Welcome to CBMM

Explore our 18 acre waterfront campus and discover how people live, work, and play on the Bay.

Your paid admission is good for two days! Keep your receipt and come and go until closing time. CBMM has ample seating, with benches and picnic tables located throughout campus.

CBMM Parking Lot

Welcome Center, Museum Store, Administration Buildings

Ask staff for the daily WiFi password.

Highlights Tour (90 minutes or less)

Suggested itinerary for an express tour.

1. Working Shipyard: Watch and interact with our shipwrights as they restore and build Chesapeake Bay boats.
2. 1879 Hooper Strait Lighthouse: Climb to the top and experience the life of a lighthouse keeper.
3. Waterman’s Wharf: Pull up an eel pot, catch some blue crabs, or tangle for oysters.
4. Oystering on the Chesapeake: Climb aboard a real skipjack and step into the world of a Chesapeake Bay waterman.
5. Floating Fleet: Check out the largest collection of Chesapeake Bay watercraft in the world. (Boats are moved around the harbor in winter)

Enhanced Tour (3–4 hours)

Add these engaging exhibitions to your highlights tour.

6. Thor: Kids can play in the pilot house of this 1972 buyboat.
7. At Play on the Bay: Explore how the Bay has changed over the last 100 years from a place of work to a place of play.
8. Small Boat Shed & Maryland Crabmeat Company: Discover the re-created interior of a crab picking plant, and a collection of boats once used in the fisheries.
9. Steamboat Building: Features new special exhibitions; check the Welcome Center for schedule.
12. Waterfowling: Learn why the Bay attracts flocks of migrating birds & the sport, industry, and art they inspired.
13. Bay History/Model Guild: Examine the role the Chesapeake Bay has played in the nation’s history. CBMM’s Model Guild works on model boat projects. Also home to our temporary sail loft.
14. Van Lennep Auditorium: Check out one of our rotating special exhibitions.

Additional historical structures:

15. Point Lookout Bell Tower: Point Lookout Lighthouse and its accompanying bell tower once guided vessels into the Patuxent River.
16. Tolchester Beach Bandstand: Formerly located at one of the Bay’s most popular summer resorts, Tolchester Beach.

Highlights Tour (90 minutes or less)

Enhanced Tour (3–4 hours)

Welcome Center, Museum Store, Administration Buildings

Ask staff for the daily WiFi password.

Additional Information:

- Loose change or tokens are acceptable to purchase items at the Welcome Center, Museum Store, and Administration Buildings.
- Restrooms, water fountains, and an elevator are available throughout the campus.
- First aid kits are located in the Welcome Center, Administration Buildings, and CBMM Parking Lot.
- Pets are welcome, but not permitted inside exhibits or during special events and festivals, with the exception of certified service dogs. Clean-up bags and water are available.
- Campus is accessible with the exception of the Hooper Strait Lighthouse, and the observation deck in the Shipyard.