



George Washington by Gilbert Stuart, State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Gilbert Stuart Birthplace & Museum



A Rhode Island Treasure



Come to Learn & Discover

Learn about the life and portraits of Gilbert Stuart

Learn about daily life in the 1700's

Learn about waterpower technology through waterwheels

Learn how corn was ground in the 300-year-old Hammond Gristmill

Explore our herb gardens, woodland trails, streams, and birds

Enjoy scenic views of the 57-acre Carr Pond

Rent a rowboat and fish or take a quiet tour of the pristine pond

Explore exhibits and art sales by local artists

Paint or photograph on the grounds

A Registered National Historic Landmark

815 Gilbert Stuart Road, Saunderstown, RI 02874
Phone (401) 294-3001 | www.gilbertstuartmuseum.org

OPEN

Thursdays – Mondays
Closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays
Early May through September
October limited hours

HOURS

11:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
Sunday 12:00 – 4:00 P.M.
Guided tours on the hour
Last tour 3:00 P.M.

Admission fee is charged
Members free

Group tours require a reservation
Boat rentals available to members

Grounds rentals available for weddings, photographs, and parties

LOCATION

We are located at 815 Gilbert Stuart Road, between Routes 1 and 1A in Saunderstown, Rhode Island. Visit our website www.gilbertstuartmuseum.org for detailed directions.



Gilbert Stuart *portrait artist*

Gilbert Stuart is often called America's foremost portrait artist. Stuart is best known for his Athenaeum portrait of George Washington, which is the image we see on the U.S. one dollar bill. He painted over one thousand portraits, immortalizing Presidents Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, John Adams, and John Quincy Adams, heroes of the Revolution and War of 1812, prominent statesmen, and society men and women of the day. Gilbert Stuart's portraits can be seen in fine art museums and galleries all over the world. Stuart was born December 3, 1755 in the gambrel-roofed house above his father's snuff mill. The Stuart family lived here for eleven years.

The Museum & Grounds

Take a step back in time. Visit the authentically restored and furnished 1750 home of the Stuart family and learn about the life of one of America's best-known portraitists. This eighteenth century workingman's home is a showplace for reproductions of Stuart's works and is the site of the first snuff mill in America. Beneath the window of Gilbert's tiny room, water diverted from the millpond turns the wooden undershot waterwheel. Watch as the wooden gears turn to power the snuff mill, used to grind tobacco in colonial times.

Located on 23 acres in Saunterstown, the museum is set in the woods on a beautiful millpond and stream, with colonial herb gardens and nature trails filled with wildlife. A fish ladder, installed by the Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife, allows thousands of migrating river herring to pass over the dam to spawn upstream each spring. The Gilbert Stuart Birthplace and Museum is a unique experience.

18th Century Gristmill

The fully restored eighteenth century Hammond Gristmill houses the original granite millstones used to grind local whitecap flint corn into corn meal for the famous Rhode Island jonnycakes. You can feel the power of the water as the waterwheel begins to turn. Hear the rumble of the millstones as the miller grinds corn several times a year. Truly an exceptional experience.



Corn grinding on Old Mill Day

Individuals, Families, Class Trips

Explore on your own, bring your whole family for a day of discovery and picnicking, plan a tour for your group, or an educational field trip for your students. History, art, and nature - the Gilbert Stuart Birthplace and Museum creates a memorable experience.

Artist in Residence Program

Each year, hundreds of artists participate in our Artists-in-Residence Program and come to paint or photograph on the grounds of the museum. Artwork from these local artists is highlighted in our art shows and sales held throughout the year.

Our mission

With a focus on history, art, and nature, the museum has been named as a National Historic Landmark, determined to be significant in American history and culture, and is charged with the conservation of its natural setting.

As a private non-profit organization, we rely on admission fees, dues, and donations to cover our daily operating expenses. Your donations are welcome.