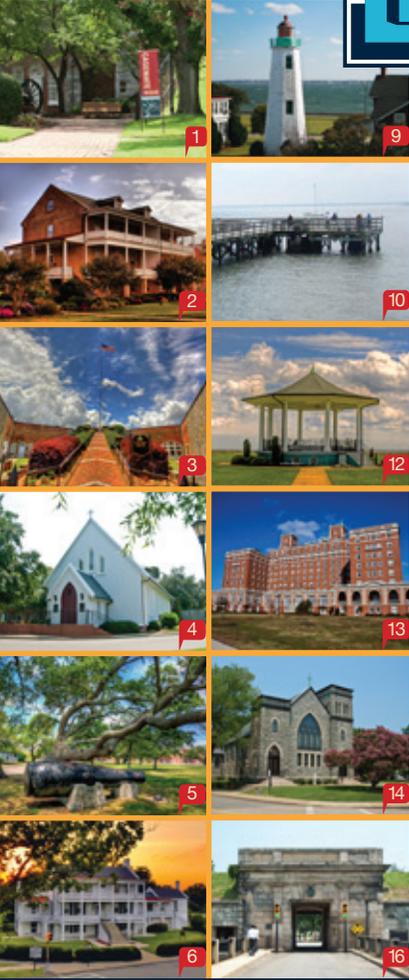
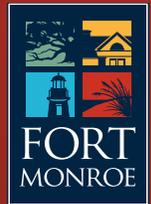


Walking Tour Guide



TOUR INFORMATION

The sites identified are within easy walking distance of each other. At a leisurely pace, the entire tour takes about 90 minutes. Several sites on the tour are located in residential areas or near offices. Please respect the occupants' privacy and work environment.



ABOUT FORT MONROE

Completed in 1834, Fort Monroe is the largest stone fort built in the United States. The location was vital to the coastal defense of the Chesapeake Bay for hundreds of years. On November 1, 2011, President Obama designated Fort Monroe as a National Monument. Today, the Fort Monroe Authority (Commonwealth of Virginia), the National Park Service, and the City of Hampton share responsibility for the interpretation, preservation, and protection of the land, buildings, and recreational activities offered to the public.



1 THE CASEMATE MUSEUM

Located within the fort's walls, the museum contains a chronological history of Old Point Comfort and Fort Monroe. A casemate is a room within the wall of a fort used for a variety of purposes including gun emplacements and living quarters.

2 LEE'S QUARTERS

Quarters #17, constructed in 1823 served as quarters for young Lt. Robert E. Lee and his wife, Mary Custis Lee. Lee was responsible for directing large engineering projects during the fort's construction. The Lee's first son, Custis, was born on September 16, 1832.

3 FLAGSTAFF BASTION

This site offers a commanding view of Hampton Roads, one of the largest natural harbors in the world. The flag has been a welcoming symbol to mariners since the fort's early days.

4 CHAPEL OF THE CENTURION

Dedicated in 1858, the Chapel of the Centurion was designed by noted architect, Richard Upjohn. The chapel was named for the Roman Centurion Cornelius, the first gentile converted to Christianity. An active congregation remains.

5 LINCOLN GUN

Cast in 1860 and named for President Lincoln in 1862, it was the first 15-inch Rodman gun ever made.

6 QUARTERS #1

Constructed in 1819, this building is the oldest house inside the moat. It originally served as the constructing engineer's quarters and, later, the commanding officer's quarters. Famous visitors include Marquis de Lafayette, Generals Grant and Sherman, and Presidents Lincoln, Garfield, and Hayes.

7 WATER BATTERY

Completed by 1821, the water battery was a series of casemates housing 42 cannon that supplemented the fort's original defenses. Only the powder magazine remains.

8 ENDICOTT ERA BATTERIES Battery Parrott and Battery Irwin

Completed in 1905, Battery Parrott originally held two 12-inch disappearing guns. The 90mm anti-aircraft gun seen here was installed in 1976.

From 1902 to 1920, Battery Irwin held four 3-inch rapid-fire guns. In 1946, two 3-inch guns were moved from Fort Wool and installed here as a salute battery.

9 OLD POINT COMFORT LIGHTHOUSE

The Old Point Comfort Lighthouse was constructed in 1802 and designed by Elzy Burroughs, a native Virginian. It is the oldest continually active lighthouse along the Chesapeake Bay and is maintained by the United States Coast Guard.

10 ENGINEER WHARF

The original wharf was built in 1818 to receive construction materials for Fort Monroe. It is open to the public for sightseeing and fishing from dawn until dusk.

11 FIRST AFRICANS IN VIRGINIA - STATE HISTORICAL MARKER

The first Africans brought to English North America arrived at Old Point Comfort in 1619 aboard the ship *White Lion*.

12 THE BANDSTAND/ CONTINENTAL PARK

Built in 1934 by Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and Work Progress Administration (WPA) laborers, the Bandstand, located in Continental Park, was originally designed for the 40-member, 2nd Coast Artillery Band. The first concert was held on April 7, 1934.

13 THE CHAMBERLIN (second Chamberlin hotel)

Constructed in 1928, this building replaced the original 1896 Chamberlin Hotel (pictured), which was destroyed by a fire in 1920. Today, the Chamberlin is an active senior living community.

14 SAINT MARY STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH

Built in 1903, this building replaced the original 1860 church structure. The two original steeples have since been removed. An active congregation remains.

15 FORT MONROE ARSENAL

Built in 1860, on the eve of the American Civil War, the arsenal produced gun carriages and stored weapons and ammunition.

16 THE MAIN GATE

Constructed in 1820, the Main Gate was the first portion of the fort to be completed. On May 23, 1861, three enslaved men escaped from Norfolk and sought freedom with the Union Army at Fort Monroe. The following day, Major General Benjamin Butler declared them "contraband of war," not to be returned. Thousands of enslaved people would come to find freedom at Fort Monroe during the Civil War, earning it the name "Freedom's Fortress."