



## ST. AUGUSTINE LIGHTHOUSE & MARITIME MUSEUM

### ST. AUGUSTINE LIGHTHOUSE & MARITIME MUSEUM ACCESSIBILITY POLICIES

The St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum is recognized and listed in the National Register of Historical Places. As such, our location throughout the years has been historically preserved to protect the original fabric and the historical significance of our buildings and light station. Given these requirements, we have made every effort to make as much of the site and activities accessible to a wide variety of needs and audiences. Please read below for more information.

#### CHILDREN

For their safety children must be at least 44 inches tall to climb the tower and must be able to do so under their own power.

- Carrying children in the lighthouse tower is prohibited.
- Children under the height requirement have free admission, and one accompanying adult receives half-price admission.
- Baby changing tables are provided in restrooms

#### PETS & SERVICE ANIMALS

- Carrying pets in the Lighthouse Tower is prohibited.
- For their safety and the safety of others, service animals (defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities) are permitted in the base of the lighthouse tower, Keepers' Office, and Oil Storage room, the weight well and rotunda, but are prohibited from climbing the cast iron steps to the top of the tower due to space limitations on the stairs and observation gallery which would endanger the safety of the service animal, the animal's owner/handler, and other guests in the tower.
- Service animals are welcome in all other buildings on the lighthouse grounds.
- Emotional support animals and pets are welcome on the lighthouse grounds but are prohibited from historic buildings including the lighthouse tower. Emotional support animals whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals.
- Please do not leave any animals in a vehicle.
- All animals should be on a leash, well-behaved, and under full control of the owner.
- Owners of any animals that are not in control of their pet, or if the pet is causing a disturbance, will be asked to remove the animal from the property.

**ADA: DISABILITY ACCESSIBILITY NOTE:** The Lighthouse is a historic site and certain areas are accessible only by stairs, including the lighthouse tower.

- All public restrooms are wheelchair accessible, as are several exhibit areas.
- Accessible parking is available with wheelchair ramp access to the Visitors' Center.
- Once inside the Center, an orientation exhibit begins the lighthouse experience.
- An alternative short entrance path is available from the accessible parking to the historic grounds. Museum staff will open the gate upon request.
- A wheelchair ramp provides access to the ground floor of the Keepers' House containing exhibits, and also has a video that shows exhibits in the basement.

- Upon request, staff will open the emergency exit door to access the Keepers' House basement, a six-step stairway alternative, to the spiral staircase inside the dwelling. Stairs lead up to the second floor of the Keepers' House. In case of temporary exhibits, complimentary materials are available for consultation by those who cannot climb the stairs.
- A "View from the Top" video is available to those unable to climb the tower in the ADA-accessible Maritime Education Center, which houses exhibits where guests can learn about the St. Augustine Lighthouse, see a ship model display, a puppet theater and hands-on activities for children.
- The ADA-accessible archaeology viewing lab is connected to the Maritime Education Center.
- Five steps equipped with handrails access the Oil House containing the Keepers' Office and Oil Storage Room that is adjacent to the lighthouse tower.
- An additional twelve granite steps equipped with handrails access the base of the tower and the view of the magnificent spiral stairway leading to the top of the tower.
- A large-print, self-guided walking tour map with sensory icons to further guide you as you plan your visit is available at the Visitors' Center.
- Handouts are available in English, Spanish and French languages.

#### **PUBLIC PROGRAMS AND EVENTS: DISABILITY**

Public Programs and Events are held all over the historic site and in the historic buildings.

- Museum staff regularly make special accommodations for disabled individuals. Some events may be live streamed, or others may be moved to an outside location, depending on the needs and size of your group.

If you have special access needs and would like to attend an event, then please call ahead at 904 829-0745 or email [info@staugustinelighthouse.org](mailto:info@staugustinelighthouse.org) to reach a person who can help meet your needs.

The St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum, its programs or activities do not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission, access, or employment. If you have special needs, please contact us by email or phone. For other needs please email [info@staugustinelighthouse.org](mailto:info@staugustinelighthouse.org).

For employment issues contact [mcorlieto@staugustinelighthouse.org](mailto:mcorlieto@staugustinelighthouse.org). You may also call 904 829-0745, ext. 215 for the Executive Director, Kathy A. Fleming.