

## Gallery Tours

### EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

#### 1. The Saatchi Gallery

Located just across from the London Eye, a former county office building offers another point of view. The ultra-traditional building houses the highly unorthodox art collection of British advertising mogul Charles Saatchi. Saatchi's style attracts critics, but also earns praise. The Saatchi collection includes works by cutting-edge British artists like Damien Hirst. Many artists championed by Saatchi came of age at the end of the 20th century. Saatchi's support propelled an entire movement of young British artists who aim to break the barriers.

#### 2. The Hong Kong Museum of Art

Hong Kong: A towering, modern city of energy, ambition and affluence. But it's also a city facing an uncertain future, following its return to Chinese rule. Affecting over six million people, the impact of this historic transfer is seen in the work of many of the city's artists. Their views, reactions and responses, form part of a special exhibition at the Hong Kong Museum of Art. Gallery Tours explores that exhibition to see how Hong Kong's artists remade traditional Chinese paintings into a dynamic visual-medium relevant to a new era in one of the world's most fascinating cities.

#### 3. The Rubell Family Collection

Miami, with its international influences, is a sizzling stir of ethnicities, rhythms and flavors. Today, thanks to one family's generosity and inspiration, it's also home to one of the most important exhibits of contemporary art in the world, The Rubell Collection. Started in the late 1960s by Don and Mira Rubell, this family collection includes more than 6000 works. The pieces represent three decades of change in the contemporary art world. The native New Yorkers and lifelong art collectors were lured south in the early 90s. In Miami, they saw a city on the way up and the chance to take a different kind of risk.

#### 4. The Kreeger Museum

In Washington, D.C., is a hidden yet also legendary institution. It's the one-time home of a great benefactor to the arts. A house-turned-museum. The legacy of philanthropist David Lloyd Kreeger and his wife Carmen. Here, the couple gathered the work of some of the most well-known artists - Monet. Picasso. Miró, all intimately displayed in a spectacular architectural showpiece. The Kreeger Museum is quite simply one couple's gift to the public. The Kreegers' outstanding collection was built with great passion and kept private for decades but now it's shared with the public as a legacy to the Kreegers' love of art.

#### 5. Milwaukee Art Museum

The Milwaukee Art Museum is the largest art museum in the state of Wisconsin, housing a Collection of more than 30,000 works and hosting an impressive lineup of internationally regarded exhibitions. The Museum is part of a bold vision for a city reinventing itself. It's fitting that the museum houses American Fancy, an exhibit that explores a time that dramatically changed the way Americans looked at their world. In the 1790s, Fancy was a dynamic new style that emerged and the American home suddenly exploded into a kaleidoscope of color. The world had never seen anything quite like it.

#### 6. Guggenheim Las Vegas

Las Vegas is a city where reality and fantasy sit comfortably side by side. The brightly-lit strip is lined with one huge theme-hotel after another. One of Las Vegas's most elaborate hotels, The Venetian, has added art to its list of attractions - the Guggenheim Hermitage Museum, designed

by Rem Koolhaas. Their latest exhibit traces the evolution of a century of modern painting, from the late 1800s to the 1970s. The journey covers impressionist masters through cubism, to abstract expressionism, and is a short course in the history of modern art.

## 7. Storm King

Widely celebrated as one of the world's leading sculpture parks, Storm King Art Center has welcomed visitors from across the globe for fifty years. It is located only one hour north of New York City, in the lower Hudson Valley, where its pristine 500-acre landscape of fields, hills, and woodlands provides the setting for a collection of more than 100 carefully sited sculptures created by some of the most acclaimed artists of our time.

## 8. The Cloisters

New York City is one of the fastest-paced cities in the world but at the northern end of Manhattan, life slows down. People feel transported here, they feel as though they're many miles away from Manhattan. It's the only museum dedicated to the art of the Middle Ages in this country and is one of the great collections of medieval art in the world. Five cloisters, representing centuries of medieval architecture, have been brought together here.

## 9. Metropolitan Museum of Art

New York, New York. America's capital for style, fashion and art. The city's Metropolitan Museum of Art has combined all three elements in a recent exhibit. It's a voyeuristic look at the aristocratic world of 18th-century France. A time of extravagant wealth and sexual liaisons. Gallery Tours explores the theatrical display of French love and lust. The exhibition is based on the French novel *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* and most Americans will certainly be familiar with the film that came out a number of years ago, *Dangerous Liaisons*.

## 10. Museum Modern Art, Mexico City

If art is a universal language, Mexican artists speak a dialect all their own. Whether speaking out on love, or war, portraying reality, or fantasy, Mexican artists blend traditional styles with a rich cultural heritage. The Museum of Modern Art's collection was built upon works donated by 20th century Mexican artists, making modern art accessible to the public for the first time. The broad-

based collection shows the stylistic influences of the international art world, cubism, surrealism, and naturalism. But the works of these Mexican artists defines and maintains their own cultural identity.

## 11. L'Institut du Monde Arabe

Paris is known for innovative architecture and artistic expression so it's a fitting home for an architectural marvel that houses some of the Arabic world's greatest treasures. Here in the heart of Western culture,

an unparalleled collection traces the roots of Middle Eastern art: its influences and its impact worldwide. Not just an exhibit, this is the story of art 3,000 years in the making. Join Gallery Tours for an exploration

of Eastern art at L'Institut du Monde Arabe.

## 12. Musee Rodin

In the heart of Paris lies an 18th-century chateau and gardens filled with sculpture's most well-recognized works. The Kiss. The Thinker. The Gates of Hell. It's the largest collection of the work of one of the world's most important sculptors. Take a first-hand look at the life and work of Auguste Rodin as Gallery Tours explores the Musée Rodin: A Life in Sculpture.

## 13. Le Louvre

The construction of the Pei pyramid in the heart of the Louvre museum may have aroused a great deal of passion and controversy at the end of the 1980's, rekindling the eternal battle between old and new, but contemporary art is ringing out again within the walls of the most famous museum in the world.