



Newport News Tourism
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Newport News Tourism Launches a Unique Way to Experience Newport News Shipyard

Explore the shipyard's impact on the people who "build, work, and live here."

Newport News, VA, July 8, 2024 – Newport News Tourism is thrilled to announce the *Newport News Shipyard Experience*, exploring the rich history and groundbreaking work of Newport News Shipbuilding and its impact on the Newport News we know today.

An all-weather immersive exhibit, located temporarily at Newport News City Hall, provides a historic timeline of the shipyard and its extraordinary contributions to the city. The exhibit reveals the deep-rooted connections between Collis P. Huntington (the shipyard's founder), the Huntington family, and the City of Newport News. Eventually, it will be moved to the soon-to-be opened James River Strand, a project that will transform the downtown waterfront, giving guests closer access to the James River.

As a major benefactor, Newport News Shipbuilding, a division of Huntington Ingalls Industries, plays a crucial role in supporting and enhancing the city's quality of life and economic stability. As the largest employer on the Peninsula, it significantly contributes to the community's well-being, economic development, and overall prosperity. They also engage in numerous philanthropic activities, including being a founding sponsor of the One City Marathon.

"This installation is a powerful tribute to the synergy and impact of the Shipyard," explained Cleder Jones, Director of Communications and Tourism. "As you walk into the exhibit you can feel the connectivity and pride we have in being a city of builders for generations. We have truly accomplished our mission here, to showcase how together we build, work, and live in this great City."

If you're unable to visit the exhibit at City Hall, you can explore elements of it through an online story map. This self-paced journey features 10 key sites in Newport News, including the shipyard's first vessel, the Tugboat *Dorothy*, and its famed Apprentice School. The story map combines location data with photos and text, offering a virtual tour complete with descriptions, links, and addresses to sites that reflect the Huntington family's influence.

Additionally, plans are underway to introduce a complementary trolley tour featuring significant sites throughout Newport News that are tied to the shipyard, said Desiree McDaniel, Newport News Tourism Manager. "The Shipyard Experience capitalizes on visitor interest, offering a unique perspective on the story of Newport News. We plan to prominently feature and promote it as part of our broader Newport News tourism experiences!"

To see *The Shipyard Experience* exhibit, head to Newport News City Hall at 2400 Washington Ave. in downtown Newport News or click [here](#) to explore the story map.