



Group Visits at Sheffield Museums

From guided tours and curator talks to bespoke workshops, there are lots of ways your group can make the most of your trip to the museums.





Guided Tours

Our guided tours give an overview of the displays and information about some of the key objects you can see.

The museums' team of friendly and experienced guides will share significant information alongside enlightening anecdotes, so your group leaves feeling informed, inspired and entertained.

Each tour can accommodate up to 20 people and the charge is £90+VAT.

“The guide was upbeat, enthusiastic, considerate of the needs of the group, interesting and well informed – and spoke loudly and clearly!”



Graves Gallery

The Graves Gallery is the Art Deco home of the city's dazzling visual art collection. We offer a range of tours that focus on a particular theme or topic in more depth.

Highlights

This tour is a fantastic introduction to the gallery. You'll see a variety of artworks from the 16th century to present day from the city's art collection, including the latest gallery redisplays.

J G Graves and His Gallery

Hear all about the life, work and collection of J G Graves. This tour covers the history of the gallery and looks more closely at some of the works from Graves' original collection that are still on display today.

Homegrown Talent – Artists from Sheffield and the Wider Region

Covering portraiture, landscape, abstracts and more, this tour is full of insights into the lives and work of several talented artists who have all called Sheffield and Yorkshire home.



“The speaker was really enthusiastic, engaging, knowledgeable and it was fascinating to learn about the women artists and look at some wonderful pictures I'd overlooked.
Like a breath of fresh air!”



Graves Gallery

Women Artists

Find out about the fascinating women behind the artworks on display. You'll hear about the world and work of a selection of artists, including Bridget Riley, Barbara Hepworth, Lesley Sanderson and more.

Portraiture and the Human Figure

Learn about the portraiture and figure artworks and explore artists' enduring fascination with depicting people, as well as the enthralling lives of the sitters.

Colour, Form and Line

Take a closer look at a selection of 20th and 21st century works that can all be generally defined as abstract, by inspirational artists such as John Hoyland, Tess Jaray and Naum Gabo.

Kelham Island Museum

Kelham Island Museum celebrates 300 years of Sheffield making history. Where possible, tours here are timed to reach a finale of seeing the mighty River Don Engine in steam.

Highlights at Kelham Island Museum

Delve into Sheffield's industrial past with this guided tour, covering life during the Industrial Revolution, to progress through the Victorian era, the wartime Women of Steel, up to modern industry in the city today.

Lowlights at Kelham Island Museum

See some of the lesser-known objects at the museum and hear about the most famous Sheffield employee, how a new file led to a major strike and why the HMS Sheffield was known to be the shiniest ship!



Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet

Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet, in the South of the city, is a historical gem – a rural scythe and steelworks dating back to the 1700s.

Highlights at Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet

Find out about the industry-changing invention of the crucible steel method as our knowledgeable guide shows you round the Hamlet, following each stage of the scythe-making process.



Weston Park Museum



Weston Park Museum tells the stories of Sheffield and its people, from prehistory to present day, with displays that cover archaeology, natural history, social history and art.

Highlights

Discover everything from archaeological treasures to zoological wonders, and find out more about the people and events that shaped the city we know today.

Lowlights

Uncover the museum's more inconspicuous objects in this alternative guided tour, taking in tales of counterfeit coins, Victorian typos and even Michael Palin's pants.

Millennium Gallery

The Millennium Gallery's changing exhibition programme showcases the best in national and international art and design. It is also home to the designated metalwork collection, as well as the remarkable art and artefacts brought to the city by the artist and writer, John Ruskin.

Metalwork Collection – A Culinary Carry-On

What's the connection between cheese on toast and Jane Austen? And how did Queen Victoria take her hot chocolate? Enjoy a tour of the Metalwork Collection to learn about some of culinary objects on display.

Guided tours of specific temporary exhibitions may be available upon request.



“Even on a dismal day to be outside, this was a great tour. The guide’s knowledge and enthusiasm were very engaging, and the pace was appropriate for a mixed group.”



Walking Tours

We also offer city centre walking tours on a selection of themes. These tours are a great way to see the sights of the city and discover the history of the local area.

People, Plaques and Places

Do you know about the people behind the plaques and commemorations in Sheffield? Discover the fascinating stories and characters that decorate the city streets.

Big Builds

Delve into the history of Sheffield's skyline and find out about some of the oldest and biggest buildings in the area.

Ghost Signs

Take a tour of Kelham Island and spot the 'ghost signs' – old, faded signs, from adverts, shops or other businesses that are an echo of the area's industrial past.

Sheffield's Street Art

See a variety of murals, from the city's tallest artwork to the little-known frescos that are hidden down alleyways.

Each tour can accommodate up to 18 people, lasts 90 minutes, and the charge is £150+VAT.

Please note these tours are outdoors and cover a roughly 1.5 mile route.

“Brilliant. I learnt a lot and it was presented in a very informal and friendly way
– easy to ask questions and to discuss aspects with other participants.”



Curator Talks and Tours

For a more specialist insight, you can book talks and tours with our curators. Our curators look after the city's collections and create the displays and exhibitions you see across the museums.

They offer a range of talks and tours on several key collection areas:

- **Visual Art Collection** at the Graves Gallery
- **Industrial History** at Kelham Island Museum
- **Natural History** at Weston Park Museum
- **Social History** at Weston Park Museum
- **Metalwork Collection** at the Millennium Gallery
- **Ruskin Collection** at the Millennium Gallery

These tours and talks cost £180+VAT and last for up to an hour. For more information, including how we might be able to tailor sessions for your group, please get in touch.





Bespoke Sessions

We can offer bespoke tours, talks and workshops at any of the museums to suit your needs.

Whether it's a tour focussing on a specialist interest, a life drawing class, or a chance to use the metalwork handling collection to inspire creative writing, we'll work with you to develop the perfect session.

“I liked that it was informal so that we could engage with the curator. He had such a deep understanding of the Ruskin Collection that I came away feeling that I understood it and Ruskin himself.”

“I previously did not know much about Sheffield’s history of metal work – I now understand this much better, and it made looking round the exhibition more enjoyable.”



Contact Us

For more information about arranging your group visit, contact the Learning team, who will provide everything you need to help with your planning. Please include details of your preferred date (with alternatives), group size and any other specific needs.

E: learning@sheffieldmuseums.org.uk

T: 07870 254 853

GRAVES GALLERY

Above the Central Library
Surrey Street, S11 XZ

Open Tue – Sat 11am – 4pm

KELHAM ISLAND MUSEUM

Alma Street
S3 8RY

**Open Tue – Sat 10am – 4pm
Sun 11am – 4pm**

ABBeyDALE INDUSTRIAL HAMLET

Abbeydale Road South
S7 2QW

**Open Thu – Sat 10am – 4pm
Sun 11am – 4pm
Closed in winter**

WESTON PARK MUSEUM

Western Bank
S10 2TP

**Open Tue – Sat 10am – 5pm
(Until 4pm in winter)
Sun 11am – 4pm**

MILLENNIUM GALLERY

Arundel Gate
S1 2PP

**Open Tue – Sat 10am – 5pm
Sun 11am – 4pm**