

May 8, 1995

The Smithsonian home Page

**<http://www.si.edu>**

Staff members throughout the Smithsonian—the largest museum and research complex in the world, with 16 museums and galleries, the National Zoo and several research centers— have participated in the development of a fully integrated, cross-referenced presentation of the Institution's sites, people and resources. The information is now available to everyone with a computer and a link to the World-Wide Web.

The Smithsonian Home Page gives users the opportunity to visit the Smithsonian in much the same way as visitors to the Mall do. Users can start by gathering general information at the "Castle," and then decide which Smithsonian facility to "visit." Or, they can go right to their favorite places or objects.

They can do even more. Using the "Perspectives" feature, they can bring together all the Smithsonian's knowledge about a single subject and create their own collections and exhibitions.

The Smithsonian Home Page offers more than 1,500 electronic pages and contains overviews in Spanish, German and French. Many Smithsonian facilities and offices have their own Home Pages. As time passes, more Home Pages will be created, and the existing ones will continue to grow.

#### Welcome

A message from the Secretary welcomes users. Video and audio clips of the Secretary are available to users with the appropriate software. Users can jump to an Overview of Smithsonian Museums, Navigating the Electronic Smithsonian, the Encyclopedia Smithsonian (answers to frequently asked questions) and information about Planning a Visit.

#### View from the Castle

A monthly message from the Secretary may be viewed as text or played as audio. There are links to Smithsonian News Releases and Secretary's Speeches.

#### What's New

A sampler of current Smithsonian exhibitions and activities, new and recent additions to the Smithsonian Web Server, a section describing the Electronic Smithsonian and current press releases

#### You and the Smithsonian

Information on becoming a member or donor; fellowship, internship and volunteer opportunities

#### Places

Information about the museums, galleries, research centers and offices, as well as a map of the National Mall.

Place listings give brief descriptions of Smithsonian facilities, their locations and hours. Users can also choose from the following activities: Calendar of Events and Activities, New and Temporary Exhibitions, Research, Education Activities.

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