

VISITOR REGULATIONS
OF THE MUSÉE DU LOUVRE
2026



VISITOR REGULATIONS OF THE MUSEE DU LOUVRE

The President-Director of the Public Establishment of the Musée du Louvre,

Having regard to amended Decree no. 92-1338 of 22 December 1992, pertaining to the creation of the Public Establishment of the Musée du Louvre;

Having regard to the Decree of 31 July 2021, appointing the President of the Public Establishment of the Musée du Louvre;

Having regard to the regulations pertaining to courtyards, passageways and peristyles of the National Estate of the Musée du Louvre and the Tuileries Garden;

Having regard to the Musée National Eugène-Delacroix Visitor Regulations;

Having regard to the opinions delivered by the Social Administration Committee on 17 December 2024 and 26 May 2025;

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

PREAMBLE

SCOPE OF THE PRESENT REGULATIONS

PERSONS CONCERNED

These Visitor Regulations shall apply to the following:

1. all visitors to the Musée du Louvre;
2. persons or groups authorised to use certain areas for meetings, receptions, conferences, concerts, shows or various ceremonies;
3. any person not employed by the Musée du Louvre present in the establishment, even for professional purposes.

The above-mentioned persons and visitors must comply at all times with the instructions of the Museum's reception and security staff, in accordance with Section VII of these regulations, and with all rules and regulations communicated via signage and audio announcements.

MUSEUM AREAS

Areas of the Musée du Louvre open to the public include reception areas located in front of the collection entry ticket inspection point, the permanent and temporary collection exhibition areas located on the other side of the collection entry ticket inspection point, and the resource centres of the curatorial departments

In view of the statutory and regulatory provisions applying to visitors to the Musée du Louvre, visitors must not:

- steal, destroy, deface or damage any movable or immovable property listed or registered pursuant to the French Heritage Code or which is conserved or deposited in the museum, pursuant to the provisions of Articles 311-4-2 and 322-1 of the French Criminal Code;
- remain in the museum outside of opening hours without permission, pursuant to the provisions of Article R645-13 of the French Criminal Code;
- smoke in the Museum Areas mentioned in the Preamble in pursuance of the provisions of Article L. 3512-8 and R.3512-2 of the French Public Health Code;
- wear any clothing intended to conceal the face, in pursuance of the provisions of French Act no. 2010-1192 of 11 October 2010.

RECEPTION AND SECURITY STAFF

Reception and security staff are responsible for enforcing these rules and taking the necessary measures to ensure said rules are respected and to guarantee safe and calm visiting conditions.

SECTION I

ACCES TO RECEPTION AREAS AND VISITOR CIRCULATION THROUGH PUBLIC SPACES

ARTICLE 1

Reception areas consist of the Hall Napoléon (under the Pyramid) and the Porte des Lions.

Subject to the provisions of Article 10, the Hall Napoléon is open at the following times every day except Tuesdays and some public holidays

- from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Mondays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays
- from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays

The Porte des Lions is open every day from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., except Tuesdays, Fridays and some public holidays.

The President-Director of the Musée du Louvre determines museum closure dates in accordance with dates of public holidays. The President-Director of the Musée du Louvre may decide to amend the aforementioned dates and times on an exceptional basis, and for certain events.

ARTICLE 2

Access to reception areas shall be free and unhindered provided that all provisions indicated herein are respected.

Members of the public shall submit their luggage and personal belongings for inspection. Should a prohibited object be detected, access to reception areas and to the museum may be refused.

Entry shall not be granted to children under the age of 12 unaccompanied by an adult.

In addition to complying with the statutory and regulatory provisions indicated in the preamble, and with instructions pertaining to the protection of persons, property, artworks and buildings for which provision is made under Section V of the present regulations, the public shall refrain from any behaviour likely to hinder the due and proper execution of the public service.

ARTICLE 3

Visitors shall demonstrate appropriate behavior and respect towards museum staff and other visitors.

Noisy, violent, aggressive or indecent behaviour likely to disturb the safe and calm conditions for other visitors and for museum staff is prohibited.

Any serious offence, including but not limited to threats, intimidation, violence or injury, committed by a visitor upon staff of the Établissement Public Musée du Louvre constitutes a breach of the present regulations and shall invoke the provisions in Section VII.

ARTICLE 4

In particular, it is prohibited to:

- carry out fundraising activities or gather petition signatures.
- display raucous, violent, aggressive or indecent behaviour towards museum staff and other visitors;
- organise rallies or large gatherings.
- organise rallies or large gatherings.
- hinder the movement of other persons and block passageways or exits, particularly by sitting on stairs and escalators;
- in any way hinder access to sales points and exhibition areas;
- engage in any commercial, advertising, propaganda or soliciting activity.
- wear swimsuits, or be naked, bare-chested or barefoot.
- use any sound-emitting device that may disturb other visitors.
- lie on benches, spit, or damage furniture provided for public use (benches, etc.);
- use electronic cigarettes anywhere in the museum.

ARTICLE 5

It is prohibited to bring into areas open to the public any objects that, due to their nature or purpose, may present a risk to the safety of other persons, property, artworks and/or buildings. The following are therefore prohibited:

- all categories of weapons and ammunition;
- tools, in particular craft knives, screwdrivers, wrenches, hammers, pliers and clippers;
- all blunt objects (self-defence batons, baseball bats);
- any excessively heavy, cumbersome, or foul-smelling item;
- any substance likely to damage artworks, buildings or security equipment;

- any item generating incapacitating or neutralising products, or electrical weapon used to neutralise individuals;
- any artwork or antique.
- excessive quantities of food or drink as determined by inspecting officers at the entrance to the reception areas;
- all animals, with the exception of guide animals or assistance animals accompanying persons with motor or mental impairment.

Visitors in possession of forbidden items shall be afforded the opportunity to discard said items before entering the Musée du Louvre, with the precision that discarded objects will not be recoverable after the visit and are subject to destruction. Visitors who refuse to discard forbidden items shall be refused entry to the Musée du Louvre without the right to a refund.

Duly qualified copyists shall be authorised to use some of the aforementioned prohibited substances in order to perform their duties under the supervision of security officers as well as fire safety and prevention staff, and on condition that only the quantity required for daily use is brought in.

Should any infringement of these provisions be observed, visitor reception and security managers shall be authorised to notify law enforcement.

SECTION II

LOCKERS

ARTICLE 6

Self-service lockers are available to visitors free of charge: visitors may deposit their personal belongings, including clothing, canes, umbrellas, bags and luggage, excepting luggage exceeding 55 x 35 x 20 cm (including pockets, wheels and handles).

The use of lockers is limited to museum visitors (permanent collections and temporary exhibitions) and Auditorium spectators only.

ARTICLE 7

Group visitors shall leave their personal belongings in the storage room for groups, which is separate from the lockers for individual visitors.

ARTICLE 8

The Musée du Louvre shall not be liable for any loss or damage to items deposited in self-service lockers.

ARTICLE 9

Any item deposited in the lockers shall be collected the same day prior to museum closure. After museum closure, museum staff shall deposit and record all found items at reception for a period of 15 days. After 15 days, said items shall be either destroyed or recycled with the help of specialised non-profit organisations, with the exception of official documents or objects, which shall be handed over to the police. Perishable goods shall be destroyed every evening following museum closure.

SECTION III

ACCES TO THE PERMANENT COLLECTIONS AND TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS IN THE HALL NAPOLEON

ARTICLE 10

Permanent collections and temporary exhibitions are open to the public at the following times:

1. from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Mondays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays;
2. from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays
3. from 6:45 p.m. to 11 p.m. for special evening events included in the museum's cultural programming.

The President-Director of the Musée du Louvre may apply such measures as circumstances may require (for example, mandatory reservations) and may decide to amend the aforementioned times on an exceptional basis, and for certain events. In addition, for special evening events included in the museum's cultural programming, the President-Director may decide to limit the spaces open to the public.

Ticket sales shall cease one hour prior to effective closure of the museum and the temporary exhibition. Certain museum galleries may be closed to the public. Their closure shall not lead to any refund of ticket fees.

Visitors shall be asked to vacate galleries prior to the museum's official closing time. Museum staff shall begin directing visitors to vacate the galleries 30 minutes before closing.

areas, at 5 p.m., except in the case of late-night openings, on which occasion ticket sales shall cease one hour prior to effective closure of the museum and temporary exhibition areas, at 8 p.m.

ARTICLE 11

Resale of admission tickets without prior and express authorisation from the Musée du Louvre is strictly prohibited.

ARTICLE 12

Access to and movement around the museum collections during opening hours are subject to possession of a valid ticket issued by a duly qualified authority approved by the Musée du Louvre.

A valid ticket refers to:

- an admission ticket
- a document authorising free admission
- a free pass ('Laissez-Passer') or permanent or temporary card or badge issued by the Établissement Public Musée du Louvre;
- a copyist card
- a group visit ticket, including the group reservation, admission fees and service fees where applicable.

Museum reception and security staff may perform random inspections at any time during the visit.

ARTICLE 13

The following instructions shall apply to the collections and temporary exhibition areas. These special instructions complement the statutory and regulatory provisions indicated in the preamble, and the indications pertaining to the protection of persons, property, artworks and buildings provided for in Section V of the present regulations, as well as the general provisions of Articles 2 to 5.

In particular, it is prohibited to:

- cross or sit on any barrier intended to maintain a distance between displays and visitors;
- touch any artworks. The President-Director of the Musée du Louvre may grant individual exemptions to blind or sight-impaired persons;
- examine artworks with a magnifying glass. The President-Director of the Musée du Louvre may grant individual exemptions to sight-impaired persons;
- point to artworks using objects that may damage them, such as pencils or other writing instruments, walking sticks, or any object used by guides to guide tour groups and so forth;
- eat or drink in areas where artworks are displayed. All food and drink shall therefore be stored in closed bags. Only the consumption of still water, away from the artworks, is permitted;
- disturb the visiting public with noise, and mobile telephones in particular;
- use any electrical outlets located under the barriers intended to maintain a distance between displays and visitors.

In addition, the following may not enter collection exhibition areas:

- persons carrying bags, towels, files, luggage, packages or drawing pads exceeding 55 x 35 x 20 cm;
- baby back carriers
- scooters, rollerblades, skateboards, and electric unicycles, rolling suitcases and shopping carts;
- walking sticks and canes. However, crutches and canes fitted with rubber stoppers shall be authorised for the elderly or persons with reduced mobility;
- reproductions of artworks or mouldings;
- musical instruments;
- protective headgear;

- stands and other photography equipment such as selfie sticks, tripods and so forth;
- lighting devices and equipment, subject to the provisions in Section VI;
- equipment for the production or reproduction of artworks (particularly canvases, boards, watercolours, gouache, and so forth), except when authorised as provided in Article 5.

SECTION IV GROUP REGULATIONS

ARTICLE 14

All groups visiting the Musée du Louvre must reserve a time slot in advance. Groups shall be accompanied by a group leader or official museum guide with permission to give tours as provided in Article R221-11 of the French Tourism Code.

Definitions :

- small group: a group of 1 to 6 participants, with paid or free entry, accompanied by a group leader. A small group may therefore number up to 7 participants total, including the group leader.
- large group: a group of 7 to 20 participants, with paid or free entry, accompanied by a group leader. A large group may not exceed 21 people, including the group leader.
- school group: a group of 7 to 35 participants maximum, including group leaders.
- extracurricular group: a group of 7 to 25 participants maximum, including group leaders.

Group leaders must be able to present their group visit tickets (group reservation and ‘participants’ tickets) for the duration of the visit. Group leaders will be given a sticker in French in the group reception area providing them the right to speak publicly, and which must be visible on their person at all times

The group reservation and the ‘participants’ tickets are valid for a single entry only into the collections for the reason, date and time indicated on said tickets. All exits are final and no re-entry shall be granted. After a delay of more than thirty minutes past the time reserved, group tickets are no longer valid.

The group leader shall also be required to remain with their group for the duration of the visit and until they have exited the museum.

Group visits are prohibited when entry to the Musée du Louvre is free (on 14 July, during free late-night openings, special events and so forth), unless explicitly authorised by the President-Director of the Musée du Louvre.

ARTICLE 15

Group visits shall be conducted under the supervision of a group leader who shall be responsible for ensuring full compliance with the present regulations by all group members as well as the discipline of the group.

For school groups, there must be:

- One group leader for every 8 students for primary school classes.
- One group leader for every 15 students for secondary school classes.
- One group leader for every 8 participants for extracurricular groups.

School groups who arrive without the number of group leaders indicated about will be denied entry to the Musée du Louvre for security reasons.

Group visitors shall under no circumstances disturb other visitors.

Group leaders of large groups may speak publicly on the condition that group participants use headphones (not provided by the museum). Groups shall not assemble under the Pyramid, but shall meet at the designated group reception area to receive or exchange information regarding the museum visit.

ARTICLE 16

Groups may only enter the reception area if the group leader has the group reservation and the ‘participants’ tickets, issued by the Musée du Louvre.

Any group failing to respect these terms will be refused admission to the Musée du Louvre.

While the leader undertakes the necessary formalities, the group shall wait away from thoroughfares, as instructed by reception and security staff.

ARTICLE 17

The right to give tours (and thus to speak publicly to a group) in the museum is subject to restrictions. Only the following parties are authorised to speak publicly, subject to valid documentation:

- speakers and guides holding a professional card issued in accordance with conditions set out in Article R.221-11 and subsequent sections of the French Tourism Code;
- National Museum guides;
- curators of French or foreign museums holding a professional card;
- teachers and lecturers of the École du Louvre, and French or foreign teachers guiding students;
- persons authorised to speak publicly by the President-Director of the Public Establishment of the Musée du Louvre;
- Carte Louvre Education Formation (CLEF) cardholders having completed the Public Establishment of the Musée du Louvre course on group visits for members of the public benefitting from education, social outreach and accessibility.

Persons authorised to speak publicly as per the above shall ensure that their professional card or badge is clearly visible on their person at all times.

ARTICLE 18

Museum staff may perform inspections at any time in order to verify the qualifications of public speakers within the museum and compliance with all rules applicable to group visits, Including group visit tickets (group reservation ticket and group participant entry tickets), number of participants and so forth.

Failure to comply with the Articles in Sections III and IV may result in the cancellation of the visit, the removal of the group from the museum without reimbursement, and prohibition from reserving further group visits.

ARTICLE 19

Participation in guided visits organised by the Musée du Louvre shall involve the mandatory use of headphones, which shall be issued upon the deposit of an identity document.

SECTION V

PROTECTION OF PERSONS, PROPERTY, ARTWORKS AND BUILDINGS

ARTICLE 20

Visitors shall refrain from any activity likely to endanger the safety of persons or property. It is therefore prohibited to:

- cross barriers and other mechanisms used to contain the public;
- carry wheelchairs or pushchairs onto the escalators;
- use escalators incorrectly, particularly by travelling in the wrong direction, sitting on handrails or steps, or by attempting to stop the movement of handrails;
- make markings or graffiti of any nature;
- take part in racing, sliding, shoving or climbing;
- leave personal belongings unattended, even for a brief time;
- leave minors under the age of 12 unattended;
- carry another person on one's shoulders;
- move chairs or other furniture without the authorisation of reception and security staff;
- use fire alarms or emergency equipment without good reason (fire extinguishers, fire hoses, standpipes, and so forth);
- interfere with anti-theft alarm systems.

Parents and persons in charge of minors will be responsible for any action carried out by the minors in their care and must therefore ensure full compliance with these regulations

ARTICLE 21

All accidents, personal health incidents and unusual events shall be immediately reported to a museum staff member. Should a doctor, nurse or emergency medical worker present among the visitors perform emergency procedures, said individual shall remain with the ailing individual until he/she has left the premises; said individual shall be asked to give his/her name and address to the staff member present on site, and to the person in charge of the Fire Safety and Prevention Division.

ARTICLE 22

In the event of a fire or a serious accident, visitors shall remain calm. The incident shall be reported immediately, verbally to a security guard, a member of the Fire Safety and Prevention Division, or any other museum staff member.

ARTICLE 23

A reception and security staff member shall accompany any lost persons to the central information desk in the Hall Napoléon.

ARTICLE 24

Any objects left unattended and which may present a risk to the security of the museum may be destroyed promptly and without warning by the relevant departments of the Police Prefecture.

ARTICLE 25

In the event of theft or attempted theft within the museum, security measures may be taken, including the closing of exits, as well as exit controls, which may include visual inspection of luggage and clothing by members of reception and security staff, or body searches by officers of the French judiciary police.

ARTICLE 26

Pursuant to Article R642-1 of the French Criminal Code, all visitors shall aid law enforcement officers should visitor assistance be required.

ARTICLE 27

For security reasons, reception and security staff may ask visitors to open bags and packages, and to present or explain the contents thereof anywhere in the museum.

ARTICLE 28

The museum is under video surveillance to ensure the security of people and property.

Videos footage is stored for a maximum of 1 month. Should you wish to invoke your personal data rights under French Data Protection Act of 6 January 1978, including your right to images of yourself and to information regarding data protection, you may contact the Director of the Visitor Reception and Security Department of the Public Establishment of the Musée du Louvre at 01 40 20 50 50, or via email at donneespersonnelles@louvre.fr, or by post at Musée du Louvre, 75058 Paris Cedex 01, along with a valid proof of identity.

SECTION VI

PHOTOGRAPHY, FILMING, COPYING AND SURVEYS

ARTICLE 29

In the permanent collection galleries, artworks may be photographed or filmed for the private use of the visitor. The use of flashes and other lighting mechanisms is prohibited.

Photography and filming may be prohibited in the temporary exhibition galleries.

The filming and photographing of technical installations and equipment is prohibited.

The President-Director of the Musée du Louvre may grant consent on an exceptional basis and all requests for exemptions shall be addressed to the External Relations and Communications Department.

Photography and filming must not compromise the reputation of the EPML, its agents or its visitors.

ARTICLE 30

Professional photography, filming, and recording of radio and television programmes are all subject to special regulations and the prior written authorisation of the President-Director of the Musée du Louvre. Any authorisation issued shall be accompanied by a copy of the specifications outlining the terms and conditions of use of the area.

In addition to permission from the President-Director of the Public Establishment of the Musée du Louvre, all audio recordings, video recordings and sound recordings of staff or visitors require the consent of the persons concerned. The museum accepts no liability towards third parties should these provisions be breached.

ARTICLE 31

The copying of artworks in the museum is subject to authorisation from the President-Director of the Musée du Louvre. All authorisation requests shall be submitted in advance to the Office of Copyists.

Authorisation recipients shall comply with the present regulations and special requirements as indicated, particularly as pertains to the protection of artworks to be reproduced, proper order and potential rights of reproduction.

Freehand lead pencil sketches on paper or light cardboard not exceeding 29.7 x 42 cm (A3 format) are permitted in the permanent collection and temporary exhibition galleries, provided that their authors do not obstruct the view or movement of other visitors. Similarly, the size of any portfolio may not exceed 29.7 x 42 cm (A3 format).

ARTICLE 32

All visitor surveys and opinion polls shall be subject to the prior authorisation of the President-Director of the Musée du Louvre.

SECTION VII

BREACHES OF THE PRESENT REGULATIONS AND PENALTIES

ARTICLE 33

All visitors shall comply with requests from Musée du Louvre staff pursuant to the present regulations. Failure to comply with the provisions of the present regulations may lead to prohibition from entering the museum, immediate eviction from the museum and/or, where applicable, legal action.

ARTICLE 34

Museum staff, and reception and security staff in particular, shall be responsible for enforcing the present regulations.

ARTICLE 35

Assaults, threats or insults perpetrated against Musée du Louvre staff during the exercise of their functions shall lead to legal action against the perpetrators.

SECTION VIII

FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 36

Visitors may leave their suggestions at the Visitor Assistance desk in the Hall Napoléon, the Tuileries Garden reception desk or on the Musée du Louvre website (www.louvre.fr).

ARTICLE 37

These Visitor Regulations replace any previous regulations. They shall be brought to the attention of visitors by display and any other appropriate means.

Paris, le 15/12/2025
Laurence des Cars