Travel Information for Washington, DC, and The Smithsonian Institution

The Active Learning Weekends at the Smithsonian will all take place in one of the Smithsonian museums, or buildings next to the National Mall. Washington, DC, has a public metro system, and the two main metro stations at this location are the Smithsonian station on the blue/orange/silver line, and the L’Enfant Plaza metro station, which can be accessed from the green/yellow or blue/orange lines. Here is a printable map of the DC Metro.

There are a wide range of hotels that are located in Washington DC near the National Mall, or near a metro station. Here are four of the more reasonably priced options:

- Holiday Inn Washington DC - Capitol
- Hyatt Place Washington DC/National Mall
- Key Bridge Marriott (Rosslyn metro station, Virginia)
- Doubletree by Hilton – Crystal City (Crystal City metro station – yellow line)

Given that Washington DC is a popular destination, you should reserve a hotel room or make alternate housing plans right after you register for the class.

The main train station, Union Station, and the closest airport, Ronald Reagan National Airport, are also accessible via metro.

All meals for the Active Learning Weekends are on your own, but all of the Smithsonian museums have places to eat lunch and get coffee, and we will also provide you with a list of nearby restaurants, food truck areas, and coffee shops.

If you would like to do your own research on hotels, restaurants, and general travel information for Washington DC, please see the official tourism site: VisitDC.

Here are links to the National Mall maps and information about two Smithsonian apps: Smithsonian Mobile and the Smithsonian Visitors Guide.

You will receive more detailed information about class locations, schedules, and meal options once you register for the class.