

WELCOME

to the Thomas Jefferson Building!



Chaperones are responsible for students' behavior and whereabouts.



The Library asks that 1 adult accompany every 8 students.

A larger group should divide into smaller groups, each led by a teacher or adult.

GUIDELINES and TIPS for Groups:



Watch your step. Stairs are uneven and floors may be slippery.



WALK! Do NOT run, roughhouse, or slide down handrails.



KEEP RIGHT. Do NOT stop on the stairs.



Do not **CROWD** doorways, stairwells and corridors. Do NOT sit on stairs or floors.



Photography is permitted. FLASH photography is prohibited in the Main Reading Room overlook and in all exhibition spaces.



Observe signage. DO NOT ENTER areas that are restricted or roped off.



Silence all cell phones and other electronic devices. Do NOT use while in motion.



Dispose of any open food, drink, and chewing gum before your visit.



Present all bags, purses, backpacks, etc. for inspection as you EXIT.



COUNT to be sure everyone is with your group **BEFORE** leaving the Library.

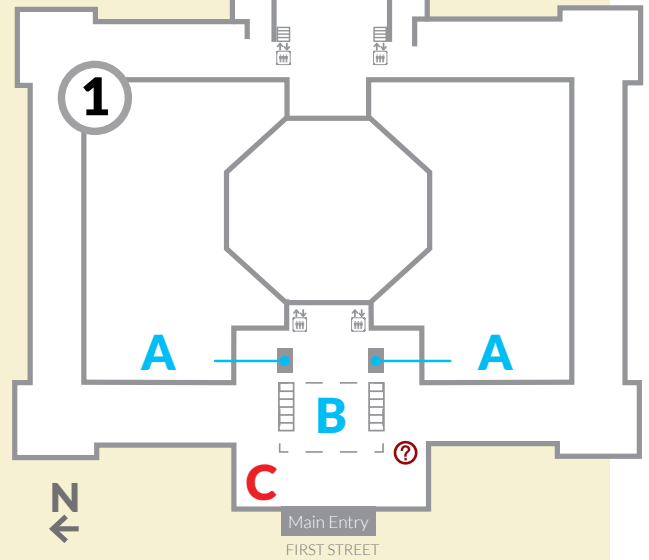
The Library of Congress was established in 1800. This building, named for Thomas Jefferson, opened in 1897. The original collections were housed in the Capitol Building.

The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world with more than 158 million items in its collections, including books, photographs, maps, sound recordings, films, and manuscripts.

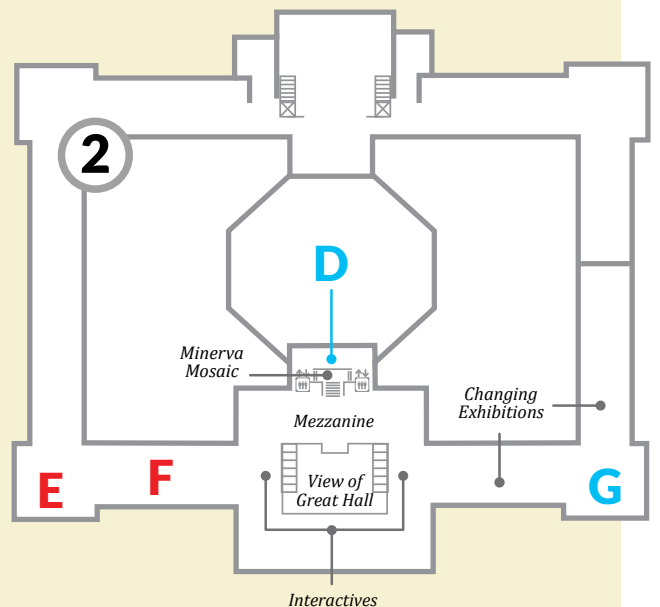


Suggested itineraries: ■ 15 to 30 mins. ■ 30-60+ mins.

- A** The **Giant Bible of Mainz** and the **Gutenberg Bible** were both created in Mainz, Germany, in the early 1450s.
 - *The Giant Bible of Mainz was entirely handwritten by a scribe with a quill. The Gutenberg Bible was the first book printed using a movable metal type printing press in Western Europe.*
- B** The Jefferson Building was designed to be a library. **The Great Hall's** decorations, art, and architecture relate to learning, literature, knowledge, creativity, and achievement. The triangular vaults near the ceiling contain names of the world's leading writers and thinkers.
- C** **Abel Buell's New and Correct Map of the United States of North America** is the first map of the newly independent United States compiled, printed, and published in America by an American.
- D** The **Main Reading Room** (overlook) is the largest and most elaborate of the Library's 20 research centers. The plaster female figures around the room represent 8 subjects for study. The 16 bronze statues beneath them portray men recognized for their achievements in these areas, such as art and history.
- E** The **Waldseemüller 1507 world map** was the first map to use the name "America." This is the only known surviving copy.
- F** **Exploring the Early Americas** features selections from the more than 3,000 rare maps, documents, paintings, prints, and artifacts that make up the Jay I. Kislak Collection at the Library of Congress.
- G** British soldiers burned the Capitol in 1814 during the War of 1812, destroying the Library's original collections. In January 1815, Congress purchased **Thomas Jefferson's personal collection of 6,487 books** to re-establish the Library.



Main Reading Room:
Please line up and follow staff directions.
Wait times may be up to 15 minutes.



EXIT, RESTROOMS AND SHOP AT GROUND LEVEL