

VIRGINIA

*The Mother
of Presidents*



Did you know that Virginia was the birthplace of eight of our nation's presidents? Read below to learn more about these Virginian heads of state. Presidents with a ★ also served as Virginia governors!

GEORGE WASHINGTON

1789-1797

1

George Washington was born in Wakefield in Westmoreland County on February 22nd, 1732. Washington lived at Mount Vernon up until his death in 1799. Washington was the Commander in Chief of the continental army during the American Revolution and president of the Constitutional Convention.

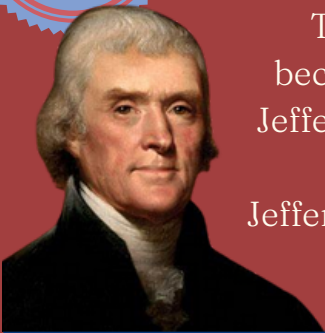


3★

THOMAS JEFFERSON

1801-1809

Thomas Jefferson was born in Albemarle County on April 13th, 1743. Before becoming president, Jefferson was the Governor of Virginia from 1779 to 1781. Jefferson authored the Declaration of Independence, founded the University of Virginia and doubled the size of America through the Louisiana Purchase. Jefferson's home and Virginia landmark and historical site, Monticello, is where Jefferson was laid to rest in 1826.



JAMES MADISON

1809-1817

4

Born March 16th, 1751 at Belle Grove Plantation in King George, James Madison was the Father of the Constitution and wrote the Bill of Rights. Madison died in 1836 and was buried at his home estate, Montpelier, another Virginia landmark and historical site.



5★

JAMES MONROE

1817-1825

James Monroe was born in Westmoreland County on April 28th, 1758. Monroe was the first and only person in history to hold two cabinet positions at once where he acted as President Madison's Secretary of State and Secretary of War. Monroe authored the Monroe Doctrine, a foreign policy position opposing European colonialism in the western hemisphere. James Monroe served as the Governor of Virginia from 1799 to 1802. Monroe was laid to rest in Richmond's iconic Hollywood Cemetery after his death in 1831.



WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON

1841

9

Serving as president for only 33 days before his death, William Henry Harrison was born on February 9th, 1773 at Berkeley Plantation in Charles City County. Harrison is reported to have the longest inauguration speech to date, and his grandson, Benjamin Harrison, served as the 23rd President of the United States.

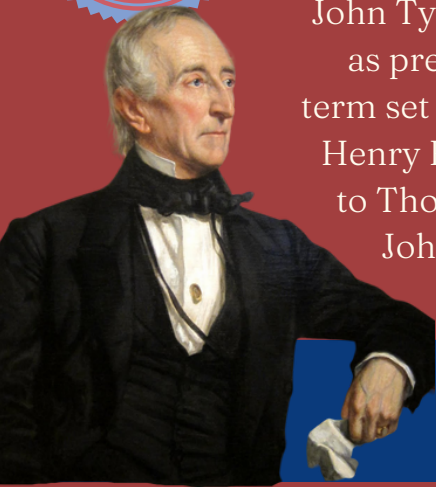


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JOHN TYLER

1841-1845

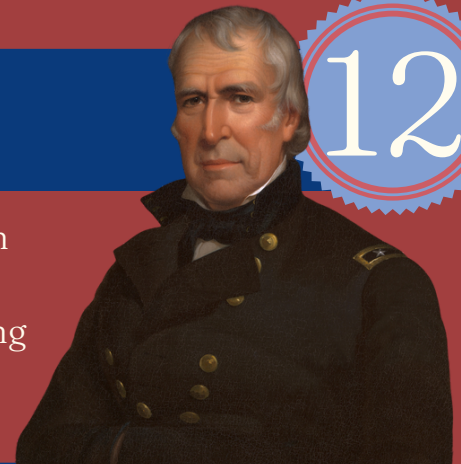
John Tyler was born on March 29th, 1790 in Charles City County. Before serving as president, Tyler acted as the Governor of Virginia from 1808 to 1811. Tyler's term set the precedent for presidential succession following the death of William Henry Harrison, granting him the nickname "His Accidency." Tyler was a friend to Thomas Jefferson and was the Chancellor of the College of William in Mary. John Tyler died in Richmond in 1862 and is buried at Hollywood Cemetery.



ZACHARY TAYLOR

1849-1850

A direct descendant of pilgrims who arrived to the United States on the Mayflower, Zachary Taylor was born in Orange County on November 24th, 1784. Taylor never attended college, instead serving as a career military officer for 40 years before his presidency.



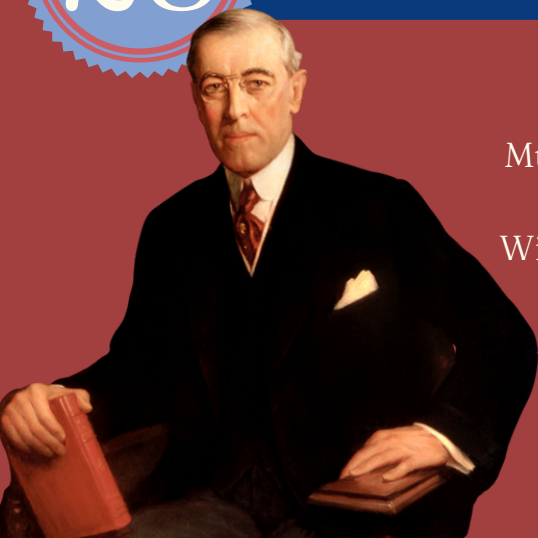
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WOODROW WILSON

1913-1921

Woodrow Wilson was born in Staunton on December 28th, 1856, now home to the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library and Museum. Wilson was the first president at the time to earn a PhD: a doctorate in Political Science from John Hopkins University. Wilson won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1919 and created the Fourteen Points, a key catalyst for the creation of the League of Nations.



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