

# National Parks of New York Harbor

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Parks of New York Harbor



## National Parks Week in New York City: Sept. 18-26



In celebration of the release of the 6-part Ken Burns documentary “The National Parks: America’s Best Idea,” the National Parks of New York Harbor are holding an array of special events and activities in the 10 national parks found in New York City. For the most up-to-date list, visit [www.nps.gov/npnh](http://www.nps.gov/npnh)

### *African Burial Ground National Monument*

**September 26**

Enjoy a day filled with family friendly activities when African Burial Ground Celebrates Family Day. Arts and crafts workshops, dance performances and ranger led art tours will take place between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. The events will take place at the African Burial Ground National Monument, located in the Ted Weiss Federal Building at 290 Broadway. Upon entering the building, members of the public will have to go through airport like security.

For more information, call 212-637-2019 or visit

[www.nps.gov/afbg](http://www.nps.gov/afbg).

### *Castle Clinton National Monument*

**Daily**

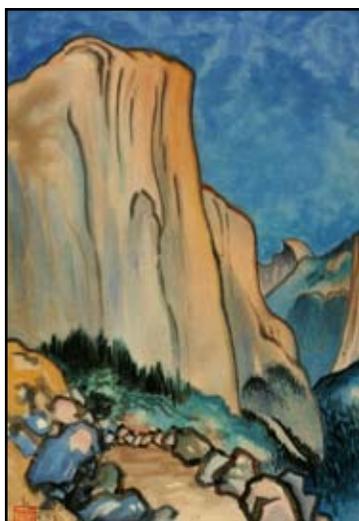
Discover the history of the Castle daily at 10 a.m., noon, and 2 p.m. with a free 20-minute ranger guided tour that illustrates the colorful history of Castle Clinton and how it served as a fort, entertainment center, immigration depot and aquarium.

Call 212-344-7220 for more information or visit [www.nps.gov/cacl](http://www.nps.gov/cacl).

### *Federal Hall National Memorial*

**September 24**

Federal Hall will offer “September 1776” from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This special event explores the American Revolution and its impact on New York City. Fife and drum music will be provided as well as a lecture conducted by Barnett Schechter, author of “The Battle for New York.” Programs featuring costumed NPS Staff



*Chiura Obata, El Capitan, 1931 color woodcut Smithsonian American Art Museum, Gift of the Obata Family*

as well as the staff of the Van Cortlandt House Museum will delve into both military and civilian life during this era.

**September 8-25**

In addition, a special exhibit from the Smithsonian American Art Museum will be on display in the rotunda at Federal Hall. “Obata’s Yosemite” is a collection of 27 prints and watercolors and a series of 20 progressive proofs offers insight into the work Chiura Obata did while visiting Yosemite in 1927.

For more information, call 212-825-6990 or visit [www.nps.gov/feha](http://www.nps.gov/feha)

### *General Grant National Memorial*

**September 22**

Meet an NPS Park Ranger in the outdoor plaza in front of the memorial at 8 p.m. for an candlelight tour of Grant’s Tomb After Dark. This is not an ordinary tour of the memorial, but a unique opportunity to experience the essence of the building.

For more information,

call 212-666-1640 or visit [www.nps.gov/gegr](http://www.nps.gov/gegr).

### *Governors Island National Monument*

**September 19**

Join Eric Sanderson author of “Mannahatta: A Natural History of New York City” at 2:30 p.m. in Pershing Hall on Governors Island and uncover the natural landscape of New York City in 1609.

Or explore “The National Park Connection” of Governors Island at 1:30 p.m. on September 20 in the Admiral’s House. Many of the officers, soldiers and civilians who are part of the history of Governors Island also have ties to many National Parks and historic sites. In this ranger-led talk, we will tell a few of their stories and give you some ideas for next summer’s vacation.

Call 212-825-3045 for more information or visit [www.nps.gov/gois](http://www.nps.gov/gois).

### *St. Paul’s Church National Historic Site*

**September 18**

Join the staff at St. Paul’s at 3 p.m. for a hike up the wooden staircase in the Church Tower, leading the historic, 250-year-old metal bell, one of the oldest in the country.

For more information, call 917-667-4116 or visit [www.nps.gov/sapa](http://www.nps.gov/sapa).

### *Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Site*

**September 22-26**

Take the free guided ranger tour “TR, The Making of the Legend” on the hour beginning from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Learn about the boyhood home of Teddy Roosevelt and

see what it was like to grow up in the “gilded age.”

For additional information, call 212-260-1616 or visit [www.nps.gov/thrb](http://www.nps.gov/thrb).

### *Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island*

**September 24**

Experience “An Evening On Liberty Island.” This is a special opportunity to visit Liberty Island and experience the majesty of Lady Liberty and New York Harbor at night. The \$29 ticket price includes ferry ride, tour of the Island, and light refreshments.

Call 877-523-9849 for time and ticket information.

**September 25**

Enjoy a special Evening on Ellis Island and see the skyline of Manhattan and Lady Liberty from a whole new perspective. The \$29 ticket price includes ferry ride, tour of the Island, and light refreshments.

Call 877-523-9849 for time and ticket information.

**September 8 - January 10, 2010**

The new exhibition “Lenape: Ellis Island’s First Inhabitants” tells the story of the Lenape Indians from prehistory through the 21st century. The exhibit explores the life ways of the Lenape: their languages, their cultures, and their religious traditions. The exhibit will integrate a variety of materials, including prehistoric artifacts, antique books, maps, archival photographs, Native Lenape clothing and crafts, ceremonial objects, and illustrations.

For more information, call 212-363-3200 or visit [www.nps.gov/stli](http://www.nps.gov/stli) or [www.nps.gov/elis](http://www.nps.gov/elis)

## Gateway National Recreation Area



### Jamaica Bay Unit

#### September 20-26

Join NPS Rangers at Floyd Bennett Field, Hangar B for "Floyd Bennett Field Aviation History" from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Experience history first-hand with a tour of the vintage aircraft at Floyd Bennett Field. Find out about the progress of the Historic Aircraft Restoration Projects and catch a glimpse of the Volunteers-In-Parks' newest project.

Reservations required. Call 718-338-3799.

#### September 21-26

The Jacob Riis Park Walking Tour leaves from the Bathhouse Entry Pavilion at 10 a.m. Join a park ranger and learn more about the history and significance of Jacob Riis Park.

Call 718-318-4300 for more information.

#### September 21-26

Take an afternoon Walk with a Ranger from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. Explore the nature of the refuge on the International Day of Peace. Bring binoculars.

Reservations are required. Call 718-318-4340.

#### September 22

Stroll through the first evening of fall with a park ranger on the Autumnal Equinox Evening Walk from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. Bring binoculars.

Reservations are required. Call 718-318-4340.



#### September 23

Learn about Fall Feathered Treasures from 10 a.m. to noon at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge.

Begin indoors with a presentation about fall migrants and residents. Then go outside to explore the refuge for these feathered treasures. Bring

binoculars.

Reservations are required. Call 718-318-4340.

#### September 24

Take a Morning Walk with a Ranger at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge from 10 to 11 a.m.

Explore the nature of the refuge with a park ranger. Bring binoculars.

Reservations are required. Call 718-318-4340.

#### September 24

Find out how the original Floyd Bennett Airport Terminal and Control Tower worked on a Sunset Tour of the Ryan Visitor at Floyd Bennett Field from 6 to 7:30 p.m. During the tour, visitors will see the plans for the upcoming restoration of this historic structure.

Reservations are required. Call 718-338-3799.

#### September 25

Take a mid-day break from noon to 1 p.m. for Noon Time Nature with fall migrant birds, late blooming wildflowers and early ripening fruits. Bring binoculars.

Reservations are required. Call 718-318-4340.

#### September 25

Enjoy a Beach Campfire from 7 to 9 p.m. at Jacob Riis Park, Bay 14.

Park rangers and volunteers will give talks on the natural and historic treasures found at the park, all in a beautiful beach setting. A sing along will follow. Bring a chair or blanket.

Reservations are required. Call 718-318-4300.

#### September 26

National Public Lands Day / International Beach Cleanup Day will take place at various Gateway National Recreation Area sites in Brooklyn and Queens from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Volunteer with the National Park Service, the American Littoral Society and other partners to make a difference at your local beach. Bring water, gloves and wear sturdy shoes. Call 718-338-3799 to sign up.

#### September 26

Together we can celebrate National Public Lands Day and International Beach Clean-up Day by cleaning the shoreline of Jamaica Bay from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Groups are welcome. Meet at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge and the North Channel Bridge Parking Lot. Work gloves and bags will be provided. Reservations required. Call 718-318-4340.

#### September 26

Take a Surf Casting Clinic at Jacob Riis Park, Bathhouse Entry Pavilion from 9 to 11 a.m.

Learn the basics of surf fishing with members of the Gateway Strippers Club during a morning of fun, fish, sun and surf. Afterwards continue fish-

ing along the beach. Bring rod and reel if you have one.

Reservations are required. Call 718-318-4300.

#### September 26

Enjoy a Jamaica Bay Sunset Cruise leaving from the Sheepshead Bay Pier at 4 p.m. and returning at 7 p.m.

This three-hour boat tour of Jamaica Bay will be accompanied by the American Littoral Society. Learn about the history, ecology, and wildlife of the bay, and see many migrating species. The \$45 ticket includes narrated tour and onboard snacks.

For more information and reservations, call 718-318-9344.

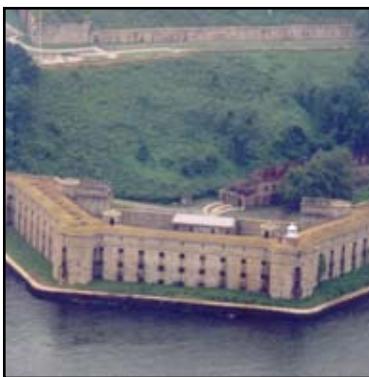
#### September 27

Learn about Late Flowers at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

A park ranger will lead this early fall botany walk along the trails of the refuge. Expect goldenrods, asters, joe-pye weeds and more, plus the ripening fruits of summer blossoms.

Reservations are required. Call 718-318-4340.

### Staten Island Unit



#### September 23 - 27

Tour Historic Fort Wadsworth at 2:30 p.m. starting at the Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center

This free 1 ½ hour tour takes visitors through historic Fort Tompkins and Battery Weed (pictured above).

No reservations required. Call 718-354-4500 for more information.

#### September 23 and 25

Take a Lantern Tour of Fort Wadsworth at 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy our most popular tour as you explore the historic sites of the fort on this ranger-led lantern tour that leaves from the Fort Wadsworth visitor Center. Bring a flashlight.

Reservations are required. Call 718-354-4500.

### Sandy Hook Unit

#### September 26

Try Birding for Beginners at 10 a.m. in the Sandy Hook Visitor Center.

Join a naturalist from the NJ Audubon Society for a two-hour bird walk. September is a great time for warblers, orioles,

tanagers, and other migrant species.

Call 732-872-5970 for more information.



#### September 19

Learn about Henry Hudson on Sandy Hook at 2 p.m. in the Sandy Hook Visitor Center

Discover what survives at Sandy Hook that would have been seen 400 years ago by Henry Hudson and other early explorers. Participants will also learn about the first encounters between native Lenape people and the explorers who landed at Sandy Hook.

Call 732-872-5970 for more information.

#### September 20

Experience Cold War Day from noon to 4 p.m. beginning in Parking Lot L at Horseshoe Cove.

Visit a Nike Missile radar site restored to the time of the Cuban Missile Crisis. See Cold War era military displays. Veterans of Fort Hancock are welcome to join us and share their stories.

Call 732-872-5970 for more information.

#### September 24

Enjoy a Campfire on the Beach on the beach near the Sandy Hook Visitor Center beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Sing along and hear some strange but true stories about Sandy Hook including sea monsters, pirates, shipwrecks & broken dishes!

Call 732-872-5970 for more information.

#### September 26

Take a Monarch Butterfly Walk at 2 p.m. starting from the Sandy Hook Visitor Center

This remarkable insect, whose migration route ends in Mexico, is featured on a ranger-led tour.

Call 732-872-5970 for more information.

#### September 27

Become a Junior Ranger!

Children ages 7 to 12 can walk a beach trail with a ranger at 2 p.m. and learn about the environment and our responsibility to maintain it. The journey begins at the Sandy Hook Visitor Center

Free but reservations are required. Call 732-872-5970.