

st augustine travel guide by mail

St Augustine Travel Guide by Mail offers a unique way for travelers to explore one of the most historic and charming cities in the United States. Known as the oldest continuously inhabited European-established settlement in the continental U.S., St. Augustine, Florida, is a treasure trove of history, culture, and stunning coastal beauty. With its cobblestone streets, Spanish colonial architecture, and rich historical significance, visiting St. Augustine is like stepping back in time. This article will serve as your comprehensive travel guide, providing insights on how to plan your trip, key attractions, accommodations, dining options, and tips for an unforgettable experience.

Planning Your Trip to St. Augustine

When planning your trip to St. Augustine, consider the following key points to ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience.

Best Time to Visit

St. Augustine is a year-round destination, but the ideal times to visit are during:

- **Spring (March to May):** This season offers mild temperatures and fewer crowds, making it perfect for outdoor activities.
- **Fall (September to November):** The weather remains warm, and you can enjoy local festivals and events.
- **Winter (December to February):** While it's the coldest time of year, holiday decorations and events create a magical atmosphere.

Getting There

St. Augustine is conveniently located off Interstate 95, making it easily accessible by car. The nearest major airport is Jacksonville International Airport (JAX), which is about 50 miles north of the city. Alternatively, you can also consider:

- **St. Augustine Airport:** A small regional airport offering limited flights.
- **Amtrak:** The Amtrak train service provides access to nearby cities, and you can rent a car or use rideshare services to reach St. Augustine.

Key Attractions in St. Augustine

St. Augustine is brimming with attractions that reflect its rich history and vibrant culture. Here are some must-visit sites:

1. Castillo de San Marcos

Constructed in 1672, Castillo de San Marcos is a historic fort that offers stunning views of the Matanzas Bay. Visitors can explore the fort's walls, learn about its history, and enjoy reenactments of historic battles.

2. St. George Street

This pedestrian-only street is the heart of St. Augustine's historic district. Lined with shops, restaurants, and galleries, it's the perfect place to stroll, shop for souvenirs, and try local cuisine.

3. The Lightner Museum

Housed in the former Alcazar Hotel, the Lightner Museum features an impressive collection of 19th-century art and artifacts. The museum's stunning architecture and beautiful gardens make it a must-see.

4. Flagler College

Originally built as a luxury hotel in the late 19th century, Flagler College is now a private liberal arts college. The stunning Spanish Renaissance architecture and beautiful courtyards are worth a visit. Guided tours are available to learn about the college's history.

5. St. Augustine Lighthouse and Maritime Museum

Climb to the top of the historic lighthouse for breathtaking views of the city and coastline. The museum provides insights into St. Augustine's maritime history, making it a fascinating stop for families and history buffs alike.

Accommodations in St. Augustine

St. Augustine offers a variety of accommodations to suit different preferences and budgets. Here are some popular options:

1. Historic Inns and B&Bs

For a unique experience, consider staying in one of the historic inns or bed and breakfasts that reflect the city's charm. Some notable options include:

- **The Collector Luxury Inn & Gardens:** This boutique inn offers beautifully appointed rooms and lovely gardens.
- **Casa de Sueños:** A charming Spanish-style inn located near the historic district.

2. Hotels

Several hotels provide comfortable accommodations with modern amenities. Popular choices include:

- **Hilton St. Augustine Historic Bayfront:** Offers stunning views of the bay and is located near major attractions.
- **Holiday Inn St. Augustine Historic District:** A family-friendly option with easy access to the city's highlights.

3. Vacation Rentals

Consider renting a vacation home or condo for a more personalized experience. Platforms like Airbnb and Vrbo offer a variety of options, from cozy cottages to beachfront properties.

Dining Options in St. Augustine

St. Augustine boasts a diverse culinary scene that reflects its historical roots. Here are some dining options to consider during your visit:

1. Local Seafood

Enjoy fresh seafood at renowned local restaurants such as:

- **O'Steen's Restaurant:** Famous for its fried shrimp and casual atmosphere.

- **Catch 27:** Offers a farm-to-table approach with a focus on local seafood.

2. International Cuisine

Explore the diverse culinary offerings with restaurants serving international dishes:

- **Columbia Restaurant:** A historic Spanish restaurant known for its paella and tapas.
- **Casa Maya:** Offers authentic Mexican cuisine in a vibrant setting.

3. Sweet Treats

Don't forget to indulge in some local sweets. Try:

- **Whetstone Chocolates:** Known for its handcrafted chocolates and confections.
- **Sweet City:** Offers delicious ice cream and desserts perfect for a hot day.

Tips for Traveling in St. Augustine

To enhance your travel experience, consider the following tips:

1. Wear Comfortable Shoes

St. Augustine is best explored on foot, so wear comfortable shoes to navigate the cobblestone streets and enjoy walking tours.

2. Use the Old Town Trolley

The Old Town Trolley is a convenient way to explore the city. Hop on and off at various attractions, and enjoy narrated tours to learn about the city's history.

3. Check for Local Events

St. Augustine hosts various events throughout the year, including festivals, art shows, and historical reenactments. Check local calendars to see if there's something happening during your visit.

4. Take Advantage of Discounts

Many attractions offer discounts for students, seniors, and military personnel. Don't hesitate to ask about available discounts when purchasing tickets.

Conclusion

A **St Augustine Travel Guide by Mail** can greatly enhance your trip planning by providing valuable information and insights into this historic city. With its rich history, stunning attractions, diverse dining options, and unique accommodations, St. Augustine promises a memorable getaway. Whether you are a history enthusiast, a food lover, or someone seeking relaxation by the beach, this charming city has something for everyone. Enjoy your travels in St. Augustine, and create lasting memories in this beautiful destination!

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the best way to request a travel guide for St. Augustine by mail?

You can request a travel guide for St. Augustine by visiting the official tourism website and filling out the mail request form.

How long does it typically take to receive a St. Augustine travel guide by mail?

Usually, it takes about 1 to 2 weeks to receive your St. Augustine travel guide by mail, depending on your location.

What information is included in the St. Augustine travel guide?

The travel guide typically includes maps, accommodation options, attractions, dining recommendations, and event calendars for St. Augustine.

Is there a cost associated with receiving a St. Augustine travel guide by mail?

No, the St. Augustine travel guide is usually provided free of charge when requested by mail.

Can I get a travel guide for St. Augustine in multiple languages?

Yes, the St. Augustine travel guide is often available in several languages, including English, Spanish, and French.

Are there any digital alternatives to receiving the St. Augustine travel guide by mail?

Yes, you can download a digital version of the St. Augustine travel guide from the official tourism website.

What are the top attractions highlighted in the St. Augustine travel guide?

The travel guide usually highlights attractions such as the Castillo de San Marcos, St. George Street, and the Lightner Museum.

How can I ensure I receive the most updated version of the St. Augustine travel guide?

To receive the most updated version, always request the guide directly from the official St. Augustine tourism website.

Is there a way to personalize my travel guide request for St. Augustine?

Some tourism websites allow you to specify interests or preferences when requesting your travel guide, which can help tailor the information provided.

What should I do if my St. Augustine travel guide does not arrive?

If your travel guide does not arrive within the expected time frame, you can contact the local tourism office to inquire about your request.

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