



# Hampton

CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAU

**Media Release**

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## **Pirates, Privateers and Buccaneers Exhibit at the Hampton History Museum Closes September 3, 2018**

*Exhibit explores life on the seven seas*

**Hampton, Virginia-** The final day to view *Pirates, Privateers and Buccaneers* the South Carolina State Museum's traveling exhibit at the Hampton History Museum is Labor Day, Monday, September 3, 2018.

### **Pirates, Privateers and Buccaneers**

In commemoration of the 300th anniversary of the death of the notorious Blackbeard, the exhibit *Pirates, Privateers and Buccaneers*, on loan from the South Carolina State Museum, tells the story of Blackbeard, who blockaded Charleston Harbor in 1718 prior to his death in North Carolina, along with the stories of many other pirates.

The exhibit dispels a number of popular myths about pirates, such as that they made their victims walk the plank, and used phrases such as 'arrgh,' and 'matey,' which are fictions

of Hollywood. This exhibit will also address the problem of modern piracy dispelling another popular myth that pirates disappeared a long time ago.

When approached by North Carolina merchants seeking help in breaking up piracy along the Outer Banks, Virginia Governor Alexander Spotswood sent the Royal Navy, under the command of Lieutenant Robert Maynard, to capture Blackbeard. After the pirate was killed in a battle off the coast of North Carolina on November 22, 1718, Lieutenant Maynard had his head removed and hung from the bowsprit of his sloop. Oral tradition holds that on arrival in Virginia, the head was hung from a pole at the mouth of the Hampton River as a warning to others who might be tempted by piracy. The head remained for some time and the site continues to be known as Blackbeard's Point today.

This exhibit was developed by the South Carolina State Museum with research, collaboration and assistance from the North Carolina Museum of History, the Queen Anne's Revenge Project of the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, and the North Carolina Maritime Museum.

### **Hampton History Museum**

The Hampton History Museum is located at 120 Old Hampton Lane in Downtown Hampton. There is plenty of free parking in the garage across from the museum. Open Mon-Sat, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun 1-5 p.m. Closed major holidays. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, active military, active NASA, AAA, children 4-12, free to children under 4. For more information, call 757-727-1102, visit [www.HamptonHistoryMuseum.org](http://www.HamptonHistoryMuseum.org), or like the Hampton History Museum on Facebook and follow it on Twitter and Instagram.

Partially bordered by the Hampton Roads harbor and Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, with the 344,000 sq. ft. Hampton Roads Convention Center and the award-winning Hampton Coliseum, is located in the center of Coastal Virginia and the Hampton Roads metropolitan area. Hampton is the site of America's first continuous English-speaking settlement, the site of the first arrival of Africans in English North America, and is home to such visitor attractions as the Virginia Air & Space Center, Fort Monroe National

Monument, Hampton History Museum, harbor tours and cruises, Hampton University Museum, The American Theatre, among others.

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