



Self-Guided Group Tour Planning

Welcome to the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center! We are pleased that you have chosen to spend your day at the Museum and hope you have a memorable, educational experience.

Here are some guidelines to help you plan your self-guided group tour:

Admission and Arrival

Our admissions window opens at 10:00am on weekdays and 11:00am on weekends. Groups may purchase tickets and receive entrance wristbands at that time.

If you would like to purchase tickets in advance, you may do so online: <https://tickets.ilholocaustmuseum.org>. If you choose to purchase tickets online in advance, wristbands will be available for pick-up at the admissions window upon your arrival at the Museum.

General Admission Fees (subject to change):

Adult: \$12.00

Students (12-22): \$8.00

Seniors (65+): \$8.00

In order to ease the arrival process, we recommend that all tour participants **remain on the bus(es)** while *one group representative* pays for all group members and/or picks up the group's wristbands. Once payment is processed and wristbands received, tour participants should **put on their wristbands before exiting the bus(es) or entering the Museum**.

Once tour participants have their wristbands on, they can **enter security in their small groups** of twenty (20) or fewer (see *Small Groups and Chaperones* for more information) to avoid congestion in the security lobby. Once the first group is almost through the security entrance, the second group can enter, and so on.

Buses should park in the designated bus parking spaces in the West Parking Lot, and may pick up their groups on the north side of the Museum at the exit doors.

Small Groups and Chaperones

For groups with students under age eighteen (18), we require one (1) chaperone for every ten (10) students. However, we recommend that participants be divided into *groups of twenty (20) participants each or less, with two (2) chaperones per small group*. Please remember to follow the applicable guidelines in the Pre-Visit Packet and Chaperone Guide. These can both be found on the Pre-Visit Information page of our website, www.ilholocaustmuseum.org/pages/pre_visit_information/57.php.

Chaperones should remain with their group of students at all times. While we hope that chaperones will also have memorable Museum experiences, we ask that their primary focus is on monitoring student behavior and helping to keep students engaged.

Traveling through the Museum

There is a great deal to see and learn at the Museum, and we hope that every patron gets the most out of his or her visit. We recommend that each small group—twenty people or less—rotate through the various areas of the Museum, each group beginning in a different exhibition:

- Karkomi Permanent Exhibition: First Floor
- Legacy of Absence Gallery: Second Floor
- Room of Remembrance and Pritzker Hall of Reflection: Second Floor
- Special/Temporary Exhibition (changes every season): Ground Floor
- Make a Difference: Miller Family Youth Exhibition: Ground Floor

While your groups travel through the various exhibit spaces, we ask that all participants remain respectful of other Museum visitors and school groups and of the spaces that they may be visiting.

Please note: The Karkomi Permanent Exhibition is intended for visitors in seventh grade and above, due to its mature subject matter and graphic nature.

Furthermore, please remember that outside food and beverage are not permitted in the Museum.

Supplemental Material for Educators

While visiting a Holocaust museum is certainly a worthwhile and educational experience, a Museum visit cannot stand alone in educating students about the Holocaust and WWII. Additional learning opportunities are crucial for students to truly understand the events of the Holocaust, as is a thorough reflection of the Museum experience.

Resources for additional information and teaching tools are available on the Museum's website at the following URLs:

- Holocaust History
http://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org/pages/holocaust_history/7.php
- Genocide Today
http://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org/pages/genocide_today/107.php
- Suggested Learning Activities
http://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org/filebin/pdf/education/SuggestedLearningActivities_Grades7-12_2009-12-31.pdf or
http://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org/filebin/pdf/education/SuggestedLearningActivities_Grades3-6_2009-01-04.pdf
 - Find it online @ For Educators > Field Trips > Pre-Visit Information