

Richmond to Savannah Tour

Richmond, VA to Savannah, GA Saturday, May 6 – Friday, May 19

Sat, May 6, 2017

- Warm-up day. Tour of Richmond (55 mi)
- Sun, May 7 Wednesday, May 17 (11 days)
 - Cycle from Richmond to Savannah (655 mi)

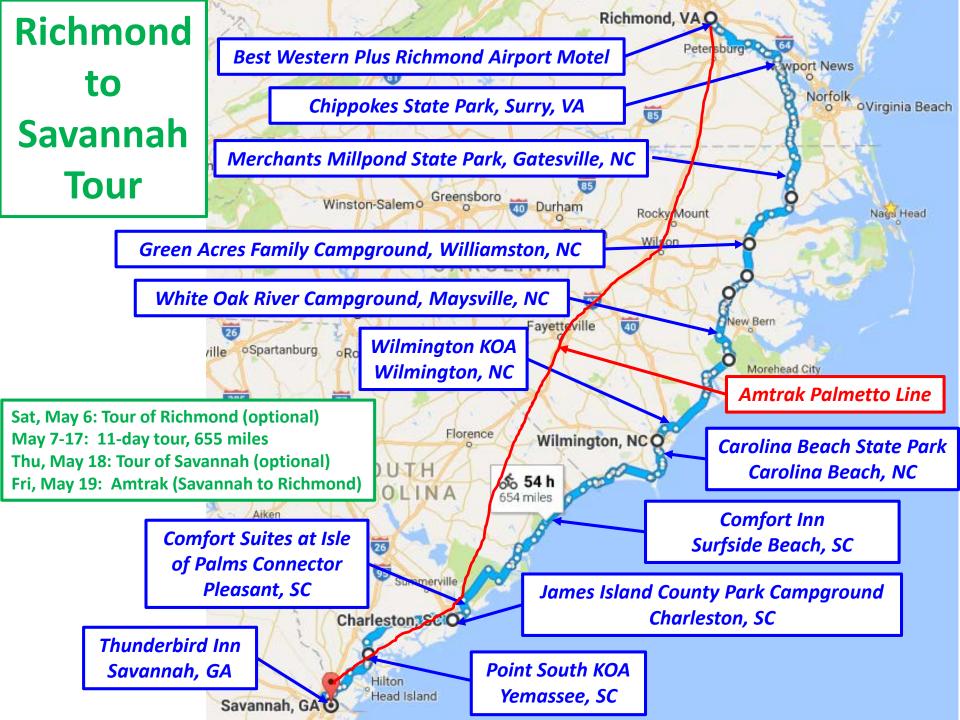
Thu, May 18

- Option 1: Return to Richmond on Amtrak
 90 Palmetto Line: 8:20 am 5:14 pm, (9 hours), \$91 (incl. \$20 for bike)
- Option 2: Stay for a tour of Savannah (40 mi)

Fri, May 19

Return to Richmond on Amtrak (Option 2)

90 Palmetto Line: 8:20 am - 5:14 pm, (9 hours), \$91 (incl. \$20 for bike)



Richmond to Savannah Tour

Sat, May 6: Tour of Richmond
May 7-17: 11-days, 655 miles
Thu, May 18: Tour of Savannah

Fri, May 19: Amtrak (Savannah to Richmond)

Trip	Day of				
Day	Week	Date	Starting Location	Ending Location	Miles
	Fri	5/5		Best Western Plus Richmond Airport (5300 Airport Square Ln,	
				Sandston, VA 23150) - 804-222-8200 - call and ask for block of rooms	
				under "GORDY2017" - \$89.99 discounted rate	
1	Sat	5/6	Best Western Plus Richmond Airport (5300 Airport Square Ln,	Best Western Plus Richmond Airport (5300 Airport Square Ln,	52.0
			Sandston, VA 23150)	Sandston, VA 23150) - 804-222-8200 - call and ask for block of rooms	
				under "GORDY2017" - \$89.99 discounted rate	
2	Sun	5/7	Best Western Plus Richmond Airport (5300 Airport Square Ln,	Chippokes State Park, Surry, VA	62.9
			Sandston, VA 23150)		
3	Mon	5/8	Chippokes State Park, Surry, VA	Merchant's Millpond State Park, NC	69.2
4	Tue	5/9	Merchant's Millpond State Park, NC	Green Acres Family Campground	67.2
				Williamston, NC	
5	Wed	5/10	Green Acres Family Campground	White Oak River Campground	88.9
			Williamston, NC	Maysville, NC	
6	Thu	5/11	White Oak River Campground	Wilmington KOA	71.8
			Maysville, NC	Wilmington, NC	
7	Fri	5/12	Wilmington KOA	Carolina Beach State Park, NC	29.0
			Wilmington, NC		
8	Sat	5/13	Carolina Beach State Park, NC	Comfort Inn	83.2
				1201 US 17N, Surfside Beach, SC 29575	
9	Sun	5/14	Comfort Inn	Comfort Suites at Isle of Palms Connector (1130 Hungry Neck Blvd -	94.4
			1201 US 17N, Surfside Beach, SC 29575	Mt. Pleasant, SC)	
10	Mon	5/15	Comfort Suites at Isle of Palms Connector (1130 Hungry Neck	Campground at James Island County Park	28.8
			Blvd - Mt. Pleasant, SC)		
11	Tue	5/16	Campground at James Island County Park	Point South KOA	72.5
				Yemassee, SC	
12	Wed	5/17	Point South KOA	Thunderbird Inn,912-232-2661	59.4
			Yemassee, SC	611 West Oglethorpe Ave, Savannah, GA	
13	Thu		Thunderbird Inn,912-232-2661	Thunderbird Inn,912-232-2661	40.0
			611 West Oglethorpe Ave, Savannah, GA	611 West Oglethorpe Ave, Savannah, GA	
14	Fri	5/19	Amtrak: 90 Palmetto Line (Savannah to Richmond)	Depart in Richmond at <u>Staples Mill Station</u> :	
			Savannah Station Address: (3.6 miles from motel)	7519 Staples Mill Rd, Richmond, VA	
			2611 Seaboard Coastline Dr, Savannah, GA 31415		
				Total miles:	819.3

<u>Amtrak</u>: Palmetto Line -Savannah, GA to Richmond, VA

PALMETTO

New York, NY - Charleston, SC - Savannah, GA 829 miles / 1334 km

Route	New York, NY - Savannah, GA			
Distance	829 miles / 1334 km			
Operation	Daily			
Time	14h 20m (Southbound Train)			
Train Set	Amfleet, Heritage			
Cars	Business, Coach, Lounge,			



Station	State	Time Zone	Distance	Elevation	Notes
New York - Penn. Station	NY	ET	0 mi	12 m	NJ Transit
Newark	NJ	ET	10 mi	5 m	NJ Transit
(Newark Airport)	NJ	ET	13 mi	6 m	NJ Transit, Non Stop
(Metropark)	NJ	ET	25 mi	17 m	NJ Transit, Non Stop
(New Brunswick)	NJ	ET	33 mi	12 m	NJ Transit, Non Stop
(Princeton Junction)	NJ	ET	49 mi	21 m	NJ Transit, Non Stop
Trenton	NJ	ET	58 mi	12 m	NJ Transit, SEPTA
(Cornwells Heights)	PA	ET	74 mi	12 m	SEPTA, Non Stop
(North Philadelphia)	PA	ET	86 mi	30 m	SEPTA, Non Stop
Philadelphia - 30th Street	PA	ET	91 mi	6 m	SEPTA
Wilmington	DE	ET	116 mi	10 m	SEPTA
(Newark)	DE	ET	128 mi	27 m	SEPTA, Non Stop
(Aberdeen)	MD	ET	155 mi	24 m	SEPTA, Non Stop
Baltimore	MD	ET	185 mi	27 m	MARC, MTA (Light Rail)
(BWI Airport)	MD	ET	196 mi	24 m	MARC, Non Stop
(New Carrollton)	MD	ET	217 mi	33 m	MARC, METRO, Non Stop
Washington	DC	ET	225 mi	15 m	VRE, MARC, METRO
Alexandria	VA	ET	233 mi	9 m	VRE, METRO
(Woodbridge)	VA	ET	250 mi	15 m	VRE, Non Stop
(Quantico)	VA	ET	260 mi	12 m	VRE, Non Stop
(Fredericksburg)	VA	ET	280 mi	14 m	VRE, Non Stop
(Ashland)	VA	ET	323 mi	67 m	Non Stop
Richmond - Staples Mill Rd.	VA	ET	334 mi	62 m	State Capitol (Virginia)
Petersburg	VA	ET	362 mi	32 m	
Rocky Mount	NC	ET	460 mi	37 m	
Wilson	NC	ET	476 mi	44 m	
Selma - Smithfield	NC	ET	502 mi	55 m	
Fayetteville	NC	ET	550 mi	34 m	
Dillon	sc	ET	603 mi	35 m	
Florence	sc	ET	633 mi	14 m	
Kingstree	sc	ET	672 mi	16 m	
Charleston	sc	ET	728 mi	9 m	
		ET	782 mi	8 m	
Yemassee	sc	EI	702 1111		

Only Amtrak stations are listed. Commuter Train Stations are not shown.

Amtrak: Palmetto Line -Savannah, GA to Richmond, VA

Piedmont

Palmetto Carolinian 79

◆ Train Name ▶

ATLANTIC COAST SERVICE

◆ Train Number ▶

◆ On Board Service ▶

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Carolinian Palmetto Piedmont Piedmont

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Petersburg, VA - Ettrick Statio

Rocky Mount, NC (RMT)

Raleigh, NC (RGH)

Southern Pines, NC (SOP)

Camden, SC (CAM)

Columbia, SC (CLB)

Denmark, SC (DNK)

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Baltimore, MD-Penn Sta.

-30th St. Station

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Alexandria, VA

Fredericksburg, VA

-Staples Mill Rd.

Petersburg, VA

Ar Raleigh, NC

Cary, NC

Durham, NC

Burlington, NC

Greensboro, NC

High Point, NC

Kannapolis, NC

Fayetteville, NC

Charlotte, NC

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Kingstree, SC (KTR) North Charleston, SC (CHS)

Yemassee, SC (YEM)

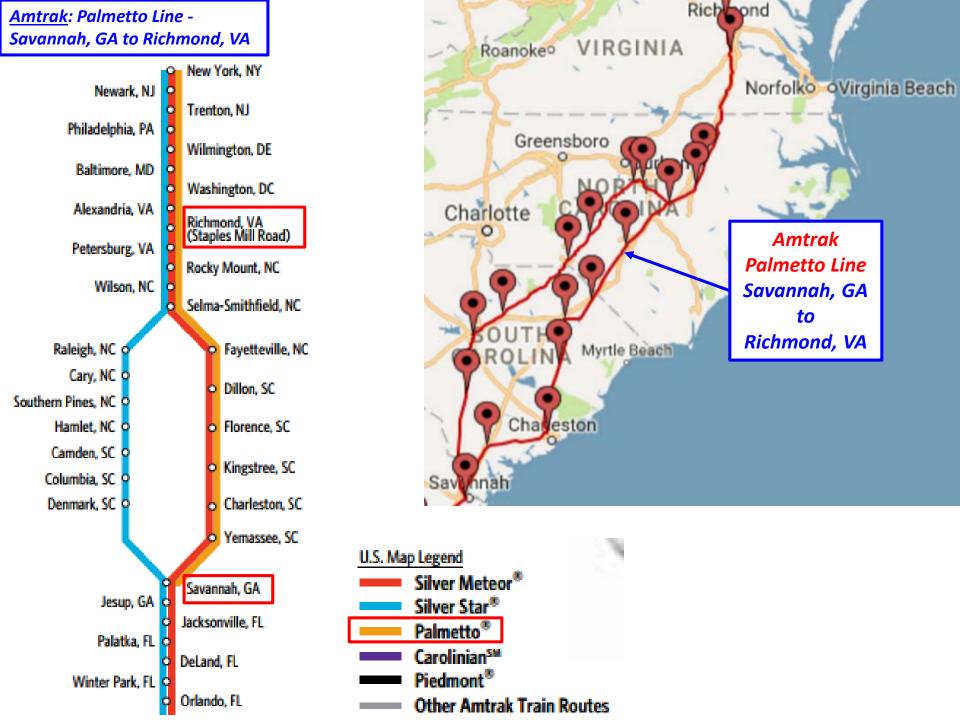
Cary, NC (CYN)

Hamlet, NC (HAM)

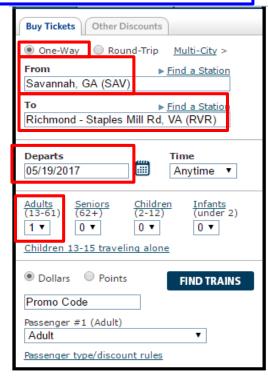
Savannah, GA (SAV)

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Service continues on right. No change of train required.



<u>Amtrak</u>: Palmetto Line -Savannah, GA to Richmond, VA



RESERVATION OPTIONS

Auto Train Tickets

Multi-City Tickets

Multi-Ride Tickets

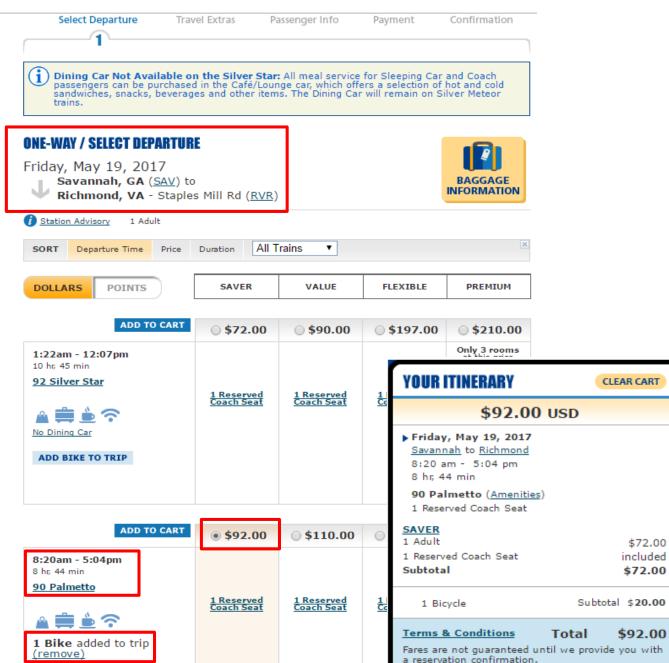
USA Rail Passes

<u>SmartFares</u>

Group Travel Request

Hotels, Cars, Things to Do & More





We will use parts of Adventure Cycling's **Atlantic Coast Route**. In some cases we deviate from the route in order to find suitable campgrounds and

places to eat.

Adventure Cycling Atlantic Coast Route

Section 4: Richmond, VA to Wilmington, NC
Section 5: Wilmington, NC to Statesboro, GA (close to

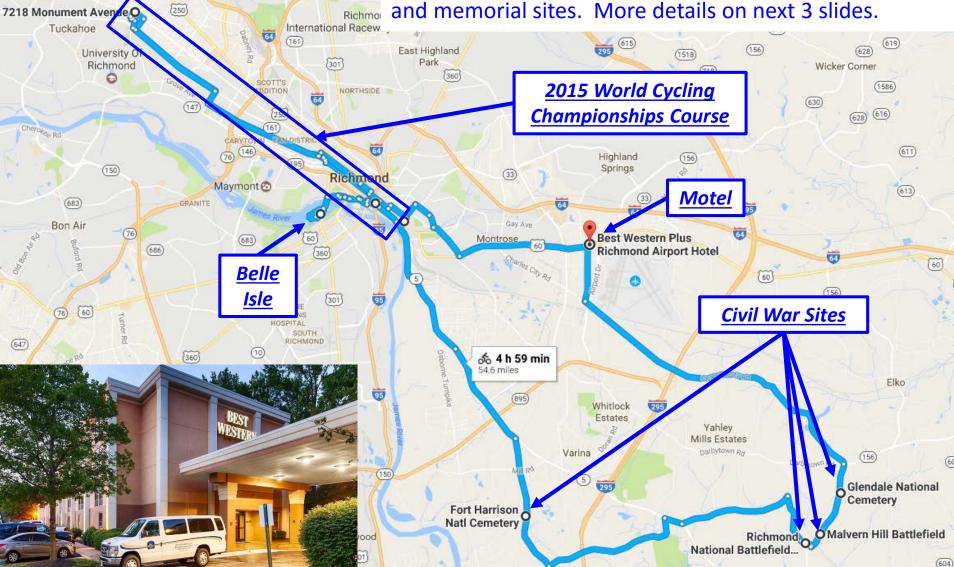
Atlantic Coast Section 5 Detail Image





Day 1 (Sat, May 6): Tour of Richmond, VA (optional) Start and Stop: Best Western Plus Richmond Airport (Richmond, VA) 54.6 miles

We will cycle (unloaded) the 10.3 mile 2015 UCI World Cycling Championships Road Race Course, cycle the perimeter loop at Belle Isle (a 54-acre island in the middle of the James River accessed by a suspended pedestrian bridge), and visit several Civil War battlefields and memorial sites. More details on next 3 slides.



<u>Day 1</u>: - Visiting Belle Isle

Belle Island is a 54-acre island in the middle of the James River. It is a very popular park in Richmond with hiking, biking, and running trails, quarry walls for rock climbing, civil war historical sites, and broad rocks for viewing the river with some beautiful rapids.

The park can be reached by a 1040' pedestrian bridge which is suspended under the Lee Bridge.

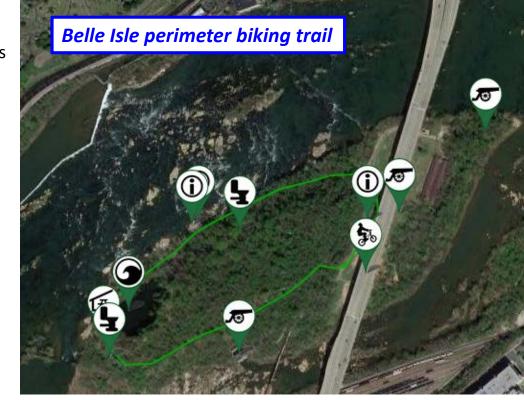
Belle Island has hosted a nail factory, a full-scale ironworks, a granite quarry, a hydroelectric plant (until 1967), and a notorious Civil War prisoner-of-war camp. Confederate gun emplacements can been seen on the western end of the hill.

Belle Isle also offers a view from across the James River of the Hollywood Cemetery where Presidents Monroe and Tyler are buried along with Jefferson Davis, JEB Stuart and thousands of Civil War soldiers.

http://www.richmondoutside.com/destination/belle-isle-jrps/

Suspended pedestrian bridge to Belle Isle

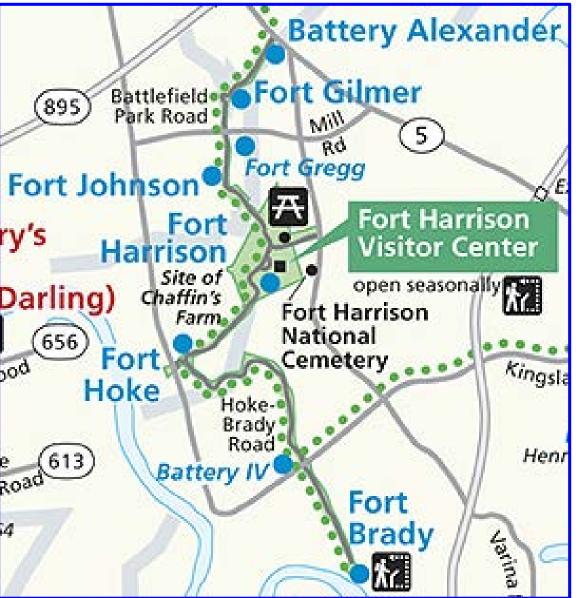






<u>Day 1</u>: - Richmond Battlefield Ride

Richmond National Battlefield Park is comprised of 2900 acres in 13 American Civil War sites around Richmond. Several sites are shown below near Fort Harrison.





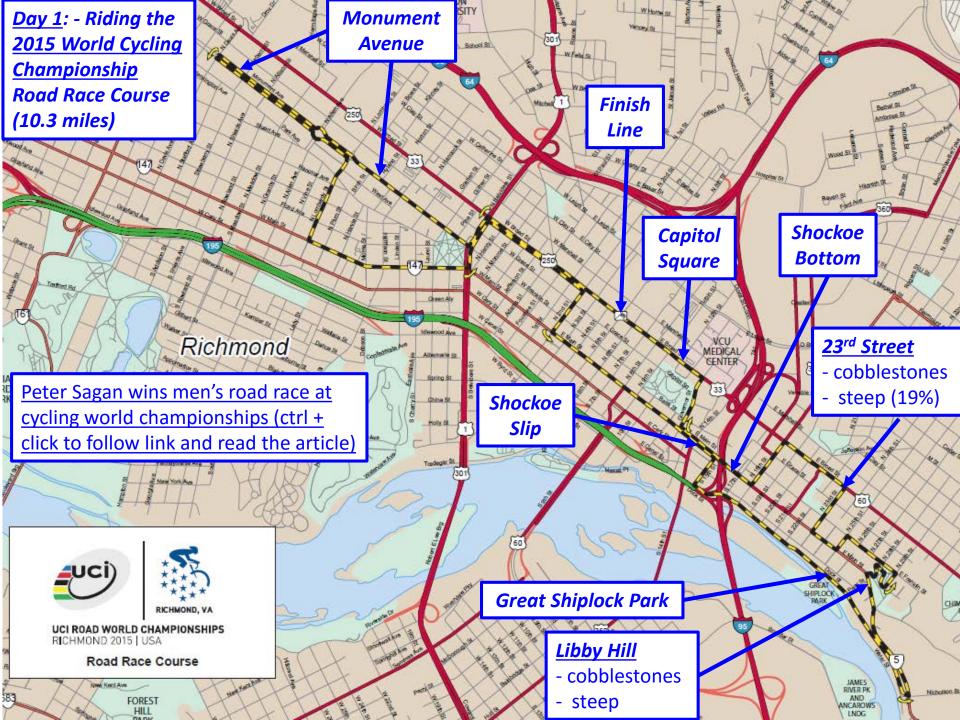
The Pattern Building at <u>Tredegar Iron Works</u>, now used as the main visitors' center for Richmond National Battlefield Park. Open 9-5. Three floors of exhibits. (close to Belle Isle).



Union Gun at Malvern Hill

References:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richmond National Battlefield Park https://www.nps.gov/rich/index.htm



<u>Day 2 (Sun, May 7)</u>: Best Western Plus Richmond Airport (Richmond, VA) to Chippokes State Park Campground (Surry, VA) 66.9 miles (includes 12 mi RT for dinner)

tichmond

Capital

Trail

We follow Maps 38-40 of AC's <u>Atlantic</u> <u>Coast Bicycle Route</u> – Section 4.

We will cycle most of the 50-mile *Virginia Capital Bike Trail* from Richmond to
Jamestown. This newlyconstructed paved trail is
outstanding, with wide
paved surfaces, scenic views,
and beautiful bridges. This
quiet route travels mostly
through woods and
farmland. We may stop at
the bike-friendly *Charles City Courthouse Grill* (right
on the trail) for lunch.

We will take a ferry (free) from Jamestown to Surry and then cycle to nearby *Chippokes State Park*. We can set up camp and then cycle 6 miles to Anna's Pizza and Italian Restaurant (a local favorite) in Surry for dinner.



Ferry

Italian Restaurant

https://goo.gl/maps/CVAynsWg8US2

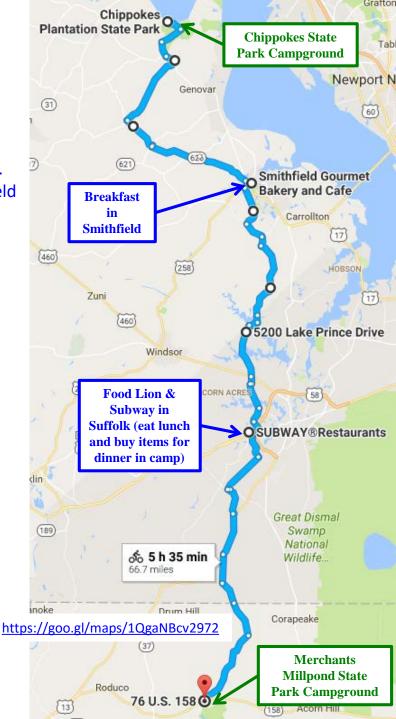
Chippokes Plantation State Park <u>Day 3 (Mon, May 8)</u>: Chippokes State Park to Merchant Millpond State Park – 65.4 miles

This route mostly follows maps 40-43 of AC's <u>Atlantic Coast Bicycle Route</u> – Section 4.

This route was changed from the one originally posted after I found out that our dinner restaurant (Doris & Rogers Kitchen) is closed on Mondays. We will eat a light breakfast in camp and then cycle 20 miles into Smithfield for a nice breakfast at the Smithfield Bakery and Cafe. There aren't any good dinner options, so when we stop in Suffolk for lunch (Subway?), we can perhaps buy items for dinner in camp at Food Lion.

Merchants Millpond State Park is an amazing park. If we arrive early a canoe trip is recommended (only \$5.00/hour), but watch out for the alligators! See the next slide for more information.





Day 3 (Mon, May 8)

Merchants Millpond State Park » Hours of Operation

Park Hours

Canoe Rental Fees

November - February, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

First Hour --- \$5/hour

March and October, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Additional Hours --- \$3/hour

April, May, September, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

http://www.ncparks.gov/Visit/parks/memi/main.php

An "enchanted forest," primitive species of fish relatively unchanged over millions of years, towering bald cypress trees with massive trunks, luxuriant growths of Spanish moss - this is Merchants Millpond State Park. Here, coastal pond and southern swamp forest mingle, creating one of North Carolina's rarest ecological communities. Together with upland forests, these environments create a haven for wildlife and humanity alike.





Canoeing: Rent a canoe or bring your own; the best way to explore Merchants Millpond is by gliding across the park's placid, shallow waters. A boat ramp and pier near the parking area offer access to the water. Marked canoe trails lead from the boat ramp to canoe campsites. Or, venture out of the millpond and take slow-moving, dark-water Bennetts Creek through Lassiter Swamp. Here, park visitors are transported into a world of mistletoe, hanging Spanish moss and ancient cypress trees.

Facility: Twenty drive-to campsites (non-electric). A picnic table and grill are at each campsite.

Location: Highway 158 entrance.

Accommodates: Up to six persons per site.

Nearby Amenities: Washhouse with drinking water, restrooms and showers.

Available: Year-round.

Reservations Required: Reservations are strongly advised. Any unreserved sites are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

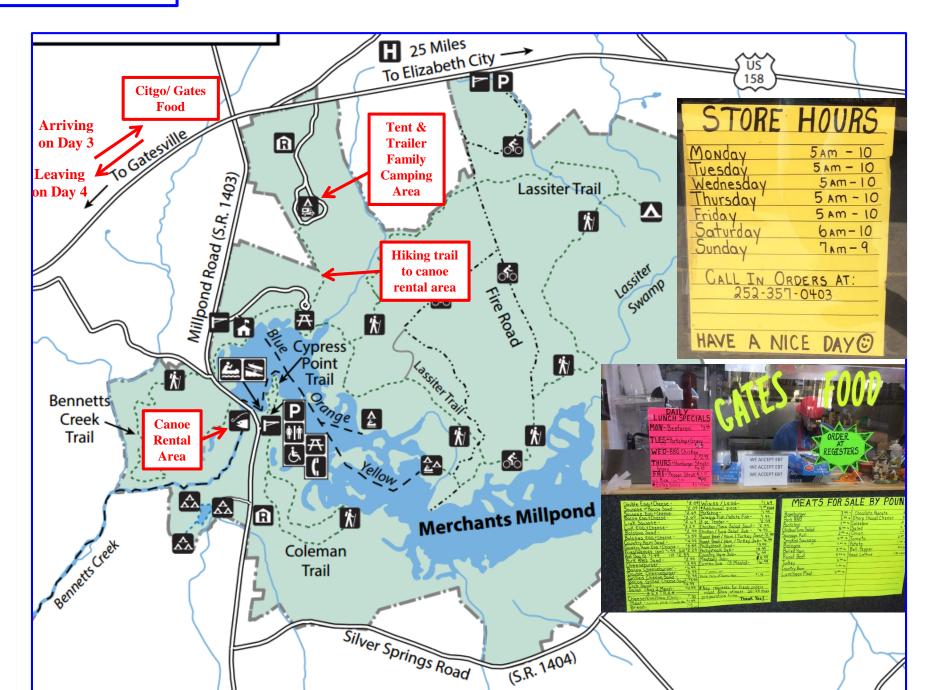
Accessible: Site 14 is accessible.

Drive-to / Walk-in Camping Fees (no electrical / no water hookups):

(Water, restrooms and shower facilities.)

Picnic table and grill on campsite --- \$20/day

Senior citizen (62 or older) --- \$15/day



<u>Day 4 (Tue, May 9)</u>: Merchant Millpond State Park to Green Acres Family Campground (Williamston, NC) 67.2 miles

campgrounds.

We will begin Day 4 by cycling 9.3 miles to Doris & Roger's Kitchen which has a nice breakfast menu.

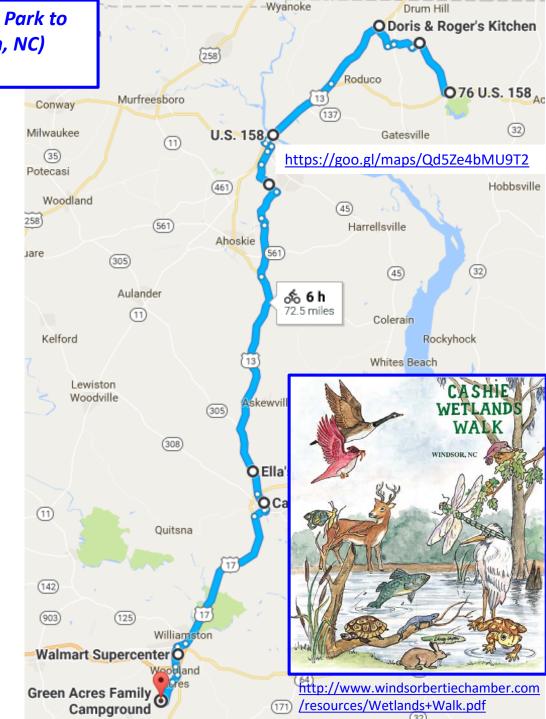
We will have some stretches on busy US13, but will cycle rural roads when possible to Windsor, NC where we will eat lunch. Winsor features the Cashie Wetlands Walk, a small zoo, the Roanoke/Cashie River Center (kayaking and more), the Cashie River Boardwalk, and several restaurants. Windsor (formerly Gray's Landing) is also on the Civil War Discovery Trail.

We will depart from the AC route in order to get to

Wilmington in 3 days using convenient

"A marker in the Park at Gray's Landing commemorates the Skirmish at Windsor when Union gunboats dispatched from Plymouth entered the town in the early hours of January 30, 1864, and faced a small regiment from the 42nd Georgia Calvary." (http://www.windsorbertiechamber.com/)

We will continue to Williamston, NC where many conveniences are available, including a Walmart. We will eat in Williamston just before arriving in camp.



<u>Day 5 (Wed, May 10)</u>: Green Acres Family Campground (Williamston, NC) to White Oak River Campground (Maysville, NC) 81.7 miles

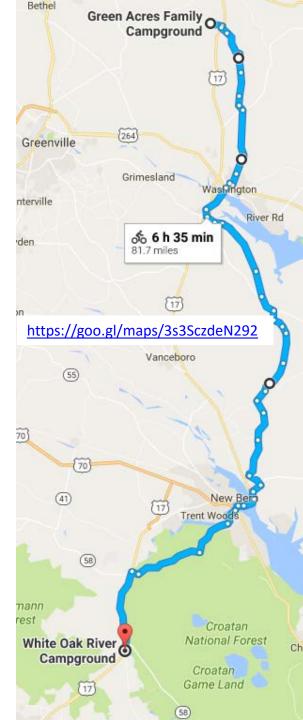
We will rejoin the AC route in Bridgeton, NC (just before New Bern). We will then follow Maps 48-49 of AC's <u>Atlantic Coast Bicycle Route</u> – Section 4.

We might eat a light breakfast in camp and then cycle about 19 miles to Washington, NC for brunch. The city of Washington is on the Pamlico River and has many conveniences, including Inner Banks Outfitters where they rent and repair bikes.

We will continue along rural roads to Bridgetown where we will cross the Neuse River to New Bern, NC. We can stop at Union Point Park just after crossing into New Bern for a nice view. A short detour would also allow us the visit New Bern Civil War Battlefield Park. We will leave New Bern and take rural roads through the Croatan National Forest and we will find grocery stores and restaurants in Maysville, NC just before we reach camp.



Union Point Park in New Bern, NC http://www.newbern.com/union-point-park.html



<u>Day 6 (Thur, May 11)</u>: White Oak River Campground (Maysville, NC) to Wilmington KOA (Wilmington, NC) 81.7 miles

We will continue following the AC route, including the "Wilmington Spur." We will follow Maps 49-51 of AC's <u>Atlantic Coast Bicycle Route</u> – Section 4.

We might eat a light breakfast in camp and then cycle 21.5 miles to an IHOP restaurant in Jacksonville, NC. We will continue to the coast and cycle along the outer banks from North Topsail Beach to Surf City, where we might stop for lunch. We might walk out on the 937' Surf City Fishing Pier (\$1 fee) for a nice view of the coastline (there is also a grill on the pier for a light lunch). We will continue to the Wilmington KOA where there are several nearby dining options for dinner. After some long days we will be ready for a short day tomorrow visiting Wilmington, NC.

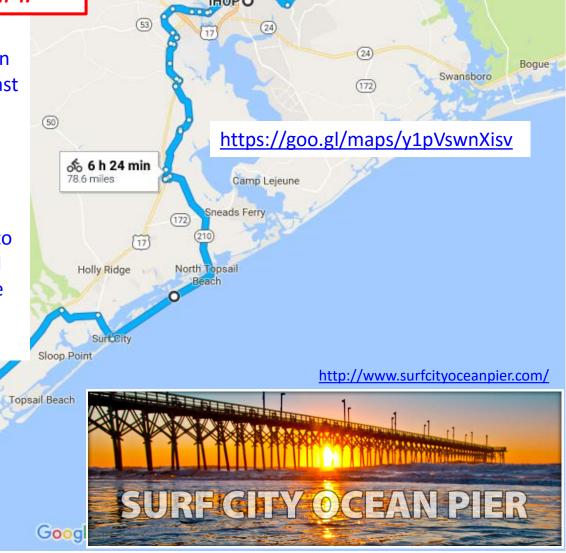
Castle Hayne

Wilmington

KOA Holiday

140

Wilmington



Pumpkin Center

Richlands

(111)

Half Moon

Croatan

National Forest

Croatan Game Land

White Oak River

Campground

<u>Day 7</u> (Fri, May 12): Wilmington KOA to Carolina Beach State Park (Wilmington, NC)

12.7 miles to Wilmington to do some sightseeing and then 16.7 miles to camp (29.4 miles total)

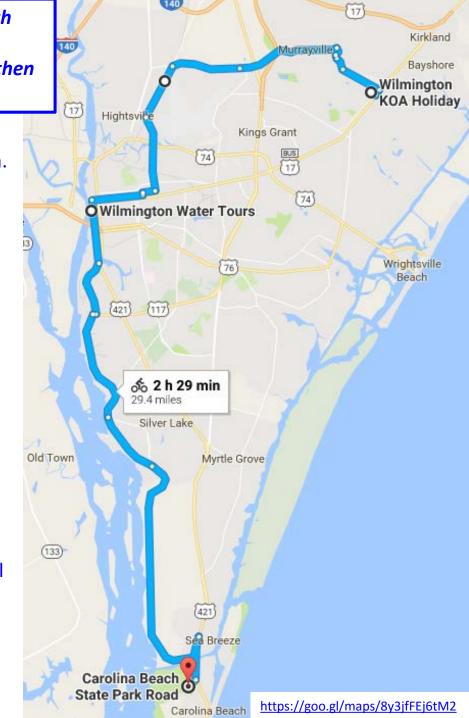
There are restaurants near camp for breakfast. This will be a shorter day allowing us time to explore Wilmington. We may eat lunch along the Riverwalk in downtown Wilmington, take a waterfront boat tour, or visit a museum.

The following slides show a number of available attractions in Wilmington, including:

- Wilmington Water Tours (50-minute narrated tour)
- Cape Fear Riverboats (50-minute narrated tour)
- Bellamy Mansion Museum of History and Design
- Battleship North Carolina
- Cape Fear Museum
- Wilmington Railroad Museum

There are also a number of things to do near the campground, including:

- Fort Fisher State Historic Site
- Carolina Beach State Parks Sugarloaf Sand Dune (civil war site)
- North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher
- Enjoy the ocean along Carolina Beach



Day 7: Wilmington, NC Attractions



Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Sunday, 1:00-5:00 p.m. Monday, Closed to the public

Bellamy Mansion Museum of History & Design

Local: (910) 251-3700

503 Market Street

Wilmington, NC, 28401 Visit: http://www.bellamymansion.org/ Location: Historic Downtown Wilmington Email: info@bellamymansion.org

Built as the city residence (c.1861) of a prominent planter, this is one of North Carolina's most spectacular examples of antebellum architecture. This historic house is now a museum that focuses on history and the design arts with changing exhibits. Tour the magnificent 10,000 sq foot home, visit the meticulously re-created gardens and walk through the recently restored slave quarters, one of very few preserved urban slave quarters in the country.

HOURS: Tours are on the hour: Tues-Sat: 10am-4pm, Sun: 1pm-4pm

ADMISSION: Adults: \$10

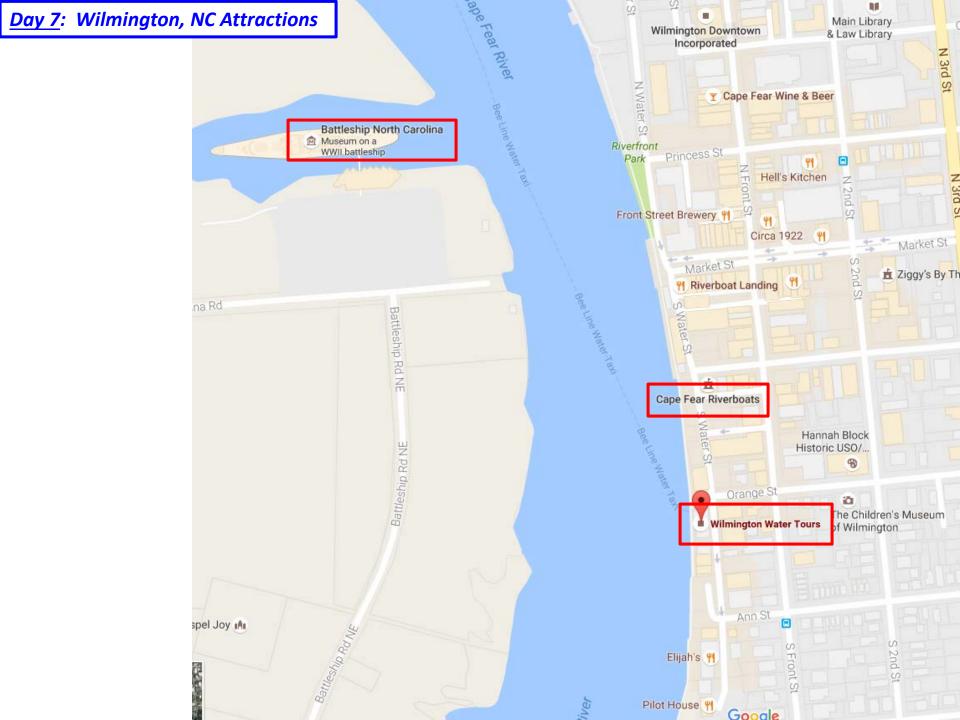
Senior/Military: \$9
College Students: \$5
Children (5-12): \$4
Children Under 5: Free

Bellamy Mansion

The Bellamy Mansion is one of North Carolina's most spectacular examples of antebellum architecture built on the eve of the Civil War by free and enslaved black artisans, one of which was local William Benjamin Gould whose escape to freedom is documented on the National Underground Railroad Network Freedom Marker. After the fall of Fort Fisher in 1865, Federal troops commandeered the house as their headquarters during the occupation of Wilmington. In addition to the mansion, the site features a rare survival of a once important urban building type, and one of the best preserved examples in the country. Such buildings were generally referred to as servants' quarters. Before the American Civil War there were hundreds of urban slave quarters housing thousands of enslaved people throughout the South. Through the Bellamy Mansion Slave Quarters restoration, these people will be honored and the lives and



contributions of not only Sarah, Joan, Maryann and the children who lived in the Bellamy Mansion quarters, but all enslaved people who lived in such dwellings. Learn More



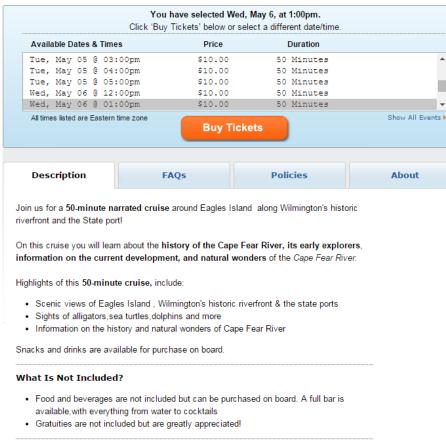
Day 7: Wilmington, NC Attractions



http://wilmingtonwatertours.net/all-tours-cruises.html



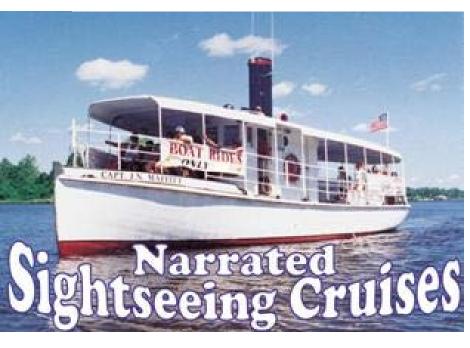




Meeting Location

Water St between Orange and Ann Streets (Wilmington, NC)
(Exact meeting location details will be provided immediately upon purchase of tickets.)

Cape Fear Riverboats Boat Cruises & Tours In Wilmington, NC



http://cfrboats.com/

April thru October

Weekday & Weekend Sightseeing Cruises

1 Hour Sightseeing Cruises with a Captain's Narration.

These cruises depart from Historic Downtown Wilmington.

11:00 am

12:15 pm

1:30 pm

3:00 pm

4:15 pm

Call ahead to check schedules

(Weather permitting)

Tickets are available at the boat or the ticket booth (in front of the Henrietta III) the day of the cruise.

Visa & MasterCard Accepted

\$10.00 per Adult, \$5.00 for children (ages 2 - 12 years old). Children under 2 are FREE.

Day 7: Wilmington, NC Attractions



Admission Fees

- \$8 Adults
- \$7 Seniors, College students, Military

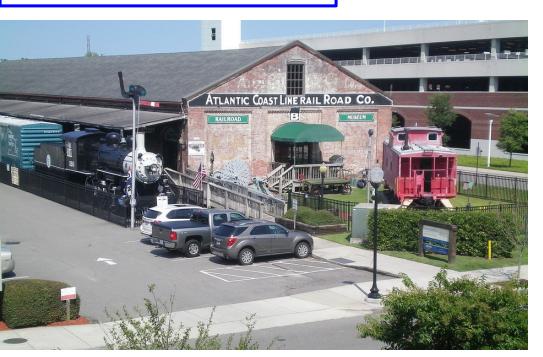
814 Market Street • Wilmington, NC 28401 • Phone 910-798-4370



Discover the past in Cape Fear Stories, where you can see a scale model of 1863 Wilmington waterfront and watch the Civil War Battle of Fort Fisher unfold before your eyes. Investigate the handson Michael Jordan Discovery Gallery and meet Wilmington's oldest resident, a 20-foot-tall Giant Ground Sloth. Enjoy educational programs for children and families every Saturday and programs for adults throughout the year. Changing special exhibits always on view.

https://www.visitnc.com/listing/cape-fear-museum

Day 7: Wilmington, NC Attractions



Location

505 NUTT STREET
WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA 28401
Click here to get driving directions!
TELEPHONE (910)763-2634

CLICK "EVENTS" TO FIND WHAT'S UP AHEAD & AROUND THE BEND

Regular Admission Prices

- Adults \$9
- Seniors and Military Personnel \$8
- Children (2 years to 12 years) \$5



Wilmington Railroad Museum

In 1840 the longest railroad in the world opened in North Carolina, running from Wilmington in New Hanover County to Weldon in Halifax County via Goldsboro and Rocky Mount. The Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad Company designed and built the railroad which, at 161½ miles, was longer than any other track in the world. In 1858, among the early employees was assistant engineer William G. Lewis, the future General of the Civil War. The Wilmington and Weldon line was essential to the Confederacy during the Civil War, becoming known as the "Lifeline of the Confederacy." The line moved goods and supplies from the single open Confederate port of Wilmington to Robert E. Lee's Army in Virginia and throughout the Confederacy. The fall of Wilmington, denying access to the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, was a major factor leading up to Lee's surrender at

Appomattox. Learn More

<u>Day 7</u>: Wilmington, NC Attractions

Carolina Beach State Park

1010 State Park Road Carolina Beach, NC, 28428

Location: Carolina Beach

Local: (910) 458-8206

Visit: http://www.ncparks.gov/carolina-

beach-state-park

Email: carolina.beach@ncparks.gov

This popular 761 acre park includes a Visitor's Center and marina/fuel dock accessing some of North Carolina's best fishing spots, and features miles of hiking trails and secluded campsites beneath towering trees with the option of tent adventures or cabins sleeping up to six people. Cabins are outfitted with double beds, bunk beds, heating/air conditioning, electrical outlets and more. Conveniently located near the Park's entrance, the Visitor Center/Exhibit Hall is wheelchair accessible with exhibits and videos. Rangers hold regularly scheduled educational programs.

YEAR ROUND HOURS: Park Office/Visitor Center open daily 8am- 5pm.
Park Hours: Jan & Dec: 8am-5:30pm, Nov & Feb: 8am-6:30pm, Mar, Apr & Oct: 8am-8:30pm, May- Sept: 8am- 9:30pm.

ADMISSION: Free unless camping over night or utilizing marina - Contact Park Office for Details on above or Hours for the Marina and Fuel Dock

Features: Pet Friendly, Free Parking, Credit Cards Accepted



Carolina Beach State Park and Sugarloaf Sand Dune

Sugarloaf sand dune in Carolina Beach State Park was of strategic significance during the Civil War as part of the Confederacy's defense of the Port of Wilmington. Up to 6,400 Confederate troops under Major General Robert F. Hoke were encamped in defensive positions on or near Sugarloaf during the siege of Fort Fisher, the massive sand fortification only six miles south, constructed to help protect Wilmington. Shortly after, it was determined that the main Confederate works along the Sugar Loaf Line were too strong to be captured by frontal assault so General John Schofield decided to concentrate his efforts to capture Wilmington from the western side of the Cape Fear. Come and view Carolina Beach State Park's Sugarloaf sand dune, a Civil War landmark on the banks of the beautiful Cape Fear River. Learn More

Flytrap Trail is a pleasant wheelchair-accessible, half-mile loop through pocosin wetlands and drier longleaf pine and wiregrass savanna communities. Venus flytraps can be seen along the edges of the pocosins and native wildflowers bloom along the trail. Parts of the trail travel along wooden boardwalks. Please stay on the trail to avoid damaging small and fragile plants.

0.5 miles

orange diamonds

Sugarloaf Trail, marked with orange circles, is a three-mile excursion that begins at the marina parking area. This trail offers great birding opportunities as you wind your way through numerous distinct habitats. Journey through a coastal evergreen forest, a coastal fringe sandhill forest, a tidal cypress-gum swamp and a longleaf pine savanna on your way to the Sugarloaf Dune, a prominent pre-Colonial and Civil War geological feature.

3.0 miles

orange circles

Campground Trail is one mile in length and marked with blue circles. It begins and ends at the visitor center and briefly joins the Sugarloaf Trail. Much of this trail winds through a coastal fringe sandhill forest. This plant community, dominated by longleaf pines and live oaks, is threatened and becoming very rare.

Easy

1.0 miles

blue circles

Snow's Cut Trail, is marked with red diamonds and follows along man-made Snow's Cut for three-guarters of a mile through a pine-hardwood forest. Towering trees and grand views of the intracoastal Waterway may be experienced along this trail that begins in the picnic area and terminates at the town's bike path along Bridge Barrier Road.

.75 miles

red dtamonds

Carolina Beach TRACK Trail is a quarter mile section of the Snow's Cut Trail designated as a self-quided trail for kids. Activity brochures may be found at the picnic area trailhead and at the family campground trail access near campsite #20.

Easy

.25 mtles

red dtamonds

Swamp Trail, a three-quarter mile trail marked with red circles, begins and ends along Sugarloaf Trail. It provides access to the group camping area, as well as views of a tidal cypress-gum swamp and bracktsh marsh that are seen along either side of the trail.

.75 miles

red circles

Oak Toe Trail is a quarter mile spur trail off of the Sugarloaf Trail, marked with blue diamonds. Journey to the Marsh Overlook, viewing dwarf palmetto and oak toe lichen along the way. Great views of the Cape Fear River await and the brackish marsh is a great place to see fiddler crabs navigating its mudflats.

Easy

.25 miles

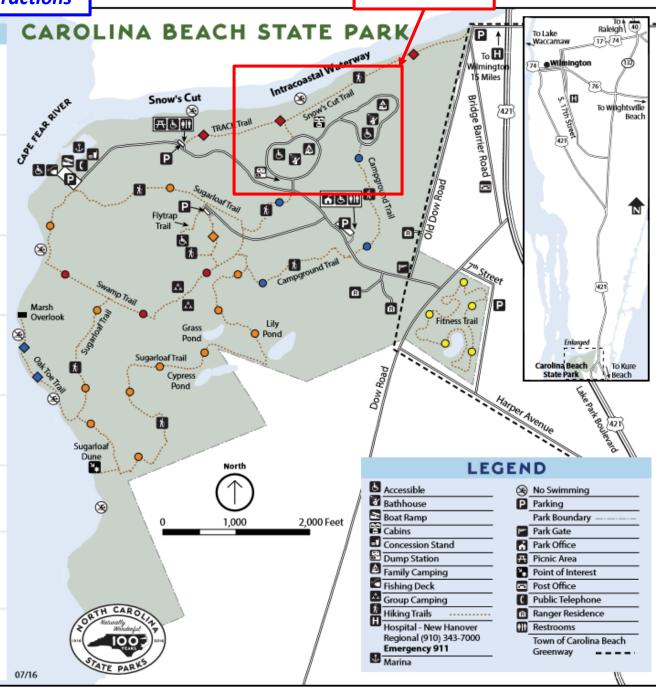
blue diamonds

Fitness Trail, marked with yellow circles, is a pleasant wheelchair-accessible one mile loop through diverse habitats. There are several exercise and activity stations set up along the way. This trail is located off of 7th Street with parking at the Carolina Beach Recreation Center.

Easy

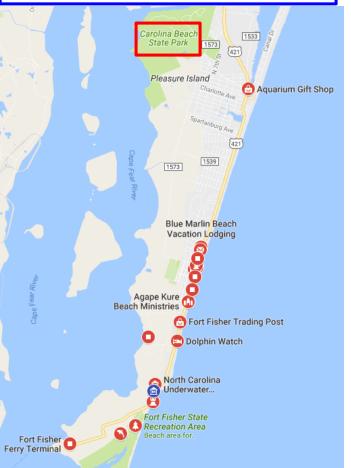
1,0 miles

yellow circles





<u>Day 7</u>: Wilmington, NC Attractions



Fort Fisher State Historic Site

1610 Fort Fisher Blvd S Kure Beach, NC, 28449 Location: Kure Beach Local: (910) 458-5538

Visit: http://www.nchistoricsites.org/fisher/

Email: fisher@ncdcr.gov

Site of Civil War's largest Amphibious (Land and Water) Battle, the remaining portion of the gigantic Ft. Fisher earthworks, along with a restored palisade fence and impressive seacoast gun, sits near the Visitors Center.

The fully accessible Visitors Center & Gift Shop includes a video, exhibits, and artifacts recovered from sunken ships. The scenic trail, shaded by gnarled live oaks, leads past the earthworks, around to the rear of the fort remains. The property also contains the North Carolina Underwater Archaeology Headquarters. Battle Acre (please view description below) is located across U.S. Highway 421 along the oceanfront.

Fort Fisher Historic Site Visitor Center & Gift Shop YEAR ROUND HOURS: Open Tues - Sat 9 am - 5 pm Memorial Day - Labor Day: Open Sun 12 noon -5pm Special tours are offered at scheduled times.

Closed most major state holidays.

Battle Acre

Monument to Civil War Soldiers, with separate walking trail and two oceanfront gazebos, is located across U.S. Highway 421 from the Fort Fisher Visitor Center.

YEAR ROUND HOURS: Free location is open all hours, seven days a week. ADMISSION: No admission fees for either location. Suggested donation for some special events

Fort Fisher State Historic Site

Until the last few months of the Civil War, Fort Fisher kept North Carolina's port of Wilmington open to blockade-runners supplying necessary goods to Confederate armies inland. By 1865, the supply line through Wilmington was the last remaining route open to Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. When Fort Fisher fell after a massive Federal amphibious assault on January 15, 1865, its defeat helped seal the fate of the Confederacy. The site is free and open to the public as a Civil War battlefield and museum year-round and offers a visitor center, gift shop, outdoor monuments and a 1/4 mile interpretive trail around the fort. Programs offered throughout the year include guided walking tours, guest speakers, artillery demonstrations, reenactments and special exhibits. Learn More

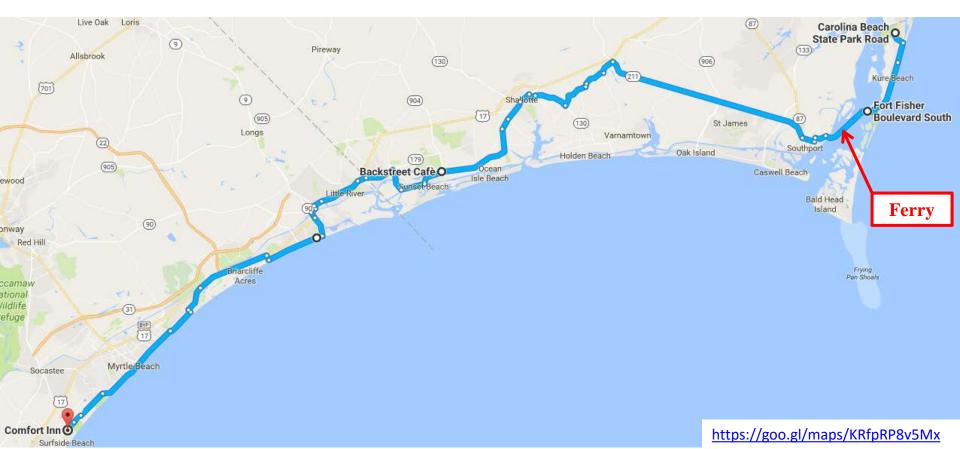


<u>Day 8</u> (Sat, May 13): Carolina Beach State Park (Wilmington, NC) to Comfort Inn – Surfside Beach, SC 83.2 miles

We will follow Maps 52-54 of AC's

<u>Atlantic Coast Bicycle Route</u> – Section 5.

There are restaurants near camp (McDonald's if we want to save time) and then we will catch the *Fort Fisher – Southport Ferry* only 7.5 miles from camp (7:45am, 35-minute crossing, \$2/bike). There are also several restaurants in Southport if we decide to eat after the ferry crossing. There are many restaurants as we approach Sunset Beach (45-mile point). We will cycle through busy, touristy areas of Atlantic Beach and North Myrtle Beach. We will cycle about 10 miles along Ocean Blvd which will give us some nice ocean views and we may stop by walk our bikes along the 1.2-mile boardwalk.



<u>Day 8</u> – Ferry details

We will probably catch the 7:45am ferry as the next ferry (Saturday schedule) is at 9:15am.

- 35-minute crossing
- \$2.00/bike



http://www.southporttimes.com/southport-fort-fisher-ferry/



North Carolina Ferry System 2017 Schedule



5:25 a.m.

6:15

6:45 7:15

7:45

8:30

9:00

10:00

11:00 11:30

12:00 12:30 p.m.

1:30

2:00 2:30 3:00

3:30 4:00

4:30

5:00

7:00

8:00

9:00

11:00

12:30 a.m.

Cherry Branch

5:00 a.m.

5:45

6:15

6:45

7:15 7:45

8:30

9:00

10:00

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12:00

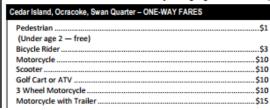
Fare: Free Crossing: 20 min; Neuse River

12:30 p.m.

Year-round Departures

Cedar Island Ocracoke	Bayview Aurora	Southport	Fort Fisher	Southport	Fort Fish	er
Jan. 1–May 22, 2017 Sept 26–December 31, 2017 7:00 a.m. 7:30 a.m.	Year-round Departures 5:45 a.m. 6:30 a.m. 7:15 8:00	Jan. 1- March 31, 2017 October 1—Dec. 31, 2017 MONDAY-FRIDAY		April 1- Sept. 30, 2017 MONDAY-FRIDAY		
10:30 1:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 4:00	8:45 10:15 11:00 11:45 2:00 p.m. 2:45 p.m.	5:30 a.m. — 7:00	_ 6:15 a.m.	5:30 a.m. — 7:00	- 6:15 a.m.	٦
May 23- Sept 25, 2017 7:00 a.m. 7:30 a.m. 10:00 10:00 1:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m.	3:30 5:00 5:40 6:15	7:45 8:30 9:15	7:45 8:30 9:15 10:00	7:45 8:30 9:15 10:00	7:45 8:30 9:15 10:00	١
4:00 4:00 6:30 9:00 Fare: See one-way fares	Fare: Free Crossing: 30 min;	10:45 11:30 — 1:00 p.m.	11:30 12:15 p.m.	10:45 11:30 12:15 p.m. 1:00	10:45 11:30 12:15 p.m 1:00	ı.
Crossing: 2hrs., 15 min. Swan Quarter Ocracoke	Currituck* Knotts Island* Monday – Friday 2017	1:45 2:30 3:15 4:00 4:45	1:45 2:30 3:15 4:00 4:45	1:45 2:30 3:15 4:00 4:45	1:45 2:30 3:15 4:00 4:45	
Jan. 1- May 22, 2017 Sept. 26- December 31, 2017	6:00 a.m. 6:50 a.m. 9:00 10:00 11:00 Noon 1:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m.	6:15 -	5:30 — 7:00	6:15 —	5:30 — 7:00	
10:00 a.m. 7:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m 9:30 4:30 1:30 p.m.	3:30 4:30 5:30 6:20 Weekends, Holidays & Summer	SATURD/	AY-SUNDAY	SATURDA 7:00	AY-SUNDAY	\dashv
May 23– Sept. 25, 2017 7:00 a.m. 7:00 a.m. 10:00 9:30 1:00 p.m. 12:45 p.m.	(Summer June 9 - Aug. 6, 2017) 6:00 a.m. 7:00 a.m. 9:00 10:00 11:00 Noon 2:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.	8:30 9:15 10:00 10:45 11:30	7:45 — 9:15 10:00 10:45 11:30	8:30 9:15 10:00 10:45 11:30	7:45 — 9:15 10:00 10:45 11:30	
4:30 3:45 Fare: See one-way fares Crossing: 2hrs., 40 min Pamlico Sound	4:00 5:00 Fare: Free Crossing: 45 min Currituck Sound	12:15 p.m. 1:00 1:45 2:30 3:15	12:15 p.m. 1:00 1:45 2:30 3:15	12:15 p.m. 1:00 1:45 2:30 3:15	12:15 p.m 1:00 1:45 2:30 3:15	•
All schedules subje weather or med		4:00 4:45 — 6:15	4:00 4:45 5:30 — 7:00	4:00 4:45 — 6:15	4:00 4:45 5:30 — 7:00	
Follow @NCDOT_F real-time sche		Fare: See one Crossing: 35 r Cape Fear Riv	minutes	Fare: See one- Crossing: 35 r Cape Fear Rive	minutes	П

Priority loading is given to those with proper



riority passes and school buses.						
Southport – Fort Fisher — ONE-WAY FARES						
Pedestrian \$1 (Underlage 2 free)						
Bicycle Rider\$2						
Motorcycle						
Scooter						
Golf Cart or ATV\$3						
3 Wheel Motorcycle\$3						
Motorcycle with Trailer\$5						

<u>Day 8</u> – Myrtle Beach

We could walk our bikes along the 1.2-mile <u>Myrtle Beach Boardwalk and</u>

<u>Promenade</u> (about 7 miles before the motel) and eat dinner along the boardwalk.

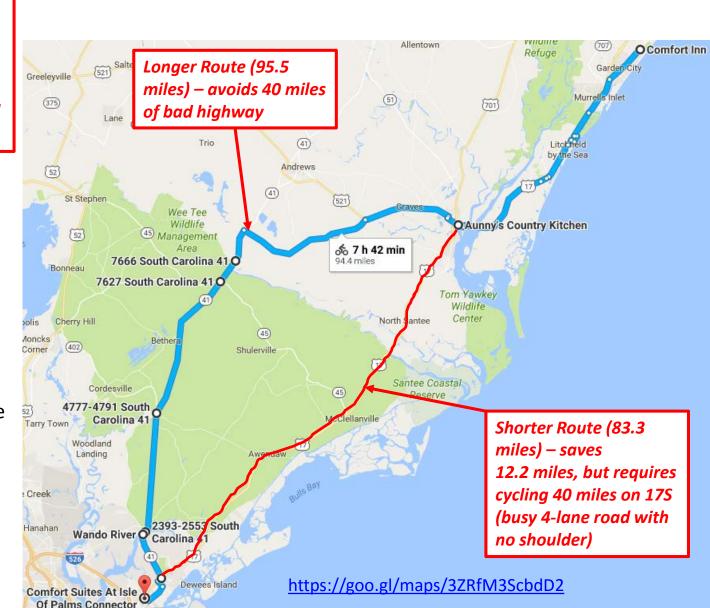
We can also wait and eat at a restaurant near the motel.



<u>Day 9</u> (Sun, May 14): Comfort Inn (Surfside Beach, SC) to Comfort Suites at Isle of Palms Connector (Mt. Pleasant, SC) 95.5 miles

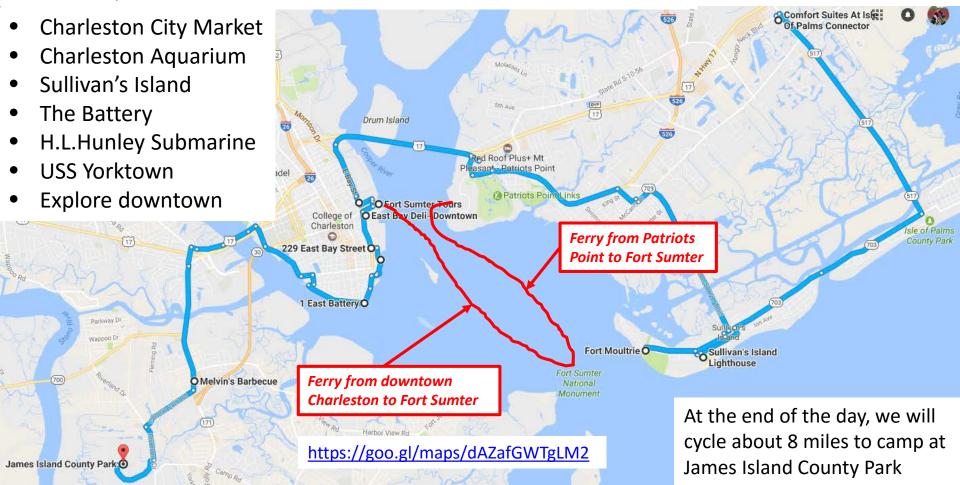
We will not follow the AC route to keep the mileage lower as the AC route goes further inland and then returns to Charleston using the "Charleston spur."

We will be riding through a pretty touristy area for the first 20 miles, but will use trails and frontage roads as much as possible. Later in the day we will cycle 27 miles through the Francis Marion National Forest. When we reach the motel in Mt. Pleasant there will be several restaurants and a bike shop near the motel.



Explore Charleston, SC

We will have a short day so that we can explore Charleston, SC. There are restaurants near camp for breakfast and then we can either cycle 16 miles to Patriots Point for a ferry to Fort Sumter or else cycle 18 miles into downtown Charleston for the other ferry to Fort Sumter. There are plenty of other things to do in Charleston, such as:



Fort Sumter National Monument

1214 Middle Street | Sullivan's Island, SC 29482 | Website #12 in Best Things To Do in Charleston

Date / Time	Liberty Square - Downtown Charleston	Patriots Point - Mt. Pleasant	
Jan 2 - Feb 28	11:00am, 2:30pm	1:30pm	
Mar 1 – Mar 14	9:30am, 12:00pm, 2:30pm	10:45am, 1:30pm	
Mar 15 – Aug 20 & Labor Day Weekend	9:30am, 12:00pm, 2:30pm	10:45am, 1:30pm, 4:00pm	
Aug 21 - Nov 30	9:30am, 12:00pm, 2:30pm	10:45am, 1:30pm	
Dec 1 - Dec 24	11:00am, 2:30pm	1:30 p.m.	
Dec 26 - Dec 31	9:30am, 12:00pm, 2:30pm	10:45am, 1:30pm	
Thanksgiving, Dec 25 & Jan 1	No Tours Available	No Tours Available	



You probably remember Fort Sumter as the place where the first shot of the Civil War was fired, back in 1861. Today, you can see for yourself where all the action happened by taking a ferry to the actual fort. Take your time exploring the thick stone caverns, which still house several Civil War-era cannons. You should also stop by Fort Sumter's small yet informative museum, which provides more in-depth information about the fort's role in the war.

Most Charleston visitors agree that Fort Sumter is a must-see, especially for kids.

One TripAdvisor writes: "I loved hearing about the history of the [C]ivil [W]ar this way and am sure that my kids will remember this far beyond anything they could have read in a textbook!" Fort Sumter National Monument is perched on a small island in Charleston Harbor several miles southwest of the city. Ferries to the monument depart from the Liberty Square Visitors Center and from Patriot's Point, which sits just opposite of the harbor in USS Yorktown State Park (parking is available at both departure points). Ferries to the fort and ranger talks take place daily, but hours vary depending on the season. Guided tours aren't available at Fort Sumter, but you can listen to a 10minute, ranger-led history discussion before heading out on your own self-guided tour; rangers and volunteers are available to answer any questions you may have.

While it is free to explore Sumter itself, the ferry ride costs \$18 for adults and \$11 for children ages 4 to 11. The National Park Service highly recommends purchasing your ferry ride tickets in advance, which you can do at the Fort Sumter Tours website. For more information about the history of the fort, visit the National Park Service website.

Visiting Fort Sumter by Tour Boat There are two departure **locations** for the tour boat to Fort

- 1. The *Fort Sumter Visitor* Education Center is located at 340 Concord Street in downtown Charleston. Parking for regular
- passenger vehicles is available in an adjacent parking garage. 2. Patriots Point is located at 40 Patriots Point Road in Mount Pleasant. Visitors with large vehicles

Sumter:

on departing from Patriots Point.

such as buses and RVs should plan

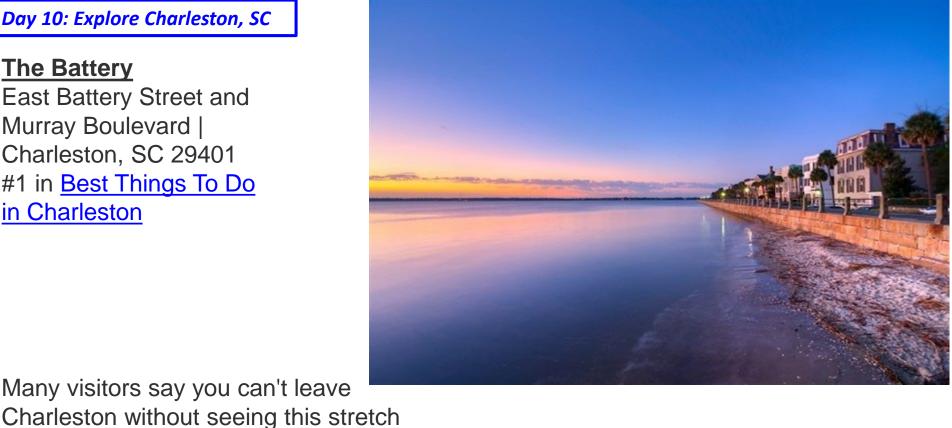
Purchase tour boat tickets online.

The Battery

East Battery Street and Murray Boulevard | Charleston, SC 29401 #1 in Best Things To Do in Charleston

Charleston [H]arbor,"

one TripAdvisor reviewer said.



along the city's southern tip. This row of Southern-style mansions overlooking Charleston Harbor was formerly the heart and soul of the city's maritime activity. Today, the area attracts camera-toting tourists from all over the country. "One of my favorite places to simply park and enjoy watching the Ashley River flow into

Sullivan's Island Sullivan's Island, SC | Website #2 in Best Things To Do in Charleston

Comprising only 3.3 square miles, Sullivan's Island may not seem like a must-see for Charleston visitors. But this beachfront town proves that good things come in small packages. Sitting at the mouth of the Charleston harbor — a little less than 10 miles east of the downtown area — Sullivan's Island boasts beaches, tasty restaurants and unique shops, plus a colorful history. You'll also find a bevy of vacation rental properties here — a worthy alternative if you want a little more seclusion than some of downtown Charleston's hotels can provide.



Even if you're not much of a beach bum, you'll still find plenty of interesting local history to make a pit stop here worthwhile. For instance, Fort Moultrie was the first fort on Sullivan's Island. Composed of soft palmetto logs, it withstood a nine-hour battle in 1776 when nine warships were advancing on Charleston. Its soft composition meant enemy cannonballs simply bounced off its cushy exterior. Aside from its triumphant ability to protect the city, Fort Moultrie also served a purpose in literary history: Edgar Allan Poe was stationed at the fort from November 1827 to December 1828. Those who have read his short story, "The Gold Bug," will recognize Sullivan's Island as the backdrop of the tale. His brief residency is celebrated at Poe's Tavern, a local watering hole situated about two blocks north of the beach.

The easiest way to reach Sullivan's Island is by car. To stake your claim on a patch of sand, park alongside the street and walk down to the beach (there are no municipal parking lots on Sullivan's Island). For more information, visit the city's website here.

Charleston City Market

188 Meeting Street | Charleston, SC 29401

| <u>Website</u>

#9 in Best Things To Do in Charleston



The Charleston City Market is located in the heart of downtown Charleston on Meeting Street (about a 12-minute walk from Broad Street, the city's main thoroughfare). If you choose to drive, you'll find limited street parking available. The Nos. 201 and 211 buses operate routes that also stop nearby. The market is open every day from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. From March through December, the market also offers night hours from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. While you don't have to pay to browse, you might want to carry some extra cash on you in case the sweetgrass baskets prove to be too seducing. There are also plenty of places to eat scattered throughout the market. Find out more about vendors and goods on the market website.

https://www.charlestonsfinest.com/sc/mapdntwn.htm

Peninsula Charleston 1 To Magnolla Cemeta To 17 North - Mt. Pleasant, isie of Palms, Sullivan a intens To Boone Hall and Patriots Point Joseph P. Riley Jr. Ballpark Parking for pedestrian access to bridge LEGEND Parking Garages Parking Garages with Restrooms Wisitor Center Airport **Public Beaches** (Golf Courses County Parks (Hospitals Restrooms BBB 0 Square Co. Library P · e Ð (De 0 South Carolina State Ports Authority 0. **Ashley River** Cooper River 24. Circular Congregation Church 28. First (Scots) Presbyterian Church 29. French Protestant (Huguenot) Church It Connects Us All DASH Bus Stops 31. The Old Bethel Methodist Church RT 210 C of C/Aquarium 33. St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church RT 211 Meeting/King White Polis 34. St. Matthew's Lutheran Church RT 212 Market/Waterfront 35. St. Michael's Episcopal Church Museum Mile RT 213 Lockwood/Calhoun CharlestonCVB.com

- 1 The Charleston Museum
- 2. The Citadel Museum
- 3. The City Hall Gallery
- 4. The Confederate Museum
- 5. Gibbes Museum
- 6. Karpeles Manuscript Museum
- 7. Postal Museum 8. Aiken-Rhett House
- 9. The Avery Research Center
- African-American History 10. The College of Charleston
- 11. Dock Street Theatre
- 12. Edmondston-Alston House
- 13. Heyward-Washington House 14. Joseph Manigault House

- Order a Visitor's Guide for Charleston
- 15. Nathaniel Russell House
- 16. Old Exchange & Provost Dungeon
- 17. South Carolina Historical Society
- 18. The Powder Magazine
- 19. Children's Museum of the Lowcountry
- 20. Old Slave Mart Museum
- 21. Washington Light Infantry
- 22. Cathedral of the St. John the Baptist
- 23. Cathedral of St. Luke & St. Paul
- 24. Circular Congregation Church 25. Congregation Beth Elohim
- 23. Cathedral of St. Luke & St. Paul
- 24. Circular Congregation Church
- 25. Congregation Beth Elohim
- 38. St. Phillip's Episcopal Church 37. The Second Presbyterian Church

25. Congregation Beth Elohim

26. Emanuel A.M.F. Church

30. Mt. Zion A.M.F. Church

32. St. John's Lutheran Church

27. First Baptist Church

H.L. Hunley Submarine

1250 Supply Street | Charleston, SC 29405 | Website #10 in Best Things To Do in Charleston



Originally built in 1864 for the Confederate Army, the H.L. Hunley became the world's first successful submarine. Toward the end of the 19th century, it was suddenly lost at sea until 1995 when it was discovered off the coast of Sullivan's Island. In 2000, the Hunley and the remains of its crew were brought to the surface for a detailed restoration at the Old Charleston Naval Base. Today, you can visit the base and tour the submarine; an experience that many recent visitors say is well worth your time, especially if you're interested in nautical history. However, travelers do point out that a trip to the H.L. Hunley isn't well-suited to children because it's not an interactive museum — it's an ongoing, public restoration project that likely won't capture the attention of young kids.

The H.L. Hunley Confederate Submarine and the Old Charleston Naval Base are located about 7 miles north of downtown Charleston. Half-hour tours are provided on the weekends (Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m.), but they must be scheduled ahead of your visit. One TripAdvisor reviewer offers this bit of advice about the experience: "Definitely stay after the tour to view the other artifacts and to speak with the volunteers." Tickets cost approximately \$12 and can be ordered online or purchased at the door on a first-come, first-served basis. The most efficient way to reach the Old Charleston Naval Base is to drive. Once you arrive, you'll find plenty of parking. For more information, check out the submarine's website.

<u>Day 11</u> (Tue, May 16): James Island County Park (near Charleston, SC) to Point South KOA (Yemassee, SC) 68.9 miles

We will rejoin the AC route near Hendersonville, SC.
We will follow Map 61 of AC's <u>Atlantic Coast Bicycle</u>
<u>Route</u> – Section 5.

We could explore some of the hiking trails or paved bike paths near the campground before we begin. There is a McDonald's on route about 3 miles from camp for breakfast. It may be a quiet day without many points of interest, but there will be some restaurants available, including some close to our camp at the end of the day. If time allows, we can visit the Old Sheldon Church Ruins or the Auldbrass Plantation (modern plantation designed by Frank Lloyd Wright) in Yemassee, a few miles before we reach camp.



Trail at James Island County Park



<u>Day 12</u> (Wed, May 16): Point South KOA (Yemassee, SC) to Thunderbird Inn (Savannah, GA) 58.2 miles

We will not follow the AC route as it goes further inland to Statesville and bypasses Savannah.

We will cycle mostly smaller roads until we reach the *Savannah Wildlife Refuge*, following *Laurel Hill Wildlife Drive* and *Alligator Alley* before we cross into Georgia over the Savannah River. We will arrive in Savannah, check into the Thunderbird Inn (a remodeled "retro 60's) motel in downtown Savannah that is recommended by Thom Sare), and begin to explore the city!



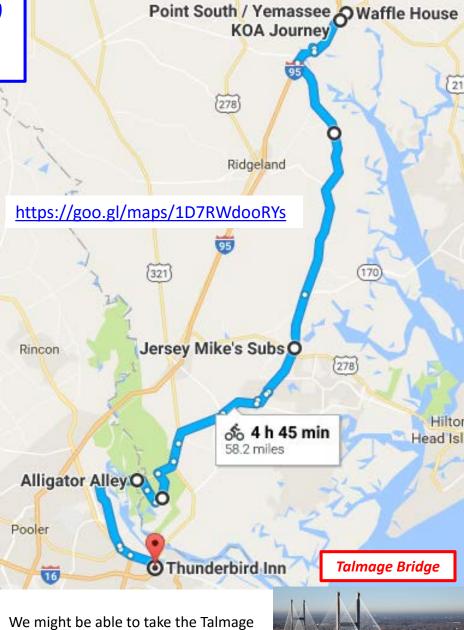
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Savannah

National Wildlife Refuge | Georgia and South Carolina



We might be able to take the Talmage Bridge (US17) into Savannah instead of 170/25 through Alligator Alley. Still trying to determine if bikes are allowed on the bridge.



(recommended by Thom Sare)





WELCOME TO THE THUNDERBIRD INN SAVANNAH GEORGIA USA: *USA TODAY'S* TOP TEN BEST RETRO HOTELS IN THE USA

Looking for a hotel tonight or searching for a hotel near me, The Thunderbird Inn in downtown Savannah brings the 1960s to life, a **unique place to stay in Savannah!** Affectionately known as the "hippest hotel in SavannahTM" the popular retro hotel is the top choice of **pop culture travelers** seeking affordable hotels in downtown Savannah.

Fun people stay here!™ Our Southern-retro Inn redefines historic Savannah's so-hip eccentricities and so-historic Americana quirkiness and is anything but dullsville, unlike many budget hotels in Savannah, Georgia.

Discounted downtown Savannah lodging was never so much fun! Reminiscent of the free-spirited, young-again era of roadside motels, it's casual and fun-loving lodging at the festively restored inn, **remodeled in 2016**.

At the "Tbird" you'll find lodging comforts you need like <u>accommodations</u>, along with the groovy extra's you want:

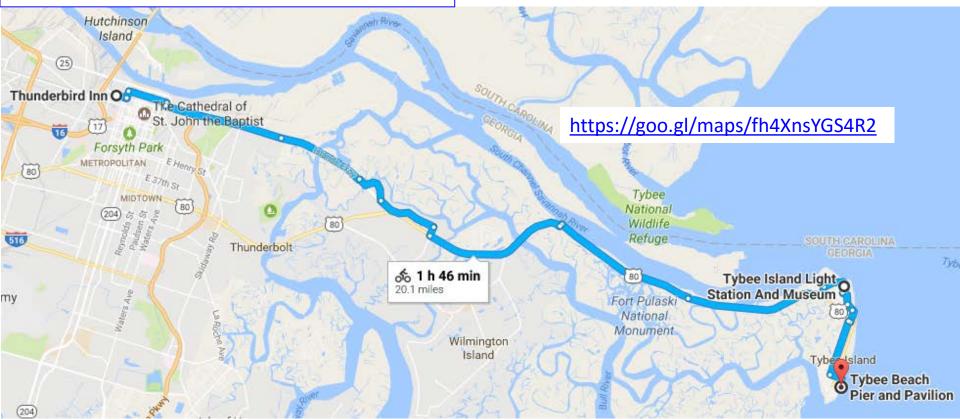
- Hot Popcorn upon arrival
- Complimentary Moon-pie's and RC Cola in your rooms
- Vintage décor that's all decked out
- Warm, friendly hospitality that never goes out of style
- Complimentary Krispy Kreme donuts and premium coffee each morning

Thom Sare has family in Savannah and recommends cycling to Tybee Island (40 miles RT) if we have time.

Tybee Island is a small barrier island with a three-mile-long Atlantic Ocean beach that's backed by sea oat-covered sand dunes. Stroll the south-end pier and pavilion and listen to the music of live bands. Besides sun and surf, Tybee also offers history lovers Fort Screven, the Tybee Island Lighthouse Museum and Fort Pulaski, a major Civil War site. http://www.exploregeorgia.org/city/tybee-island



http://tybeelighthouse.org/photos/



Top 25 FREE Things to Do In Savannah

http://www.southernsavers.com/savannah/

FORSYTH PARK – This is a large city park located in the historic district of Savannah. You can't miss the large fountain in the center or the Confederate War Monument. This is great for a picnic, running or relaxing.

BONAVENTURE CEMETERY- This is Savannah's most popular Cemetery with part natural cathedral, part sculptural garden. A neat site to walk through and learn some history. They even offer free guided tours! Locals will also tell you to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy the banks of the Wilmington River running along the cemetery.

RIVER STREET – Running alongside the Savannah River in the Waterfront district a lively area perfect for afternoon strolls, antique shop and galleries to browse. You'll also find events planed regularly with live music, art shows and more. Parking can make this not free, so leave a little early and practice parallel parking so you don't have to pay for a garage spot.

HISTORIC SQUARES — The 22 squares of Savannah, most named in honor of a person, are the heart of the city. These communal mini-parks are scattered through the historic downtown. Great for sight seeing and picnics!

CATHEDRAL OF JOHN THE BAPTIST: It towering over Lafayette Square in the Historic District and is the oldest Roman Catholic church in Georgia. It has beautiful architecture and is open to the public for viewing during the week.

SAVANNAH VISITORS CENTER- This center not only has a lighthouse a part of it, but also provides information and coupons as well. It also has exhibits to get you acquainted with the town's history. This might be a good stop to start at.

HARPER FOWLKES HOUSE: This 19th century Greek Revival mansion is beautiful both on the inside and out. Bursting with architecture and interior design, this make for a pretty picture while walking through the city or it's FREE for those 12 and under if you want to go in and take a tour.

<u>PULASKI SQUARE-</u> City square with many monuments and historical markers. Many say it's one of the most beautiful squares in Savannah, it provides plenty of room for a picnic, throwing a frisbee or taking pictures.

<u>FERRY RIDES</u>: Ferry rides are **FREE** and they offer a great view of the historic district, Hutchinson Island and Talmadge Bridge. While the trip is only two-minutes long each way, it's a fun experience to be on the water and see all the sites.



Fountain in Forsyth Park



Pulaski Square

CHIPPEWA SQUARE: Many historic attractions are located at this city square, which is named for the Battle of Chippewa in the War of 1812. It also features where Forest Gump's bench was placed for the movie if you're a fan. Ellis Square: Ellis Square features huge water spouts and at night, it lights up in various colors making the splashing even more fun. City Market is in this are as well with quaint shops, galleries and more.

TALMADGE MEMORIAL BRIDGE- Walk or drive on the bridge on the bridge and get a good view of the city, especially during sunset. It connects South Carolina and Georgia and has nice views of the Savannah river.

<u>RIVERFRONT PLAZA-</u> This nine-block pedestrian plaza is located on the former grounds of the city's cotton exchange. There are lots of shop, restaurants, galleries and a great place to stroll with wonderful views.

TRICENTENNIAL PARK: Tricentennial Park is a great family destination with a collection of 3 unique museums: Savannah History Museum, Georgia State Railroad Museum, and Savannah Children's Museum as well as a Revolutionary War battlefield and memorial. Walk around the battlefield yourself for free or \$7 admissions to tour the museums.

MCQUEENS ISLAND HISTORIC TRAIL: Six-mile trail that is situated on the old abandoned Savannah/Tybee Railroad bed. A now converted bike trail has scenic views by the water.

<u>CITY MARKET</u>: This is also downtown but has become a bustling scene at night. With small shops and eateries you can spend the night window shopping and hearing great live music. There are over 50 art galleries in City Market that are also free to look through.







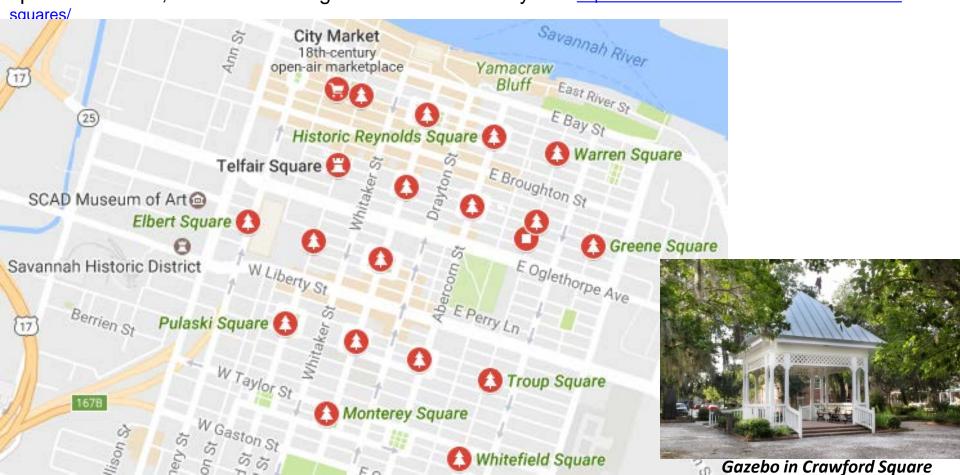


<u>Historic Reynolds Square</u>: Statue of John Wesley, Pink House, Oliver Sturgis House

Savannah's Historic Squares

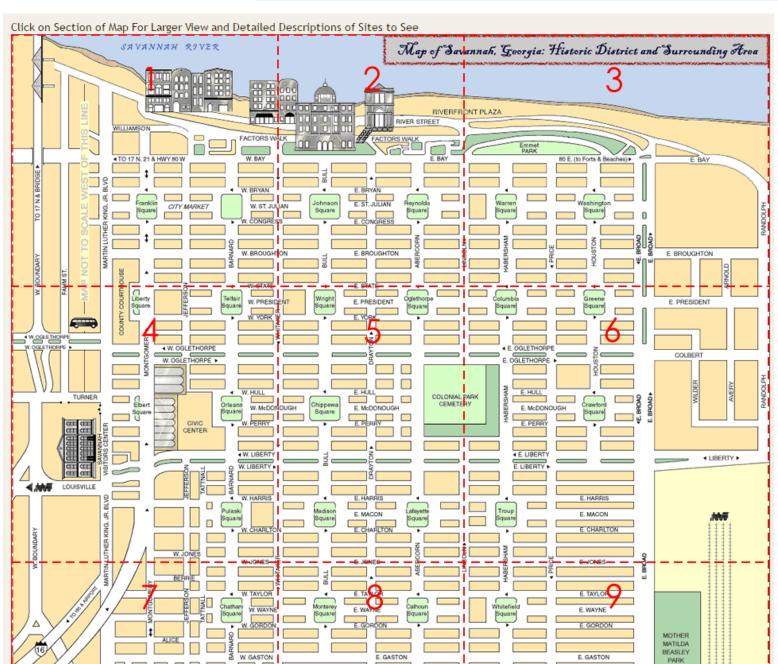
Savannah has 22 squares today that provide locals and visitors alike with a little greenery amid all the businesses and historic houses. At one time there was 24 squares, but two were lost due to city development while others, such as Ellis Square, were redesigned and made even more appealing. These squares are surrounded by some beautiful churches, homes, museums and are all shaded by huge live oak trees. On weekends you might see kids running around them with a football, a couple having a picnic in the grass or maybe even a wedding! Savannah's square are also a hotspot for intimate, outdoor weddings in this southern city.

http://www.savannah.com/savannahs-historic-



Savannah's Historic Squares

http://www.savannahgetaways.net/Rental Listings/Savannah/Historic District/POI



http://www.savannahga.gov/index.aspx?NID=589





<u>Cycling to the Amtrak Station in Savannah</u> (<u>from the Thunderbird Inn</u>)

PALMETTO

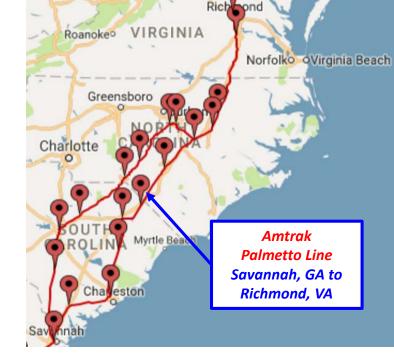
New York, NY - Charleston, SC - Savannah, GA 829 miles / 1334 km

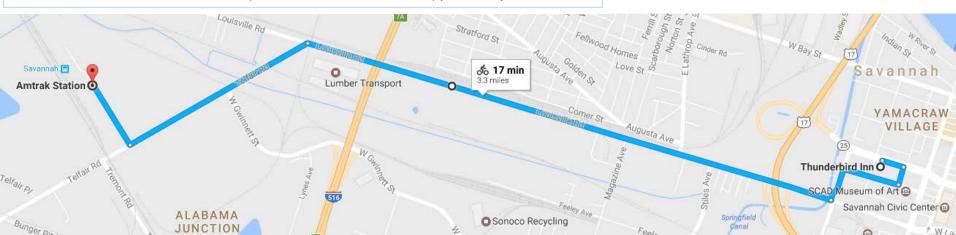
See slides 3-6 for more information

Savannah, GA (SAV)

Station Building (with waiting room) 2611 Seaboard Coastline Drive Savannah, GA 31401

Features	Baggage	Parking	Accessibility	Hours	Routes
Enclosed Waitin	g Area	Restrooms	N	o ATM	
Ticket Office 🔥		No Lounge	No Elevator		
No Quik-Trak ki	osk	Payphone	No Wi-Fi		
Arrival Time: with service ☑ - 45 minutes, without service ☑ - 30 minutes, prior to departure					



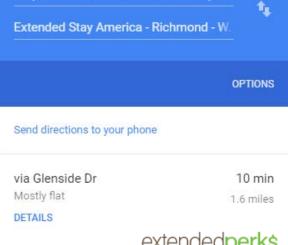


Back to Richmond, VA

If anyone wishes to stay in a motel close to the

Amtrak Station, this seems to be a good

choice (located 1.6 miles from the station)



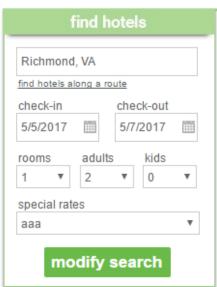
Staples Mill Road Station, 7519 Staples



search by map | suites & amenities | specials & promotions | popular vacations



BACK TO RESULTS





Extended Stay America - Richmond - W. Broad Street - Glenside - South

6811 Paragon Pl., Richmond, VA 23230
6.5 miles from destination | >> get directions
Tel: (804) 285-2065 | rwb@extendedstay.com













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Please note: for reservations arriving in or staying through January 15, 2017-January 22, 2017, all nights are non-refundable, non-cancellable, and must be pre-paid in full. Please contact the property with questions.

