

= Getty Villa =

The Getty Villa is one of two locations of the J. Paul Getty Museum . Located at the southerly end of the Malibu coast in the Pacific Palisades neighborhood of Los Angeles , California , USA , the Getty Villa is an educational center and museum dedicated to the study of the arts and cultures of ancient Greece , Rome , and Etruria . The collection has 44 @, @ 000 Greek , Roman , and Etruscan antiquities dating from 6 @, @ 500 BC to 400 AD , including the Lansdowne Heracles and the Victorious Youth . The UCLA / Getty Master ? s Program in Archaeological and Ethnographic Conservation is housed on this campus . The collection is documented and presented through the online GettyGuide as well as through audio tours .

= = History = =

In 1954 , oil tycoon J. Paul Getty opened a gallery adjacent to his home in Pacific Palisades . Quickly running out of room , he built a second museum , the Getty Villa , on the property down the hill from the original gallery . The villa design was inspired by the Villa of the Papyri at Herculaneum and incorporated additional details from several other ancient sites . It was designed by architects Robert E. Langdon , Jr. and Ernest C. Wilson , Jr . It opened in 1974 , but was never visited by Getty , who died in 1976 . Following his death , the museum inherited \$ 661 million and began planning a much larger campus , the Getty Center , in nearby Brentwood . The museum overcame neighborhood opposition to its new campus plan by agreeing to limit the total size of the development on the Getty Center site . To meet the museum 's total space needs , the museum decided to split between the two locations with the Getty Villa housing the Greek , Roman , and Etruscan antiquities . In 1993 , the Getty Trust selected Rodolpho Machado and Jorge Silvetti to design the renovation of the Getty Villa and its campus . In 1997 , portions of the museum 's collection of Greek , Roman and Etruscan antiquities were moved to the Getty Center for display , and the Getty Villa was closed for renovation . The collection was restored during the renovation .

Starting in 2004 , the museum and the University of California , Los Angeles (UCLA) hold summer institutes in Turkey , studying the conservation of Middle Eastern Art .

Reopened on January 28 , 2006 , the Getty Villa shows Greek , Roman , and Etruscan antiquities within Roman @-@ inspired architecture and surrounded by Roman @-@ style gardens . The art is arranged by themes , e.g. , Gods and Goddesses , Dionysos and the Theater , and Stories of the Trojan War . The new architectural plan surrounding the Villa ? which was conceived by Boston architects Machado and Silvetti Associates (who were also responsible for the plans for the renovated museum) ? is designed to simulate an archaeological dig . Architectural Record has praised their work on the Getty Villa as " a near miracle ? a museum that elicits no smirks from the art world a masterful job ... crafting a sophisticated ensemble of buildings , plazas , and landscaping that finally provides a real home for a relic of another time and place . "

There has been controversy surrounding the Greek and Italian governments ' claim that objects in the collection were looted and should be repatriated . In 2006 , the Getty returned or promised to return four looted objects to Greece : a stele (grave marker) , a marble relief , a gold funerary wreath , and a marble statue . In 2007 , the Getty signed an agreement to return 40 looted items to Italy .

= = Facility and programs = =

Admission to the Getty Villa is free , but timed tickets must be obtained in advance via phone or the museum 's website . As of June 2010 , there is a \$ 15 @. @ 00 charge for parking during the day , but parking is free for evening performances . The museum is open Wednesday to Monday , 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed Tuesday and on New Year 's Day (January 1) , July 4 , Thanksgiving and Christmas (December 25) .

The Getty Villa hosts live performances in both its indoor auditorium and its outdoor theatre . Indoor play @-@ readings included The Trojan Women , Aristophanes ' The Frogs , and Euripides ' Helen .

Indoor musical performances , which typically relate to art exhibits , included : Musica Angelica , De Organographia , and Songs from the Fifth Age : Sones de México in Concert . The auditorium also held a public reading of Homer 's Iliad . Outdoor performances included Aristophanes ' Peace , Aeschylus 's Agamemnon , and Sophocles ' Elektra . The Getty Villa also hosts visiting exhibitions beyond its own collections . For example , in March 2011 " In Search of Biblical Lands " was a photographic exhibition which included scenes of the Middle East dating back to the 1840s .

The Getty Villa offers special educational programs for children . A special Family Forum gallery offers activities including decorating Greek vases and projecting shadows onto a screen that represents a Greek urn . The room also has polystyrene props from Greek and Roman culture for children to handle and use to cast shadows . The Getty Villa also offers children 's guides to the other exhibits .

The Getty Conservation Institute offers a Master 's Program in Archaeological and Ethnographic Conservation in association with the Cotsen Institute of Archaeology at UCLA . Classes and research are conducted in the museum wing of the ranch house . The program was the first of its kind in the United States .

= = Campus = =

The Villa self identifies with Malibu as it is located just east of the city limits of Malibu in the city of Los Angeles in the community of Pacific Palisades . The 64 acres (26 ha) museum complex sits on a hill overlooking the Pacific Ocean , which is about 100 feet (30 m) from the entrance to the property . An outdoor 2 @, @ 500 @-@ square @-@ foot (230 m²) entry pavilion is also built into the hill near the 248 @-@ car , four story , South Parking garage at the southern end of the Outer Peristyle . The Outer Peristyle is a formal garden with roses and English ivy that includes a number of Roman sculptures . To the west of the Outer Peristyle is an herb garden . Beneath the Outer Peristyle is the Central Parking Garage . To the west of the Museum is a 450 @-@ seat outdoor Greek theater where evening performances are staged , named in honor of Barbara and Lawrence Fleischman . The theater faces the west side of the Villa and uses its entrance as a stage . To the northwest of the theatre is a three @-@ story , 15 @, @ 500 @-@ square @-@ foot (1 @, @ 440 m²) building built into the hill that contains the museum store on the lower level , a cafe on the second level , and a private dining room on the top level . North of the Villa is a 10 @, @ 000 sq ft (930 m²) indoor 250 seat auditorium . On the hill above the museum are Getty 's original private ranch house and the museum wing that Getty added to his home in 1954 . They are now used for curatorial offices , meeting rooms and as a library . Although not open to the public , the campus includes J. Paul Getty 's grave on the hill behind his ranch house . A 200 @-@ car North Parking Garage is behind the ranch complex . The 105 @, @ 500 @-@ square @-@ foot (9 @, @ 800 m²) museum building is arranged in a square opening into the Inner Peristyle courtyard . The 2006 museum renovation added 58 windows facing the Inner Peristyle and a retractable skylight over the atrium . It also replaced the terrazzo floors in the galleries and added seismic protection with new steel reinforcing beams and new isolators in the bases of statues and display cases . The museum has 48 @, @ 000 sq ft (4 @, @ 500 m²) of gallery space .

Architectural critic Calum Storrie describes the overall effect :

What the Getty Villa achieves , first by seclusion , then by control of access , and ultimately through the architecture , is a sense of detachment from its immediate environment .

= = Collection = =

The collection has 44 @, @ 000 Greek , Roman , and Etruscan antiquities dating from 6 @, @ 500 BC to 400 AD . Among the outstanding items is Victorious Youth , one of few life @-@ size Greek bronze statues to have survived to modern times . The Lansdowne Heracles is a Hadrianic Roman sculpture in the manner of Lysippus . The Villa also has jewelry and coin collections and an extensive 20 @, @ 000 volume library of books covering art from these periods . The Villa also displays the Getty kouros , which the museum lists as " Greek , about 530 B.C. , or modern forgery "

because scientific analysis is inconclusive as to whether the marble statue can be dated to Greek times . If genuine , the Getty kouros is one of only twelve remaining intact lifesize kouroi . The Marbury Hall Zeus is a 81 in (2 @ . @ 1 m) tall marble statue that was recovered from ruins at Tivoli near Rome .

= = = GettyGuide = = =

Detailed information about the J. Paul Getty Museum ' s collection at the Getty Villa is provided on " GettyGuide " . This is available both at the Museum , at various points known as " GettyGuide stations " , and externally on its website .

= = Photographs = =