

Thank you for your interest in visiting the British Museum – tour groups are warmly welcomed. Please read the following guidelines and visitor regulations, and share them with your group.

Tour groups of 10 people or more must book their visit at least seven days in advance at britishmuseum.org/groups. Groups without an advance booking may be denied immediate entry.

On arrival, please go to the Montague Place entrance where a uniformed member of Museum staff will welcome you. Please ask coach drivers to turn their engines off when parked outside the Museum. Please note that our authorised staff may search your group's bags when you enter the Museum, particularly at times of heightened security.

You are responsible for the behaviour of your group at all times. To help to make everyone's visit as pleasant as possible, please note the following:

Consideration for others

- Visitors may wish to see the same objects that interest your group. Please be aware of others waiting to view a particular object and be courteous about moving on promptly.
- It is suggested that groups of more than 30 are divided into separate groups with individual group leaders to make your visit more comfortable.
- Please allow other visitors to move freely by not congregating in doorways or on staircases.
- The Museum is a place for looking, thinking, and quiet contemplation. Discussion in the galleries is encouraged, but please keep your voice low, be mindful of others and ask your group to do the same.

Guiding in the Museum

- Please note that British Museum staff (wearing Museum identity passes) conducting tours have priority over other groups in the galleries.
- Tour groups are not permitted in Rooms 33, 33a, 33b, 61, 62, 63 and 91a or any exhibitions due to the number of visitors and space restrictions.
- You must not point or gesture towards people or objects within the collection using sticks, umbrellas, poles, flags or any other object. Laser pointers/pens are not permitted in the Museum.
- Loudspeakers, voice amplifiers or microphones must not be used by tour guides or leaders when conducting or leading tour groups.
- In the event of an emergency, use the nearest fire exit and follow instructions from Museum staff.

Visitor regulations

- No person other than our authorised staff may sell services as tour guides, leaders or speakers anywhere within the Museum.
- Visitors may not touch objects. You may wish to discuss this with your group so they can learn about conservation and public display. Even with the cleanest of hands, the natural oils in skin can cause damage to objects, including all types of stone and sculptures. The objects on display must be preserved so that future generations can enjoy them too.
- Visitors are not allowed to consume food and drink inside the Museum, except in designated places such as the restaurant and cafes. You may consume food and drink outside on the colonnade and forecourt.
- Please set phones to silent in the galleries.
- During your visit, you are required to abide by the Museum's visitor regulations. The full list of these are at britishmuseum.org/visiting or at the Information Desk.

Entry to the Museum is free but it relies on donations to help support its mission.

You can visit the Museum shops, cafés and restaurants, where every purchase supports the Museum.

Enjoy your visit to the British Museum.

The Museum retains the right to change these guidelines at any time without prior notice.