



Arrival and Departure Information

For GROUPS Traveling by Yellow School Bus

Approaching the Museum by Bus

1. All buses must approach the Exploratorium at the Palace of Fine Arts from the south in order to properly enter the staging area. Arriving from the north will cause congestion on Palace Drive and delay your admittance, as the bus will have to be rerouted to the proper area.
2. Please see the Bus Directions sheet at www.exploratorium.edu/location_directions for detailed information regarding arrival routes. All buses must use these approved routes.
3. Pay special attention to the slight, but critically important, nuances between directions for yellow school buses and tour buses/motor coaches. There are separate sets of directions for each type of bus. Make sure your group has the correct set of directions.
4. We recommend that you exchange cell phone numbers with your bus drivers if for any reason you need to be in communication during your visit.

Arrival Procedure

1. Your bus will be directed to unload along Palace Drive (the street that runs alongside the museum). Once your group is off the bus, please have them gather in a safe place near the main entrance to the Exploratorium, at the north end of the building.
2. Please be sure to bring everything you need for the day. You will not have access to the bus again until you depart. Your bus driver will park in a lot nearby and will return to the same loading area at your scheduled departure time.

Check-In Procedure

1. Check in (Group Leader only, please) at the admissions desk to finalize your head count and payment and receive stickers for the adults in your group. Make sure you have already prepared stickers for any participants 18 and under!
2. Be sure everyone in your group knows when and where to gather to get ready to board the bus at the end of the day. We recommend that you set your gathering time for 15 minutes before your scheduled departure time.

Departure Procedure

1. Gather your group in a pre-designated area 15 minutes before your scheduled departure time. Use these 15 minutes to gather your group and walk to the bus loading zone.
2. Please be sure that EVERYONE in your group is present BEFORE heading to the bus-loading area. We have carefully coordinated departure times of all groups at the museum and are counting on you to keep the process moving smoothly.
3. Walk your group over to the bus zone at your scheduled departure time. Remember, you are boarding the bus at the same place you were dropped off. We have allotted a 15-minute time slot for boarding your bus. Please be sure to board at your designated time. If you are late arriving to the loading area, your bus may have to leave so other buses can load, and this will delay your departure.

We hope you have a wonderful time at the Exploratorium