



Fun in Education

Volume II, Issue I
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Gold Coast Tour & Travel, Inc.

Gold Coast — Past & Present

While Gold Coast Tour & Travel, Inc. has been an integral part of educational tours to St. Augustine, Florida, for the past 10 years, we've been busy making some wonderful changes to our format and structure that we hope will have terrific benefits for students and educators, alike.

For example, with your tour itinerary, Gold Coast will now be sending you even more information regarding each of the sites your students will visit. Some of this information will come from the Gold Coast office, and some will be sent to you directly from the site providers at Gold Coast's request. In this way, educators can begin to explore the various

tour sites they will be visiting with their students, in advance, with greater information available.

Two weeks before your tour, Gold Coast will be sending you a fun, age-appropriate "Fact Pack" filled with information and educational activities related to your tour of St. Augustine. This "Fact Pack" will include activities that can be incorporated into your classroom's art, reading, writing, and history lesson plans.

We want to make this a truly interactive experience.

As you can see, we're also creating a new newsletter format that will be available both online and in your mailbox. Here we hope to keep

you up-to-date on what's going on at Gold Coast and in the City of St. Augustine, as well as provide interesting tidbits of information.

Soon we'll even be including a chapter-by-chapter (fictional) story about a child from the past, written from the child's point-of-view. What was it like to be a kid in St. Augustine in the 19th century?

Our Web site is also developing, and we invite you to take a look. It will be filled with beautiful pictures and valuable information aimed at helping to make your next visit to St. Augustine as valuable as it is memorable.

Your St. Augustine Educational Connection

Begun by Carol Davis, Andrea Holiday, and Elizabeth Holiday in 1994, Gold Coast Tour & Travel, Inc., has the distinction of being the first "receptive" tour company in St. Augustine, Florida. "Receptive" means "inbound" tours.

While seeing a need for a

hands-on service that would provide students with the best possible experience of the Nation's Oldest City, Carol, Andrea and Elizabeth have made it a priority to develop each and every itinerary by hand. They take pride in their personalized service, and in the many edu-

cational groups who have returned year after year. As Elizabeth Holiday says, "Our goal is to make history fun!! Our field trips are geared to be highly educational but a great time too. We want to reinforce what the students are learning in the classroom."

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Special points of interest:

- Gold Coast is adding more and more services aimed at helping students and educators get the very most from their experience of the Nation's Oldest City.
- We would love to hear from you! Please let us know how we may best serve you!

Minorcan History in St. Augustine

In early 1768, an estimated 1400 Minorcan immigrants sailed from the Port of Mahon, Minorca, to the New World. It was thought that their familiarity with agriculture in warm climates would bode them well in the tropical South.

Intended to farm the plantation areas of New Smyrna, Florida, the travelers were promised portions of the lands they worked in exchange for their services. Treated poorly and unfairly, they eventually gave up their dreams of land ownership and fled

north to St. Augustine, where the Governor gave them refuge.

The Minorcan people and their culture are still strong in St. Augustine today.

Minorcan Shrimp Pilau

2 lbs fresh headed shrimp
1/3 lb salt bacon
1 can chopped tomato
3 medium yellow onions
1 green pepper
1 small Datil pepper (for less spice

remove seeds)
1 bay leaf
2 cups uncooked white rice

Mince bacon and onion and slowly sauté until onion has browned. Add chopped tomato and bay leaf to pan and simmer 10 minutes. Add minced peppers, cooking till brown. Add shrimp, rice and enough water to cover to top of pot. Reduce heat to low/simmer and cook until rice is fluffy. Do not stir.
(serves 4-6)

Pirates and Treasure Tour

The Pirates and Treasures Tour is a one and a half hour walking tour of the downtown St. Augustine area led by a pirate or damsel guide (and the students themselves!).

A number of clues are given at each stop on the tour. The students must figure out their next destination by the clues provided and guess the location of the treasure chest at the end!

A colorful historical lecture is given along the way. At its conclusion, each student receives his or her own "gold doubloon!"

For religious schools this is a great alternative to a "Ghost Tour."

Contact Gold Coast Tour & Travel to make the Pirates and Treasures Tour part of your students next visit to St. Augustine!

(904) 829-2431
1-800-374-8687

<http://www.GoldCoastFun.com>

[E-mail Gold Coast!](mailto:info@goldcoastfun.com)



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can we use our own busses?

A: Using your own transportation (school busses or parents vehicles) is certainly an option that will help to save money on your educational field trip.

Q: If a child is sick and cannot go on trip, do we still have to pay?

A: No. Last minute changes happen, if a student is unwell we will amend your invoice accordingly.

Q: This is our first trip to St. Augustine - can we get lost?

A: A Gold Coast Tour Guide will be with you from the moment you arrive till the end of your visit- we'll give you a map to boot!

Q: Will Gold Coast send us anything that we can use for a study guide?

A: Yes!! Depending on your itinerary, Gold Coast will have the specific attractions send informational directly to you.

In addition, two weeks prior to your tour, Gold Coast will send a special package filled with fun activities and study aids to correspond with your visit!

You can find more Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on our Web site at:

<http://www.GoldCoastFun.com>

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St. Augustine's African American Heritage

From the time of early exploration, the rich, bittersweet story of the African American has woven a vibrant pattern through the fabric of St. Augustine's history.

The mainland of North America was first sighted by the Spanish treasure hunter, Ponce De Leon, in 1513. Ponce De Leon claimed the land for Spain and named it "La Florida," or "Land of Flowers."

African Americans participated in the early 16th century Spanish explorations, and were, no doubt, an integral part of the establishment of the colony known as St. Augustine.

in the 17th and 18th centuries, African born slaves escaped from English plantations throughout Georgia and South Carolina and sought asylum in the Spanish held Florida lands, where slavery laws were less harsh.

The Spanish offered two routes out of slavery: conversion to Roman Catholicism, and/or military service to the Spanish government. As early as 1683, a company of African and mulatto militia was formed in St. Augustine.

In 1738, Spain established a fortified town specifically for runaway slaves under the command of the African Captain of the Spanish militia, Francisco Menendez. The resulting Gracia Real de Santa Teresa de Mose (Fort Mose) was the first legally sanctioned free African town in what is now known as the United States (Florida didn't become a state until 1845!).

Born in Mandingo, Africa, Captain Menendez fled slavery in the British territories, escaping through Georgia to Florida's Spanish-occupied lands, in 1724. In exchange for emancipation (freedom), he joined other African ex-slaves in the Spanish militia and converted to Catholicism. The fort and Captain Menendez's community thrived for many years until the British came to Florida.

In May of 1740, General James Oglethorpe, Founder and Governor of the British colony of Georgia, marched on St. Augustine and captured Fort Mose. The post was abandoned without resistance to protect the civilians who lived there.

The Spanish militiamen regrouped

inside the nearby walls of St. Augustine. With help from a local garrison, they stormed Fort Mose on June 26th, and made a valiant attack. Only two dozen British soldiers are known to have survived to tell the tale, after their retreat back to Georgia. The attack has been known to the British as "Bloody Mose" ever since.

The African men of the Spanish militia rebuilt Fort Mose and prospered until 1763, when Spain ceded Florida to Britain by treaty.

Today, although most of Fort Mose has been reduced to remnant stone foundations, the battle is a reminder of the resolute character of African Americans and their African ancestors who fought so bravely on North American soil.

African Americans have played a significant role in St. Augustine's history—from the very beginning of Florida's early exploration.

Theodore Morris brings his 'Florida's Lost Tribes' to St. Augustine

Theodore Morris is in St. Augustine, and so are his beautiful oil paintings.

With painstakingly researched detail, Theodore Morris chronicles Native Americans who lived in Florida as many as 13,000 years ago, but who look, in his paintings, as if they might have just pulled their boat through the mangroves or come in from the pinewoods.

Recognized internationally for his

work, Mr. Morris will be working with Gold Coast Tour & Travel, Inc.'s Educational Tours program, providing coloring pages for the "Fun Packs" and lecturing to students.

You can learn more about Theodore Morris on his Gold Coast Web site at: http://www.goldcoastfun.com/theodore_morris.htm

Morris spends many hours studying

Native American records and artifacts. He's crisscrossed the State of Florida going to universities, museums and libraries, talking to scholars, even joining in at archaeological digs—all to make his paintings as authentic as possible.

This is a real treat for Gold Coast, for art and history enthusiasts of all ages, and for lucky students visiting St. Augustine, Florida.



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Would you like to receive our newsletter in your mailbox?

1-800-374-8687

(904) 829-2431

goldcoast@bellsouth.net

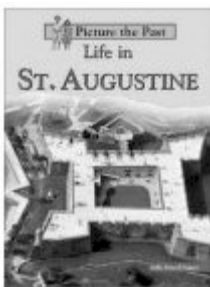
We're on the Web!
<http://www.GoldCoastFun.com>

Attention 4th and 6th Grade Field Trip Planners!!

Recommended Reading

Life in St. Augustine,

by Sally Senzell Isaacs



Reading level: Ages 4-8

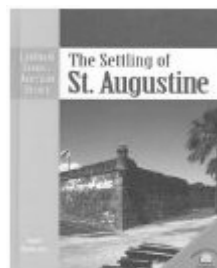
- **Paperback:** 32 pages ; Dimensions (in inches): 0.11 x 9.92 x 8.00
- **Publisher:** Heinemann Library; (September 2002)
- **ISBN:** 1403405263

An overview of life in St.

Augustine, Florida, from 1513 to 1845, including the housing, food, clothing, schools, and everyday activities of the settlers, as well as their interaction with native people.

The Settling of St. Augustine (Landmark Events in American History),

by Janet Riehecky



Reading level: Ages 9-12

- **Paperback:** 48 pages ; Dimensions (in inches): 0.25 x 9.75 x 7.50
- **Publisher:** Gareth Stevens; (January 2003)
- **ISBN:** 0836854047

Before the Europeans -- The Spanish come to Florida -- Founding the settlement -- Life in St. Augustine -- The Missions.

See more Recommended Reading on books and articles about St. Augustine, Florida, on our Web site at: www.GoldCoastFun.com