PORT ROYAL,
SOUTH CAROLINA

CYPRESS
WETLANDS
&
HISTORIC
PLACES

Tour Guide and Map
The wetlands support abundant populations of native wildlife. The forests, fresh and saltwater marshes, cypress swamps, and ponds provide habitat for a diverse community, including over two hundred species of birds. The tall trees of the forest provide foraging and nesting habitats for eight species of woodpecker, and the thorny vines in the small bushes are perfect for the state bird, the Carolina Wren. There are 25 or more species of geese, ducks, mergansers, scoters and other migratory waterfowl. The highest species diversity can be seen in the winter. Several species of wading birds including Egrets and herons can be seen nesting in our Rookery as well.
Diverse species of turtles, lizards and snakes can also be spotted if you look carefully along the trail. The most common are green anoles, lines and ground skinks, and non-poisonous snakes such as king rat and garter.
Port Royal predates Jamestown by 45 years and St. Augustine by three years. Our town lies on Port Royal Island, and boasts the only public shrimp dock in South Carolina.

Jean Ribaut established a French colony on Parris Island in 1562 and named the region Port Royal. Since that time, Port Royal has been ruled under seven flags: French, Spanish, English, Scottish, Confederate, USA and South Carolina.

Fort Frederick was constructed between the years of 1731 and 1734. The fort was named after the eldest son of King George II. Completed on January 24, 1734 the walls were 5 feet high and 5 feet thick at the top. By 1758 Fort Lyttleton was considered to replace Fort Frederick.

When it was incorporated on March 9, 1874, Port Royal boasted the largest cotton compressor in the world. A trade in phosphate and lumber brought hundreds of ships to the harbor. The Port Royal Railroad connected the town to Augusta, Georgia, which hoped to emerge as the next Atlanta after the civil war. The names of the avenues, Paris, London, Richmond, Madrid, Columbia and Edinburgh, are from the Capitols of the countries whose flags have flown over Port Royal.

In 1903 an oyster cannery was established in Port Royal. The state’s first shrimp docks and packinghouse soon followed it. By 1940 state of the art crab cannery had moved into the town. World War II brought military activity to neighboring Parris Island. The town of Port Royal rode high on a wave of prosperity as the area filled with wartime workers.

In 1959, the South Carolina State Ports Authority re-commissioned the Port, and by the 1990s Port Royal had become one of the most desirable areas of Beaufort County to live in, thanks to its neo-traditional developments, progressive leadership, and commitment to the arts.
For more historical and architectural information, as well as additional pictures, please visit our website

www.portroyalhistory.org/walking-tours
1. Carpenter’s Hall • 933 Paris Ave. This commercial building was built in 1880 at the corner of 7th St. and Paris Ave. In 1996 it was moved to its current location.

2. 709 Paris Ave. This Folk style commercial building was built in 1880.

3. Town Hall - 700 Paris Ave. During the week, the building is open between the hours of 8:30 to 5:00. There are public restrooms located inside and free WI-FI service is available here.

4. Appleton/Metcalf Store - 703 Paris Ave. was built by the Appleton family in 1866 and now serves as a commercial building.

5. The Customs House - 610 Paris Ave. was constructed around 1838. Robert Smalls worked here when he was the U.S. Collector of Customs.

6. The Port of Port Royal - End of Paris Ave. was closed by the SC State Ports Authority in 2003. This site is planned for a Commercial & Residential redevelopment effort.

7. The Sands - End of Sands Beach Rd. The Sands provide public access to the waters surrounding Port Royal. Here there is a boardwalk and observation tower overlooking Battery Creek.

8. F.W. Scheper Sr. House - 906 8th St. was built in 1900 by F. W. Scheper Sr. and then left to his son F. W. Scheper Jr. In 1998, a new generation of Schepers purchased and renovated the home.

9. Scheper’s Store - 918 8th St. was built in 1885 and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

10. The Eichberg House - 931 9th St. was built for Alfred S. Eichberg a prominent and famous architect from Atlanta and Savannah in 1891.
11. The Appleton House - 923 9th St.建成于1873年，这是镇上最古老的房屋。

12. 906 9th St. 建于1915年，这种Shotgun式住宅。这种房子是时代作为普通工人的居所。

13. The E.A. Scheper House - 917 9th St. 由J.C. Mardenlon于1885年建造，他来到Port Royal采矿。

14. 904 9th St. 这座1910年左右建成的Shotgun风格的1层房子，这种房子是时代作为普通工人的居所。

15. The Port Royal Buoy - London Ave & 9th St. 这个浮标被用作Port Royal Sound的导航工具。

16. The Harter Houses - 903 & 909 London Ave. 这些Folk风格的房子于1920年建成。它们原本是相同的。

17. 1003 London Ave. 于1895年建成。

18. Tea House - 816 11th St. 由H. R. Walker于1900年在Augusta, Georgia购买两块土地后为Port Royal Company购买的$237.25。

19. Gullah Monument - Richmond Ave. & 11th St. Gullah纪念碑象征着被带到这个区域的非洲人的贡献。

20. Art Deco House - 1206 Richmond Ave. 这座两层楼的住宅于1952年建成，是Port Royal唯一的Art Deco建筑。

21. Duck Blinds - Richmond Ave. and 12th St. 是一个以鹈鹕鸟窝为中心的近期发展。

22. Cypress Wetlands - 14th St. between Richmond and London Ave. 在Lower Cypress Wetlands，沿着木板路前往看看 Cypress沼泽。
23. Live Oak Park/Oyster Shed - London Ave. & 14th St. Many Town and social events are held here.

24. Port Royal Elementary School - 1214 Paris Ave. was built in 1911, began as a two-story brick building housing six grades in two rooms with a library consisting of 3 bookcases.

25. The Jernigan House - 1203 Paris Ave. was built in 1887 by Jules Jernigan, who moved from Georgia to Port Royal as an engineer on the Port Royal Rail Road.

26. 1115 14th St. is a rectangular 2 story frame dwelling, built in 1910.

27. Friends of Caroline Hospice - 1110 13th St. This Folk style L-shaped house from 1900 is now the headquarters of The Friends of Caroline Hospice.

28. Edmunds Boarding House - 1102 11th St. was built in 1895. It is now known as the Kirkland’s Boarding House.

29. Shrimp Docks/Blue Channel Corp. End of 11th St. This was the site of the Blue Channel Corporation, one of the major blue crab canneries in the US. in the State.

30. The Union Church - 1004 11th St. was completed in 1878 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. A museum is located inside run by the local Historic Foundation.

31. 1103 Paris Ave. This house was built in 1920.

32. Anchor Park The anchor here was recovered off the entrance to Port Royal Sound and is believed to be from circa 1850. Park is dedicated to all seafarer’s past and present.

33. 15th St. Wetland Please see reverse side of map for a description of the Cypress Wetlands

34. The Sands Observation Tower Follow the boardwalk to the tower and climb the stairs to the top and you will see breathtaking views of the Beaufort River and possibly a pod of dolphins swimming by!
A Day at the Farmer’s Market

One of the many street fairs and festivals that go on year-round in Port Royal

Shrimp boats along the docks

The Sands Beach
The trail offers several examples of Indigenous plants and trees that help to accommodate the wildlife that calls the trail home. The landscape changes with the seasons and provides a colorful display in the spring and summer months.
Storm Water Management in the Wetlands

Storm water is the water not absorbed into the ground during and after rain storms, which then flows over the land into nearby waters. Storm water runs off from the streets, buildings, and lawns, and drains into the wetlands through culverts and natural waterways.

In this watershed, the water flows from the north to south through a series of wetlands, ponds, and the culverts to the Beaufort Rivers and into the Port Royal Sound. To restore the watershed, the town of Port Royal installed pipes to connect wetlands that had been isolated by road construction, allowing more natural drainage conditions. To help nature improve the flood control water levels at each pond’s inlet and outlet.

The series of wetlands provide natural storm water capture, retention, and treatment over the days that it takes the water to flow through the system. This improves the quality of the water that drains to the river and Port Royal Sound by trapping pollution, sediments, and excess nutrients. In turn, the habitats, fish and wildlife, shellfish beds, and ecosystems downstream also benefit.