



Thomas Edison National Historical Park

Visitor Survey

On your recent visit to Thomas Edison National Historical Park you agreed to participate in a survey from NPS about your trip. **Please have the same individual in your group who completed the onsite survey at the park complete this questionnaire.** In this questionnaire, your personal group is defined as you and anyone with whom you visited Thomas Edison National Historical Park on this trip, such as a spouse, family, friends, etc. This does not include the larger group that you might have traveled with, such as a school, church, scout, or tour group.

A visit is defined as the day in which you were contacted to complete the questionnaire. A trip is defined as the total extent of time away from your personal residence that could include multiple visits to Thomas Edison National Historical Park .

Trip Description

1. Prior to this trip, how did you obtain information about Thomas Edison National Historical Park ? (Please mark all that apply.)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Did not obtain information prior to this visit | ☐ Other units of the National Park System (NPS) |
| ☐ Previous visits | ☐ School class/program |
| ☐ Friends/relatives/word of mouth | ☐ Social media (such as Facebook, Twitter, etc.) |
| ☐ Inquiry to park via phone, mail, or email | ☐ State welcome center/visitor bureaus/chamber of commerce |
| ☐ Official Thomas Edison National Historical Park website (nps.gov/edis) | ☐ Travel guides/tour books (such as AAA, etc.) |
| ☐ Other website (please specify): _____ | ☐ Television/radio programs/DVDs |
| ☐ Local businesses (hotels, restaurants, etc.) | ☐ Online travel agent |
| ☐ Maps/brochures | ☐ Cruise ship |
| ☐ Newspaper/magazine articles | ☐ Live here/grew up here |
| | ☐ Other (please specify): _____ |

2. Did you have the information about Thomas Edison National Historical Park you needed on this trip? (Mark one.)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No (Please specify the information you needed but didn't have on this trip:)

3. From the list below, select all forms of transportation you personally used to travel from your home to Thomas Edison National Historical Park on this trip. (Please mark all that apply.)

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Car, truck, or SUV | ☐ Water-based transportation (mark all that apply) |
| ☐ RV or motorhome | ☐ Cruise ship |
| ☐ Airplane | ☐ Ferry |
| ☐ Commercial tour bus | ☐ Tour boat |
| ☐ Commercial tour van | ☐ Personal boat |
| ☐ Church, school, or similar group bus/van | ☐ Motorboat |
| ☐ Taxi/other rideshare options (e.g., Uber, Lyft, etc.) | ☐ Sailboat |
| ☐ City bus or subway | ☐ Canoe/kayak |
| ☐ Train or long-distance passenger bus | ☐ Other (please specify): _____ |
| ☐ Bicycle | ☐ Walk/hike |
| ☐ Motorcycle | ☐ Other (please specify): _____ |

4. What type of group were you with during your visit to Thomas Edison National Historical Park on the day you were contacted for this survey? (Mark one.)

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Alone | ☐ Family |
| ☐ Significant other/spouse | ☐ Family and friends |
| ☐ Friends | ☐ Other (please specify): _____ |

Expenditures

The National Park Service is interested in the relationship between parks and their local economies. In this section, we ask about goods and services that you and your personal group purchased in Thomas Edison National Historical Park 's local area and elsewhere in the US (outside Thomas Edison National Historical Park 's local area) during this trip away from home.

Throughout this section, please refer to the local area map on the back of the cover letter when asked about the local area around Thomas Edison National Historical Park . The local area includes all communities within the highlighted region.

5. **How many days did you spend away from home (or your local/seasonal residence) on this trip that included your visit to Thomas Edison National Historical Park ?**

_____ number of days

6. **Of these days spent away from home, how many days were spent in the local area (including days spent in Thomas Edison National Historical Park) shown on the map?**

_____ number of days

7. **Please estimate how much money the group you shared expenses with (or covered expenses for) spent in the following areas during your trip away from home: (1) Thomas Edison National Historical Park and the local communities surrounding Thomas Edison National Historical Park , and (2) elsewhere in the U.S. outside Thomas Edison National Historical Park 's local area.**

(If you did not spend anything in a category, please enter "0".)

Local Area Residents: If you are a permanent or seasonal/second home resident, please only include local area expenditures that were directly related to your trip to Thomas Edison National Historical Park when you received this survey.

Package Vacationers: For this question, don't include any expenditures that were included as part of your package vacation cost (that you reported when interviewed at Thomas Edison National Historical Park).

Expenses	Amount spent in Thomas Edison National Historical Park and nearby communities (\$US) (shown on map)	Amount spent elsewhere in US during your trip to the Thomas Edison National Historical Park area (\$US) (outside local area)
National Park entrance fee or annual parks pass		
Edison Laboratory Complex audio tour fee		
Gas and oil (e.g., auto, RV, boat, etc.)		
Electric vehicle charging expenses		
Rental car		
Taxis, rideshares, shuttles, parking, and public transportation		
Restaurants and bars		
Groceries and convenience foods		
Hotels, motels, resorts		
Specialty lodging (e.g., B&Bs, hostels, cabins, vacation rentals)		
Camping fees (tent, RV)		
Park Store purchases		
Souvenirs, clothing, supplies, other retail purchased outside the park		
Equipment rental		
Guides and tour fees		
Recreation and entertainment expenses (e.g., movies, bowling, miniature golf, etc.)		
Other expenditures (Please describe below): _____		
Airline tickets from home (Which airport did you fly into?): _____		

8. How many people (adults and children), including yourself, were covered by the spending estimates you provided above?

_____ number of people (adults and children)

9. If you did not list any expenditures for local area or elsewhere, please indicate why you did not answer. (Mark one per row.)

	I did not spend any money	I do not know or remember	Prefer not to answer	N/A
A. In the Local Area	☐	☐	☐	☐
B. Elsewhere in the US	☐	☐	☐	☐

10. On this trip to Thomas Edison National Historical Park , which one of the following entrance fees applied to you personally? (Mark one.)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Did not pay a fee or use a pass to enter the park | ☐ Senior Pass, Access Pass, or Military Pass |
| ☐ 7-day entrance pass | ☐ Fee was included in Tour Package |
| ☐ Annual pass for Thomas Edison National Historical Park | ☐ One-day fee (e.g., single-day entry fee) |
| ☐ America the Beautiful – National Parks and Federal Lands (NPS Annual Pass) | ☐ Don't know/Unsure |
| | ☐ Other (please specify): _____ |

11. On how many *different days* did you enter Thomas Edison National Historical Park on this trip? (Enter 1 if you only were in the site for one day).

Different days entered

Trip Planning and Motivations

12. Did you visit any other National Park Service sites on your trip away from home? (Mark one.)

- ☐ Yes (Please specify which sites, below): OR ☐ No

13. On this trip, in which of the following activities did you personally participate while visiting Thomas Edison National Historical Park ? (Please mark all that apply.)

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ (1) Viewing scenery, natural features, etc. | ☐ (9) Visiting Glenmont Estate |
| ☐ (2) Viewing wildlife | ☐ (10) Family gathering |
| ☐ (3) Creative arts (photography, drawing, painting, writing) | ☐ (11) Other (please specify): _____ |
| ☐ (4) Visiting a cultural or historic site | ☐ (12) Other (please specify): _____ |
| ☐ (5) Driving for pleasure | ☐ (13) Other (please specify): _____ |
| ☐ (6) Hiking/walking | |
| ☐ (7) Road cycling | |
| ☐ (8) Running/jogging | |

14. Of the activities listed in Question 13, which was your *primary activity* during your visit to Thomas Edison National Historical Park this trip on the day you were contacted for the survey?

_____ activity number OR ☐ I did not have a primary activity on this trip to Thomas Edison National Historical Park

15. People are motivated to visit a National Park Service site for a variety of reasons. How important to you were each of the following reasons or motivations for visiting Thomas Edison National Historical Park on this trip? (Mark one per row.)

	<u>Not at all</u> <u>Important</u> (1)	<u>Slightly</u> <u>Important</u> (2)	<u>Moderately</u> <u>Important</u> (3)	<u>Very</u> <u>Important</u> (4)	<u>Extremely</u> <u>Important</u> (5)
1) To visit a National Park Service site	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2) To experience solitude	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3) To hear the sounds of nature/quiet	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4) To learn more about nature	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5) To learn more about American history and culture	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6) To spend time with family/friends	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
7) To get physical exercise	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
8) To view wildlife or natural scenery	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
9) To relax	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10) To view dark night sky/stars	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
11) Other (Please specify:) _____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

16. Of the reasons listed in Question 15, which was the most important reason for you to visit Thomas Edison National Historical Park on this trip?

_____ number most important reason from Q15

Park Activities, Programs, and Services

17. On this trip, in which of the following programs and services did you personally participate within Thomas Edison National Historical Park ? (Please mark all that apply.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Attending a ranger-led activity, such as a tour or talk | ☐ Participating with a child in your group in the Junior Ranger program |
| ☐ Talking informally with a ranger | ☐ Participating in the Junior Ranger program |
| ☐ Viewing outdoor exhibits | ☐ Obtaining a National Park passport stamp |
| ☐ Viewing indoor exhibits | ☐ Listening to an audio tour or podcast |
| ☐ Attending a cultural demonstration or performance | ☐ Participating in a free cell phone tour |
| ☐ Reading the park brochure or newspaper | ☐ Participating in a self-guided children's activity |
| ☐ Going to a visitor center | ☐ Using the National Park Service App |
| ☐ Watching movies or videos about the park | ☐ Other (please specify): _____ |

18. On this visit to Thomas Edison National Historical Park , did you learn anything from park staff, programs, and/or exhibits about American history, nature, and/or culture? (Mark one.)

- ☐ Yes (Please specify subjects you learned about:) OR ☐ No

19. If you were to visit Thomas Edison National Historical Park in the future, are there specific subjects you would like to learn about? (Mark one.)

- ☐ Yes (Please specify subjects you would like to learn about:) OR ☐ No

20. Did you use a personal electronic device while in Thomas Edison National Historical Park to do any of the following actions? (Mark one per row.)

	Yes	No	Don't know
Make/receive a cell phone call	☐	☐	☐
Send/receive a text message	☐	☐	☐
Search the internet/email	☐	☐	☐
GPS/Navigation	☐	☐	☐
Share pics/videos/audio via social media	☐	☐	☐
Listen to/use an NPS podcast	☐	☐	☐
Other (please specify): _____	☐	☐	☐

21. How important to you was it during your visit to Thomas Edison National Historical Park to use personal electronic devices to do each of the following, and how would you rate the quality of the service to do each? (For each item, please Mark one for importance and one for quality of service.)

	IMPORTANCE					QUALITY OF SERVICE					
	Not at all Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important	Extremely Important	No Service	Poor	Average	Good	Very Good	Not Applicable
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(X)
Make/receive a cell phone call	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Send/receive a text message	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Search the internet/email	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
GPS/Navigation	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Share pics / videos / audio via social media	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Listen to/use an NPS podcast	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other (please specify): _____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

22. Did anyone in your personal group have a physical condition that made it difficult to access or participate in park activities or services during your visit to Thomas Edison National Historical Park ? (Mark one.)

a. ☐ Yes ☐ No [Go to Question 23]

b. What activities, services, or facilities did the person(s) have difficulty participating in or accessing? Please be specific.

c. Because of the physical condition, which specific difficulties did the person(s) have. (Please mark all that apply.)

- ☐ Hearing (difficulty hearing ranger programs, bus drivers, audio-visual exhibits or programs, or information desk staff even with a hearing aid)
- ☐ Visual (difficulty seeing exhibits, directional signs, or visual aids that are part of programs even with prescribed glasses due to blindness)
- ☐ Mobility (difficulty in accessing facilities, services, or programs even with walking aid and/or wheelchairs)

The following two questions identify the strengths and weaknesses in the site’s visitor experience. Thomas Edison National Historical Park managers rely on this information to make decisions that benefit the general public.

23. What did you like the most about your visit to Thomas Edison National Historical Park ?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

☐ Not applicable

24. What did you like the least about your visit to Thomas Edison National Historical Park ?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

☐ Not applicable

25. Did your visit to Thomas Edison National Historical Park meet your expectations? (Mark one.)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Not entirely (please explain below:)

☐ Not at all (please explain below:)

26. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (Mark one per row.)

[illegible]

27. How would you rate the quality of the park facilities, visitor services, and recreational opportunities in Thomas Edison National Historical Park ? (Mark one per row.)

	Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Very Good	Not Used or Not Available
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(X)
Park Facilities						
Visitor Center	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Exhibits (indoor and outdoor)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Restrooms	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Walkways, trails, and roads	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Campgrounds and/or picnic areas	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Visitor Services						
Assistance from park employees	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Park map or brochure	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Ranger programs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Value for entrance fee paid	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Commercial services in the park (food, lodging, gifts, rental, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other services (Please specify: _____)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Recreation Opportunities						
Learning about nature, history, or culture	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Outdoor recreation (sightseeing, camping, bicycling, boating, hiking, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

28. Overall, how would you rate the quality of the park facilities, visitor services, and recreational opportunities in Thomas Edison National Historical Park ? (Mark one.)

☐ (1) Very poor ☐ (2) Poor ☐ (3) Average ☐ (4) Good ☐ (5) Very good

29. This park was established because of its significance to the nation. In your opinion, what is that national significance of this park?

Background/Demographics

30. If you live in the US, what is your ZIP code? If not US, what is your country of residence?

ZIP Code OR Country _____

31. What is your age? Years

32. What is your gender? (Mark one.)

- ☐ Man
- ☐ Woman
- ☐ I prefer to self-describe as: _____
- ☐ Prefer not to respond

33. Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin? (Mark one.)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

34. What is your race? (Please mark all that apply.)

- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander
- ☐ White
- ☐ Some other race (please describe): _____

35. What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed? (Mark one.)

- ☐ Less than high school/some high school☐ High school graduate☐ Vocational/trade school certificate☐ Some college☐ Associate Degree (AA, AS, etc.)
- ☐ Bachelor’s Degree (BA, BS, AB, etc.)☐ Master’s Degree (MS, MA, MEd, etc.)☐ Professional Degree (MD, DD, etc.)☐ Doctorate Degree (PhD, EdD, etc.)

36. Which of these categories best represents your annual household income? (Mark one.)

- ☐ Less than \$25,000☐ \$25,000 to \$49,999☐ \$50,000 to \$74,999☐ \$75,000 to \$99,999
- ☐ \$100,000 to \$149,999☐ \$150,000 to \$199,999☐ \$200,000 or more☐ Do not wish to answer

37. Including yourself, how many people contribute to your annual household income?

 people

38. Including yourself, how many people (adults and children) are in your household?

 people

39. When visiting an area such as Thomas Edison National Historical Park , what language do you prefer to use?
(Mark one for speaking and one for reading.)

	ENGLISH	SPANISH	OTHER
Speaking	☐	☐	☐
Reading	☐	☐	☐

If you marked other for speaking and/or reading, please specify which language:

40. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about Thomas Edison National Historical Park ’s facilities, services, or recreational opportunities?

Thank you for your time and participation in this survey.
Please place this packet into the postage-paid envelope and return it via any US Mail drop box.