

# **DC Spring Retreat Cheat Sheet**

This document will give you basic pointers on how to navigate DC for our Spring Retreat. It will go over the following topics:

Buying a SmarTrip Card

Navigating the DC Metro/Resources for Tourism

**Getting to Congressional Offices** 

Food and Amenities near the hotel

Getting to the Hotel from Your Arrival Point

If you click any of the above list items, it will take you to that item's place in the document.



### **Buying a SmarTrip Card**

To enter and exit the metro, you will need a SmarTrip card. At any of the metro stops, you can buy one from a fare vending machine like the one below. You can use your SmarTrip cards for trips on the metro or bus. We recommend you put \$15 bucks on to start and refill as needed.

Metrorail fares vary based on the time, day, and distance you ride. The AM Peak Fares (5 - 9:30AM) and the PM Peak Fares (3 - 7PM) can range from \$2.25 - \$6.00. Off-Peak Fares (9:30AM - 3PM) and (7 - 9:30PM) can range from \$2.00 - \$3.85.





Cards cost \$2 + the value you want to add to the card.

For example, if you wanted a card with \$15 on it, it would cost \$17

Depending on your travel needs, for \$28 you can purchase a 3-Day Unlimited Pass

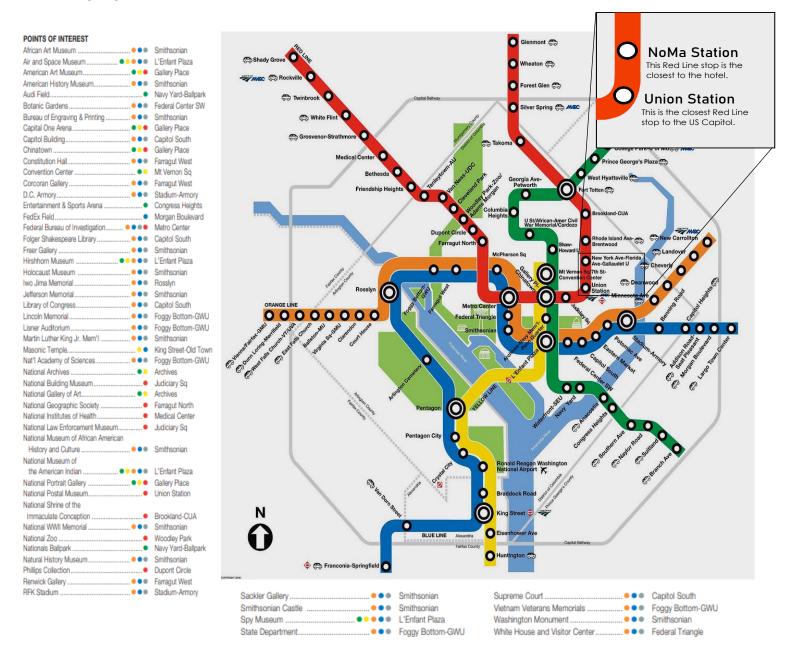
It activates the first time SmarTrip is tapped at a fare gate, expires at the end of the last operating day, and has no time restrictions (valid for peak and off-peak fares)



## Navigating the DC Metro

Below is a map of the Metro System. For our purposes, we will only need to use the Red Line. We will use **New York Ave-Gallaudet U**, or NoMa for short, to get to and from our hotel. We will be using **Union Station to go to and from the Capitol**.

Also highlighted here are potential points of interest and how to access them.



#### Have time between meetings? Try out the DC Circulator.

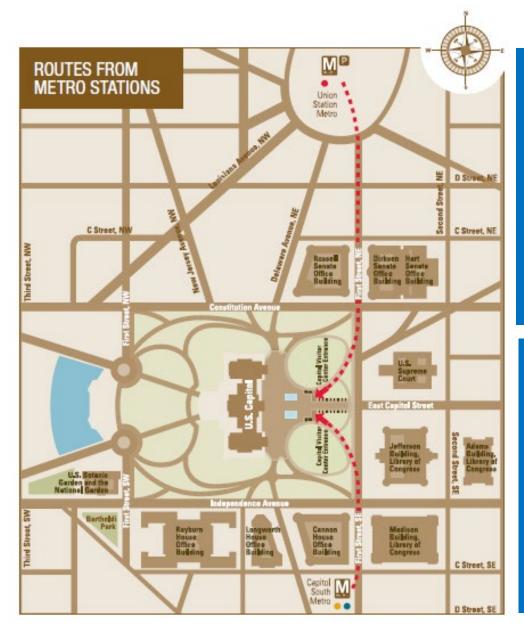
The DC Circulator provides public transportation to the District's main attractions and most lively neighborhoods for business, culture and entertainment at a cost of only \$1. The system consists of six distinct routes across Washington, DC. Each stop is serviced every 10 minutes, providing simple, fast and affordable transit to residents, commuters and visitors around the nation's capital.

Learn more here: <a href="https://dccirculator.com/circulator-map-and-information-guide/">https://dccirculator.com/circulator-map-and-information-guide/</a>

## **Getting to Congressional Offices**

**Taking the metro**, the Senate Office Buildings are roughly 19 minutes from the hotel (17 minutes walking + a 2-minute metro ride), and the House Office Buildings are about 29 minutes from the hotel (27 minutes walking + 2-minute metro ride).

We recommend taking a Lyft or an Uber when visiting House Office Buildings. The House Office Buildings are about a 14-minute drive from the hotel; the Senate Office buildings are about a 9-minute drive. If you choose to do so, please **remember to include the name of the building in your request** (e.g. Cannon House Office Building as your destination) and request a ride well in advance of your meeting, as pick-up will likely take some minutes.





If taking a rideshare, try to carpool with members. A standard Lyft or UberX can accommodate up to 4 people, and an UberXL or LyftXL can fit up to 6.



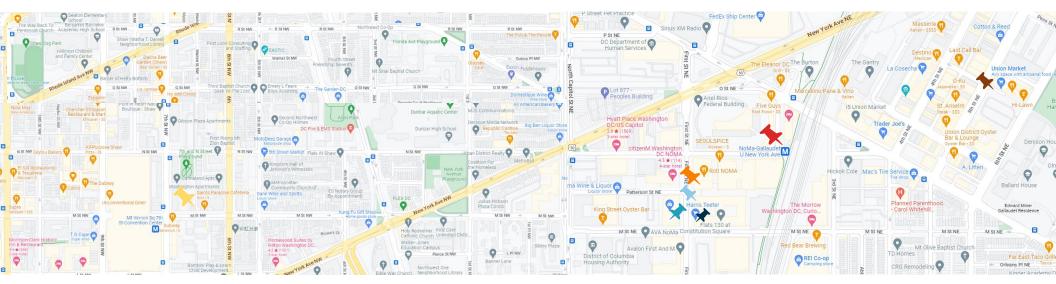
Want to get some steps in? The Senate Office Buildings are about a 20-minute walk from the hotel.

The House Office Buildings are just over a 30-minute walk.

#### **Food and Amenities**

Our hotel is situated near many great dining options and convenient shops. Zoom in on the map below and explore! We've pinned some notable and potentially interesting places, including:

- Hilton Garden Inn (where we will be staying)
- CVS: across the street from the hotel
- Harris Teeter: located on the same block as the hotel
- NoMa metro stop: the closest stop to the hotel
- Peet's Coffee: across the street from the hotel
- Saints Paradise Cafeteria: soul food restaurant operating out of a church cafeteria
- · Union Market: a food hall and staff favorite





## Getting to the hotel

You can take a rideshare or taxi from your arrival point, or you could take the metro. As a reminder, our hotel is the **Hilton Garden Inn Washington DC/US Capitol**, located

1225 First Street NE

Washington, District of Columbia, 20002, USA

Here are ways you could take the metro (or walk) to the hotel from various points of arrival.

