

# My Visit to the Art Institute



**I am going to visit the Art Institute of Chicago.**

The Art Institute of Chicago is an art museum.

Many people go to museums. I may need to wait in a line to receive my ticket into the museum.



## Where to Enter

There are two entrances to the Art Institute of Chicago.

If I arrive on Michigan Avenue, I will pass the museum's famous lion statues and enter the Art Institute's oldest building. The Michigan Avenue entrance is a very busy place.

If I arrive on Monroe Street, I will enter the museum's newest addition, the Modern Wing.





## Admission

I will go to the admission desk to pay for and receive a ticket.

When I reach the security officer's station, I will show my ticket to enter the galleries.

If I am a member, I do not need a ticket. I will show the security officer my member card to enter the galleries.



## Security Officers

There are security officers throughout the museum. They keep the artwork and the people visiting the museum safe.

I can recognize security officers by their uniforms.

Security officers can help to answer any questions I might have about the museum.



## Checkroom

There are two rooms for checking coats and bags: one at the Michigan Avenue entrance and one at the Monroe Street entrance.

If I have a coat that I don't want to wear or a bag that I don't want to carry, I can leave it in the checkroom.

All backpacks and large bags will need to be checked in the checkroom.

There is a \$1 charge for each item I store.



If I choose to check an item, the staff person at the checkroom will give me a plastic tag with a number on it.

I will give the plastic tag back to the staff person when I want to pick up my items at the end of my visit.

I will keep the plastic tag in a safe space while visiting the museum.



## Visitor Guide and Map

I can pick up a Visitor Guide near the entrance or at any volunteer desk inside the museum.

The Visitor Guide tells me what is inside the museum.

The map will help me plan where to go and what to see. If I need help understanding the map, I can ask a security officer or someone at an information desk for help.



## **Sensory-Friendly Spaces**

Some areas of the museum are loud and some are quiet.

Some are bright and others are dark.

I can visit the Family Room for sensory-friendly suggestions throughout the museum.



## Looking at Art in the Galleries

In the galleries, I can see many types of art from all over the world.

It is my job to keep my body away from the art, so I will keep my hands to myself and enjoy the art with my eyes only.

I might hear a high-pitched tone if I get too close to the art. This is a reminder to move a little farther away.

I might not like or understand everything I see. That's okay!



There are many ways to look at art.

I can bring a sketchbook and pencil along for my visit.

To keep the art safe, I will only use pencils in the galleries and keep pens and markers at home.





## Ryan Learning Center

I can find the Ryan Learning Center in the Modern Wing.

There is a room in the Ryan Learning Center where I can make art, play games, or just relax.

Some parts of the Ryan Learning Center are under construction. I might hear loud banging or smell different types of materials. If I'm overwhelmed by the noises or smells, I can tell the adult I'm with that I need a break.



## **JourneyMaker**

I can make my own customized journey through the museum using JourneyMaker.

If I made my journey at home on my own computer, I can bring my journey guide to the museum and use the Visitor Guide to find my gallery stops.

If I want to make my journey guide at the museum, I can visit the Family Room in the Ryan Learning Center to use the JourneyMaker computers.



## Family Room

The Family Room has a collection of picture books, a space for art making, and other activities for me.

If I participate in the art-making activity in the Family Room, I can choose to take my art home with me or leave it at the museum for others to see.

The Family Room is home to JourneyMaker, where I can design my very own customized journey for my visit to the Art Institute.



## Getting Around and Restrooms

Elevators are located throughout the museum with access to all floors.

A limited number of wheelchairs and strollers are available for free on a first-come, first-served basis.

Every restroom in the museum is equipped with a changing table.

There is a family restroom on the first level near the Modern Wing entrance. Drinking fountains are also available near every restroom.



## Dining

The Visitor Guide has information about different places to eat in the museum.

Please remember that there is no food or drink allowed in the museum galleries.

If I choose to bring snacks, I can enjoy them in one of our gardens or on the couches by the Membership Desk at the Modern Wing entrance.



## Goodbye

Once I have seen and done everything I am interested in, I will leave the Art Institute of Chicago and go home.

I can come back to the museum on another day to explore the galleries, make art, and have fun.

## Access

The Art Institute of Chicago is committed to making programs and services accessible to everyone. We offer a range of resources and programs designed specifically for adults and children with disabilities.

If you would like to request an accessibility accommodation for an Art Institute program, please send an email to [access@artic.edu](mailto:access@artic.edu) as far in advance as possible.