

USS Charles H. Roan (DD-853) Association
18th Reunion – September 15 - 19, 2025
Doubletree by Hilton Riverfront
1201 Riverplace Blvd • Jacksonville, FL 32207 • (800) 222-8733

ITINERARY

Monday Sept 15: Check-in

Hospitality Room opens at 10:00 AM

Evening – Dinner on your own

Tuesday Sept 16: Morning – St. Augustine Tour

Enjoy your day in the Nation's Oldest City! The various architectural styles, narrow brick streets, and European flavors combine for a unique escape. Your professional tour guide meets the group dressed in period costumes and weaves a tapestry of stories from the early colonial years to the Victorian Flagler era. We tour all the major sites, including the Fountain of Youth, Spanish Mission Grounds City Gates, Spanish Plaza Cathedral-Basilica, Spanish Government House Flagler Memorial Church, and the old Ponce de Leon Hotel. We disembark at the Castillo de San Marcos, the stone fort that was never captured in battle. The tour includes one more stop at the old 1888 Alcazar Hotel or the Flagler Memorial Church. Lunch is on your own, combined with shopping and free time to explore the historic district. Your personal tour guide, in colonial attire, creates an interactive tour atmosphere that is fun for everyone.

The bus will depart the hotel at 9:00 AM. The length of the tour is approximately 6 hours.

Evening – Welcome Aboard Dinner 6:00 PM

Dinner will be a buffet by the pool deck, weather permitting. Drinks may be purchased at the pool bar.

Wednesday Sept 17: Morning – Jacksonville Driving Tour, Memorial Wall & USS Orleck Museum

Your professional tour guide meets the group at the hotel. We travel to Downtown to hear exploits of the city's namesake, Andrew Jackson, and the famous architects who descended on the city after the great fire of 1901. Our journey pauses outside the historic Florida Theater made famous by Elvis Presley. The St. John's River is the perfect backdrop as we travel along the North and South river banks, seeing Jaguar Stadium, St John's Cathedral, Friendship Fountain, and City Hall. We will stop at the Jacksonville Memorial Wall to pay tribute to our fallen military veterans. We continue with a stop at the USS Orleck DD-886 Naval Museum to board one of the most decorated US Navy ships since WWII. Next, we drive to the Riverside/ Avondale area, ranked as a top 10 Great Neighborhood in America. We see the historical houses with varied architectural styles. Lunch will be on your own at the trendy Shoppes of Avondale area. After lunch we stop at Peterbrooke Chocolatier to enjoy some samples. Then, we drive through the beautiful San Marco neighborhood and past the famous Treaty Oak before returning to the hotel.

The bus will depart the hotel at 9:00 AM. The length of the tour is approximately 6 hours.

Evening – Free

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Thursday Sept 18: Morning – Amelia Island & Fernandina Beach Experience Tour

The tour guide will meet us at the hotel. Start the tour with stories of the first inhabitants of the area, the Timucuan Indians. Our destination is Amelia Island, which was founded by the French, settled by the Spanish, named by the English, and tamed by the Americans. It is the only area in the U.S. to have been under 8 different flags. The first stop will be at Kingsley Plantation to hear the amazing story of Anna, a former slave who rose to become a property owner. Explore the grounds, which include the slave quarters, barn, waterfront, kitchen house, and interpretive garden. We take the old buccaneer trail across Ft George Island and the Talbot Islands, following the picturesque Atlantic coastline. Next we go to the quaint town of Fernandina on Amelia Island to hear stories from the Fairbanks Folly to Florida's oldest tavern and resident ghost. The turn of the century town is filled with Victorian architecture and has the appearance of being caught in a time capsule. Lunch will be on your own in the historic district.

The bus will depart the hotel at 9:00 AM. The length of the tour is approximately 6 hours.

Evening – Banquet at 6:30 PM.

Friday Sept 19: 0900 – Association Meeting

Hospitality Room closes at 1000.

Checkout of hotel