



Image Source: Jorge Alcalá (Unplash)

by David Lu / translated by Lexie Fang

Washington, D.C., often referred to as Washington, is located in the Mid-Atlantic region of the East Coast and is situated at the junction of Maryland and Virginia. The Potomac River between the two states runs from northwest to southeast, forming a natural boundary to the west for Washington. Washington, D.C. is the district where most US federal government agencies and other countries' embassies are based. It is also home to international organizations, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the Organization of American States, while boasting numerous museums and cultural sites. Washington, D.C.'s economy is largely related to the Federal Government, the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, the National Institutes of Health, and the Food and Drug Administration. As the Federal Government's operations are hardly affected by the economic downturn, Washington, D.C.'s economy is less affected by the outside world than the rest of the United States.

The Safe Cities Index (SCI) 2019 by the publication "The Economist" ranked 60 cities around the world based on digital security, health and safety, infrastructure, and personal safety, and Washington, D.C., the capital of US, ranked seventh as the only US city among the top ten. Among Fortune Global 500 companies, over 15 headquarters, including Booz Allen Hamilton, Danaher, Gannett, and USA Today, as well as international hotel groups, including Hilton Worldwide and Marriott, are based in Washington, D.C., proving that Washington, D.C. enjoys a great business environment.

The world-known travel guide "Lonely Planet" has announced a list of best places to travel in 2020, and among the top ten cities for traveling, the US has occupied two positions. Washington, D.C. ranked second on the list as the year 2020 coincides with the 100th anniversary of the US Presidential Election and the 100th anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment : Amendment XIX, which granted American women the right to vote and set an important milestone in the movement for equality. In addition, Tom Hall, Lonely Planet's Vice President, pointed out that one of the reasons Washington, D.C. could be included in Lonely Planet's list every year is that there are many free art and cultural events in the city, such as the National Museum of Natural History, the National Gallery of Art, and the Smithsonian American Art Museum, open to the public on a long-term basis. Thus, Washington, D.C. has undoubtedly become the most popular tourist destination in the world.