



## Why Washington DC is summer's hottest destination

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The [nation's capital city](#) is gearing up for an exciting summer of top events, marked by the reopening of one of DC's top literary attractions .

It's a summer packed with sports, festivals and free events.

"This summer, there's only one place where you can spend the day engaging with the work of virtuosos like Shakespeare, then spend the night consuming the work of acclaimed chefs," said Elliott L. Ferguson, II, president and CEO, [Destination DC](#).

"There's only one place where you can see star-studded concerts, cultural celebrations and fireworks with an iconic backdrop for free."

On June 21, the **Folger Shakespeare Library**, featuring the world's largest Shakespeare collection, will celebrate its grand reopening following an extensive, four-year renovation.

The reimagined space has two modern, state of the art exhibition halls featuring literary and historical pieces that have seldom been displayed to the public.

Welcoming new gardens, research spaces and expanded visitor amenities are just a few of the additions to this Capitol Hill landmark.

Summer is highlighted by iconic festivals and events, particularly over holiday weekends, such as America's largest **Memorial Day parade** (May 27).

Celebrate DC's LGBTQ+ community during **Capital Pride** (May 31-June 9), a prelude to **WorldPride** in the nation's capital next summer.

This year's **Smithsonian Folklife Festival** (June 26-July 1) celebrates the living traditions of Indigenous peoples, coinciding with the National Museum of the American Indian's 20th anniversary.

America's birthday celebration kicks off with a classic **July 4th parade** followed by "A Capitol Fourth" concert and fireworks on the National Mall.

Over Labor Day weekend, **DC JazzFest** celebrates its 20th anniversary with performances across the city.

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