



# SAM DISCOVERIES CHICAGO | MAY 12-17, 2025



SARASOTA  
ART  
MUSEUM / Ringling College  
of Art + Design





Photo by Nancy Guth

## TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- 5 nights/6 days in Chicago with luxury accommodations at The Ritz-Carlton
- The Ritz-Carlton Club Level access with daily breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, hors d'oeuvres and beverages (including wine, beer and cocktails)
- Private tour and behind-the-scenes access at **The Art Institute of Chicago** and **Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago**
- Welcome and farewell dinners
- Group lunches (3) and private cocktail receptions (2) with members of the Chicago art community
- Visits to selected sites, including **Chicago Botanic Garden, Smart Museum of Art, The Renaissance Society, Chicago Architecture Center** and **Wrightwood 659**
- Guest speakers, private collections and other special activities to be announced
- Luxury transportation for all group activities
- All taxes and gratuities for group activities and meals
- Tax-deductible donation to Sarasota Art Museum

*All activities are subject to change*



Dear Friends,

I am excited to announce our next trip with **SAM Discoveries** – our museum's travel program! As a SAM Discoveries traveler, you will enjoy curated experiences with exclusive access to artists, studios, private collections, contemporary art spaces and more, all in the company of other arts enthusiasts and SAM supporters.

Come immerse yourself in Chicago's thriving cultural scene, through one-of-a-kind excursions customized for arts explorers like you. Contemporary art is a trip highlight, with private behind-the-scenes tours of **The Art Institute of Chicago** and **Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago**, and visits to Smart Museum of Art and The Renaissance Society - both part of The University of Chicago – and the innovative art space Wrightwood 659. The City takes center stage as we cruise the Chicago River with experts from the Chicago Architecture Center. Add in a tour of one of the world's preeminent private photography collections, a spring day outdoors at Chicago Botanic Garden, private dining experiences, and special guest speakers and activities, for a metropolitan adventure that's truly priceless.

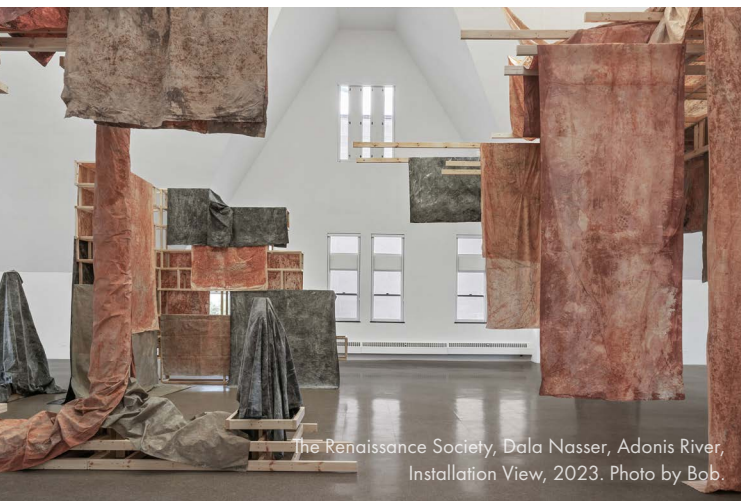
Join us in discovering new places and ideas, while supporting Sarasota Art Museum in its mission. We look forward to taking this trip with you, and creating new memories for years to come!

*Virginia Shearer*

Virginia Shearer  
Executive Director

Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago  
north staircase





The Renaissance Society, Dala Nasser, Adonis River, Installation View, 2023. Photo by Bob.



## ITINERARY

**MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025** Upon checking in at the hotel, you will have time to relax and unpack before joining the group for a meet & greet at the on-site bar and lounge. We will finish the evening with a Welcome Dinner at an off-site location.

**TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025** The day will begin with a private tour of **The Art Institute of Chicago**, founded in 1879, and one of the oldest and largest art museums in the United States. Its permanent collection spans nearly 300,000 works of art including more than 30 annual special exhibitions that illuminate aspects of the collection and present curatorial and scientific research. The Art Institute is associated with the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) which is internationally regarded as one of the best art schools and top fine arts colleges in the country. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant, followed by free time to explore the city. The evening will include a cocktail reception with members of the Chicago art community.

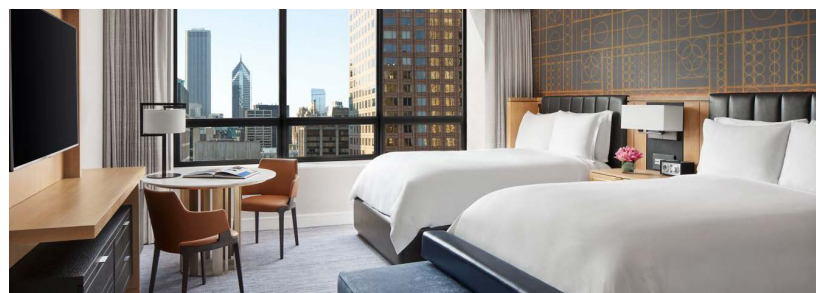
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2025** Spend the morning touring the **Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago**, one of the world's largest museums dedicated to contemporary art. With more than 2,000 works, MCA exhibits new and experimental work in all media, and collects and preserves contemporary art for future generations. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before touring **Smart Museum of Art** – the fine arts museum of the University of Chicago, as well as **The Renaissance Society** - a leading independent contemporary art museum located at the University of Chicago, with a focus on commissioning and producing new works by international artists. Enjoy dinner on your own (*with an optional evening theatre or musical performance*).

**THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025** In the morning, we will travel north of the city to Glencoe for a day at **Chicago Botanic Garden** – a 385-acre botanical garden situated on nine islands in the Cook County Forest Preserves. Explore the 27 gardens and extensive grounds on your own with walking and tram tours, exhibitions, shopping, and dining at their Garden View Café. In the afternoon, we will head back to the city for some free time before enjoying a private photography collection and cocktail reception at the home of Richard and Ellen Sandor.

**FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025** On our last day, we will visit the **Chicago Architecture Center** which offers 10,000 square feet of exhibition space filled with super-sized models and views of the city's iconic skyscrapers. Their expertly-trained staff will then take us on the famous Architecture River Cruise, which will offer fascinating stories behind more than 50 buildings along the Chicago River. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before touring **Wrightwood 659**. Designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Tadao Ando, this 1920s building has been transformed into a new exhibition space conceived for the presentation of exhibitions of architecture and socially-engaged art. Enjoy some free time before our Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant.

**SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2025** Individual departures.





## ACCOMMODATIONS

**The Ritz-Carlton, Chicago** offers an iconic address that unites the city, lake and sky in a vibrant and luxurious setting. Located in Chicago's Gold Coast neighborhood, their revitalized lobbies, guestroom suites, Club Lounge, spa, fitness center, dining offerings and social venues have been thoughtfully-designed, taking cues from Chicago's bold architecture and modern influence. The guest rooms offer spacious layouts, marble bathrooms and stunning views of Lake Michigan, Navy Pier or the Chicago skyline. On-site dining includes Torali Italian-Steak by Executive Chef Guenther Moreno, which features a restaurant, bar, rooftop and café. Hotel amenities include marble bathroom with separate bathtub and shower; luxury bedding and bath amenities; complimentary Wi-Fi; laundry service; in-room dining; indoor pool; spa; fitness center; valet parking; and Club Level access with daily breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, hors d'oeuvres and beverages (including wine, beer and cocktails).

## PRICING

### SINGLE OCCUPANCY | \$6,195\*

King Room with one King bed and Club Level Access. 410 sq. ft.

### DOUBLE OCCUPANCY | \$12,390\*

King Room with one King bed and Club Level Access **OR**

Double Room\*\* with two double beds and Club Level Access. 410 sq. ft.

#### PRICES INCLUDE:

- Group activities and meals
- Luxury transportation for group activities and meals
- All taxes and gratuities for group activities and meals
- \$1,000 per person, non-refundable, tax deductible donation to Sarasota Art Museum

#### PRICES EXCLUDE:

- Airfare
- Airport transfers
- Travel insurance
- Meals and activities not listed on the itinerary

\*These rates are based on a minimum of 35 participants. In the event that an insufficient number of participants sign up, SAM reserves the right to cancel the tour and refund all deposits.

\*\*Double Rooms are limited, and will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**HEALTH** Travelers are asked to consider their health before registering for the trip. In many cases, the itinerary will require extended periods of walking and/or standing. Reasonable accommodations will be made for guests using wheelchairs. Travelers are responsible for bringing required prescription medication on the trip, and for their own medical costs, and medical transportation should unforeseen and unfortunate circumstances occur. Persons who leave the tour after it commences will receive no refund for unused services.

**RESPONSIBILITY** By completing and signing the reservation form, travelers agree to waive all claims and suits against, defend, release and hold harmless Sarasota Art Museum of Ringling College, its officers, agents, representatives and affiliated support organizations of any and all liability for personal injury, property damage or loss whatsoever. Sarasota Art Museum is not responsible for loss or additional expenses due to delays related to departure, arrival, illness, weather, strikes, acts of God or any other causes beyond their control.

## RESERVATIONS

**A required non-refundable, tax-deductible deposit of \$1,000 per person is due at the time of booking.**

Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover Card or check (payable to Sarasota Art Museum) will be accepted. Rooms will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

#### PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- Time of booking \$1,000 per person
- November 13, 2024 50% of the remaining balance
- February 11, 2025 (90 days) Remaining balance

#### FINAL PAYMENT IS DUE **FEBRUARY 11, 2025**

Cancellation policy: All cancellations will be assessed a tax-deductible donation to Sarasota Art Museum of \$1,000 per person. Cancellation requests must be made in writing to SAM's Director of Special Events. If the request is received at least 181 days prior to trip date (November 12, 2024), a refund of deposit, less the SAM donation, will be made. Later cancellations will be assessed the following charges:

Days Prior to Trip	Cancellation Fee
180 to 91	50% of total trip cost
90 to 31	75% of total trip cost
30 to 0	100% of total trip cost

**ITINERARY** Every effort will be made to adhere to the itinerary provided to each traveler in advance of departure. SAM reserves the right to make alterations or substitutions if unforeseen circumstances exist or if new opportunities become available.

## CONTACT

Laura Stuart Wood

Director of Special Events

941-309-4321 or lwood1@ringling.edu

SARASOTAARTMUSEUM.ORG/TRAVEL



Please complete the information below.  
Reservations are limited and rooms will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

## SAM DISCOVERIES CHICAGO | MAY 12-17, 2025

NAME(S)

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

HOME PHONE

CELL PHONE

EMAIL

☐ I have read the terms and conditions/cancellation policy listed in the trip brochure

☐ **SINGLE OCCUPANCY | \$6,195**

Time of booking      **\$1,000** tax-deductible, non-refundable deposit  
November 13, 2024      **\$2,597.50** 50% of the remaining balance  
February 11, 2025 (90 days)      **\$2,597.50** final payment

☐ **DOUBLE OCCUPANCY | \$12,390**

Time of booking      **\$2,000** tax-deductible, non-refundable deposit  
November 13, 2024      **\$5,195** 50% of the remaining balance  
February 11, 2025 (90 days)      **\$5,195** final payment

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

☐ **Check** (payable to Sarasota Art Museum)

☐ **Credit card** (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover)

CREDIT CARD #

EXP. DATE

SECURITY CODE

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD

BILLING ZIP CODE

SIGNATURE

☐ Charge my card for the full amount

☐ Charge my card according to the payment schedule I've selected above

Sarasota Art Museum of Ringling College is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.  
Your gift is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

### RETURN REGISTRATION FORM TO:

Laura Stuart Wood, Director of Special Events

**Email:** lwood1@ringling.edu

**Mail:** Sarasota Art Museum, 1001 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34236

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