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**For Immediate Release:**

## **Independence Seaport Museum's On-Water Programming Returns to the Delaware River this May**

**PHILADELPHIA, PA, April 27, 2021**—Starting May 10, Independence Seaport Museum and National Historic Landmark [Cruiser Olympia](#) will be open to the public daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. giving visitors even more opportunities to explore Pennsylvania's expansive waterways and Philadelphia's maritime history. In addition to extended hours, visitors can also look forward to the return of [Kayak Excursions](#) and [Paddle Penn's Landing](#), both launching in May.

[Kayak Excursions](#) begin May 15 and continue on select weekend dates through September 26. Guests can choose from four specially curated excursions created to give unique perspectives of the Delaware River. Excursions range between three to ten miles and offer beginner to advanced options that include Three Sisters Shipwreck with Kayaking Tutorial, Graffiti Pier, Petty's Island, and Sunset Paddles. Each guided paddle adventure provides the perfect opportunity to learn or practice the essentials of responsible river kayaking and ranges from \$60 to \$75 per person. Tickets must be purchased in advance and can be found [HERE](#).

Can't get enough of water activities on the Delaware? Starting May 28, [Paddle Penn's Landing](#) will also reopen for the 2021 season! Visitors can paddle their way around the Penn's Landing basin in a kayak, rowboat, swan, or dragon for the perfect outdoor family-friendly activity. Summer hours are Monday through Friday, 3 p.m. to dusk, and Saturday and Sunday noon to dusk through Labor Day (September 6). Visitors are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance on ISM's [website](#).

The Waterfront Crew is implementing various [safety protocols](#) on the docks and the water to keep visitors and staff safe. Kayak Excursions will be limited to 15 participants per session, and capacities in line and on the dock will be limited to ensure social distancing. Face masks are required on the docks and can be removed once you depart and remain six feet away from other vessels on the water. Boats, paddles, life jackets, and other equipment will be sanitized regularly, and hand sanitizer is available on the docks and highly encouraged for visitors to use before and after renting a vessel.

Inside the museum, guests are welcome to explore one of the largest maritime artifact collections in North America. The award-winning exhibition, [River Alive!](#), gives visitors an up-close look at the wildlife, science, and wonder of the Delaware River and encourages exploration through various interactive components such as the Water Cycle Puzzle, Watershed Map, Continuum Wall, and more. Other exhibitions include [Tides of Freedom: African Presence on the Delaware River](#), [Patriots & Pirates](#), and [Light on Steel on Water](#).

ISM requires all visitors entering the building or boarding Cruiser *Olympia* to wear a face mask and utilize sanitization stations installed in high traffic areas. The museum has also added signage and floor markers reminding guests to maintain a six-foot distance from others. The museum has also increased daily cleanings and adjusted certain elements of exhibits based on interactivity. Visitors are encouraged to visit [ISM's website](#) to learn more about the safety procedures.

The museum highly recommends visitors purchase tickets in advance on the official [website](#), where they can also find admission prices and additional information. Admission tickets will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

**Photos:**        **Live [HERE](#).**

**About the Independence Seaport Museum**

Independence Seaport Museum increases the awareness, knowledge, and experience of our waterways by highlighting the important role of the Delaware River through direct contact with our collections, exhibits, and the water. Our boating programs provide direct access to recreation and the scientific study of the water from the standpoints of biology and physics, while art is used to represent the importance of competing uses of the river. Through our historic ships, Cruiser *Olympia* and Submarine *Becuna*, we provide the ideal platform for examining the interaction of society and water over our nation's history. Our educational student outreach programs ensure generational awareness of the museum's mission. October 25, 2021, marks the Centennial Anniversary of Cruiser *Olympia*'s 15-day journey to bring the American Unknown Soldier from World War I from France to the Washington Navy Yard. We will be honoring this significant milestone throughout the year by sharing stories, presenting programming, hosting discussions, and premiering digital content. Learn more about the Independence Seaport Museum at [phillyseaport.org](http://phillyseaport.org).

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