



USS COBIA “The Nation’s Most Completely Restored WWII Submarine” Overnight Education Program

PLANNING AHEAD

What to Bring

Each visitor is responsible for bringing his or her own **sleeping bag/blanket** and **pillow**, since the bunks on board the submarine do not have sheets or blankets. The submarine is now outfitted with heat and air conditioning, however, participants are advised to dress appropriately for the outside weather; layers are suggested. Participants are advised to pack minimally as space on board is limited. It is also recommended that you bring:

1. Personal toiletries
2. Appropriate clothing (layers are suggested)
 - For your safety, we recommend shoes and not sandals, flip flops, nor slippers.
 - Roller Shoes are not allowed on the premises.
3. Flashlight
4. Card or board games, if desired
5. FIRST AID KIT, including motion sickness medication (The Wisconsin Maritime Museum staff will not dispense any medication or first aid supplies)
6. Trash bags

Groups are permitted to eat snacks in the Museum only, during the activity break. Each group is responsible for their own snacks, which will be eaten during the Program’s scheduled Mess Break. Dry snacks, as well as bottled water or juice, are recommended. Please be advised that no cooking is allowed aboard the submarine or in the Museum. When selecting snack foods to bring, please consider ease of clean up, as you will be responsible for any spills. If you bring food, you will also need to provide your own paper plates, cups, flatware, napkins, etc. Be sure to bring a cooler for perishables. Because of time limitations, participants should eat dinner prior to arrival for the Overnight Program. Groups wishing to visit a restaurant for breakfast prior to viewing the Museum exhibits in the morning are welcome to return after their meal to explore the galleries.

Any garbage generated by the group must leave the premises with the group at the conclusion of the Program, as the Museum does not have large-scale garbage disposal facilities. Groups should bring trash bags for this purpose. Each group is responsible for cleaning the areas of the submarine used during the course of the Overnight. The USS COBIA should be left in the same condition as she was found upon a group’s arrival. In general, adopting a “clean as you go” policy will lessen the amount of cleaning necessary before a group’s departure. The Wisconsin Maritime Museum provides the cleaning supplies necessary to maintain COBIA’s cleanliness (except garbage bags) and will inspect the submarine prior to a group’s departure.

Phones and other electronic devices are allowed on the COBIA only so long as they do not distract from the shipboard experience, but outlets are not available for charging. For example, using a phone’s still camera would be acceptable. The Wisconsin Maritime Museum staff has the right to end use of said electronic devices at their discretion. The Wisconsin Maritime Museum is not responsible for damage, loss, or theft of any personal items. The Wisconsin Maritime Museum has the right to conduct a gear inspection at the beginning of your stay.

What NOT to Bring

None of the following are permitted during your stay:

1. Alcoholic beverages (either on or off premises)
2. Tobacco products of any kind, including lighters
3. Portable electronics: Radios, music players (CD/MP3/iPod) , game systems, televisions, etc.
4. Chewing gum
5. Drugs other than those prescribed for the individual by a medical doctor or over-the-counter medication
6. Knives, wrenches, screw drivers, pliers, or other tools or cutting implements
7. Appliances, including coffee makers, hot plates, gas stoves, lanterns, etc.
8. Pets (guide animals are an exception)
9. Items that are unlawful to possess in the City of Manitowoc
10. Items that may cause damage or injury

Any of the above listed items will be considered contraband and will be confiscated and not returned. The Wisconsin Maritime Museum staff will make all decisions regarding the legality of items. If you have a question as to the legality of an item, don't bring it. This is done for the safety of your group as well as for the submarine.

Rules of Conduct

To ensure a safe and pleasant visit, all Overnight participants aboard the USS COBIA will abide by the following rules. These rules should be read aloud to all participants prior to arrival at the Museum. **DISCIPLINE IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ADULT CHAPERONES. ADEQUATE SUPERVISION MUST BE PROVIDED BY THE VISITING GROUP AT ALL TIMES.**

1. No running or "horse play" aboard the submarine or in the Museum.
 2. No participants, including adults, are to leave the submarine or walk on deck unless accompanied by a Wisconsin Maritime Museum staff member.
 3. The submarine is now outfitted with heat and air conditioning. Please make sure to secure the doors when entering and exiting the sub.
 4. Adults must remain with the group at all times. Adults who leave the premises will not be permitted to return.
 5. Do not operate any equipment, turn switches, open any control panels, or otherwise disturb any equipment on the submarine. Everything on board is considered an historic artifact and must be treated with the proper respect.
 6. Do not enter restricted areas without permission of the Wisconsin Maritime Museum staff. This includes the interior and exterior of the Conning Tower.
 7. While on deck, do not go outside the wire rope barriers or out on the bow or stern of the boat at any time. The metal and wood portions of the deck are usually wet and slippery after dark.
 8. Do not climb on any deck guns, periscopes, or lookout platforms.
 9. Do not block any passageways or ladders to access hatches with personal gear, boxes, coolers, etc. Stow all of your supplies safely out of the way.
 10. Sleep only in assigned bunks in designated areas. At least one adult must stay in each of the sleeping areas to supervise the group berthed there.
 11. Exercise caution when climbing into and out of bunks. When in any of the upper bunks, be mindful of equipment, pipes, valves, and light bulbs that are mounted overhead.
 12. Do not wear shoes while in the bunks. Shoes are mandatory whenever participants are not in their bunks.
 13. Do not turn off/on any lights unless instructed to do so by a Staff Member.
 14. No cooking or food is allowed on board the submarine. All food must be consumed in the Museum.
 15. The group will clean all areas occupied on board the submarine to the standards of the Wisconsin Maritime Museum staff, and the boat will be inspected for damage and cleanliness before the group departs.
- In the Museum:*
16. **ALL OF THESE RULES ALSO APPLY DURING THE FOLLOING DAY WHILE IN THE REST OF THE MUSEUM.**
 17. All children must be accompanied by an adult in the Museum Gift Shop and Children's Waterways Room.
 18. Please leave the Children's Waterways Room as you found it by putting away any and all toys.
 19. Flash photography is Not allowed inside the museum. (Flash is ok on the submarine.)

ANYONE damaging the USS COBIA will be prosecuted. Groups responsible for damage will pay for REPAIRS, REPLACEMENT, OR RESTORATION of damage to the historic fabric and all associated costs, including acquisition or fabrication of replacements for damaged items. There will be no limit to this cost, and the cost will be determined by the Wisconsin Maritime Museum.

CHAPERONES MUST HAVE CONTROL OF THEIR GROUP. For your safety, the group is expected to follow all directions and any special instructions issued by Museum staff members. Failure to comply with these rules, directions, or special instructions by any member of the Overnight party will lead to expulsion of the entire party and forfeiture of the program fee.

Safety Brief

To ensure your safety during your visit, review the following information with the members of your group prior to your visit.

Safe Conduct

Please remember two important points about the USS COBIA: **First, the COBIA is a naval vessel that was built**

with the intention that it be operated by specially-trained Navy personnel; and second, the COBIA is now a museum vessel and an irreplaceable National Historic Landmark. Both of these points dictate that safe conduct be exercised by each and every member of your group. The design and construction of the submarine mandates that special care must be taken while on board for your personal safety.

Violation of ANY safety procedures will be grounds for ejection from the boat. The Wisconsin Maritime Museum or its staff is not responsible for any expenses of the person or group associated with ejection or voluntary departure from the submarine.

During the USS COBIA Overnight Education Program, the Museum telephone system is set to “night mode,” which means no one is available to answer incoming calls. If you need to contact someone after hours, you must enter ext. 122 to reach the Tour Guide Desk. Please keep in mind cell reception on the submarine is not guaranteed.

Safety Equipment

- Telephone – Located in Forward Torpedo Room – FOR EMERGENCY ONLY (You must dial “9” to get an outside line.)
- First Aid Kit – Each group is required to bring their own.
- Life Rings – Located on the deck forward and aft of the Conning Tower.

Fire Emergency Drill

An emergency fire drill will be held to familiarize the group with emergency evacuation procedures. Participation by all members of the Overnight group is mandatory.

Smoke detectors are located in each substantial compartment. If an alarm sounds, follow the procedures listed below.

- Exit the boat in a quick and orderly manner, moving in the opposite direction of the source of the alarm or smoke if present.
- Do not close any doors on the submarine.
- Inform Wisconsin Maritime Museum Overnight staff immediately and call 911.

USS COBIA Emergency Evacuation Plan

If it becomes necessary to evacuate the COBIA for any reason, move in an orderly fashion toward the nearest exit, as follows:

- From the Crew’s Mess Forward, the nearest exit is the Forward Torpedo Room.
- From the Crew’s Quarters Aft, the nearest exit is the After Torpedo Room.

If there is a fire aboard the submarine, proceed to the exit that is furthest from the fire. If there is fire between you and both exits, use one of the hatches in the following compartments:

- Control Room/Conning Tower
- Crew’s Mess
- Aft Engine Room

If using the Control Room exit, proceed up the ladder to the Conning Tower, then out the hatch onto the Bridge. Once on the Bridge, head toward the stern (while on the ladder this will be to your right), and then proceed around the 40mm gun and down the ladder on the starboard side of the boat. Proceed across the deck.