

Frey II House Tour

Feb. 17–27, 2022 / During Modernism Week, Palm Springs Art Museum will offer tours of the Frey House II, the longtime hillside residence of architect Albert Frey. When it was built in 1964, the 800-square-foot glass and steel house — perched on the side of Mount San Jacinto — was at the highest elevation of any residence in the city. It enjoys views of the Coachella Valley, and a large boulder famously protrudes into the house, dividing the bedroom and living room and underscoring Frey’s interest in nature. Outside, the swimming pool and deck serve as the roof of the carport. Inside, the upper level features a dining/work table and bathroom, while the lower level includes a sitting area, master bedroom, and kitchen. Frey added a 300-square-foot guest bedroom in 1967, matching the curtains to the yellow encelia flowers that bloom each spring in the desert. As a bonus for visitors, tour tickets are also good for free admission to the Palm Springs Art Museum and the museum’s nearby Architecture and Design Center, where *The Modern Chair* exhibition is on view.



Modern Rancho Mirage

Ongoing / Architecture and design buffs can now visit more than 50 homes, communities, and sites of historic and architectural interest in Rancho Mirage. The nonprofit Preservation Mirage has published its architecture map to guide residents and visitors to architecture that can be easily located and seen from the street. Gated communities that contain significant architecture, such as Thunderbird Heights, are also indicated. “The map is designed to be a useful and informative tool,” says founder and president Melissa Riche, “but it’s also a crucial step toward our goal to treasure and preserve important architecture and to help people better understand what they sometimes take for granted.” The Preservation Mirage Architecture Map is available for download for \$5. preservationmirage.org

