Welcome to Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery

From Renaissance masterpieces and cutting edge contemporary art to Egyptian mummies, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery showcases a world class collection and offers fascinating glimpses into Birmingham’s rich and vibrant past.

Highlights include the finest collection of Pre-Raphaelite art in the world and the largest find of Anglo-Saxon gold ever discovered – the Staffordshire Hoard.

Don’t miss the Birmingham History Galleries – packed with artefacts, local treasures and interactive displays that reveal captivating stories of Birmingham from the last 500 years.

Please ask a member of staff if you require any information.

Highlights

ROUND ROOM – JACOB EPSTEIN, LUCIFER
Visitors to the museum are greeted by Epstein’s interpretation of the fallen angel Lucifer. Lucifer is represented with androgynous features by the artist generally considered as one of the greatest sculptors of the 20th century.

INDUSTRIAL GALLERY – THE LAHORE SHIELD
The shield depicts the great Sikh leader, Maharaja Ranjit Singh known as ‘The Lion of the Punjab’ (1780-1839). It was brought to Birmingham as part of a range of South East Asian metalwork with the intention of providing the city’s many artisans with examples of new techniques and designs.

GALLERY 17 – FORD MADDox BROWN, THE LAST OF ENGLAND
This painting shows a couple leaving England for the last time, forced to emigrate due to desperate circumstances. The work is actually a self-portrait of the artist and his family who, at the time the picture was painted, were considering emigrating themselves.

GALLERY 26 – SANDRO BOTTICELLI, THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY GHOST
This scene depicts the birth of the Christian church as the Virgin Mary and the twelve apostles are visited by the Holy Ghost. The work came from the studio of Botticelli so may have been completed by some of his students.

STAFFORDSHIRE HOARD GALLERY – FOLDED CROSS
The largest object in the Staffordshire Hoard is also one of the few non-military items. It appears to have been damaged in order to make it easier to bury it. It may originally have been a processional cross, an altar piece or a decorative fixing on the front of a table.
Galleries & Exhibitions

LEVEL 3
5 Ceramics
6 Jewellery
7 Metalworks
34 Ancient Egypt
35 Ancient Near East
36 Ancient Greece, Rome & Cyprus
37-42 Birmingham History

LEVEL 2
1 Shop
2 Industrial Gallery
3 Mini Museum
4 Edwardian Tearooms
5 Bridge Gallery
6 Bridge Cafe
10-11 20th Century
British Ceramics
12-13 Birmingham People & Places
14 Edward Borne-Jones
15 Temporary Exhibitions
16 Temporary Exhibitions
17-18 The Pre-Raphaelites
19 The Birmingham School of Art
20 Faith in Birmingham
21 Modern British Art
22 19th & 20th Century Art
23 18th & 19th Century Art
24-25 17th Century Art
(Birmingham Galleries)
26 15th & 16th Century Art
27 14th to 16th Century Art
28 Staffordshire Hoard

LEVEL 1
29 Community Gallery
30 Education Space
43 Waterhall

KEY
INFORMATION
LIFT ACCESS
MALE TOILETS
FEMALE TOILETS
BABY CHANGING
ACCESSIBLE TOILET
WHEELCHAIR ACCESS TOILET
LOCKERS

Don’t Miss!

STAFFORDSHIRE HOARD
This is where the most famous and most impressive treasures of the Staffordshire Hoard are kept. Gallery 32.

THE PRE-RAPHAELITE GALLERIES
It’s impossible to pick only one highlight from Birmingham Museums’ collection of Pre-Raphaelite art. The galleries hold some favourite works by artists such as Rossetti, Holman-Hunt, Millais, Madox Brown and many of others.

ROCK DRILL BY JACOB EPSTEIN
A reproduction of Epstein’s iconic modernist sculpture. It presents the viewer with a nightmarish vision of the future. Gallery 2.

THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM BY EDWARD BORNE-JONES
This nativity scene was painted by Birmingham’s own Pre-Raphaelite, Commissioned for the museum this is the world’s largest watercolour painting, measuring 3.4m x 5.4m.

BULGWAN BUDDHA
Over 1,000 years old, the largest known complete Indian Buddha. Commissioned as the first objects to enter the museum’s collection. Gallery 23.

CORPORATION ST, BIRMINGHAM IN 1914 BY JOSEPH SOUTHWELL
The fresco at the top of the main staircase by Birmingham artist Joseph Southall depicts an idealised view of life in the city before the First World War. Main entrance staircase.

DOMINICANS IN FEATHERS BY HENRY STACEY MARKS
A favourite with families, the artist gently pokes fun at Dominican monks by likening them to penguins. Gallery 3.

GRACCO-ROMAN MUMMY
A mummified male from the late period of Ancient Egypt. An unidentified metal object lodged at the back of the mummy’s neck may be a clue to his cause of death. Gallery 34.

EDWARD BURNE-JONES
The Birmingham School of Art

FOR FULL DETAILS VISIT BIRMINGHAMMUSEUMS.ORG.UK

Level 2

Level 1

Ground Level