

EXECUTIVE EXPLORATION

Instructions: Explore The People's House to uncover objects, events, and people that tell the story of the White House past and present! Working with your fellow friends, classmates, and chaperones use this guide to navigate the spaces!

1st Floor

The People's House: An Inside Look

*Stops 1 and 2 on the exhibit map

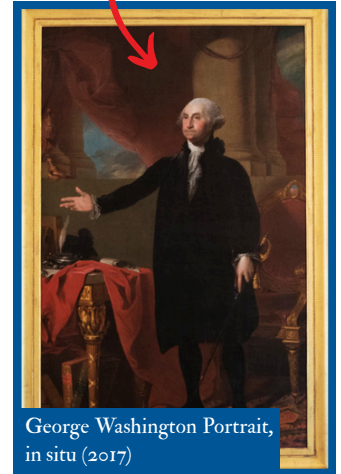


South Lawn of the White House (2023)
Image Credit: Matthew D'Agostino for the White House Historical Association

Presidential Pointer:

Each exhibit has discussion questions, all of which are listed below in the order they appear in the experience. If you have any questions, feel free to ask staff for assistance.

This is one of the most famous items in the White House Collection - Can you find it?



George Washington Portrait, in situ (2017)
Image Credit: White House Historical Association



Watch in awe as a replica of the White House transforms to tell the vibrant history of this landmark in a short video. Then walk around the model to the next space and use the tablets to bring its rooms to life, depicting historic and contemporary moments. *The White House must serve many roles as a home, office, museum, and stage to fit the needs of the president and first family. Looking at the rooms in the model, how does the White House fulfill all these roles?*

Scan here for the exhibit map to guide your Executive Exploration!



Red Room (2022)
Image Credit: David Wiegold for the White House Historical Association



Image Credit: White House Historical Association/White House Collection

Immersive Theater: The State Floor Revealed

*Stop 3 on the exhibit map



Experience five rooms of the State Floor – the East Room, Green Room, Blue Room, Red Room, and State Dining Room – and explore the paintings, objects, and furniture inside by touching the white dots on the walls. *What pieces stand out to you in the space? How do these objects reveal stories that extend beyond the White House?*



The West Colonnade: The 45-Second Commute

*Stop 5 on the exhibit map



Walk in the president's footsteps and experience the short commute to the Oval Office. *How does this compare to your commute to school, sports, or work? Does the length of the president's commute blur the lines between home and office?*

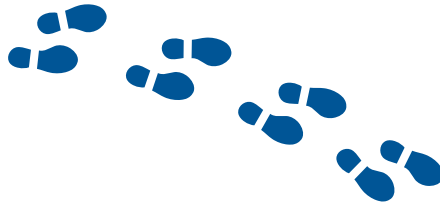


Image Credit: White House Historical Association

The Oval Office: Behind the Desk

*Stop 6 on the exhibit map



From the carpet to the drapes to the paintings on the walls to the personal items on display, the president gets to decide how they want to decorate the Oval Office. *If you were president how would you decorate your space? How do your spaces reflect 'you'?*



Image Credit: Sahar Coston-Hardy / Esto.

2nd Floor



Image Credit: Official White House Photo by Chuck Kennedy



Image Credit: Courtesy of Henry & Carole Haller and Family

People's Voices Gallery: Witnesses to History

*Stop 7 on the exhibit map



The White House may be the president's home, but with 132 rooms, constant events, and endless tasks to manage, it takes a skilled team of butlers, chefs, gardeners, curators, and others to keep things on track—the residence staff. Interact with the digital "portraits" of White House staff to hear more from them about their jobs and duties. *Which role would best fit your skill set? If you were planning a White House State Dinner, which departments would you involve?*



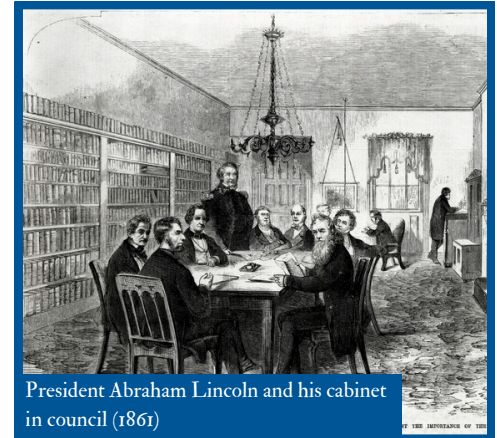
The White House in Action: A Front Row Seat

*Stops 8, 9, and 10 on the exhibit map



Image Credit: White House Historical Association/White House Collection

★ What happens in the White House you might ask? Everything from important meetings in the Cabinet Room to diplomatic events like State Dinners to moments with family and friends in the Theater. *Why is it important to consider multiple perspectives when making a decision? How are State Dinners a form of diplomacy? What activities do you do with your family and friends?*



President Abraham Lincoln and his cabinet in council (1861)

Image Credit: White House Historical Association/White House Collection

Stories in Objects: Touch Points of History

*Stop 11 on the exhibit map



Image Credit: Matthew D'Agostino for the White House Historical Association

★ Even the simplest objects can tell a remarkable story. The objects represented in this gallery provide glimpses into the wide-ranging history of the People's House. *Do any of the items in this gallery resemble items that you have? How is your item's story similar or different than the one in the gallery?*



President Barack Obama with Bo (2012)

Image Credit: Official White House Photo by Pete Souza

Reflection

Do you think the White House is the People's House? Why or why not?