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Sensory Guide of
The San Francisco Museum
of Modern Art

For finding quiet, less crowded spaces.

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Introduction

Welcome to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art!

We know our museum can be a overwhelming at times. With this guide you will be able to find sensory friendly places of calm respite throughout the museum. These spaces tend to be quieter and less crowded.

You can ask any of our staff wearing all black and red lanyards to help you find these spaces.

Note: We always have something new in the works here at SFMOMA, so keep in mind that parts of this map may not be accessible due to exhibition closures.

Planning Ahead

To avoid a crowded lobby, loud noises, and spending a long time standing in the ticketing line, we suggest buying your tickets ahead of your visit at sfmoma.org/tickets.

Note: There still may be a wait at certain access points.



Bathrooms

The bathrooms at SFMOMA are painted with a single, bright color. Each floor is different. Pictured on the right is the second floor red bathroom. Other bathrooms are bright blue, gray, green, pink, and purple.

If you would like to avoid bright colors, our first floor restroom located next to coat check has both standard wall colors and lighting.



Entering the Building

Our entrance at Third Street leads into our Botta Atrium which can be a bustling hub of people preparing for and departing from their visit.

We suggest using the entrance at Howard Street. This space is a little more peaceful, has an elevator, and lots of open seating. It's a great way to transition from the outside in.



City Galleries

Running alongside the galleries on the eastside of Floors 4, 5, and 6 are hallways that tend to be quieter. Within these spaces we've provided bench seating. You can also feel free to sit on the window sill and soak in some natural light.



Uncrowded and Quiet Spaces on Floor 2



The Koret Education Center is located behind the Silver Elevators. To enter, use the doors to the right of the Membership Desk. This area has comfortable couches and is perfect for resting your feet, eyes, and mind.



The Photo Interpretive Gallery is located to the right of the Ticketing Desk. Take a break, charge your phone, or check out our interpretive displays on the wall or at the table.

Uncrowded and Quiet Spaces on Floor 3



The Sculpture Terrace and Living Wall can provide a nice, serene break if you need some fresh air.



Pictured above is Alexander Calder's *The Kite that Never Flew*, located on Floor 3's Sculpture Terrace. It is one of the most quiet and isolated places in the whole museum.

Uncrowded and Quiet Spaces on Floor 4



Located at the back of the Approaching American Abstraction exhibit on Floor 4, the Agnes Martin Gallery can provide a quiet, art-filled space to relax.

Uncrowded and Quiet Spaces on Floor 6



This is generally our quietest and least populated floor. You'll find quiet areas both in the galleries and down the hallway, with plenty of places to take a moment of rest.

Uncrowded and Quiet Spaces on Floor 7



Our contemporary exhibitions on Floor 7 are always changing. The Sculpture Terrace, on the other hand, is always a great place to enjoy a calm breath of fresh air and soak in some sun, weather permitting.

Crowded Spaces on Floor 2



The Charles Schwab Hall is a gathering point where visitors gather before entering the galleries. This space is often loud and crowded.

Crowded Spaces on Floor 5



This floor is often our most crowded. It acts as an intersection between the top and lower floors, meaning that the hallways can be busy and the galleries are loud.

Tactile Opportunities

Being an art museum, there are not many opportunities to touch pieces in our collection.

While in the galleries, do not touch the artwork and remain behind floor markers, or 18 inches away from artwork.

If an object can be touched, the label next to the work will say so. You can ask a security guard if you are not sure.



Lighting

Lighting within the galleries is closely controlled to protect the artwork.

Low and subdued lighting can be found in the following spaces:

- Floor 2: Works on Paper
- Floor 3: Photography

Natural light is available in the following spaces:

- Floor 3: Calder Galleries + Sculpture Terrace
- Floor 5: Sculpture Garden
- Floor 7: Sculpture Terrace
- Floor 4, 5, and 6: City Galleries



More Information

SFMOMA is dedicated to providing an accessible space that is welcoming to everyone. We offer a range of free programs and resources to make the museum a more inviting and enjoyable place for our visitors.

If you have any questions, contact us at visit@sfmoma.org or 415.357.4000.