

## The Ultimate Maritime History Driving Tour

This tour incorporates the most important maritime and naval sights and museums in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina. It includes the oldest historic period boat in the United States, Civil War vessels, World War II vessels, and numerous museums. Of course the Snagboat *Montgomery* is included in the tour. Enjoy your trip!

**Tour Begins in Vicksburg, Mississippi but can be started at any point along the tour. Just pick the city closest to you and start driving!**

### *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 01. mile  
Turn right on 1<sup>st</sup> Street - go 0.1 mile

## 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.

### On to Mobile!

*Directions:*

Approximately 24.6 miles. Driving time 38 minutes.

Go <0.1 mile

Turn right on Saegar 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

Still in Mobile, we are now headed just slightly east for an exciting stop!

Directions:

Approximately 1.7 miles. Driving time 3 minutes.

Go 0.1 miles on Royal Street

Turn left on Conti Street and go 0.1 miles

Turn left on Saint Emanuel Street and go 0.1 miles

Turn left on US 90 and go 1.5 miles

Arrive at Battleship Parkway

*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 north 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!***

Now we are headed east again - to Columbus, Georgia.

Directions:

Distance 234.1 miles. Approximate driving time 5 hours and 46 minutes.

Go toward Jackson Ferry Road 0.3 mile

Turn left on AL 14 - go 0.4 mile

Turn right on AL 86 - go 24.4 miles

Bear right on US 82 - go 55.2 miles

Turn right on AL 219 - go 1.9 miles

Continue on US 82 - go 60.9 miles

Turn right to take I 65 South - go 7.6 miles

Take exit #171 on to I 85 North - go 42.3 miles

Take exit #42 - go 4.0 miles

AL 186 becomes US 80 - go 33.0 miles

Continue on ramp - go 0.1 mile

Continue on US 280 - go 3.9 miles

Port Columbus National Civil War Naval Museum in Columbus, Georgia

A visit to Port Columbus will allow visitors to place their feet in the shoes of those who made history in the sea services of the Union and Confederate Navies during the Civil War.

Visit the original Confederate warships in the collection (*CSS Jackson* and *CSS Chattahoochee*), some of the rarest and most significant Civil War artifacts in the nation, and reconstructed ships in which the visitor can feel how it must have been to live and work.

*Activities:* tours

*Website:* <http://portcolumbus.org/>

*Location:* 1002 Victory Drive

Wow! Wasn't that a great museum! Now on to south Georgia.

Directions:

Approximately 249.8 miles. Driving time 5 hours and 34 minutes.

Go South on US 27 0.4 miles

Make a U-turn at Jackson Ave on to US 27 South and go 0.4 mile

Continue on 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. - go 1.1 miles  
Turn right on Wynnton Road - go 1.7 miles  
Continue on Macon Road - go 0.9 miles  
Bear left on ramp - go 0.3 mile  
Ramp becomes I 185 North - go 1.3 miles  
Take exit #7A towards Macon - go 5.3 miles  
Take the US 80/GA 22 exit towards Phenix City/Macon - go 20.0 miles  
Continue on GA 96 East - go 76.3 miles  
Turn right take I 16 East - go 141.4 miles  
Take exit #167A towards ML King Jr. Blvd. - go 0.8 mile

### **Ships of the Sea Maritime Museum in Savannah, Georgia**

Ships of the Sea Maritime Museum, founded in 1966, exhibits ship models, paintings and maritime antiques, principally from the great era of Atlantic trade and travel between England and America during the 18th and 19th centuries.

*Activities:* tours

*Website:* <http://www.shipsofthesea.org/>

*Location:* 41 M.L. King Boulevard

**Okay, we are turning north!**

**Directions:**

Approximately 109.3 miles. Driving time 2 hours and 43 minutes.

Start at 41 MLK, Jr. Blvd on GA 25 Conn East towards Congress Lane - go 0.6 mile  
Take the US 17 North exit - go 1.9 miles  
US 17 North becomes US 17 Alt - go 6.7 miles  
Continue on US 17 North - go 6.2 miles  
Take I 95 North - go 27.9 miles  
Take Exit #33 towards Charleston/Beaufort - go 0.4 mile  
Continue on US 17 North - go 64.4 miles  
Take the SC 703 exit towards Mt. Pleasant - go 0.4 mile  
Continue on US 17 Business - go 0.2 mile  
Turn right on Patriots Point Road - go 0.7 mile

## Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina

Located on South Carolina's beautiful Charleston Harbor, Patriots Point is one of the largest museums of its kind in the world. The centerpiece of Patriots Point is the world famous aircraft carrier USS YORKTOWN, a heavily decorated warship that was at the "tip of the spear" in America's victory in the Pacific during World War II. Find out more about the ships of Patriots Point, the magnificent aircraft, and the rest of the exhibits that make Patriots Point one of the most visited attractions in the Carolinas!

*Activities:* tours of museum and various WWII vessels

*Website:* <http://www.patriotspoint.org/content.asp?catID=3229>

*Location:* Patriots Point on Charleston Harbor, Mt. Pleasant

**The Final Stop is fantastic and right next door!**

## The Confederate Submarine *H.L. Hunley* at Patriots Point in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina

Friends of the *Hunley* is happy to announce that tours of the *Hunley* are now available every Saturday and Sunday. Tours will not be available on weekdays so that the archaeologists can continue their work preserving the *Hunley* for future generations.

*Activities:* take a tour and learn about the Hunley, its crew, its recovery, and its restoration.

*Website:* <http://www.thehunley.com/>

*Location:* Patriots Point on Charleston Harbor, Mt. Pleasant

**The United States Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, hopes you enjoyed these maritime sights and museums along our ultimate driving tour.**