



Field Trip Pre-Visit Information



NPS / Tim Ervin

This document should give teachers the necessary information for a successful field trip. Locations mentioned can be found on the map sent with this document. Any further questions can be sent to the education coordinator at shannon_mclucas@nps.gov or calling (410) 962-4290 ext. 203.

Park Hours of Operation

The grounds of Hampton NHS are open from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm for vehicles, and dawn to dusk for pedestrians. Park buildings, including Visitor Center, and historic structures are open Fridays through Sundays from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Restrooms are available at the Orangery and the Dove Cotes from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm daily.

Park interpretive staff is only on site Fridays through Sundays. Public programming schedules are only available on days the staff is on site. Groups arriving on Mondays through Thursdays should be prepared for a self-guided visit to the site. Groups that intend to stay past 5:00 pm should coordinate with their transportation to ensure all vehicles are off site by 5:00 pm.

Arrival and Parking

Groups arriving on-site on days that park staff is available (Thursdays through Sundays) should have the teacher check-in with the park staff at the park visitor center (open 9:00 am – 4:00 pm). Groups arriving on Mondays, Tuesdays, or Wednesdays do not need to check-in with park staff.

Groups using buses as transportation should have their buses park in the bus parking spaces located in the main park parking lot. Bus spaces are available on a first-come first-serve basis. Buses unable to get a bus parking

space should park off-site. Buses may **NOT** park in regular parking spaces blocking them from public use.

For groups with accessibility needs, ADA parking is available in all three parking lots within the park. Groups using buses as transportation are welcome to have their bus drop them off at accessible locations such as the upper mansion parking lot, or the farm side parking lot. Buses, however, must return to bus parking between drop-off and pick-up times to avoid blocking traffic and access to parking spaces.

Eating On-Site

Hampton NHS does not have any food or food-storage facilities on-site. Groups wishing to eat on-site should be prepared to bring their own food options and plan to carry lunches or store them on the bus.

All National Park sites have a “Leave No Trace” policy meaning that any trash brought into the site should be taken out. Park trash cans do not have the capability to hold trash from large groups. Groups should be prepared with their own trash bags and be ready to take their trash to dispose of off-site. Groups should not leave trash during their visit.

Picnicking: Picnicking is welcome on-site. The park has two picnicking locations: one on the mansion side, and one on the farm side of the park. Mansion side picnicking has four picnic tables and farm side has two. All picnic tables are available on a first-come first-serve basis. Groups may bring their own blankets to sit on for picnicking as well. However, groups may **NOT** bring their own tables.

Food and drink are not allowed within the park buildings, including the visitor center and historic structures.

Ranger-led
and Teacher-
Guided
Education
Programs

Hampton NHS offers ranger-led education programs seasonally. Ranger-led programs are scheduled on first-come first-served basis through our group arrangements site. All education programs are offered when weather allows, and all indoor programs are subject to change due to COVID-19 protocols.

Groups unable to schedule a ranger-led program have the option of conducting a teacher-facilitated education program or a self-guided visit. Materials for on-site programs and classroom activities are available on our website.

Programs take place outdoors and are crafted to suit a class of around 35 students.

Be Prepared

Wear comfortable walking shoes.

Dress appropriately for the weather.

Stay hydrated.

Wear sunscreen as necessary.

Be mindful of deer ticks in tall grass.

Self-Guided Visits:

- Groups are welcome to guide themselves around the park as they see fit. Museum displays and signage exist in historic buildings such as the slave quarters, dairy, and stables, as well as the park visitor center. Once again, these buildings are only open Thursday through Sunday 9 am – 4 pm.

Digital Options:

Virtual mansion tours and other options are available at:

<https://www.nps.gov/hamp/learn/photosmultimedia/virtualtour.htm>

Free self-guided audio tours are available on the National Park Service App:

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/digital/nps-apps.htm>

COVID-19
Protocols

Hampton NHS continues to be in an adaptive recovery following CDC guidance and local health advisors. The most updated information on park COVID-19 protocols can be found on the park website:

www.nps.gov/hamp

And the park social media:

Facebook: @Hampton National Historic Site

Instagram: @Hamptonnps

Masks: Following federal regulations, masks are **REQUIRED** in all federal buildings onsite. This includes historic structures, on mansion tours, and in the park visitor center.

Capacity Limits: Programs take place outdoors and are crafted to suit a class of around 35 students.

In addition, the park visitor center is small, groups arriving on site should split up their groups to take turns going into the park visitor center to keep numbers in the visitor center to 10 people at a time.

Social Distancing: Groups should try to maintain social distancing wherever possible. This includes on programs, outdoors, and in park buildings.

*Visitors in groups that have fevers or flu-like symptoms are requested to please stay at home and visit at another time.