

## Getty Villa Reopens to Public Wednesday, April 21

*Limited number of visitors permitted with free reservations*



Outer Peristyle at the Getty Villa. Photo: Elon Schoenholz  
© 2018 J. Paul Getty Trust

**LOS ANGELES** — The Getty Villa museum and gardens in Pacific Palisades will reopen to a limited number of visitors with free reservations on Wednesday, April 21, with specific one-way routes and other measures in place to ensure the safety of visitors and staff.

"The Getty Villa is one of the most unique experiences of any art museum, and we are delighted to be able to welcome visitors once again after more than a year's closure," said Timothy Potts, Maria Hummer-Tuttle and Robert Tuttle Director of the J. Paul Getty Museum. "And never have we had a more enticing combination of displays for them to enjoy. As well as our collections of ancient Greek and Roman art, we are now able to present the most important exhibition of Mesopotamian art ever seen on the West Coast, on loan from the incomparable collections of the Musée du Louvre in Paris. *Mesopotamia: Civilization Begins* explores the origins of writing, architecture, art, and much else in ancient Iraq over five thousand years ago--a journey back to the origins of civilization that is not to be missed!"

As always, free advanced reservations will be required to visit the Villa, but to avoid overcrowding a limited number of reservations will be available each day. Galleries too small to accommodate social distancing will be closed, and paths through the galleries and gardens will be one-way.

The Getty Center in Brentwood remains closed to visitors for now, but preparations are under way to reopen the Getty Center museum and grounds next month, with the Getty Library opening some time afterward. Free reservations for the Getty Center will also be required in advance, with limited daily capacity.

“We are grateful for the support of the community, which has waited patiently for Getty to reopen. I also want to thank our staff, which has been working closely with Los Angeles County and City officials to prepare for a safe reopening,” said Jim Cuno, president and CEO of the J. Paul Getty Trust. “We hope to increase capacity in the coming weeks and months as we are able.”

Visitors to the Villa will have the opportunity – at last – to see *Mesopotamia: Civilization Begins*, which was slated to open just days after the Getty Villa was forced to close in March 2020. Organized by the Getty Museum and the Musée du Louvre, Paris, the exhibition features work from the Musée du Louvre with select additional loans from the Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris, and The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

On view will be many of the most renowned masterpieces of Mesopotamian art, including the silver cult vase of the Sumerian king Enmetena, the cylinder seal of the royal scribe Ibni-sharrum, statues of Gudea and other kings of Babylonia, and a glazed brick lion from the Ishtar Gate in Babylon.

Visitors will also have the opportunity to download the new Getty Guide app on their phones, either before visiting or while on site. The new Getty Guide app will safely enhance the visit experience, replacing shared guide devices. Visitors should remember to bring their own earbuds. [Download the app](#) on Apple or Android phones.

In addition to limited numbers of visitors and one-way routes, other safety measures at the Villa will include:

- Visitors and staff must wear face coverings
- Visitors and staff must maintain six feet distance (except within household groups)
- Visitors will have temperatures checked upon arrival
- Visitors and staff displaying symptoms (coughing, sneezing, fever) will not be allowed to enter
- Staff are required to wash hands regularly; visitors are urged to do so as well
- Café meals will be pre-packaged
- The Family Forum remains closed

“I’m confident we have procedures in place to ensure the safety of our visitors and staff at the Villa,” said Bob Combs, director of security and visitor services.

[Make free advance reservations for the Getty Villa Museum.](#)

PRESS RELEASE: [Mesopotamia: Civilization Begins](#)

[Plan your visit](#)

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Desiree Zenowich  
DZenowich@getty.edu  
(310) 855-4740  
Getty Communications

###

**Getty** is a leading global arts organization committed to the exhibition, conservation, and understanding of the world's artistic and cultural heritage. Working collaboratively with partners around the globe, the Getty Foundation, Getty Conservation Institute, Getty Museum and Getty Research Institute are all dedicated to the greater understanding of the relationships between the world's many cultures. The Los Angeles-based J. Paul Getty Trust and Getty programs share art, knowledge, and resources online at [Getty.edu](http://Getty.edu) and welcome the public for free at the Getty Center and the Getty Villa.

**The J. Paul Getty Museum** collects Greek and Roman antiquities, European paintings, drawings, manuscripts, sculpture and decorative arts to 1900, as well as photographs from around the world to the present day. The Museum's mission is to display and interpret its collections, and present important loan exhibitions and publications for the enjoyment and education of visitors locally and internationally. This is supported by an active program of research, conservation, and public programs that seek to deepen our knowledge of and connection to works of art.

### **Visiting the Getty Villa**

The Getty Villa is open to a limited number of visitors, in accord with state and local public health guidelines, Wednesday through Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed Tuesdays, Thanksgiving, December 25 (Christmas Day), and January 1.

Admission to the Getty Villa is always free, but a reservation is required for admission. Reservations are available at [www.getty.edu/visit](http://www.getty.edu/visit) or at (310) 440-7300. Parking is \$20. The Getty Villa is at 17985 Pacific Coast Highway, Pacific Palisades, California.

Additional information is available at [www.getty.edu](http://www.getty.edu). Sign up for e-Getty at [www.getty.edu/subscribe](http://www.getty.edu/subscribe) to receive free monthly highlights of events at the Getty Center and the Getty Villa via e-mail, or visit [www.getty.edu](http://www.getty.edu) for a complete calendar of public programs.