



COASTAL  
HERITAGE  
SOCIETY

# Educational Field Trip Guide

## Scout Programs



A Coastal Heritage Society Experience

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## Our Sites

*We invite you and your scout group to visit our sites and participate in Coastal Heritage Society's exciting field trip programs!* We operate six unique museums and historic sites in Savannah, GA: Savannah History Museum & Battlefield Memorial Park, Georgia State Railroad Museum, Savannah Children's Museum, Old Fort Jackson, Pin Point Heritage Museum and Harper Fowlkes House.

**Savannah History Museum** is housed in the former Central of Georgia Railway passenger shed, a National Historic Landmark built in the 1860s and 1870s. Coastal Heritage Society took over operation of Savannah History Museum in 1990. The museum is home to more than 10,000 artifacts-- the largest collection of artifacts in the entire coastal community. **Battlefield Memorial Park**, adjacent to the History Museum, commemorates the site where 800 soldiers were either killed or wounded on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 1779 in one of the deadliest battles of the American Revolution. More than 8,000 troops, from what are now eight modern countries, clashed for control of the city of Savannah. The combined French and American force failed to extract it from British control.

**Georgia State Railroad Museum** is the site of the former Central of Georgia Railroad Savannah Repair Shops, and a vibrant part of Savannah's industrial heritage. Construction began on the site in 1851 and the majority of buildings were completed by 1855. The Civil War brought damage and destruction to the Central of Georgia Railroad, but soon after the war the Central was back in full operation. It was reorganized in 1895 and renamed Central of Georgia Railway. The Central used this site until 1963.

**Savannah Children's Museum** Savannah Children's Museum is a one-acre, two-level outdoor educational space featuring over a dozen interactive exhibits and activities designed to offer an open exploration experience and to expand the imaginations of children ages 18 months to 8 years. The museum was unveiled as an adaptive reuse project in 2012 in the historic Central of Georgia Railway Carpentry Shop.

**Old Fort Jackson**, named after Revolutionary War hero James Jackson, was built to defend the port of Savannah from attack via the river. In 1777 & 1778, there was an earthen artillery battery located on the site. During the administration of President Thomas Jefferson, the United States began building a series of coastal fortifications, including Fort Jackson, to provide for the defense of major rivers and harbors along the east coast.

**Pin Point Heritage Museum** is located just off the Diamond Causeway in the recently restored A.S. Varn & Son Oyster and Crab Factory on the Moon River. The Museum shares the story of the Pin Point Community founded in 1890 by freed slaves, many from Ossabaw Island. Pin Point Heritage Museum, with its more than 3,000 square feet of exhibition space, artifacts and interactive displays, helps to tell the story of the history, traditions, language, spiritual life, and culture of the community.

**Harper Fowlkes House** is an 1842 Greek Revival mansion located on Orleans Square in downtown Savannah. Alida Harper Fowlkes left her home to the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Georgia to be used as their state headquarters. She wanted future generations to see the lifestyle of the mid-1800s, including the home's richly furnished interiors, important oil portraits, original architectural details and period antiques.

All of our programs are based on the Georgia Standards of Excellence and are age- and grade-specific. Each offers an engaging, interactive and fun educational experience for visitors of all ages. If you have any special needs, please speak with one of us. With sufficient notice, we can tailor our programs to meet the needs of your group. We hope to see you soon!

Emily Beck, *Director of Interpretation*  
Megan Alstad, *Director of Sales, Educational Programs*

# Boy Scout Programs



GEORGIA STATE  
RAILROAD  
MUSEUM

Georgia State Railroad Museum is located at the former Central of Georgia Railway Savannah Repair Shops and is a vibrant part of Savannah's industrial heritage. Construction began on the site in 1851 and the shops soon flourished as engines and rolling stock were built and repaired there. The Civil War brought damage and destruction to the railroad, but by 1895, the renamed Central of Georgia Railway was reorganized and fully operational. The Central used this site until 1963. Coastal Heritage Society offers two special Boy Scout Programs at Georgia State Railroad Museum.

## Georgia State Railroad Museum Boy Scout Program

During this one-hour program, scouts will learn about the important contributions of railroads to the development of Georgia and the United States. Scouts will explore the former railroad facility that now houses our museum and see firsthand equipment, locomotives, and railcars, which will help them understand how steam power and industrialization changed American life. The museum's historic buildings, making up the largest, most complete pre-Civil War railroad complex in the United States, will help scouts to conceptualize the many moving parts of a railroad, from planning, construction, and daily operation to expansion, innovation, and even advertising.

**Price per person including accompanying adults: \$9.00 plus tax**

**Group Minimum: 25**

**Length of Program: 1 hr.**

**Add a train ride! Check for availability and pricing.**

## Railroading Merit Badge

This three-hour-program expands upon our 1-hour Boy Scout Program to focus on subject matter outlined in official requirements for the Railroading Merit Badge. Scouts that register for this program will receive a Railroading Merit Badge Workbook to be used to complete all their requirements. During this expansive program, scouts will have a chance to learn about railroad communications and railroad safety, and will enjoy an extended site tour, learning about different types of railroad revenue and railcars. Scouts participating in this program will also explore more modern railroad history and equipment, learning about the formation of Amtrak and the current state of rail travel and freight traffic in the United States. Scouts will be encouraged to take notes in their workbooks and ask questions for the duration of the program.

**Price per person including accompanying adults: \$20.00 plus tax**

**Group Minimum: 10**

**Length of Program: 3 hrs.**

**Add a train ride! Check for availability and pricing.**

# Girl Scout Programs



## Life of a Civil War Soldier Patch Program

During this hour-long interactive program, Girl Scouts imagine their lives as Civil War soldiers, learning how skills included in their 1912 Handbook, *How Girls Can Help Their Country*, were once used at Fort Jackson during the American Civil War to protect the citizens of Savannah, including Girl Scouts founder Juliette Gordon Low and her family. Girl Scouts will learn about young Juliette and her family members as well as about the daily lives of American soldiers in the 19th century. During the program, scouts can also learn about Civil War medicine, be trained to send messages with Signal Corps flags and by telegraph, and taught to work together as a cannon crew. This program concludes with a cannon firing demonstration conducted by Fort staff.

**Price per person including accompanying adults: \$11.00 plus tax** (includes a one-of-a-kind activities patch)  
**Group Minimum: 10**  
**Length of Program: 1 hr.**





GEORGIA STATE  
RAILROAD  
MUSEUM



SAVANNAH  
HISTORY  
MUSEUM

## Juliette's Family Tree Program

Let us introduce you to three generations of the Gordon Family – Ambrose Gordon, William Washington Gordon I, and William Washington Gordon II. Learn how each served Savannah, served the country, and influenced Juliette's life. This two-hour, multi-site program begins in Savannah History Museum where scouts will visit the Women of Merit Exhibit on the life of Juliette Low, proceed to Battlefield Memorial Park, and conclude with a tour of Georgia State Railroad Museum. The program finishes with a ride on an open-air passenger car pulled by a steam or diesel locomotive (subject to availability).

**Price per person including accompanying adults: \$18.00 plus tax** (includes one-of-a-kind activities patch)

**Group Minimum: 10**

**Length of Program: 2 hrs.**



GEORGIA STATE  
RAILROAD  
MUSEUM

## Grandfather Gordon's Railroad

First as Mayor of the City of Savannah and then as the first President of the Central of Georgia Railway, Juliette Gordon Low's grandfather, William Washington Gordon, was instrumental in the development of the city, state, and region. Scouts participating in this program will enjoy a walking tour of our historic buildings, currently the largest, most complete pre-Civil War railroad complex in the United States, focusing on the site's history, the function of the railroad, and how industrialization changed the lives of Americans, including girls and women.

**Price per person including accompanying adults: \$11.00 plus tax** (includes one-of-a-kind activities patch)

**Group Minimum: 10**

**Length of Program: 1 hr.**

## Additional Options

**30-minute Site Tour by Train at Georgia State Railroad Museum.** Take a site tour by rail in an open passenger coach. Participants will learn about the history of the Central of Georgia Railroad, the function of the Savannah Repair Shops – many of which were built between 1851 and 1855 – and the preservation and restoration efforts by the staff. Participants will also experience riding on a fully restored 1907 turntable. Locomotives used are diesel or steam depending of the time of year and maintenance schedules. Please check availability of the type of locomotive when making a reservation.

Operating Days: \$5.00 per person with \$100 minimum

**Non-operating days: \$250 flat rate**



## Gullah Adventures

At Pin Point Heritage Museum, scouts will learn about the community of Pin Point and the African roots of its thriving Gullah culture. This 90-minute program allows scouts to explore the marsh up close and learn how neighborhood residents worked with the cycles of the natural world to keep their businesses thriving and their community strong. Scouts will learn about the life cycles of the marsh and human impacts on the local environment, particularly wetlands. Scouts will also view the award-winning film *Take Me to the Water*, which features real Pin Point community members speaking about their experiences growing up in a community founded over 100 years ago by freedmen, many of whom had once been enslaved on nearby Ossabaw Island. Scouts will also learn about Gullah culture, participating in activities which touch on Gullah foodways, music, language, and more.

**Price per person including accompanying adults: \$14.00 plus tax** (includes one-of-a-kind activities patch)  
**Group Minimum: 10**  
**Length of Program: 1.5 hours**



## Alida's Legacy

To begin this 75-minute program, scouts will tour Harper-Fowlkes House, an 1840s Greek Revival mansion owned for over 40 years by preservationist and businesswoman Alida Harper Fowlkes. Scouts will learn how Alida's dreams and determination decided the fate of the house and the objects in it, as well as the fates of several other properties in the city. Scouts will examine why Alida chose the historic objects she chose, and what can be learned about the house, the city, and the community from studying the home and its contents. Scouts will end their program looking at real historic items in Coastal Heritage Society Working Collections to determine which items they would choose for a historical exhibit or for an antique business like one once owned and operated by Alida. During this activity, scouts will also get a behind-the-scenes look at museum operations and what decisions go into the making of exhibits, the management of a museum business, and the care and preservation of objects.

**Price per person including accompanying adults: \$13.00 plus tax** (includes one-of-a-kind activities patch)  
**Group Minimum: 10**  
**Length of Program: 1.25 hours**

# Program Confirmation and Payment Information

## **Program Bookings/Reservations**

All programs must be reserved *at least 2 weeks* before the intended date of visit. To book a program, please call or email:

### **Megan Alstad**

Director of Sales, Educational Programs

Office: 912-651-6823 ext 205

Mobile: 912.312.4155

malstad@chsgeorgia.org

## **Booking Procedures**

At the time of contacting the booking department, a contract will be created to identify your group's date/time of visit and number of guests. A final guest count is required **7 business days** prior to your program date. A signed copy of your contract and deposit are required. Reservations are not confirmed without a signed contract and deposit.

## **Deposits**

A non-refundable \$50 deposit is required upon booking for all groups.

All deposits/payments will be deducted from the final billed amount. Please note, any groups that are unable to attend their scheduled program time will not be refunded their deposit.

## **Balances**

Balances for all programs are due on the date of visit. We accept the following payment methods: cash, check, and all major credit cards.

## **Weather**

Coastal Heritage Society reserves the right to cancel any outdoor tours, programming and activities due to inclement weather. Alternate tours will be offered dependent upon conditions.



# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

## 1. **My group has fewer than 10 people. May I book a program?**

We enjoy providing educational programs for groups of all sizes! First, please note that the group minimum applies to the entire group; parents, chaperones and teachers included. If your group does not meet the minimum of 10 total guests, you may book a program, but will be required to pay for our minimum. In other words, if you have 8 people in your group, you will be required to pay for 10 people. Please contact us to discuss your needs.

## 2. **The participants in my group are of varying ages. Will this program appeal to all in the group?**

We see many groups that are comprised of a broad range of ages. We will adapt the program to ensure that all participants have a great experience.

## 3. **My scouts are interested in a specific topic concerning American history. Can you fit this topic into one of your programs?**

We pride ourselves on the ability to customize any program based upon the needs of the group. We would be happy to work with you if you would like us to cover a specific topic.

## 4. **What happens if we're late to arrive for our program?**

Your program may be shortened due to our contractual obligations to other groups. If you are aware that you will be late, please call us to let us know. All contact information for each site is listed at the top of the program confirmation sheets.

## 5. **Is there a gift shop on site?**

Yes. If your group plans to shop, please allow at least 15 minutes to do so before or after your program so that it may begin on time.

## 6. **How far in advance may I book a program?**

Programs may be booked as far in advance as you'd like. We prefer all programs to be booked at least 2 weeks in advance.

## 7. **What is the earliest time of day that I may book a program? What is the latest time?**

Savannah History Museum: Open daily, 9:00am –4:00pm

Georgia State Railroad Museum: Open daily, 9:00am – 4:00pm

Old Fort Jackson: Open daily, 9:00am – 4:00pm

Pin Point Heritage Museum: Open Thursday – Saturday, 9:00am – 4:00pm

Harper Fowlkes House: Open Monday, Wednesday, Saturday, 10:00am – 3:00pm

If you have special needs concerning scheduling, please contact us.

**8. Is there a maximum number of scouts that I may bring at one time?**

We are able to accommodate large groups by incorporating additional learning stations and topics. We frequently host large groups on site during the busy spring and fall seasons, and we would be more than happy to have your group!

**9. I have scouts with special needs in my group. Will they be able to be accommodated?**

We strive to create a positive experience for each and every one of our guests, and we are happy to work with you on creating the best possible program for your group.

**10. I would like my program to last longer than one hour. Is this possible?**

Absolutely! We can schedule programs of any length. Please contact us for more details.

**11. Will adults be required to pay for programs?**

Yes; program prices are per person for everyone attending.