



NEWSLETTER



NEW PACIFIC FLEET SUBMARINE MUSEUM OPENS

Tour-Mate’s winter 2019 newsletter featured an article about the planned construction of the new Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum. For the opening of the new museum, the Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum Association (PFSMA) expressed a desire to expand its audio tour to include the new Museum. Shortly after commencing work on the Museum tours, the pandemic forced a closure of the site to the public. However, when the new Museum opened (with limited capacity and social distancing), the new tours were ready for visitors to enjoy.

Tour-Mate is pleased to announce that the Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum, alongside the USS Bowfin, now feature audio tours using Tour-Mate’s SC600 mini wands. The audio tours were written and produced by Tour-Mate and are available in seven languages. The combined Bowfin/Museum tours feature both adult and children’s tours and are available in English, Spanish, French, German, Japanese, Korean and Mandarin. The audio tours are included in the USS Bowfin and Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum’s admission fee and available to all visitors.

With about 400,000 annual visitors (2019), the Deputy Director of the Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum, Rafael Escalera expressed how Tour-Mate’s audio tours enhance their visitors’ museum experience. Escalera stated that “without Tour-Mate, our visitors would miss about 50% of the information we hope they receive.”



Visitors use the SC600 Minis at USS Bowfin. Photo courtesy of Charles Hinman

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If you want to learn more about the USS Bowfin and the Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum, please visit:
<https://www.bowfin.org/>

TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS REOPEN AT MUSEUMS

As museums begin to offer temporary exhibitions again, they are looking for interpretive systems to complement their visitors' tour experiences. The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and the Denver Art Museum are both currently using Tour-Mate's SC550 Listening Wands for their temporary exhibitions. The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts is currently exhibiting *"Man Ray: The Paris Years"*. The exhibition will run until February 21, 2022. This exhibition showcases portrait photographs taken by the renowned photographer, Man Ray, and celebrates the centennial anniversary of his arrival in Paris.

The Denver Art Museum is exhibiting *"Whistler to Cassatt: American Painters in France"*. The exhibition runs through March 13, 2022. It features more than 100 paintings that were crafted between 1855 and 1913 and highlights the influence that the French had on American painters in the 19th and 20th century. The paintings include the works of James Abbott McNeil Whistler, John Singer Sargent, and Mary Cassatt. If you miss the exhibition in Denver, *"Whistler to Cassatt"* will be exhibited at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts from April 16, 2022 through July 31, 2022. The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts will also be using the Tour-Mate SC550 Wands to provide interpretation for their version of the exhibition.

If you want to learn more about the *"Whistler to Cassatt: American Painters in France"* Exhibit at the Denver Art Museum and the *"Man Ray: The Paris Years" Exhibit* at Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, please visit: <https://www.denverartmuseum.org/en/exhibitions/whistler-cassatt> and <http://www.vmfamuseum/man-ray.html>



DESERT OF MAINE TO FEATURE SOLAR SIGN KITS



Desert of Maine. Photo courtesy of Doug Heestand

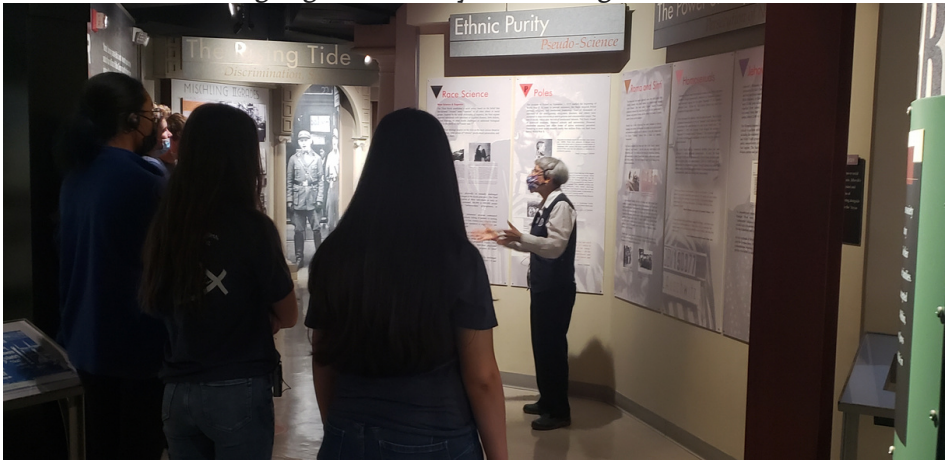
The Desert of Maine is located in the town of Freeport, Maine and consists of 40 acres of glacial sand dunes that are surrounded by a coastal forest. The Desert of Maine features many attractions and exhibits such as the Gemstone Village, the Historic Tuttle Farm as well as a number of nature trails. Management was looking to add interpretation to the existing physical signage on its nature trails. To incorporate audio as a part of the nature trail experience, the Desert of Maine purchased a number of Tour-Mate's Solar Sign Kits. The Solar Sign Kit is a solar powered eco-friendly audio platform that can be incorporated into new or existing outdoor interpretive and wayfinding signage. It effectively converts any existing sign into a 'talking sign'. The kit is designed to withstand extreme weather conditions, making it the perfect solution for the Desert of Maine.

To learn more about the Desert of Maine, please visit: <https://www.desertofmaine.com/plan-your-visit>

HOLOCAUST MUSEUM INTRODUCES GROUP GUIDE SYSTEM TOURS

The Florida Holocaust Museum is one of the largest Holocaust museums in the United States. It was founded by Holocaust Survivor and businessman Walter P. Loebenberg. In the first month of the Center’s opening, 24,000 visitors came to see the ‘Anne Frank in the World’ exhibit. As the center became increasingly more popular, it moved locations to a much larger building and changed its name to the Florida Holocaust Museum. The Florida Holocaust Museum was looking to add audio assist to its docent led group tours. The museum was interested in a system that would allow docents to lead their groups of visitors without interfering with other visitors. The Florida Holocaust Museum acquired a Tour-Mate TM600 Digital Group Guide System to achieve exactly that. The TM600 Group Guide System allows docents to deliver clear and engaging information without straining their voices and without disturbing other groups or non-group visitors. The system also allows two docents to operate on a single channel without the risk of interference or losing signal. The system’s digital 2.4 GHz bandwidth can be used in all

countries around the world. If you’d like to know more about the group guided tours at the Florida Holocaust Museum as well as upcoming exhibitions, please visit: <https://www.thefhm.org/visit/tours-rentals/>



Docent led group tour using the TM600 System at the Florida Holocaust Museum. Photo from David Meiers.

SANITIZE AGAINST COVID-19 WITH THE UV-C SANI 1150



Photo courtesy of Pacific Fleet Submarine Museum

With the spread of the COVID-19 virus, museums and other cultural institutions are looking for effective and efficient ways to help sanitize against the virus. In March 2021, Tour-Mate released the UV-C Sani 1150 Sanitizing Station. The Sani 1150 was independently lab tested by the Fraunhofer Institute for Cell Therapy and Immunology and was found to have a kill rate of 99.997% against the COVID-19 virus. The Fraunhofer Institute for Cell Therapy and Immunology is one of the leading organizations for applied cell biology research in Europe. The Sani 1150 can help reduce surface transmission of the COVID-19 virus. The Sani 1150 is perfect for use in museums, hotels, and restaurants where frequently

touched items such as tour guide devices, lanyards, condiment bottles and remote controls need to be sanitized. These frequently touched items are placed inside the Sani 1150 and after a three minute cycle, virtually all traces of the live virus are gone. The Sani 1150 is an easy to use and chemical-free method for disinfection. Tour-Mate’s clients at the Kennesaw National Battlefield, the Florida Holocaust Museum, the Pacific Submarine Museum, and the Flagler Museum are using the Sani 1150 to help ensure their visitors have a safer museum experience.

For more details about the Sani 1150 UV-C Sanitation Station, please visit: <http://tourmate.com/Sani1150/>.

PRESERVING GREENSBORO'S LOCAL HISTORY

Greensboro is a town in Georgia with a population of approximately 3,648 people. It was founded in the late 18th century. The Town of Greensboro was interested in preserving its rural history and sought out interpretive devices that could preserve and convey its stories. Georgia's Historic Rural Church Trail initially purchased two of Tour-Mate's Solar Eco-Posts. Tour-Mate's Creative Team worked with the town to preserve its oral history so that it could be provided to Greensboro's visitors.

The Creative Team produced and narrated local lore including the story of an unidentified man who collapsed at the train station in Greensboro and passed away. The town coroner named him Oscar, and the story of Oscar attracted many visitors to the small town. Visitors were so captivated by the stories Greensboro had to tell that the town purchased nine more Solar Eco-Posts to place at historic sites such as its churches, and the jail. Tour-Mate's Solar Eco-Post is powered by four solar panels and requires little maintenance. The Eco-Post can also be equipped with an AC power source for indoor use and comes with the option of custom graphic faceplates. The Eco-Post has the capacity of playing up to 8 audio messages and is ideal for parks, gardens, and trails, making it the perfect interpretive platform for Greensboro visitors.

If you'd like to know more about the town of Greensboro and its historic sites, please visit:

<https://visitlakeoconee.com/business-category/history-culture/>



The Old Gaol Jail. Photo courtesy of Greensboro Historic Rural Church Trail

Where & How to Find Us

FIND US NEXT

- Virginia Association of Museum Conference**
Richmond, VA; March 5-8, 2022
- Public Lands Alliance Conference**
St. Louis, MO; March 6-10, 2022
- Tennessee Association of Museums Conference**
Kingsport, TN; March 16-18, 2022
- Texas Association of Museums Conference**
Waco, TX; March 22-25, 2022
- American Alliance of Museums Conference**
Boston, MA; May 19-22, 2022

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