

Tips for a Successful Field Experience



- The National Park Service requires 1 chaperone for every 10 students.
- Backpacks, mobile phones, ipods, food, and gum are not permitted on the tours. Please leave packs on bus or in lunch area.
- Students should wear nametags.
- Reservations may be made for lunch space when you arrange your field trip with the reservationist.
- Public restrooms can be found in the Wallace Education Center, the ground floor of the FDR Presidential Library and in the small carriage house behind the stables at the FDR Site, and at the Val-Kill and Vanderbilt Mansion Visitor Centers.
- Wear comfortable walking shoes and clothing according to the weather. The tours move outside between several buildings on the grounds.
- Dress appropriately for outdoor education programs. Students should wear sneakers, or hiking boots (no sandals, or shorts please). Rain coats should be worn in rainy weather, and warm coats on chilly days.
- Request that parents apply insect repellent and sunscreen prior to school the day of your trip.



Directions



To the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site and the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library

From the NY State Thruway: (I-87), exit 18 (New Paltz), take 299 east to 9W south, follow signs to the Mid-Hudson Bridge. After the bridge crossing follow the overhead signs to Hyde Park and Rt. 9 North. The Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site and Presidential Library entrance will be on your left after approximately 5 miles. Proceed to parking area. Please park buses in designated areas.

To the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site

From the North take Rt. 9 South to Hyde Park. Just as you enter Hyde Park, the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site will be on your right. From the South take Rt. 9 North to Hyde Park pass through town. The Vanderbilt Mansion NHS entrance will be on your left, just a short distance from the Hyde Park Fire Department on your right.

To Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site

At the Route 9 intersection, at the South end of Hyde Park, turn onto Rt. 40A or St. Andrews (from south turn right, from north turn left). Stay on Rt. 40A until the traffic light. At traffic light turn left, onto Rt. 9G and follow 9G for half a mile. Turn right into the entrance and proceed to parking area.

Rules

During the programs and tours all backpacks, mobile-phones, ipods, gum, drinking and eating are not permitted. Flash photography is not permitted in buildings. There must be one chaperone per 10 students, and no more than five chaperones per 50 students. Teachers and chaperones alike are asked to actively participate in the program along with the students.

Where to go upon your arrival & what to wear

Please arrive 15 minutes ahead of your scheduled tour to allow for restroom breaks and ticket pick-up. If you have reserved a tour, please wear comfortable clothing and walking shoes. If you have reserved an environmental education program, please dress appropriately for the weather and outdoor activities. During the tours and programs drinking and eating are not permitted, except on hikes.

Where to Meet for Your Program



Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt NHS

Buses should pull up in front of the Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center. Teachers and students will be greeted by a park ranger or Presidential Library staff member for their reserved program upon their arrival.



Where to have Lunch

In good weather school groups may have lunches outside under the tent area. Be sure to reserve lunch space when you make your reservations. First come/first serve basis. Please follow our carry in-carry out policy.

Vanderbilt Mansion NHS

Buses should park in designated bus parking area. Students and teachers should report to visitor's center to pick up tickets and meet the ranger for the tour.



Where to have Lunch

In good weather school groups may have picnic lunches outside, north of the Vanderbilt Mansion parking area. Please follow our carry in-carry out policy.

Eleanor Roosevelt NHS

Buses should park in designated areas. Teachers and students should report to the visitor's center to pick up their tickets and meet the ranger for their tour or program.

Where to have Lunch

Arrangements for lunch space will be provided for education programs only. In good weather school groups may have lunches outside under the tent area. Please follow our carry in-carry out policy.



A Note to The Teacher



Dear Teacher:

It is important to us that your students be prepared for their visit to our site. If they have the background knowledge on the topics included in this packet they will be able to better understand their place-based experience here at Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Sites, and its relationship to their school studies. We have designed our programs to tell the parks story by using the cultural and natural resources at the site and by linking them to the New York State Curriculum Standards.

We hope you find the pre-visit material helpful. The files are arranged by activity. It is our intent for you to be able to use each file with ease. The files contain the necessary information and materials for the activities. Simply print the activity and materials you wish to use for handouts or for your own information.

We look forward to your visit with us!

Sincerely,

Susanne Norris

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