Parks as Classrooms

Fourth grade field trip and lesson plans

San Antonio Missions
National Historical Park

nps.gov/saan
Field Trip Preparation
San Antonio Missions National Historical Park

Logistics

• Bus fee reimbursement request. Please print and submit the application on the link:  https://www.nps.gov/saan/learn/education/upload/Application-for-Transportation-Reimbursement-2018-19-Accessible.pdf
• Bus parking is available at each site
• When you arrive for a reserved ranger-led program, please check in at the Visitor Center:
  6701 San Jose Drive
  San Antonio, TX 78214
• If you are running late, please notify the park by calling: (210)-932-1001
Planning

• The museum and entrance to the park is free. Mission San Jose is open from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The park grounds, excluding the Mission San Jose complex, is open sunrise to sunset.
• For ranger led programs, please contact the education coordinator at saan_education@nps.gov with the following:
  • School name
  • Contact's name
  • Planned Date of Park Visit
  • Time of Arrival
  • Number of Students
  • Number of Chaperones (1 adult for every 10 students required)
  • Grade level

• Ranger led programs run for about 45 minutes. This guided tour will give the students and history and overview of life in mission times.
• Reservations are required at least 2 weeks in advance.
• Late arrivals may forfeit the scheduled guided program. Please call if you are running late. (210) 932-1001
• Special Needs: Please alert park staff you have any visitors that will require modified tours or assistance. The mission sites are accessible to most visitors with physical challenges.
• Inside the Mission San Jose Visitor Center, the film, Gente de Razon, People of Reason, runs every half hour on the hour and half hour.
• Please be sure to have 1 chaperone for every 10 students
• Restrooms and water fountains are available at each mission site.
• The visitor center cannot store any items (coolers, cameras, etc.) while visiting the
Welcome to San Antonio Missions
San Antonio Missions National Historical Park

Website: nps.gov/saan

We’re on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Follow us!
Dear Teachers,

We are so glad you’re interested in planning a field trip to the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park! The park hosts approximately 50,000 students every year and we’re glad your students can be included in that number. An opportunity to come to the missions is the opportunity to open a door to the past. We are excited to help your students learn about the formation of their community, dating back to the 1600’s when the Coahuiltecans encountered the Spanish missions. The field trip for 4th graders, and other elementary levels, focuses on ‘A Day in the Life’ of the people in the missions. Students will engage in placed based learning while being encouraged to envision themselves in the place of a Coahuilitecan entering the mission. We hope that this guide will help you plan your field trip to San Antonio’s own National Park.

Sincerely,

Tom Castanos
Education Coordinator