

# Fort Sumter National Monument



# Union Blockade of Southern Ports

## Starving the Confederacy

In April 1861, President Lincoln ordered a naval blockade of southern ports to stop the flow of imports and exports to and from the Confederacy. Blockade runners, carrying cotton and other products, ran the blockade, returning with critical supplies. Charleston, the Confederacy's foremost blockade running port, was a major objective for capture by the US.

**To learn more, visit:** [www.nps.gov/fosu](http://www.nps.gov/fosu)

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