



# Educational Field Trip Guide Adult Programs/Tour Operators



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## Our Sites

*We invite you and your tour 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, Harper Fowlkes House, and Pin Point Heritage Museum.

**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 10 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.

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*



# Adult Programs





## 1779 Battle of Savannah (Siege of Savannah)

During this one hour program, visitors learn about the 1779 Revolutionary War Battle of Savannah, in which soldiers from what are now eight modern countries vied on two sides for control of the city. Visitors will learn about the battle's place within the larger context of the American Revolution and its impact on Great Britain's Southern Strategy. Participants will experience demonstrations of military tactics and weapons employed during the battle.

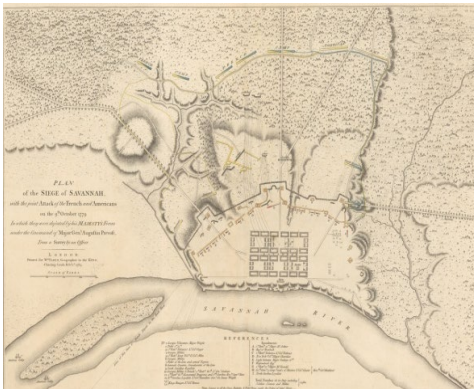
### Through hands-on interactive experiences, visitors will learn about:

- The first involvement of French army troops on American soil during the American Revolution
- The largest involvement of black soldiers to fight in the American Revolution (the Chasseurs Volontaires de Saint Domingue, now Haiti) as well as enslaved people hoping to gain their freedom
- The role of patriots and loyalists in Savannah during the Revolutionary Era
- The impact of the battle on Great Britain's Southern Strategy and how it ultimately led to the Battle of Yorktown
- Weapons and military tactics used in the battle
- How muskets are loaded and fired via a live musket firing

### Interactive, hands-on activities may include:

- Musket Firing Demonstration
- Battlefield March

**Price per person: \$12.00 plus tax**  
**Group Minimum: 25**  
**Length of Program: 1 hr.**





## Adult Program (Guided Tour)

Visitors will learn about the history of Savannah beginning with the Native Americans living in the area, Savannah's role in the American Revolution, the importance of the technological development such as the cotton gin and railroad and, finally, the impact of the Civil War on Savannah. This program is fully customizable based on the needs of the group.

### **Structured programs in the museum will help participants learn and understand:**

- How early Native American culture developed in the region around Savannah and the impact of European settlement on that culture
- Savannah's role in the events of the American Revolution in Georgia
- The impact of technology (i.e. cotton gin and railroads) on the development of Savannah and Georgia
- The impact of the Civil War on Savannah (including Union Blockade of Georgia's coast, defending Savannah, Sherman's March to the Sea)

**Price per person: \$12.00 plus tax**

**Group Minimum: 25**

**Length of Program: 1 hr.**

## Adult Program (Self-Guided Tour)

Self-Guided Tour group rates are available for groups of ten or greater.

### **The Self-Guided Tour includes:**

- Showing of our 18-minute introductory film, *Savannah the Survivor*, which runs every 30 minutes
- Admission to Savannah History Museum, which showcases the city's history from its founding in 1733 to the present day

**Price per person: \$8.00 plus tax**

**Group Minimum: 25 people**

**Average Museum Stay: 1 hr.**



# GEORGIA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

## Adult Program

During this one-hour program, visitors will learn about one of the first railroads chartered in the State of Georgia, its impact on the history of Savannah and the state, the function of the important repair facilities in Savannah, and how a railroad operated.

### Through hands-on interactive experiences, participants will discover:

- The importance of railroads to the development of agriculture and industry in the United States and the State of Georgia
- How steam power and industrialization changed American life
- Contributions of railroads to the development of American society
- Reasons for the establishment of the Central of Georgia and its impact on the State of Georgia and the City of Savannah
- How railroads operated
- The impact of roads, trucks, and airlines on railroads

### Interactive, hands-on activities may include:

- Hand Car Ride
- Tour of Executive Office Cars and/or other Railcars
- Steam Power Demonstration
- Belt-Driven Machinery Demonstration



**Price per person: \$12.00 plus tax**

**Group Minimum: 25 people**

**Length of Program: 1 hr.**

**Add a site tour by train! Check for availability and pricing.**

# 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**





## Adult Program

During this one-hour program, visitors imagine their lives as historical soldiers, learning skills used by the defenders of Savannah at Five Fathom Hole, where Fort Jackson stands today. Students learn about cause and effect for the selected historical conflict and end each program watching a live cannon firing demonstration performed by Fort staff. **Our most popular Life of a Soldier Student Program is the American Civil War version**, but teachers may also choose to focus this program on **The American Revolution** or **The War of 1812**, to be chosen at the time of booking.

### Topics of discussion may include:

- Organization and drill used by various units at Fort Jackson
- The location and role of Five Fathom Hole and Fort Jackson as the headquarters for the Savannah River Defenses
- Wartime Communications
- Daily life of the soldiers stationed in the area
- What, why, and how the soldiers were equipped
- Science and technology of muskets and cannon
- Wartime disease and medicine
- Important historical figures linked to Fort Jackson

### Interactive, hands-on activities may include:

- Drill
- Battlefield communications
- Sick call
- Equipping a soldier
- Artillery
- Cannon Firing Demonstration

**Price per person: \$12.00 plus tax**

**Group Minimum: 25 people**

**Length of Program: 1 hr.**

# Field Cannon Firing

During this 30-45-minute seated program, visitors will enjoy an engaging but condensed Fort history from a costumed interpreter who will conclude the program with a cannon firing demonstration. Perfect for groups short on time or with limited mobility.

**Price per person: \$12.00 plus tax**  
**Group Minimum: 25 people**  
**Average Museum Stay: 30-45 mins.**



# PINPOINT HERITAGE MUSEUM

## Adult Program

The Pin Point Heritage Museum adult program combines elements of history and science as it looks at one of the few remaining African American communities on the coast of Georgia. Participants will explore its history, the intimate relationship with the natural environment, and the challenges to retain the values and traditions of the community.

### Through hands-on interactive experiences, participants will learn about:

- The journey from Africa to Pin Point, the struggle to own land after Emancipation, and the Gullah-Geechee Culture that developed
- The founding of the community of Pin Point, what it is like to grow up in this community, and what the future holds
- The importance of the surrounding marshes and rivers to the livelihood of the community
- The life cycle of the blue crab and oyster, how they were harvested, and who participated in this activity
- How the blue crab and oysters were processed and the people who worked in the factory

This hour and a half program begins with the viewing of the award-winning documentary *Take Me to the Water*, followed by a tour of the factory buildings, an introduction to the community and the people that worked there.

**Price per person: \$12.00 plus tax**

**Group Minimum: 25**

**Length of Program: 1.5 hrs.**





## Adult Program

During this one-hour program, visitors will participate in a tour of the first and second floors of the historic Harper Fowlkes House. Construction began in 1842, and the house served as a home for prominent Savannah families for almost a century before being purchased by local preservationist Alida Harper Fowlkes in 1939. Harper Fowlkes willed the property to The Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Georgia, and since 1985, it has served as the Society's headquarters.

### **Through hands-on interactive experiences, participants will learn about:**

- Aspects of Greek Revival architecture featured in the Harper Fowlkes House, and about the furnishings contained therein
- The histories of the Champion and McAlpin families who occupied the house for nearly eighty years
- The Hermitage Plantation, source of the famed Savannah Gray Bricks used for house construction
- Alida Harper Fowlkes, owner of the house from 1939 until 1985 and early proponent of the preservation movement in Savannah

**Price per person: \$12.00 plus tax**

**Group Minimum: 15**

**Group Maximum: 40**

**Length of Program: 1 hr.**





# 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. The guaranteed number determines the minimum amount of people you will be charged for at the time of your event.

## **Weather**

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

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

## 1. **My group has fewer than 25 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 25 total guests, you may book a program, but will be required to pay for our minimum. In other words, if you have 20 people in your group, you will be required to pay for 25 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. **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.

## 4. **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.

## 5. **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.

## 6. **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 – 3:00pm

Georgia State Railroad Museum: Open daily, 9:00am – 3:00pm

Old Fort Jackson: Open daily, 9:00am – 3:00pm

Pin Point Heritage Museum: Open Thursday – Saturday, 9:00am – 3:00pm

Harper Fowlkes House: Open Monday, Wednesday, Saturday, 10:00am – 2:00pm

Savannah Children's Museum:

Open Wednesday – Saturday, 9:00am-3:00pm (Labor Day to Memorial Day)

Open Monday – Saturday, 9:00am – 3:00pm (Memorial Day to Labor Day)

## 7. **Is there a maximum number of people 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!

**8. I have participants 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.

**9. 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.

**10. Will tour facilitators and bus/van drivers be required to pay for programs?**

Yes; program prices are per person for everyone attending.