



LAFAYETTE 250 CELEBRATION

Yorktown, VA | Saturday, November 15, 2025 | 4 PM

Following the end of the American Revolution, Lafayette returned to the New World for a 5-month visit from 4 August 1784 to 21 December 1784. This visit, often overlooked, carried significant meaning for both the new United States and Lafayette's public image among Americans. Part of this visit included a stop in Yorktown, Virginia, where the Frenchman symbolically validated the newly acquired American independence.

Lafayette's time in Yorktown contributed to cementing the community's status as a hallowed bastion of American nationalism. It also helped Lafayette cultivate his image as the "Marquis de Lafayette", that "much esteemed Nobleman." His 1784 visit to Yorktown reaffirmed a desire by Americans to emphasize Lafayette's noble origin and preserve the dignifying endorsement that he gave of their revolution at the start of the conflict. Lafayette continues to be known by a vast majority of Americans to this day as the Marquis de Lafayette.

In honor of the 241st anniversary of Lafayette's pivotal visit to Yorktown on 15 November 1784, we are pleased to invite you to attend the dedication of a new Lafayette Trail marker to be installed on the western edge of Yorktown's iconic riverfront in the immediate vicinity of the pillars supporting the Coleman Bridge on **Saturday, 15 November 2025, @ 4 pm ET**.

We are also pleased to announce that this marker was the result of a historic collaboration with the Virginia Children of the American Revolution, whose participation, support, and endorsement of this initiative were essential. Passing on the story of the American Revolution to future generations was always one of the key missions that Lafayette championed in this country. The Lafayette Trail, Inc. is proud to continue that tradition with this collaboration with Virginia CAR, and we thank its leadership, in particular State President Meredith Hopkins, for partnering with us on this momentous occasion.

Additionally, we would like to thank the William G. Pomeroy Foundation, the York County Board of Supervisors, the Historic Yorktown Design Committee, the Virginia Board of Historic Resources, the York County Department of Economic & Tourism Development, and the Celebrate Yorktown Committee of the Yorktown Foundation for their support of this new Lafayette initiative in York County.

If you wish to attend the unveiling of the new marker, we strongly recommend parking your vehicle at the public lot located on [320 Water St, Yorktown, VA 23690](https://www.google.com/maps/place/320+Water+St,+Yorktown,+VA+23690). Yorktown will be hosting a popular Harvest Festival that day until 3 pm. That being said, plenty of parking should be available in time for the dedication ceremony.

We anticipate the event to be over by 5 pm. The patriotic function is FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. To find out more about this event, please visit lafayette250.org/events or send us an email at the following email address: ***inquiries@thelafayettetrail.org***.

Thank you. We look forward to seeing you in Yorktown!

Best regards,

Julien Icher

President,

The Lafayette Trail, Inc.