



NATIONAL PARKS COLLECTION

FORT MATANZAS



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**FORT MATANZAS
NATIONAL
MONUMENT
FLORIDA**

This 18th century Spanish fort was built as a southern defense to the town of St. Augustine, located 14 miles to the north. Enemies approaching from the south, through an inland waterway, would have to defeat this fort before reaching the town through this “back door”. The fort is constructed near the site where 248 French soldiers from Fort Caroline were killed by the Spanish on September 29 & October 12, 1565. Their deaths give the fort its name Matanzas, the Spanish word for slaughter.

SPECIAL INFORMATION

The fort is accessible only by National Park Service boat. The daily boat runs weather permitting, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. • Fort Matanzas National Monument, 8635 AIA South, St. Augustine, FL 32086, (904) 471-0116.