

The Alabama - Mississippi Maritime History Tour

This tour incorporates maritime sights and museums in Alabama and Mississippi. It can be started at any place on the route. All stops are related to America's maritime or naval history. Our tour begins in Mobile and ends in Mobile.

USS Alabama and USS Drum at Mobile, Alabama

Both vessels are National Historic Landmarks and can be seen at Mobile's Battleship Memorial Park. Courage comes alive at Battleship Memorial Park, one of America's finest military parks. Here, along the shores of Mobile Bay, you'll experience heroism spanning more than seven decades from World War II to Desert Storm.

Activities: Tours of the battleship, submarine, military aircraft and memorials, a flight simulator, videos, and other military armaments.

Website: <http://www.ussalabama.com/>

Location: 2703 Battleship Parkway (Highway 90/98)
Just off Interstate 10, Exits 27 or 30

Leaving Battleship Memorial Park - proceed to Pickensville, Alabama to see the U.S. Snagboat *Montgomery*

Directions:

Approximately 204.1 miles. Driving time 5 hours and 17 minutes.

Get on US-90 and go 1.6 miles
Continue on AL 43 - go 165.1 miles
Turn left on to US 11 - go 0.1 mile
Continue on AL14 - go 36.9 miles
Turn left on Lock and Dam Road - go 0.3 mile
Arrive at the Tom Beville Visitor Center

Enjoy the U.S. Snagboat *Montgomery*!

After touring the *Montgomery*, the next stop on the tour is the US Cairo Gunboat in Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Directions:

Approximately 195.1 miles. Driving time 5 hours and 3 minutes.

Go back to AL 14, Jackson Ferry Road
Turn left on AL 14 - go 0.4 miles
Turn left on AL 86 - go 3 miles
Continue on MS 388 - go 15.5 miles
Turn left on US 45 - go 5.2 miles
Turn right on US 45 Business - go 5 miles
Bear right on MS 14 - go 31.7 miles
Turn left on MS 25 - go 45.4 miles
Turn right on MS 16 - go 4.9 miles
Turn left on Natchez Trace Parkway - go 33.9 miles
Turn left to take I 55 South - go 0.9 miles
Take exit #104 on to I 220 south - go 11.3 miles
Take ramp onto I 20 West - go 36.6 miles
Take exit # 4 - go 0.9 miles
Turn left on Confederate Avenue - go <0.1 mile
Arrive at 3201 Clay Street

U.S.S. Cairo Gunboat and Museum at Vicksburg, Mississippi

The *U.S.S. Cairo* was one of seven ironclad gunboats named in honor of towns along the upper Mississippi and Ohio rivers. These powerful ironclads were formidable vessels, each mounting thirteen big guns (cannon). On them rested in large part, Union hopes to regain control of the lower Mississippi River and split the Confederacy in two.

Activities: Tours of museum and gunboat

Website: <http://www.nps.gov/vick/cairo/cairo.htm>

Location: 3201 Clay Street

Leaving Vicksburg, you will proceed to Biloxi for the next stop on the tour.

Directions:

Approximately 214.1 miles. Driving time 4 hours and 40 minutes.

Get on US 80 East toward Old Hwy 27, Union Avenue - go 0.7 mile
Bear left to take I 20 East toward Jackson - go 41.4 miles
Take exit #47A towards US 80 - go 83 miles
Take I 59 South towards New Orleans/Gulf Coast - go 8.1 miles
Take exit #59 towards Lucedale/Mobile onto US 98 East - go 3.2 miles
Take US 49 exit towards Gulfport/Mississippi Gulf Coast - go 58.5 miles
Bear right to take I 10 East towards Biloxi/Mobile - go 12.4 miles
Take exit #46A towards Biloxi/Keesler A.F.B. onto I 110 south - go 3.7 miles
Take exit #1A towards Ocean Springs - go 2.9 miles
Turn left on Myrtle Street - go 0.1 mile
Turn right on 1st Street - go 0.1 mile
Arrive at 115 1st Street

The Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum at Biloxi, Mississippi

The Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum was established in 1986 to preserve and interpret the maritime history and heritage of Biloxi and the Mississippi Gulf Coast. It accomplishes this mission through an array of exhibits on shrimping, oystering, recreational fishing, wetlands, managing marine resources, charter boats, marine blacksmithing, wooden boat building, netmaking, catboats/Biloxi skiff, shrimp peeling machine and numerous historic photographs and objects. Recently completed is the Wade Guice Hurricane Museum within a museum, featuring 1400 square feet of exhibit space and a state of the art theatre. The Art gallery will feature regional and national maritime artists with exhibitions rotating throughout the year.

Activities: Tours of museum

Website: <http://www.maritimemuseum.org/index.htm>

Location: 115 First Street

For the next tour stop, you will head east towards Grand Bay, Alabama.

Directions:

Approximately 35.5 miles. Driving time 58 minutes.

Turn left on Myrtle Street - go 0.1 mile
Turn left on US 90 - go 5.4 miles
Turn left on Ocean Springs road - go 4.1 miles
Turn right on Vancleave Road - go 0.5 mile
Turn left on MS 57 - go 0.2 mile
Bear right to take I 10 East - go 23.4 miles
Take exit #4 - go 1.5 miles
Turn right on US 90 - go 0.1 mile
Turn left on Saeger Road - go 0.2 mile
Turn left on Freeland Avenue - go 0.1 mile

El Cazador Museum at Grand Bay, Alabama

The Museum of *El Cazador* reveals historical facts about the ill fated journey of the Spanish Brigantine *El Cazador*. Among the artifacts on display is a unique breech loading cannon, a rare find for any shipwreck, the ship's bell, bronze sword handles as well as many specimens from the mint shipment of silver coins (reales), also known as pieces of eight. These are just a few of the artifacts and treasure salvaged from *El Cazador*. All on display for your viewing pleasure.

Activities: tours

Website: <http://www.elcazador.com>

Location: 10329 Freeland Ave.

One more stop - it returns you to Mobile!

Directions:

Approximately 24.6 miles. Driving time 38 minutes.

Go <0.1 mile
Turn right on Saeger Road - go 0.2 mile
Turn right on US 90 - go 0.1 mile

Turn left on Grand Bay Wilmer road - go 1.3 miles
Turn right to take I 10 East - go 22.1 miles
Take exit #26A - go 0.2 mile
Turn right on Canal Street - go 0.4 mile
Turn left on unnamed street - go 0.1 mile
Unnamed street becomes Monroe Street - go 0.1 mile
Turn right on S. Royal Street - go 0.2 mile

The Museum of Mobile at Mobile, Alabama

The Museum of Mobile, Alabama, interprets the cultural, social, economic and political history of the Mobile bay area and southwest Alabama. Collection content: General areas - Colonial period, Civil War, Battle of Mobile Bay, armaments. Also, library, paintings and *Hunley* submarine, *CSS Alabama* and the Admiral Raphael Sommes collection. Full scale historic vessel - *CSS Hunley* (ca 1865) - 35' replica of Confederate submarine. Hand powered by nine men, was first sub to sink another ship in war and has now been recovered.

Activities: Tours including the Hunley replica and maritime paintings.

Website: <http://www.museumofmobile.com/>

Location: Southern Market/Old City Hall, 111 South Royal Street

The United States Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District hopes you enjoyed this maritime tour of Alabama and Mississippi!