



## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the National Coast Guard Museum Association?

The National Coast Guard Museum Association, Inc. a 501-c-3 public charity was organized in 2001 to raise funds and apply for and administer federal and state grants for the sole purpose of acquiring land, designing, constructing, developing exhibits and turning over to the US Coast Guard a national museum to honor the men and women of this maritime service to be located in the city of New London, Connecticut.

### Why do we need a National Coast Guard Museum?

THE U.S. Coast Guard is the only branch of the military that does not have a national museum. Each uniformed military branch is obligated under the 1906 Antiquities Act “to provide stewardship for items of historic or scientific interest within their respective departments. The 1935 Historic Preservation Act and subsequent amendments expanded this responsibility to preserve historic objects of national significance for the inspiration and benefit of the people of the United States.”

There are so many stories to be told. Barely known to the nation, but such as important part of the nation’s history. From the Revenue Cutters of the Revolution, to the Lighthouse keepers warning against peril, as drivers of landing craft on D Day, or navigating the Mekong River, and all the peacetime and wars between, the US Coast Guard has stood the watch for our nation and protected our homeland. The Antiquities Act of 1906 and the 1935 Historic Preservation Act recognized that we have a responsibility to preserve historic objects and the stories they symbolize as a means to inspire the nation. It is time for the National Coast Guard Museum to tell the stories of her heroes to America.

### Do other branches of the military have National museums?

Yes, in fact the U.S. Coast Guard is the only branch of the military that does not have a national museum to preserve its treasures and tell the stories of its heroes.

There are a total of 87 military museums in 285 buildings, funded by federal appropriations and private funds - 56 for Army; 11 for Navy; 5 for Marines; 13 for Air Force; and 2 for other DoD agencies.



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## Where will the National Coast Guard Museum be located?

In 2004 An Act of the U.S. Congress decreed that New London, Connecticut is designated to be the home of the National Coast Guard Museum. Land on the waterfront in New London was transferred to the USCG on May 2, 2014 for the purpose of building the national museum.

## What will it cost to go to the National Coast Guard Museum?

There is no entrance fee to enter the museum. This is a federal museum, similar to the Smithsonian's museums in Washington, DC. They are free to the public. There may be special exhibits within the museum that charge a small entrance fee.

## What is the Coast Guard's Connection with New London?

The city of New London has been home to the Coast Guard Academy since its founding in 1876. Additional Leadership Institutes have joined the cadet training so that all officer candidates and senior enlisted personnel receive training in New London. New London is also home to USCG Station New London with vessels assigned to Search and Rescue missions. And the US Coast Guard's national Research and Development Center is at Fort Trumbull in New London.

## Why was the Waterfront Park in Downtown New London chosen by the US Coast Guard?

This site is easily accessible by car, train, bus, ferry, pleasure boat and on foot. Even before the museum is built, 1.4 to 1.9 million visitors a year currently walk on the site where the museum will be constructed including ferry passengers, rail and bus passengers, attendees of seasonal festivals on the waterfront and visiting cruise ships. Tourism experts anticipate high visitorship for the National Coast Guard Museum and an economic boon for the City of New London.

## Who is designing the National Coast Guard Museum?

Harvard based architect Urs Gauchat and colleagues at Payette Associates have interpreted the physical building concepts. World Renowned museum design firm Gallagher & Associates has been secured to create the interior exhibits for the National Coast Guard Museum. The Gallagher Museum designers have wide experience in translating military history into an informative, interactive and delightful visitor experiences. Some of their most notable projects include the D Day Museum in New Orleans, the Gettysburg Museum in Pennsylvania and the Holocaust and the Spy Museums in Washington, D.C. along with many others across the globe.

## How much will it cost to build the National Coast Guard Museum?

The National Coast Guard Museum project is budgeted at \$80 million with an additional \$20 million for a pedestrian bridge over the railroad tracks and for other ADA requirements that benefit museum visitors, rail passengers, ferry passengers and the touring public.

### **What Educational Programs will the Museum offer?**

The US Coast Guard is committed to promoting STEM education for young people. The National Coast Guard Museum Association has partnerships for educational programming with 6 local universities and the STEM programs at 11 area school districts in the immediate vicinity of the museum including: USCG Academy, Connecticut College, University of Connecticut, Mitchell College, Three Rivers Community College and University of New Haven.

### **What will the Museum offer the city of New London?**

When the NCGMA opens it will directly create over 30 new jobs in the city of New London. Several hundred construction jobs will be created starting in 2015.

### **What types of events will the USCGM host?**

Lectures, training sessions, Maritime and International Homeland Security conferences, military ceremonies and reunions, weddings, conferences, catered events and more.

### **When will the museum open?**

NCGMA is projecting a ribbon cutting opening ceremony in late 2017 or early 2018.

### **Can I donate an artifact to the museum?**

Thank you for offering, but currently there are no storage or preservation facilities to care for your artifact properly at this time. Please go to the website to learn more about the collection of artifacts.

### **How can I donate in memory of someone with a connection to the Coast Guard?**

Please call our office at 860-442-4300 or send an email to: [info@coastguardmuseum.org](mailto:info@coastguardmuseum.org)

### **How can I volunteer for the museum?**

We have occasional need for volunteers during the fundraising part of our project. Please call our office at 860-442-4300 or send an email to: [info@coastguardmuseum.org](mailto:info@coastguardmuseum.org) to be added to our list of willing volunteers.