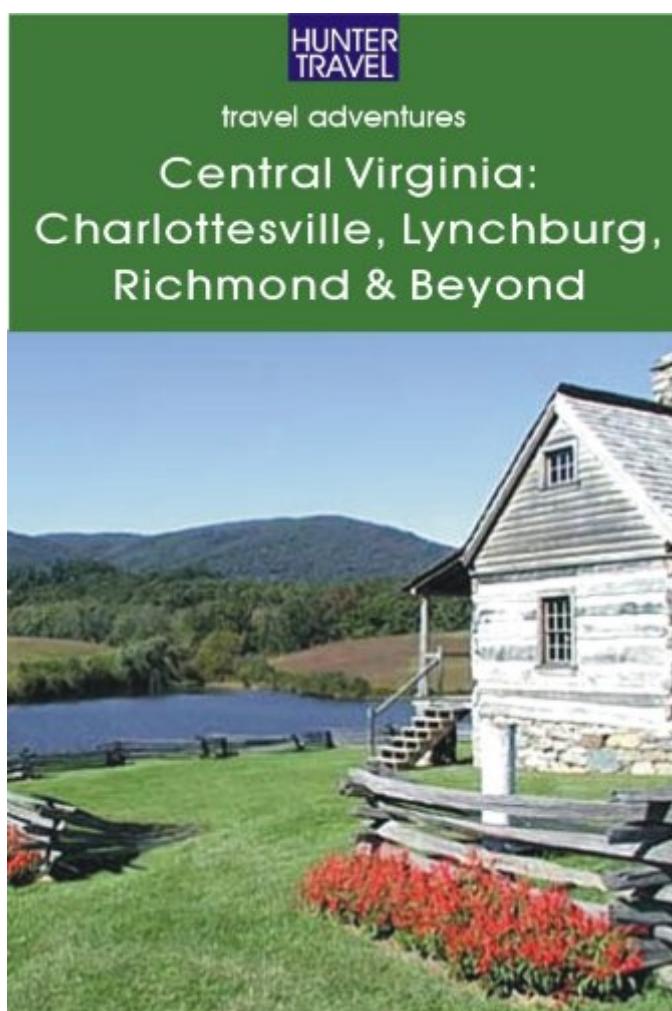


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Central Virginia: Charlottesville, Lynchburg, Richmond & Beyond



Synopsis

Central Virginia consists primarily of the Piedmont Plateau west of the Coastal Plain. It is a region of low rolling hills about 40 miles wide to the north and some 150 miles wide along its southern border. It's an area where the old and the new come together, where quaint old country towns and villages lie side-by-side in perfect harmony with Virginia's modern cities. Here, the foothills of the Blue Ridge give way to the valleys of the great tidal rivers. This is where many great patriots -- like men like Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe, and James Madison -- dreamed the dreams that gave birth to a nation. Visit the house where Thomas Jefferson was brought up as a child, or the famous battlefield of Appomattox, or the house where Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant agreed to end the Civil War -- among many more attractions. It's all covered here. Loaded with color photos. "An excellent destination guide." -- The Bookwatch. "Chock-full of attractions town by town; thoroughly interesting. Excellent detail; this excellent guide will take good care of you." -- Bon Voyage. "As a native Virginian, I don't know why it took me so long to discover this book. It's a great reference to have for both residents and visitors. I spent the first two hours just looking up points of interest and trivia about the Old Dominion. Virginia has so many historical sites that touring the state is like taking a class on the formation of America. A tourist can visit Revolutionary War Sites, Civil War Battlefields, scenic old towns, and the beautifully restored great houses, like Mount Vernon in Alexandria, Monticello in Charlottesville, Oatlands Plantation in Leesburg and, of course, the James River Plantations. Williamsburg is a must-see for everyone. This book's Introduction gives a little background of Virginia and some general history. The handbook is then on the regional areas of the state. The historic sites, annual events, shopping places, museums, hotel accommodations, recreation areas, dining and local transportation are all listed and given detailed descriptions. I think that the best way to truly critique a guide book is to read about an area that you know pretty well and see how the authors handled that region. All of the major sites were mentioned in my area and the accommodations and things to do were all covered. I checked out the restaurants listed and there were eight mentioned. I would have left out two. One major restaurant was not included. Other than that minor point, the authors gave a pretty accurate description of my area. This book is very concise and I believe it to be a very helpful guide to traveling in the great state of Virginia." -- Judith Miller ("This guidebook does a good job of presenting its information in a concise, meaningful way. You can easily flip through its well-marked sections and feel as if you are taking a trip through Virginia! I like that each section (History, Shopping) starts with a quick intro, telling you the overall feel of that area. It's not afraid to tell you that one city is more known for its nightlife while another is known for its shopping malls. The beginning of the book includes an overall

look at Virginian history, major cities, climate, major roadways and wildlife - great information for newcomers to have!" -- Kitty Ellen ()

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