



TOUR THE GREAT DISMAL SWAMP WITH ILR

George Washington visited in 1763 and called the *Dismal Swamp* a “paradise abounding in fowl and game!” Join us on this comfortable bus for a tour with expert guide, Allen Carter (certified arborist, horticulturalist and Virginia Master Naturalist) as he leads us on this tour, primarily concentrating on vegetation and wildlife in the swamp, but also touching on some major events of historical importance.

DATE AND TIME OF TOUR: Friday, April 12, 2024 **Report at 8:40 a.m. to load the bus.** The bus pulls out at 9:00 a.m. and returns at 2 p.m.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: **Friday, December 15, 2023.** **No refund after deadline** since ILR will be paying for trip at that time in order to secure the arrangement.

RAIN DATE FOR TOUR: Friday, April 26, 2024

TRANSPORTATION: We will travel from the **REI** store, 350 Independence Blvd., Virginia Beach onboard a comfortable 16 seat private bus. There is ample parking available there for your car. From **REI**, it takes approximately an hour to get to the Dismal Swamp. Allen Carter will be onboard to help prepare us for what we are about to see.

CONDITIONS:

- The bus will go **light** rain or shine. **The Nature Bus makes the call on whether rain is “light.”** If they determine that rain is too heavy, you will be notified by phone that morning.
- Be certain before signing up that both dates work for you!
- No eating or drinking on the bus. Snacks that fit in the pocket can be eaten outside.
- Bring something for lunch that could fit in a small sandwich paper bag and you can store it in the bus cooler. Larger items cannot be placed in that cooler.
- The bus does not have storage space for wheelchairs or walkers. No heavy walking but we will walk on a couple of boardwalk trails.
- Wear long pants, tucking the cuffs in light colored knee highs and wear closed toe shoes.
- Bring bug spray
- There will be several pit-stops along the way
- Bring a beverage in a bottle that can be refilled. The bus will have a large jug of water.
- **And a highlight will be enjoying lunch on an observation deck overlooking beautiful Lake Drummond, Virginia’s only natural lake!** Picnic chairs provided.

COST: \$55 per person, includes bus trip, tip for the guide and ILR admin. fee.

MAXIMUM: 16 people. If there is enough interest to fill another bus, we will consider contracting for an additional date.