



# Travel Ideas

## Family Fun With a Patriotic Twist

(NAPSA)—American families in search of vacation fun may enjoy a patriotic visit to the past.

In 2002, Valley Forge National Historical Park (located just outside Philadelphia) celebrates the 225th anniversary of the Continental Army's encampment there with special events and reenactments throughout the year.

Some 20 historic sites in the surrounding countryside have joined with the park under the banner "Patriots or Traitors? The Struggle for Philadelphia, 1777-1778." Hundreds of reenactors and colonial craftspeople will converge on the region to recreate the sights and sounds of 18th century America over 30 festive weekends.

Today, Valley Forge is a peaceful, 3,600-acre expanse of rolling hillsides dotted with log huts, rows of cannon, Washington's Headquarters, monuments and memorials to the soldiers who won our nation's freedom. Visitors can pick up a free map, watch a film, see museum displays and catch a tour bus in-season at the Visitors Center.

The park is open year-round, and charges \$2 admission to Washington's Headquarters from April through November. Picnic areas, a six-mile bike and foot trail and ten miles of horse trails offer recreational options, and can make it easy to spend a day at the park.

Colonial taverns, farmhouses and mansions in the surrounding countryside tell other chapters in the story that led Washington's men to Valley Forge. Cannon fire and musket powder fill the air in battle reenactments at Brandywine, Fort Mifflin and Cliveden.



**2002 marks the 225th anniversary of the Continental Army's encampment at Valley Forge.**

Craft fairs and living history demonstrations offer a glimpse of domestic life—and opportunities to purchase a souvenir of the past. Many Valley Forge countryside inns and taverns frequented by General George Washington and his opponent, British General Howe, are still welcoming travelers to enjoy a good meal or a beverage, along with a slice of history.

Hotels and inns throughout the Valley Forge countryside are joining in the celebration by offering affordable lodging, with free parking and no charge for children under 16 staying in their parents' room. Area attractions, museums, gardens and shopping venues are also offering special discounts. A free Visitors Guide, map and area driving tour booklet are available from the Valley Forge Convention & Visitors Bureau.

For information, log on to [www.valleyforge.org/np](http://www.valleyforge.org/np) or call 800-441-3549, ext. 7969 and ask for the free "Patriots or Traitors?" packet.