



Two States, One Park

Beaches, baysou, and boating are some of the many things you can experience in this two-state, 160-mile park. Fish, swim, hike, bike, picnic, camp, observe wildlife, discover history, and explore two island wilderness areas. The park's staff, website, and newspaper *The Island Breeze* can help plan your visit.

Build sand castles on white quartz beaches.

MISSISSIPPI

ALABAMA

FLORIDA



- Trailhead
- Multi-use trail
- Florida National Seashore Trail
- Gulf Islands National Seashore
- Urban area
- Fortification
- Wheelchair-accessible
- Ranger station
- Picnic area
- Pavilion
- Campground
- Backcountry camping
- Boat launch
- Swimming area

Gulf Islands National Seashore is one of over 400 parks in the National Park System. Learn more at www.nps.gov.

Visit the park website at www.gisnps.gov. Follow us on social media.

From Mississippi to Florida



MISSISSIPPI AREAS The visitor center has information, exhibits, a bookstore, maps, and films. Closed Thanksgiving, December 25, and January 1. The campground (open year-round) has electricity, water hookups, a dump station, a group tent area, a boat launch (fee), and pavilions. Reserve sites at www.recreation.gov. Hiking trails are self-guiding. A saltwater fishing license is required for all areas. The Davis Bayou area has a fishing pier. Commercial fishing is prohibited in park waters. Visit the park website for hours and programs.

Ship Island (Fort Massachusetts) **How to get there:** An unshaded, 0.3-mile boardwalk leads to a swim beach, pavilions, restrooms, showers, and snack bar. Facilities are open mid-March through October. Free tours and exhibits are available seasonally. Tours of the fort are not wheelchair-accessible. No camping allowed. Take a passenger ferry (fee) from Gulfport or Biloxi from mid-March through October, or dock your boat near the fort during daylight hours only year-round.

Cat, Petit Bois, West Petit Bois, and Horn Islands (no facilities) are accessed only by private boat. Use your boat or hire a licensed operator from a list available at the visitor center or our website. Petit Bois and Horn Islands are designated wilderness areas—lands untrammeled by humans, undeveloped, and retaining a primal character with only an impermanent human presence. They are protected to preserve their natural conditions and offer opportunities for solitude or primitive, unconfined recreation.

Backcountry camping is allowed on Horn, Petit Bois, and West Petit Bois islands. A permit is required for groups of 10 or more on Horn and Petit Bois islands only. Camping on Cat Island is allowed only on park land. Camping on Ship Island is prohibited. Bring all your food and drinking water. Groups of 10 or more must get a permit. • Boaters follow NOAA charts 11372, 11373, and 11374.

FLORIDA AREAS The Fort Pickens Discovery Center and the Fort Barrancas Visitor Center have exhibits, films, and bookstores. Visit the park website for operating hours.

A seasonal ferry service (free) between downtown Pensacola, Pensacola Beach, and Fort Pickens is available March through October. Visit the park website for program, hours, and guided tours. Entrance fees apply at Fort Pickens, Fort Barrancas, Okaloosa, Opal Beach, and Perdido Key, or show a valid National Parks or Federal Recreational Lands pass. • Hike self-guiding trails at Fort Pickens, Fort Barrancas, Perdido Key, and Naval Live Oaks. • Fish from Fort Pickens' pier without a license; otherwise, state fishing licensing and regulations apply. • Camping reservations are recommended at 877-444-6777 or www.recreation.gov. • Some pavilions can be reserved; call the Special Use Permits Office, 850-934-2611. The Naval Live Oaks Youth Camping Pavilion is for organized groups only. • Boaters follow NOAA charts 11373, 11383, and 11384.

ENJOY A SAFE VISIT Never swim alone. Beware of rip currents, manmade-covered rocks, sharks, jellyfish, and stingrays. • Watch for weather extremes, sudden storms, and changing surf conditions. Do not stand on piers, beaches, or fortifications during thunderstorms. • Use caution while exploring forts and batteries. Carry a flashlight for dark passageways. • Some areas and forts close for your safety or wildlife nesting. Avoid walking on dunes and vegetation; obey closure signs. • State boating and fishing regulations apply. Do not fish or boat in swim beach areas. • Glass is prohibited on beaches. • Wear protective clothing. Drink plenty of fluids. Use sunscreen. • Practice "Leave No Trace" principles. • Motor vehicles must stay on paved roads. • Metal detectors and spearfishing are prohibited. • Dogs are prohibited on all Mississippi islands and Florida beaches. • Do not feed or disturb wildlife. • Federal law protects all wildlife, plants, and historic objects. • For all park regulations, including firearms, check our website. • We strive to make our facilities, services, and programs accessible to all. Call or check our website.

Emergencies call 911

National Park System
Join the park community.
www.nps.gov



Surf the Gulf of Mexico. Photograph the park. Kayak the bayou. Enjoy the sunset. Fish from the beach. Wade the waters. Explore the forts.



GULF ISLANDS NATIONAL SEASHORE
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