



Visitor Package

for the

NSCS GRAYFOX TWR 825

THE GRAYFOX ASSOCIATION

WELCOME ABOARD

AUGUST 4, 2014

PORT HURON, MICHIGAN

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Welcome:

Welcome to *The Grayfox*. The NSCS Grayfox (TWR-825) is currently the largest ship for training of the Naval Sea Cadet Corps (NSCC). She is home ported in Port Huron, Michigan and is used by the NSCC for shipboard training. The NSCS prefix stands for "Naval Sea Cadet Ship." The Grayfox is also dedicated to support training of youth groups in maritime operations, character, and service and to promote academic achievement and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math).

About the Grayfox:

The *Grayfox* started life in 1985 as a 120-foot Torpedo Weapons Retriever named USS *Swampfox*, one of ten. She was assigned to the United States Navy's Atlantic Undersea Testing and Evaluation Center (AUTECE), [Andros Island, Bahamas](#), where her job was to launch and retrieve test torpedoes and targets. Eventually, as torpedoes became less of a threat, the Navy decided to mothball her in 1995. She was then sent to [Green Cove Springs, Florida](#), where a group of sponsors found her and decided the Sea Cadets needed their own ship to train on. The Secretary of the Navy transferred the NSCS *Grayfox* to the NSCC in August 15, 1997. In 2014, a private non-profit association was created and the Grayfox was transferred to The Grayfox Association, still known as NSCS Grayfox TWR 825.

Preparation:

In preparation for training aboard the Grayfox, we recommend a review of some of the resources available on the Grayfox website www.nscsgrayfox.org. The Welcome Aboard package provides some of the travel and logistics information for the Grayfox and the Port Huron area. The resources on the website provide some orientation to shipboard life.

A few of the documents that are recommended include:

- Sea Bag list
- Ship description and terms
- PQS

Additional documents are provided on the website under the section Guidance.

The Grayfox is equipped with the following berthing arrangements.

- Cabin – 2 officers
- Cabin – 2 ships crew and 1 lavatory (head)
- Leader berthing – 3 beds (1 rack)
- Female berthing – 12 beds (4 racks) and 1 lavatory (head)
- Male berthing - 16 beds and 2 leader beds (10 Racks)
- Community lavatory (head)

Sailors should prepare to bring their own bedding or sleeping bag. Bring only materials and colors that would be consistent with a team environment, and avoid exotic colors.

The ship has a small galley for food preparation. Food will be purchased in bulk from local merchants and prepared in the galley. We will emphasize nourishing, balanced meals and not much snacking. Fresh food is available to maintain energy levels. Everyone will participate in meal preparation and clean-up.

Ship cleanliness is very important to maintain a healthy environment and avoid sickness. It is everyone's duty to ensure the ship is clean.

Medical stations are readily available on-board the ship and ship crew are qualified to dress minor situations. Medical facilities and pharmacies are readily available close to the ship for emergency situations (see below). Bring an adequate quantity of prescription medications.

Embark / Debark

The process of coming on-board or departing the ship is referred to embark/debark. When coming aboard, we want everyone to get oriented and begin a routine of shipboard life. When departing, all of your responsibilities are fully completed, you leave with all of your possessions, and you are safely on your way.



Embark:

Noun 1. embarkation - the act of passengers and crew getting aboard a ship or aircraft
[boarding](#), [embarkment](#), [embarkation](#),

Upon arrival, a person should be dressed appropriately for a ship. Certain clothing attire is not safe or does not represent the character of the training program.

A person must render respect to the United States flag (salute if in uniform) before boarding the ship. The person must also state "request permission to come aboard." Once aboard, the person will check in with the Duty Officer. During check-in, at a minimum, the following will occur.

- Sign the ship roster
- Berthing will be assigned
- Stow (store) all gear (belongings)
- Prepare your rack (bedding)
- Hold Harmless agreement
- Ship orientation
- Duty assignment and watch bill

Debark:

Noun 1. debarkation - the act of passengers and crew getting off of a ship or aircraft

disembarkation, disembarkment, landing - the act of coming to land after a voyage
going ashore - debarkation from a boat or ship

In preparation to debark from the ship, the following will occur:

- Meet with assigned Officer
- Verify duties and responsibilities are completed
- Verify travel arrangements are complete and safe
- Update record of training
- Prepare and pack all personal items
- Field day (clean) assigned area

In the event that there are concerns during departure, notify your assigned Officer. All issues must be resolved or a plan for resolution in place before departure.

Operation and Training:

The ship supports a variety of people.

Ship crew: Volunteer mariners that provide for the safe operation and maintenance of the ship, include: Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, Captain, First Mate, Training Officer, Engineer, Boatswain, Navigator, etc,

Cadets: Leaders and youth of the training group on board. Cadet Leaders are responsible for all of the activities of the youth on-board.

Guests: The ship is host to a variety visitors including:

- VIP's (very important people): Special honors will be rendered by Cadets.
 - USCG: inspect the operation of the ship.
 - Maintenance contract workers: Perform special work on the ship.
 - Guest instructors: Conduct Cadet and crew training.
- Reservists: Navy and US Coast Guard Reservist provide training and maintenance.

All personnel on board are at the pleasure of the Commanding Officer, or the designated Officer, usually the Executive Officer. The COTC is the senior Cadet leader and will handle all of the affairs of the Cadets on-board. The COTC will coordinate with the ship Training Officer for Cadet training and evolutions.

All personal are required to have a Hold Harmless agreement on file.

The ship has a professional crew responsible for the operation of the ship. Safe ship operation takes priority in all instances. The ship crew will be busy about the ship to ensure equipment is operating properly, maintenance is performed, and proper equipment measurements are recorded.

The Training Officers on board the ship, including chaperones, are responsible for the conduct and performance of the training Cadets on the ship. A Plan of the Month/Day is posted in the

Galley and has the schedule of events. A training curriculum is prepared and the day's events are included in the Plan of the Day and posted in the Galley area. Everyone must review this at the beginning of each day and be prepared for the day's events and training.

All ship evolutions require documentation and reporting. A ship's log is maintained to record material events. A Quarterdeck may be staffed to record persons arriving and departing. The Engineer will be recording soundings of the ship and engineering equipment. The Navigator will be recording ship's position. Cadets may be assigned to participate and learn these important tasks.

Colors refers to hoisting the U.S. flag in the morning and retiring the flag at dusk. Colors will be observed whenever the ship is staffed.

Courtesy, respect, and professionalism are key to a good environment on-board the ship.

Travel and Transportation:

The address and location of the Grayfox are different.

Official address is: 852 32nd Street, P.O. Box 610613, Port Huron, MI 48061

Location address is: 60 Griswold St, Port Huron, MI 48060 (however, this will not give you the precise location on internet map service). You are better to use 51 Water St, Port Huron, MI 48060.

The GPS coordinates for the Grayfox are

Latitude: 42° 57.837 Longitude: 82° 25.3496

When you come to the Port Huron area, you will most likely come down Griswold Street. Just keep going east to the River, across Military Highway. You will see the Grayfox on your right (by the historic railroad dock towers), the Great Lakes Maritime Center is on your left at the foot of the Black river and St Clair River and the YMCA is on your left.

Map of the Metro Detroit Area



Airports

There are two main airports in the area: Metropolitan Detroit Airport is the main airport and the Bishop Airport in Flint is closer. Metro Detroit has more services. If you need travel assistance to the Grayfox, it is easier for us if you fly into Bishop airport.

Metro Detroit Airport (DTW)


Metro Detroit airport is the major airport in the area. As you exit the airport onto I-94, head east to Detroit and continue until you reach Port Huron. Exit 27 and continue straight to the river.

- Metro Detroit Airport (DTW)
<http://www.metroairport.com/TravelerInfo.aspx>
- Maps and directions
<http://www.metroairport.com/TravelerInfo/Arriving/MapsDirections/AreaMap.aspx>


Driving Directions from Metro Detroit Airport


Via I-94 E 79.05 miles

1 hour 19 mins / 1 hour 20 mins



Metro Detroit Airport Detroit, MI 48242

 3. Merge onto **I-94 E** toward **Detroit**. 73.0 mi


 4. Merge onto **I-69 Bus Loop E** via **EXIT 271** toward **Port Huron/Downtown**. You will be on Griswold Street.
4. Take this all of the way to the river 3.7 mi

Bishop Airport (FNT), Flint, Michigan

Bishop airport is closer but there are not as many flights into this airport. When you exit the airport, find I-69 east. Then continue straight to the St Clair river.

Bishop International Airport (FNT)
Airport Authority Offices
3425 W Bristol Rd # G3425, Flint, MI 48507
(810) 235-6560 | [Website](#) | [More Info](#)

Port Huron Airport

This is for those that want to fly their own.
[St Clair County International Airport](#) 

Local Transportation

There are not many options for local transportation from the airports or in Port Huron.

Metro Detroit Airport Transportation, approximately \$129 to Port Huron (248) 494-4124

The Bluewater Transit service <http://www.bwbus.com/bluewaterrolley.htm#> provides some interesting tour, shopping, and around town bus and trolley service.

Freedom Center – Metro Detroit Airport

Freedom Center is a unique, privately funded hospitality center for members of our Armed Forces traveling through Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW). Located close to the center of the McNamara Terminal, near Delta's Gate A43, we are open every day of the year. Normal operating hours are 6:00 am until midnight. However, as needed, we staff the facility around the clock to accommodate folks who have experienced weather delays, canceled flights or missed connections.

Hours of Operation 0600-2330 EST Daily

General Contact Information

Reception Desk Phone: **(734) 247-2762**
2581 WorldGateway Place
Detroit, MI 48242
Located inside DTW McNamara Terminal

After Hours Contact Information

Please call **(734) 494-0294** for assistance

ABOUT PORT HURON ☺

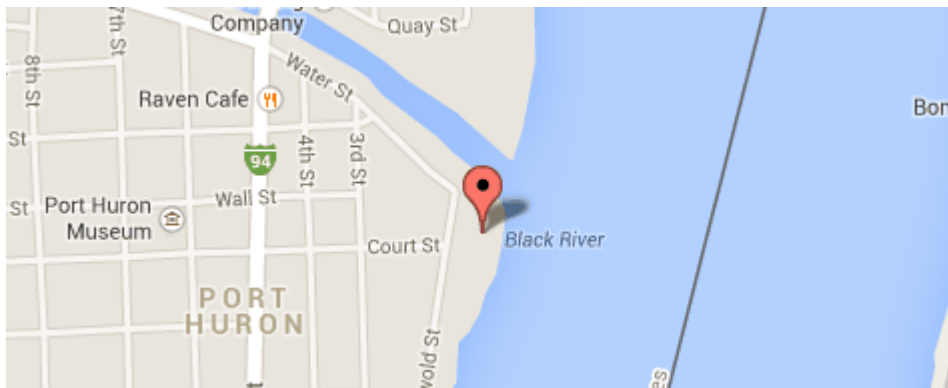
<http://www.porthuron.org/content.aspx?Pageid=63>

Port Huron is a city in the U.S. state of [Michigan](#) and the county seat of [St. Clair County](#). The population was 30,184 at the [2010 census](#). The city is adjacent to [Port Huron Township](#) but is administratively autonomous. It is joined by the [Blue Water Bridge](#) over the [St. Clair River](#) to [Point Edward, Ontario](#) in [Canada](#). The city lies at the southern end of [Lake Huron](#) and is the eastern most point on land in Michigan. Port Huron is home to a [Domtar](#) Paper Mill; [Mueller Industries](#); [Henkel](#) and many companies related to the automobile industry. The city also features a historic downtown area, boardwalk, marina, museum, lighthouse, and the [McMorran Place](#) arena and entertainment complex.

Read more: <http://www.city-data.com/city/Port-Huron-Michigan.html#ixzz2y1vhv5jf>



Port Huron is located at the mouth of Lake Huron and across the St Clair River from Sarnia, Canada. The Bluewater Bridge connects the United States with Canada. This is a significant trade point. Travel to Canada requires a valid driver's license and passport. Grayfox training with the Canadian Sea Cadets in Canadian waters requires pre-arranged clearance with Canada. Typically, liberty is not authorized in Canada and Cadets must remain on the ship.



Watch the ships gracefully pass by less than a quarter mile from the sun-soaked deck or warm and dry viewing room at the Great Lakes Maritime Center.



Local Weather:

Port Huron weather is very pleasant in the summer. The locals regard the warmer temperatures as hot summer nights, and it will get hot on a clear day with the sun beating down. The June through August months will likely experience some 90 degree temperatures. Still a jacket is recommended for the evenings.

Climate (Average Weather) Data

Statistic	Units	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
Minimum Temperature	°F	15.1	16.8	24.7	35.3	46.7	56.3	62.5	61.3	53.6	41.6	32.1	21.4	38.95
Maximum Temperature	°F	30.4	32.6	42.3	54.1	66.7	76.7	81.9	80.4	72.9	60.4	46.9	35.4	56.73
Monthly Precipitation	inches	1.83	1.6	2.23	2.98	2.72	3.29	2.8	3.04	3.45	2.49	2.81	2.15	2.62

Visitor Information

The Great Lakes Maritime Center is at the foot of the Black river and St Clair River and a great place to learn all about the Port Huron area. There is a coffee shop and the Waterfront Deli inside.

The YMCA is across the street from the Grayfox on Griswold Street.

At Water Street and Military highway, you are in (old) Downtown Port Huron with shops and restaurants.

Your fast food mecca is at 24th and Griswold, or further north on Military Highway.

Check the links below for local area restaurants, events and maps.



Great Lakes Maritime Center
51 Water St, Port Huron, MI 48060
Phone:(810) 985-4817
[http://www.achesonventures.com/
MaritimeCenter.aspx](http://www.achesonventures.com/MaritimeCenter.aspx)



Blue Water Visitor Bureau
405 Water Street - Suite 100
Port Huron, MI 48060
www.bluewater.org
Telephone: 810-987-8687



Blue Water Area Chamber of Commerce
512 McMorran Blvd. Port Huron, MI 48060
<http://www.bluewaterchamber.com/>
Telephone: (810) 985-7101



YMCA of the Blue Water Area
1525 3rd Street Port Huron, MI 48060
<http://www.bluewaterymca.com/>
Telephone: (810) 987-6400

Medical and Pharmacy

Hospitals/medical centers:

- PORT HURON HOSPITAL 🌐 (Acute Care Hospitals, Voluntary non-profit - Other, provides emergency services, 1221 PINE GROVE AVE) www.porthuronhospital.org
(810) 987-5000
- ST JOSEPH MERCY PORT HURON 🌐 (Acute Care Hospitals, Voluntary non-profit - Church, provides emergency services, 2601 ELECTRIC AVENUE)

Rite Aid

1607 24th Stm Port Huron, MI 48060
(810) 984-5108

Walgreens

1617 10th St, Port Huron, MI 48060
(810) 987-5083

Lodging Information:

Port Huron offers some great local Bed and Breakfast hospitality. There are also several more familiar lodging options. Favorite locations are the Double Tree (Thomas Edison Inn), Hampton Inn, Quality Inn, Comfort Inn, Fairfield Inn, Days Inn.

Sample of Local Tourist Attractions:

Port Huron is located on the St Clair River at the mouth of Lake Huron.

The Blue Water Area Transit system, created in 1976, includes eight routes in the Port Huron area. Blue Water Transit operates the Blue Water Trolley, which provides a one hour tour of various local points of interest; tours, shopping, and around town bus and trolley service.

<http://www.bwbus.com/bluewatertrolley.htm#>

Points of Interest

- 1. Trolley Stop Sign on Huron Ave.**
- 2. Blue Water Area Transit (Transfer Point)**
3. Military Street Bridge (1st one - 1833)
4. Federal Building
5. Red Cross
6. St. John United Church of Christ (1869)
- 7. Museum of Arts and History (1904)**
8. [Grace Church](#)
9. St. Joseph Rectory (1880's)
10. [St. Joseph Church \(1923\)](#)
11. John Davidson Home (1896)
12. Railroad Tunnel
13. [Mercy Hospital](#)
- 14. Seaway Terminal/ Highlander Sea (1924) And Retired Coast Guard Cutter BRAMBLE**
15. Wilbur Davidson Home (1870's)
- 16. Standard Oil Gasoline Service Station**
17. Dr. Wilson Home (1840's)
18. Woman's Life Insurance (1917)
- 19. Studio 1219/Dairy Queen**
20. J.M. White Building (1865)
- 21. Harrington Hotel (1896)**
- 22. Vantage Point/Great Lakes Maritime Center**
- 22. Huron Lady II**
24. [Times Herald Building \(1981\)](#)
- 25. Quay Street Brewery**
26. **Information Center**
27. **Ice Museum**
28. St. Clair County Library (1968)
- 29. St. Clair County Court House (1953)**
- 30. Port Huron Municipal Office Center (1980)**
31. Radio 1st (WHLS, WSAQ, WPHM, WBTI)
32. The McLaughlin Home (1880's)
33. Ladies of Maccabees Bldg. (1904)
34. The Meno Home (1887)
35. [U.S. Coast Guard Cutter HOLLYHOCK](#)
36. Old Water Works (1872)/War Memorials
37. Children's Peace Gardens
- 38. Huron Lightship (1921-1970)**
39. Thomas Edison Statue/Depot Museum
- 40. Blue Water Convention & Visitor's Bureau**
41. [Blue Water Bridges \(1938/1997\)](#)
42. [U.S. Coast Guard Station](#)
- 43. Fort Gratiot Lighthouse**
44. Fort St. Joseph possible location (1686)
45. Old Fort Gratiot Trading Post
- 46. Port Huron Hospital**
- 47. Old Tyler School**
- 48. River Street Marina**
49. SC4 Main Building (1923)

- 50. McMorran Arena (1957)/McMorran Tower
- 51. Port Huron Chamber of Commerce/Welcome Center

Restaurants:

Port Huron is host to many fast food restaurants. A few locations offer a restaurant row to choose from. The major locations are summarized below.

Restaurants in the old downtown area service the marine community and visitors.

- Fuel Woodfire Grill
- Kates Downtown
- Tonys Food Paradise

Local Favorites

- Angry Bull, Lapeer Rd
- River Crab, Saint Clair

Restaurants on this route: N. Military/24th Avenue, north of Port Huron in Ft Gratiot

- Favorite fast food
- Cheap Charlies
- Chili's
- Olive Garden
- Red Lobster
- Ruby Tuesday
- Starbuck's

Restaurants on this route: 24th and Griswold

- Favorite fast food
- Teds Coney Island
- Tim Horton

Entertainment:

There are plenty of things to do in Port Huron, especially in the summer.

- AMC Theatres
- Bowling – in downtown Port Huron
- Great Lakes Maritime Center
- Swimming – at the YMCA

Shopping:

Around downtown Port Huron, there are many small curious shops to visit. The local area is host to many of your shopping favorites; Walmart, Kmart, Sams Club, Lowes, Home Depot, Staples, and just about anything you need. If you like, try Birchwood Mall.