

MUSEUM ETIQUETTE

When you visit the West Virginia State Museum, you will see carefully collected items that represent our state's land, people and culture. Many of the pieces were donated by people who value them and their place in our state's history. Donations are made to the West Virginia Division of Culture and History's museum collection because of our commitment to the proper care and presentation of properly documented articles relating to our state's cultural heritage.

We ask each visitor to be respectful of this property and follow a few guidelines that will help us care for the collection entrusted to us.

- Please dress comfortably and appropriately for your museum visit. The show path features different walking surfaces, so you must wear shoes for your safety. The temperature is cool, to protect the artifacts, so shirts are required for every visitor.
- Only certified service guide animals are allowed in the Culture Center and the museum.
- Food and drink are not permitted in the exhibit areas of the Culture Center or West Virginia State Museum.
- The Culture Center is a smoke-free building.
- For the safety and protection of our young visitors, it is recommended that children under the age of thirteen visit the museum with an adult.
- For your comfort and the protection of the collection, running and rowdy behavior are not permitted. Each visitor expects to experience the museum without disruption. The museum staff will be present to make certain that expectation is met.
- Please do not touch. Our hands produce oils and carry residue that can eventually damage art and artifacts if enough people touch the work. The same goes for the scenic elements. A good practice to teach your family about museums, galleries and historic property is "Never touch unless you are invited to do so". While some facilities make good use of "Do Not Touch" signage, we prefer to discuss it here. Once you enter the museum we want your reading to feed your imagination.
- As you walk through the museum, you will see many things that you want to remember or show to someone. You may take photos without using a flash. You may not get quite the photo that you want because the museum is dark in some places, but that lighting is designed to protect the artifacts and show them off to their best advantage.
- The museum has special flooring and some space limitations along the show path. If you have your own mobility device, it should have pneumatic wheels, a short turning radius and be no more than 38" in length.
- Reproductions of any type for commercial purposes are strictly prohibited.