Interactive Tour of Ellis Island


Go on the interactive tour of Ellis Island. There will be 10 stations. Read the texts, have a look at the photographs, listen to the stories and watch the short films. Complete the tasks.

Open an online dictionary too – so you can look up words you will need immediately.

- [https://www.leo.org/englisch-deutsch/](https://www.leo.org/englisch-deutsch/)
- [https://en-de.dict.cc/](https://en-de.dict.cc/)

Take notes in your folder – part special topics.

1. Introduction: Fill in the gaps.

More than 1 _____ million immigrants made their first stop in America at the Ellis Island Immigration Station between 2 ___________ and 3 ___________. In fact, more than 4 _____ percent of Americans can trace their family history back to Ellis Island.

2. 1st stop: The Passage
   a) Where did most immigrants who came to America through Ellis Island come from?
   b) What were some of the reasons why they wanted to emigrate to the USA.
   c) How long did the passage – that means the trip across the Atlantic Ocean – on the steamships last?
   d) What does the words "steerage" mean and refer to? Explain it in English.

3. 2nd stop: The Arrival
   a) What did the people on board of the steamships see first when they arrived at New York Harbor?
   b) Who went on board when the steamships arrived at New York Harbor and what did they do there?
   c) What happened to the steerage passengers?
   d) Who was the first immigrant who was processed at Ellis Island?
   e) Listen to Lawrence Meinwald from Poland. Summarize what he is talking about. How does he speak about the moment seeing the Statue of Liberty for the first time?

4. 3rd stop: The Ellis Island Baggage Room
   a) What did the officers who greeted the ferry boats pass out?
   b) What was the name of the room to which the immigrants had to go after the baggage room and what happened there?
   c) What does Manny Steen from Ireland tell us about the conditions at Ellis Island?
   d) When did he arrive at Ellis Island (month and year)? How old was he at this time?
   e) Did the immigration officers ask the people whether they can speak English or not?
   f) What kind of luggage or baggage did the steerage passengers have? Why?

5. 4th stop: The stairs to the Registry Room
   a) Who stood on the 2nd floor and what did they do there?
   b) What was the highest number of immigrants who were processed on a single day? When was it?
6. **5th stop the Registry Room**
   a) What’s another name for the Registry Room? Label picture 1 on the right.
   b) What’s so special of this room in picture 2 which is a historic photograph? What are the white things you can see? Why were they used?
   c) What was trachoma? What happened to people having it?
   d) What happened to women and children travelling alone?
   e) What happened to Lucy Attarian from Turkey in 1921?

7. **6th stop: The Medical Exam**
   a) What happened if the doctors believed someone was a risk for the public health?
   b) What does the X and the P stand for?
   c) How many people were sent back to their countries?
   d) Why was the family of Rachel Chenitz from Palestine almost be sent back to their home country in 1922?

8. **7th stop: The Legal Inspection**
   a) What were typical questions immigrants had to answer?
   b) What happened to Paul Lauric’s family from Yugoslavia in 1940?
   c) What was Ellis Island from 1924 to 1954?

9. **8th stop: Detainees**
   a) What were the two nicknames of Ellis Island?
   b) What’s the reason for the 2nd nickname?

10. **9th stop: The Stair of ______________________***
    a) Complete the headline.
    b) Label picture 4.
    c) Listen to Manny Steen from Ireland again. How much money did people need to be allowed to enter the US?
    d) What did people do because of this (in c)?

11. **10th stop: The ___________________________**
    a) Complete the headline.
    b) Why did the area on the 1st floor got the name?
    c) How were family members who had already been in the USA informed about the arrivals of their relatives?
    d) What’s so special about the story of Estelle Belford from Romania?
    e) How does she describe her parents’ reaction when they first met again?
    f) What did her father say to his wife (Estelle’s mum)?

**Extra: If there is still time watch the 30 minutes virtual field trip.**

http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/immigration/webcast.htm