

## **Trip 2 – Episode #59: Harpers Ferry (No Apostrophes Please)**

After our trip down memory lane in Mount Airy, we headed for Harpers Ferry. As a kind of warm-up, we drove through lovely pastoral landscapes.







We had booked in a campground in Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, and found a nice spot just in time for sunset.







Now ... about the apostrophe. At its inception, this historic town had one, as it was named after Robert Harper who ran a ferry business there. So calling it Harper's Ferry made sense. But in 1891, the apostrophe was removed, apparently due to reluctance toward apostrophes on the part of the US Board on Geographic Names. (Who knew?)

The town sits in a valuable strategic position, sitting as it does at the confluence of the Shenandoah and Potomac Rivers.

It's most famous for being the site of a raid by abolitionist John Brown, in his attempt to initiate a slave revolt.

The action has been referred to as the prelude to the Civil War. (He was hanged for his efforts.)

You'd never suspect its turbulent past when you travel through this peaceful town. It exudes Americana.

















Again, because of time constraints, we weren't able to stay and really soak up the history. But we did make the effort to take Charles to his namesake town nearby.





Like our own Charles, the town was elegant, handsome and full of charm.

















At about 11:00 the next morning, we left Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. At 11:14, we entered Virginia, which claims to be for lovers.



We didn't get a chance to find out, because at 11:15 (I'm not kidding), we entered ...



And if you're in Maryland, can D.C. be far?



Nope.

