

# GROUP TOURS





## HISTORIC ST. MARY'S CITY

### PHYSICAL ADDRESS

Visitor Center  
18751 Hogaboom Lane  
St. Mary's City, MD 20686

### CONTACT

Public Programs office  
 [hsmcc.groups@maryland.gov](mailto:hsmcc.groups@maryland.gov)  
 301-994-4371 / 4372

## HISTORIC ST. MARY'S CITY

Historic St. Mary's City is a National Historic Landmark, a uniquely well-preserved archaeological record of more than 10,000 years of human occupation – including archaeological artifacts left by native peoples and European colonists. Today, the site is home to a living history museum that engages both students and the general public in educational programs through novel and exciting ways, encouraging people of all ages to connect the past with their contemporary lives.

Contact Public Programs

301-994-4371 / 4372

[hsmcc.groups@maryland.gov](mailto:hsmcc.groups@maryland.gov)

# GENERAL INFORMATION

Guided tours have been designed for all ages, this includes adults as well as youth groups.

A guided walking tour typically takes between two to four hours and can include visits to any or all of our indoor or outdoor exhibits. Tours can be tailored to meet your group's needs.



## ACCESSIBILITY

Historic St. Mary's City is committed to complying with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regarding access for all. If there is anyone in your group who may need special assistance, please contact the Public Programs office prior to your tour.

301-994-4371 / 4372

Email [hsmcc.groups@maryland.gov](mailto:hsmcc.groups@maryland.gov)



# RESERVATIONS

Group tours can be reserved through either a phone call or email to HSMC Public Programs office.

## RESERVATION REQUEST

Tours are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. It is recommended tours be scheduled at least four weeks in advance.

**TOUR REQUEST FORMS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE**

[www.hsmcdigshistory.org/the-experience/plan-a-tour/](http://www.hsmcdigshistory.org/the-experience/plan-a-tour/)

## DOWNLOAD THE FORM

Our reservation request form allows you to choose 3 possible dates.

Fill out the form and email to [hsmcc.groups@maryland.gov](mailto:hsmcc.groups@maryland.gov)

## CALL TO RESERVE

Tours are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. It is recommended tours be scheduled at least four weeks in advance.

**TOURS MAY BE SCHEDULED BY CALLING THE PUBLIC PROGRAMS OFFICE**

301-994-4371 / 4372

## CONFIRMATION

You will receive an email confirming dates and details of your field trip

## PAYMENT

No payment is required until the day of your tour.

You will need to make a full payment when you check-in.

HSMC accepts cash, credit card, and check. Please make checks payable to *Historic St. Mary's City*.

## CANCELLATIONS OR CHANGES

To cancel or make changes to your reservation, call 301-994-4371 / 4372.

Historic St. Mary's City will only issue refunds of \$20 or more.

# GROUP TOUR RATES

**Guided Tour . . . . . \$13/person  
(10 person minimum)**

**Guided Tour (Youth).....\$7/youth**

**Self-Guided Tour . . . . \$8/person  
(10 person minimum)**


## **General Admission**

**(all groups under 10 people are self-guided):**

**Adults . . . . . \$10**

**Seniors . . . . . \$9**

- For group tours, bus drivers and the tour leader are free.
- If groups under 10 people would like to receive a guided tour, they must pay for any additional tickets to meet the requirement of 10.



TOUR  
OPTIONS

# STATE & CHURCH

*Approximately 2 hours*

Discover remarkable facts about Maryland's founding as groups explore the re-created colonial settlement. Visit the State House, Brick Chapel, Town Center, and museum shop.

*Appropriate for age 13 and older*



## STATE HOUSE

Explore the reconstructed brick State House, erected in 1934, and delve into Maryland's colonial government history. Discover the initial capital before its relocation to Annapolis.



## BRICK CHAPEL

Explore the reconstructed brick chapel, delve into topics such as religious toleration, persecution, and architecture, and visit the exhibit showcasing rare lead coffins found through archaeology.



## TOWN CENTER

Explore the variety of businesses that thrived in St. Mary's City during the 1600s and delve into how this information has been uncovered – through archaeology and extensive research.

# REDISCOVERING THE PAST

*Approximately 3.5 hours*

Tour the Visitor Center, St. John's Site Museum, Town Center, and Brick Chapel to discover how historians and archaeologists piece together stories of the past.

*Appropriate for age 13 and older*



## **ST. JOHN'S SITE**

Visit a contemporary archaeological exhibition situated above an active dig site. St. John's offers visitors a comprehensive overview of one of colonial Maryland's pivotal locations, highlighting how archaeological endeavors contribute to unraveling the historical narrative.



## **BRICK CHAPEL**

Explore the reconstructed brick chapel, delve into topics such as religious toleration, persecution, and architecture, and visit the exhibit showcasing rare lead coffins found through archaeology.



## **TOWN CENTER**

Explore the variety of businesses that thrived in St. Mary's City during the 1600s and delve into how this information has been uncovered – through archaeology and extensive research.





# EXPLORING THE PAST

*Approximately 2 hours*

Learn of colonial Maryland history throughout the 1600s, comparing and contrasting different groups of people living in Maryland at the time of and after the point of contact, religious and political history at Maryland's first capital, the tobacco economy, distinctions between indentured servants and enslaved peoples, and the development of the institution of slavery throughout this period.

*Appropriate for 14 and older*

# HISTORIC HIGHLIGHTS

*Approximately 3.5 hours*

Explore Historic St. Mary's City's four living history areas (Godiah Spray Tobacco Plantation, Maryland Dove, Town Center, and Woodland Indian Hamlet) and learn about one of the best preserved archaeological sites.

*Appropriate for all ages*



## WOODLAND INDIAN HAMLET

Learn of the Yaocomaco people and other neighboring tribes. Join HSMC staff in learning of the fundamental skills necessary for the creation and administration of a small village.



## TOBACCO PLANTATION

Experience a glimpse into the daily life of a Tobacco Plantation in the 1600s. Explore religious toleration and the Chesapeake tobacco trade economy as you step back in time.



## TOWN CENTER

Explore the variety of businesses that thrived in St. Mary's City during the 1600s and delve into how this information has been uncovered – through archaeology and extensive research.



## WATERFRONT

Discover the journey to Maryland, colonial maritime trade, the daily life aboard ships, and the 17th-century navigation technology that enabled sailors to traverse the Atlantic Ocean.

# TOURS FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN



## PUSS IN BOOTS

*Approximately 1 hour*

Tag along with Puss, the cat, on an adventure through the Plantation! Learn colonial objects and vocabulary during this immersive storytelling tour.

*Appropriate for ages 3 to 5*

## COMING TO AMERICA

*Approximately 1 hour*

Pack your bags and travel back in time as an early colonist. Using hands-on activities, students will discover the journey and arrival of the many people who came to Maryland in search of a better life.

Learn colonial games, the importance of simple machinery to help sailors do their jobs, and much more!

*Appropriate for ages 3 to 5*



# CREATE YOUR OWN TOUR!

*HSMC Public Programs will work with you to help curate your tour experience.*

*To add an exhibit to a guided tour or create your own please call 301-994-4371 / 4372 or email [hsmcc.groups@maryland.gov](mailto:hsmcc.groups@maryland.gov).*

## **Woodland Indian Hamlet**

A series of structures representing what may have been a small village of the Yaocomaco, the tribe living in the area in 1634.

## **Town Center**

Reconstructed buildings on their original foundations. Guests can discover the stories and people of the city, from innkeeper or storehouse owner to the first female printer in the southern colonies.

## **Godiah Spray Tobacco Plantation**

A recreated tobacco farm that shows everyday life, livestock, and objects from the 1600s.

## **Waterfront**

Features a representation of a 17th-century cargo ship. Visitors may step on board and learn about navigational tools, life at sea, and maritime technologies. More info on *Maryland Dove* can be found on [www.MarylandDove.org](http://www.MarylandDove.org)

## **St. John's Site Museum**

This indoor site (with unexcavated remains left for public viewing) tells the story of a structure, and it's change of use over time.

## **Brick Chapel (ca. 1667)**

Sitting on its original foundation, the chapel stands as a symbol of religious freedom.

## **St. Mary's Fort**

With the archaeological remains discovered in 2019, St. Mary's Fort of 1634 is an ongoing excavation, with the potential to unearth new information about Maryland's pre-colonial and early colonial past.

## **Struggle for Freedom Exhibit**

Housed inside a duplex quarter built in the 1840s, the exhibit tells the story of three generations, through enslavement, emancipation and the struggle of a tenant farmer in the early 20th century.



# SCOUTS

*Historic St. Mary's City offers many ways for BSA and Girl Scouts to fulfill their badge requirements.*



While visiting the museum, scouts have the opportunity to earn and learn by:

- participating in discussions
- receiving instruction
- hands-on activities



All programs are designed to support and align with badge requirements and can also be tailored to meet the needs of your individual troop.

Programs are guided by museum staff and include exploration of the museum's living history exhibits.



## **Service Projects**

Historic St. Mary's City will work with your scouts to complete their service project requirements. From trail maintenance, woodworking, to assisting with events, the museum invites your scouts to help

**For more information on  
scout programs, contact the  
Public Programs office**

# Museum Map

## LIVING HISTORY EXHIBITS

Woodland Indian Hamlet

Tobacco Plantation

Town Center

Waterfront

## ADDITIONAL EXHIBITS

Brick Chapel

State House

St. John's Site Museum

Struggle for Freedom Exhibit



# General Information

## PREPARING FOR WEATHER

HSMC is an outdoor living history museum, with tours requiring walking and being outside. Please dress appropriately for the weather. Tours proceed rain or shine.

\*Extreme weather conditions may necessitate the closure of the *Maryland Dove*.

## ACCESSIBILITY

Most outdoor areas at Historic St. Mary's City are wheelchair and stroller accessible.

- *Maryland Dove* main deck is accessible. The cargo hold is not.
- The main house of the Tobacco Plantation is not accessible.
- The second floor of the State House is not accessible.
- Print text and images will be provided.

Historic St. Mary's City offers a **social narrative** to help ease the experience.

People-movers or special access points for groups with mobility issues can be pre-arranged. Contact 301-994-4371/4372 or email [hsmcc.groups@maryland.gov](mailto:hsmcc.groups@maryland.gov) for more information.

## ON-SITE DINING

Groups are welcome to bring bag lunches. Covered picnic tables are available.

**Catering is available** through St. Mary's College of Maryland's *Bon Appetite*.

*Contact:* David Sansotta (240) 895-3963.

## VEHICLE USE

Your vehicles will be needed the entire time to transport your group between historical area. It is recommended this information is shared with your bus company.