



PORT OF LOS ANGELES SCHOOL BOAT TOUR PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

GENERAL

Where can I find information about the School Boat Tour Program?

Schools interested in participating in the Port of Los Angeles School Boat Tour Program should visit www.portoflosangeles.org.

How can I check date availability and make reservations?

All reservations can be made online through the Port of Los Angeles School Boat Tour Program reservation site: https://www.portoflosangeles.org/boat_tours2

Can I call to reserve a date before registering online?

No. All reservations must be made online through the Port of Los Angeles School Boat Tour Program Reservation Site. Tours are booked online on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Is the Port of Los Angeles School Boat Tour a LAUSD-approved field trip?

Yes, the Port of Los Angeles School Boat Tour Program is listed among the approved school field trips for LAUSD schools.

Why is the school boat tour program only extended to fourth grade students and above?

Due to safety concerns of younger students, the Port of Los Angeles requires that participating students be in the fourth grade or above.

Can other schools participate?

Yes, we would be delighted to have you! The Port of Los Angeles has previously hosted elementary, middle and high school students from charter schools and private schools, as well as homeschooled students, college students and other specialty schools.

THE TOUR

How long is the tour?

The tour is approximately one hour. Arriving late will shorten your scheduled tour. For example, if you are 10-15 minutes late, your tour time will be approximately 40 minutes in length.

What if we arrive late? Will we still be granted a tour?

Allow plenty of time for traffic and other time challenges. We advise arriving 15 minutes before departure time. A timely arrival ensures every school has a full tour with minimal waiting and lag time.

If you believe you are going to be late, call the Education Programs Coordinator at (310) 732-3960, so we may alert the tour boat company.

What type of tour vessel will we board?

In most cases, your school group will be touring aboard a 90-foot motor yacht chartered by the Port of Los Angeles.



PORT OF LOS ANGELES SCHOOL BOAT TOUR PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How many passengers can the vessel hold?

The vessel's maximum availability is 140 passengers.

Is Dramamine or other sea sick preventatives necessary for the tour?

It is generally not necessary to take preventative measures. The boat tour takes place within the breakwater, where the waters are relatively calm. Please note these remedies are **not** provided by the Port.

What type of clothing is suggested for the tour?

The temperature in the harbor area can be approx. 5-10 degrees cooler than inland locales. Light jackets, sunscreen, sunglasses and hats are suggested.

What happens if it rains?

Tours are conducted, rain or shine. The only time a tour will be canceled is due to bad visibility in heavy fog. The lower deck offers a cabin-like atmosphere with plenty of windows and seats for everyone to enjoy the tour.

How many chaperones are required per student?

You are the real experts here. Be realistic when thinking about the number of students participating in the tour. Remember, this is a moving vessel with two decks to view the Port. You'll want to make sure you have adequate and appropriate staff to provide supervision for your entire group. For younger classes, we recommend at least one adult per 10 students.

Are students with physical challenges able to participate?

We are able to accommodate students with physical challenges. Please contact the Education Programs Coordinator at (310) 732-3960 to arrange accommodations.

After the tour is completed, where can we have a picnic lunch or go eat?

If your group is picnicking, you'll find a grassy area (an ideal spot for eating lunch and watching the working harbor in action) at the south end of Berth 84, just south of the Los Angeles Maritime Museum. There is also space to eat lunch along the tables and benches nearest to the Fire Station.

Are supplemental materials available to enhance our tour?

Supplemental materials are available on the Port's Teachers web page.

TRANSPORTATION

Does every school receive a bus subsidy?

Limited bus subsidies are available. When completing the online reservation, it must be stated that you will be applying for a bus subsidy and follow through with completed paperwork in order to receive the subsidy.



PORT OF LOS ANGELES SCHOOL BOAT TOUR PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Does the Port of Los Angeles make the arrangements for bus transportation?

No. Each school is responsible for making its own bus arrangements. As a friendly reminder, make your bus arrangements as early as possible. May and June slots are the slots that fill up very quickly.

What is the process to get reimbursed for bus transportation?

For LAUSD Transportation Services, complete *Form 78.20R* entitled *Authorization for Payments of Student Body and/or Reimbursable Trips*. By completing this form, LAUSD will invoice the Port directly for up to \$300 towards your transportation costs. This option is available only to LAUSD schools.

Your school representative must complete the top portion of *Form 78.20R*, then submit via fax to 310-547-4611 or email to EdTours@portla.org. The bottom portion of the form will then be completed, signed and returned to your school representative/ teacher for you to submit to LAUSD Transportation Division. Please make a copy for your records.

Will you reimburse us for the bus if we make arrangements through a private/charter bus company?

All LAUSD schools must make their arrangements through the LAUSD Transportation Services Division (see above).

Private schools, charter schools and other educational entities must make their own bus arrangements:

- To begin, fill out the [Bus Subsidy Request for Reimbursement](#) form.
- If approved, the Port will sign and return the reimbursement form to the school coordinator/teacher.
- Make your bus reservation; LAUSD schools must use a bus company that is on the approved list.
- Your school or school district is responsible for paying the bus company for transportation costs. If your Bus Subsidy Request for Reimbursement form is approved and you submit an invoice as noted below, the Port of Los Angeles will reimburse you for up to \$300 of your bus transportation cost within one month of your trip.

Is the (up to) \$300 reimbursement for bus transportation per school or per class?

The Port will reimburse (up to) \$300 once *per school, per school year*.

What if our transportation cost amounts to more than \$300?

Your school will be responsible for any difference over the \$300 allotment per school for transportation.

Is it possible to get more funding for additional buses?

No. In order for the Port to extend this tour opportunity to as many schools in the southland as possible, we have a maximum of \$300 per school budgeted.



PORT OF LOS ANGELES SCHOOL BOAT TOUR PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ADDRESS AND DIRECTIONS

What information should we give the bus driver regarding our field trip destination?

Your bus driver should be directed to the [Downtown Harbor](#) located at Berth 85, Port of Los Angeles, San Pedro, CA 90731 (foot of 6th Street, just north of the Los Angeles Maritime Museum)

Directions:

- Take the **110 Freeway South** toward San Pedro.
- Exit at **Harbor Boulevard** (just before the entrance of the Vincent Thomas Bridge).
- Make a **RIGHT** onto **Harbor Boulevard**.
- At **6th Street**, make a **LEFT** (you should be facing the Los Angeles Maritime Museum at Berth 85).
- Make a **RIGHT** on **Sampson Way**.
- Buses can then turn around at a safe, legal location and drop-off in front of the Museum.
- The **Downtown Harbor** is located just **north** of the Los Angeles Maritime Museum.

CONTACT

Who is my Port of Los Angeles School Boat Tour contact?

For questions, contact John Yoon, Education Programs Coordinator, at (310) 732-3960 or at jyoon@portla.org. For additional assistance, please contact the Community Relations Division at (310) 732-3508.