

Troop 485 – Yorktown Trip – December 14-16, 2007

Leave Jacksonville @ 4:30 PM 12/14/2007 and return around 4 PM on 12/16/2007



Charleston Harbor, Patriots Point is home to the carrier USS Yorktown, the destroyer USS Laffey, the Coast Guard Cutter Ingham, and the submarine USS Clamagore. Onboard Yorktown are dozens of displays devoted to maritime and naval history, the Congressional Medal of Honor Society's museum and headquarters, and more than two dozen historic military aircraft are on exhibit. Ashore is a full-size Navy Advance Tactical Support Base from the Vietnam era, and our gift shop. The weekend we are camping, there will be more that 500 scouts aboard.

USS YORKTOWN (CV-10) was commissioned on April 15, 1943, "The Fighting Lady" was named for USS YORKTOWN (CV-5), sunk at Midway. She played a leading part in the war in the Pacific, receiving a Presidential Unit Citation and 11 battle stars for her service in World War II. Naval aircraft launched from her flight deck helped sink the largest battleship ever built, the Imperial Japanese Navy's Yamato. Converted for jet use by the addition of an angled flight deck in 1955, she served as an anti-submarine carrier in Vietnam.

Onboard the decks of this famous World War II aircraft carrier, you can relive a momentous time in America's history. The Fighting Lady contains all the evidence of her past; one can see, touch, feel and smell the past, where young Americans fought and died to turn the fortunes of war in the Pacific.

Before she was decommissioned in 1970, YORKTOWN also played a historic role in the space program, recovering the crew of Apollo 8, the first manned mission to orbit the moon in 1968.

Moored next to the Yorktown is the **USS LAFFEY (DD-724)**, a World War II destroyer. The destroyer LAFFEY, commissioned on February 8, 1944, participated in the D-Day landings of Allied troops at Normandy four months later. Transferred to the Pacific, she was attacked by 22 Japanese planes and hit by 4 bombs and 6 kamikazes during a single hour in combat off Okinawa on April 16, 1945. Her gallant crew not only kept her afloat, but managed to shoot down 11 planes during the attack. She became known as "the ship that wouldn't die."

After World War II, the LAFHEY served during Korea and then in the Atlantic until she was decommissioned in 1975. She received five battle stars for World War II service and two battle stars for Korean service.

Aboard the LAFHEY you can see the bridge, battle stations and living quarters as well as exhibits of memorabilia and memorials to the destroyer men of World War II.

Also moored alongside is the United States Coast Guard cutter *INGHAM* (WHEC-35), which fought in the convoy battles of the North Atlantic and sunk the Nazi submarine U-626.

The Coast Guard Cutter INGHAM was one of the most decorated vessels in U. S. service, having received 18 ribbons during a 50 years career. Well after the war ended, she continued her tradition of service, receiving two Presidential Unit Citations for duty off Vietnam and ending her career with major victories in the "War Against Drugs".

Aboard USCGC INGHAM you can visit exhibits illustrating life aboard a Coast Guard vessel, as well as other historical exhibits and the National Memorial to Coast Guardsmen Lost during World War II and Vietnam.

USS CLAMAGORE was commissioned on June 28, 1945, as the war in the Pacific was drawing to a close. Based at Charleston for much of her career, she cruised Atlantic and Mediterranean waters for nearly thirty years, including critical patrols at the height of the Cuban missile crisis in 1962. Twice modified from her original World War II configuration, Clamagore continued in service as one of the U. S. Navy's last diesel-powered submarines until decommissioned in 1975.

Aboard the Clamagore, it is easy to visualize what it was like to live onboard a submarine, visit her control room, crew's berthing and mess areas, engine rooms, maneuvering room and a memorial to submariners lost at sea.

During Vietnam U. S. Navy and Marine units not only flew aerial missions from offshore carriers, but also established small naval patrol boats to conduct and support combat operations within South Vietnam's extensive inland river system. A full-scale reconstruction of a typical *Navy Advance Tactical Support Base (ATSB)* commemorates this service.

At the Vietnam Advance Tactical Support Base you can visit living quarters, an ammunition bunker, the combat information center, a 24-foot high gun and observation tower as well as a display of Allied and Communist weaponry and military vehicles of the era, including jeeps, helicopters and a 31-foot River Patrol Boat.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is included? The cost includes Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and Sunday Breakfast. In addition this covers the Charleston Ghost tour and entrance to all ships and movies at Patriots Point. The scout will need a sack lunch and drink for Friday evening. The Troop will provide Sunday lunch.

What do we have to bring with us? Patriots Point provides a bare mattress on the bunk. You provide for your sleeping and personal hygiene needs beyond that. We recommend that each person bring a sleeping bag (some opt for sheets, blankets, etc. You choose), pillow, soap, towel, and other personal items. The sleeping areas are heated, but the remainder of the boat is not. Dress appropriately. Flashlights are not required. Be sure to bring a camera. Group lockers are provided. The Troop should provide enough locks to protect valuables.

Transportation of Gear: Due to very restricted parking space on the pier, troops are required to transport their luggage from the parking area down the 600 foot pier to the Yorktown.

Schedule: There is a middle-of-the-road approach to the schedule. You will have time to view the exhibits on our ships, but not to be regimented every minute of your visit. There is a structured “Plan of the Day” around the aviation class, meals, movie, Fire Drill, Historic Trails Program, Fort Sumter Boat Schedule and the Sunday Church Service. The Saturday meals are normally served at 7-8 AM and 5:30-6:30 PM. Sunday breakfast is served at 7 A.M. The Box Lunch is available between 10 AM and 2 PM. The movie “The Fighting Lady” is shown to the general public at 10 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM, and 4 PM in the ship’s 240-seat theater. The Fort Sumter Tour Boat has seasonal variations. The Sunday Church Service is held at 8:15 AM in the Ship’s Theater. The Service is Christian Oriented and lasts about 30 minutes. An offering is part of the service.

Snack Bar and Vending Machines: The Snack Bar and Vending Machines are available on the Yorktown, the pier, and near the Gift Shop/Ticket Booth building. The Snack Bar is open from 9 AM to 5 PM. There are no dollar change machines, but all of the vending machines accept dollar bills. You might bring extra change in quarters.

Berthing (Sleeping) Quarters: There are no “family” accommodations. The males sleep in the Boy Scout areas and the females sleep in the Girl Scout areas. You are requested to respect the privacy of others and use only your assigned berthing area and not visit other berthing areas.

Regular and Emergency Phone Numbers: The main Patriots Point number is (843) 884-2727. The Camping Office number is 1-800-248-3508 Monday through Friday 8 AM to 4:30 PM. Emergency or after hours is (843) 860-2345. This is a cellular phone and is answered 24 hours a day by a Public Safety Officer.

Example Plan of the Day

FRIDAY

8:00 PM Movie "TORA! TORA! TORA!" in ships theater.
9:45 PM Troops assemble in assigned berthing quarters.
10:00 PM **MANDATORY FIRE DRILL**. Complete cooperation is expected.
10:55 PM Tattoo.
11:00 PM Taps. Camping Staff inspects all berthing quarters.

SATURDAY

6:20 AM Reveille. Coffee Mess in Scout Duty Office.
6:45 AM Meal Call - assemble by troop in front of large US Flag.
7:00 AM Enter CPO Mess.
8:30 AM Ship Store opens in the Pavilion at the head of the pier.
9:00 AM Clamagore, Ingham, Laffey opens to public. Snack Bar opens.
11:00 AM **Aviation Class** – meets in the Smokey Stover theater following the movie.
1:00 PM **Aviation Class** – meets in the Smokey Stover theater following the movie.
1:30 PM **Fort Sumter** Tour Boat departs Patriots Point.
6:10 PM Meal Call **A** - assemble by troop in front of large US Flag.
6:20 PM Enter CPO Mess.
6:35 PM Meal Call **B** - assemble by troop in front of large US Flag.
6:45 PM Enter CPO Mess.
7:15 PM Aviation Video – 'The Blue Angels – Bringing Naval Aviation Home'.
7:30 PM **Historic Trails Program in ship's theater**.
8:45 PM **MANDATORY FIRE DRILL**
9:15 PM Movie "The Fighting Lady" in ship's theater.
10:55 PM Tattoo.
11:00 PM Taps. Camping Staff inspects all berthing quarters.

SUNDAY

6:20 AM Reveille. Coffee mess in Scout Duty Office.
6:45 AM Meal Call **A** – assemble by troop in front of large US Flag.
6:55 AM Enter CPO Mess.
7:05 AM Meal Call **B** – assemble by troop in front of large US Flag.
7:20 AM Enter CPO Mess.
8:10 AM Church Call.
8:20 AM Church Service begins in the ships theater. Silence to be maintained on deck.
9:00 AM Shipstore opens in the Pavilion at the head of the pier.
9:00 AM Clamagore, Ingham, Laffey open to the public. Snack Bar opens.
10:45 AM **Fort Sumter** Tour Boat departs Patriots Point.
1:00 PM Patriots Point Custodial Staff cleans berthing quarters.