

INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE | OPERATION SPY® FACT SHEET

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Could you be a spy? Now you can find out, only at the International Spy Museum

Intrigue, deception, hard choices, daring escapes...it's your turn to live a spy's life! OPERATION SPY, an interactive spy adventure, is now open at the International Spy Museum in Washington, DC. This groundbreaking experience takes the interactive concept to the next level by combining the most innovative features of exhibits, movies, computer games, theatrical shows, and rides into one electrifying hour. Guests don't just read about spies, they *become* the spies.

Participants in OPERATION SPY assume the role of U.S. intelligence officers on an intrigue-filled international mission. The hour-long experience combines live-action, video, themed environments, special effects, and hands-on activities to create a series of reality-based challenges where Guests "think, feel, and act" like real intelligence officers in the field.

"This takes museum-going to a new level. Guests will discover what it's like to live in the real world of espionage," states International Spy Museum Board Chairman and Founder, Milton Maltz. "They get to test their skills while operating in a hostile environment and along the way they gain a deeper understanding of the challenges involved in running intelligence operations."

The OPERATION SPY story is based on actual cases drawn from intelligence files. The plot is set in a far corner of the world, where U.S. intelligence has received an anonymous tip that a top-secret, nuclear-triggering device has gone missing. Black market arms dealers want it—and it looks like someone is ready to sell.

As part of a team of field operatives in the fictional country of Khandar, the Guests' mission is to stop the trigger from falling into the wrong hands. In the ultimate intelligence game, they uncover layers of deception to reveal a world of secret agents, power-hungry officials, and deadly ambition. They must decide who to trust in an environment where all is not as it seems and everyone has a hidden agenda.

From the moment your passport is stamped at border patrol, you enter the exotic world of Khandar and the ambiguous world of espionage. Here is a sample of what you will feel and experience in OPERATION SPY:

...Waiting in the bus depot for your field station contact to meet you, you can't help but notice the disturbing newscasts on the aging TV monitors. You sense the political unrest roiling the country of your late-breaking assignment. Still unaware of the actual mission, you size up your new colleagues, who are also waiting...do they have what it takes?

Finally, you spot your contact fast approaching. With few words, you and your colleagues follow him through a back alley of the city's marketplace. Winding your way down the narrow street, morning shadows play on the cobblestones as stores begin to open for business. The scent of spices drifts through the air along with the sounds of the bustling marketplace.

In the command center, the intelligence chief at Khandar City Station patches in to brief your team. From that moment on, you are launched full speed into the fast-breaking operation. Your mission: find the triggering device and discover who is involved.

The station chief details your first task: conduct video surveillance of a meeting taking place at a nearby hotel. Can you successfully track the targets? You must work fast to keep them in view, frantically panning and zooming the camera. What's happening?!, you call to your teammates, Where are they now? Who has them on camera? Your teammates try to sort out what they just witnessed: were the targets' actions suspicious? And what are your next steps?

More actions, more uncertainty, and more decisions await. Then dramatically, the operation draws to a close. Did your team succeed in finding the trigger or did it fail? What further actions will you recommend to the chief? Your team's performance and its decisions will determine the course of events in Khandar—and their impact around the world. In a heart-pounding finale, the results of your team's actions are revealed. As you view what the world sees on the evening news, a colleague remarks. "I guess we're the only ones who will ever know what really happened...let's keep it that way."

There is more than one outcome to the OPERATION SPY guest experience. Throughout the hour, each team's performance is tracked and scored. That information, along with their final critical decision, determines one of several possible endings. Guests can come to OPERATION SPY again and again.

Peter Earnest, International Spy Museum Executive Director observed, "In a post 9/11 world, where intelligence has taken center stage, OPERATION SPY brings to life the complexities and ambiguities involved in collecting and interpreting raw intelligence. Our goal is to reach Guests on an intellectual and emotional level by placing them in a situation that mirrors a real intelligence experience."

In development for more than two years, the Museum called on leading experts and practitioners in the intelligence community to ensure the authenticity and accuracy of OPERATION SPY. Project Advisors from the Museum's Board included, among others:

- **Major General Oleg Kalugin** Former Chief, KGB Foreign Counterintelligence
- **David Major** President, Centre for Counterintelligence and Security Studies; and former Director, Counterintelligence, Intelligence and Security Programs, National Security Council
- **Antonio Joseph Mendez** Former Chief, Graphics and Authentication Division, CIA
- **Jonna Hiestand Mendez** Former Chief of Disguise, CIA

OPERATION SPY is a small group experience. Space is limited and a separate ticket is required. Guests are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance. Guests who wish to visit the entire Museum as well as OPERATION SPY may purchase a combined ticket. Advance tickets are recommended.

OPERATION SPY is available to Guests ages 12 and above. Because participants are asked to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize complex information, as well as discuss and debate issues while cooperating with strangers of different ages, the experience requires a certain level of thinking and social skills. In addition, OPERATION SPY includes special effects, loud noises, and dark rooms that may be too intense for younger children. For more information visit OpSpy.com

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OPERATION SPY™ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Operation Spy?

Operation Spy is not an exhibit; it is a separate experience at the International Spy Museum. Operation Spy is a new and groundbreaking immersive experience that takes the interactive concept to a higher level. In this hour-long participatory adventure, guests take on the role of U.S. intelligence officers on an international mission to find a missing nuclear device before it falls into the wrong hands. Operation Spy features live-action, video characters, themed environments, special effects, and hands-on activities like safe cracking and surveillance.

What does the experience feature?

Guests, playing the role of intelligence officers, are faced with a wide range of challenges similar to those faced by real intelligence officers. Guests work together in small teams to progress through the experience. In pursuit of their mission they:

- Conduct video surveillance of a clandestine meeting
- Decrypt a secret audio conversation
- Penetrate and escape from a high-security compound
- Crack a safe and search for clues under threat of discovery
- Conduct a polygraph test of a suspect agent
- Weigh ambiguous evidence and make split-second decisions
- And More!

Is the plot of Operation Spy realistic?

Yes, the International Spy Museum worked closely with active and former intelligence officers to create the experience. While the action takes place in the fictional country of Khandar, the plot is inspired by actual cases drawn from intelligence files.

Is Operation Spy physical?

Yes, guests walk through Operation Spy. They are on their feet for one hour, actively manipulating items in the experience. There is one set of stairs that guests must walk up and down; however, there is no crawling, climbing or jumping. There are no breaks in the activity. Operation Spy is accessible to all; arrangements are available for guests with special needs.

Is Operation Spy an individual activity?

In Operation Spy each guest becomes part of a small group; each group has a maximum of 15 participants. They work as a team with people they do not know in order to meet the challenges in the experience. Each group is led by a Station Operations Officer (Museum Staff,) who facilitates the experience.

Is Operation Spy suitable for small children?

No. Operation Spy is an experience available to guests ages 12 and above. Guests work as part of a team to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize complex information as well as discuss and debate issues while cooperating with strangers of different ages. These higher order thinking and social skills are required to participate in the experience. Operation Spy also includes special effects, loud noises and dark rooms that may be too intense for younger children.

Is there a separate admission fee?

Yes. There is a separate ticket for those 12 and up who want to experience only Operation Spy and a combined ticket for those who would like to visit the entire Museum and Operation Spy. Space is limited - guests are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance.

Admission fee to Operation Spy:

\$14.95, ages 12+

Combined Admission fee:

\$28.95, ages 12+

How long does it take to experience Operation Spy?

Guests should allow about one hour participating in the experience. To visit both the International Spy Museum and Operation Spy with a combination ticket, allow three hours.

What are the operating hours for Operation Spy?

Operation Spy follows the Museum's operating hours.

10:00 am – 6:00 pm daily*

**Hours are subject to change and are often extended for holidays. The Museum is closed on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. For the most up to date information visit spymuseum.org or call 202.654.0991.*

The International Spy Museum

The International Spy Museum is the only public museum in the United States solely dedicated to espionage and the only one in the world to provide a global perspective on an all-but-invisible profession that has shaped history and continues to have a significant impact on world events. The Museum features the largest collection of international espionage artifacts ever placed on public display, offering a rare glimpse into the whispered world of covert operations and the silent, unknown men and women behind them, making it an experience like no other. The International Spy Museum opened in Washington, D.C. on July 19, 2002.