



The British
Museum

Travel trade and group visits

Out-of-hours tours 2020

Experience the UK's
most popular museum
without the crowds



ELIZABETH II AD 2000 THIS GREAT COURT

The Weston Family

The Millennium Commission
Heritage Lottery Fund

A museum of the world, for the world.

The British Museum was founded in 1753 and was the first national public museum in the world. Exhibiting one of the largest and most comprehensive collections dedicated to history, art and culture in existence, today it's the UK's most visited museum.

Whether your clients wish to navigate the history of the ancient Greeks or walk in the footsteps of pharaohs, they can immerse themselves in humanity's greatest civilisations with a private, out-of-hours tour.

Our dedicated team is here to help throughout the booking process – from initial enquiries to the tour itself.

The beginnings of the British Museum

In these galleries, your clients will learn how the world was understood by Europeans in the 18th century – tracing the Museum's founding collection and its extraordinary journey to the present. Revealing the ways in which collectors viewed and classified objects from across the globe, the displays show how our understanding of the world has changed over time. Your clients will discover some of the collectors who, in different ways, have shaped the Museum over the past four centuries, along with individuals and organisations continuing to shape its future.

Enlightenment
Room 1

Collecting the world
Room 2

The Waddesdon Bequest
Funded by The Rothschild Foundation
Room 2a

Terracotta portrait bust of Sir Hans Sloane (1660–1753) by Michael Rysbrack (1694–1770), London.

The Enlightenment Gallery (Room 1).







Ancient Egyptian sculpture

Your clients will encounter impressive statues of kings and gods, monumental tomb architecture and ancient tomb reliefs spanning 3,000 years – including the colossal bust of Ramesses II, the Gayer-Anderson Cat and the world-famous Rosetta Stone. Your clients will explore ancient Egyptian culture, learn the importance of large-scale sculpture in temples and tombs and discover the language of this ancient civilisation.



Egyptian Sculpture
Room 4

Room 4.

The Gayer-Anderson cat.
Saqqara, Egypt, after 600 BC.

An introduction to China and South Asia

In this beautiful gallery, your clients can gain an insight into the development of Chinese and South Asian civilisations, from 5000 BC to the present day. Explore the history of China and South Asia through a range of magnificent objects – from Ming dynasty porcelain to South Asian sculpture. Your clients can discover the art and culture of ancient civilisations, and explore society as it stands today through the Museum's unparalleled collection.

Copper-alloy figure of the god Shiva as Lord of the Dance. Tamil Nadu, India, c. AD 1100.

The Sir Joseph Hotung Gallery of China and South Asia (Room 33).



China and South Asia
The Sir Joseph Hotung Gallery
Room 33

India: Amaravati
The Asahi Shimbun Gallery
Room 33a

Chinese jade
The Selwyn and Ellie Alleyne Gallery
Room 33b





An introduction to the ancient Greeks

Embark on a journey through ancient Greek legends, following the famous heroes Achilles and Herakles – and explore the spectacular remains of two of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Your clients will venture through Greece in the Bronze Age, journeying through the conquests of Alexander the Great to the last of the Hellenistic kingdoms to fall to Rome – the Ptolemaic dynasty in Egypt ruled by the famous Cleopatra VII. Uncover fascinating finds from this ancient civilisation, including colourfully painted Mycenaean and Greek pottery, armour and weaponry, dazzling jewellery and iconic sculptures from some of the most famous ancient buildings across the Mediterranean. These include monuments from the Athenian Acropolis such as the Parthenon and splendid tombs from ancient Lycia in modern Turkey.

Statue from the Nereid Monument.
Lycia (modern-day Turkey),
c. 390–380 BC.

Black-figured amphora.
Vulci (northern Lazio, Italy),
c. 520–525 BC.

Greece: Minoans and Mycenaeans
The Arthur I Fleischman Gallery
Room 12

Greece 1050–520 BC
Room 13

Greek vases
Room 14

Athens and Lycia
Room 15

Greece: Bassai sculptures
Room 16

Nereid Monument
Room 17

Greece: Parthenon
Room 18

Greece: Athens
Room 19

Greeks and Lycians
400–325 BC
Room 20

Mausoleum of Halikarnassos
Room 21

The world of Alexander
Room 22

Greek and Roman sculpture
Room 23



An introduction to the ancient Egyptian afterlife

From mummification and preparations for the afterlife to magic and immortalising animals, your clients will navigate the fascinating history and significance of death and the afterlife in ancient Egypt, from around 2600 BC to 200 AD. It's not just mummies, though – in these galleries your clients will discover the Museum's world-renowned collection of coffins, tombs, portraits, amulets and, not forgetting, the fabled Book of the Dead.

Nebamun hunting in the marshes.
Fragment of a scene from the
tomb-chapel of Nebamun. Thebes,
Egypt, c. 1350 BC.

Gilded cartonnage mummy mask.
Egypt, c. first century BC.

Egyptian life and death
The Michael Cohen Gallery
Room 61

Egyptian death and afterlife:
mummies
The Roxie Walker Galleries
Room 62–63

Early Egypt
*The Raymond and Beverly
Sackler Gallery*
Room 64

Sudan, Egypt and Nubia
*The Raymond and Beverly
Sackler Gallery*
Room 65







An introduction to ancient Rome

In these galleries your clients will uncover the history of ancient Rome and how their cultural life was influenced by the ancient Greeks. On your journey you will encounter the famous emperors Augustus and Hadrian, alongside everyday objects spanning the vast geographical range of the Roman Empire – from western Europe, along North Africa to the Middle East. As the story unfolds you will witness Rome from its humble beginnings to becoming one of the most powerful empires in the world, as revealed by the Museum's iconic collection of Roman mosaics, pottery, jewellery, coins, bronzes, and marble statues and portraits.

Greek and Roman life
Room 69

Roman Empire
The Wolfson Gallery
Room 70

Etruscan world
Room 71

Ancient Cyprus
The A. G. Leventis Gallery
Room 72

Greeks in Italy
Room 73

Marble portrait head from a statue
of Antinous, possibly as Dionysus.
Janiculum, western Rome, c. AD
130–140.

The *Portland Vase*, glass amphora.
Rome, c. AD 1–25.



An introduction to Japan

From samurai armour to contemporary manga, explore the expansive history and culture of Japan in these stunning galleries, which showcase one of the most comprehensive collections of Japanese art and artefacts outside of Japan. Hear how continuity and change has shaped Japan's past and present, and learn of its relationships with the rest of the world.

Japan
The Mitsubishi Corporation
Japanese Galleries
Rooms 92–94

Suit of samurai armour. Japan, 1700s.
Purchase made possible by the
JTI Japanese Acquisition Fund.

Large bisque porcelain bowl, with
1,000 individual sprig-moulded
leaves, made by Hosono Hitomi
(b. 1978) in London, 2013.
Presented by Art Fund.





Guiding options



You can bring your own guide for any of our out-of-hours tours.

Alternatively, during the booking process we can advise you on booking an accredited guide for your clients, who regularly deliver tours of the Museum's collection.

If your client would like to experience the galleries out of hours without a tour guide, then you are welcome to book the space for private access.

Booking



Prices vary for booking the Egyptian Sculpture Gallery, please enquire for a quote. For all other spaces, the price is £360 for up to 12 people. Additional guests will be charged £30 each.

Our team will be of assistance throughout your booking, from initial enquiries to the tour itself.

To support your enquiry, the following information is requested:

- The tour you would like to book
- The dates you are interested in booking
- The number of guests
- Your contact details

For further information, to make an enquiry or to book, please contact:

traveltradebookings@britishmuseum.org
or visit **britishmuseum.org/traveltrade**

Eating



Make your clients' experience even more memorable with a breakfast under the magnificent glass roof of the Great Court.

We are delighted to offer a unique breakfast menu at the Great Court Restaurant, which can be tailored to your clients' needs.

Should your clients wish to extend their visit, lunch options are available from 11am.

To book or to find out more, please enquire when arranging your tour.

Terms and conditions

Please note, as the Museum is a working building, tours are occasionally subject to variation or cancellation. Some rooms or objects may not be available on all tours.

To view our terms and conditions visit
britishmuseum.org

To view our privacy policy visit
britishmuseum.org/privacypolicy

Get in touch

Visit britishmuseum.org/traveltrade
Email traveltradebookings@britishmuseum.org

Join in online

Follow the Museum, share your photos
and review your visit on TripAdvisor.



Complimentary wifi is available to guests.

How to find us

The British Museum
Great Russell Street
London WC1B 3DG

🚶 Tottenham Court Road, Holborn,
Russell Square

Coach parking is located on Montague Place.