



About the History of Science Museum

This is a visual guide. It helps you find your way around the museum and make the most of your visit.



Accessibility Information



The History of Science Museum is in a building that is 340 years old.



The entrance is up 13 steep steps.

There are lots of stairs inside.

There is no lift and no wheelchair access.



There are no toilets in the building.



The nearest toilets are in the Weston Library across the road.

The Weston Library have accessible toilets.

The History of the Museum



The building was made for the Ashmolean Museum Collections.



It was the first museum in Britain to open for people to visit.



130 years ago, the Ashmolean Museum moved its collections to a different building.



98 years ago a new museum was created in this building.

Today, this is called the History of Science Museum.

Welcome to the Museum



The museum open times are:

Tuesday–Sunday, 12–5pm

Last entry is 4:45pm

The museum is not open on Mondays.



At the front desk, there will be someone to welcome you.

They will help you with any questions you have about the museum.



The museum is free to visit.

But some people give money to help the museum.



Near the Welcome Desk there are fun trails that help you find things around the museum.

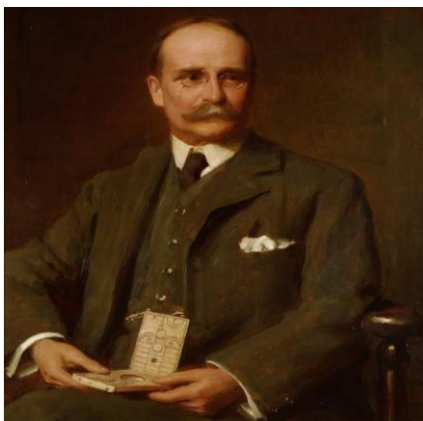
Please help yourself.

Finding your way around: Entrance Level



Look in the case to the left of the Welcome.

These are things from when the Ashmolean Museum Collection was here.



Look to the right of the Welcome Desk.

This is Lewis Evans. He gave his collection to the History of Science Museum.



In front of the Welcome Desk is a new exhibition space.

The display in this space changes every 8 - 12 months.



At the moment, the display tells you stories about people and COVID.

Finding your way around: Staircase



The Staircase has 38 steps to the top of the building and 38 steps to the bottom.

There is lots to see on each floor.
You can start on any floor you like.

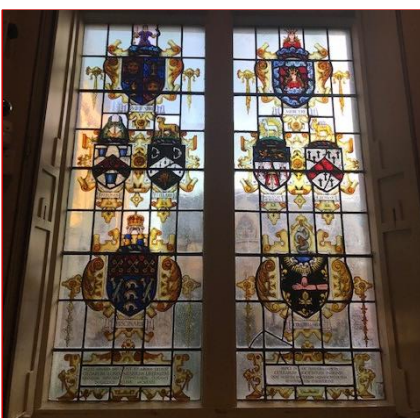


When you go up and down the stairs, you can see lots of paintings.

Look out for the big one of the moon. This is 228 years old.



You will also see some large objects for looking at the stars.



Up the stairs there are two big windows.

They are made of coloured glass.

Finding your way around: First Floor



On the first floor you can see lots of globes.



There are also lots of these round gold coloured objects. These are called **astrolabes**.

Astrolabes are used to find different stars in the sky.



On the right of the room there is a case full of **sundials**.

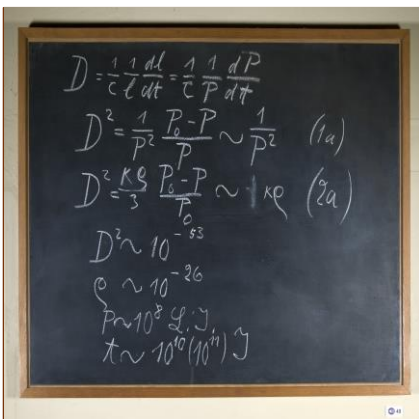
Sundials are used to tell the time by the shadows of the dial from the sun.

Finding your way around: Basement



At the bottom of the stairs are two rooms. The smaller room has lots of clocks, globes and telescopes.

Please take care in this room. The floor is not always flat.



You can see more displays in the bigger room.

On the wall to the left, you can see a blackboard that Albert Einstein wrote his maths on.



To the right of the blackboard is the story of **Penicillin**.

Penicillin is a type of medicine.



To the right of the door, you can learn about Guglielmo Marconi.

He was one of the inventors of radio.

Shop and Thank You



Our gift shop is in the basement on your right.



We hope you have enjoyed your visit to the History of Science Museum.



We would love to hear your thoughts about how useful you found our Easy Read Guide.

Please tell a member of staff what you think.