The Metro Washington, DC Area
At a Glance

Washington, DC is a dynamic place to live and work. American University’s location makes the city and metro region very accessible.

Living in Washington, DC, you will be able to take advantage of our national treasures. Not only can you visit the White House and tour the Capitol Building, you will have plenty of time to explore fourteen Smithsonian museums, view the country's founding documents at the National Archives, visit the Library of Congress, and hear an oral argument at the Supreme Court.

After you spend some time at the historic sites and memorials, there is more to explore in each of D.C.’s historic neighborhoods: stroll through embassy row in Dupont Circle; tour the Shaw/U Street area, where Jazz legend Duke Ellington lived and played; or take in lively Adam’s Morgan. Each neighborhood has its own pulse and offers a plethora of unique restaurants, museums, shops and nightlife.

While exploring your new home, make sure to stop and grab a bite to eat. Sala Thai, 2 Amy’s, and Afterword’s Café are staff favorites, but in D.C., you will never have to eat at the same restaurant twice. Or, if you are in the mood to cook, pick up fresh produce at one of several D.C. farmers markets or stop by the waterfront for fresh seafood.

You will be amazed at the nightlife that D.C. has to offer. There are a surprising number of venues where you can hear live music and take in first-rate performances. Of course, there is the Kennedy Center - they have a free show every night– but also, there are jazz clubs, numerous theaters, and many other venues throughout the metro region. You can attend a game at the Verizon Center, an embassy-sponsored event or spend an evening ice skating in the National Gallery’s sculpture garden. The Washington Post's City Guide and the Washington City Paper will keep you up-to-date on upcoming concerts, plays, lectures, sporting events, and festivals.