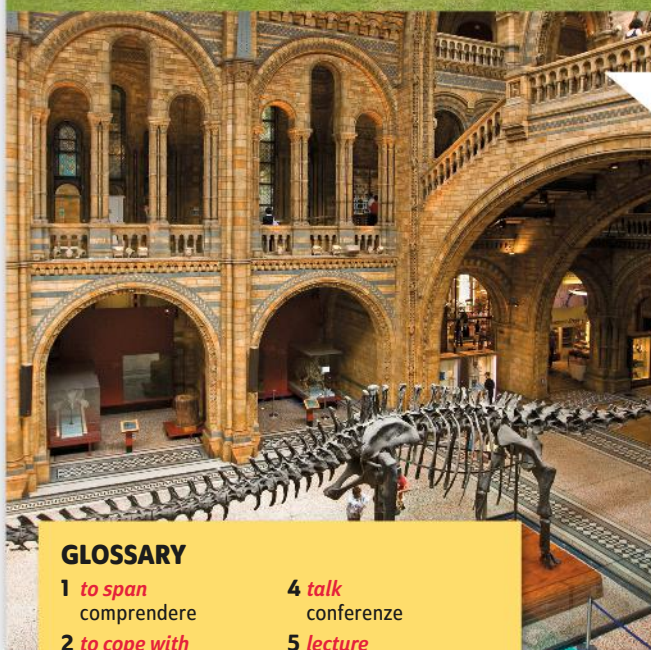




London museums



GLOSSARY

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 to span
comprendere | 4 talk
conferenze |
| 2 to cope with
affrontare | 5 lecture
conferenza |
| 3 wax
cera | 6 to enrol
iscriversi |

There are hundreds of museums in London. Visitors often ask how much the entrance fee is. The answer is – nothing. Many of the best museums are free. Fees are charged only for special exhibitions. Do you have to book? No, visitors only have to book for special exhibitions. The London museums cover a wide range of tastes and interests.

The British Museum

It is one of the world's oldest museums and was founded in 1773. It spans¹ two million years of human history and the renovated building is a work of art in itself. First-time visitors usually want to see the Egyptian mummies and the Rosetta Stone. There are many permanent exhibitions. 'Living and Dying' explores how people throughout history have diagnosed and treated disease and coped² with death.

Visitors can stop for a coffee or for lunch at the Great Court Restaurant, which is set beneath the spectacular glass roof of the museum.

South Kensington Museums

There are three large and very important museums near South Kensington tube station: the Victoria and Albert (V&A), the Natural History Museum and the Science Museum. The **V&A** is the world's largest museum of decorative arts and design. The **Natural History Museum** is popular for the enormous dinosaurs exhibited there and the **Science Museum** houses an impressive collection of aircraft and space technology.



Madame Tussauds

At Madame Tussauds there are more than 300 wax³ figures and you can stand next to the world's most iconic figures and walk down the red carpet with Johnny Depp and Benedict Cumberbatch. You can explore the sports area with Usain

1 Leggi il testo e rispondi alle domande.

- How much is the entrance fee to most London museums?
- When was the British Museum founded?
- What do first-time visitors want to see at the British Museum?
- Where can you see enormous dinosaurs?
- What does the Science Museum house?
- How much is an adult ticket to Madame Tussauds?
- What time does the ticket desk close at Tate Modern?
- What can visitors buy at Tate Modern shop?

TRAVEL DICTIONARY

2 Abbina i vocaboli (1-7) tratti dal testo alle definizioni (a-g).

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 ☐ exhibition | 5 ☐ portrait |
| 2 ☐ audio guide | 6 ☐ to house |
| 3 ☐ masterpiece | 7 ☐ entrance fee |
| 4 ☐ painting | |
| a a charge for admission | |
| b a public display of works of art | |
| c to keep in a museum | |
| d recorded information for visitors at a museum | |
| e a work of extraordinary skill | |
| f a painting or drawing of a person's head and shoulders | |
| g a painted picture | |

Bolt and David Beckham and take a photo of your friends with Her Majesty the Queen. You can also see how the models are made. How much is a ticket to Madame Tussauds? An adult ticket is £31.00 and a child's is £25.00.

Tate Modern

This is Britain's national gallery of international modern art and it is free to visitors, except for special exhibitions. What time does it open? The Tate Modern opens at 10.00 a.m. and the ticket desk closes at 17.15. With the multimedia audio guide visitors can listen to interviews about the collections and to commentaries from leading⁴ cultural critics. There are games apps which introduce visitors to the paintings, portraits and masterpieces. There is also a museum shop where people can buy postcards and souvenirs.

The National Gallery

The gallery gives free access to over 2,300 paintings – masterpieces from Leonardo da Vinci to Van Gogh. Visitors can buy guidebooks and catalogues and discover more about the paintings and portraits. There are free lectures⁵ and tours of the gallery every day. Visitors who are staying in London for a longer period can enrol⁶ on courses that explore an artistic period in more detail.

Sherlock Holmes Museum Baker Street

The fictional characters Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson, created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, lived at 221b Baker Street and this is where the museum stands. The house is protected by the government due to its special architectural and historical interest.

BLOG IT!

- 3 Ora scrivi tu la tua pagina di blog seguendo le indicazioni date.

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VISITING A MUSEUM

Write about your favourite museum/art gallery.

- Where this museum/art gallery is. What the building is like.
- How often you go there.
- What you like to see there.
- Your favourite painting, portrait, sculpture. Why you like it.
- How you feel when you visit the museum.

TRAVEL LANGUAGE



- 4 37 **Completa il dialogo tra un visitatore (V, visitor) e un impiegato dell'ufficio informazioni (O, information officer). Poi ascolta e controlla.**

floor • masterpieces • open • free • exhibition
• tickets • fee • information • audio

- O** Good morning. Can I help you?
- V** Yes, I would like some ¹ about visiting London museums. How much is the entry ² to the British Museum?
- O** Entrance to the museum is ³.
- V** Is it also free for the ⁴ on 'Sicily culture and conquest'?
- O** I'm afraid there is a charge for that exhibition. ⁵ cost £10.
- V** Can I have coffee or lunch at the museum?
- O** Yes, at the Great Court Restaurant.
- V** What ⁶ is it on?
- O** It's on the ground floor.
- V** What time does the museum ⁷ and close?
- O** All the museums open daily from 10.00 - 17.30. On Fridays they are open until 20.30.
- V** Thank you. I would like to visit Tate Modern. What kind of ⁸ can I see there?
- O** You can see international modern art.
- V** Do they offer ⁹ guides?
- O** Yes, they do. You can listen to interviews about the collections.
- V** Thank you.

- 5 **Sei in un museo. Formula frasi per dire/ chiedere:**

- a che ora chiude il museo sta sera.
- a quale piano si trova la mostra su Picasso.
- a che ora è il prossimo tour guidato.
- se c'è un ristorante.
- dove puoi comprare cartoline e souvenir.