

Visit guide for tutors: On-site ESOL workshops and tours

Group size and format of the tours and workshops

Tours and workshops are for adult students on ESOL courses at Colleges, with Life-Long Learning providers, or with Training Providers or Voluntary Sector providers. We accept a minimum of 8 learners and a maximum of 20 learners per group. A guided tour or workshop is 90 minutes long. All tours and workshops must be booked three weeks in advance.

Curriculum links

The tours and workshops aim to engage learners with the collections of the British Museum using specially designed activities which are designed to encourage learners' language development using both historical and contemporary contexts. Learners benefit from general enrichment, learning outside the classroom, sharing experiences, learning from each other, learning about the Museum from a knowledgeable Museum Tutor, and practicing English. Learners are encouraged to actively participate through question and answer, debate and discussion. Museum visits often provide valuable preparation for exams and provide inspiration for written work post-visit.

Preparing for your visit

For many learners it will be their first visit to the British Museum. The success of your visit will depend on how the visit is integrated into your learners' classroom work. Pre-visit preparation is an essential part of the Museum experience.

It allows learners to become aware of:

- the purpose of the visit
- the anticipated outcome of the visit
- the idea that the visit forms an integral part of their language course
- to learn about what you will see beforehand, through pictures, research and discussion

Download the 'Getting the most from your Museum visit pack' for pre- and post-visit activities

The British Museum website www.britishmuseum.org

The British Museum website contains information about getting to the Museum, What's on, the history of the Museum

and the collection and an online database of 5000 objects on Explore.

Risk assessments

Copies of a generic risk assessment for groups are available on request.

Access

Please let us know in advance if any of your learners have any access requirements. Folding stools are available from the Great Court and wheelchairs can be booked on request. For further information visit:

<http://www.britishmuseum.org/visiting/access.aspx>

Cancellation

Please note that we reserve the right to charge colleges/institutions an administration fee for no shows or last-minute cancellations. If you are unable to come to the Museum for your tour, email esol@britishmuseum.org as soon as possible.

Arrival

When you arrive at the Museum, make your way into the Great Court and make yourself known to the staff on the Information Desk on the right-hand side. Your ESOL Museum Tutor will meet you at the Information Desk in the Great Court. Please make sure you arrive 5–10 minutes early. Remind learners that security checks may take place.

Role of class tutor

It is important the group leader takes an active role on the tour, assisting and supporting the learners as necessary, especially when the learners are working independently on activities or worksheets.

Photography and mobile phones

Learners are welcome to use their cameras in the public spaces and galleries in the Museum, except in special exhibitions. However we ask for consideration towards the workshop/tour leader as excessive use can be distracting. Mobile phones should be switched off during the tour or workshop.

Food

Learners are welcome to bring food or packed lunch which can be eaten outside in the Forecourt, on the Colonnade, or on the benches in the Great Court. Unfortunately we are unable to provide reserved picnic spaces for adult groups. No food or drink (except water) is allowed in the galleries.