



**nileGUIDE**

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



David Davies

# Baltimore History Guide

## **Baltimore, 4 Days**

### Table of contents:

- Guide Description 2
- Itinerary Overview 3
- Daily Itineraries 4
- Baltimore Snapshot 8

# Guide Description



**AUTHOR NOTE:** Baltimore has a rich maritime history as well as a stake in the civil war, Edgar Allan Poe, and the B&O Railroad. This guide provides a list of attractions and museums that will enlighten you to these aspects of the city's past.

# Itinerary Overview

## Day 1 - Baltimore



### Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine

Inspiration for the National Anthem



### U.S.S. Constellation

Historic Sailing Vessel

## Day 2 - Baltimore



### Washington Monument

Baltimore's Monument to George Washington



### B & O Railroad Museum

Large Collection of Locomotives

## Day 3 - Baltimore



### Frederick Douglass-Isaac Myers Maritime Park

Chronicaling African-American History



### National Historic Seaport of Baltimore

Explore Baltimore's Maritime History



### Fell's Point Maritime Museum

Baltimore's Maritime History

## Day 4 - Baltimore



### Edgar Allan Poe House and Museum

Writer's Baltimore Home

# Day 1 - Baltimore

QUICK NOTE

**contact:**

tel: +1 410 962 4290  
fax: +1 410 962 2500  
<http://www.nps.gov/fomc/>

**location:**

2400 East Fort Avenue  
Baltimore MD 21230

## 1 Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine

**DESCRIPTION:** The sight of the American flag flying over Fort McHenry during the War Of 1812 inspired Francis Scott Key to pen the national anthem, the 'Star Spangled Banner'. A replica of that flag waves over the harbor-side port, now a tranquil National Park. The restored barracks hold exhibits of military and historical artifacts and a well-kept trail runs along the water's edge, affording spectacular views of ships entering and leaving the busy harbor. National Park passes are welcome. © wcities.com



wcities

**contact:**

tel: +1 410 539 1797  
fax: +1 410 539 6238  
<http://www.constellation.org>

**location:**

301 E. Pratt St  
Baltimore MD 21202

**hours:**

Apr-Oct daily 10am-5:30pm  
(extended hours June-Aug);  
Nov-Mar daily 10am-4:30pm

## 2 U.S.S. Constellation

**OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:**

Book tickets to see the fireworks from the Constellation if you're in town for the 4th of July - includes admission, appetizers, and best seats in the house for the celebration.

**DESCRIPTION:** You can't miss the Constellation, docked for years at the Inner Harbor (predating Harborplace). A triple-masted sloop-of-war launched in 1854, the Constellation is the last Civil War-era vessel afloat. Tour her gun decks, visit the wardrooms, see a cannon fired, and learn about the life of a sailor. Demonstrations begin with the raising of the colors at 10:30am and continue on the hour. The Fourth of July picnic and a New Year's Eve reception both end with fireworks (tickets are required). Downtown visitors should note that the ship's cannon is fired daily at noon. "Powder Monkey" tours are directed at children 6 and over. © Frommer's



wcities

# Day 2 - Baltimore

QUICK NOTE

**contact:**  
tel: +1 410 396 0929

**location:**  
699 Washington Pl  
Baltimore MD 21201

**hours:**  
Wed-Sun 10am-5pm

## 1 Washington Monument

**DESCRIPTION:** This 178-foot-tall column, the country's first major architectural memorial to George Washington, was designed in 1815 by Robert Mills, who also designed the Washington Monument (begun in 1848) in Washington, D.C. To learn the whole story, see the exhibit inside the building. The physically fit can also climb the 228 steps to the top of the tower and see why this spot has what's often called the best view in Baltimore. The monument takes center stage on the city's seal. © Frommer's



wcities

**contact:**  
tel: +1 410 752 2490  
<http://www.borail.org>

**location:**  
901 W. Pratt St  
Baltimore MD 21223

**hours:**  
Mon-Fri 10am-4pm; Sat  
10am-5pm; Sun noon-5pm

## 2 B & O Railroad Museum

### OUR LOCAL EXPERT SAYS:

Popular time that locals go to the museum is during Christmas season when Santa rides into the station and welcomes children to take pictures.

**DESCRIPTION:** American railroading got its start here when the B&O was chartered in 1827, and the first locomotive, the Tom Thumb, was built here. The remarkable roundhouse was restored after the roof collapsed in a 2003 snowstorm and is now more accessible for visitors with disabilities and parents with strollers. As damaged pieces are repaired, they are returned to the roundhouse (most should be back by the end of 2008), but it's still filled with an awe-inspiring collection of engines and rolling stock. A car barn has the largest locomotive ever built. Platforms enable visitors to tour trains outside, including a World War II troop sleeper, a caboose, and a refrigerated car where a train movie runs continuously. Admission includes a short ride, with trains departing daily from April through December and weekends only in January. © Frommer's



editor

# Day 3 - Baltimore

QUICK NOTE

**contact:**

tel: +1 410 685 0295  
fax: +1 410 276 6347  
<http://www.douglassmyers.org/>

**location:**

1417 Thames Street  
Baltimore MD 21231

1

## Frederick Douglass-Isaac Myers Maritime Park

**DESCRIPTION:** The Frederick Douglass-Isaac Myers Museum is situated on the site of the first African-American shipyard in America. Its a national heritage site which chronicles the struggles of Frederick Douglass and Isaac Myers, perhaps Baltimore's most prominent African-American activists. The museum also depicts the rise of the Afro-American community in Baltimore in the 19th century and the rich maritime and ship-building history of Chesapeake Bay. One of the latest cultural landmarks in Baltimore, the Frederick Douglass-Isaac Myers Museum is also well-suited for private and group events. © wcities.com

**contact:**

tel: +1 410 783 1490  
fax: +1 410 783 1884  
<http://www.natlhistoricseaport.org/>

**location:**

717 Eastern Avenue  
Baltimore MD 21202

2

## National Historic Seaport of Baltimore

**DESCRIPTION:** This historic seaport rings the Baltimore harbor and includes attractions and sailing vessels that chronicle the city's 300-year maritime past. You can explore this history by walking the streets of waterfront communities or the decks of famous ships. The seaport consists of 16 sites, including the USS Constellation, the only surviving Civil War-era vessel afloat the Seven-Foot Knoll Lighthouse, U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Taney, Fort McHenry, historic Fells Point, Federal Hill and the Baltimore Museum of Industry. © wcities.com



wcities

**contact:**

tel: +1 410 732 0278  
<http://www.mdhs.org/explore/maritime/>

**location:**

1724 Thames Street  
Baltimore MD 21231

3

## Fell's Point Maritime Museum

**DESCRIPTION:** The Maryland Historical Society (MdHS), founded in 1844, is the state's oldest cultural institution. Located at 201 West Monument Street in the Mount Vernon Cultural District, the MdHS collects, preserves, and interprets more than seven million artifacts and documents reflecting Maryland's diverse heritage through a museum, library, press, and extensive educational programs. The collection includes the original manuscript of Francis Scott Key's "The Star-Spangled Banner" as well as one of the most extensive collections of Americana in the world. This museum has several permanent exhibits including Looking for Liberty, Furniture in MD Life, Maryland Through the Artist's Eye, and Served in Style: Silver Collection of the Maryland Historical Society. Temporary exhibitions are open throughout the year in the galleries of the museum and the library. Satellite sites include the Baltimore Civil War Museum and the Fells Point Maritime Museum. © wcities.com



wcities

# Day 4 - Baltimore

---

QUICK NOTE

**contact:**

tel: +1 410 396 7932

fax: +1 410 396 5662

[http://www.eapoe.org/balt/poe\\_hse.htm](http://www.eapoe.org/balt/poe_hse.htm)

**location:**

203 N. Amity St

Baltimore MD 21223

**hours:**

Wed-Sat noon-3:30pm

## 1 Edgar Allan Poe House and Museum

**DESCRIPTION:** Edgar Allan Poe composed some of his first works in this tiny West Baltimore row house, which contains five rooms (including the garret where Poe slept and wrote). He lived here from 1833 to 1835 with his grandmother, aunt, and cousin, Virginia, whom he later married. You can see portraits, memorabilia, period furniture, changing exhibits, and a video. The house is located on a small one-way street heading south; there is no number, but you will see a black antique street lamp out front and two markers on the house. Don't try to walk here from downtown -- take a car or cab -- and call ahead to verify hours. © Frommer's



wcities

# Baltimore Snapshot

## Local Info

Baltimore has proven itself to be a city of resilience having raised itself out of the ashes of fire, politically-charged riots, crime, and deindustrialization. An hour from Washington D.C. and 90 minutes from Philadelphia, B-more as it's affectionately called by locals, is one of America's most revered cities. Initially intended by Lord Baltimore to be a replica of England, the city has undergone several identity crises ranging from playground of landed British gentry to industrial haven to revitalized metropolis by way of capital improvements and gentrification.

Baltimore, like other major port cities in America, began its population with

droves of African slaves and European immigrants, many of whose descendants still reside here and make up its present day communities. Culturally rich, Baltimore has no shortage of ethnic restaurants and entertainment. The Inner Harbor houses Maryland's most popular destination, the Baltimore Aquarium, along with historic attractions such as the U.S.S. Constellation and the Maryland Science Center.

Visitors to Baltimore have a hearty list of activities and neighborhoods to choose from. Neighborhoods such as Chinatown, Little Italy, and Greek Town are among a few worthy of a day of exploration. Some of the city's best kept secrets can be found in the less picturesque walkways

of Lexington Market where arguably the city's tastiest crab cakes can be found at Faidley's Seafood. Travelers interested in the arts have several museums to choose from including, but not limited to, the B&O Railroad Museum, the Washington Monument & Museum, the Lyric Opera House, and the Hippodrome Theater. Sports enthusiasts can take a break at ESPN Zone right in the Inner Harbor or catch a game at Oriole Park at Camden Yards or M&T Bank Stadium, home of the Orioles and the Ravens, respectively.

© NileGuide