

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



I Am Going To The Mikkel Museum!

A Step-by-Step Guide On How To Visit The Museum

by
Brett Bigham

The Mikkel Museum is a small museum in Tallinn, Estonia. It is across the street from the Kadriorg Art Museum. When you visit the Mikkel you can see the Kadriorg garden!



The Mikkel Museum costs money to visit but the gardens are free!

The museum is located in Kadriorg Park. There are fountains, trees and a playground in the park.



Kadriorg Park is a great place to go for a walk!

**When you visit the Mikkel Museum you have to buy a ticket.
This man likes art and is excited to visit!**



He knows museums are serious places so he has learned the rules. He knows he has to walk, use a quiet inside voice and he knows to never touch the art!

The first floor of the museum mostly has paintings. Here are some of the paintings you will see.



I wonder what painting at the museum will be your favorite?

This is important! The museum has some antique furniture on the first floor. Do not sit on this furniture! These chairs are very old and are only to look at.

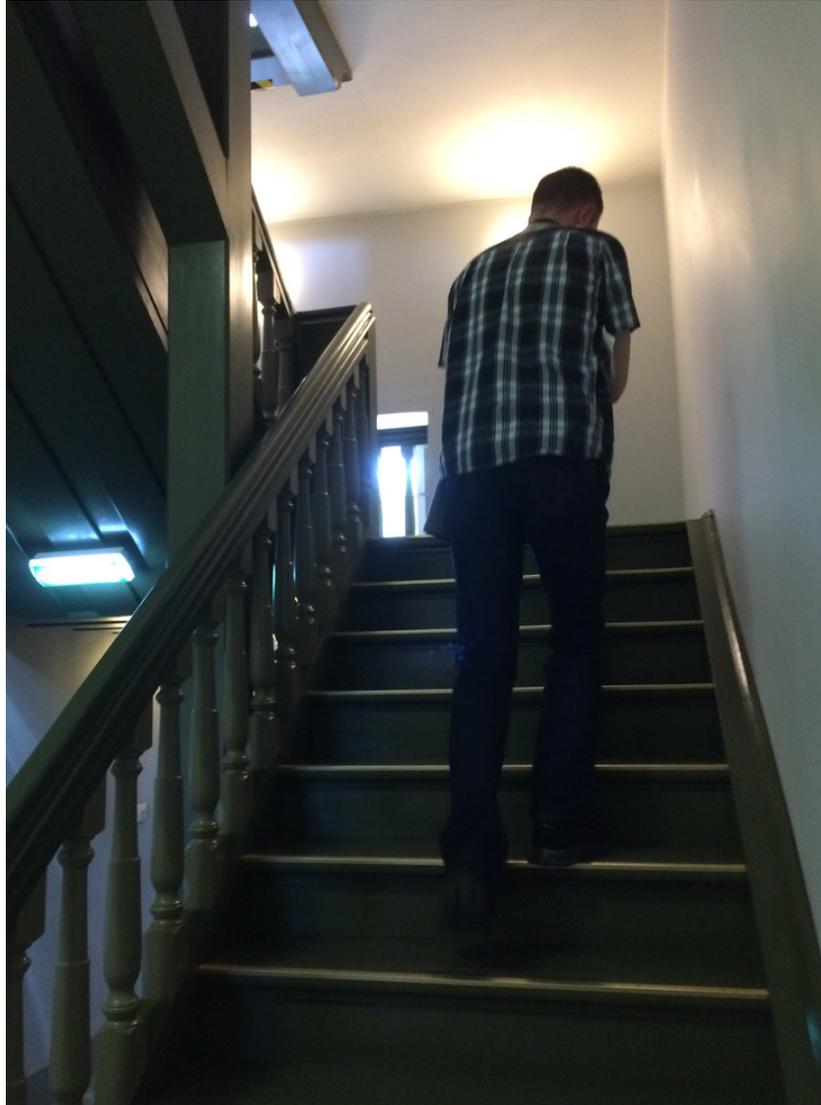


Remember where you bought your ticket? If you need a break there are places to sit in the lobby.



See those benches? It is OK to sit on those benches!

After looking at the paintings you can go upstairs to see more art!



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

Upstairs there are cases of glass and pottery.



Make sure that you don't touch the cases. Glass and pottery is very fragile.

If you need a break while you are upstairs there are benches to sit on and one room has a table where you can sit and color pictures!



This is a good room to rest and take a break!

I hope you enjoy your trip to the Mikkel Museum!



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 Kadriorg Museum.
Special thanks to Mike for giving up part of his weekend for proofreading.**

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