



London  
The British Museum

How did a “collection of curiosities” become the world’s leading museum of mankind? The British Museum houses over 7 million objects spanning 2 million years and documents the story of human culture. And how objects such as the Rosetta Stone and Parthenon Sculptures ended up in the museum can be as enlightening as the objects themselves.

## Chapters (for use when listening to your Way2GoGuide)

- |                                      |                                |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Way2Go British Museum              | 7 The Iznik Bowl (Room 34)     |
| 2 The Rosetta Stone (Room 4)         | 8 Shiva Nataraja (Room 33)     |
| 3 The Parthenon Sculptures (Room 18) | 9 The Standard of Ur (Room 56) |
| 4 Hoa Hakananai'a (Room 24)          | 10 The Portland Vase (Room 70) |
| 5 The Mexican Mosaics (Room 27)      | 11 Sutton Hoo (Room 41)        |
| 6 The Benin Bronzes (Room 25)        | 12 British Museum Connections  |

## Before you Way2Go

British Museum  
Great Russell Street  
London  
WC1B 3DG

Information line: +44 (0)20 7323 8299 for general information about the museum.  
Box office: +44 (0)20 7323 8181 for exhibition and event ticket booking.  
[britishmuseum.org](http://britishmuseum.org)

The objects featured in the guide are on permanent display and to help locate them a free museum map is available. In the unlikely event an object is withdrawn, all can be viewed on the museum’s website.

### Getting there

Nearest Tube stations: Holborn, Tottenham Court Road, Russell Square, Godege Street.

### To plan your journey

Why not use the Transport for London website: [tfl.gov.uk](http://tfl.gov.uk) or call the 24 hour TFL Travel Information Line on: +44 (0)20 7222 1234.

Oyster Cards are available at most Tube and railway stations as well as some newsagents – just look for the blue Oyster sign. They can also be purchased before you arrive, through the Visit London website: [visitlondon.com/travel/oyster](http://visitlondon.com/travel/oyster)

### Entrance prices & opening times

For latest information (including evening opening) please refer to the British Museum website or call their information line.

### Find out about current and future exhibitions

[britishmuseum.org/whats\\_on.aspx](http://britishmuseum.org/whats_on.aspx)

### Need2Go?

Public toilets are available on all floors of the museum (including disabled access).

## Area map



## After you Way2Go

### 1 Hungry?

The museum restaurant is located on the Upper Floor of the museum's Great Court. Alternatively, there is also a café in the Great Court, and the Gallery Café next to Room 12.

### 2 Drink in a historic pub

The Lamb still has Victorian snob screens at the bar – head height revolving etched glass panels to allow the drinker privacy.

92 Lamb's Conduit Street,  
London, WC1N 3LZ  
Telephone +44 (0)20 7405 0714  
[pubs.com/pub\\_details.cfm?id=203](http://pubs.com/pub_details.cfm?id=203)

### See the Natural History collection

Since 1881, it has been housed at the Natural History Museum in Kensington. Admission is free.

Cromwell Road, London, SW7 5BD  
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7942 5000  
[nhm.ac.uk](http://nhm.ac.uk)

### See the Books and Manuscripts collection

The British Library opened at St Pancras in 1973. As well as a program of events and exhibitions, it has a permanent exhibition of some of its treasures, from the Magna Carta to Beatles manuscripts.

96 Euston Road, London, NW1 2DB  
Telephone: +44 (0)870 444 1500  
[bl.uk](http://bl.uk)

### 3 A museum that makes you laugh!

The Cartoon Museum is 2 minutes away and is dedicated to the art of British comic illustration, from Victorian times to the Beano.

35 Little Russell Street,  
London, WC1A 2HH  
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7580 8155  
[cartoonmuseum.org](http://cartoonmuseum.org)

### Visit the London Silver Vaults

The world's largest collection of silver, housed in historic vaults – and it's all for sale.

Chancery Lane, London, WC2A 1QS  
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7242 3844  
[thesilvervaults.com](http://thesilvervaults.com)

### 4 The British Museum in a grand private house

Sir John Soane (born 1753) was a collector of antiquities and works of art and he kept the objects in the house he built on Lincoln's Inn Fields. It is open to the public just as he left it. Admission is free. The museum is extremely popular so queuing is likely.

13 Lincoln's Inn Fields,  
London, WC2A 3BP  
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7440 4263  
[soane.org/](http://soane.org/)

### 5 Oxford Street - Europe's largest High Street

Explore over 300 shops from flagship department stores to unique boutiques.

Oxford Street, W1  
[oxfordstreet.co.uk/](http://oxfordstreet.co.uk/)

### 6 Fancy a drink or meal in Soho or Chinatown?

Soho is full of trendy bars, cafés and restaurants. Chinatown is located to the north of Leicester Square – great food at reasonable prices.

[streetsensation.co.uk/soho/so\\_intro.htm](http://streetsensation.co.uk/soho/so_intro.htm)

### 7 Stroll around Covent Garden

Covent Garden is renowned for boutiques, street entertainers, great restaurants and bars.

[coventgardenlife.com/](http://coventgardenlife.com/)

### 8 A show in the heart of Theatreland

London offers over 60 of the world's finest theatre productions guaranteeing something for everyone.

[officiallondontheatre.co.uk](http://officiallondontheatre.co.uk)  
[londontheatre.co.uk](http://londontheatre.co.uk)

### 9 With children? Want to visit a unique 7 acre playground?

Coram's Fields is a 5 minute walk away and has a wide variety of free activities for children including a paddling pool and farm animals. No adult can enter unless accompanied by a child!

93 Guilford Street, London, WC1N 1DN  
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7837 6138  
[coramsfields.org/](http://coramsfields.org/)

### Dinner followed by a show

Restaurant/theatre packages from Lashmar Theatre Tickets.

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7494 1767  
(Monday - Saturday 9.30am - 7pm)  
[londontheatre.co.uk/lashmars/restaurant.html](http://londontheatre.co.uk/lashmars/restaurant.html)

## The Rosetta Stone

Four words from the last line of hieroglyphics on the stone, as heard in Chapter 2. Hieroglyphics are read towards the faces of the men, birds and animals - in this case from right to left.



Lords of the North (Greek)

Writing

Tablet/Slab

Decree

## Share your experience

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