

Frontier Six Top Picks

JULY 2008

In celebration of the 232nd Anniversary of our Independence our top picks for July are

Top Patriotic Places to Visit

#6: Mount Rushmore, Keystone, South Dakota

Mount Rushmore stands as a symbol of the highest office in our land, the Presidency, by memorializing four Presidents who established a legacy of greatness for our Nation. Washington was our first president and commander of our Continental Army; Jefferson, who was the author of our Declaration of Independence and the architect of the Louisiana Purchase, doubling the territory of our great Nation; Teddy Roosevelt left a legacy of conservation by establishing the National Park system and demonstrated the strength of our country by launching the “Great White Fleet;” finally, Lincoln remained true to the values and morals of our nation in the face of adversity, while holding the union together and extending freedom to ALL Americans. Having just traveled there with my family, I can attest to its magnificence and inspiring view. In fact, my children continue to talk about it a full two months later. If you go, bring plenty of water and light hiking clothes as the walk and the outdoors can be a challenge for the little ones or those who have some physical limitations.



#5: The Statue of Liberty, New York City, New York



Nothing says America quite like the Statue of Liberty—the first sight for millions of immigrants in search of freedom and a fresh start. Many of our grandparents and great grandparents passed by this great monument on their way to a land of opportunity and prosperity and in the process, helped proudly build our Nation into what it is today, a symbol of freedom and hope worldwide. If you go, take the ferry to Ellis Island and bring plenty of souvenir money along with a light lunch for a picnic with your family. Also don't forget to bring a camera, a light jacket, and an umbrella because the weather in the harbor can change in a moment's notice.

#4: Fort McHenry, Baltimore, Maryland

The British siege in the battle of 1812 inspired Francis Scott Key to scribble the words of our National Anthem on the back of an envelope. While you are here, make sure you visit the museum and take a view of the harbor and imagine what it must have felt like for Key as he drafted those famous lines that have served to inspire Americans for more than a century.

For a special memory for your children, purchase a copy of the words of the National Anthem in the gift shop and stand with your family at one of the overlooks and sing those famous words together. You and your children will remember this for years to come, no matter how musically challenged you are.



#3: Washington D.C.

What better place to acquire a sense of our Nation's values, power and history than our Capitol?

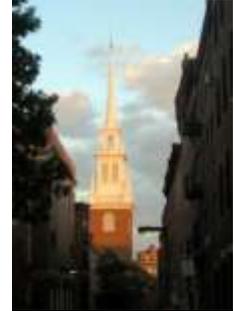
Washington D.C. is characterized by monuments galore including the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial and The Jefferson Memorial. Great edifices stand as symbols of our government including the Capitol Building, The White House, the Treasury Building, and the Supreme Court Building. Just across the river... you will find the Pentagon, Arlington National Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.



For something special, go to Arlington Cemetery just before dusk and watch the changing of the guard as the sun sets. Remind your children of the incredible sacrifice by so many men and women to preserve the freedoms that they enjoy today. The absolute precision and professionalism of the Honor Guard is a sight to be seen by all. Give yourself plenty of time to arrive before the last open to the public changing of the guard.

#2: Boston, Massachusetts

Boston is the birthplace of the revolution and the “Sons of Liberty.” No circuit of America’s great patriotic places is complete without a visit to Boston. The Boston Massacre, the Boston Tea Party, Paul Revere’s Famous Ride and the Battle of Bunker Hill all took place here. Walk the streets with your children proudly proclaiming “the British are Coming” in honor of Paul Revere’s memorable ride.



#1: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Philadelphia is truly the birthplace of our Nation. The Declaration of Independence and our Constitution were signed here. The patriot Benjamin Franklin called Philadelphia home. Our fledgling Continental Army persevered through a harsh winter at nearby Valley Forge. Bring your camera and visit Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell. Remind your children of the importance of remembering all that our Founding Fathers sacrificed in order that we might enjoy freedom and opportunity in our Nation.

