

Galveston!

If you are planning to spend some time in Galveston or Houston either before or after our Bridge cruise, you will have no shortage of arts, entertainment, or shopping. To explore all that both have to offer, the official visitor sites are really helpful: galveston.com and visithoustontexas.com

We are departing from Terminal #3 at the Port of Galveston:

Terminal #3 (might also be referred to as Terminal/Port #10)
1201 Harborside Dr.
Galveston, TX 77550

Our ship, the RCCL Mariner of the Seas, is scheduled to leave port at 4:00 pm on Saturday January 10th. We are required to be boarded by 2:00 pm. If you are intending to travel on embarkation day, please keep in mind that weather can change plans in an instant.

If you are traveling by air, Galveston is served by Houston's two international airports. Houston Hobby International Airport (HOU) is serviced by Southwest and AirTran, American Airlines, Delta, and Jet Blue. Houston Hobby is about 41 miles and about a 50 minute drive to the cruise port. George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) is serviced by most major airlines except Southwest. It is about 69 miles and about an 80 minute drive to the cruise port. There are driving directions from both airports as well as Austin, Dallas, and San Antonio all on the Port Authority website:

<http://portofgalveston.com/81/Getting-Here>

Parking is available at the cruise port. For both cruises combined, parking is \$230. More information can be made on the port authority website:

<http://portofgalveston.com/91/Cruise-Parking--General-Information>

I had other options that I recommended for parking in the past, but I've found a web-site that does a great job of keeping up to date with the best parking options at different ports. Here's a link to that site - <https://www.cruzely.com/galveston-cruise-parking-options-prices-and-map>.

There are also several options to get from the airport to Galveston. Yellow Cab Houston and Pasadena Taxi service both airports, but that would be pretty expensive. The best option I found is with Galveston Express. If you're willing to ride with other people, Galveston Express will take you round trip from Hobby for \$60 per person and Bush for \$70. They'll also provide private transport too, but it's ten times the cost. They will also take you to the cruise port or other places in Galveston, like hotels, for that price. So, for example, you could have them pick you up at the airport, drop you at your hotel, use the hotel shuttle to take you to the cruise, then these companies will pick you up from the cruise terminal to go back to the airport. Here are the web-sites for both:

<http://galvestonexpress.com/>

Another viable option to get around that may be less expensive is Uber. You can easily download the Uber app to your smartphone and visit their website at Uber.com. Transportation to the cruise port will be a little expensive, because Houston's the closest airport, but let me know if something is confusing or if I can help you choose the best option for you and your party.

If you are flying in the same day, Royal Caribbean does offer an airport transfer. It is \$80 round-trip per person from Hobby airport and \$90 round-trip per person from Bush. If you would like to book this option, please give me a call. Please note that your incoming flights must arrive before 11 AM to Bush and 12 PM to Hobby, and 12:30 PM is the earliest departure allowed for outgoing flights.

If you are coming in the night before, here are some area hotels with good reviews and amenities:

Hilton Galveston Island Resort (free parking and cruise port shuttle)
5400 Seawall Boulevard
Galveston, Texas 77551
409-744-5000

Holiday Inn Resort Galveston – On the Beach (free parking and cruise port shuttle)
5002 Seawall Boulevard
Galveston, Texas 77551
409-740-5300

Inn at the Waterpark (free parking and cruise port shuttle)
2525 Jones Dr
Galveston, TX 77554
409-203-4137

Comfort Suites (free parking, cruise port shuttle, and breakfast)
3606 89th Street
Galveston, TX 77554
409-741-9977

Scottish Inns (free parking, cruise port shuttle, and breakfast)
928 Ferry Road
Galveston, TX, 77550
409-762-3311

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Galveston West-Seawall (free parking and breakfast)
8628 Seawall Blvd.
Galveston, Texas 77554
409-740-7900

As always, please do not hesitate to call or email if you have any questions or concerns. I always want to help when I am able!

- Brett