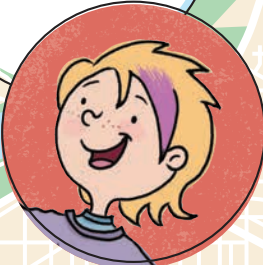


**Hi... we're
Amelia and
Marco and
we've created
19 awesome
themed trails for
you to follow.**

The pins on this map mark the starting points, and each trail is packed with insider secrets and loads of cool stuff. So whether you are a culture vulture, a sports fanatic or a history buff, this book has got something for you!



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DC TIME TRAVEL

Washington, DC was founded in 1790 by George Washington, the first President of the USA. It's seen over 200 years of important US history, so it's a great place to go time travelling. Are you ready to whizz back through some of Washington's history highlights? Let's travel through time!

SIX-SIDED SAFETY

OCTAGON HOUSE

Washington was nearly destroyed soon after it was founded, when it was almost burnt to the ground during the War of 1812 against the British. Fourth US President James Madison and his family had to get out fast when the White House was destroyed, and they ended up in the six-sided (so strangely named) Octagon House for a while. British troops only invaded the town for 24 hours but they managed to wreck a number of government buildings, including the Capitol and the Library of Congress.

OCTAGON HOUSE



INVADING BRITISH SOLDIERS PILED UP FURNITURE IN THE UNFINISHED W, ADDED SOME GUNPOWDER AND LIT THE LOT! NEXT THEY WENT TO THE WHITE HOUSE, WHERE THEY NABBED FOOD AND DRINK, AND STOLE SOME SOUVENIRS, BEFORE SETTING FIRE TO THE BUILDING. THE WAR ENDED WITH A TREATY SIGNED BY JAMES MADISON IN THE OCTAGON HOUSE.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

OLD STONE HOUSE

The Old Stone House was built in 1765, before the city was even begun. It's the city's oldest building still in its original spot, and it's here today because it was preserved by mistake! When George Washington first set up the city he had meetings with landowners in a local inn, and for years afterwards, the Old Stone House was wrongly believed to be the historic meeting site. That was actually a location nearby, but the Old Stone House got the credit.

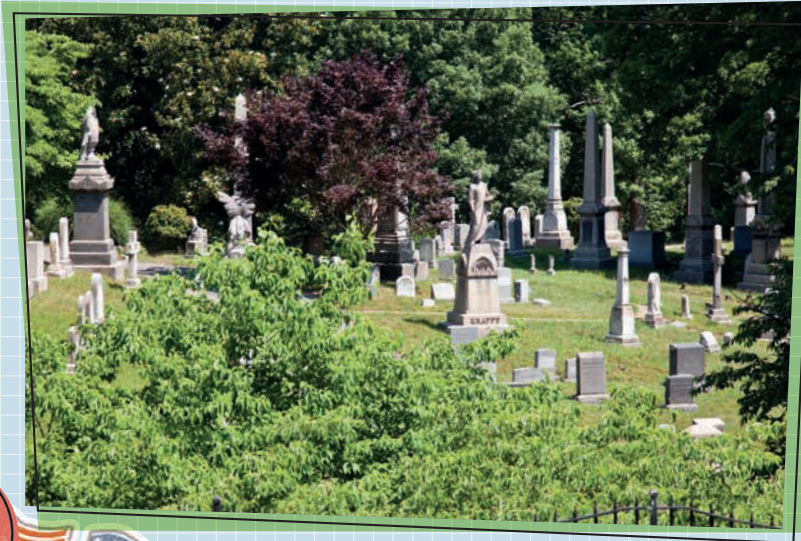


OLD STONE HOUSE

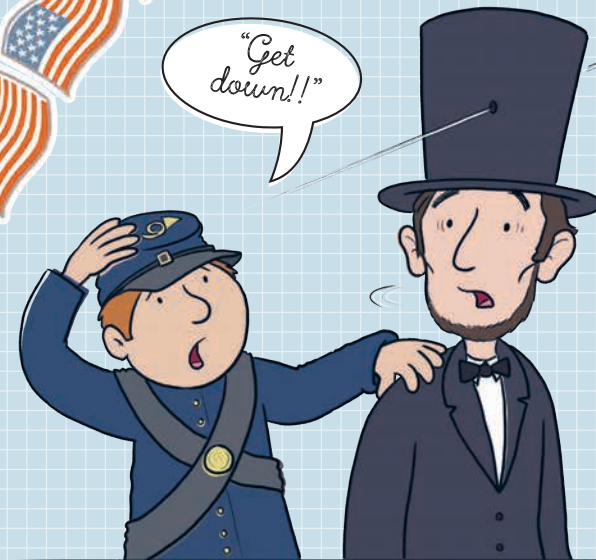
ESCAPE AT LAST

MOUNT ZION CEMETERY

Before the American Civil War (1861-1865), slavery was legal in the US. The people of the Mount Zion United Methodist Church - DC's oldest black congregation - hid escaping slaves in an old cemetery burial vault here in the 1800s. It was a stop on the Underground Railroad, a network of safe houses and escape routes that helped slaves escape to freedom. The city gave slaves their freedom in April 1862, nine months before it became a national law.



MOUNT ZION CEMETERY



ACCORDING TO A DIARY OF THE BATTLE: 'A SOLDIER ROUGHLY ORDERED HIM TO GET DOWN OR HE WOULD HAVE HIS HEAD KNOCKED OFF'. THE CITY'S DEFENCES HELD UNTIL REINFORCEMENTS ARRIVED, BUT IT WAS A CLOSE CALL.

DUCK!

FORT STEVENS

Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the USA, led the Union forces from Washington during the US Civil War between the Union (the North) and the Confederacy (the South). A short but fierce Civil War battle raged at this fort for two days between 11 and 12 July 1864. President Lincoln stood on a parapet to see the fighting and came under fire from Confederate sharpshooters.

FORT STEVENS

search: WHO WAS LINCOLN?

Abraham Lincoln is thought to be one of the most important presidents in American history. He was in charge during the American Civil War and brought in the Emancipation Act, which ended slavery.

Lincoln was assassinated in 1865. He was the first US president to be killed while in charge of the country.



HISTORICAL ARTEFACTS

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

Thousands of objects from America's history are kept here, showing how the lives of Americans have changed over time. It's run by the Smithsonian Institution and it's free for everyone to see. Here are just a few of its historic highlights.



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

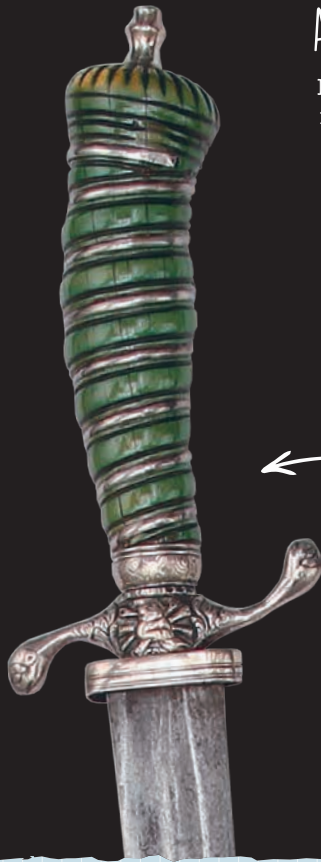
ABE LINCOLN'S HAT

President Abraham Lincoln was famous for wearing a battered-looking top hat called a stovepipe hat. He stored important papers under his hat when it was on his head! He was a tall man – the tallest president so far at 1.93m (6ft 4in) – and the hat made him even taller, so he always stood out in a crowd. When he was assassinated at the theatre (see page 47), the hat now on display in the museum was on the floor by his chair.



GEORGE WASHINGTON'S SWORD

George Washington wore this steel sword and scabbard during the War of Independence against Britain. He was an experienced fighter and an expert horseman who was used to surviving in the wilderness. When he died, he left five swords to five nephews, but told them they must only use them to defend themselves or their country and its rights.



MONEY MUSEUM

The museum is home to one of the biggest collections of coins, money and medals in the world. It contains two examples of one of the most valuable coins in the world – a 1933 double eagle US\$20 gold piece. Each one is worth US\$7.6 million (£6 million).



THE STAR-SPANGLED ORIGINAL

On the morning of 14 September 1812, soldiers raised a US flag over Fort McHenry in Baltimore to celebrate surviving a bombardment by British ships. An American lawyer called Francis Scott Key was watching from a US ship and was so stirred by the sight of the flag he wrote a song – *The Star-Spangled Banner* – which eventually became the national anthem of the USA. The original flag is on display in its own environmentally controlled chamber.



DOROTHY'S MAGIC SHOES



HAVE YOU EVER SEEN THE FAMOUS OLD FILM OF *THE WIZARD OF OZ*? ACTRESS JUDY GARLAND PLAYED THE PART OF DOROTHY, A LITTLE GIRL WHO TRAVELS TO THE LAND OF OZ. SHE WEARS A PAIR OF MAGICAL RUBY SLIPPERS WHICH TAKE HER HOME WHEN SHE CLICKS HER HEELS. THE RUBY RED SHOES FROM THE FILM ARE IN THE MUSEUM, ALONG WITH MANY OTHER FAMOUS OBJECTS FROM STAGE AND SCREEN.

30,000+
PIECES OF CLOTHING
AND ACCESSORIES
IN THE MUSEUM



4,000
NUMBER OF AMERICAN
TOYS IN THE MUSEUM



EAT THE STREETS

Washington has many food cultures and traditions. This trail picks out a few tasty examples to make you feel hungry for a plate of capital treats.

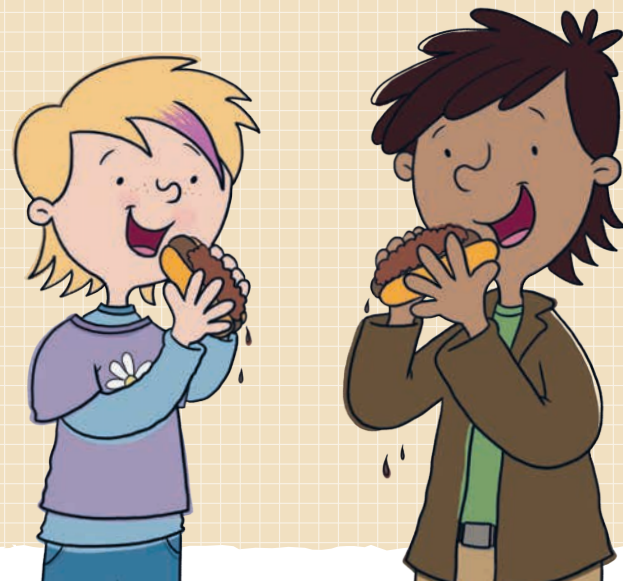


BEN'S CHILI BOWL



THE DC SAUSAGE HALF-SMOKE

DC's most famous food is the half-smoke, a bigger and spicier version of a hot dog. People argue over how it got its name. It could be because the sausage is usually cut down the middle, or because some sausages are half beef and half pork. It doesn't really matter as long as it's delicious! It's normally topped with chilli and chopped onions. Ben's Chili Bowl makes a famous half-smoke.



COOKED WITH SOUL SOUL FOOD

This African-American cuisine has its origins in West Africa, but was adapted by slaves when they reached the US. Popular dishes include fried chicken, spare ribs, mac and cheese, collard greens, catfish, pigs' feet and sweet potato pie. Washington's Florida Avenue Grill claims to be the oldest soul food restaurant in the world.

FLORIDA AVENUE GRILL

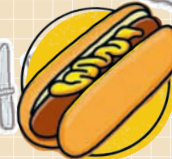
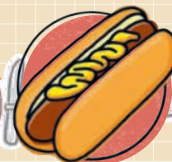


AFRICAN-AMERICANS WERE NOT SERVED IN MANY DC RESTAURANTS UNTIL 1953. THIS UNFAIR TREATMENT BASED ON RACE (AKA SEGREGATION) ENDED THANKS TO MARY CHURCH TERRELL. WHEN SHE WAS REFUSED SERVICE SHE TOOK A SEGREGATION CASE TO THE SUPREME COURT AND WON, AGED NEARLY 90.

OUT OF AFRICA LITTLE ETHIOPIA

The DC region is home to the largest number of Ethiopians outside Africa, and they have brought their food culture with them. A stretch of 9th Street NW in the Shaw neighbourhood is known as Little Ethiopia because of the many Ethiopian restaurants and businesses there. Ethiopian food is eaten with injera, a spongy flatbread, which is used in the place of cutlery and sometimes even used as a plate.

LITTLE ETHIOPIA



UNION MARKET



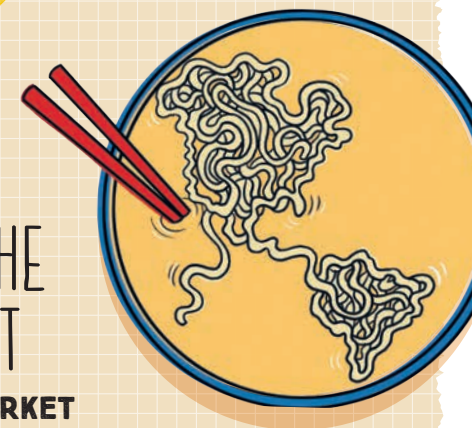
SOME OF THE ETHIOPIAN DISHES FOUND IN DC

- ~ ENKULAL TIBS ~
A TASTY BREAKFAST OF SCRAMBLED EGG, PEPPERS, TOMATOES AND ONION
- ~ FUL ~
CHICKPEAS MASHED WITH BUTTER
- ~ WA ~
A SPICY CURRY
- ~ AIB ~
COTTAGE CHEESE



EAT THE PLANET UNION MARKET

This indoor market has something yummy for everyone. With 40 different food sellers, you can taste your way around the world here. Start your journey in the east with Taiwanese ramen (noodle soup), Burmese falooda (milkshakes) or Indian dosas (pancakes). There are South American empanadas (stuffed pastries), Mexican tacos, Asian tea, US barbecue food and plenty of other tasty treats from around the globe for gourmets to gobble up!



WATERY WONDERLAND

KENILWORTH AQUATIC GARDENS

This beautiful spot is the USA's only national park devoted to water plants. There are 44 ponds filled with water lilies and lotus plants. They provide the perfect DC neighbourhood for birds, turtles and frogs.



THE LOTUS WAS A SACRED PLANT IN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN TIMES, AND IT'S A SYMBOL OF PURITY IN THE BUDDHIST RELIGION. IT'S CELEBRATED DURING THE PARK'S LOTUS AND WATER LILY FESTIVAL, WHEN VISITORS CAN HAVE FLOWERS PAINTED ON THEIR FACES AND DRINK LOTUS TEA.

KENILWORTH AQUATIC GARDENS

CONGRESSIONAL CEMETERY



PRIVATE POOCH PARK

CONGRESSIONAL CEMETERY

Locals help to keep the garden tidy at this old burial ground. In return for this work, they get to walk dogs here because it doubles as a members-only dog park, where hounds can run free around the tombs and grave stones. There's a year-long waiting list to join the exclusive private pooch club. However, everybody is allowed in for the yearly Dog of the Day event, when pets get the chance to win prizes from local vets.



AT CHRISTMAS, DOGS CAN VISIT THE CEMETERY TO HAVE THEIR PHOTO TAKEN WITH SANTA.



WASHINGTON'S HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM HAS A SPECIAL EXHIBITION FOR CHILDREN OVER EIGHT TO SEE, CALLED REMEMBER THE CHILDREN: DANIEL'S STORY. IT EXPLAINS HOW JEWISH CHILDREN WERE TREATED BY THE NAZIS DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR. THERE ARE ALSO 3,000 TILE PANELS ON DISPLAY, MADE BY AMERICAN SCHOOLCHILDREN TO HONOUR THE VICTIMS.

A REMEMBERING TREE

ANNE FRANK TREE

Anne Frank was a Jewish girl from the Netherlands. She and her family went into hiding from the Nazis during the Second World War. During two years of hiding in a secret attic, she wrote a diary which later became famous. Eventually they were betrayed and Anne died in a concentration camp. Only her father survived, and saved her diaries. While she hid all she could see of the outside world was part of a chestnut tree. Chestnuts from the tree were later collected and germinated, and one of them was planted outside the Capitol Building as a powerful memory of Anne Frank's story.



ANNE FRANK TREE

OTHER WORLDS IN WASHINGTON

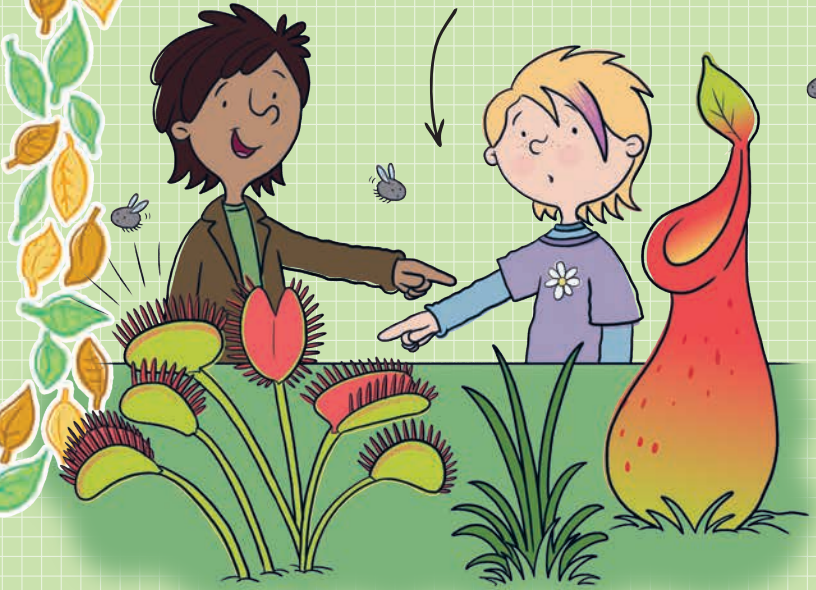
UNITED STATES BOTANIC GARDEN

There's a place where you can visit a tropical rainforest, a scorching desert or even the land of the dinosaurs, right in the heart of DC. These are some of the plant landscapes recreated at the US Botanic Garden. In the Garden Primeval you can walk amongst ferns and other ancient plants from 150 million years ago, and imagine a giant dinosaur such as a stegosaurus or a brachiosaurus just around the corner!



UNITED STATES BOTANIC GARDEN

THERE ARE SOME EVER-HUNGRY MONSTERS LIVING AT THE US BOTANIC GARDEN. IT HAS A COLLECTION OF MEAT-EATING PLANTS THAT TRAP INSECTS AND EAT THEM!





BRILLIANT BUILDINGS

There are some unique buildings and rooms around DC. Get ready to build your Washington knowledge and discover some surprises along this well-trodden trail through town.

FIGHT!

THE PEACOCK ROOM, FREER GALLERY

This beautiful room is in the Smithsonian's Freer Gallery. It was brought over from London, where it was created in 1877 by artist James McNeill Whistler. He painted the room for a businessman called Frederick R. Leyland. When Whistler handed him a huge bill for the work (US\$200,000/£155,000 in today's money), Leyland got angry and said he would only pay half! Whistler snuck back in and painted two fighting peacocks on the wall, with silver coins strewn on the ground around them, to represent himself and Leyland.



O STREET

MAGICAL MANSION

MANSION ON O STREET

This magical and weird hotel near Dupont Circle has over 60 hidden doors and secret passages. One of the passages can only be entered through a mirror! The hotel is also full of unusual treasures, including guitars signed by rock music legends such as Bruce Springsteen and Bob Dylan, and signed scripts for all three of *The Lord of the Rings* movies.



FREER GALLERY



WATERMELON HOUSE

WHAT A WALL!

WATERMELON HOUSE

This unusually decorated home is a landmark in the Logan Circle neighbourhood. The owners hired painters to paint their house red. The front turned out well, but the side looked more pink, which they didn't like. So they improvised and turned it into a giant mural of a watermelon.



search: DC STREET ART

Here are some other wondrous wall murals to be found around the city.

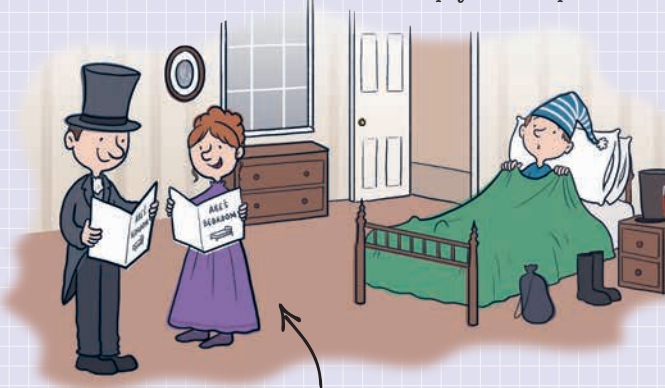
- A wall of lovely hearts and a wall showing a giant blue eye at Union Market.
- A giant wave crashing over a boat in Georgetown.
- A steam train racing a classic car in Bethesda.



THE END OF ABE

PETERSEN HOUSE

After he was shot at Ford's Theatre in 1865 (see page 47), doctors moved the unconscious Abraham Lincoln to a boarding house across the street, which was owned by William and Anna Petersen. Visitors can see the room where he died the next morning, aged 56. As the poor stricken president lay in bed, crowds gathered outside and a stream of 90 VIPs were allowed in to pay their respects.



THE DYING LINCOLN WAS PUT INTO A ROOM RENTED TO A UNION SOLDIER, WHO WAS AWAY AT THE TIME. WHEN THE SOLDIER RETURNED TO LIVE IN THE ROOM HE COMPLAINED THAT TOURISTS KEPT COMING IN AND STEALING MEMENTOS.



PETERSEN HOUSE