

AUDITORIUM | HARRY S. TRUMAN: 1884 - 1972

In the State of Missouri Auditorium, view the introductory film that traces Harry S. Truman's life. This film, by Academy Award-winning producer Charles Guggenheim, is 45 minutes long and is shown every hour on the half hour, with the final showing every day at 3:30, unless otherwise noted.

RESTROOMS

Restrooms are located on the lower level of the museum and in the east lobby area.

ELEVATOR

An elevator is located to the right of the White House Gallery.

STAIRS

Stairs are located to the right and left of the White House Gallery.

ACCESSIBILITY

Wheelchairs and hearing impaired audio-visual transcripts are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please see a staff member at the Admissions Desk.

COAT RACK

A coat rack is located to the left of the White House Gallery.

MUSEUM STORE

Our Museum Store carries many items related to President Harry S. Truman, his legacy, and the presidency. Located in the Main Lobby, there is no admission charge to shop the store. You can also contact the store by phone at 816-268-8261 or shop online at www.trumanlibrary.org.

MEMBERSHIP

Truman Library Institute members enjoy free museum admission, invitations to private exhibition previews, and other V.I.P. benefits. To join, please visit www.trumanlibrary.org, call 816-268-8237, or ask a staff member at the Admissions Desk.

LOST AND FOUND

Please check with a staff member at the Admissions Desk or call 816-268-8261, toll free 800-833-1225, if you have lost something.



HARRY S. TRUMAN
LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

500 West US Highway 24 | Independence, Missouri 64050
816.268.8200 | 800.833.1225 | www.trumanlibrary.org



MUSEUM GUIDE



HARRY S. TRUMAN
LIBRARY AND MUSEUM



WE'RE GLAD TO WELCOME YOU

to the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum. Harry S.

Truman's story is richly and uniquely American. From humble beginnings in the small town of Independence, he rose to become the most powerful leader in the world.

The Harry S. Truman Library and Museum invites you to experience the eventful and triumphant life of America's 33rd President. For nearly eight years, he guided the U.S. and the world through perilous times: the ending of World War II, including the dropping of the atomic bomb; the formation of the United Nations, NATO and the Marshall Plan; the successful operation of the Berlin Airlift; and the beginning of the Cold War.

Since the library dedication in July of 1957, the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum has inspired millions of visitors. By visiting our exciting exhibits and vast archives you also have the opportunity to explore the powerful decisions of the Truman era.



Main Level Attractions

Thomas Hart Benton Mural

The mural "Independence and the Opening of the West" dominates the museum lobby.

Auditorium

The film *Harry S. Truman: 1884-1972* by Academy Award-winning director Charles Guggenheim is featured in the State of Missouri Auditorium.

White House Gallery

Read about a typical day in the life of a busy President. The original "Buck Stops Here" sign is the centerpiece of this exhibit.

Oval Office Replica

See the details of the office of the most powerful leader in the world, decorated exactly as it appeared in 1950.

HARRY S. TRUMAN: THE PRESIDENTIAL YEARS

In the Hall Family Foundation Presidential Galleries

- 1 Setting the Stage: An Introductory Video**
Located in the Francis Families Foundation Theater on the east side of the main lobby, this video traces Harry Truman's life from boyhood through his elevation to the presidency in April 1945. This film shows every 20 minutes, beginning at 9:30, Monday through Saturday, and 12:30 on Sundays.
- 2 The First Four Months**
This section focuses on the tumultuous start to Truman's presidency, as displayed in newspapers featuring the dominant stories of the period.
- 3 Postwar America**
This area focuses on the post-war economic reconversion and on the post-1947 economic boom. Features include a well-stocked, vintage refrigerator and a 1950s TV displaying period shows, commercials and images.
- 4 The Cold War Begins**
Highlights of this gallery include a 9-foot video wall display on the origins of the Cold War and 594 miniature airplanes suspended from the ceiling symbolizing the Berlin Airlift. Photographs and exhibit cases address the Truman Doctrine, the Marshall Plan, and the formation of NATO.

- 5 The Recognition of Israel**
Explore one of the issues that threatened Truman's reelection. Artifacts include a Torah scroll presented to Truman by the first President of Israel.

- 6 Election Year Decisions: What Guides Them?**
This interactive theater immerses visitors in presidential decision making. See Truman grapple with decisions to recognize the state of Israel and to desegregate the armed forces of the United States.

- 7 Upset of the Century**
This exhibit explores the challenges that Truman faced in his efforts to be reelected in 1948. It includes a large map which illuminates each stop of his "Whistle Stop Tour" with audio excerpts of Truman speeches from multiple stops on the tour.

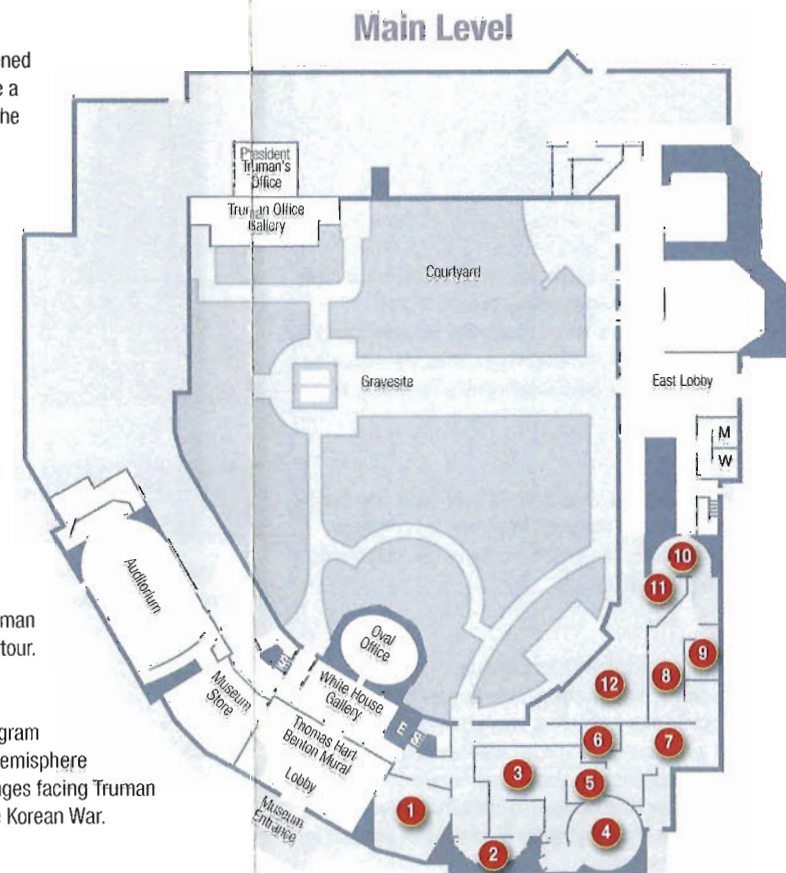
- 8 The Cold War Turns Hot**
This area features a multi-media program describing problems in the Eastern Hemisphere and a display highlighting the challenges facing Truman during his second term, including the Korean War.

- 9 Spies in Government: How Far Do You Go To Find Them?**
Participate in decisions regarding loyalty and the potential for espionage in this interactive theater.

- 10 America in 1952**
Life magazine captures a picture of America as Truman prepared to leave office. Songs by Ella Fitzgerald and Mel Torme accompany video images from 1952.

- 11 Leaving Office**
Despite controversy and waning popularity, President Truman looked relaxed at the inauguration of Dwight D. Eisenhower. A 1952 television runs excerpts from Truman's farewell address. A flipbook reflects his two terms in office.

- 12 Legacy Gallery**
The James B. Nutter Family Legacy Gallery features etched glass panels describing Truman's legacy and a bronze life-size statue of Truman. A video shows prominent U.S. politicians invoking the spirit of Truman, and claiming his legacy.



Key:
E - Elevator
S - Stairs

COURTYARD

Gravesite

This tranquil area features the grave sites of Harry and Bess Truman, along with their daughter Margaret and her husband E. Clifton Daniel. The courtyard also features an American Legion Flame of Freedom, paths, and benches.

President Truman's Office

President Truman used this office daily from 1957 until 1966. It was here that he met visiting dignitaries and carried on his many other activities during the years after he left the White House. You can view the office from an adjacent gallery that features exhibits on Truman's post-Presidential years.

Lower Level Attractions

HARRY S. TRUMAN: HIS LIFE AND TIMES

In the Sanders and Blanche Sosland Gallery

Tracing the remarkable story of the man who became our 33rd president, this exhibit challenges young people to put themselves in Harry Truman's shoes. Activities include trying on period clothing, sorting mail, writing letters, making campaign buttons and other tasks. The exhibition covers five areas of Harry Truman's life.

1 Family

Harry Truman's long love affair with his wife, Bess, and the joy he experienced with his daughter, Margaret, are critical to understanding his life. This exhibit examines the relationship among the three of them.

2 The Early Years

The experiences that shaped Harry Truman's character are the focus of this part of the exhibition, including his formative years in Independence and on the family farm in Grandview, his early job as a bank clerk, and his attempts to be a successful businessman. The experience he gained as a leader of men in World War I can be seen in "Military Service," while "Home from the War" chronicles his marriage and his start in the haberdashery business.

3 Political Career

"Public Service" examines Truman's years in county politics, including his successful public works programs and the doubts he had about his association with the Kansas City political machine led by "Boss Tom" Pendergast. "Senator" deals with what Truman called his "happiest ten years" serving in Washington as one of Missouri's senators.

4 Life in the White House

Truman's brief 82-day Vice Presidency is the focus of "From the Senate to the White House." "Living in the White House" chronicles the personal side of life in the Executive Mansion. Trips home to Independence, to his vacation spot in Key West, Florida, and elsewhere are the focus of "The Traveling President."

5 Mr. Citizen

The final section deals with Truman's retirement years in Independence, developing the Truman Library and exposing young people to the importance of knowing their history and government, and dabbling in politics as an elder statesman.



BENEFACTORS SPECIAL EXHIBITION GALLERY

This gallery area hosts the many exciting temporary exhibits the museum features throughout the year.

