



THINGS TO DO IN HISTORIC SAVANNAH

Suggestions and Directions From the Innkeeper & Staff at The Eliza Thompson House

If You Have Any Questions While Visiting Savannah, You Can Always Call Us at 912-236-3620

Tybee Island – Savannah’s Beach

Driving Directions to Tybee Island from The Eliza Thompson House

The Quickest Route: Leaving the Eliza Thompson House, head East towards Bull Street. Continue driving until you get to E. Broad Street. Turn left and continue until President Street. Make a right onto President Street. Continue until you arrive on Tybee Island.

Or, Take a More Scenic Route – Slightly Longer Driving Time:

Leaving the Eliza Thompson House heading West, turn left onto Whitaker Street. Whitaker Street will dead end at Victory Drive. Turn left on Victory Drive/Highway 80. Continue until you arrive on Tybee Island.

Things to do on the Way to Tybee Island:

- **FORT JACKSON** is about 1 mile down President Street. There is a sign on the left that points to the Fort. This Fort is also known as Old Fort Jackson has been a part of Coastal Georgia’s history for nearly two centuries. Named in honor of Georgia Governor and Revolutionary War soldier James Jackson, the Fort is the oldest standing brick fortification in the state. Fort Jackson is also a National Historic Landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Sites. The Fort is one of only eight Second System fortifications (a series of forts built prior to the War of 1812) still standing in the USA. It served as headquarters of the confederate Savannah River defenses during the American Civil War.

Open daily: 9:00am – 5:00pm.

Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, New Year’s Day.

Admission: \$4.25. Students, Seniors (55 +), Military, and AAA \$3.75.

(Children 6 and under free)

- **FORT PULASKI** is about 9 miles on Highway 80, just before you get on Tybee Island. There is a sign on the left that points to the Fort. The battle of Fort Pulaski in April 1862 marked a turning point in US military history. The Fort’s area includes 5,623 acres of scenic marsh and uplands that support a variety of animal life characteristic of southern barrier islands. White tailed deer, alligators, and raccoons as well as resident and migratory birds grace the landscape.

Open daily: Fort 8:30am – 5:15pm

Visitor Center 9:00am-5:00pm. Closed Christmas Day.

In the summer months, they may extend opening hours.

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Things to do on Tybee Island:

- **TYBEE LIGHTHOUSE:** A left turn onto Campbell Avenue will lead you to the Tybee Lighthouse. Ordered by General James Oglethorpe, Governor of the 13th Colony, in 1732, the Tybee Island Light Station has been guiding mariners' safe entrance into the Savannah River for over 270 years. The Tybee Island Light Station is one of America's most intact having all of its historic support buildings on its 5 acre site. Rebuilt several times the current light station displays its 1916 day mark with 178 stairs and a First Order Fresnel lens (nine feet tall).

Open daily except Tuesday from approximately 9:00am – 5:30pm. Closed St. Patrick's Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Admission: Adults \$6.00, Seniors (62+) \$5.00, Children (6-17) \$5.00, Children under 5 free. Military with ID \$5.00

- **FORT SCREVEN** is opposite the Lighthouse. Although much of the Fort is in disarray you can see where private residences are now nestled atop the Fort's walls providing magnificent ocean views. In 1786, the Georgia Legislature approved the creation of a Fort on Cockspur (now named Tybee Island) in honor of General James Screven, a Revolutionary War hero. The Fort was never built by the State, but in 1808, the property fell under the jurisdiction of the Federal government as Fort Screven Reservation. In 1855, the government approved building Fort Screven on the north end of Tybee to provide a modern seacoast defense. Six poured-concrete, low-profile gun batteries (named after war heroes) and a minefield were ordered for Tybee along with hundreds of other military buildings. From 1897 to 1947, the Fort was an integral part of America's Coastal Defense system. Troops stood guard on Tybee through the Spanish American War of 1898, World War I and World War II. In 1947, the Fort was closed and sold to the town of Tybee.
- **TYBEE ISLAND PIER AND PAVILION:** From the Lighthouse take a left onto Tybrisa Street, which will lead you to the Tybee Island Pier and Pavilion. Here you will find the public beach parking, restaurants, motels and condos. The central commercial strip is Tybrisa Street, formerly 16th Street, where you'll find bars, ice cream parlors and beach shops.

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