weekends, 18th Street comes alive as a main place that Washingtonians come to party. Favorites: Tom-Tom's, Saki, Heaven & Hell, Dan's Café, Millie & Al's, Cashion's, City's. Never forego late-night pizza in Adams Morgan!

Bethesda• Bethesda is a small bustling suburban city with many great restaurants. Be sure to check out the NIH summer outdoor movie series (see www.filmfestnih.org for details). Favorites: Rock Bottom, Black's (popular after work), Tia Queta (tiny but a great rooftop), Ri-Ra, Barking Dog, Grapeseed, Jaleo.

Capitol Hill• Considered a very diverse neighborhood, many politicians, staffers, and interns live in the condos and historic rowhouses on Capitol Hill. Be sure to check out Eastern Market (Saturday & Sunday year-round) for fresh produce, antiques, local art, photography and imported treasures. Favorites: Hawk & Dove, Lounge 201, La Lomita.

Clarendon• Clarendon is a neighborhood in North Arlington full of new retail, restaurants, and bars. Many young people frequent establishments in Clarendon because they're convenient to their Arlington apartments. You're very likely to run into UVA alumni here. Favorites: Clarendon Ballroom, Clarendon Grill, Mister Days, Whitlows, Faccia Luna, Boulevard Woodgrill, Harry's Tap Room.

Shirlington• Shirlington is a relatively new neighborhood in South Arlington. It's a quick trip (barring traffic) up I-395 to DC. There's an artsy movie theater here to catch your favorite non-mainstream flicks. Also check out the Birchmere, a truly unique concert venue nearby – and the tapas and billiards places on the main strip. Favorites: Carlisle Grand, Thai Shirlington, Maggie Moo's.

Dupont Circle• Dupont Circle in Northwest, DC is a vibrant, cosmopolitan neighborhood that attracts the gamut of picnickers, businesspeople, students, sunbathers, families, protesters, chess players, and assorted passersby. The centerpiece of the Circle is the Dupont Memorial Fountain, designed by the same sculptor as the Lincoln Memorial. Dupont is known for great restaurants, shopping, and watering holes (including many gay bars – favorite: Cobalt). It offers everything from farmer's markets to drag bingo. Favorites: Front Page, Buffalo Billiards, Buca Di Beppo, Thaiphoon, City Lights of China.

Georgetown• Georgetown is a cultural hub, featuring great (but pricey) shops, galleries, restaurants, bars, entertainment, and historic homes. Have a drink on the waterfront and enjoy the view of the Kennedy Center across the water. You'll find a lot of students here but not a lot of parking. Keep in mind that the Metro does not have a station in Georgetown. Favorites: The Tombs, Clyde's, Old Glory, Modern, Sequoia, Tony and Joe's.

"Mid-town"• This is a fancy name for the business district. If you work in DC, chances are you work here – south of Dupont in the vicinity of the Farragut North and West Metro stations. Happy hour and later-night favorites: Café Asia, Mackey's, Sign of the Wale, Ozio, Rumor's, MCCXXIII (1223), Lucky Bar, McFaddon's.

Old Town• This quaint area is just off the Potomac, making it a great place to visit during the summer. The brick row houses and sidewalks are sure to remind you of the Corner. Visit the Torpedo Factory during the day to see artists at work. Enjoy bike trails, walking paths and a beautiful drive down the George Washington Parkway. Great date spot! Favorites: Chart House, Murphy's Irish Pub, Ben & Jerry's.

Pentagon Row• This newly constructed area is full of great shopping (Pentagon City mall right next door), restaurants and bars. Dine outside during the summer; ice skate here in the winter. It's also where you can satisfy your Smoothie King fix after leaving C'ville. Favorites: Thaiphoon, Champs, Sine, Lebanese Taverna, Saigon Saigon.

Reston• Suburbia heaven? Reston is convenient to shopping, bars, recreation, and entertainment. There is an ice skating rink in the winter. Accenture has a huge new building in Reston, and the area is becoming a hot spot for companies to relocate. It's a 35-minute commute to DC but a lot of young adults live and work here. Favorites: On the Border, McCormick and Schmick's, Morton's, Big Bowl.

Smithsonian/ National Mall (also close to MCI Center)• Visit the nation's numerous FREE museums here. Enjoy "Screen on the Green" (outdoor movie series) or softball games on the Mall every summer. Also check out the Sculpture Gardens (great date place) for live jazz on summer Friday nights and ice-skating in the winter and Haines Point, home to a golf course, driving range and great picnic spots. Favorite establishments: Old Ebbitt Grill, Ten Pehn.

Tysons Corner• Suburbs of VA. Plenty of shopping, with two malls. Lots of businesses (Ernst & Young, PwC, BearingPoint, KPMG, American Express, etc.). A lot of companies have moved out of the city and into Tysons. Great location to live because it's only 15-20 minutes away from the city, and major highways, including I-495 and I-66, are close by. There is a subway station (West Falls Church) in the area. Favorites: Maggiano's, Cheese Cake Factory, P.F. Chang's, Rainforest Café.

Chinatown• Home to the Verizon Center, the National Portrait Gallery, and the Shakespere Theater, Chinatown/Penn Quarter is one of the District's major entertainment hubs. The area is lined with shops, eateries, and bars. Favorites: include Clyde's, District Chop House, Zaytinya, Fado, Rocketbar, and Indebledu.

U Street• U Street is a historic neighborhood located north of Logan Circle. Known for being the center of the District's jazz scene and civil rights movement, the neighborhood has seen major redevelopment in the past few years. Favorites: Local 16, Marvin's, Busboys & Poets, Ben's Chili Bowl, Café St. Ex, Bar Pilar, and The Saloon.

H Street/ Atlas District• Burned down in the riots of 1968, H Street has seen a recent resurgence. Located north of Capital Hill, the neighborhood is home to some of the District's newest bars and restaurants. Favorites: Rock & Roll Hotel (not a hotel), The Pug, Sidamo, Dr. Granville Moore's, Palace of Wonders, and the Red and the Black.



TRANSPORTATION

DC has a reputation for bad traffic and confusing traffic patterns. Because of this, most professionals can be found commuting to work on foot or via Metro, but many still drive from Northern Virginia or Maryland. Traffic is significantly better on the weekends, and unless you live in the District itself, you will most likely want a car to get around suburbia for errands and other excursions.

Metro• Washington's Metro system has five main lines: Red, Blue, Green, Yellow, and Orange. Metro's one-way fare varies based on the distance of your trip (ranging from \$1.20 to \$4.60). Passes are available at vending machines in the stations, and attendants are very friendly and willing to help as necessary. Metro's hours of operation are as follows:

Day	Opening	Closing
Monday-Thursday	5:30 A.M.	Midnight
Friday	5:30 A.M.	3:00 A.M. Saturday
Saturday	7:00 A.M.	3:00 A.M. Sunday
Sunday	7:00 A.M.	Midnight

*Note: Hours of operation vary seasonally and during special events or emergencies. Also, when traveling late at night, be sure to check the scheduled departure time for the last train. For more information visit www.wmata.com.

Trains• Amtrak has trains that run in and out of the District. The District's primary train station is Union Station, which is also accessible by Metro and Metrobus. Visit www.amtrak.com for pricing.

Bus• Buses run throughout the DC area and can sometimes be a more direct route than the Metro. Metrobus stops are easy to identify by their red, white, and blue signs. Some have four-sided cases that include route and schedule information. For safety reasons, on selected routes operating after 9 p.m., you can ask the Metrobus driver to let you get off the bus anywhere along the route—not necessarily a bus stop. A regular one-way fare is \$1.20 or \$0.35 with a transfer from Metro. A one-day pass costs approximately \$3 for unlimited rides through 3 a.m. For more information visit www.wmata.com.

Rental Cars• With the prevalence of public transportation in the area, some people find that renting a car for trips and errands as necessary is more economical than owning or leasing a car. There are a variety of rental car agencies in and around DC, although for those younger than 25 years old it can be difficult to find an agency willing to rent to you. Enterprise Rent a Car will rent to drivers over 18 for a nominal fee. Visit www.enterpriserentacar.com for more information.

Taxi• There are many taxis throughout the DC metro area. If you're ever stuck without one, 703-522-3333 is the easy-to-remember number for the Red -Top Cab Company in Virginia. Taxis in DC are priced according to zones, whereas taxis in the suburbs are priced according to mileage. If you are taking a taxi from DC to a suburb, make sure to negotiate a fee beforehand or check for a meter.

Air• The region is serviced by three airports: Dulles, in Fairfax, Va.; National, in Arlington, Va.; and BWI, in Baltimore, Md. National is directly accessible via Metro. Dulles is serviced by taxi, SuperShuttle, Washington Flyer and 5A Metrobuses. BWI is serviced by taxi, Amtrak and SuperShuttle (transportation to BWI may cost you more, flights are often cheaper from here).

RENTING AN APARTMENT

Rent• You can expect to pay no less than \$1200/month for a single bedroom apartment and \$1500 for a two-bedroom apartment. Many UVA grads congregate in Arlington (Ballston, Courthouse, Clarendon), but you can find Wahoos in other areas as well, particularly downtown and in Alexandria.

Other Fees/Deposits• Generally your first month's rent and a security deposit (best case: \$0-\$200; worst case: up to one month's rent) are due upon signing a lease.

Advice• Talk to current tenants to see how helpful/reasonable the landlord is. How quickly are maintenance problems addressed? If they seem unsatisfied, you may want to look elsewhere. Also, ask whether there will be any major construction projects or improvements to the property going on while you live there. Commercial high-rises with professional management will probably cost you the most but also feature more amenities, have greater security, and be most attentive to problems. Typical leases are for a one-year term. Thereafter the term is month-to-month.

Renter's Insurance• Renter's insurance usually runs between \$100-\$200 a year to insure your apartment and belongings. For the best deal, try going through the same company that insures your car.

AREAS IN AND AROUND WASHINGTON, DC

Fairfax County, VA

Who lives there: Students, families, young professionals

Distance to DC: 10-40 min.

Transportation: Metro, bus, highway, back roads

Average price of two-bedroom apt: \$1250 per person per month

Pros: Less expensive, safe, nice area, easy commute for those who work in Fairfax

Cons: Can be a long commute to DC, traffic!

North Arlington, VA

Who lives there: Families, young professionals

Distance to DC: 5-15 min.

Transportation: Metro, bus, highway, back roads

Average price of two-bedroom apt: \$1400 per person per month

Pros: Easy commute, convenient to Metro, young crowd, safe, local retail & nightlife, UVa contingent

Cons: Expensive, lack of parking

Old Town Alexandria, VA

Who lives there: Student, families, young professionals

Distance to DC: 20 minutes

Transportation: Metro, bus, highway

Average price of a two-bedroom apt: \$1400 per person per month

Pros: Reminiscent of the Corner, great nightlife

Cons: Traffic, lack of parking

South Arlington, VA

Who lives there: Young people, families

Distance to DC: 10-20 min.

Transportation: Metro, bus, highway

Average price of two-bedroom apt: \$1250 per person per month

Pros: Easy commute, convenient to Metro, young crowd, local retail, "up-and-coming"

Cons: Expensive, lacking nightlife parking

Foggy Bottom, DC

Who lives there: Students, young professionals

Location: 10-min. walk to business district

Transportation: Metro, bus, by foot

Average price of a two-bedroom apt: \$1600 per person per month

Pros: Convenient, young neighborhood

Cons: Expensive, no parking

Georgetown, DC

Who lives there: Students, young professionals

Location: 10- to 30-min. walk to business district

Transportation: Bus, by foot

Average price of a two-bedroom apt: \$1600 per person per month

Pros: Convenient, young neighborhood, surrounded by retail & nightlife

Cons: Expensive, no parking, no metro

Capitol Hill, DC

Who lives there: Students, young professionals, politicians

Location: Center of the city

Transportation: Metro, bus, by foot

Average price of a two-bedroom apt: \$1300 per person per month

Pros: Convenient, young neighborhood

Cons: Expensive, lack of parking, may be considered less safe than other place's parking

Adams Morgan, DC

Who lives there: Students, young professionals

Location: 18th and Columbia (north of Dupont Circle)

Transportation: Metro, bus, by foot

Average price of a two-bedroom apt: \$1300 per person per month

Pros: Convenient, young neighborhood, close to popular nightlife

Cons: Expensive, lack of parking, may be considered less safe than other places

Dupont Circle, DC

Who lives there: Students, young professionals

Location: 19th and Connecticut; 10-min. walk to business district

Transportation: Metro, bus, by foot

Average price of a two-bedroom apt: \$1600 per person per month

Pros: Convenient, young, urban, trendy neighborhood

Cons: Expensive, lack of parking

Bethesda, MD

Who lives there: Young professionals, families

Distance to DC: 15-20 min.

Transportation: Metro, bus

Average price of a two-bedroom apt: \$1500 per person per month

Pros: Convenient to 270, the beltway and DC, metro accessible

Cons: Expensive, lack of parking

USEFUL WASHINGTON, DC LINKS

- <http://www.dchoos.org/> - U.Va. Club of DC
- <http://washingtondc.craigslist.org> – DC classifieds
- <http://www.washingtoncitypaper.com/> - DC classifieds
- <http://www.fairfaxcountyped.org/living.htm> - Web overview of living and working in Fairfax, VA
- <http://www.rrc.dc.gov/move1/site/default.asp> - Web overview of living and working in the District
- <http://www.relocationcentral.com/washington.html> - Relocation service for DC

***City Sheets were created by members of the McIntire Young Alumni Council (MYAC). MYAC and the Alumni Association are working together to keep them updated with the most current information. The information on these sheets is based on online research, information from tourism offices and local newspapers, and, most significantly, from the authors' personal experiences. All costs, fares, and rental prices are approximate estimates for 2009.**