

# Battle of Yorktown

**Where – Yorktown, Virginia**

**When – August to October 1781**

**What – Battle of Yorktown**

The last big battle in the war for independence was the Battle at Yorktown. George Washington discovered that French Admiral de Grasse was sailing to Virginia to assist in keeping the British troops in Yorktown. General Cornwallis was the leader of the British troops there.

Washington and the French General Rochambeau hurried their troops to Yorktown to keep the British trapped in Yorktown.

The Americans and French had soldiers and sailors in the numbers of around 18,000 in number.

The British troops were held trapped in the city from August to October of 1781.

Sir Henry Clinton, the leader of all the British troops, informed Cornwallis that help in the form of soldiers and supplies was on its way from a British fleet.

The French fleet under the leadership of Admiral de Grasse defeated the British fleet at the head of the Chesapeake Bay. This caused Cornwallis to not have the help he needed. This allowed the Americans and French to close in on Cornwallis and gain the victory. Cornwallis surrendered to Washington on October 19, 1781.