

## The Villa dei Papiri Reimagined

J. Paul Getty wanted visitors to experience Greek and Roman art in a setting that would bring the objects to life. He decided to build a new museum on his property overlooking the Pacific, a site that closely resembles the ancient Mediterranean coast.

The resulting Getty Villa was modeled on the Roman Villa dei Papiri, a grand country residence on the Bay of Naples that was buried by the volcanic eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79. Most of the Villa is still underground, but Getty's architects adapted a plan of the exposed part drawn by 18th-century excavators and incorporated details from other ancient houses in nearby Pompeii and Herculaneum to realize his vision.

The Getty Villa, which opened in 1974, embodies Getty's love for classical art and architecture. Today the museum provides an enduring home for his collection, evoking ancient spaces filled with art, fountains, and aromatic gardens.

### Temple of Hercules

The elaborate floor is a replica of one from the Villa dei Papiri. It is composed of imported marbles prized by the ancient Romans: alternating triangles of yellow from North Africa and dark gray from Turkey, red arrows from the Peloponnesos, and a central disk of green Greek porphyry.

### Inner Peristyle

Decorative motifs are often drawn from nature. The capitals of the Corinthian columns on the south side are inspired by the curling leaves of the acanthus plant, which can be seen growing in the Inner Peristyle and East Garden.

### East Garden

In the East Garden, the colorful fountain with shells and theater masks is a replica of one found in the House of the Large Fountain at Pompeii.



Formal gardens like the Outer
Peristyle offered a peaceful place
for conversation and contemplation.
Bronze replicas of statues found at
the Villa dei Papiri are placed near
their ancient findspots.

### Herb Garden

Atrium

The Atrium was the main public room in a Roman house. The open ceiling let in light and air and allowed

rainwater to fall into the sunken

to an underground cistern.

impluvium, where it was channeled

Most Roman houses had both formal and household gardens. The Herb Garden is planted with species from the Mediterranean—fruit trees, flowering shrubs, and herbs used by the Romans for cooking and medicine.

### Roman Roads

The Romans were master road builders. The Villa's main drive simulates the ancient streets of Pompeii and Herculaneum, which were paved with large, polygonal stones.

### Floor 1



Prize Vessel with a Chariot Race



Woman Wearing a Peplos



The Lansdowne Hercules



Gallery 109 Orpheus and Sirens



Gallery 110

Storage Jar

EAST GARDEN

with Polyphemos

(The Getty Bronze)



Harp Player



Floor 2

Gallery 207 Gallery 209 Head of Julia Titi



Mummy Portrait



Sarcophagus with Scenes from the Life of Achilles



Wine Cup with a

## Greek Art

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Family Forum Bring ancient art alive in this hands-on discovery space for families.

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### Roman Art

Upper Peristyle

Collecting Antiquities

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The Roman Villa

Late Antiquity

Achilles Sarcophagus

Greek and Roman Glass

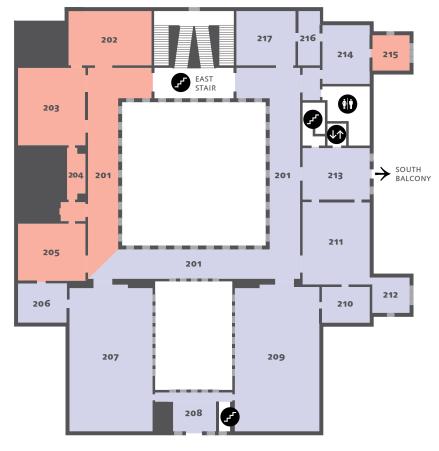
Roman Treasury

The Villa at Boscoreale

### **Special Exhibitions**

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### **Stairs**

**Elevator** 

Restrooms

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Accessible Route

### GettyGuide<sup>®</sup>

Enhance your gallery experience with a GettyGuide Multimedia Player, available at the Pick-Up Desk on the first floor of the Museum.

### GALLERY GUIDELINES Please do not touch the works of art. Food and drink are not permitted in the galleries. Please refrain from cell phone conversations and the use of speakerphones, and set ringers to silent.

### **BAG AND COAT CHECK**

**Daily Guided Tours** 

**General Information** 

All bags may be subject to security inspection. Backpacks, umbrellas, bags, purses, and packages larger than  $11 \times 17 \times 8$  inches must be checked at the parcel check in the Entry Pavilion.

Daily talks and tours are offered on the architecture and gardens, the Museum's collection, and special exhibitions. For the daily

schedule, consult the *Today at the Villa* sheet.

### PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography and video using handheld devices and existing light are welcome outdoors and in the permanent collection galleries. Selfie sticks may be used outdoors only. Tripods, monopods, and drones are not permitted. Photographs and videos are for personal use only and may not be sold. Professional shoots, including wedding and modeling, are not permitted. The Getty reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to withhold and/or withdraw permission to photograph or videotape on its premises. Visit getty.edu/villaphotopolicy for more information.

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### Accessibility



### WHEELCHAIRS AND STROLLERS Available without charge on a first-come, first-served basis in the Entry Pavilion.





All restrooms include accessible facilities. Most include baby-changing tables. The family restroom includes a breastfeeding area and a private facility in which

### †††† you can assist a companion.



SERVICE ANIMALS Service animals, such as a guide dog for the blind, are welcome at the Getty Villa.

#### RESOURCES FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED



Assisted listening devices are available. State of tour transcriptions are available at the GettyGuide Desk. Sign-language interpretation is available ten days in advance by calling

(310) 440-7300 or (310) 440-7305 TTY.

Open captioning in English is provided for the Museum Theater film and for videos throughout the galleries.

#### **Contact Information**

Call: (310) 440-7300 English or Spanish; relay service calls welcome. (310) 440-7305 TTY line for deaf or hearing impaired. E-mail: visitorservices@getty.edu

Write: Visitor Services The J. Paul Getty Trust 1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1000 Los Angeles, CA 90049

For additional information, visit getty.edu.



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# Cultures of the Ancient Mediterranean

