

Baltimore, Maryland - Charm City, USA

Baltimore is the principal city and port of entry of Maryland and is the 13th largest city in the US, with a metropolitan area population in excess of 2.5 million. More than 100,000 students live in the Baltimore metropolitan area.

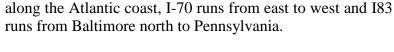
Baltimore was named for the first Lord Baltimore, George Calvert, who was granted a charter key by King Charles in 1632 to establish an English colony in the New World. The first settlement on the site was made in 1662, and the town of Baltimore was laid out in 1730.

The city owes its existence to the natural, deepwater harbor formed where the Patapsco River empties into the mammoth Chesapeake Bay. From its 1730 founding to the present, Baltimore has been a vital shipbuilding center and one of the nation's largest commercial ports.

Baltimore is centrally located and is only 40 miles away from Washington D.C., 70 miles away from Philadelphia, and is about 180 miles away from the New York City. By Maryland's MARC train it costs about \$5 and takes less than an hour to reach Washington, D.C. and by Amtrak train it costs about \$60 and takes about 2.5 hours to Reach New York City. You can



also reach New York by Greyhound bus for \$25-35 (about 4-hour trip). Baltimore–Washington International Airport is one of the biggest and busiest airports in the nation and is a hub for US Airways, Southwest and United Airlines. One can catch a direct flight from Baltimore to almost any major city in America. Three major interstate highways run through the Baltimore City: I-95 runs from north to south





Baltimore's Downtown is a unique architectural blend, where modern skyscrapers abut architectural masterpieces of the 19th and 20th century. Baltimore city is a patchwork of almost 200 neighborhoods, and many of them—such as Little Italy and Greektown—still bear the ethnic stamp of immigrants who began their steady stream into Baltimore when the city became one of the nation's official points of entry.



"Charm City" earns its nickname from renowned museums, top-notch performing arts, restaurants galore and historical sites that run the gamut from kitschy to courtly. Baltimore greater area is home to 23 colleges and universities, 15 art galleries, 21 museums, 10 theatres, the Baltimore Zoo, the National Aquarium, the Maryland Science Center, the Columbus Marine Science Center, the world-renowned Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and the Baltimore Opera Company, the Peabody Conservatory of Music, the Pimlico Race Course, the Baltimore Orioles and the 2001 Super

Bowl winners, the Baltimore Ravens. Baltimore is also well-known for the abundance of seafood and variety of ethnic restaurants as well as its rich nightlife. In fact some parts of the city like Fells Point, Inner Harbor, Canton and Federal Hill specialize in satisfying one's craving for food, music and dancing. The 14 blocks of Fells Point alone hold over 50 restaurants, clubs, bars, pubs and taverns. Most bars in the city feature special Happy Hour prices on selected days. Our students on Thursdays often enjoy \$1.25 draft beer at Gin Mills and 7\$ Pitchers of Margaritas on the deck of Little Havana bar and restaurant. For more information on night life in the Charm City please visit http://marylandnightlife.com and http://www.powerplantlive.com. Last year Baltimore was visited by more than 15 million tourists that spent almost 3.5 billion dollars.

Baltimore boasts a very good public transportation system, which includes a MARC train, a Metro, two light rail lines and over 70 local, express, and commuter bus lines. http://www.mtamaryland.com. If a student chooses to use public transportation, Johns Hopkins University partially subsidizes the cost.



The 15.5 mile, 14 station Metro Subway system is one of the most modern in the world. It operates every 8 minutes during rush hour, every 10 minutes during the day and every 15-20 minutes during evenings and on weekends. The Light Rail operates at 9 to17-minute intervals. The MARC train is the most convenient way to travel between Baltimore and Washington.

Today, Baltimore has a new image with state-of-the-art baseball and football stadiums at Camden Yards, office and apartment towers, a multimillion dollar, 1,200,000-square-feet convention center, numerous new hotels, cultural attractions, restaurants, concert pavilions, ships and marinas. As the industrial base has shifted out of the city, the city's new attractions and facilities are bringing in ever increasing number of tourists and convention goers. Baltimore is currently enjoying an extensive growth, a second renaissance, with more than \$1 billion in new development planned.



Links:

http://www.baltimore1.com/index.html

http://home.digitalcity.com/baltimore/visitorsguide/

http://www.baltimore.org http://www.colltown.org

Must see and do in Baltimore:

Whether you're seeking to give visitors a taste of the "real Baltimore," spending a year or two in the city or settling in for the long haul, Baltimore offers a wealth of cultural possibilities. Much of Baltimore's charm comes from its variety of neighborhoods, each of them offering something different for the entertainment seeker. Fell's Point features venues for theatre and poetry readings. Downtown and the Harbor are dotted with museums and galleries. Canton offers lots of night spots. And Charles Village boasts two fabulous places to get your movie-fix-the Charles Theatre and Video American. You won't find everything in one place, but you should soon discover that one of the perverse delights of Baltimore living is the challenge of uncovering the cultural gems hidden throughout the city.

Attractions



The National Aquarium is Maryland's #1 tourist attraction. The five-level structure houses over 14,000 marine and freshwater animals, a 220,000 gallon Open Ocean Tank with sharks and large game fish, a South American Rain Forest, and an Atlantic Coral Reef. Connected by a skywalk is a Marine Mammal Pavilion, which features a 1.2 million gallon pool inside a 1300 seat amphitheatre for viewing Beluga Whales and Atlantic Bottlenose Dolphins. Surrounding the pool is the world's largest acrylic window and two video walls.



<u>The Power Plant</u> is an old Baltimore Gas and Electric Company steampowered generating plant. Currently there are plans to bring in some new attractions. More updates as they become available.

<u>The Star-Spangled Banner Flag House and 1812 Museum</u> was built in 1793 and was the home of Mary Young Pickersgill, who made the 30x42 foot, 15-star, 15-stripe flag that flew over Fort McHenry during the British

bombardment on September 13-14, 1814 and inspired a Maryland lawyer, Francis Scott Key, to write the *Star-Spangled Banner*. Fort McHenry National Monument & Historic Shrine is open to public and hosts thousand of visitors a year.



<u>The Great Blacks in Wax Museum</u> is America's first and only museum of African-American history and culture. It houses over 100 life-size, lifelike wax figures in dramatic historical scenes.

<u>Boordy Vineyards</u> was established in 1945 and is Maryland's oldest and largest winery. Individual visitors and tour groups can sample wines and tour

the facility. Boordy also hosts a number of small concerts and get-togethers throughout the year. Rows of carefully tended vines, a cluster of charming 19th century farm buildings and shaded picnic grounds await the visitor. For more information please visit http://www.boordy.com.



The Maryland Science Center, Davis Planetarium and IMAX Theater captivate all ages with three levels of exciting hands-on exhibits and its national visitors center for the Hubble space telescope. The IMAX 3D theater screen is four stories tall and 57 feet wide, and gives you an incredible visual presentation.

<u>The Washington Monument</u> was the first monument built to George Washington in 1842. It was designed by Robert Mills. A statue of George Washington stands atop the 178-foot-high column with inside stairs to the top. The statue oversees the historic Mt.Vernon neighborhood. (see the picture in the description of the Mt. Vernon neighborhood).

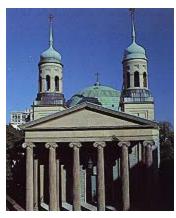
Baltimore Maritime Museum is anything but a museum. It consists of a Seven Foot Knoll Lighthouse and four separate ships that you can board, including the submarine *Torsk*, the lightship *Chesapeake*, *USS Constellation*, and the US Coast Guard Cutter *Taney*. Each ship in the fleet is a veteran. The Submarine *Torsk* sank the last enemy vessel of WWII and holds a record of 11,884 dives, the most of any US submarine. The US Coast Guard *Taney* is the only warship still afloat that saw the action during the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. It was the only vessel that actually engaged the incoming



Japanese plains. The *USS Constellation* is the last Civil War vessel afloat. This 1,400-ton, 179-foot sailing sloop was built in 1854. The US lightship *Chesapeake* guided mariners to safe harbor for over 29 years. The seven-foot Knoll Lighthouse was built in 1856 and is the oldest screw pile lighthouse in Maryland. It served Baltimore's Harbor for over 133 years.

The Basilica of the Assumption was built in 1821. It was the first Roman Catholic cathedral in the US. Pope Pius XI honored this cathedral with the rank of basilica in 1937. The Basilica of the Assumption was visited by His Holiness Pope John Paul II on October 8, 1995 and by Mother Teresa of Calcutta on May 29, 1996.

<u>Sherwood Gardens</u> is the place to be in mid-May to enjoy an extravaganza of color in over 5000 azaleas and 100,000 tulips. There you can also see pansies, dogwoods and flowering shrubs.





The City of Baltimore Conservatory houses a permanent collection of tropical, arid and rare plants from many lands. The palm house and greenhouses feature a wide variety of annuals and perennial, a tropical display, cacti, rainforest plants, etc.

The Baltimore Railroad Museum is located in the magnificent 1884 Baldwin roadhouse. The Museum presents the most historic and comprehensive railroad collection in America. The story of the American railroad begins at the Mount Clare Station when Charles Carroll laid the first stone for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad in 1828. In 1830, New York inventor Peter Cooper came to Baltimore to manufacture America's first steam locomotives. In the museum you can observe a famous collection of 50 antique locomotives, including the 1st America's freedom train, Imlay Coaches and replicas. In the yard you can find a display of larger, more recent equipment.



<u>Baltimore on Ice</u> operates during the winter season. Downtown's outdoor ice-skating center is located on the waterfront within walking distance of the Inner Harbor.

In Baltimore, you can also visit the <u>Babe Ruth Birthplace Museum</u>, the <u>National Museum of Dentistry</u> (the only museum of its kind in America), the <u>Public Works Museum</u>, the <u>Museum of Industry</u>, the

<u>Baltimore Civil War Museum</u>, the <u>Edgar Allan Poe House and Grave</u>, the <u>Baltimore Streetcar Museum</u> and many other attractions of Charm City. Also, just south of Baltimore you can visit the <u>Six Flags America Theme Park</u>.



Bay Lady and Lady Baltimore Harbor Cruises operate year round. The Bay Lady and the Lady Baltimore have two fully enclosed climate controlled decks, and an open air top deck that offer a panoramic view of Baltimore Harbor. You can enjoy a lunch cruise or a romantic dinner cruise while traveling down the Patapsco River. After dinner you can enjoy a romantic dance or retire to the observation deck for a spectacular view of the sunset.

Explore Baltimore by water. Take a <u>Water Taxi</u> around Downtown Baltimore and visit the Inner Harbor, Fells Point, Canton and Federal Hill neighborhoods.

Baltimore is less than an hour away from Washington, DC, a city full of museums, galleries, historic places and almost everything else your heart desires to see and experience.

Art and Culture



The Baltimore Museum of Art (left), which is comprised of many varied and comprehensive galleries and an outdoor sculpture garden, holds a treasure of outstanding art and craft. The Cone Wing contains a prized collection of Matisse's works – 42 oils, 18 sculptures, 36 drawings and 155 prints. There are also works of Picasso, Mondrian, Miro, Renoir, VanGogh, Cezanne, and many others. The Jacobs Wing contains works of Titian, Rembrandt, Van Dyck and Raphael. The Walters Art Gallery (right) has

over 25,000 items spanning over 5,000 years and 4 continents. The <u>Lewis Museum of Art</u> presents 19th and 20th century American European and traditional African art. The <u>Watermark Gallery</u> features original artwork by professional local artists in watercolor media, mixed media and photography. The <u>Water From the Moon Gallery</u> features craft art in all media from emerging and established American artists. The <u>Montage Gallery</u> presents exceptional regional and international fine art. The <u>Lucinda</u>



Gallery features works by New York and Baltimore artists on the "Steppin' Out" theme. The Tradestone



<u>Gallery</u> presents Russian crafts, lacquer boxes paintings, nesting dolls, icons, jewelry and much more. The <u>Gomez Gallery</u> features contemporary fine art. The <u>Craig</u>

Flinner Gallery specializes in vintage French poster and antique prints. The Angeline's Art Gallery specializes in Baltimore's scenes. The Art Gallery at Fells Point features works over 40 local artists. The Mahogany Exchange/Out of Africa Gallery showcase works by renowned African artists, oils and mixed media. The American Visionary Art Museum is the only one of its kind in the United States. It is dedicated to presenting works



of self-taught "visionary" or "outsider" artists. The biggest arts event in Baltimore is <u>Artscape</u>, a three-day festival of arts, crafts, food, and music in July, centered around the Maryland Institute College of Art in Bolton Hill. The <u>SoWeBohemian Arts Festival</u> is a similar one-day spring event held near <u>Hollins Market</u>. Though hot and crowded, both events are excellent introductions to the city's art scene.



In the summer the <u>Harbor Place Amphitheater</u> presents free Harbor Place's Summer Concerts, where local and East Coast bands present their work to the public. On Fridays the show presents a mix of rock, pop and progressive bands. On Saturdays the stage is given to Baltimore's local bands, while on Sundays you can enjoy local military, jazz, swing and zydeco bands. In nearby Towson, the <u>Recher Theatre</u>, a reconverted pool-hall-cum-concert venue with a capacity of 700, has been drawing large national acts as well as showcasing local bands. Recent performers have

included Macy Gray, Ziggy Marley, Moby, Dave Mathews, and George Clinton. <u>Bohager's</u> is a huge Fell's Point club with mostly modern rock played by national acts. You can enjoy food as well as the music by visiting their crab deck and restaurant. There's usually live music at least two nights a week, and other nights they have DJs and dancing. Recent shows have featured the Roots and the Violent Femmes. Be forewarned: on weekends Bohager's can get a little rowdy, so be prepared to get frisked at the door. <u>Fletcher's</u>, also located in Fell's Point, presents up-and-coming alternative and rock bands several nights a week. Downstairs, there are pool tables, foosball, and a 100-CD jukebox.

For Jazz lovers, <u>Normal's</u>, a bookstore in nearby Waverly, holds weekly performances that push the boundaries of avant-garde jazz in The Red Room. <u>Buddies Pub & Jazz Club</u> downtown offers local jazz performers, usually their house band, The Bing Miller Trio, in a casual setting. Baltimore's best-known jazz club is the <u>New Haven Lounge</u>. On Wednesday nights, they offer blues and barbecue; Fridays and Saturdays are jazz nights with no cover charge. Every evening, <u>Louie's Cafe</u> presents performances by local jazz bands; Wednesdays showcase swing.

The <u>Full Moon Saloon</u> is the place to go for live blues seven nights a week. Bring your favorite instrument Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights for the open jam session, where you can participate or just kick back and listen. Fridays and Saturdays feature national acts. The Full Moon Saloon serves Southern and Creole food and is equipped with a raw seafood bar

The <u>Pier Six Concert Pavilion</u>, <u>Baltimore Arena</u>, <u>Merriweather Post Pavilion</u>, <u>RFK Stadium</u>, and <u>MCI Center (Washington, D.C.)</u> all feature concerts by nationally performing pop and rock artists like Janet Jackson, Madonna, U2, etc.



The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (left) performs in the beautifully designed 2471-seat Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall and is directed by world-renown Maestro, Yuri Temirkanov. The Homewood campus features performances

in the Shriver Auditorium by the <u>Hopkins Symphony</u>

Orchestra. The Peabody Conservatory of Music (right) presents student and guest artists performing symphonies and operas. These concerts are usually free or offer a reduced price for Hopkins students. Peabody is the oldest music school in the United States and is an outstanding example of neo-Renaissance architecture. Peabody Conservatory is part of the Johns Hopkins University, where CMM students can take classes for free.





<u>Baltimore Lyric Opera House</u> was completed in 1894. This replica of Germany's Leipzig Neues Gewandhouse offers fine acoustics, making it perfect hall for Baltimore's larger musical productions. They also offer half-price tickets to students one-half hour before show time.



<u>The France-Merrick Performing Arts Center - Hippodrome Theater</u> is Broadway's home in Baltimore. This 2,280-seat house is the major stop for national touring companies and a preferred venue for exclusive pre-Broadway productions. <u>The Center Stage Theater</u>, Maryland's state theater, is the only theater in the city that creates its own productions with a staff of professional actors. It presents contemporary plays and innovative interpretations of classics in its two intimate theaters, where the audience is never more than 30 feet from

the actors. They offer student subscriptions and also sell student rush tickets the day of the show. <u>The Everyman Theater</u> is located in Mt. Vernon and presents everything from classics to new hits at affordable prices. <u>The Hopkins Theater</u> presents major American, British and Irish plays in a charming 1804 brick barn. <u>The Vagabond Players</u> and <u>Fell's Point Corner Theater</u> are located in historic Fells Point and offer a variety of plays. <u>The Axis Theater</u> presents contemporary shows, often with politically challenging themes. The <u>Spotlighters</u> also offer several shows each season including comedies and dramas.

Sports



<u>M&T Bank Football Stadium</u> is the home of the 2001 Super Bowl winners—<u>the Baltimore Ravens.</u> This state-of-the-art stadium was completed in 1998 and seats 69,000 people.



Oriole Park at Camden Yards, the most beautiful ballpark in the country, is the home of the <u>Baltimore Orioles</u>, Baltimore's professional baseball team. The stadium was completed in 1992 and seats approximately 48,000 people.



<u>Pimlico Racetrack</u> (left) is the site of the world-famous Preakness Stakes, Triple Crown, and the Dixie Handicap and is the America's second oldest thoroughbred race track. Pimlico has featured horse racing since 1870. It is also the home of the National Jockey's Hall of Fame. Also, horse lovers will enjoy Baltimore's <u>Laurel Park</u>, the site of the Maryland Million. Laurel Park offers live Thoroughbred and simulcast racing from across the country.

Baltimorians love their sport teams. Last year many buildings all over the city (including all of the Hopkins campuses) were lit up in purple to express their support for the Baltimore Ravens football team. (See picture on the next page.)

Maryland

The state of Maryland has an unusual topography, as it extends from the Atlantic Ocean shore to the Allegheny and Appalachian mountains, and thus offers a wide variety of recreational facilities. Baltimore's mild weather makes outdoor recreation accessible for much of the year. Eastern Maryland's Atlantic Coast offers many miles of beautiful beaches, while further inland, wildlife sanctuaries serve as

stopping points for migrating birds during the spring and autumn. Western Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania offer excellent hiking and picnicking among the rolling hills and farming country. There are many biking and hiking trails in the Baltimore area including the B&O Canal Trail along the Potomac river that provides access to Western Maryland where mountain biking and cross country ski trails also abound.



The Chesapeake Bay is famous for sailing and the sailing culture. Two sailing schools offer reasonablypriced courses: Getaway Sailing School and Downtown Sailing Center. For \$45 per season you can sail twice a month with the Getaway Sailing School's "Sailing Companions Club." You can also rent canoes, rowboats or kayaks. Harper's Ferry has a nice section for river boating. The Gunpowder Falls, Patapsco Valley, and Susquehanna State Parks all have lovely flatwater river boating as well. For wild birds and sea life, Assateague Island is unsurpassed. If you have your own boat, Lake Roland is only five miles from campus and provides a nice evening paddle. Sandy Point Park rents boats and you can enjoy sheltered ocean boating on the Chesapeake. There is even a boat launch in the Baltimore Harbor for those who don't mind paddling around with the water taxis (not for the faint of heart!). And we shouldn't neglect the rental paddle-boats available near the Aquarium at the Inner Harbor.

For those interested in white-water boating and rafting, three of the nation's premier white-water runs are

located within a day's drive of Baltimore: the Savage River in western Maryland, the Youghiogheny River in southwestern Pennsylvania, and the Gauley in central West Virginia. All three are home to outfitters who can fix you up with equipment, tours, and lessons. Occasionally, informal classes in kayak techniques are taught in the Hopkins pool.