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OVERVIEW

Here's everything Mystic Seaport offers. (We'll let you figure out how to describe it.)

What is Mystic Seaport? Ask three people and chances are you'll get three very different answers. To some, it's a fun family destination, full of exciting attractions. To others, it's a serious maritime museum and galleries. And to still others, it's an incredibly valuable education and research center. In fact, it's all three – located within 19 charming acres on the banks of Connecticut's legendary Mystic River. A quintessential New England experience, Mystic Seaport offers visitors of all ages a unique link to our seafaring past and endless, year-round opportunities to immerse themselves in new worlds of hands-on history, featuring:

a re-created 19th-century seafaring village made up of dozens of real New England buildings staffed with historians, musicians, storytellers and craftspeople who bring our seafaring past to life, from shipsmiths and coopers to woodcarvers and chanteymen;

the nation's leading maritime galleries, brimming with permanent and changing exhibits offering rare glimpses into other eras and cultures, including the acclaimed *Voyages: Stories of America and the Sea*, restored vessels, figureheads, ship carvings and vintage photography;

one of the world's only preservation shipyards, where skilled craftspeople employ 19th-century tools and techniques to preserve Mystic Seaport's unequalled collection of historic wooden ships and boats – as well as build authentic recreations of famous vessels, such as *Amistad*;

historic tall ships and boats such as the *Charles W. Morgan*, the world's last surviving wooden whaleship; the *Joseph Conrad*, a full-rigged 1882 training ship; and the *L.A. Dunton*, the last-surviving example of early 20th-century New England fishing vessels;

a new, state-of-the-art Collections Research Center housing more than two million examples of maritime art, artifacts, tools, buildings, imprints and other documents, including photographs, 1,000 ships registers, 600 audiotaped oral history interviews, 200 videotaped interviews and 1.5 million feet of historic and contemporary maritime-related footage;

the world's largest collections of boats and maritime photography, including more than 500 different vessels and more than one million historic maritime images;

unique educational programs for everyone from preschoolers to graduate students, including overnight programs aboard the *Joseph Conrad*, courses in 19th-century trades, sail training, undergraduate Maritime Studies programs and fellowships;

a Children's Museum, offering kids seven and under a chance to experience the life of a sailor, including swabbing the deck, moving cargo, cooking in the galley, dressing in sailors' garb and lying in sailors' bunks;

and a Planetarium that gives visitors a lesson in celestial navigation using the stars, planets and heavenly bodies of the season.

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