



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Ultimate Parking Pass?

The Ultimate Parking Pass is a window decal that you put on your car for a year of entry at seasonal beach parks PLUS a year of Seawall parking. It is a great value to park at Galveston's beaches for only \$95.

How do I buy the Ultimate Parking Pass?

Just go to one of our seasonal beach parks – R.A. Apffel Beach Park (East Beach), Stewart Beach Park, Dellanera RV Park (open all year) or Pocket Park #1 - and stop at the entry gate. The admissions team will ask you to provide contact information and your license plate number in order to complete the transaction. You will receive a numbered decal to stick on your windshield.

Why do you need my license plate information?

Your window decal is tied to your license plate for your Ultimate Pass to be valid at the beach parks. Seawall parking is enforced by the City of Galveston using your license plate. If your license plate is not provided, then your vehicle will receive a parking citation if you park on the Seawall or you could be denied entry at a beach park.

Is the Ultimate Pass transferrable to any of my vehicles?

No. The Ultimate Pass windshield decal has a number that is unique to the vehicle you registered. It is valid only for the vehicle with the decal and the matching license plate that was registered. If you have more than one vehicle visiting Galveston's beaches in the coming year, then you need one pass for each vehicle.

What if I change my license plates or my windshield decal is destroyed?

If you need to make any changes to your issued Ultimate Pass, then it is best to return to the location where you bought your pass for assistance. If it is off-season and the beach parks are closed, then please visit the Park Board Plaza at 601 Tremont St. in Galveston.

Are there any special offers or discounts on the Ultimate Parking Pass?

The Ultimate Parking Pass is a part of the Beach Access Plan of the City of Galveston. This access plan follows the State of Texas General Land Office requirements to provide everyone the same access to the public beaches. Designated free parking spaces are provided at each seasonal beach park and along Seawall Boulevard. Vehicles with disabled plates or placards receive free parking.

Who is exempt from parking fees?

Owners of vehicles displaying handicap tags or placards as well as Disabled Veterans (which includes):

- Congressional Medal of Honor, Former Prisoner of War,
- Pearl Harbor Survivor,
- Purple Heart Recipient,
- Legion of Valor (Air Force Cross, Distinguished Service Cross, Army Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross or Medal of Honor) or
- Legion of Merit License Plates

are exempt from the payment of parking fees, including a fee collected through a parking meter, charged by a governmental authority other than a branch of the federal government. These vehicles are only exempt from the parking fees if they are being operated by or for the transportation of the person who registered the vehicle with the above-mentioned license plates. Texas law allows parking placards to be removed and displayed in any vehicle used for transportation of a person with a disability. People with disabilities can apply for placards even if they do not own a car.

How long does it take to get my license plate registered for Seawall parking?

When you buy an Ultimate Pass, your license plate is registered immediately upon completion of your transaction. You can leave the beach park and go park along the Seawall. There is a 15 minute grace period when parking along the Seawall.

How do I know when my Ultimate Pass will expire?

Your Ultimate Pass decal will have a hole punched on the month in which your decal expires next year. Note that your Seawall parking expires on the same date of purchase in one year.

What if I do not have a credit card?

Payment by credit card is the most convenient and fastest way to complete your transaction. The Pay By Phone payments encrypt credit card information for your safety and privacy. To pay with cash, you can get your Ultimate Pass at the Park Board Plaza at 601 Tremont St. during normal operating hours.

Can I buy an Ultimate Pass to give as a gift?

Yes! Just come to a beach park and be able to provide the contact information and license plate of the vehicle for the lucky person receiving the gift.

Does the Ultimate Pass provide preferred parking?

No. There are no designated parking spaces for pass holders, as beach access must comply with the State of Texas requirements and be available to all on a first-come, first-served basis.

Can I buy the Seasonal Beach Pass and upgrade to an Ultimate Pass?

The best way to add annual Seawall parking to your Seasonal Beach Pass, is to use the PayByPhone Parking app and buy 12 months of parking along the Seawall using Location 5004.

Who do I call if I have questions about the Ultimate Pass?

For assistance, please call the Galveston Island Park Board at 409-797-5000.