JAXPORT Jacksonville Area Cruise Guide

Parking, seafood, beaches, history, and events in Northeast Florida

Information reviewed July 31, 2026. Restaurant hours, event dates, admission prices, parking rates, road conditions, and terminal procedures can change. Confirm details before travel.

Port and Area Overview

JAXPORT's single cruise terminal offers an uncomplicated drive-to-port experience with secured parking next to the terminal. The broader Jacksonville area includes the St. Johns River, 22 miles of beaches, maritime communities, historic neighborhoods, and easy access to St. Augustine and Amelia Island.

Official Port Parking Costs

Passenger vehicles	$17 per day, tax included.
Oversized vehicles	$34 per day, tax included. Oversized means a vehicle using more than one standard space.
Payment	Major credit cards only; no cash.
Reservations	Beginning June 22, 2026, new prepaid reservations are no longer accepted. Pay upon arrival.
Location	9810 August Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32226. Parking is adjacent to the terminal.

Local Eateries to Consider

Safe Harbor Seafood

Fresh seafood in the Mayport fishing village with waterfront views.

Singleton's Seafood Shack

Rustic Mayport seafood institution.

Metro Diner

Jacksonville-born diner known for generous breakfast and comfort-food portions.

Maple Street Biscuit Company

Jacksonville-founded breakfast concept featuring biscuits and Southern flavors.

Cowford Chophouse

Downtown steakhouse in a restored historic building with rooftop views.

Riverside and San Marco dining

Neighborhood restaurants, cafés, breweries, and local shops.

Things to Do and Places to Visit

Jacksonville Beaches

Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, and Jacksonville Beach offer broad beaches and local dining.

Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens

Art museum with formal gardens along the St. Johns River.

Jacksonville Zoo and Botanical Gardens

Large family attraction on the north side of the city.

Riverside Arts Market

Saturday market beneath the Fuller Warren Bridge; verify schedule around holidays.

Fort Caroline and Timucuan Preserve

History and natural areas connected to Indigenous, French, Spanish, and coastal Florida stories.

St. Augustine day trip

Historic city south of Jacksonville with Castillo de San Marcos, museums, and walkable streets.

Local History and Noteworthy Background

The Jacksonville region has deep Timucua history and later French, Spanish, British, and American settlement. The city became a major rail, river, timber, insurance, and banking center. Much of downtown was rebuilt after the Great Fire of 1901. Modern Jacksonville is notable for its extensive park system, large geographic area, riverfront, and maritime industries.

Annual Festivals and Recurring Events

Jacksonville Jazz Festival

Large free downtown music festival commonly held around Memorial Day weekend.

Gate River Run

Major annual 15K road race held in spring.

World of Nations Celebration

Annual multicultural festival featuring food and performances.

Florida-Georgia football weekend

Major fall college-football event that creates high hotel demand and traffic.

Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival

Large annual event in nearby Fernandina Beach, generally in spring.

Riverside Arts Market

Recurring Saturday arts, food, and farmers market.

Scott's planning tip: Major festivals, sporting events, boat shows, and rocket launches can raise hotel prices and create traffic. Check the local event calendar before booking a pre-cruise hotel.

Official and local-information sources

JAXPORT parking and directions
https://www.jaxport.com/cruise/parking-directions/

Visit Jacksonville things to do
https://www.visitjacksonville.com/things-to-do/

Visit Jacksonville official guide
https://www.visitjacksonville.com/

My Port Notes