



MARYLAND MILESTONES

FROM HOT AIR BALLOONS TO STEPS ON THE MOON



Flight may have been “born” in Kitty Hawk, NC with the Wright Brothers, but since 1784, Maryland Milestones / Anacostia Trails Heritage Area has watched flight grow up. From hot air balloons to steps on the moon, the Heritage Area is a great place to explore the history of flight.

In June 1784, Peter Carnes, owner of the Indian Queen Tavern in Bladensburg (near today’s **George Washington House** and the **Bladensburg Waterfront Park**) went out in the fields around Bladensburg to launch a balloon - based on the balloons launched in Paris the year before. This launch was unmanned, tethered balloon. Later that year, in Baltimore, he would successfully launch a balloon with a passenger.



NASA Goddard Space Flight Center continues to innovate and experiment with technologies to learn more about the Earth and its systems. Visit their Visitor Center to learn more.

Carnes’ balloon tests were a first step for aviation. At the turn of the Twentieth century, two brothers from Ohio - Orville and Wilbur Wright - held the first tests the airplane in North Carolina. After successfully testing these airplanes in 1903, they would be asked by the United States Army to begin using planes as a military and defense vehicle. Wilbur Wright took on this responsibility and helped to establish an airfield at **College Park Airport** in 1909. At this field, military aviators were trained, including Frederic Humphries who was the first to fly solo in a military plane. Bernetta Adams Miller became the first woman to demonstrate a military aircraft here in 1912. In 1918, the first airmail service was established. In 1924, Emile and Henry Berliner made the early helicopter tests. And between 1927 and 1933, flight navigation aides were tested, leading to modern navigation methods.



College Park Aviation Museum celebrates and commemorates the many “firsts” that occurred at College Park Airport - all with family friendly activities and programs.

After these aviation firsts in College Park, the next step was to leave Earth behind. **NASA Goddard Space Flight Center**, was established in 1959 as the first central operations facility for NASA and led the early Mercury projects before being transferred to Johnson Space Center. Goddard SFC was the lead in the operations of the Hubble Space Telescope in the 1990s and helped build and test the James Webb Space Telescope during the early 2000s. Today, engineers and space flight experts work in Earth sciences, astrophysics, heliophysics, and satellite development. Visitors to the **Goddard Space Flight Visitor’s Center** can experience the innovative work with exhibits and activities.

The aviation tradition continues at the **University of Maryland**, with the Glenn Martin Hall (of Lockheed Martin fame), home to the University’s Wind Tunnel and the Aerospace Engineering Department which holds the human-powered flight record with Gamera. There is also a neutral buoyancy tank for space simulation. A new generation of aeronautics is taking flight here in the Heritage Area!

MARYLAND MILESTONES HERITAGE CENTER

4318 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, MD

One block from the Rhode Island Avenue Trolley Trail and located in the Pyramid Atlantic Arts Center

Start your exploration of the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area at the Maryland Milestones Heritage Center! With brochures, exhibits, and a rotating event schedule, the Heritage Center is a great starting place in historic Hyattsville. Our partners work to preserve and promote the history, art, culture, and natural resources of northern Prince George’s County, Maryland, located just outside Washington, D.C. With a wide variety of historic sites, arts centers, trails and rivers, and nineteen participating local governments, the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area is a unique experience for visitors and residents. Our participating communities in Maryland are:

- Beltsville
- Berwyn Heights
- Bladensburg
- Bowie
- Brentwood
- Cheverly
- College Park
- Colmar Manor
- Cottage City
- Edmonston
- Glenn Dale
- Greenbelt
- Hyattsville
- Laurel
- Mount Rainier
- North Brentwood
- Riverdale Park
- University Park
- Prince George’s County



HERITAGE ROUTES

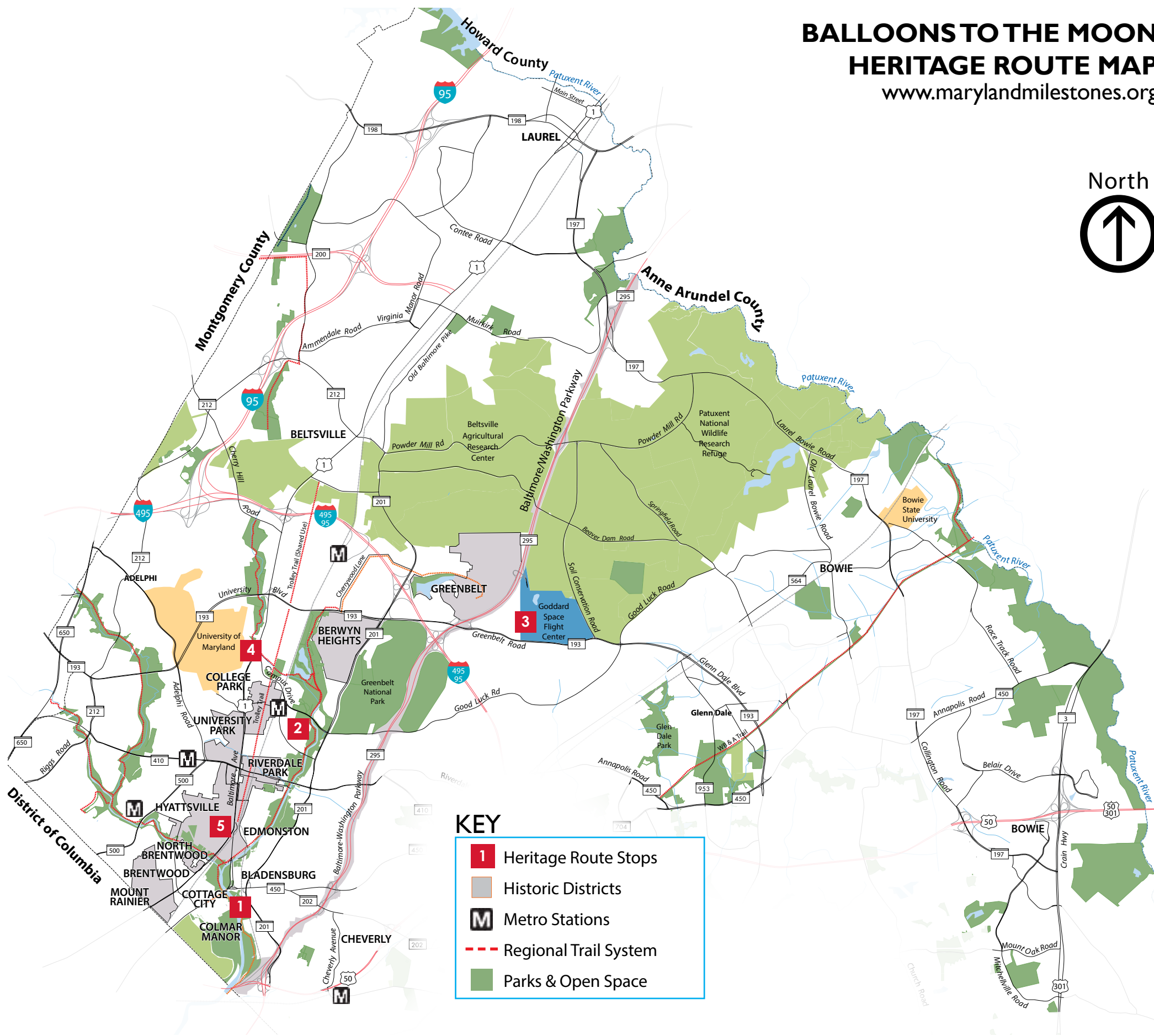
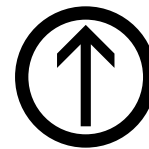
The following Heritage Routes are tours which connect multiple sites and themes. They can be accessed by foot, bike, or vehicle. Brochures for select routes are available at the Maryland Milestones Visitors Center or find all of them at www.marylandmilestones.org.

- **Linking the Nation: Transportation & Communication**
- **From Hot Air Balloons to Steps on the Moon**
- **Main Streets & Miracle Miles**
- **Farms & Fields: Agriculture Heritage**
- **Urban Outdoor Adventures**
- **Painting the Town: Arts & Humanities**
- **Festivals & Farmers Markets**
- **Battle of Bladensburg Walking Tour**

**BALLOONS TO THE MOON
HERITAGE ROUTE MAP**

www.marylandmilestones.org

North



KEY

- 1 Heritage Route Stops
- Historic Districts
- M Metro Stations
- Regional Trail System
- Parks & Open Space

1 Bladensburg Waterfront Park
4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg, MD
Operating Hours: Daily 8:30-5
301-779-0371 / www.pgparcs.com

2 College Park Aviation Museum
1985 Corporal Frank Scott Dr., College Park, MD
Operating Hours: Daily, 10-5
301-864-6029 / AviationMuseum@pgparcs.com
Admission: \$4/adults; \$3/seniors; \$2/ages 2-18

3 NASA Goddard Visitor Center
8800 Greenbelt Road, Lanham, MD
Operating Hours: T-F, 10-3; S/S, 12-4
301-286-8981
(Extended Hours July 1-August 31)

4 University of Maryland Visitors Center
1201 Turner Hall, College Park, MD
Operating Hours: M-F, 8-5; Sat, 9-3
800.422.5867, visitorcenter@umd.edu
(Aeronautics sites by appointment only.)

5 Maryland Milestones Heritage Center
(Located near Rhode Island Avenue Trolley Trail)
4318 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, MD
301-887-0777 / info@marylandmilestones.org
Operating Hours: Tue-Sat, 10-5; Sun 12-5

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Photos: College Park Aviation Museum - MNCPPC; CPAM interior, Air mail exhibit - S.L. Rogers; Historic ERCoupe, College Park AviationMuseum Collection; UMD Day, University of Maryland/Consoli; NASA Goddard, Webb Telescope images - NASA; Hot Air balloons - Erin Kohlenberg via Flickr, creative commons license