School Group Visit Guide

Important Visit Reminders

• Give your driver the directions in the Getting Here section below.

• Share the information in this guide with your students and chaperones.

• Arrive with name tags on 15 minutes before the scheduled tour time.

• 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.

• Be prepared to store all jackets and bags in the bins provided for your group.

• Turn off all 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

The designated bus drop-off is located on Pennsylvania Avenue, between 20th and 21st Streets; navigate to 2024 Pennsylvania Ave., 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 is 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 that leads 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.

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**Bags and Backpacks**

When you arrive, be prepared to store all jackets and bags in the bins provided for your group. No jackets, coats, or bags are allowed in the galleries. Security reserves the right to inspect all bags. Chaperones can borrow clear plastic bags from our coat check to hold valuables, or store their belongings in lockers located on the Lower Level. Security must check all emergency medical bags and mark them with a sticker. Bags without stickers are not allowed in the galleries. Please present any bags holding medical supplies to security as soon as you enter the building.

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**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. Remember that 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 combine paintings by European and American artists, African sculptures, Navajo textiles and jewelry, Pueblo pottery, metalwork, furniture, and more. View our online [teacher resources](https://www.barnesfoundation.org/school-programs) to enhance your visit.
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. School groups may not walk through the galleries unescorted.
• Put your phone away during guided tours. No flash, tripods, or selfie sticks allowed.
• 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 in 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.

Lunch Information

If you have reserved our lunchroom, your guide will assist you in locating the space. If you do not have space reserved, weather permitting, your group may eat lunch outside on the benches by the fountain on 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. Additional dining options near the Barnes can be found 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.

**GUIDELINES**

- Stay together with your chaperone and follow the General Guidelines above.
- We allow photography, unless otherwise posted. No flash, tripods, or selfie sticks.
- If our galleries are crowded, we may ask you to stop taking photos. This helps us maintain movement throughout the space.
- Notetaking and sketching are permitted with graphite pencil and notebooks no larger than 9 x 12 inches.
- We do not permit lectures or tours by anyone other than Barnes staff.

**RESOURCES**

Students on self-guided tours may access our mobile gallery guide, Barnes Focus, on their smartphones. Connect to our free Wi-Fi (BarnesPublic) and navigate to barnesfoc.us on a web browser. Then use the phone’s camera to focus on a work of art and instantly receive information about the piece. Barnes Focus can translate descriptions into multiple languages.

View all self-guiding resources at barnesfoundation.org/school-programs/teacher-resources.