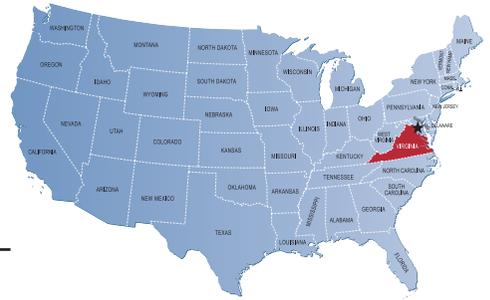


On the occasion of Greece’s entry into the Visa Waiver Program, the U.S. Commercial Service of the American Embassy in Athens is showcasing all 50 states and five territories in *Business Partners*.



DISCOVER AMERICA
Virginia

THE STATE CAPITAL BUILDING IN RICHMOND

Nicknamed ‘Old Dominion’ and ‘Mother of Presidents’ (eight Virginians have served as President of the United States), the Commonwealth of Virginia is a wonderful destination for history lovers. You can visit presidential estates, peruse its many museums, learn about important battlegrounds, discover Colonial Virginian culture at the Colonial Williamsburg living history museum, and explore Native American and African American culture at museums and cultural centers across the state.

Of course, Virginia is also great for wine lovers and foodies. With dozens of wineries, breweries and distilleries, the state caters to every taste. And that’s before you factor in the cuisine, which has much more to offer than just plump Virginia peanuts. Head to Chesapeake Bay and the Hampton Roads for oysters and crab, visit Smithfield to sample its world-renowned cured hams, check out the Highland Country Maple Festival, or treat yourself to authentic mountain fare in the Heart of Appalachia region in the state’s westernmost tip.

With forests covering 65% of the state and Virginia State parks consistently rated the best in the nation, Virginia is perfect for nature lovers too. There are countless opportunities to explore the state’s great outdoors: Discover the hiking trails and waterfalls of Shenandoah National Park, climb the Blue Ridge Mountains, go whitewater rafting in the Heart of Appalachia, ride horses on the shores of Chesapeake Bay, or wander the beaches on Assateague Island.

Whether you already know what you’re looking for or you just want to get lost and enjoy, you’re sure to find your love in Virginia. 🐾

OLD DOMINION

Land Area 42,774 square miles

Population 8,411,808

State Capital Richmond

Largest City Virginia Beach

Local Time Eastern – 7 hrs behind Greece

Climate The climate of Virginia is predominantly humid subtropical with continental influences, and gets warmer and more humid in the state’s south and east. Temperatures vary from average lows of -3 °C (26 °F) in January to average highs of 30 °C (86 °F) in July. The state has an annual average of 35-45 days of thunderstorm activity and average annual rainfall of approximately one meter (42 inches). Virginia can also get significant snow fall and averages seven minor tornadoes annually.

National Parks Shenandoah National Park