

The Getty Villa

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FAMILY FUN AT THE GETTY VILLA

LOS ANGELES—The Getty Villa provides an extraordinary opportunity for families to have fun learning about the arts and cultures of the ancient world. Kids and parents can thrill to the adventures of Hercules at the foot of an ancient Roman statue of the hero, learn tales of classical mythology before a statue of Zeus, discover the history of the Olympic games while viewing a precious bronze statue of a victorious athlete, and learn about the lives of children in ancient society through vases and other everyday objects. There's even a mummy!

Families can discover all this on their own, or with the help of guided and self-guided tours. The Villa offers daily **Art Odysseys for Families**, 45-minute kid-friendly guided tours through the galleries, featuring activities along the way. **Art Detective Cards**, available for free, in both English and Spanish, allow families to solve a mystery and create their own self-guided exploration of the galleries and grounds. Family Audio Tours are also available, on the themes of Gods and Heroes, Daily Life, Animals and Mythic Creatures, and Athletes.

Families may also want to pick up a **"Be a Getty Villa Voyager"** brochure, in both English and Spanish, which offers a wealth of gallery games and creative drawing exercises. Kids can make up their own mythological monster after learning about the sirens, or use works in the athlete's gallery to help complete a scramble game.

And no visit to the Villa is complete without a trip to the **Family Forum**, an innovative space filled with hands-on activities focusing on the world of ancient Greek vases. Visitors can recreate ancient designs through rubbing patterns or by drawing on life-sized replicas of vases. They can put together puzzles to create different-shaped vases. They can even step into a scene from an ancient vase projected onto a large screen. Wielding props, they become athletes, musicians, and monsters, playing out the story on the vase.

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In addition to these daily activities, The Getty Villa offers **ArtQuest** every summer, with hands-on activity stations where families can make their own masterpieces, and **Gallery Experiences** that explore the art works on short guided tours. ArtQuest is available in Spanish, too. This summer, ArtQuest focuses on ancient armor worn by warriors and Athena, the Goddess of Wisdom and War. At art-making stations in the garden, kids can design their own *blazon*, or personal symbol, and use it to decorate their own shields and helmets. Gallery Experiences take families to meet the gods and goddesses, see armor from the ancient world, and hear tales of the Trojan War.

Once a year, the Villa presents **Family Festivals**, fun-filled days of music and activities designed to bring the world of antiquity alive for young visitors and their families.

And when it's time to eat, the Cafe at the Getty Villa offers a special "Bambinos" menu, including spaghetti and meatballs, grilled cheese panini, and parmesan chicken fingers with marinara sauce. House-made pizza or a Roman burger may be more appealing to older children and teens. Box lunches for kids can be pre-ordered with peanut butter and banana sandwiches or ham and cheese rolls with carrot sticks and ranch dressing. Organic ingredients are used for most of the menu items.

When you go

Standard strollers and wheelchairs are permitted in the galleries and are available without charge on a first-come, first-served basis in the Entry Pavilion. Child-carrying backpacks are not allowed in the galleries.

Baby bottles are allowed in the galleries; no other food or beverages are permitted.

Family restrooms, equipped with diaper-changing facilities and a unisex stall, are located adjacent to the Museum Store and at the Tour Bus Drop-Off Area. Most Getty Villa public restrooms have diaper-changing tables.

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Getty Communications
310-440-7360
communications@getty.edu

The J. Paul Getty Trust is an international cultural and philanthropic institution that focuses on the visual arts in all their dimensions, recognizing their capacity to inspire and strengthen humanistic values. The Getty serves both the general public and a wide range of professional communities in Los Angeles and throughout the world. Through the work of the four Getty programs—the Museum, Research Institute, Conservation Institute, and Foundation—the Getty aims to further knowledge and nurture critical seeing through the growth and presentation of its collections and by advancing the understanding and preservation of the world's artistic heritage. The Getty pursues this mission with the conviction that cultural awareness, creativity, and aesthetic enjoyment are essential to a vital and civil society.

Visiting the Getty Villa

The Getty Villa is open Wednesday through Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed Tuesday and major holidays. Admission to the Getty Villa is always free. A ticket is required for admission. Tickets can be ordered in advance, or on the day of your visit, at www.getty.edu/visit or at (310) 440-7300. Parking is \$15 per car, but free after 5pm for evening events. Groups of 15 or more must make reservations by phone. For more information, call 310-440-7300 (English or Spanish); 310-440-7305 (TTY line for the deaf or hearing impaired). The Getty Villa is at 17985 Pacific Coast Highway, Pacific Palisades, California.

Additional information is available at www.getty.edu.

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