While You’re Here

Our collection is displayed in an accessible fashion. Please help us protect the works of art and the building by not touching.

Low light levels in the historic galleries help protect works of art from damage and maintain the interplay of light and shadow that has always been part of the Gardner experience.

Non-flash photography and video recording are permitted throughout the Museum. Please be considerate of others when taking photos. The use of tripods, monopods, and selfie sticks is not permitted.

All large bags, backpacks, and umbrellas must be checked at the coat check, or visitors may use our self-service lockers, free of charge.

Become a Member

Join today and enjoy unlimited free Museum admission for one year, special member prices, advance notice of concerts and lectures, and a 10% discount at Gift at the Gardner and Café G. Become a member at the admissions desk, online at gardnermuseum.org, or call the Membership Office at 617 566 5643.

For all other information please visit isgm.org
Welcome to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum!

You are about to experience a museum that is unlike any other. The magical creation of one woman’s vision, the Gardner invites you to delight in beauty and let your imagination wander.

In keeping with Isabella’s desire to celebrate art in all its forms, today the Museum is home to contemporary and historical exhibitions, lectures, music, dance, and performance programs; an Artist-in-Residence program; neighborhood partnerships; and changing courtyard displays.

The Museum embodies the adventurous spirit of its founder as a patron of the arts and a gracious hostess. Her personal motto, “C’est mon Plaisir” or “It’s my Pleasure,” is a reminder of the joy Isabella took in welcoming visitors to her Museum, as well as an invitation to make the Museum your own.

The Gardner is an inclusive museum that welcomes all people. All visitors and staff have the right to a safe, respectful experience at the Museum. Discrimination or harassment will not be tolerated in any form.

Who Was Isabella Stewart Gardner?

Isabella Stewart (1840–1924) was born in New York City and married Bostonian John (“Jack”) Lowell Gardner Jr. in 1860. The Gardners’ wide travels inspired a passion for art, which became a passion for collecting when Isabella’s father left her his fortune in 1891. Advised by friends and Bernard Berenson, a connoisseur of Italian Renaissance art, Isabella soon accumulated a remarkable collection and began planning for a building in which to house it. After Jack Gardner died in 1898, Isabella continued the project, buying land in the little-developed Fenway. She hired an architect, but with characteristic energy and confidence, Isabella insisted that the building be built to her own specifications. Fenway Court, as she called her museum, opened in 1903.
new wing

**Floor 4**  Conservation Center, Administrative offices (Staff only)

**Floor 3**  Administrative offices, Restrooms
Entrance to Calderwood Hall balconies

**Floor 2**  Calderwood Hall, Hostetter Gallery, Restrooms

**Floor 1**  Living Room, Café G, Studio, Store, Coat check

**B1**  Lockers, Restrooms, Changing tables

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**FLOOR 1**

**Greenhouse Classroom**  **Greenhouse**  **Tickets**  **Introduction to Isabella**  **Lobby**

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**MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR VISIT WITH OUR AUDIO GUIDE**

In this immersive guide to the Museum, our curators share stories about Isabella and her vision, introduce you to highlights of the collection, and point out some of their favorite works of art. You can access the audio tour by renting an audio player from our admissions desk or listen on your own mobile device.

**Audio Guide Stop**

Each stop on the tour is indicated by a number in a circle on the map. Start with Stop 1, Introduction to Isabella.

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**TWO WAYS TO ACCESS THE AUDIO GUIDE**

**RENTAL DEVICE / $5 AT ADMISSION DESK**

As you enter a designated gallery, type the number on the map into the player, and it will play after a brief pause. Press the **PAUSE** or **STOP** buttons at any time. Stops are 3–6 minutes long.

**ON YOUR OWN MOBILE DEVICE / FREE**

You can access the Audio Guide directly on our website at [ISGM.ORG/AUDIO](http://ISGM.ORG/AUDIO). Scroll to the number listed on the map for each stop, and press **PLAY** to start.

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Visit the Living Room

Relax and explore in the Living Room. Inspired by Artist-in-Residence Lee Mingwei’s project, *The Living Room*. In this domestic-feeling space, you’ll find resources about Isabella, her collection, and more.
Courtyard, Roman, Mosaic: Medusa

Roman, Severan, Farnese Sarcophagus

Anders Zorn, The Omnibus

John Singer Sargent, Madame Gautreau Drinking a Toast

Édouard Manet, Madame Auguste Manet

Henri Matisse, The Terrace, Saint-Tropez

James McNeill Whistler, Nocturne, Blue and Silver: Battersea Reach

John Singer Sargent, Mrs. Gardner in White

Anders Zorn, The Omnibus

Collections Highlights

Palace, First Floor

Audio Guide

Numbers in colored circles correspond to audio stops in specific rooms. Visit the “Ask Me” desk for additional resources to inform your visit.

Corridor to Palace

The Historic Galleries

East Cloister

Spanish Cloister

Chinese Loggia

Yellow Room

Blue Room

Macknight Room

AUDIO GUIDE

Visit the “Ask Me” desk for additional resources to inform your visit.
Early Italian Room, SECOND FLOOR

**AUDIO GUIDE**

Numbers in colored circles correspond to audio stops in specific rooms.

**COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS**

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Palace, **THIRD FLOOR**

**AUDIO GUIDE**

Numbers in colored circles correspond to audio stops in specific rooms.

**COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS**

**Veronese Room**
- Studio of Paolo Veronese, *The Coronation of Hebe*
- Titian, *Rape of Europa*
- Attributed to Antonio Landucci, *Armchairs*
- Benvenuto Cellini, *Bindo Altoviti*
- Belgian, *Seat from a Gig*

**Titian Room**
- Circle of Giovanni Bellini, *Christ Carrying the Cross*
- Velázquez, *Philip IV of Spain*

**Long Gallery & Chapel**
- Botticelli, *Virgin and Child*
- Giuliano da Rimini, *Virgin and Child Enthroned with Saints*
- Window from Soissons Cathedral

**Gothic Room**
- Simone Martini, *Virgin and Child*
- John Singer Sargent, *Isabella Stewart Gardner*
- Giotto, *The Presentation of the Christ Child in the Temple*