Now That I’m Here...

WHAT SHOULD I SEE?

Highlights

If You Do Not Have Much Time...
Visit the Museum’s three major galleries on the first floor.

Milestones of Flight (Gallery 100)
The biggest collection of historic treasures in the Museum. Charles Lindbergh’s Spirit of St. Louis, Chuck Yeager’s Bell X-1, John Glenn’s Mercury capsule Friendship 7, the Apollo 11 command module Columbia, and much more. Touch a real Moon rock! View the newest addition to the gallery: SpaceShipOne, the first privately developed, piloted vehicle to reach space!

America by Air (Gallery 102)
How the airlines began and developed, and how flying them has changed. View vintage airliners and enter the nose of a Boeing 747 jumbo jet.

Space Race (Gallery 114)
The story of the U.S.-Soviet competition for “firsts” in space. A German V-1 and V-2 and a cluster of other rockets and missiles, U.S. and Soviet space capsules, a full-scale test model of the Hubble Space Telescope. Enter a section of a Skylab space station!

If You Have a Little More Time...

The Wright Brothers & The Invention of the Aerial Age (Gallery 209)
Who the Wright brothers were, how they invented the airplane, and how the world responded. Don’t miss this opportunity to see the original 1903 Wright flyer close up.

Then, Pick Your Interest...
Here are some other ideas for galleries to visit.

Early Aircraft
Early Flight (Gallery 107)
Aircraft from the first decade of powered flight.

Pioneers of Flight (Gallery 208)
Early firsts and record setters.

Golden Age of Flight (Gallery 105)
Airplanes from the 1920s and 1930s.

Military Aviation
Legend, Memory, and the Great War in the Air (Gallery 206)
Fighter aircraft and a bomber from World War I.

World War II Aviation (Gallery 205)
Allied and Axis fighters from five countries.

Sea-Air Operations (Gallery 203)
Aircraft carriers and the carrier war in the Pacific.

Jet Aviation (Gallery 106)
World War II-era jet aircraft.

Space Flight and Exploration
Explore the Universe (Gallery 111)
Astronomical tools from astroibes to digital sensors.

Exploring the Planets (Gallery 207)
The latest on solar system exploration.

Exploring the Moon (Gallery 112)
An original lunar module and lunar probes.

Apollo to the Moon (Gallery 210)
Artifacts from Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo.

Looking at Earth (Gallery 110)
Satellites and Earth-imaging.

Space Suits
Apollo to the Moon (Gallery 210)
Space suits worn on the Moon by Apollo astronauts.

Space Race (Gallery 114)
U.S. and Soviet space suits and flight suits.

This guide is sponsored by the Smithsonian Women’s Committee
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