

## **Sensory Considerations for Fort Mackinac**

A program schedule with site map is available at the admission area. A digital version is available online at [mackinacparks.com](http://mackinacparks.com). Below are some things to consider during your visit:

### **General**

- Visiting Fort Mackinac is a mostly outdoor experience. The weather can change quickly in northern Michigan, ranging from hot to cold, calm to very windy, and dry to humid and rainy.
- While usually not too bad, a variety of insects may be present while visiting the fort.
- Snacks and drinks can be enjoyed throughout Fort Mackinac.
- Some spaces, including the boardwalks around the fort, may become crowded.

### **Sights**

- Museum staff wearing military uniforms and other historical clothing are stationed throughout the site.
- There are life-sized moving figures projected onto the walls in the Guardhouse, Post Hospital, and North Blockhouse.
- There are realistic mannequins in the Wood Quarters and the Post Hospital.
- Some exhibit spaces are purposefully kept dark. Others are brightly lit.
- Cannon and rifle firing demonstrations will produce sparks and smoke.

### **Sounds**

- Museum staff will loudly announce the beginning of all programs.
- Cannon and rifle demonstrations include firings of these weapons, which will be loud. Museum staff will warn visitors about the noise prior to all firings.
- Drums, bugles, and other instruments may be played by museum staff during programs.
- A loud siren will sound from the downtown area every day at 12:00 noon to mark the time.
- The Kids' Quarters and North Blockhouse exhibits include loud recorded sounds and music.
- Loud noises from elsewhere on Mackinac Island can be heard inside the fort. These include ferry boat horns and low flying aircraft.

### **Smells**

- The fort's buildings are original and may smell musty.
- The smoke from cannon and rifle demonstrations will smell, but will dissipate quickly following firings.
- Wood smoke may occasionally be produced from the Stone Quarters if the fireplaces are in use (limited to especially cool days only).

## Sensory Considerations for Colonial Michilimackinac

A program schedule with site map is available at the admission area. A digital version is available online at [mackinacparks.com](http://mackinacparks.com). Below are some things to consider during your visit:

### General

- Visiting Colonial Michilimackinac is a mostly outdoor experience. The weather can change quickly in northern Michigan, ranging from hot to cold, calm to very windy, and dry to humid and rainy. The *Treasures from the Sand* exhibit beneath the Northwest Rowhouse is air conditioned.
- While usually not too bad, a variety of insects may be present while visiting the fort. In spring and early summer, non-biting/non-stinging flies will be found along the lakeshore in large numbers.
- Snacks and drinks can be enjoyed throughout Colonial Michilimackinac.
- Some spaces, including the catwalks around the fort, may become crowded.

### Sights

- Museum staff wearing military uniforms and other historical clothing are stationed throughout the site.
- There are realistic mannequins in the *Treasures from the Sand* exhibit beneath the Northwest Rowhouse, the Priest's House, and the Barracks.
- Some exhibit spaces are purposefully kept dark. Others are brightly lit.
- Artillery and musket firing demonstrations will produce sparks and smoke.

### Sounds

- Museum staff will loudly announce the beginning of all programs.
- Artillery and musket demonstrations include firings of these weapons, which will be loud. Museum staff will warn visitors about the noise prior to all firings. The *Treasures from the Sand* exhibit beneath the Northwest Rowhouse is the best place to avoid the noise of firing demonstrations.
- Traffic noises from the Mackinac Bridge can be heard throughout the site.

### Smells

- The fort's buildings may smell musty.
- The smoke from artillery and musket demonstrations will smell, but will dissipate quickly following firings.
- Fireplaces are used throughout the site, producing wood smoke. Cooking demonstrations using these fireplaces will also produce a variety of food aromas.

## **Sensory Consideration for Historic Mill Creek**

A program schedule with site map is available at the admission area. A digital version is available online at [mackinacparks.com](http://mackinacparks.com). Below are some things to consider during your visit:

### **General**

- Visiting Historic Mill Creek is a mostly outdoor experience. The weather can change quickly in northern Michigan, ranging from hot to cold, calm to very windy, and dry to humid and rainy.
- While usually not too bad, a variety of insects may be present while visiting. Large numbers of insects, including mosquitoes and biting flies, may be present at the site, especially on the forest trails.
- Snacks and drinks can be enjoyed throughout Historic Mill Creek.
- Some spaces, including the sawmill, may become crowded.
- The floor and structure of the sawmill may vibrate during demonstrations.

### **Sights**

- Museum staff wearing historical clothing are stationed throughout the site.
- Some exhibit spaces are purposefully kept dark. Others are brightly lit.
- The sawmill features multiple large, moving parts when operated for demonstrations.

### **Sounds**

- Museum staff will loudly announce the beginning of all programs. They may also ring a metal gong.
- Demonstrations at the sawpit include the sounds of saws and axes in use.
- The sawmill produces loud, repetitive sounds when operated for demonstrations.
- Water rushing over the mill dam or flowing down the creek may be loud.
- Traffic noises from the highway can be heard throughout the site.

### **Smells**

- Some buildings may smell musty.
- Demonstrations in the sawmill and at the sawpit may produce the smell of freshly-cut wood.

## **Sensory Considerations for Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse**

A program schedule with site map is available at the admission area. A digital version is available online at [mackinacparks.com](http://mackinacparks.com). Below are some things to consider during your visit:

### **General**

- While all exhibits are indoors, visiting the lighthouse requires movement through outdoor spaces. The weather can change quickly in northern Michigan, ranging from hot to cold, calm to very windy, and dry to humid and rainy. The Straits of Mackinac Shipwreck Museum is air conditioned.
- While usually not too bad, a variety of insects may be present while visiting the lighthouse. In spring and early summer, non-biting/non-stinging flies will be found along the lakeshore in large numbers.
- Snacks and drinks can be enjoyed throughout the site.
- Some spaces, including the lighthouse tower, may become crowded during tours.
- A limited number of guests are permitted to climb the tower during pre-scheduled, guided tours. Guests must meet certain requirements to participate in tower tours- inquire at the admission area for details. Tower tours involve climbing a spiral staircase and ladder, and passing through a narrow opening. The lantern room at the top of the tower may be very warm. Alternative programs are provided for guests not participating in tower tours.

### **Sights**

- Museum staff wearing historical clothing are stationed throughout the site.
- Some exhibit spaces are purposefully kept dark. Others are brightly lit.
- Exhibits inside the Keepers' Quarters include two illuminated lighthouse lenses, which cast focused beams of bright light.

### **Sounds**

- Museum staff will loudly announce the beginning of all programs.
- Demonstrations of the fog whistle involve three short whistle blasts. Museum staff will warn visitors about the noise before sounding the whistle.
- Traffic noises from the Mackinac Bridge can be heard throughout the site.

### **Smells**

- Some buildings may smell musty.

## **Sensory Considerations for Historic Downtown**

*Historic Downtown Mackinac Island includes: Biddle House and Mackinac Island Native American Museum, American Fur Company Retail Store and Dr. Beaumont Museum, Benjamin Blacksmith Shop, McGulpin House, and Mission Church*

A program schedule with site map is available at the admission area at the Biddle House, Fort Mackinac, or at the Mackinac Island State Park Visitor's Center. A digital version is available online at [mackinacparks.com](http://mackinacparks.com). Below are some things to consider during your visit:

### **General**

- Visiting the historic downtown buildings is a mix of indoor and outdoor experiences. The weather can change quickly in northern Michigan, ranging from hot to cold, calm to very windy, and dry to humid and rainy.
- While usually not too bad, a variety of insects may be present while visiting the sites.
- Snacks and drinks can be enjoyed throughout the historic downtown buildings.
- Some spaces, especially the Benjamin Blacksmith Shop, may become crowded. The McGulpin House includes low ceilings and doorways.

### **Sights**

- Museum staff wearing historical clothing are stationed throughout the sites.
- Some exhibit spaces are purposefully kept dark. Others are brightly lit.
- Blacksmithing demonstrations will produce sparks and smoke.
- The Mackinac Island Native American Museum at the Biddle House includes two large TV screens with nearly life-sized recordings of people.

### **Sounds**

- Museum staff will loudly announce the beginning of all programs.
- Metalworking demonstrations at the Benjamin Blacksmith Shop include the sounds of repetitive hammer blows as well as a variety of hand tools.
- A variety of street noises, including those produced by horse-drawn carriages, can be heard throughout the sites.
- A loud siren will sound from the downtown area every day at 12:00 noon to mark the time.
- Loud noises from elsewhere on Mackinac Island can be heard throughout the sites. These include ferry boat horns, artillery demonstrations at Fort Mackinac, and low flying aircraft.

### **Smells**

- Buildings may smell musty.
- Fireplaces are used at the Biddle House, and occasionally at the American Fur Company Retail Store and Dr. Beaumont Museum, producing wood smoke. Cooking demonstrations at the Biddle House will also produce a variety of food aromas.
- The forge at the Benjamin Blacksmith Shop produces coal smoke.

## **Sensory Considerations for the Richard & Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum**

A program schedule with site map is available at the admission area. A digital version is available online at [mackinacparks.com](http://mackinacparks.com). Below are some things to consider during your visit:

### **General**

- The entire building is climate controlled and may be warmer or cooler than outdoors.
- Food and drinks are not allowed inside, and should be enjoyed outside the building. A drinking fountain is available near the elevator.

### **Sights**

- Some exhibit spaces are purposefully kept dark. Others are brightly lit.

### **Sounds**

- Museum staff will loudly announce the beginning of all programs.
- Some exhibits include amplified sounds.

### **Smells**

- Some buildings may smell musty.