

# Cumberland Island National Seashore

P.O. Box 806 / St. Marys, Georgia 31558

## PLANNING A VISIT TO CUMBERLAND ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE

We are pleased that you have expressed a desire to visit Cumberland Island National Seashore. The tourboat runs DAILY during summer months and does not operate on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY during the off season.

There are two tours on the following schedule.

DEPART ST. MARYS	ARRIVE C.I.	DEPART C.I.	ARRIVE ST. MARYS
9:15 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	12:15 p.m.	1:00 p.m.
1:45 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	4:45 p.m.	5:30 p.m.

There is a boat user fee of \$6.25 for adults. Senior citizens (age 65 and over) will be charged \$5.75. Children (age 12 and under) will be charged \$4.00. PLEASE PURCHASE TICKETS 30 MINUTES PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. Advance reservations are CANCELLED, if unclaimed, 15 minutes before departure. No pets are permitted on the boat.

Your visit will begin with an orientation talk before you board the tour boat for the 45 minute ride to the island. A National Park Service Ranger will be available for questions during the ride to the island. The tourboat will stop at two docks on Cumberland Island. The first is DUNGENESS DOCK. The ruins of the Dungeness Mansion and Carnegie Estate are a short walk (1/2 mile) from the dock. The self-guiding DUNGENESS TRAIL focuses on the island's fascinating history and provides an opportunity to view a variety of natural areas and wildlife. Beach access is available. The second stop is SEACAMP DOCK. This is the starting point for those camping and backpacking and for people wanting only the beach experience.

COMFORT STATIONS AND WATER ARE THE ONLY FACILITIES AVAILABLE ON THE ISLAND. If you plan to spend the day on the island you should bring a picnic lunch. Wear clothing and shoes appropriate to walking in whatever weather is in season, and plan for the possibility of rain. Coastal weather patterns are hard to predict and change rapidly. Insect repellent is advisable during warmer months. You must bring all of your trash off the island.

NO DOCKING FACILITIES FOR PRIVATE BOATS ARE AVAILABLE.

Camping and Backpacking are permitted on the island in designated areas. RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE. Motel accommodations, camping facilities and restaurants are available on the MAINLAND near St. Marys.

Reservation for the tour boat and camping must be made by telephoning the Visitor Center, 912-882-4335, 7-days a week: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; or by appearing in person during normal office hours: 8:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## **A WORD ABOUT FERRY AND CAMPSITE RESERVATIONS**

Reservations may be made **eight weeks in advance to the day**. For example, for a trip beginning on the 3rd Friday in July, a reservation could not be accepted before the 3rd Friday in May. For a trip beginning the 5th Thursday in April, a reservation could not be accepted before the 1st Thursday in March.

Telephone lines are **very frequently** busy, callers should be prepared to try many times before receiving an open line.

During spring, summer and early autumn months, it is not uncommon for weekends to be completely booked for an entire month.

Mail requests for reservations are not accepted.

Cancellations do occur, however, and there always exists the **possibility** that a campsite may be available.

As a general rule, ferry reservations for day-use visitors are not nearly as difficult to obtain as campsite reservations.

We hope that any difficulties you encounter in reserving your trip to Cumberland Island will be offset by a pleasant and memorable experience.