



USS MONTANA COMMITTEE

*Supporting commissioning of SSN 794,
and all who sail aboard her as she protects our nation*

USS MONTANA (SSN 794) Commissioning (June 25, 2022) Week Schedule for Montanans Norfolk, Virginia

*(Revised Schedule of 6/22/22 for all those attending from Montana,
and selected guests.)*

The overall plan for the USS MONTANA commissioning week in Norfolk, Virginia, remains generally as shown on previous preliminary commissioning week schedules. However, this likely final one reflects additional and updated information. Please review it carefully and perhaps keep it with you for easy reference. Its reminders and tips will help ensure that we have a meaningful and fun experience as we support our namesake warship and her sailors in Norfolk!

A logistics reminder: Naval Station Norfolk (NSN) event transportation will be from and to the Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel, 235 East Main Street in Norfolk. However, although our discounted room block there filled quickly, the hotels we listed in previous schedules (and that are shown at the end of this schedule) are all within a few blocks of the Norfolk Waterside Marriott, the Thursday evening get-acquainted event, the Friday morning optional harbor tour pier and Friday night reception.

In Norfolk you'll want to always wear your name badge that you'll pick up at our Waterside Marriott Hotel Information Desk. The desk is in the Start Lounge area on the second level at the top of the escalator. Adjacent to our desk will be the Navy's Will Call desk where you may pick up replacement or duplicate ticket that did not reach you by mail before you began travel to Norfolk. Our desk hours are shown by day. The Navy desk will be open Wednesday - Friday 1:00 to 6:00 PM.

In addition to wearing your name badge, it is also important to carry a government ID (such as driver's license or passport). And, as explained in a previous email and in a recent News page blog on our website, the Navy-required documentation of COVID vaccination or negative COVID test by an outside party within 72 hours of entering Naval Station Norfolk should be kept handy.

For Saturday's (6/25) official commissioning ceremony you must have your ticket that you received in the mail from the Navy or that you pick up at the Will Call desk explained above, along with your ID.

Please keep in mind that weather in Norfolk may be hot and humid. Rain showers are also possible, so you may want to pack a light rain jacket or small folding umbrella. Small unopened bottles of water may be carried onto the commissioning pier. Large umbrellas or bags, such as backpacks, will not be allowed on the pier. All events are rain or shine.

If in Norfolk you have a question, please check at our information desk, or ask one of our volunteers identified by their uniquely-red-banded name badges and/or red polo shirts.

Craig Anderson, our vice chairman who has been key to putting our Montanans' program together, may also be reached at 406.855.5520.

We'll continue to provide updates as needed, most likely now by email and/or on the ussmontanacommittee.us website News blog.

All USS Montana Committee team members look forward to being with you this week in Norfolk!

Daily Schedules

Wednesday, June 22 [Travel Day for some, with arrivals at [Norfolk International Airport](#) (ORF)]

Some USSMTC leaders and others may arrive on Wednesday to help with logistics and/or because of specific roles at a special crew-and-spouse outdoor pasty lunch on Thursday.

Thursday, June 23 (General travel day for those participating in Friday and Saturday events, with arrivals at ORF)

Suggested general arrival day.

11:30 AM Crew Pasty Lunch
to
1:30 PM Slade Cutter Athletic Park
100 Elementary Drive
Norfolk, VA

This is essentially a crew-and-family-only event. Others include only selected leaders, guests with roles, and volunteers. Dress: business casual or western.

1:00 PM USS Montana Committee Information Desk open
to PLEASE CHECK IN AS SOON AS YOU CAN AFTER ARRIVAL.
8:30 PM Norfolk Waterside Marriot Hotel, 235 East Main Street, Start Lounge,
second level.

6 :00 PM Informal open house for all Montanans and friends at the [Blue Moon Taphouse in the Waterside District \(333 Waterside Drive\)](#) overlooking the Harbor. Across the street from the Norfolk Waterside Marriott, this will be a no host place to meet and catch a limited menu of food. Come and go as you please.

Casual attire.

This no-host event is a short walk from hotels. Participants will be able to meet one another and hear any program updates.

Friday, June 24 (Morning optional Harbor Tour Cruise, Naval Station Norfolk tours and lunch, Evening USS Montana Committee reception)

7:00 AM USS Montana Committee Information Desk open.
to PLEASE CHECK IN IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO.
7:00 PM Norfolk Waterside Marriot Hotel, 235 East Main Street, Start Lounge, second level.

With a full morning ahead, please note that breakfast will be on your own.

Casual attire is suggested, with comfortable rubber-soled shoes. No sandals or open-toed shoes please.

Be sure to carry government-issued ID such as driver's license or passport, and your COVID information.

7:45 AM Harbor Tour Cruise for those pre-registered

*The Harbor Tour Cruise includes Naval Station Norfolk and will be an amazing experience. Participants are, with a likely view from the water of the next day's Naval Station Norfolk USS MONTANA commissioning site. To sign up, go to:
<https://fareharbor.com/embeds/book/navalbasecruises/items/40974/availability/902565304/book/?full-items=yes>*

(We understand that those who were booked for the tour when it was scheduled for the afternoon have been moved to this morning tour. Questions: 757.627.7406.)

The harbor tour pier is at the foot of Main Street, a short walk from the Waterside Marriott and other hotels. Just go toward the Nauticus Museum, then go left through the park where you will see the tour boat docked.

10:00 AM Meet at the park/Half Moone Cruise and Celebration Center drive adjacent to the harbor tour pier (see directions above) for transportation to Naval Station Norfolk tours.

10:15 AM Buses (USSMTC 1 & 2) depart for [Naval Station Norfolk base](#)

Norfolk has the largest naval complex in the world, home of the Atlantic Fleet, with aircraft carriers, destroyers, submarines, 18 Naval Aviation aircraft squadrons, and more.

SAFETY & COMFORT NOTE: Norfolk Naval Station and warship tours are designed to be wonderful learning experiences. They will allow us unique opportunities to see, hear about, and better understand both

technology and the dedication of those who use it in defense of our nation. But our principal concern is for your safety and comfort during a tour. So please be alert and follow crew instructions.

We ask that you wear comfortable casual clothes that will allow easy movement, including climbing of stairs or ladders. We also ask that you wear rubber-soled shoes with closed toes. No sandals or open toes, please.

Although most of our touring will be by bus or easy walk, going aboard a submarine can be a bit challenging. It has narrow passageways and small spaces - and the need to be physically able to climb down and pull oneself up vertical metal ladders. So, if you believe you'll be more comfortable staying topside, visiting with crew there and absorbing all there is to see around you, that is a perfectly fine decision that we would encourage.

The detailed bus schedule follows:

USSMTC 1 Bus (54 Passenger: Craig Anderson leads on this bus)

10:45 AM Drops 54 passengers off at Naval Station Pier 14

 30 folks tour USS MONTANA

 24 folks tour USS MESA VERDE, the third SAN ANTONIO-Class amphibious transport dock ship

11:45 AM 24 folks tour USS MONTANA

 30 folks tour USS MESA VERDE

12:45 PM USSMTC 1 Bus picks up these 54 and takes then to Vista Point for Lunch
Lunch is buffet style and costs \$15 per person

1:30 PM USSMTC 1 Bus takes these 54 folks on a 90-minute Naval Station Norfolk Base tour

3:00 PM USSMTC 1 Bus heads back to Norfolk Waterside Marriot

USSMTC 2 Bus (81 Passenger: Paul Babb leads on this bus.)

10:45 AM All people do a 90-minute Norfolk Naval Station Base

12:15 PM Drops all folks off for lunch at Vista Point.
Lunch is buffet style and costs \$15 per person

- 1:00 PM USSMTC 2 Bus takes all folks to Naval Station Pier 14
- One-half of group tours USS Montana
- One half of group tours USS MESA VERDE, the third SAN ANTONIO-Class amphibious transport dock ship
- 2:00 PM One half of group tours USS MONTANA
- One half of group tours USS MESA VERDE, the third SAN ANTONIO-Class amphibious transport dock ship
- 3:00 PM USSMTC Bus 2 picks all folks up at Pier 14 and takes them to Norfolk Waterside Marriott

Buses should arrive back at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel by 3:45 PM.

5:45 PM Depart for the approximately 10-15-minute walk of several blocks to [Half Moone Cruise and Celebration Center at One Waterside Drive](#)

6-9:30 PM USS Montana Committee Reception and Presentation Program
*Half Moone Cruise and Celebration Center
 1 Waterside Drive
 Norfolk, VA*

Valet parking will be available.

Dress: Navy Summer Whites, Business/Business Casual, Traditional or Western.

Heavy hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served.

This is a premier event of the USS Montana Committee, recognizing the leaders and crew of the USS MONTANA, and selected individuals who have had significant roles in building and supporting SSN 794 during the lead-up to her commissioning into the Navy fleet.

All Montanans, as well as state and national officials, special Tribal representatives and others are invited.

The program portion of the evening will showcase Montana and her people. It will also include special presentations of gifts to the USS MONTANA from the Committee, from Montana Tribes, shipbuilders, contractors and others.

Saturday June 25 (USS MONTANA Commissioning)

7:00 AM USS Montana Committee Information Desk open.
to Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel, Start, second level.
7:00 PM

Please note that breakfast will be on your own except for the light fare shown below.

For today's events, all participants must have a government-issued ID (such as a driver's license or passport) and COVID documentation in their possession. A commissioning ticket provided by the Navy is also required.

7:15 AM Commissioning ceremony platform participants, officials and other invitees to a pre-ceremony breakfast briefing reception gather at Norfolk Waterside Marriott bus staging area for check-in.

Also gathering for check-in are Tribal commissioning ceremony participants, special public greeters, and ceremony volunteers.

Dress for Breakfast briefing reception: Business (jacket & tie)/Traditional

Dress for the commissioning ceremony is Business/Business Casual/Traditional

7:30 AM First bus (USSMTC 1) departs for Naval Station Norfolk (Stop 1: Pennsylvania House; Stop 2: Pier 14 commissioning venue)

7:45 AM General attendee staging at the Marriott Waterside Hotel for bus transportation to the Commissioning Ceremony

Breakfast is on your own, although coffee, juice and rolls will be Available.

Those needing to go to the airport for afternoon flights should bring luggage to the Marriott Waterside Hotel for storing if they would like to take a bus to the airport, arriving at ORF around 1:00 PM. They should then take the first bus leaving the commissioning ceremony at its conclusion. A stop will be made to pick up luggage at the Marriott Waterside Hotel on the way to the airport.

8:15 AM Second bus (USSMTC 2) departs for Naval Station Norfolk's Pier 14

USSMTC 1 bus will have returned to be available to transport more Montanans to NNS as needed.

- 9:00 AM (approx) Pre-Commissioning Ceremony guest arrivals, seating and events
- Montanans select seats in ticketed priority area, welcome and mingle with other attendees, and experience pre-ceremony events, including a planned Native American inter-tribal flag song performed by Montana tribal members.*
- 10:00 AM U.S. Navy traditional formal Commissioning Ceremony and “bringing the ship to life”
- Pier 14
Naval Station Norfolk*
- Dress: Business/Business Casual/Traditional*
- 11:30 AM First bus (USSMTC 1) leaves Pier 14 for Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel
- This time is approximate, depending on concluding time of the commissioning ceremony. However, as soon as all airport-bound guests are aboard, a first bus (with USSMTC 1 sign) will depart for Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel luggage pickup and then the airport.*
- 11:50 AM (approx.) A second bus (USSMTC 2) will leave at approximately 11:50, or about twenty minutes later, allowing time for photos, restroom, etc. This bus will go only to the Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel.
- For those choosing to go to the airport on their own, or from other hotels, there is taxi and Uber-type service available. Your hotel concierge can assist with arrangements if necessary.*

Appendix

Norfolk hotels within walking distance of the Marriott Waterside Hotel, and Friday June 24 Harbor Tour and USS Montana Committee Chairman's Reception at Half Moone Cruise and Celebration Center:

Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel
225 East Main Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
[Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel](#)
757-627-4200

Sheraton Waterside Marriott Hotel-<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/orfsi-sheraton-norfolk-waterside-hotel/>
777 Waterside Drive
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-622-6664
Courtyard by Marriott Norfolk Downtown
<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/orfdt-courtyard-norfolk-downtown/>
520 Plume Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-963-6000

Hilton Norfolk The Main- https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/orfwahh-hilton-norfolk-the-main/?SEO_id=BING-AMER-HI-ORFWAHH&y_source=1_NTg4NTgyOC00ODMtbG9jYXRpb24ud2Vic2l0ZQ%3D%3D
100 Main Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-763-6200

Glass Light Hotel & Gallery, Autograph Collection-
www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/orfav-glass-light-hotel-and-gallery-autograph-collection/
201 Granby St
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-222-3033