

Richmond, Virginia Proposal to Host Amerivespa 2018

Greetings from Richmond, Virginia!

Richmond is a diverse, energetic city with a rich past and a vibrant present.

Richmond, the capitol city of the Commonwealth of Virginia, has been a site of significance throughout every era of our nation's history – pre-Columbian, Colonial, Revolutionary War, Civil War, Civil Rights – and we are still making history in Richmond today. Richmond boasts an innovative, youthful population and a growing reputation for art, music, sport, cuisine, business, and culture.

Richmond is the proud home of some pretty big things, like Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Union University, the University of Richmond, the Fourth District Federal Court of Appeals, the Fifth District Federal Reserve Bank and the headquarters for Capital One Bank, Genworth Financial, Altria, Brinks, CarMax, Reynolds, and Southern States.

Richmond takes pride in small things, too, like being the U.S. city with the greatest number of craft breweries per capita, the burial site of three American presidents (four if you count Jefferson Davis), and the only capitol city in North America with white water rapids within the city limits.

Richmond is also home to four scooter clubs, three moped clubs, and a number of motorcycle clubs. The 7 Hills Scooter Club of Richmond hosts two rallies each year: Dogwood, a camping rally held outside Charlottesville, and Indian Summer, a rally held in Richmond. The club has a wealth of experience and expertise in planning and producing rallies.

For Dogwood and Indian Summer, we routinely attract scooterists from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland, Washington D.C., North Carolina, South Carolina and even further. If Amerivespa came to Richmond, it would draw from an extremely large population base, many of whom know that Richmond is a great scooter town.

Thank you for inviting us to bid for the honor of hosting Amerivespa. We eagerly look forward to welcoming the Vespa Club of America and all of the rally attendees our wonderful hometown, RVA

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Dates: Thursday, June 7 – Sunday, June 10, 2018

Expectations for Attendance: Because this is the first time that Amerivespa will be so close to the major population centers on the East Coast, we expect a large number of attendees, at least 800, possibly 1,000. Scooter rallies hosted by Richmond's 7 Hills Scooter Club routinely draw attendees from all over the Eastern Seaboard including Buffalo, Philadelphia, and Boston, the mid-Atlantic, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and the South.

Main Hotel: The Marriott Downtown can serve as the primary hotel for the rally with enough rooms for all of the attendees and a ballroom with a capacity of 1,120 as a banquet space.

Additional Hotels: In addition to the Marriott, there are a number of other moderately priced hotels nearby where rally attendees can stay. They include the Residence Inn, Courtyard, The Omni, Berkeley, Linden Row Inn, and Crowne Plaza. The Jefferson and other hotels are close for those seeking more luxurious accommodations. There are plenty of budget accommodations and AirBnB locations available as well.

Rally Headquarters: The Marriott Downtown is our choice for rally headquarters for all four days of the rally. Meeting rooms are available where we can maintain registration, where the vendors can set up their booths, where the raffle prizes will be on display, and where vendors and sponsors can make presentations.

Vendor Opportunities: We have a number of ways to bring attendees to the Vendor booths at the Marriott. It will be the site for Registration and Vendor presentations. The raffle prizes will be on display there. All of the group rides will start at the hotel, and all of the Thursday and Friday rides will end there as well. And, of course, the banquet will be there on Saturday night.

Support: Richmond Region Tourism stands ready to assist us and the VCOA with planning and promoting the rally.

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Sponsors: In addition to the national sponsors, the host club will seek sponsorship from a number of local entities including the Richmond Visitor's Center, the Virginia Department of Transportation, The Richmond Flying Squirrels, The Byrd Theater, The Virginia Museum of Fine Art, The Poe Museum, local craft breweries, local restaurants, and more.

Poster and Patch Art: The 7 Hills Scooter Club is blessed with a number of artists and graphic designers who can produce a poster and patch for the rally. Please see the gallery of patches and promotional material (attached) they have created for recent rallies.

Scooter rentals: We do not yet have a source for scooter rentals in Richmond. We will be working on this and may need to bring in a provider from out-of-town. There are scooter rental businesses in nearby Washington, D.C. and beach cities.

Truck and Trailer parking: There are both indoor and outdoor parking lots within an easy walk of the Marriott Downtown.

Scheduled Daytime Events/Activities: We will offer a variety of group rides each day. On Thursday and Friday the vendors and sponsors can make one hour presentations at the Rally Headquarters between 2:00 and 5:00. On Saturday the gymkhana and other scooter competitions are scheduled for 1:00 to 5:00 at the Covered Arena at the Richmond International Raceway. We might even get access to the track.

Group Rides: Due to the high expected attendance, we propose a schedule that offers a choice of daytime activities for rally attendees to divide them into more manageable groups. We will offer multiple rides each day so that none of rides will prove too large. All of the rides will start at the Marriott Downtown. Each day we will offer fast rides, 50cc friendly rides, and destination rides. Most of the rides will visit either historical sites, places that showcase Richmond's local character, or places to cool off in the water – it will be summer in the South and people will be happy to go swimming. On Thursday and Friday the group rides are scheduled to return to the Marriott by either 2:00 or 5:00. The Saturday group rides will all end at Richmond International Raceway by 1:00, in time for the scooter competitions.

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Evening Events/Activities: On Wednesday night we'll have a Meet and Greet at Scoot Richmond, the local Vespa dealership. On Thursday night we will have a private event at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. On Friday we will offer a dance party at the Capitol Ale House Music Hall. Capital Ale House also offers quieter spaces for those who prefer to talk. Saturday evening will be the banquet and awards ceremony follow by a private event on a rooftop bar.

Unscheduled activities: For those attendees who choose not to participate in the scheduled activities and for those times between scheduled activities, we can recommend a number of individual activities including guided historical walking tours of Richmond, guided tour of the Virginia State Capitol, Belle Isle, canal walk, VMFA, ICA, Maymont, St. John's Church, Masonic Hall, guided tour of Hollywood Cemetery, Carytown, Poe Museum, rafting on the James, guided walking food tours. Many of these activities are free. Group discounts can be negotiated for the activities with a price tag.

Breakfasts: Each day we will have coffee and doughnuts from local shops available at Rally Headquarters. Richmond is home to the state's best doughnut shops including Sugar Shack, Country Style, and, of course, Krispy Kreme. On Sunday we will enjoy a pancake breakfast provided by a local charitable group at Byrd Park.

Lunches: Richmond has earned a growing reputation for excellent restaurants. We want rally attendees to take full advantage of their visit to Richmond and explore and sample the cuisine available. We will provide lunch for those who participate in the long group rides at picnic sites close to the ride destinations. As the ride leaves we'll take a count of riders and place the order at a restaurant near the destination. The chase vehicle will pick up the food and bring it to the picnic area. For all other attendees we will provide a list of recommended restaurants for lunch on Thursday and Friday. Food and drink will be available at the scooter competitions on Saturday at the Richmond International Raceway.

Dinners: A food truck at Scoot Richmond will provide the refreshments for the Meet and Greet on Wednesday night. On Thursday night attendees can get dinner at any number of recommended restaurants in The Fan neighborhood near the VMFA. On Friday attendees can get dinner at any of a number of recommended restaurants Downtown or in Shockoe Bottom. Saturday's dinner is the banquet.

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday

10:00am	Registration and Vendor set up at Marriott Downtown
3:00 – 6:00	Registration open at the Marriott Downtown
3:00 – 6:00	Vendor booths open at the Marriott Downtown
5:00 – 11:00	Meet and Greet at Scoot Richmond– food truck on site

Thursday

8:00 – 6:00	Registration open at the Marriott Downtown
9:00 – 6:00	Vendor booths open at the Marriott Downtown
10:00	Rides start at the Marriott Downtown

Ride 1	History Long Ride	Civil War Battlefields (Spotsylvania)- no cost – return by 5:00
Ride 2	Local Character Ride	Foodie Tour – return by 2:00
Ride 3	History Local Ride	Seven Hills of Richmond – return by 2:00
Ride 4	History Destination Ride	Hanover Courthouse – (The Parson’s Cause reenactment) – donations accepted – return by 2:00
Ride 5	Cool off Destination Ride	Cobblestones Park – Admission \$12 (may negotiate discount) – return by 5:00

2:00 – 3:00	Vendor presentation A Marriott Downtown
3:00 – 4:00	Vendor presentation B Marriott Downtown
4:00 – 5:00	Vendor presentation C Marriott Downtown
5:00 – 7:00	No scheduled activities. Attendees are provided with a list of restaurants in The Fan neighborhood, close to the VMFA.
7:00 – 11:00	Private party at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

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Friday

8:00 – 6:00	Registration open at the Marriott Downtown
9:00 – 6:00	Vendor booths open at the Marriott Downtown
10:00	Rides start at the Marriott Downtown

Ride 1	History Long Ride	Jamestown Settlement - no cost – return by 5:00
Ride 2	History Local Ride	Richmond and the Revolutionary War – return by 2:00
Ride 3	Local Character Ride	Craft Brewery Tour – return by 2:00
Ride 4	Local Character Ride	Quirky Shops Tour – return by 2:00
Ride 5	Cool off Destination Ride	Hadad’s Lake – Admission \$15 (may negotiate discount) – return by 5:00

2:00 – 3:00	Vendor presentation D at Marriott Downtown
3:00 – 4:00	Vendor presentation E at Marriott Downtown
4:00 – 5:00	Vendor presentation F at Marriott Downtown
5:00 – 8:00	No scheduled activities. Attendees are provided with a list of restaurants downtown and in Shockoe Bottom
8:00 – close	Party at the Capital Ale House Music Hall

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Saturday

8:00 – 6:00	Registration open at the Marriott Downtown
9:00 – 6:00	Vendor booths open at the Marriott Downtown
10:00	Rides start at the Marriott Downtown

Ride 1	Fast Ride	Indian Summer 11 – return by 1:00
Ride 2	Fast Ride	Indian Summer 10 – return by 1:00
Ride 3	History Local Ride	Richmond and the Civil War – return by 1:00
Ride 4	Cool off Local Ride	Pony Pasture Park – no cost – return by 1:00
Ride 5	Local Character Ride	Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden – Admission \$13 (may negotiate discount) – return by 1:00
Ride 6	Local Character Ride	Antique shop tour – return by 1:00
Ride 7	History Destination Ride	Berkeley Plantation – Admission \$11 (may negotiate discount) – return by 1:00

1:00 - 5:00	Scooter competitions at Richmond International Raceway – Food on site
5:00 – 7:00	No scheduled activities
7:00 – 9:00	Banquet and awards ceremony at the Marriott Downtown
9:00 – close	Party at rooftop bar

Sunday

8:00 – 11:00	Registration open at the Marriott Downtown
9:00 – 11:00	Vendor booths open at the Marriott Downtown
9:00 – 12:00	Pancake breakfast at Byrd Park Round House
11:00 – 12:00	Registration breakdown at the Marriott Downtown
11:00 – 12:00	Vendor booths breakdown at the Marriott Downtown
12:00	Rally ends
10:00 – 8:00	Unofficial party at Hadad’s Lake

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Additional Ride ideas:

Ride A	History Long Ride	Monticello – Admission \$25 – return by 5:00
Ride B	History Long Ride	Civil War Battlefields (Petersburg)- no cost – return by 5:00
Ride C	Cool off Long Ride	Bear Creek Lake State Park – no cost – return by 5:00
Ride D	Cool off Long Ride	Lake Anna – no cost – return by 5:00
Ride E	Local Character Ride	Thrift shop tour
Ride F	Retail Destination Ride	Shops at Short Pump
Ride G	Retail Destination Ride	Shops at Stony Point

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Patch Gallery:

Dogwood Classic Scooter Rally Patches



Indian Summer Scooter Rally Patches

