

Columbus Santa Maria Youth Overnight Program



Challenge yourself at the Santa Maria for a night of adventure exploring the life of a 15th century sailor aboard the most famous ship in western history, the Santa Maria. Included here are materials which will help you to prepare your adult chaperones.

For more information on any aspect of the Santa Maria's Overnight Program, or other Education Programs, please call the Santa Maria office at (614) 645-8760.

The Goals and Philosophy of the Santa Maria Overnight Program.

Your visit to the Santa Maria will include a variety of experiences intended to offer a taste of life aboard a square-rigged ship during the Age of Exploration. We hope to make history come alive for our guests. Life was not easy for sailors on board ship. We strive to guide our guests in restructuring their viewpoint to accept greater challenges and to demand more of themselves. The experiential aspects of the program are emphasized. Teamwork is a necessity. Crews will find that they have to work together and cooperate if they are going to succeed. We seek to merge living history with hands on education. We combine maritime lore, hard work, discipline and fun into an adventure your children will never forget.



Sample Itinerary

*Please note that the Santa Maria is an outdoor facility. Weather *will* affect your itinerary.*

1745 Arrive and Stow Gear	2200 Santa Maria Staff Night Watch
1800 Welcome and Rules	0100 Adult Chaperon Night Watch (at least two adults awake at all times in the park, usually done in either two or three hour shifts)
1815 Tour of Ship	0700 Santa Maria Staff Up and Preparing Breakfast
1845 Cooking and Sail Lessons	0730 Crew Wake Up, Stow Gear, Breakfast
1945 Dinner	0800 Instructions for Climbing Rigging
2000 Clean up	0815 Climbing
2015 Cargo Haul	0930 Clean Up Ship, Visit Gift Shop
2115 Night Activities, if time allows	1000 Disembark
2130 Arrange Crews for Sleeping	
2200 Lights Out (depending on starting times and other set backs, this could be as late as 2300)	

Teacher and Chaperone Information

Permission/Emergency Contact Forms

All students *and* adults must have their signed Santa Maria permission forms completed *before* beginning the program. These are to be handed to the Santa Maria Overnight Crew upon arrival. No person can participate in the program without one.

The forms are available on this website or by request from the Santa Maria Office.

Please mention to Santa Maria Overnight Crew any nut, bee or dairy allergies before the program begins. All of these things can be found on board.

Recommendations for Adults

-Read up on Columbus and his time.

-Familiarize yourself with the basic terminology: Aye, Avast, Carry On, ect.

-Dress the part: a sailor of the era would have worn a loose linen smock, and fitted tights or pants. Anything nautical is great: a striped shirt, knitted cap, bandana. It will add flavor to your voyage and communicate excitement to your crew.

-Bring foul-weather gear, even if the forecast is clear. Night watch is stood rain or snow.

Chaperones as Safety Officers

We will attempt to cover shipboard hazards with students upon arrival. However, a ship is a foreign environment with many subtle hazards. Students must understand the need to be attentive and conscious of their own safety at all times. Crew members will work on controlling their actions for the safety of themselves and those around them. Part of the Teacher and Chaperones job is helping crew members learn this skill.

A minimum of six adults must attend each overnight. If your group will be joined by other participating groups, check with our office staff regarding needed adults. Your Adult Chaperones will be responsible in overseeing the safety and attentiveness of the crew members that they are assigned to. Adult Chaperones are not there to do the work. Students are encouraged to learn problem-solving skills, experience lessons in responsibility and to experience succeeding as a group. Your crew will look to you for behavioral clues. We can't stress enough that your attitude influences the flavor of the entire voyage. If you are positive and excited to experience something new, your crew will be too.

In addition to acting as a safety officer for your crew, you will also be responsible for standing night watch, usually in shifts, from 1 am to 7 am. At least two adults must be awake.



Ship Environment and 21st Century Children



One of the most unique experiences of this program is, for a brief time, living in another time that is totally unfamiliar to the world of 21st children. Participants are meant to recreate the very austere life of a sailor in 1492. However, children will be extremely uncomfortable if they do not bring adequate warm clothing, proper weather gear (rain and/or snow) tennis shoes and other appropriate attire. Since this is an in-depth experience, we strongly recommend that all participants wear old clothes. All participants will sleep outside on the decks of the ship, and all activities are outside. Everyone needs to be prepared for all types of weather. Shelter is available in extreme weather situations (lightening, tornadoes, long term downpours, sleet). Overnight Crew Members will have students work around inclement weather as much as possible, but some activities cannot be done under such conditions and will be canceled.



Santa Maria Overnight Crew Gear

What to bring.

- Warm sleeping bag
- Plastic mug
- Weather gear
- Warm clothes: hat and gloves if weather warrants
- One change of clothes
- Toothbrush, small towel, miscellaneous hygiene articles
- Signed permission, emergency medical forms
- Tennis shoes

What not to bring.

- Jewelry
- Games or toys
- Weapons: real or toy
- Gum, candy, sodas, ect.
- Electrical anything: iPods, phones, ect.
- Matches, lighters, fireworks
- Watches
- Sandals, flip flops, any shoe that has an open toe and does not tie.
- Flashlights (adults may bring one)
- Sleeping cots

*Pack *all* gear in a large trash bag with crew member's name taped on the outside. This keeps all belongings together and dry from possible river water splash. Consider packing a second trash bag incase first bag tears. If something does not fit in the trash bag, it may not be needed.

Enrichment Suggestions

Basic Knowledge

The Overnight Crew of the Santa Maria will offer students an experience which is not gained in the classroom; therefore, we try to minimize time spent on facts, figures, and dates. The men who went to sea quickly learned to operate in their environment. If you are interested in preparing your crew with more in-depth background information, a glossary is provided at our website as well as a teaching unit. This information is aimed at 4th grade students, we hope that you can adjust some of the topics for your particular circumstances.

Letters from home

Have parents write letters to their children as if it were the year 1492. These should be secretly delivered to group leaders, and then passed to Santa Maria Overnight Staff to deliver when time allows.

Imagine the amazement of the crew when they read a letter to them from their parents telling of life back in Spain. They can be comical, written by an abandoned loved one, like the child's dog or sibling, but should attempt to recreate the news and atmosphere of 1492.

-Topics that can be included

- Columbus' sailors were away from home for over a year.
- Women are not aboard the Santa Maria (did your daughter sneak aboard to find adventure?)
- The Roman Catholic Church governs all aspects of these sailors' lives, daily prayers and all religious holidays were strictly celebrated
- All Jews and Moors (Northern African Muslims) have just been evicted from Spain or forced to convert to Christianity.
- Ferdinand and Isabella, the King and Queen, have just united Iberia (Spain) for the first time, by fighting the Moors out of Spain. They needed the profits of trade with the East Indies and were eagerly awaiting news from Columbus and his crew
- The Spanish Inquisition was in full swing.
- Life on ship could be dull, and dangerous.

-Have your crews create a flag. Use a quarter of an old sheet and allow your crew to decorate it before arriving. We can have a flag raising before the program begins.



Directions to the Columbus Santa Maria

We are located in Battelle Park at the intersection of West Broad Street and Marconi Blvd. Parking for the Friday and Saturday overnights is in the City Hall Parking Lot accessed on Front Street. If your overnight is scheduled for a different night, please contact the Santa Maria office at (614) 645-8760 for directions.

Welcome Aboard!

