

# Field Trip Guide





## Why should you choose Space Center Houston?

Inspire your students through the wonders of space exploration with a field trip they will never forget! Your class will discover more than 400 things to see and do at Space Center Houston while experiencing real science, math, technology and engineering. Explore our interactive Mission Mars exhibit, the international landmark Independence Plaza, multiple flown spacecraft, a real Moon rock your students can touch, one of the world's most comprehensive collections of space suits and more. Space Center Houston is the premiere destination for all things space!

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# Space Center Houston Etiquette

## Guidelines for School Visits

At Space Center Houston, the guest experience is extremely important to us. In order to ensure that your experience with us is a positive one, we ask that you review the following guidelines with your students before your visit.

- Keep hands and feet to yourself at all times
- Climbing on exhibits, running through the center, and jumping are expressly forbidden
- Be respectful of SCH staff, other school groups, and general admission visitors. This includes:
  - Following staff directions
  - Using a quiet voice while exploring SCH
  - Not using profanity or inappropriate language
- Outside food is not allowed inside SCH, and any food purchased inside SCH needs to remain in the Food Lab
- SCH is open to the public during your visit- restrooms, exhibits, and other facilities are not private to school groups
- Students must be attended by a chaperone at all times and are not permitted to explore SCH without one
- Please refrain from blocking exits and entryways
- Be mindful of other visitors while viewing exhibits

Teachers and chaperones are responsible for the behavior of students during their visit to Space Center Houston.  
**Groups that do not follow these guidelines may be asked to leave Space Center Houston without being refunded.**

# Field Trip Booking Information

The following information is meant to assist you with field trip bookings. If you have specific questions about booking your field trip, or would like assistance doing so, please contact Tanner House, School Visit Coordinator, at [thouse@spacecenter.org](mailto:thouse@spacecenter.org) or 281-283-4774.

## Field Trip Pricing

Register and Pay at Least One Week in Advance	\$10.95
Register in Advance and Pay on Arrival	\$12.95
Purchase Online without Advanced Registration	\$24.95 Child   \$29.95 Adult
Title 1 School Special Pricing	\$5.95

## At Least One Month Before Your Visit

### 01 Select a date and inquire about Field Trip Enhancements (more information on p.6)

Note: Reservations with Field Trip Enhancement must be made a minimum of one month in advance. Field Trip Enhancements are subject to availability- the earlier you book, the more likely you are to be approved!

### 02 Fill out a Field Trip Order Form at [www.spacecenter.org/education-programs/field-trips](http://www.spacecenter.org/education-programs/field-trips).

Please include teachers and chaperones in your ticket count so that your whole group can be included in discounted pricing.

### 03 Contact [reservations@spacecenter.org](mailto:reservations@spacecenter.org) to inquire about ticketing and payment.

## At Least One Week Before Your Visit

01 Receive field trip information from School Visit Coordinator.

02 Share field trip information with any other teachers, chaperones, or parents who will be attending field trip.

03 Print tickets if you have chosen to have them emailed (one ticket per page- do not print front and back)

## Day of Your Visit

01 If you have printed your tickets, distribute them among your group before departing from your bus.

02 Upon arrival, have buses pull up to the front of SCH. Do not unload students from buses until you have spoken with SCH staff.

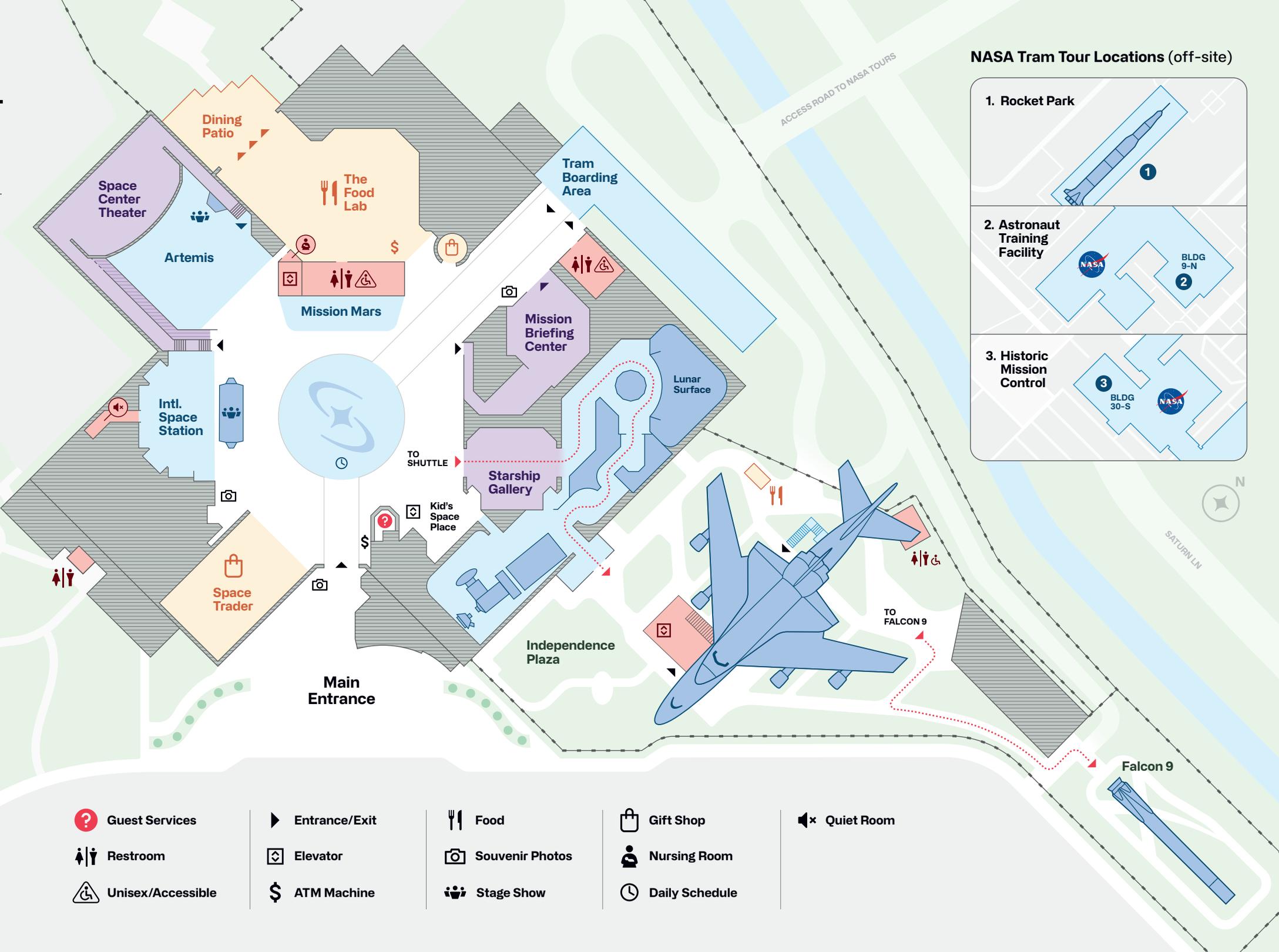
03 If you have not printed your tickets, or still need to pay for them, go to reservations office, pick up tickets, and distribute.

04 Locate SCH Education crew and a member from our team will escort you inside.

# Welcome to Space Center Houston

## FAQ

- **Visit the shuttle** by entering through Starship Gallery and exiting to Independence Plaza.
- **Visit the Falcon 9 rocket** by following the path beyond Independence Plaza, enter between the building and fence area.
- **Accessible entry** to plane, shuttle and Space Center Theater via elevators.
- **Need help?** Visit the Guest Services desk to the right of the main entrance or flag any SCH crew member in a blue shirt.



## NASA Tram Tour Locations (off-site)

- 1. Rocket Park**
- 2. Astronaut Training Facility**
- 3. Historic Mission Control**

- |                   |               |                 |                |            |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|------------|
| Guest Services    | Entrance/Exit | Food            | Gift Shop      | Quiet Room |
| Restroom          | Elevator      | Souvenir Photos | Nursing Room   |            |
| Unisex/Accessible | ATM Machine   | Stage Show      | Daily Schedule |            |

# Exhibits, Attractions and Experiences



## NASA Tram Tours

**George W.S. Abbey Rocket Park Tour** - Offered on a first-come, first-served basis for on-site guests. Passes are not required, just get in line!

**Astronaut Training Facility Tour** - Offered on a first-come, first-served basis for on-site guests. Secure your free pass at Guest Services desk.

**Historic Mission Control** - To secure your spots, please contact Group Reservations to purchase passes. Same-day tickets are offered at the Guest Services desk, but availability is not guaranteed.

**Group Reservations:** (281) 283-4755 | [reservations@spacecenter.org](mailto:reservations@spacecenter.org)



## Space Suit Collection

Explore a comprehensive collection of spacesuits representing the men and women of space exploration. See the ejection suit that astronaut John Young wore on the first shuttle flight in 1981.



## Starship Gallery

Multiple flown spacecraft and national treasures. Get an up-close look at some of the most amazing artifacts that trace the progression of human space exploration – the Apollo 17 Command Module, a full-size Skylab Training module, a Moon rock you can touch and more!



## Independence Plaza

Go inside the shuttle replica Independence, mounted on top of the historic and original NASA 905 shuttle carrier aircraft, and then explore the giant plane. It is the world's only shuttle mounted on an SCA and the only one allowing the public to enter both.



## Mission Mars

Discover what it takes to travel to Mars! What hardware will get us to the fourth planet in our solar system? How may humans live on the red planet in the next few decades? Answer these questions in our new interactive exhibit, Mission Mars.

# Field Trip Enhancements (FTEs)

FTEs are optional experiences that educators can add on to their reservation to enhance their visit to Space Center Houston. FTEs are private events conducted by Space Center Houston's renowned Education Instructors and are an additional cost to the field-trip ticket. **Please note: FTEs must be booked a minimum of 1 month in advance and are subject to availability at all times.**



## Guided Tour - Starship Gallery

A guided tour of the Starship Gallery experience, this 45 minute tour takes students through the history of early manned spaceflight, from the invention of liquid rocket fuel to Skylab, the United States' first space station. Gain unique insight about the authentic, space-flown artifacts in the exhibit and learn more about the history of space exploration. **Recommended for all grade levels. Please note, the exhibit will be open to the public during your tour.**



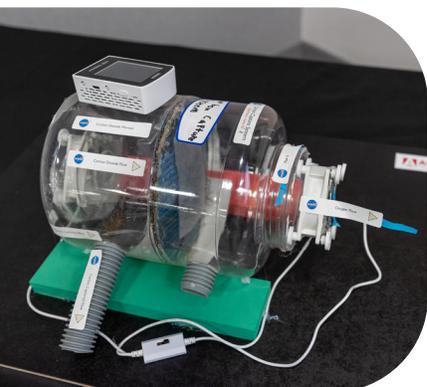
## Planetarium Show

Take a tour of our solar system and neighboring galaxies in our planetarium show experience. Through our state of the art planetarium software, students will explore the stars and learn more about the inner working of our solar system and beyond! Private experience capped at 25 participants. Limited availability. **Recommended for all grade levels.**



## STEM Classroom Experience: Foam Rocket Build

In this private classroom experience, students investigate Newton's Laws of Motion and rocketry by completing their mission of a safe and successful launch. Teams will design, build and launch rockets and collect data on the rocket's flight trajectory and distance. The young engineers will then modify their designs to make their rockets go further and/or change trajectory. **Recommended for students 1st through 8th grade.**



## STEM Classroom Experience: Carbon Capture Challenge

In this private classroom experience, students explore the difficulties of keeping astronauts alive in space through the question: how do we supply astronauts with oxygen in space? This lab activity models how CO<sub>2</sub> generation affects temperature in a closed environment. Any environment humans occupy will eventually increase in CO<sub>2</sub>, which if left unchecked can lead to carbon dioxide poisoning. The Carbon Capture lab helps students understand how this affects temperature in a closed system and how we can capture that carbon to re-filter it into breathable air! This two-part lab includes the onsite lab activity and an open invitation for students to take their idea to the next level and compete in Space Center Houston's Carbon Capture Challenge. **Recommended for students 6th through 12th grade.**

# Frequently Asked Questions



## **What is included in my field trip ticket?**

A field trip ticket includes access to everything available to general admission guests

## **Is prepayment required?**

Payment is required at least one week prior to your visit to receive the discounted price. You are able to pay on-site the day of your visit at a rate of \$12.95 / \$5.95 (Title 1 schools).

## **Can we bring our own lunches to eat inside Space Center Houston?**

Outside food is **not** allowed inside Space Center Houston. Coolers and lunches need to be stored inside of your buses or vehicles until it is time to eat. We have a covered picnic and park area adjacent to the parking lot available on a first come, first served basis. The covered portion seats approximately 75 people, and the perimeter area seats around 50.

## **Can I make a reservation for a specific Tram Tour?**

The only tram tour that can be “reserved” is the Historic Mission Control tour, which is an additional cost of \$15 per participant. We cannot reserve tram times for any other tours. If you would like to reserve a tram time for your group, please contact Group Reservations at (281) 283-4755 or [reservations@spacecenter.org](mailto:reservations@spacecenter.org). Same-day passes are offered at the Guest Services Desk, but availability is not guaranteed.

## **Will my group have a tour guide?**

Exploration of the center is largely self-guided. The NASA Tram Tours and Starship Gallery FTE are the only guided tours offered at Space Center Houston.

## **Do I need a ticket for my bus driver?**

All drivers receive complimentary tickets to Space Center Houston. Drivers must show their CDL at the Guest Services Desk to receive a free ticket

## **What forms of payment are accepted?**

Space Center Houston accepts school checks (payable to “Space Center Houston”), money orders, credit cards or cash. No personal checks or purchase orders are accepted.

## **Do you have a meal plan we can purchase?**

Meal plans may be purchased and options are available on the field trip order form. Meals are invoiced separately and must be requested at least 10 days in advance of arrival. Meal plans are provided by Wolfgang Puck Catering. For specific questions about meal plans, email [diana.harkness@wolfgangpuck.com](mailto:diana.harkness@wolfgangpuck.com) or call 281-283-7713.

# Educator's Guide

## TEKS, Resources and Extension Activities

For more information on these activities, visit [www.spacecenter.org/education-programs/educator-resources/](http://www.spacecenter.org/education-programs/educator-resources/)

### NASA STEM Resources and Opportunities

<https://www.nasa.gov/learning-resources/search/>

### Space Center Houston TEKS Guide

All exhibits, attractions, and experiences at Space Center Houston are aligned to state standards for grades 1-12.

For more information on TEKS alignment, contact Tanner House- [thouse@spacecenter.org](mailto:thouse@spacecenter.org) or 281-283-4774.

### Classroom Activities and Resources



#### Cleaning Water

Learn how Space Station astronauts recycle their water. Explore water filtration, build your own filtration system and conduct experiments.



#### Build a Sextant

Investigate celestial navigation, also known as astronavigation, and build a sextant to determine your latitude.



#### Grow Space Seeds

Explore plant-growing experiments on board the International Space Station and create your own space station "rooting pillow" containing a seed.



#### Build a Plant Habitat

Observe how a greenhouse functions as a plant support, and how the greenhouse affects the soil temperature and moisture levels.