



## MOTORCOACH GROUP TOUR FAQ's

### **How do I book my group reservation?**

Reservations are required in advance to enjoy a group discount rate. To book a motorcoach group tour, please fill out a Motorcoach Group Tour Scheduling Request Form. A final group count and a \$50.00 non-refundable deposit is due five business days in advance. Payment in full is required upon or prior to arrival.

If you are making a reservation with less than one week before the visit date, please call us directly at (601) 576-6000.

### **What are the types of Tours offered at the Museum?**

**Tours are offered Monday – Friday, based on availability.** Your group may choose a self-guided general tour or a staff-guided general tour. We also offer additional program opportunities. Please arrive at the Museum 15 minutes prior to tour time. Tours can be adapted to special needs. Please call 601-576-6000 and ask for Group Sales to make arrangements.

- **Museum Overview Video (8 minutes):** Take a walk on the wild side with Museum staff and youth volunteers as they acquaint you with the Museum's inhabitants, exhibits, and researchers. This is a fun, fast way to orient your groups to all that the Museum offers.
- **Staff Guided Museum Tour (45 minutes):** Join our expert staff as they highlight the Museum's exhibits and tell the Museum's story including how the Museum was founded in the 1930's by Francis 'Fannye' Cook and how the Museum has evolved into an award-winning state treasure that helps to preserve natural Mississippi in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- **Self-Guided Museum Tour (1 hour):** Tour the Museum individually at your own pace. Indoor and Outdoor Exhibit Guides are available at the Museum's front desk.
- **Aquarium Chat and Diver Interactive (30 minutes):** Come meet some of our most fascinating aquarium inhabitants. Enjoy watching a SCUBA diver feed the fish while you learn about their habitats during a live interactive presentation. After the dive, enjoy an aquarium chat with one of our aquarium biologists to explore all they do! Fish Feedings are held every Tuesday and Friday at 10:00 a.m. and on Sunday at 2:00 p.m.
- **Creature Feature (30 minutes):** Come face to face with one of Mississippi's native reptiles! Meet a conservation educator and one of our scaly critters. Dispel myths and learn facts about these fascinating animals before beginning your museum tour. Creature Features are also available on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.
- **Meet a Researcher (45 minutes):** Explore the museum's biological collections, which chronicle Mississippi's natural history from its earliest life forms to those of today. Engage with one of the museum's field scientists and learn about their adventures. Please see Group Tour Procedures.

## MOTORCOACH GROUP TOUR FAQ's (CONTINUED)

### **How many tickets do I need to purchase to get the group discount?**

You must purchase 10 or more tickets to get group discounted rates. Motorcoach driver receives complimentary admission.

### **Options included upon availability:**

- **Self-Guided Tour Only: Available 7 days per week, year-round: \$5.00 per person**
- **“Take a Walk on the Wild Side” Adventure”: Available M-F: \$12.00 per person**
  - Staff Guided or Self-Guided Museum Tour PLUS your choice of Aquarium Chat, Creature Feature, or Meet a Researcher (choose one)
- **Deluxe “Take a Walk on the Wild Side” Experience: Available M-F: \$23 per person**
  - Choose from a Staff Guided or Self-Guided Museum Tour PLUS your choice of Aquarium Chat, Creature Feature, or Meet a Researcher (choose one) PLUS Boxed Lunch

### **When is the best time to visit?**

Formal tours and programs are available year-round on Monday – Friday, based on availability. Generally, Monday – Wednesday are the best times to visit.

Late summer and early fall are great times of year for a group visit.

In spring, Fridays are prioritized for school groups. Also, during the spring, group visits are more enjoyable after 1:00 p.m. on Monday-Friday after school group visits have concluded and the Museum is less crowded.

### **What are the Museum's Group Tour Procedures?**

Please click [here](#) to review and download our Group Tour Procedures.

### **What if I only have a short time to visit the Museum?**

If you are pressed for time, we can create a custom tour to maximize your visit, allowing enough time to experience the highlights of the Museum.

### **When is the Museum open?**

**Monday – Friday:** 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; **Saturday:** 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; **Sunday:** 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. **Museum Closed:**

- New Year's Day, Easter, Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup>, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Friday after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day

## MOTORCOACH GROUP TOUR FAQ's (CONTINUED)

### **How do I get to the Museum?**

The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks' Museum of Natural Science is located off Lakeland Drive at Interstate 55 in Northeast Jackson, Mississippi within LeFleur's Bluff State Park.



Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks' Museum of Natural Science  
2148 Riverside Drive  
Jackson, Mississippi 39202-1353

**Note: Many GPS directions will direct you to the Museum's back gate which is the employee and service entrance. The main entrance is on Highland Drive/Museum Boulevard at the entrance to LeFleur's Bluff State Park.**

### **Where can our motorcoach park?**

Free parking for motorcoaches is available in designated areas located in our parking lot at the entrance of the Museum.

### **Where can our group eat lunch?**

If you are planning to bring or buy boxed lunches, you must make arrangements prior to your visit. Please contact the Reservationist at 601-576-6000 or [yolanda.hawkins@mmns.state.ms.us](mailto:yolanda.hawkins@mmns.state.ms.us) to make meal arrangements and to reserve a dining area. Please ask about wheelchair accessibility. Areas for casual dining include:

- Outdoor Pavilion (located at the Museum front entrance: weather permitting): Reservation needed.
- Picnic area in LeFleur's Bluff State Park available for dining without reservations.