School Group Visit Guide

Important Visit Reminders

- Give your bus driver the directions in the Getting Here section below.
- Share the important information in this guide with your students and chaperones.
- Arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled tour time, with name tags on.
- Bring one adult for every 10 students for pre-K and kindergarten, and one adult for every 15 students for first grade and up.
- Divide your students and chaperones into groups ahead of arrival, as specified in your reminder email. Chaperones must stay with their group throughout the visit.
- Be prepared to pass through a security scanner and to store all coats and bags in the bins provided for your group.
- Chaperones and students should turn off cell phones during the tour.
- If your group is running late, email education@barnesfoundation.org or call 215.278.7300.
- Have a great time!

Getting Here

Our bus drop-off is located on Pennsylvania Avenue, between 20th and 21st Streets; navigate to **2024 Pennsylvania Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19130**. The City of Philadelphia does NOT allow buses to park on city streets. The Callowhill Bus Center is the designated parking location for buses visiting the Barnes.

The Barnes is within walking distance of several public transportation stops, including the SEPTA #7, #32, #33, #38, #48, and #49 bus routes. Paid street and on-site parking are available first come, first served.
The bus will drop you off on a street next to the Barnes. For safety, groups must stay with their chaperones and follow the pathway leading to the main entrance. Do not walk through the parking lot. Teachers should lead their groups through the entry doors and let security know that they are here for a school visit. There will be other guests in this area. Please be respectful by not running or yelling.

Bags and Backpacks

Upon entry, all visitors will walk through a security scanner and all bags will be inspected. Our educators will help with this process and guide you to the Annenberg Court, where you will store coats and bags in the provided bins and begin your tour. No coats or bags are allowed in the galleries.

Chaperones may borrow clear plastic bags from our coat check to hold valuables or store their belongings in lockers on the Lower Level. Security must check all emergency medical bags and mark them with a sticker. Please present any bags holding medical supplies to security as soon as you enter the building.

Visiting the Permanent Collection

You will gather in the Annenberg Court to meet your guide, who will provide an overview of the Barnes and our visitor rules. Food, drinks, and gum are not allowed in the galleries. Now is a good time to throw your gum in the trash and ask about restrooms!

The Barnes’s permanent collection features more than 3,000 works presented in symmetrical wall arrangements called *ensembles*, which feature paintings by European and American artists, African sculptures, Navajo textiles and jewelry, Pueblo pottery, metalwork, furniture, and more. View our online teacher resources to enhance your visit and reinforce learning concepts.

General Guidelines

**FOR STUDENTS**

- Please be respectful by speaking at appropriate volumes and walking, not running, in the galleries.
• Look closely at the art but stay behind the dark line on the floor and don’t touch paintings, frames, furniture, or ironwork.

• Stay with your guide and chaperone. Students may not walk through the galleries unescorted.

• Put your phone away during guided tours. No flash, tripods, or selfie sticks allowed.

• During self-guided tours, notetaking and sketching are permitted with graphite pencil and notebooks no larger than 9 x 12 inches.

**FOR CHAPERONES**

• Stay with your group during the entire visit. Chaperones are responsible for escorting students to the restrooms and into and out of the building. Ask your guide for restroom locations and emergency exits.

• Stay off your cell phone, and keep your attention focused on your students. Phone conversations are not permitted in the galleries.

• Help us protect the art. Make sure you and your students stay behind the dark line on the floor and try to keep students in the center of the room.

• Keep food, drinks, and gum out of the galleries, classrooms, and auditorium.

• We do not permit lectures or tours by anyone other than Barnes staff.

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**Lunch Information**

If you have reserved our lunchroom, your guide will help you locate the space. If you do not have space reserved, your group may eat lunch outside (weather permitting) on the benches by the fountain at 20th and the Parkway, or in the Rodin Sculpture Garden across 21st Street.

There are restaurants and other food options within walking distance, including Whole Foods Market, which has a buffet area. You can find more dining options near the Barnes on sites such as TripAdvisor.
Self-Guiding Suggestions

Students on guided tours at the Barnes must leave the building after their scheduled tour ends; immediate pickup is required unless previous arrangements have been made with the Education department. High school students (8th grade and up) may self-tour in our galleries if they have purchased self-touring tickets in advance through the Education department. Younger students are not permitted to self-tour.

RESOURCES

View our educator-created resources at barnesfoundation.org/school-programs/teacher-resources, including information about our Barnes Focus gallery guide and scavenger hunts, which are designed to extend your students’ learning.

Contact Us

Please reach out to education@barnesfoundation.org or call 215.278.7300 with any questions.