

## Why Choose VAI?

The annual **VAI Governor's Tourism Summit** is Virginia's premier tourism and hospitality conference. Travel professionals from across the industry gather to reconnect, network, and attend engaging and insightful development sessions that encourage attendees to maximize Virginia's potential as a travel destination. Different topics include marketing trends & strategies, product development, data-driven research, content workshops, workforce development, and more.

VAI offers unique opportunities for sponsors and exhibitors to connect with decision makers seeking new and innovative solutions for their organizations. If you're interested in learning more about these opportunities, please contact <a href="mailto:Brittany-Wojdyla">Brittany-Wojdyla</a>.

## **Our Audience**

The attendance for the VAI Governor's Tourism Summit can sometimes depend on venue size, but we typically expect **450-600 conference attendees** comprised mostly of professionals from around the tourism and hospitality industries:

- Travel Professionals
- CVBs + DMOs
- Tourism Investors
- Government Officials
- VIP Guests
- Hospitality Suppliers
- Hoteliers
- Restaurateurs
- Economic Development Executives

## **Notable Past Key Note Speakers**

- Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin
  74th Governor of Virginia
- Bruce Smith

  NFL Hall of Famer & Virginia Hotelier
- Alicia Rainwater

  Keynote Speaker & Generational Expert
- Todd Brook
  Founder & CEO of Unchained AI
- Torance Hampton

  Director & Executive Producer
- Jon Shallert

  Headline Speaker
- Shelia Johnson
  Founder & CEO of Salamander Hotels & Resorts
- Stephanie Stuckey

  CEO of Stuckey's

## **Previous Conference Locations**

- 25 Caesars Virginia Danville, VA
- Omni Homestead Resort Hot Springs, VA
- Richmond Convention Center & Marriott
  Richmond Downtown Richmond, VA
- 22 Hilton Norfolk The Main Norfolk, VA
- 21 National Conference Center Leesburg, VA
- 19 Crystal Gateway Marriott Arlington, VA



