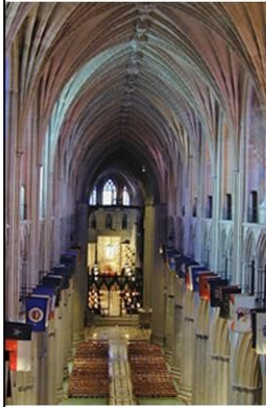


Washington National Cathedral

The Washington National Cathedral, officially called the cathedral Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul and designated by Congress as the non-denominational National House of Prayer, is a cathedral of the Episcopal Church in the United States.

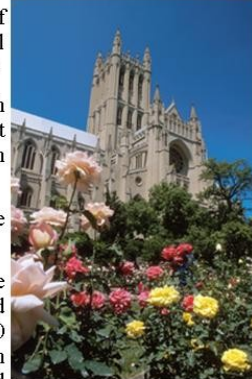
Located in the Washington, D.C. the capital of the United States, it is the sixth largest Cathedral in the world and the second largest in the United States. In 2007, it was ranked third on the 'List of America's Favorite Architecture by the American Institute of Architects.'

The exterior of the Cathedral is almost the length of two football fields; the central tower is as tall as a thirty-story building.



There are 215 stained glass windows, the north rose window is the Cathedral's largest stained glass window at 26 feet in diameter; over 1,500 separate pieces of needlepoint; and 110 gargoyles in the Cathedral. The great organ has 10,650 pipes and 186 ranks, it is the largest organ in the city of Washington.

The pulpit was carved out of stones from Canterbury Cathedral. The high altar, the Jerusalem Altar, is made from stones quarried at Solomon's Quarry near Jerusalem, reputedly where the stones for Solomon's Temple were quarried. In the floor directly in front of the altar are set ten stones from the Chapel of Moses on Mount Sinai, representing the Ten Commandments as a foundation for the Jerusalem Altar.



Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center National Air and Space Museum



The center features the large Boeing Aviation hangar in which aircrafts are displayed on three levels. Visitors can walk among aircrafts and small artifacts in display cases located on the floor, and view aircrafts hanging from the arched ceiling on elevated skywalks. Many engines, helicopters, ultra-lights, and experimental flying machines are on display in a museum setting for the first time. Among the aviation artifacts on display are the Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird, the fastest jet in the world; the Boeing Dash 80, the prototype of the 707; the Boeing B-29 Superfortress Enola Gay; and the deHavilland Chipmunk aerobatic airplane.



The James S. McDonnell Space Hanger opened in November 2004 displays hundreds of famous spacecraft, rockets, satellites and space-related small artifacts. The centerpiece of the space hangar is the Space Shuttle Enterprise. Other space artifacts include the Gemini VII space capsule; the Mobile Quarantine Unit used upon the return of the Apollo 11 crew; and a Redstone rocket.



In addition, the Donald D. Engen Observation Tower provides an excellent location from which visitors can watch air traffic at Dulles Airport.

The Center also offers an IMAX Theater; flight simulators; food service; and a museum store.