



Philadelphia's
**MAGIC
GARDENS**

WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE MUSEUM
GROUP TOURS



I am going to the Magic Gardens Museum. It is a museum and art environment that is covered with mosaics.



Mosaics are artworks made by arranging small, colorful pieces of material, such as tile, glass, or stones. An art environment is an enormous artwork that visitors can walk through.



The Museum has two indoor galleries. Galleries are rooms where art is displayed. The art in these galleries changes often. I can check phillymagicgardens.org to find out what is on display now.



The Museum also has an outdoor sculpture garden. A sculpture garden contains artworks instead of plants. The sculpture garden covers as much property as three houses. Parts of the sculpture garden are below street level.



When I arrive at the museum I will notice a mosaicked wall with a large gate separating South Street from the sculpture garden. There may be people standing outside, waiting to get into the museum.



There are two entrances to the museum. One entrance is a metal gate at 1020 South Street that leads into the fully mosaicked outdoor courtyard. When weather permits, the gate is used as the main entrance. This is where my teacher or chaperone will check in.



The other entrance is a glass door at 1020 South Street which leads into the gift shop. This entrance is used as an alternative when the front gate is closed.



While my teacher or chaperone is checking in, my group may be asked to wait on Alder Street. This is an alleyway just a few feet from the main entrance. It is a fun place to wait because there is a lot of art to see there.



If our group is large we will be asked to divide into smaller groups. Each small group will have a guide wearing a blue nametag. All the groups will see the same things but at different times. We will meet up again at the end of our tour.



There are four single-person bathrooms at the museum. One is located in the basement and one is located in the front gallery. The other two are located just off the back gallery: one is wheelchair accessible. All bathrooms can be used by anyone.



There are no drinking fountains at the museum so I will want to bring my own water bottle. There is no coat check at the museum so I will want to bring only what I can carry.



The ceilings and walls are part of the artwork. I will take care of them.
I will not lean against or touch any of the artworks.



If I am carrying a backpack, I will wear it on my front so that I do not harm artworks behind me.



There may be other visitors enjoying the artwork at the museum.
I will use my inside voice even when I am outside in the sculpture garden.
I will walk. I will never run, climb, or jump.



I may take as many pictures as I like. I may ask questions or share observations with my Guide or any employee wearing a blue nametag.



We will stay with our Guide until they tell us to explore on our own. During our tour, my group may pass by another group on the tour. Even if I know people in the other group I will not say hello because I don't want to interrupt their tour.



Most tour groups spend one hour visiting the museum. Our teacher or chaperone will tell our Guide if we have a special interest or lesson.



Inside there are two galleries located on the ground floor. To reach the second gallery, I will exit the back of the first gallery and step outside very briefly. There is a small ramp leading from the first gallery to the door of the second gallery.



Our Guide may invite us to exit the back of the second gallery to see artworks in the alleyways surrounding the museum. The alleyways are quiet, but we will look for cars before we exit.



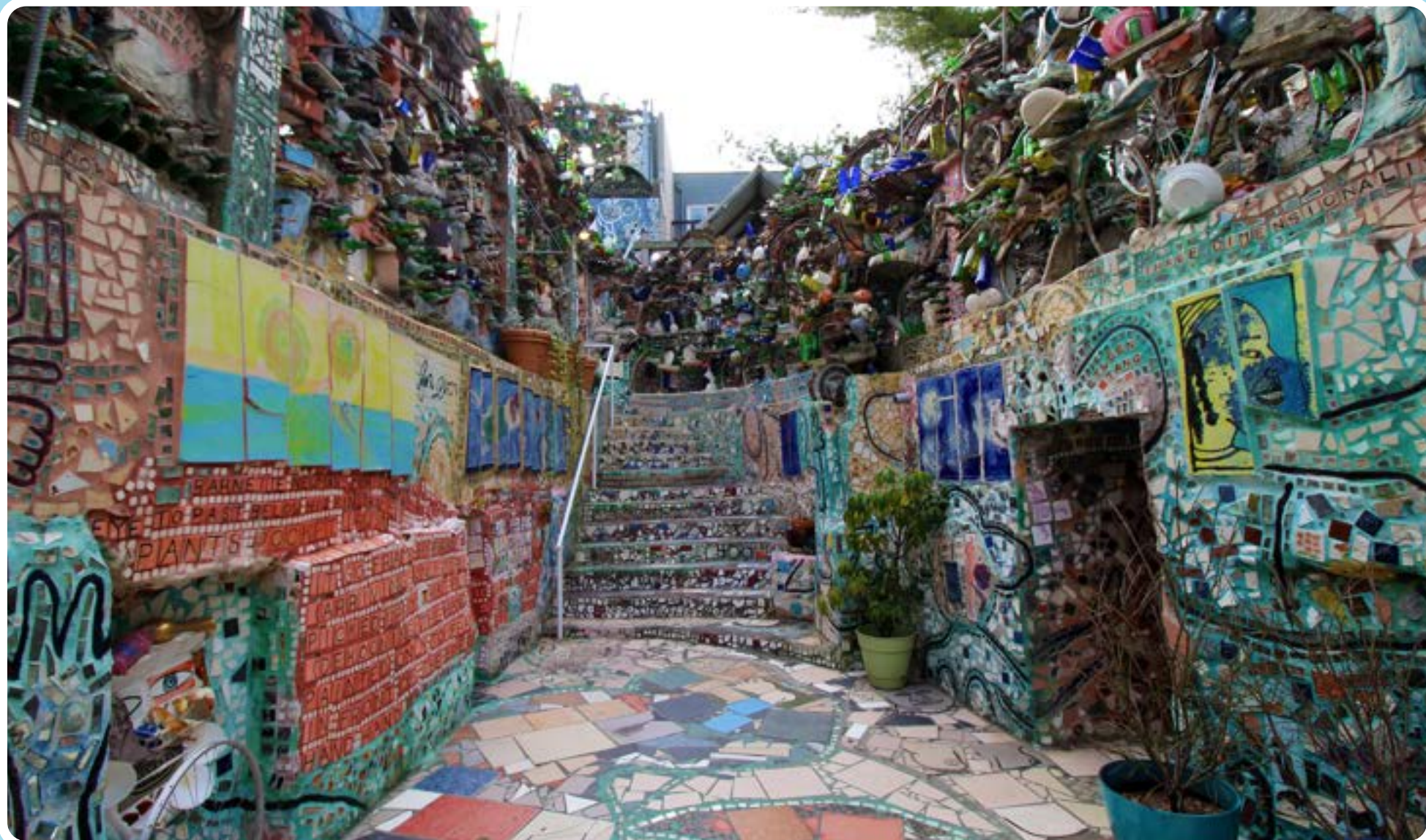
Our Guide may invite us to visit the mosaicked basement. We will enter the basement through a door near the gift shop. There is a narrow stairway with a handrail that leads to the basement. If I don't feel comfortable going into the basement, I will discuss it beforehand with my teacher or chaperone.



There are two rooms and one bathroom in the basement. The ceiling is lower here than in the rest of the museum. In the second room I can sit down to look at the artworks and listen to what our Guide has to say.



The sculpture garden has narrow pathways with artwork on every side.



There are three stairways that lead down below street level. I will walk slowly and use the handrails. The ground can be uneven.



I do not have to worry about getting lost because all paths lead back to the beginning. There are places for me to sit and view the artworks throughout the sculpture garden.



I will be outside for part of my tour so I will dress for the weather.



If it is snowy, icy or there are thunderstorms, we will not visit the sculpture garden during our tour. If it is raining, our Guide may still invite us to explore the sculpture garden. I will be careful walking in the sculpture garden if the ground is slippery.



We may not use umbrellas in the sculpture garden even if it is raining. Umbrellas can damage the artwork. I can bring a raincoat or poncho to wear in the sculpture garden.



While looking at the mosaics, I may notice body parts or naked figures. Nudity is part of all kinds of artwork and it is a part of the artwork at the museum. It is okay to look at it. It is okay not to look at it. I should do what is comfortable for me.



I may ask our Guide or our teacher questions about what I see.



When it is time to leave the museum, I will make sure I have all my things. I will join my teacher or chaperone. They may want to count everyone in our group or take a group photograph.



We may have to wait for friends who are in the bathroom. I will not leave until our teacher or chaperone leads the way. When we are ready to leave our guide will make sure the front gate is open for our exit.

**Now we are ready for our visit to the
Magic Gardens Museum!**

