Sample Itineraries

Follow your special interests through the Smithsonian museums with these one-day itineraries. Walking distances are minimized as much as possible; brief taxi rides are an option. The map in the back of this guide will direct you on your journeys.

FOR THE YOUNGEST VISITORS

This tour takes into account the active imaginations (and often short attention spans) of Smithsonian visitors ages five to nine.

Natural History Museum
Begin with two of the Smithsonian’s most popular attractions for young children, the Dinosaur Hall and the Kenneth E. Behring Family Hall of Mammals. Take a break for lunch or a snack in the Fossil Café, where each table also serves as a fossil display case. If you have time, visit the fascinating O. Orkin Insect Zoo.

Hirshhorn Sculpture Garden
It’s a very short walk from the Carousel to the sunken Hirshhorn Sculpture Garden, where modern and contemporary works are displayed in a serene landscaped setting. This is a great place for a rest.

The Carousel
Walk across the National Mall to ride the beautifully restored 1947 musical merry-go-round. Look for the one dragon among all the colorful horses. A nearby kiosk serves light lunch and snacks.

Air and Space Museum
The museum will energize young visitors with its wealth of aircraft and spacecraft, some of which they can walk right into. Visit How Things Fly, which has more than 50 interactive exhibits that teach the principles of flight. Conclude your day with an IMAX film.