

National Portrait Gallery Visiting SAAM and the National Portrait Gallery

A SAAM and NPG Social Narrative for Visiting the Museums I am going to visit the National Portrait Gallery and the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, DC. Both museums are in the Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art and Portraiture.

The National Portrait Gallery is sometimes called **NPG**, whereas the Smithsonian American Art Museum is also known as **SAAM**.





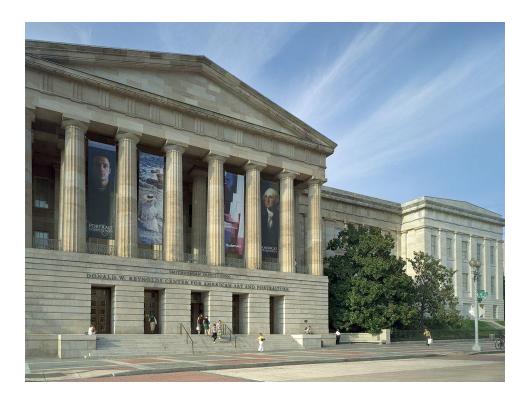


The museums are located at 8th and G Streets NW in **Chinatown** near the Capital One Arena.

I may see crowded sidewalks, bright lights and hear loud noises, like car horns and the voices of other people.

When it's time to enter the museums, I may need to wait in line with other people.

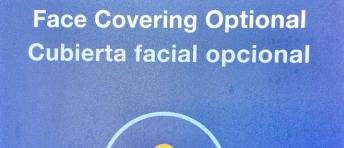




The accessible entrance to the museums is located on **G Street**, and there is another entrance at the opposite side, on **F Street**. I can enter on whichever side is most convenient for me.

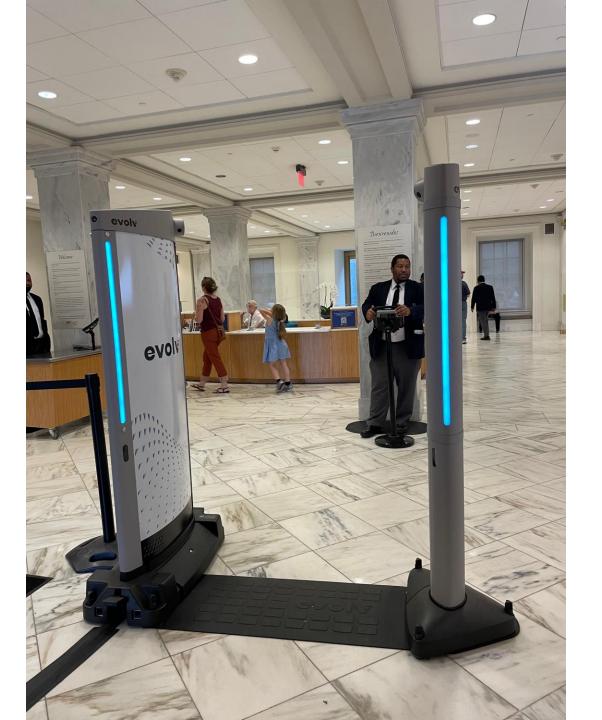
During my visit to the museums, I may wear a **face mask** if I would like to, but it is not required.

I may see signs reminding me of this.



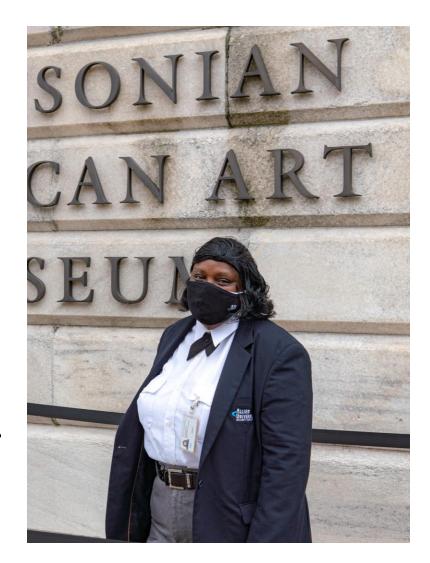
When I enter the building, a security officer will direct me to pass through the Evolv system detectors. This is to ensure my safety and the safety of others who visit the museums.

If I have a **backpack or other large bag**, the officers will ask me to hold it at my side or wear it on my front.





The museums are protected by security officers whose job it is to protect visitors, staff, the art, and the building. The officers have two different uniforms some wear white shirts with insignia; others wear navy blue jackets over white shirts. Both officers have badges, so it is clear they work at the museums.



As I explore the museums, I will be careful not to touch any of the artworks and to maintain a safe, arm's length distance away from the art.

I may see stanchions or lines on the floor to help me keep my distance. Some of the artworks are protected by glass.







It is important to **stay with my group**, but if I need assistance or if I get lost, the officers can help me.







It is also important that I keep my hands clean and free of germs. I can use the **sinks** in the restroom or **hand sanitizer pumps** located throughout the building to keep my hands clean.



If I need to rest, there are **benches** throughout the museum that I can use. I can also rest in the **Kogod Courtyard**. The courtyard is enclosed with a glass ceiling, and there are planters filled with plants. There may be water on the floor from the fountains.



When it is time to leave the museums, I will exit through the accessible exit on the G Street side, or through the doors and down the stairs on the F Street side. The museums' staff hope that I'll come back for another visit very soon!



