Our Visit to the Ybor City Museum State Park
**What is a museum?**

A museum is a place we go to see and learn about important things for people to know and remember. In Tampa, there are museums for science, art and history.

History is learning about people and events that happened a long time ago.

Here is an example. This picture shows two sides of the same street in Ybor City. On the left, we see how the street and cars looked many years ago in 1927. On the right, we can see the street and cars as they look now in 2012.

![THEN](image1.jpg) ![NOW](image2.jpg)

Photo courtesy of the Ybor City Development Corporation
http://www.yborcityonline.com/a-brief-history
**What should we do in the museum?**

- Stay with my group
- No touching objects. We will see signs on things that are OK to touch
- No flash pictures with my camera or phone
- No leaning on walls or cases
- No running, playing around or being too loud
- Keep voices at a low volume so other visitors can enjoy the museum
- No pens allowed, only pencils
- No gum, food, or drinks allowed
- Backpacks, books, and devices will stay on the bus or in the van or car
Ybor City Museum

Many years ago, the museum building was a bakery owned by the Ferlita family. The bakery made many kinds of bread and pastries for people who lived in Ybor City.

THEN

Now, we visit the museum in the same building to see pictures and objects and stories about how Ybor City started, and learn about the people who lived and worked there.

NOW
When we first come in, we will see a counter where people can buy tickets.

**NOW**

When the building was a bakery, this may be how the front room looked.

**THEN**
Maybe we will come in from another door. This door leads to the garden. People who can’t walk up steps may use this door to come in and go out.
We will see this decoration on the wall in the lobby.

The boat
The Hutchinson is the first boat that brought Cuban immigrants to Tampa in 1886.

The flags
The United States flag represents the new home for all the people who came from other countries. The flags from Cuba, Spain, and Italy represent the homelands of the three immigrant groups who did the most to help Ybor City grow.

Thanks to Elizabeth McCoy, Curator of Programs and Education for the Ybor City Museum Society, for information on this and the following two pages.
The tobacco leaves show how important the cigar industry was. The guava represents a story about how Ybor was “discovered”. Two men, who owned a company in New York that put fruits and vegetables in cans for grocery stores, came to Florida looking for guava trees. They found no guava in Tampa, but they saw the new railroad built by Henry B. Plant and thought this would be a good town for factories. They knew Vicente Martinez-Ybor, and knew he was looking for a new place to open a cigar factory, so they told him about the Tampa Bay Area, and the rest is history.

1886 refers to the year of Ybor’s founding.

The four colors of around the center are the colors of the Ybor flag. The next page has a picture of the flag.

The lit cigar in the center is also a reference to the cigar industry.
The Flag of YBOR CITY
In Tampa's Latin Quarter

PLEDGE OF AFFECTION

I pledge affection to the flag of Ybor City.
The symbol of fame and fine caliber.
It should always wave proudly arriba.
With friendship and good will ever viva.
Yesterday, today and mañana.
May it always inspire our hazards.
We are espanoles, italianos and cubanos.
But together we make americanos.
Salute our flag and alcade.
Trust them to always be salve.
Respect this ensign, we demand.
Let's be gay when we see it, caramba!
The floor has a lot of beautiful tiles that were used when the building was still a bakery. These tiles are very old!
We will see large pictures on the wall that show how Ybor City started many years ago.
There may be pictures and objects inside the glass cases. We can find words inside the case that will tell us about those pictures and objects.
This exhibit shows what a store might have looked like a long time ago.
When the museum building was a bakery, this man was one of the people who made bread in the ovens every day.

THEN

Now when we visit the museum, we can look inside to see how big the ovens are. The ovens are not being used now, so they will not be hot.

NOW
Push this button to listen to a recording about the ovens.

It is OK to touch this button.
This computer has a slide show with lots of pictures of the Ferlita family. We can see what the people and cars and buildings looked like in different years.
When you see these listening devices, pick one up and listen. You can hear someone talking about the exhibit behind the glass.

It is OK to touch these devices.
The cigar factory exhibit shows what the inside of a cigar factory looked like, and has cigar box labels and cigars on display.
The black and white picture shows people working in a cigar factory many years ago. The color picture shows a display of a factory worker’s desk, and the platform where a lector would sit and read books and newspapers to the workers.
Maybe we will walk through the beautiful garden at the museum. The water is for looking, not playing.

If we see flowers, they are for looking, not picking.
A casita is a house where people who made cigars lived. The houses were small and did not cost much money.
Inside the casita, we will see everything just as it would have looked when a family lived there many years ago. What are some things they used that we still use in 2012? How are they different now than in the casita? What are some things we do not use any more?*

Look at these pictures and the next 4 pages. Do you see any:
- TVs?
- Telephones?
- Computers?
- iPods?
- Video games?
- Microwaves?
- Air conditioning?
- Bathroom?

**Wood burning furnace
Wood burning stove
Chamber pot
Mosquito net
Ice box (not electric)
Coffee pot (not electric)
Washboard
Iron (not electric)
Outhouse
What is this? This is outside, behind the casita.
When we are all done with the tour of the museum and the casita, maybe we will go to the store and look at the nice things they have for sale.

If we do not have time to go to the store today, maybe we can come another time and visit the store.

See the next page to see things we might see for sale in the store.
Store
Things I can buy in the store

- Mugs
- T-shirts
- Books
- Post card
- Placemats
- Coasters
- And tiles
When it is time to go back to school or go home, we will walk together quietly to the bus or other vehicle. Thank you Ybor City Museum people for showing us the Museum.

We will see you next time!
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