

# Welcome to Galveston!

March 20-23, 2023

USS James Madison Reunion

Clarion Pointe at 2300 Seawall Blvd., Galveston, TX, 77550-7940, Phone (409) 356-9853

Our reunion room rate is \$105 per night during the main event days. Other James Madison Rates; Sunday through Thursday is \$105 per night, Friday's rate \$217.35 Saturday \$274.85. **Reservations must be made by Feb. 6, 2023.**

Please use <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/KJ36Q6> if you plan to book for the event days of March 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> and scroll down to select your room option.

If you will be enjoying Galveston for additional days, we ask that you to call the Hotel directly and ask for Brooke, (Mon-Friday 9:00am – 4:00pm Central time) She will book your dates manually. She can be reached at her cell - 409-795-4774. You can leave a voicemail, just mention that you are with the **USS James Madison group** and she will call you back. **Escalations for any issues for the event** can be directed to your private Concierge and shipmate – David Morton - 262-349-0116 or Dmorto3@gmail.com

**Room rates cannot be guaranteed for rooms after February 6, 2023.**

**Please register for the reunion and make payment no later than February 6, 2023.**

<b>Monday</b> - registration/check in- hospitality room will have pizza, sub sandwiches or similar.	<b>Tuesday</b> Visit to Moody Gardens Rainforest and Aquarium. Group rate is \$50 per person for the Rainforest, Buffet Lunch and Aquarium. Please indicate and pay with reunion registration. 10:30 Rainforest, 11:30 Buffet followed by Aquarium.
<b>Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday</b> Duck boat tours. Unstructured day. Galveston offers many options for entertainment. You can schedule your own day with a smaller group of shipmates to meet your own interests. Visit the Pleasure Pier, a Tall Ship, the Oil Rig Display, a Railroad Museum, Moody Pyramids. Rent a Model T-styled Golf cart for up to 8 or pedal bikes. A sample list of options is included elsewhere in this newsletter. (Duckboat tours are \$30 per person)	<b>Thursday</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Bus departs beginning at 9:30 am to Seawolf Park. 10:30 am 2 <sup>nd</sup> bus departs hotel. 11:30 Tolling of the Boats Memorial Service Bus back to the hotel around noon. (Bus with handicap access provided as a gift by plank owner H.L. CARES, MD) Lunch on your own. 2:00 pm - Business meeting/election in hospitality room After meeting/election, Clear hospitality room for banquet setup 6 pm cash bar before banquet 7 pm banquet.

Registration fee is \$40 per Madison sailor/family. Thursday evening banquet is \$40 per person and will include Italian style meaty lasagna, Sicilian chicken, green beans, bread, salad. Each morning, a continental-style breakfast selection will be available for hotel guests. The Banquet room will be open each morning from 7:00-10:00. and each evening until 11:00. The hotel bar will also be open and you can bring drinks in from there but local liquor laws will prevent the association from providing beer and wine in the banquet room as we have sometimes done in the past. Banquet room will have: snacks, water, and soft drinks daily.

Name of crew member attending \_\_\_\_\_

Which years were you onboard 627? \_\_\_\_\_

Rank & Rate \_\_\_\_\_ Gold / Blue Crew or both \_\_\_\_\_

Address & Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Guest names \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate staying at Clarion Pointe \_\_\_\_\_ or other (RV, Friends or other hotel)

	Price	Number	Total
Registration fee (per Madison sailor/family)	\$40 each		
Moody Gardens Aquarium	\$50 each		
Banquet Thursday	\$40 each		
Annual membership dues (primary for the sailor)	\$10		
Total enclosed			

Please submit check by February 6, 2023 If you have questions- email to [reunion2023@ssbn627.com](mailto:reunion2023@ssbn627.com)

Make check out to James Madison Reunion Assoc.

Mail to Don Hix, Treasurer, 4911 Albert Ln Rapid City, SD 57703

Suggestions for free time and/or before and after the reunion:

For those interested you can even rent electric golf carts styled as 1908 Ford model t's; 8 seaters and 5 seaters available. Carriage Haus Rentals, 2007 Strand, Galveston, TX 77550, 409-572-9797 [www.carriagehausrentals.com](http://www.carriagehausrentals.com) for more info

You can also get around Galveston on the trolley system. <https://www.galvestontrolley.com/>

You can request a Galveston Visitor Guide. <https://www.visitgalveston.com/plan-your-trip/visitor-guide-request/>

Here is a list in no specific order.

1. The Pleasure Pier directly across from the hotel <https://www.pleasurepier.com/>
  - a. Rides and amusements
  - b. Dining
  - c. Shops
  - d. 5d theatre
2. The tall ship Elissa and associated museum. <https://www.galvestonhistory.org/sites/1877-tall-ship-elissa-at-the-galveston-historic-seaport>
3. Moody Gardens pyramid <https://www.moodygardens.com/>
  - a. Rainforest Pyramid
  - b. Aquarium
  - c. IMAX theatre
  - d. Lazy river and wave pool depending on weather conditions.
  - e. Colonel paddle wheel boat
4. Walking along the seawall or renting bicycles or 4 wheel covered surreys <https://www.saltwatergiftshop.com/>
5. <https://www.galveston.com/rosenberg-treasure-galvestons-world-war-i-memorial/> (this will also be a stop on our bus tour).
6. Ocean Star Offshore Drilling Rig and Museum: <https://www.energyeducation.org/museum>
7. Galveston Rail Road Museum. <https://galvestonrrmuseum.org/>
8. Ride the ferry from Galveston Island to Bolivar and back. Depends on weather conditions and season.
9. Pirate Museum: <https://www.galveston.com/whattodo/arts/museums/pirates/>

Further away by car:

1. Kemah Boardwalk
2. NASA
3. Challenger Seven Memorial Park <https://www.hcp1.net/Parks/ChallengerSevenMemorial>

The closest airport to Galveston is [Hobby Airport in Houston](#).

The area is also served by [George Bush Intercontinental airport](#)

The hotel does not provide transportation to the airports, there are several shuttle companies that one can use if flying in. Two shuttle companies serve the airports and Galveston.

Galveston Limosine is one of many companies in Galveston that provides affordable one-way or round-trip shuttle service between Houston and Galveston Island.  
<https://galvestonlimo.com/airport-shuttle/>  
Round-trip from Hobby: \$50 if booked online.  
Round-trip from Bush: \$60 if booked online.  
Also note Senior and Military discounts. Phone number: 409-762-4397. Email: [info@galvestonlimo.com](mailto:info@galvestonlimo.com)

There are multiple RV parks nearby as well.

[List of local RV parks:](https://rvshare.com/blog/top-10-campgrounds/galveston-texas) <https://rvshare.com/blog/top-10-campgrounds/galveston-texas>