

Travel Tips
CRM Training
NAS Pensacola

Travel -

There are very few direct flights to Pensacola, expect a stop in a hub, ie Charlotte Airport with a final leg to Pensacola - PNS

There is no courtesy car pickup from the airport to the Holiday Inn Express, 6501 Pensacola Blvd, contrary to the courtesy phones at the baggage pickup area. There are courtesy cars from the airport to other Holiday Inns, but not to the Holiday Inn Express on Pensacola Blvd. Follow Airport Blvd to Pensacola Blvd, right turn, the Holiday Inn will be on the left side.

On check in, you should receive a list of class attendees with a notation next to the Auxiliarist who has been authorized to rent a car. The ratio is five attendees to one car. Meet with your fellow Auxiliarists and share a ride.

The Holiday Inn has a courtesy breakfast, - coffee, rolls, buns, cereal, fruit, et al please ask the front desk to make sure it is available prior to 0630. An excellent opportunity to meet your fellow Auxiliarists.

Holiday Inn to NAS - South on Pensacola Blvd, merges with Palafox Hwy, bear right on Pace Blvd, right on Fairfield Dr, left on Warrington, becomes Navy Blvd (rte 295) to NAS Pensacola. About a twenty (20) minute drive.

The guard shack at the Main Gate has detailed maps of the Pensacola area. The maps include individual maps of the military bases in the Pensacola area. There are a number of bases in the area. The guard will check your id, also helpful to have a copy of your orders available.

Building 3845, is behind bldg 3801. From the front gate stay on Ducan Road, bearing right, At Hovey Road, make a right turn. Building 3845 will be on your left. The Auxiliarists authorized to rent a car should received a map with driving directions during checkin at the Holiday Inn.

Flight Suits are very much the uniform for the day. An occasional Auxiliarist ie observer may be found wearing tropical long. Look sharp. As you leave building 3845 there is a full length mirror, next to the door, with a sign - Look Sharp. The classes start promptly.

Lunches -

Highly recommend - the Cubi Bar, in the National Museum of Naval Aviation. Left on Hovey Road, left on Taylor Road, the entrance to the museum is on the right. You can eat on a terrace over looking the airplanes on display.

Across the street from the Museum is the Lighthouse Point Restaurant. Has a very nice view of the Pensacola Bay, they have a buffet or you can order off a menu.

Dinner -

There are a number of restaurants within walking distance of the Holiday Inn.

With a car, you could try McGuire's Irish Pub on Gregory Street. Route 110 south, route 110 ends at Gregory St, (one way, westbound) go down a block to go east, there will be a sign for McGuire's, left turn, left turn again on Gregory St, McGuire's will be on the right.

An other option is to continue east, pick up Route 98, cross the causeway, Escambia Bay, to Gulf Breeze or cross a second causeway, Santa Rosa Sound, to Santa Rosa Island. There are a number of restaurants along the beaches. On Santa Rosa Island, there is even a short boardwalk.

Sights -

The air museum is a must see. Approximately 550 airplanes, an IMAX theatre, (\$6.00). A 'flight line tour', (free, though a ticket is required). A motion simulator ride (\$4.00). There are a plethora of interesting airplanes and aviation history.

NAS Pensacola is home for the Blue Angels, at certain times of the year, you may see them practicing.

Shopping -

NEX- Navy Exchange, is on Saufley Street at the corner of Murray Road. East of the training classrooms. Right on Hovey Rd, right on Duncan Rd, to the end, left on Radford Blvd, left on West Ave, (signs are not distinct). West Ave will end at Saufley St, the exchange is across the road. The NEX seems to be the best place for uniform items.

On the way to the NAS, on Navy Blvd, (rte 295), on the north bound lane, there is Wings and Things, a seamstress shop with numerous patches. They were very pleasant and very accommodating.

On Barrancas Ave - Navy Blvd (route 292), north, right on to Barrancas, on the west bound lane, is a pilot shop - Wings. (just past the West Marine sign)

NEX Mall is on Corry NAS. North on Navy Blvd, left on route 98, about a mile, on the right, is Corry NAS. The NEX mall, is just within the entrance. Some interesting items but not big on uniform items. Some prices are comparable to civilian prices, some items are bargains.

respectfully submitted,

Henry Uiga
FSO - PB
Flotilla 10-20
Auxiliary Air Station Caldwell