



Information for Passengers when Traveling on the Daufuskie Island Ferry

Preparing for Your Trip

TRAVEL TIPS

The boats have enclosed climate-controlled cabins and open-air decks.

There are restrooms at Buckingham Landing and on board the ferries.

The boats are ADA compatible. Request assistance for passengers needing special accommodations.

Reservations are strongly encouraged.

Shoes, shirts and bathing suit cover-ups are required in all areas operated by the Daufuskie Island Ferry.

Be prepared for changing weather conditions while on the water and on the island. Dress in layers. Sunscreen and bug spray are good choices to take along with you.

Daufuskie has no town-center nor sidewalks so be sure to have a friend, a golf cart or a bicycle waiting for you when you step off the ferry. For more information, go to www.daufuskieislandferry.com/make-reservations/.

RESERVATIONS

Book your travel early. While you can book the ferry on the day of travel, space sell out quickly at busy times—especially in the summer or on holiday weekends.

Reservations are strongly recommended.

Reservations can be made on-line at www.DaufuskieIslandFerry.com or by phone at 843-940-7704.

Passengers without reservations are not guaranteed passage.

When payment for the reservation is made, a virtual ticket is created for the passenger. The ferry does not use paper tickets for the out-going leg.

Passengers should check weather and call ahead if they suspect travel advisories or restrictions may be in place.

The ferry has a 100% refund policy if cancellations are made at least 24 hours prior to departure.

Should travel plans change, updates to reservations or refunds can be requested by calling the ferry office 843-940-7704.

Parking

Ferries follow an on-time departure policy.

SINGLE-DAY VISITORS

Single-day visitors to Daufuskie should plan to arrive at the visitor's center (Suite 102A, 1536 Fording Island Road, Bluffton) 45 minutes prior to departure.

Parking for single-day visitors is free at the Daufuskie Visitor Center where a comfortable shuttle bus will take you to Buckingham Landing.

OVERNIGHT VISITORS

Overnight visitors should plan to arrive at Buckingham Landing (35 Fording Island Road Extension, Bluffton, SC) approximately 1 hour prior to departure.

Overnight visitors should go directly to Buckingham Landing for assistance with luggage drop-off and parking.

Follow the terminal attendant's instructions for obtaining an over-night parking permit and directions about where to park.

If the Buckingham Landing parking lot is full, drivers may be instructed to park at the gas station or the Visitors Center.

Arriving at Buckingham Landing

ARRIVING

Drive slowly as you approach Buckingham Landing.

Obey state parking laws and ferry parking regulations.

Watch for pedestrians.

There is no ticket office at the Landing.

The ferry uses virtual tickets which were created when the passenger paid for his reservation. Virtual tickets are validated upon check-in. (See Check-in Process)

LUGGAGE

Unload luggage at the cargo drop-off area.

All luggage should be closed and tagged with the owner's name.

There is no charge for items which passengers can comfortably carry on at boarding call.

No more than 2 bags or 1 wagon per passenger may be carried on. Other luggage must be checked.

Passengers may use collapsible wagons, carts, and strollers.

Baggage handling fees are due and payable directly to the crew if assistance with baggage is needed.

The Daufuskie Island Ferry is not responsible for lost or stolen items. For lost and found service please call the ferry office.

Cargo and freight fees apply to selected materials. Please see our website for freight/cargo guidelines.

The charge for transporting kayaks and bicycles can be included in the reservation or paid by credit card prior to boarding.

Passengers should leave the baggage area as soon as luggage is checked, and parking permits are received.

After parking the car, proceed to the designated passenger waiting area.

BOARDING

Ferries follow an on-time departure policy.

The Daufuskie Island Ferry does not accept cash.

Pre-paid reservations or, if space is available, credit card payment is required upon boarding.

Wait for the boarding call from the crew or terminal attendant.

Request boarding assistance if necessary.

A golf cart, operated by the boat crew, is available for passengers requesting assistance with boarding and deboarding.

ON-BOARD CHECK-IN

The check-in process (payment validation) occurs while the ferry is in transit.

Virtual tickets, that were created as part of the pre-paid reservation process, are listed on the Ferry's computer-generated passenger list.

The crew will confirm that the passenger's name is on the list of virtual tickets. If not, payment by credit card will be required.

Paper tickets are not used for the out-going leg - paper tickets/receipts will be provided for the return leg.

All passengers must sign in on the ferry manifest sheets.



Ferry Safety Rules and Regulations

Service will be denied anyone who does not comply with established ferry policies and procedures. All passengers will follow instructions from the ferry team.

Passengers must be appropriately dressed in all areas operated by the Daufuskie Island Ferry.

PRIVATE BOAT USE OF FERRY DOCKS

Private boat use of the docks at Buckingham Landing is prohibited without express consent by ferry company management.

Docks at Melrose Landing can be reserved for long-term or short-term use. Register with the dock master or dock management by calling 843-341-8106

REGULATIONS FOR PASSENGERS TRAVELING WITH PETS

Passengers must keep pets on leash or in pet carriers at all times and in all areas operated by the Ferry.

Passengers may not take pets into the cabin except for dogs properly identified as service animals.

Passengers must not allow their pets to sit on passenger seating.

Passengers must clean up after their pets on all ferry property.

Safety Guidelines

SAFETY REGULATIONS AT ALL FERRY DOCKS

Use the docks at your own risk.

Remain in the waiting area until boarding call is given.

No running on the docks.

No riding bikes, scooters or skateboards in the passenger areas, on docks or on the ramps.

Be careful on the dock ramps especially at low tide and when walking on uneven or slippery dock surfaces.

Ask a crew member or terminal attendant if a passenger requires special assistance.

Follow crew instructions when boarding or disembarking.

Be especially careful on gangway ramps and boarding plates which may be moving or slippery.

SAFETY REGULATIONS AT MELROSE LANDING

Passengers in need of a restroom will be allowed to board the ferry and then return to the waiting area except while it is being fueled or serviced by mechanics.

Passengers are not allowed to stand on the floating dock while boats are actively arriving and departing.

No personal or rental golf carts are allowed on the dock.

Although fishing is permitted, ferry operations have priority over the use of the dock.

Passenger Guidelines

ON-BOARD REGULATIONS

Passengers may not consume beverages from glass containers while on the ferry.

Passengers under the influence of drugs or alcohol may be denied passage as determined by the crew.

Passengers may not lay down on nor put feet or shoes on the boat seats.

Headphones should be used when listening to music or other audio programs on personal devices.

Cell phone conversations allowed on outside decks only.

Smoking and vaping is strictly prohibited in passenger waiting areas, docks and ferry.

Remain seated while the boat departs and arrives. Do not sit on steps at any time.

Watch your step over thresholds, ladders and steps.

All passengers & small children must stay off handrails.

Minors must travel with and always be under adult supervision on the docks and boats.

Passengers are responsible for collecting their personal items when leaving a ferry vessel

