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National Park Service Invites Public Comment on Proposed Fee Increase at Sagamore Hill National Historic Site

The National Park Service (NPS) is proposing to increase the fee for guided tours of the interior of the Theodore Roosevelt Home at Sagamore Hill National Historic Site from \$10 to \$15 for adults in the spring of 2024. This proposed increase, the first in nine years, will align ticket prices with prevailing prices at local museums and historic sites, provide revenue to address critical historic preservation projects, and facilitate park improvement projects to benefit visitors.

If approve, the proposed fee increase would likely be effective May 2024 and will be required for guided tours of the Theodore Roosevelt Home. Children 15 and under would remain free and adults with a <u>federal lands pass</u> are eligible for four free tickets. Access to Sagamore Hill's grounds, trails, parking lot, visitor center and museum remain free for all visitors. Additionally, the increase does not change the value or cost of National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Passes that are valid for entry at national parks, including the Annual, Senior, Access, 4th Grade, Military Annual, and Military Lifetime passes.

The proposed tour fee increase is:

House Tour Fee	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
Adult	\$10	\$15
Children	Free	Free
With Pass	\$1 Service	\$1 Service
	Charge	Charge
Sagamore Hill	\$40	\$45
Year-Long Pass		

The previous entrance fee at Sagamore Hill was \$5 from 1993-2014 and increased to \$10 in 2015. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Sagamore Hill has lost 23% of purchasing power from inflation since the last fee increase in 2015. This fee increase also coincides with a simultaneous proposed increase at the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt and Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Sites in Hyde Park, New York.

Current Ticket Prices for Museum and Mansion House Tours in the Local Area

Old Westbury Gardens: \$15Cradle of Aviation Museum \$25

• Raynham Hall: \$15

• Vanderbilt Mansion in Centerport NY: \$18

• Falaise Mansion Tour: \$15

Oheka Castle: \$30

• Old Bethpage Village Restoration: \$15

• Coe Hall: \$10

• Nassau County Museum of Art Mansion: \$15

Sagamore Hill collects visitor fee revenue in accordance with federal law and expends this revenue to improve, preserve, and maintain park resources, as well as develop programs that directly benefit visitors. Recent projects include \$104,153 to repair and improve the historic porch of the Theodore Roosevelt home and \$72,901 to rebuild the masonry steps and entrance walkway of the Old Orchard Museum. Additional projects funded by visitor fees are available for viewing at https://nps.gov/sahi/learn/management/yourdollarsatwork.htm

The NPS is requesting feedback on this proposed increase during a 30-day public comment period from January 16 through February 16, 2024. Comments can be submitted at: https://parkplanning.nps.gov/sahifeechange24

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About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 428 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov, and on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube.