

Minnesota State Capitol

A Social Narrative



MINNESOTA
STATE
CAPITOL



MINNESOTA
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Welcome

I am going to the Minnesota
State Capitol today!



Overview

I will explore the Minnesota State Capitol. I will see art and learn about Minnesota's government.

I might see where lawyers and judges work. I might see where laws are made.



Entering the Capitol

There are different ways to enter the Capitol building.

I might walk up the stairs and enter through the main doors.



Entering the Capitol

I might enter through a door
in the archway below the
stairs.

This is the accessible entrance.



Security

I might have to go through a security screening station.

I will walk through sensors and if I have a bag, officers will put my bag through a scanner.

Security varies at the Capitol.

I can learn more on [Department of Public Safety website](#).



The Capitol is busy!

Many people come to the State Capitol for different reasons!

It might be very busy and loud the day I visit. I might get to meet some of the people who work here.



Information Desk

I will begin my trip at the Information Desk.

I can go on a guided tour or pick-up a self-guided tour pamphlet. The pamphlet will show me where different rooms, restrooms and exits are.



Guided Tour

If I go on a guided tour, I will listen and ask questions by raising my hand. My tour will take 45 minutes but I can leave at any time.

Different events happen in the Capitol so the rooms I visit may be different than those I see in this Social Narrative.



Restrooms

There are many restrooms on every floor of the Capitol. All are accessible.

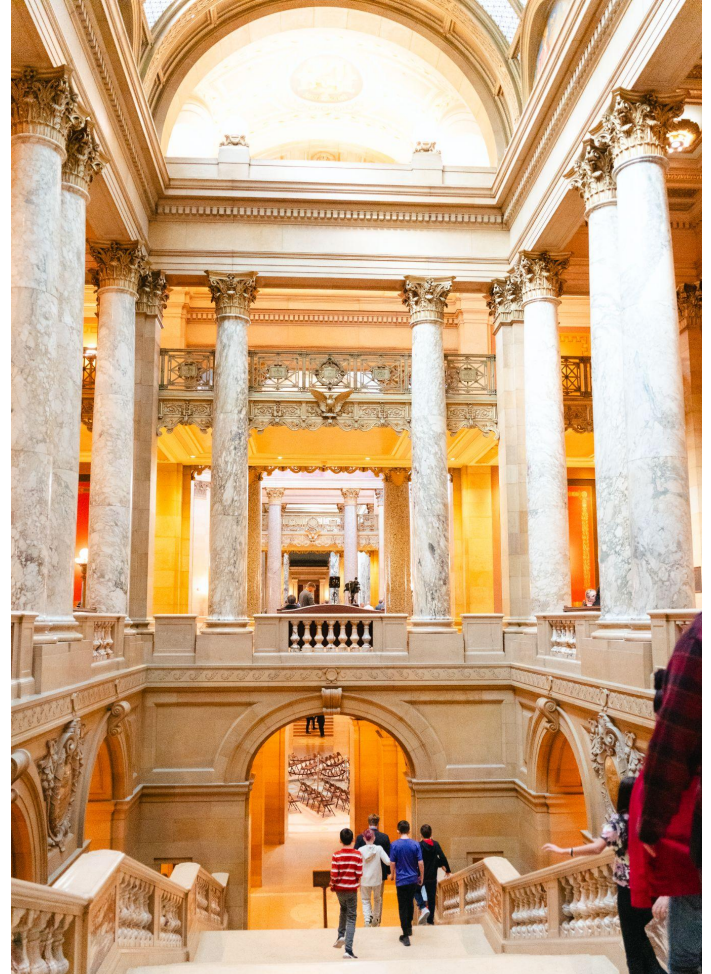
I'll check in with my group members if I need to use the restroom during my visit.



Museum manners

I will follow the rules at the Minnesota State Capitol. I will stay with my group. To protect the building, I will not bring food or drinks inside.

People are doing important jobs here. I will use a quiet voice so they can work.



Capitol staff

The museum staff will be there to help me on my field trip. They can answer my questions. Museum staff wear State Capitol blue shirts or blazers.

I may also see security guards or police officers wearing uniforms and badges at the Minnesota State Capitol. They are there to help keep me safe.



Moving around the Capitol

There are many large staircases at the Capitol!

My group might climb many steep stairs to get to the roof.



Moving around the Capitol

There are also elevators and ramps to get into rooms.

I will be able to enter every room that the tour guide brings me to. I can ask a staff person if I can't find a ramp.



Taking a break

If I need to take a break, that is okay!
There is a quiet space at the Capitol
for my break.

The ground level, basement, and 3rd
floors are the quietest spaces. There
are benches I can sit on. I can relax
until I am ready to rejoin my group.



Changes

The Capitol is always changing!
People use the rooms at the Capitol
for many different reasons. If an area
is closed, other people might be
using it! If something is closed, it
may be open next time!



Rotunda

I will enter a big room called a rotunda. This room has very high ceilings and lots of different lights. This room has colorful art and flags.

In the center of the room there is a golden North Star on the floor. Many people love to look at this room, so it can be loud and echoey.

If I need a break, I can leave or view the rotunda from the second or third floor.



Governor's Reception Room

If the door is open, I can visit the Governor's Reception Room and learn about artwork and see where the governor has press conferences or signs bills. We'll have to pass security guards to get here.



House of Representatives Gallery

I can look at the House Chamber from the second floor chamber entrance.

If the legislators are in session, I will sit down and be very quiet. I will listen and leave when I am ready.



Senate Gallery

I can look at the Senate Chamber from the second floor chamber entrance.

If the legislators are in session, I will sit down and be very quiet. I will listen and leave when I am ready.



Supreme Court Chamber

If I am on a guided tour, I can go into the Supreme Court Chamber.

If I am on a Self-Guided Tour, I can view the Supreme Court through the gate on the second floor.



Quadriga

If I am on a guided tour and the weather is nice, I can visit the roof and see the golden horses (Quadriga).

There are 63 steps up to the roof on a narrow winding stairway. I will be careful and stay with my group while on the roof. The wind might be strong.

If I do not want to be up high, I can stay downstairs.



Third Floor Public Spaces

If I need a quiet space, I can visit the third floor.

There, I can stop in the art gallery and enjoy a break from loud and busier areas of the capitol.



Rathskeller Cafeteria

If I go into the basement, I can visit the Rathskeller Cafeteria. I can have food and rest there. There might be others eating there and that is okay.

If I need a quiet space, I can find a place in the basement.



**We look forward
to your visit!**



Questions?

Visit our website at
mnhs.info/public-sn-capitol,
call, or email.

Phone: 651-296-2881

Email: statecapitol@mnhs.org

