

**Ability Guidebooks
presents
Explore Tallinn, Estonia!**



I Am Going To The KUMU!
A Step-by-Step Guide On How To Visit The Museum
by
Brett Bigham

The KUMU is a famous museum in Tallinn. The KUMU is a terrific place to visit. There are two doors to enter the museum. This is where you enter from Kadriorg Park.



This entrance is on the ground floor. This is where the restaurant is if you need a snack or a drink.

If you enter from Kadriorg Park you take the ramp up to the first floor to buy your ticket.



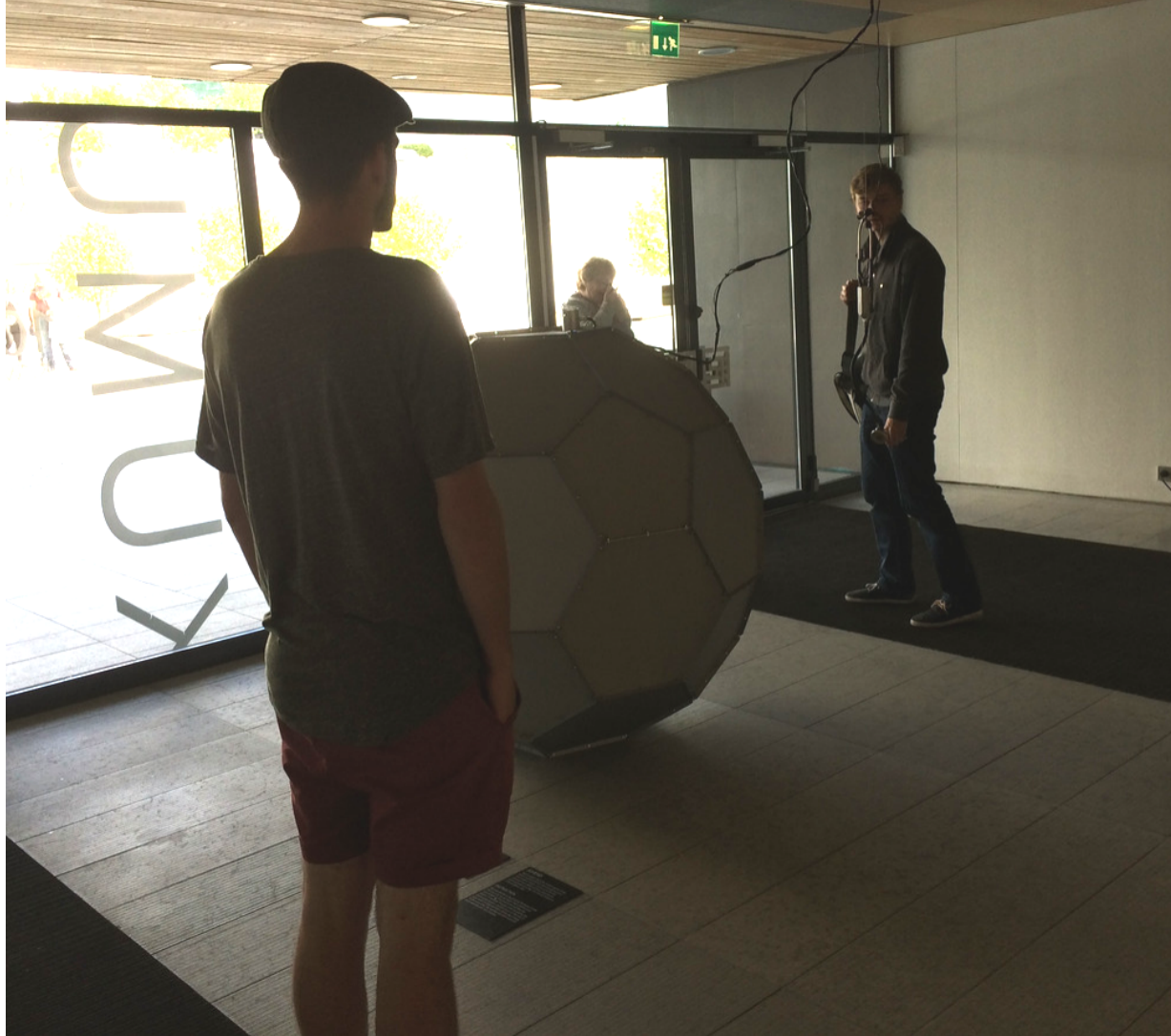
There are signs on the wall to follow if you aren't sure where to go. We want to go to the "Exhibitions".

This is the front door.



These men are excited to visit the art museum. They know there are rule to follow. They know not to run and not to touch the art!

Right inside the door is a modern art sculpture. These men are looking at the art but they are not touching it.



They are doing a great job of following the rules!

This is where you buy your ticket. This man is waiting his turn. He knows he has to use a quiet voice at the museum.



When you buy your ticket they will give you a receipt and a round sticker. Put the receipt in your pocket and stick the sticker on your shirt!



Why do you think they want you to wear a sticker?

The sticker is so that the museum workers know you have bought a ticket! See this man? He has a sticker so we know he has bought a ticket.



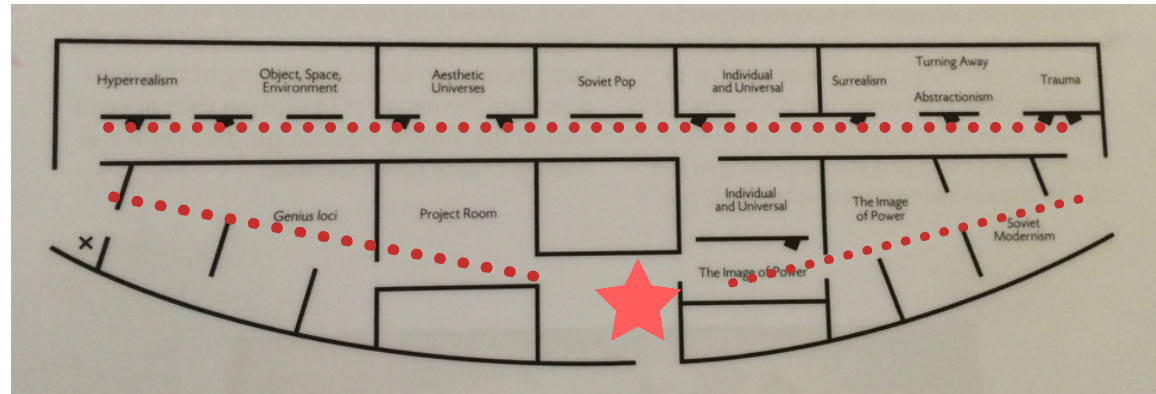
Remember that the museum is a serious place. Make sure you walk up the ramps!

If you have bags or a coat you don't want to carry, you can leave them here at the coat check.



This is a safe place to leave your coat. See the lady who works here? It is her job to keep your coat safe! She will give you a ticket to keep. When you leave give her the ticket and she will give you back your coat!

On each floor they also have a map on the wall by the elevators.



Each floor is broken up in galleries. Enter through the sliding doors by the elevator. The red star shows where the sliding door is. Each floor follows the same pattern. Loop around through the galleries to get back to where you started.

Each floor of the KUMU has a different type of art. The lower floors have more traditional works by Estonian painters and sculptors. The upper floors have Soviet Era and modern art.



This room is on the lower floor. You can get very close to the statues but remember not to touch them!

**Here are some paintings that you will see at the museum.
I wonder what painting will be your favorite?**



One room has nothing but busts! These are statues of Estonian people. Some are very old and some are newer.



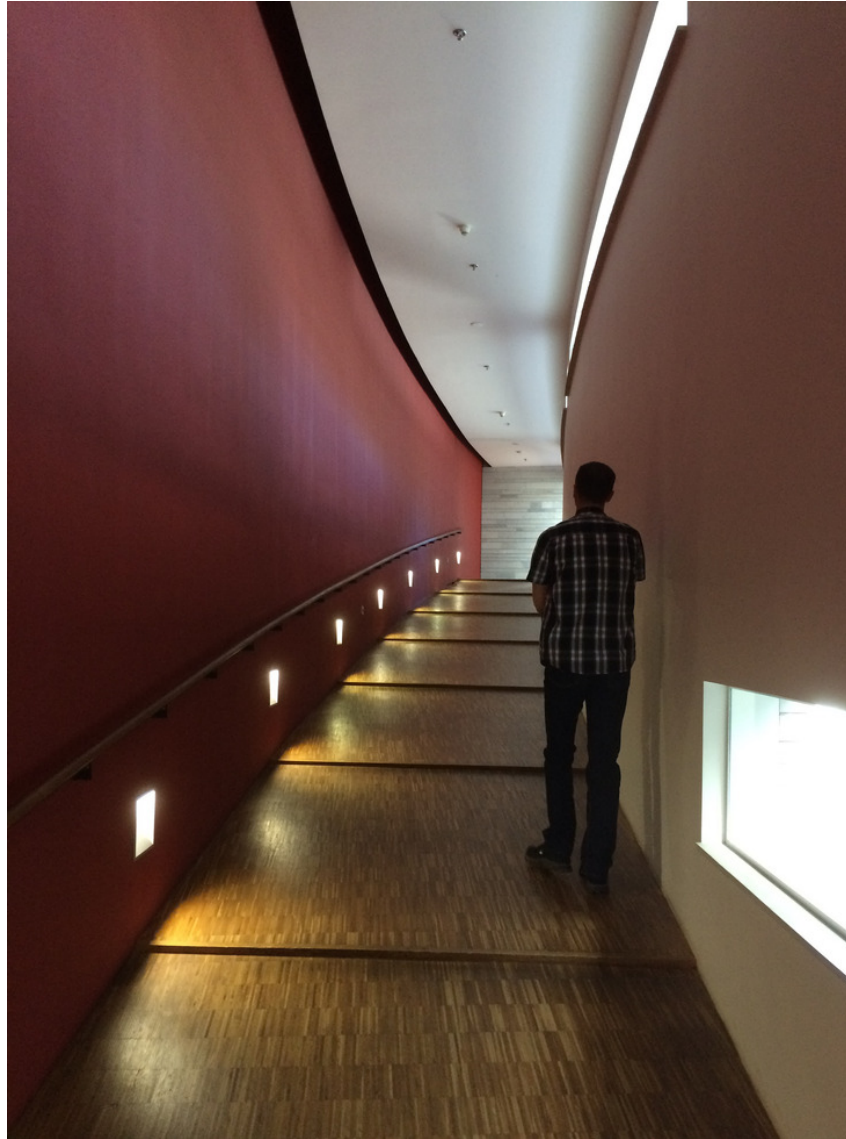
**This room has benches you can sit on but it is a noisy room.
There are recordings of music and voices playing.**

This man needed to take a break so he found a bench to sit on. Next to the bench are information sheets about the art in the room.



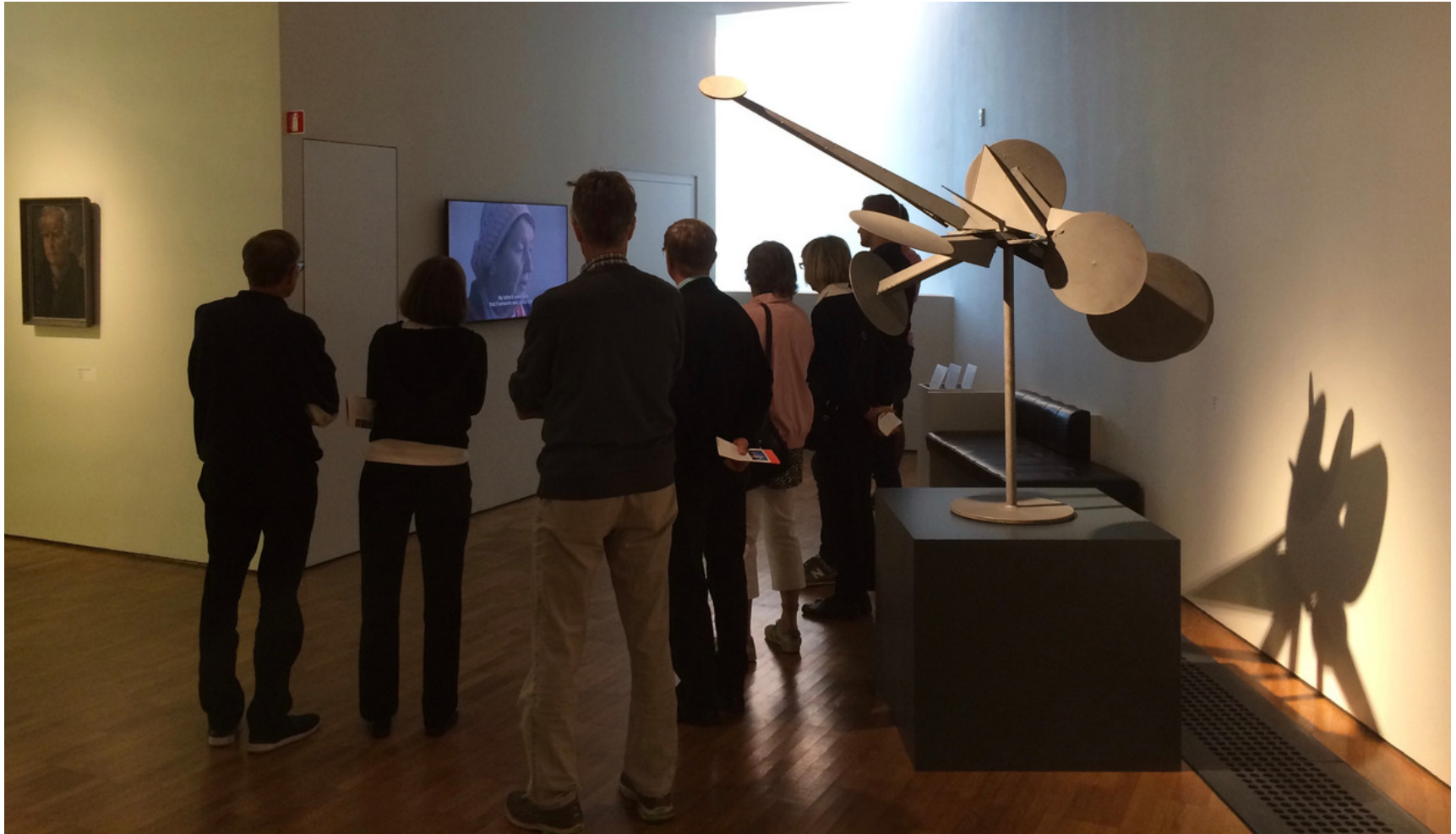
While he rests he is going to read about the art.

You can walk up the ramps or take the elevator to the next floor.



Remember to walk up the ramps!

On the upper floors there are films to watch and some moving art. These people are watching a video.



They know not to get too close to the sculpture. They are doing great job following the rules.

Here is some modern art. Don't touch the kitties!



Some of the art is very big! This man is following the rules and not getting too close to the art.



I bet you will see some art at the KUMU that you really like!

**On the way out you can stop in the shop and buy a postcard
a souvenir.**



**I hope you enjoy your visit to the KUMU. It is Estonia's
biggest museum and has terrific art!**

Tips For Visiting Kadriorg Park and the surrounding area.

The park contains a large number of destinations for you to visit. At the lower end there is a small lake with fountains, statues, trees and flower gardens. This is more of a traditional park area with seating and grassy areas.

The park contains a large playground with a variety of play equipment. This area is for younger children but is well set up and fenced for safety.

The rest of the park is terraced with trees lining the paths and streets. There is a minimal amount of car traffic but above the palace is the home of the President of Estonia. You can walk near the President's home but there are guards and more traffic. Farther along is the KUMU.

If new situations are difficult for you or your students I'd suggest just visiting the park and walking around for a first visit. Later visits could include the formal garden behind the Kadriorg museum and the play area. The Mikkel Museum was very quiet and very easy to visit. It is on two floors but only has a couple of rooms to maneuver through. The Kadriorg Museum is bigger and had substantially more people visiting. The KUMU is a large facility and the most overwhelming of the three museums. It is much more interactive with modern art, films to watch and more areas to sit and rest. The KUMU would be more interesting to younger viewers because of the moving and interactive art.

Be prepared for nudity in the museums. If a museum includes nudity I try to include it in the books so that parents and teachers have a chance to address it beforehand.

Ability Guidebooks are step-by-step instructions on how to access community destinations. For many people with autism and neuro-diversity, new situations can cause stress and discomfort. Ability Guidebooks help prepare people for new experiences. This is why I emphasize the places to sit and areas to relax.

This book will also help general ed teachers prepare their young students for a visit to the museum.



Can You Translate?

**If you can translate this book into Estonian or any other language
I would love to hear from you!**

Brett Bigham is the 2014 Oregon State Teacher of the Year and an NEA National Award for Teaching Excellence winner. Bigham is the first Oregon Special Education teacher to win these awards.

Bigham was named a Global Fellow by the NEA Foundation and traveled to Peru as an ambassador of that program. This allowed Bigham to create his first international Ability Guidebook for the Museo de Inka in Cusco, Peru. He has since made books for Greece, Italy, Croatia, Montenegro, Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Montenegro.

Text and Photos by Brett Bigham unless otherwise noted.

**Thank you to the city of Tallinn and the staff of the Mikkel Museum.
Special thanks to Mike for giving up part of his weekend for proofreading.**

Visit MrBsClassroom.com for more Ability Guidebooks.