

SELF-GUIDED GROUPS

Thank you for visiting the National Gallery.
We welcome self-guided groups and recommend you read the following guidelines upon arrival.

Group entry is via the Sainsbury Wing Entrance. The group leader will be asked to register your group at the Sainsbury Wing welcome desk.

To help make everyone's visit as enjoyable as possible, please note the following:

- The maximum group size is 30. Larger groups must be split into separate groups with individual group leaders. Children under 13 years of age must be supervised at all times during their visit. This includes when using the toilets. A teacher must accompany children of 12 years and under into the toilets. Boys of this age group can use the female toilet with a female supervisor if there are no male teachers or supervisors with the party.
- The National Gallery requires the following adult to pupil ratios for facilitated school visits: Early Years Foundation Stage (3–5 years old) 1:6; Key Stages 1–2 (5–11 years old) 1:10 and Stages 3–5 (11–18 years old) 1:15. We recommend that when moving through the galleries there is an adult at the front and back of the group.
- Please plan for the possibility of one of your group becoming lost and ensure you have arranged a meeting point, and that students have a phone number they can call, or they can ask a member of Gallery staff to call. If you have arranged to meet your group at the Gallery, please ensure that you have stated a very clear meeting point.
- Groups must not block the paintings, doors, stairs, or access routes for prolonged periods – you may be asked to move along to another painting or room if the Gallery is particularly busy.
- National Gallery Educators conducting tours always have priority over other groups.
- Amplification devices are not permitted inside the Gallery, and noise levels should be kept to a minimum to ensure groups are not distracting other visitors.
- Please do not begin lecturing in a room where a talk is already in progress, particularly in smaller rooms, and be respectful of other tour groups.
- Backpacks should be carried/worn on the front or held at the side.

Please ensure that members of your group do not:

- Touch the paintings.
- Step or lean over the security barriers.
- Eat or drink in the galleries.
- Run or make excessive noise.
- Smoke, vape or use e-cigarettes anywhere on the premises.

Making the most of your visit

Cloakroom

We will do our best to accommodate the needs of your group but please note that use of cloakroom services is on a first-come, first-served individual basis. The cloakroom costs £2 per item and is free for members.

Stools and wheelchairs

Stools, wheelchairs, and a rollator may be requested at the Getty welcome desk (subject to availability). If your group has any other access needs, please ask a member of staff for assistance.

Exploring the Collection

Printed floorplan maps are available at the Getty welcome desk for £2. Alternatively, they can be downloaded on our website by joining our free Wi-Fi. Wall maps are also positioned throughout the Gallery which feature highlights from the Collection.

Sketching and Drawing

Your group is welcome to sketch and draw in the galleries although we may ask you to move on if an area is particularly busy. Please use a hand-held pad (no larger than A3 size) and graphite pencils or coloured pencils only.

Eating and Drinking

A range of food and drink outlets are available, from Muriel's Kitchen Café, and the Espresso Bar, to our fine-dining restaurant, Ochre. Please note our designated catering spaces are reserved for visitors purchasing food and drink on site. We are unable to provide lunchrooms for self-guided groups.

Shopping

The National Gallery has two shops selling books, gifts, and exhibition essentials. The Getty shop is located on the ground floor, near the Getty exit. The Portico shop is located on level 2 in the centre of the Gallery.

Need more help?

If you have any other questions or need further assistance, please ask any member of staff for assistance.

Planning on visiting again?

We recommend booking in advance if you are visiting with a group of more than 6 people to ensure the best possible experience. To find out further information about visiting the Gallery as a group scan the QR code or visit

www.nationalgallery.org.uk/visiting/plan-your-visit/gallery-entry/self-guided-groups



We hope your group has an enjoyable visit to the National Gallery.