

# WHAT'S NEW TO LOVE IN VIRGINIA

---

2018



VIRGINIA  
IS FOR  
LOVERS



January 2018

Issue No. 2

A curated guide to Virginia in 2018.



# VIRGINIA TOURISM CORPORATION

## *Public Relations and Communications*

### *Virginia Tourism Executive Team*

**Rita McClenny**  
President & CEO

**Diane Bechamps**  
Vice President of Marketing

### *Lou Hammond Group*

**Rachel McAllister**  
Vice President  
VTC@louhammond.com

### *Public Relations and Communications*

**Caroline Logan**  
Director of Communications  
804. 545. 5572  
CLogan@virginia.org

**Danielle Emerson**  
Deputy Director of Communications  
804. 545. 5576  
DEmerson@virginia.org

**Andrew Cothorn**  
Communications Manager  
804. 545. 5570  
ACoThorn@virginia.org

**Jenna Eckel**  
Communications Coordinator  
804. 545. 5573  
JEckel@virginia.org

**Christi Braginton**  
International Media Relations Manager  
505. 500. 7396  
CBraginton@virginia.org

### *About Virginia Tourism Corporation*

The Virginia Tourism Authority promotes and develops the tourism and motion picture industries to stimulate Virginia's economy and enhance the quality of life of all Virginians.

### *Image Requests*

Virginia Tourism Corporation maintains a library of photographs and video covering the beauty and activities across the Commonwealth. Please contact Andrew Cothorn at ACoThorn@virginia.org and Jenna Eckel at JEckel@virginia.org for images.

**Virginia.org | Pressroom.Virginia.org**

# VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS

*of Life*

A vacation in Virginia is about doing the things you love with the people you love most. This year, there's a whole lot more to love in the Commonwealth.

In 2018, Virginia will welcome a multitude of new wineries, breweries, distilleries, and cideries, helping to solidify our reputation as a bona fide destination for craft beverages. There will also be an influx of new restaurants, cooking up fresh flavors and dishes that represent the bounty of the Commonwealth's diverse farm-to-table offerings.

New outdoor recreation attractions and updates to parks across the state will be sure to delight nature enthusiasts and adrenaline junkies alike. And keeping true to our roots as the most historically rich destination in the country, there are plenty of new stories and legends to uncover here in the Birthplace of the Nation.

Whether you're soaking up the sun on one of our warm sandy beaches, sipping wine overlooking mountainous vistas, or enjoying our vibrant arts and culture, we can't wait for you to discover for yourself why Virginia is for Lovers.

On the following pages, Virginia Tourism Corporation is pleased to showcase the many new things Virginia will enjoy in 2018.

Cheers!

**Caroline Logan**  
Director of Communications



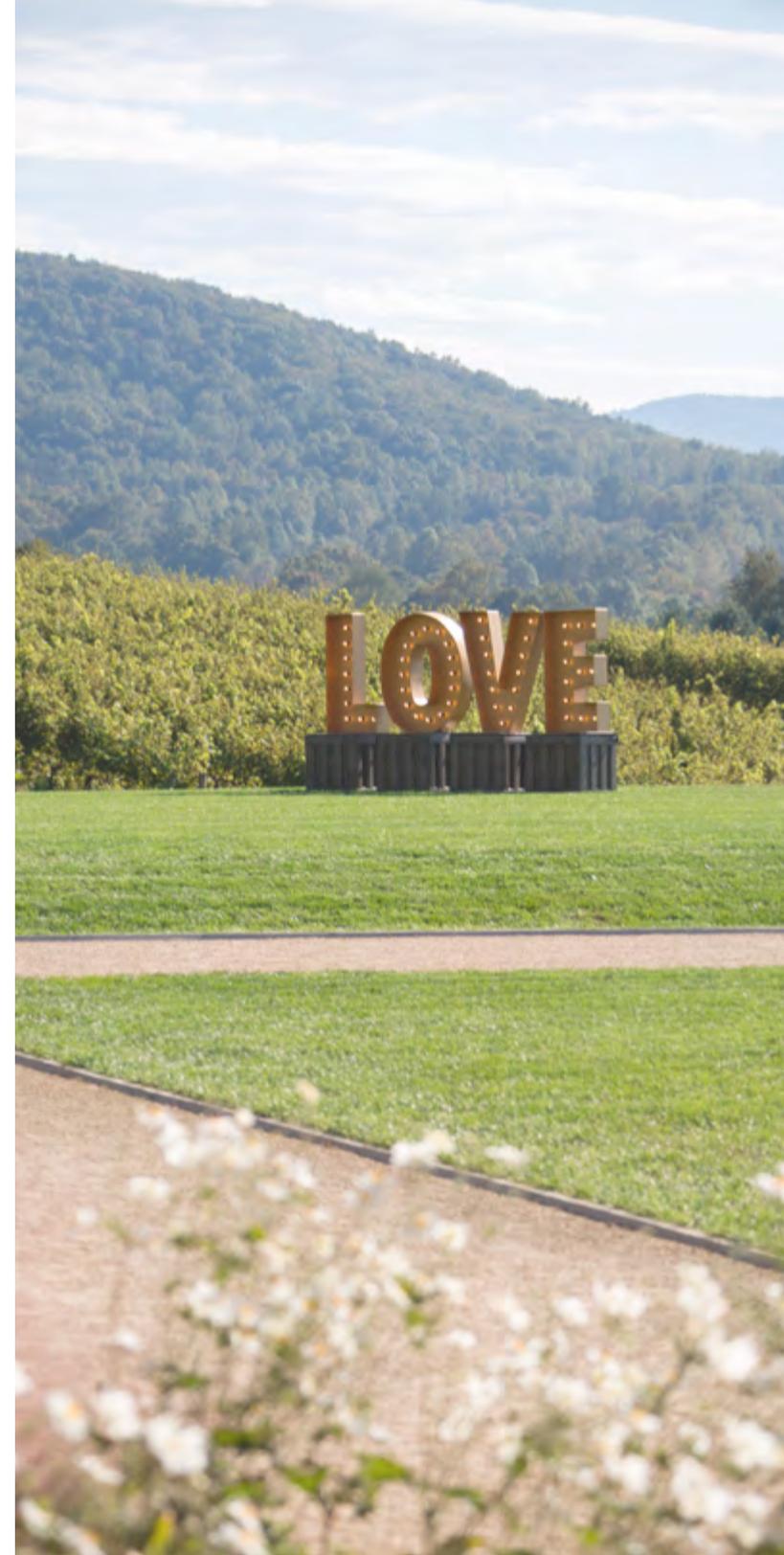
**VIRGINIA  
IS FOR  
LOVERS<sup>®</sup>**



## VIRGINIA WEDDINGS

When you turn with your partner to face your friends and family for the first time as a married couple, it's a moment you never forget. Since Virginia is for Lovers, it makes sense to marry the love of your life here. Virginia offers the perfect backdrop for every couple, whatever their style: modern, classic, whimsical, vintage, or edgy. Whether you want to get married in a historic hotel or at a beautiful vineyard, Virginia has a world of choices just waiting to be discovered. Combine this with epic views, delicious local food, and perfect local wine pairings and it's easy to see that Virginia is the perfect spot for a destination wedding.

- Virginia is the 12th most popular state for weddings and the 5th most popular on the East Coast.
- Couples will find more than 200 venue options for a perfect wedding day, including rustic farms on rolling hills, majestic wineries nestled amongst acres of Virginia vines, and historic hotels with opulent staircases and lavish details.
- Virginia boasts 28 miles of warm, sunny beaches; 21 luxurious resorts; 200 bed & breakfasts; more than 300 wineries; and more than 3,000 miles of scenic roadways, taking your out-of-town guests to coastal beauty, mountain vistas, quaint small towns, and peaceful countryside en route to your wedding venue.
- Virginia is a great place to celebrate almost any milestone. Anniversaries, engagements, bachelor or bachelorette parties, and family reunions.



### *LOVE Letters*

Virginia is for Lovers' iconic LOVE letters are now available to rent for your special day! These giant signs just scream fun, and are a great way to add personality to your big day. The LOVE letters offer a perfect backdrop for photo opportunities for the bride & groom, family, and friends.

For more information about the LOVE letters, please visit:

[virginia.org/weddings/loveletters](http://virginia.org/weddings/loveletters)

### *Virginia Wedding Events*

**Visit Alexandria** presents the second annual **Alexandria Wedding Showcase** Feb. 18. The first Alexandria Wedding Showcase, held in February 2017, was a huge success, welcoming over 500 guests and 200 unique weddings. The 2018 showcase will be an extraordinary event for both the exhibitors and attendees by implementing new initiatives and experiences. The showcase will again be partnering with Brides Across America and fortunate to have Select Event Group and Republic National Distributors as sponsors.

For more information on Virginia honeymoons, wedding packages, LGBT-friendly venues and vendors, elopement packages, anniversary trips, and more, visit [virginia.org/weddings](http://virginia.org/weddings).

For a full list of wedding venues in Virginia, [visitvirginia.org/directory/weddingvenues](http://visitvirginia.org/directory/weddingvenues).