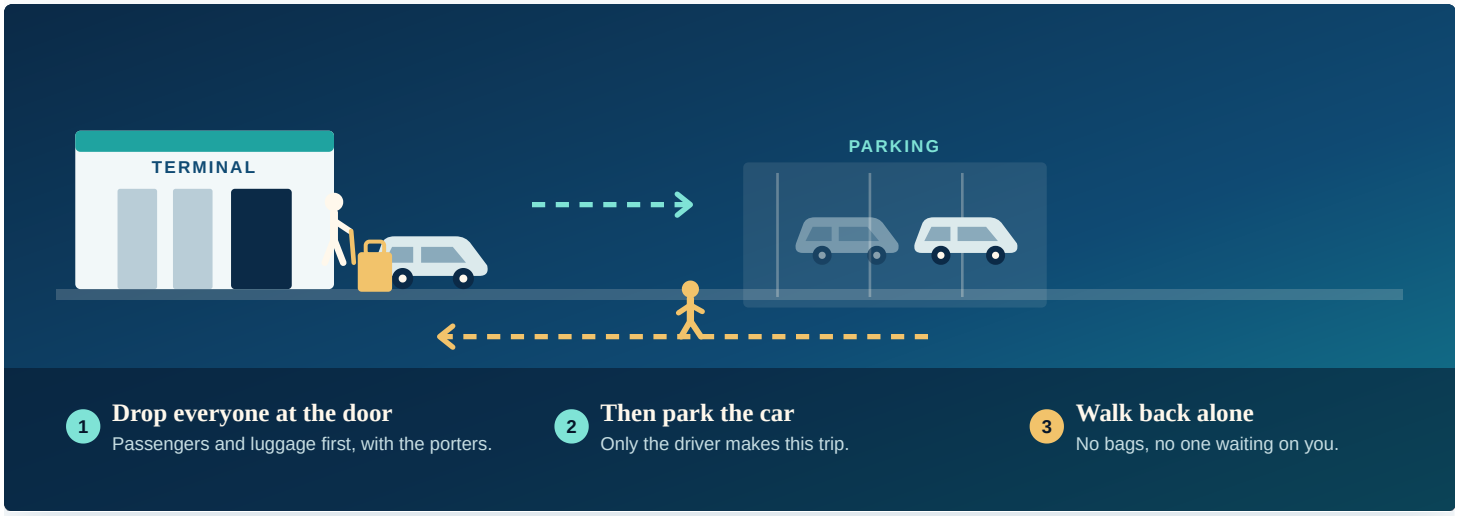
DEPARTURE DAY · GALVESTON

# Four terminals, *and lots that only serve some of them.*

Galveston's parking is priced and arranged by terminal, and the terminals sit a five-minute drive apart. Book the wrong lot and you're not slightly inconvenienced — you're in the wrong part of the port on sailing morning.

### CONFIRM YOUR TERMINAL, AND CONFIRM IT LATE

Royal Caribbean generally uses **Terminal 10**, Carnival **25**, Disney and Princess **28**, and MSC and Norwegian the newer **Terminal 16**. Assignments can change, sometimes close to sailing. Check your boarding documents before you book parking, and give a driver or map app the **terminal number**, not just "the cruise port".




***Parking at the port:*** *whoever needs the shortest walk should never ride to the garage. Drop them at the door first, with the luggage, then park. Private lots work differently — you park first and ride a shuttle in.*

### NO FREE PARKING — BUT A VETERANS' DISCOUNT

The Port of Galveston lists **no free disabled parking**. Disabled veterans get **15% off online reservations** via an enrolment form. A placard alone pays the regular rate.

**Parking office: 409-766-6163.** The port says **many of its shuttles are ADA-equipped**, and that ADA spaces, including van-accessible ones, are first come, first served and cannot be reserved.

## Which lot, *and what it means for you*

- **Park-and-walk lots** sit within walking distance of each terminal — the Express Lot at Terminal 28's door, the garage near Terminals 25 and 28, and the North Premium Lot by Terminal 10.
- **The North Premium Lot has no shuttle** because it's a short walk. That's a benefit if you can walk it and a problem if you can't — there's no ride to fall back on.
- **Economy Lot B** is further out but runs a **free shuttle that carries you and your luggage**, with covered shuttle stops. If walking is your limiting factor, the cheaper lot with a shuttle may genuinely serve you better than the closest one.
- **Terminal 10's lots sit about a mile west** of Terminals 25 and 28, so lots that "serve the port" may not serve your ship.

### ADA SPACES, AND THE CATCH

The port states **ADA accessible parking is available in all lots** — but **first come, first served**, with no way to reserve one. Arriving early matters more here than at ports where the spaces can be held. Port staff can help if you need assistance, and the port's parking line is **(409) 766-6163**.

First

**Come, first served.** ADA spaces sit in every lot but cannot be reserved, so arriving early matters more here than anywhere else.

# Where to park: *port-run and private, together*

| WHERE | WHO RUNS IT | ROUGHLY | WHAT TO KNOW |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Park-and-walk lots (Express, garage, North Premium)** | Port-run | premium end of the range | Within walking distance of their terminal. **North Premium has no shuttle** because it's a short walk — fine if you can walk it, a problem if you can't. |
| **Economy Lot B** | Port-run | cheaper end | Further out, but the **free shuttle carries you and your luggage**, with covered shuttle stops. Often the better choice if walking is your limiting factor. |
| **Private lots near Harborside Drive** | Private | varies | Generally cheaper with a shuttle. Check reviews, and check the shuttle before the price. |
| **Hotel park-and-cruise packages** | Private | varies | A night on the island plus parking for the week. Given the drive from Houston, arriving the day before is worth more here than at most ports. |

# What it costs, *and how it's priced*

- **Priced by sailing length and lot type**, not a simple nightly rate. Published figures for a seven-night cruise have ranged from roughly $178 in the cheaper lots to around $208 in the premium ones.

- **Reserving online is usually cheaper than driving up**, and it guarantees a space — worth doing in summer, spring break and holidays, when lots fill.
- **Covered parking is worth the upgrade in a Texas summer**, for the sake of the car you come back to.
- **Private lots and hotel park-and-cruise packages** compete nearby, typically with shuttles. Check reviews, and check the shuttle before the price.

**ASK ONE QUESTION BEFORE YOU BOOK ANY OF THEM**

"Does the shuttle carry luggage, and is it wheelchair accessible with a lift?" The port's own economy shuttle carries both passengers and bags. Private lots vary, and the answer decides whether the saving is worth having.

## Getting there: *pick the right Houston airport*

- **Hobby (HOU)** is roughly 40 to 45 miles away, about 45 minutes. It's the better choice for Galveston.
- **Bush Intercontinental (IAH)** is roughly 70 miles, around an hour and a half. Choosing it by accident can add an hour of driving each way.
- **Shared shuttles** run roughly $40 to $55 per person each way; private cars and rideshares cost more. Book in advance and ask about an accessible vehicle if you need one.
- **Galveston is an island**, reached by I-45 south from Houston — one road in, which matters if the weather turns.

**STAY ON THE ISLAND THE NIGHT BEFORE**

Seawall Boulevard hotels sit five to fifteen minutes from the terminals, and several offer park-and-cruise packages. Given the drive from Houston and the single road onto the island, arriving the day before is worth more here than at most ports.

# Coming home, *which is its own problem*

Disembarkation is early, after a week of doing more than usual. Put your name down for priority debarkation the evening before if you need wheelchair assistance, and remember the shuttle runs in reverse — with luggage, and a queue, on a morning when you have the least left.

# Questions to ask *before you drive*

1. Do you waive parking for my vehicle or plate, and what documents do I bring?
2. Where are the accessible spaces, and how close are they to the terminal or the elevator?
3. Can I drop my passenger and bags at the terminal first?
4. For off-site lots: does the shuttle have a wheelchair lift, and can it take my scooter?
5. What's the height limit if I drive a lifted van?

**WHEELCHAIR HELP AT THE TERMINAL — ASK AHEAD**

**Royal Caribbean:** crew push wheelchairs on and off the ship at embarkation and disembarkation. Request it on the Guest Special Needs Form **at least 30 days** before you sail.

**Celebrity:** tick "wheelchair assistance at the pier" on the special needs form, at least 30 days ahead.

**Princess:** has an **Accessibility Lane** at check-in, and assigns crew when you request wheelchair help.

Every line's form and deadline →

## Check with your cruise line

- **Ask which terminal** your ship uses on your date — 10, 16, 25 or 28 — and which lots serve it.
- **Ask how to request pier and wheelchair assistance**, and by when.

- **Ask whether you can be dropped at the terminal** before the car is parked.
- **Ask whether there's an accessibility lane** at check-in and whether your companions can use it.

**RULES AND RATES CHANGE — CALL BEFORE YOU DRIVE**

This is a starting point, not legal advice. Parking rates, free-parking rules and terminal assignments change without notice. **Call the port's parking office before you set off**, and check with your own cruise line.

**PRICES CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE**

Rates here are a guide, not a quote. Galveston prices by lot and by sailing length, and published figures vary widely between sources — anywhere from about $15 a day in older listings to totals of $200 or more for a week in the premium lots. Price your own dates in the port's reservation system rather than trusting an average.

## Questions people *actually ask*

### Which lot should I use at the Port of Galveston?

### Are there ADA parking spaces at the Port of Galveston?

### Where this comes from

- Firsthand observation on recent sailings, with the date noted above.
- How we check things — our method, and what "last checked" means.

*Last checked 22 September 2026.*

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