



T H E W I L L E Y H O U S E

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT ARCHITECT



INTIMATE GROUP TOURS ARE
NOW AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT
YEAR ROUND.

EXPERIENCE WRIGHT'S FIRST HOUSE DESIGNED TO SERVE THE MIDDLE CLASS, built for Malcolm and Nancy Willey in 1934. This immersive tour reveals exclusive stories behind the people, history, restoration, architectural achievements and experiential nature of the house.

The Willey House represents a unique bridge between Prairie and Usonia, the two great periods in Frank Lloyd Wright's career. This petite, 1930s residence anticipates the modern movement and sets the agenda for Wright's vision for the new America (Broadacre City). Relevant to today, it offers us a model for gracious, sustainable living in the new millennium. By any measure the Willey House is a masterpiece of American architecture not to be missed. **Meticulously restored, and for the first time ever, complete with all the furnishings and built-ins that Wright designed for it. More than 80 years after ground was broken, this tour at last reveals the house as neither the Willeys and nor Wright ever saw it - in a completed state, as a total work of art.**

"I began to see a building primarily not as a cave but as a broad shelter in the open, related to vista. Vista without and vista within."

- FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT, *The Natural House*

THE WILLEY HOUSE

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

- FIRST Frank Lloyd Wright commission to be built during the Great Depression, resulting in the collapse of the American economy and Wright's architectural practice 5 years prior.
- FIRST commission by a new generation of client; the young, well-educated and servant-less couple of moderate means.
- FIRST in a long line of young couples drawn to Wright after publication of his Autobiography.
- FIRST architectural work for the fledgling Taliesin Fellowship, founded in 1932.
- FIRST architect designed house in America featuring a revolutionary open plan kitchen (workspace) completely exposed to the living room.
- FIRST Wright design in which all rooms of the house took on a new importance, a beauty and utility. Because young, middle class clients had no servants, they lived in every room of the house.
- FIRST plan with an inline arrangement of rooms, establishing the basis for two decades of Usonian houses to follow.
- FIRST commission prior to Wright's most celebrated; Fallingwater, the house that reignited Wright's career and global celebrity.

An exhaustive, historical restoration begun in 2002 faithfully recaptured the original features of the building and also completed countless, unexecuted elements of Wright's original, comprehensive design scheme for the house. The fully realized masonry, built-ins, and furnishings allow visitors to experience for the first time in the history of the house, Frank Lloyd Wright's total vision for the Willeys.

This house is best experienced in small groups. Our in-depth, engaging tours are kept intentionally intimate so that emphasis is placed upon the experience of the spaces.



"The Willey House is always at the top of the list when attendees of my tours reflect on what they liked in a tour. They are thrilled not only by the beauty and functionality of the house's design but also by the quality of the restoration."

– RICHARD L. KRONICK, ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

www.thewilleyhouse.com

LENGTH: 60-90 MINUTES

GROUP SIZE: 10-16

CONTACT US ABOUT LARGER GROUPS

FOR INQUIRIES AND RESERVATIONS

CONTACT US AT:

Reservations@thewilleyhouse.com