



For Immediate Release

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Revolutionary Route Exhibit Stops in Valley Forge *Paving the way to a National Historic Trail*

VALLEY FORGE, Pa. – Many people know that Valley Forge was where the Continental Army was forged into a fighting force. But what happened after they left? The new Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route exhibit at Valley Forge National Historical Park tells the story of how they came to win the war for our country's independence.

The display shows the route taken by the allied French and American troops under the direction of Generals George Washington and Jean-Baptiste de Rochambeau to capture the British army in Yorktown in 1781. Rochambeau sailed into Newport, R.I., in 1780 with an army of 5,300 before joining Washington and the Continental Army in New York.

The four-panel exhibit and map illustrates how they devised a southern campaign to attack Cornwallis in Virginia; a battle that essentially ended the Revolutionary War. Also on view are a replica coat and hat and information about some of the major players in the American Revolution.

Valley Forge's exhibit coincides with the effort to have the 650-mile route designated a National Historic Trail. In July, the route was approved by the House of Representatives and now awaits a vote from the Senate. For eight years volunteers have worked on the trail, funded historical research, placed markers along the route, organized commemorative events, created and distributed educational material, and developed trail guides for hikers, cyclists, and drivers.

The exhibit, presented by the Sons of the American Revolution, was previously at the Independence Visitor Center in Philadelphia and will remain at Valley Forge National Historical Park's theater lobby for at least six months. To learn more about the route or to find out how you can contact your senators to support the route's designation as a National Historic Trail, visit www.w3r-us.org.

For more information about exhibits or programs at Valley Forge National Historical Park, call 610.783.1099 or visit www.nps.gov/vafo. To get information about the Valley Forge area and affordable "*Gas Is On Us*" hotel packages, go to www.valleyforge.org.

About Valley Forge National Historical Park

Valley Forge National Historical Park is a national icon of the American Revolution that serves as a place where visitors enjoy, understand, care for, and preserve America's history and natural heritage. The Park offers an engaging, complete educational and recreational experience, providing an important piece of the American story in a beautiful, historical, preserved landscape.

About Valley Forge Convention and Visitors Bureau

The Valley Forge Convention and Visitors Bureau, Ltd. is a nonprofit, membership-based sales and marketing organization that aggressively promotes the Valley Forge area and Montgomery County as a convention site and leisure visitor destination by encouraging patronage of its 500-plus member hotels, restaurants, attractions and services. The Bureau's web site at www.valleyforge.org serves visitors, residents, meeting planners and tour operators.

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