

Printable Self-Guided Walking Tour Checklist – Fort Sumter

Use this checklist to guide your **Self-Guided Walking Tour of Fort Sumter**. We like printing this out and checking off each stop as we go—it helps keep the visit relaxed and organized while still allowing time to explore.

Fort Sumter Walking Tour Stops

<p><input type="checkbox"/> Stop 1: Sally Port (Main Entrance) Walk through the main entrance and note how the fort’s layout begins to unfold.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Stop 2: Left-Flank Gunrooms (Casemates) Explore the two-tiered casemates and imagine the cannons positioned inside.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Stop 3: Enlisted Men’s Barracks Ruins Picture daily life for soldiers living in tight quarters.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Stop 4: The Gorge (Back Wall) See the heaviest battle damage from the long siege.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Officers’ Quarters Ruins Look for the tilted archway from the 1863 explosion and reflect on the surrender site.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Stop 5: Union Garrison Monument Pause at the granite monument honoring Union troops.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Stop 6: Parade Ground (Center of the Fort) Stand in what was once the busy heart of Fort Sumter.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Stop 7: Left-Face Casemate Ruins & Artillery Display Search the walls for embedded projectiles and view the large Rodman guns.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Stop 8: Right Face See the Parrott rifles once used against the fort, later turned into defenses.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Stop 9: Right Flank & Atlantic View Visit the firing location of the first Union shot of the Civil War.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Stop 10: Mountain Howitzer Find the smaller, mobile cannon used for close-range defense.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Stop 11: Original Front Door Area Imagine the promenade and wharf where visitors once arrived by boat.</p>
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What to Bring for Your Fort Sumter Visit

- Comfortable walking shoes (uneven brick and gravel surfaces)
- Water bottle (no concessions on the island)
- Sun protection (hat, sunscreen, sunglasses)
- Weather-appropriate clothing (wind can be strong)
- Camera or phone for photos
- Printed checklist or downloaded notes
- NPS App downloaded in advance for offline audio tour and map

Quick Tip: There’s very little shade on the island, and you’ll be walking on historic ruins. Take your time, move carefully, and allow at least **60–90 minutes** to fully enjoy this self-guided walking tour.

Happy exploring!