

The Postal Museum

Visual Story

In this guide you can find out what your visit to
The Postal Museum will involve.

When you arrive

The Postal Museum is **split over two buildings**. The Postal Museum site is on **one side of Phoenix Place** and the Mail Rail site is on the **other side of Phoenix Place**.

There is a **sign on the roof** which says **Postal Museum**. There is a **large painting** of a postman on one of the walls of the museum.

The Postal Museum **entrance** is through the **small grey brick building**. You will go down a **ramp** into a **courtyard**. The courtyard has artificial grass with tables and chairs and a wall covered in **green leaves**. You might see the **red post boxes** in the green wall.

At the bottom of the ramp you turn **left** to enter The Postal Museum. There is an **automatic sliding door** at the entrance.

On busy days you might need to **queue** to get in to the museum.



The Welcome Space

When you enter the museum you will go into The Postal Museum **welcome space**.

The **gift shop** and **café** are located in the **welcome space** area. Here you can also access the **unisex toilets, accessible toilets and baby changing facilities**, as well as the stairs and lift to the **Archive** on the first floor.

The welcome space has very **bright lights** and it can be **very noisy** when it is busy. The **café chairs** can make a **loud scraping sound against the floor** when they are moved.

A member of **staff will ask to see your ticket** before you enter the museum gallery.

From the sensory trolleys at the ticket and information desk you can **collect any resources or activities** you would like to borrow during your visit, such as **exhibition trails** and a **sensory bag** - just ask a member of staff if you'd like to access these resources.



The Postal Museum exhibition

The exhibition **entrance** is in the **welcome space** next to the ticket and information desks. There is a **big sign** to show you where to go.

The Postal Museum **exhibitions** are **darker** but there are **spotlights** on some objects. It can be **very noisy** from the **sounds of the interactive exhibits**. When there are lots of people it can feel **very warm**.

In The Postal Museum **permanent exhibition** you can learn about the **history of the postal service**. It is divided into **five zones** which are times in history, starting from **500 years ago** through to the **present day**.

There is a **sixth zone** which is for **temporary exhibitions** that change every **6 months to a year**.



The Postal Museum exhibition: Zone 1

The **first zone** is about the **creation of the Royal Mail**.

The **key object** to look out for in this zone is the **Mail Coach**.

There are some **interactive activities**, you might hear the roar of a lioness!



The Postal Museum exhibition: Zone 2

The **second zone** is about how the **postal service changed** to allow everyone to send post.

You can learn about **stamps and pillar boxes**.

The **key objects** to look out for in this zone are the **Channel Islands green pillar box** and the sheet of **Penny Black stamps**.



The Postal Museum exhibition: Zone 3

Content warning: The **third zone** is about the Post Office during times of **conflict**.

You can learn about how **war** affected the postal service.

The **key object** to look out for in this zone is the **Victoria Cross**. The medal on display belonged to someone who worked for the Post Office.



The Postal Museum exhibition: Zone 4

The **fourth zone** is about the Post Office and **design**.

You can learn about **different stamp and poster designs**.

There is an **interactive exhibit** where you can **design your own stamp**.

The **key object** in this zone is the **air mail pillar box**.



The Postal Museum exhibition: Zone 5

The **fifth zone** is about **communication and changes** to how the post was **sent and received**.

You can learn about the **ideas** the **Post Office and Royal Mail** had to deliver post.

The **key object** in this zone is the **Post Bus**.



The Postal Museum exhibition: Temporary exhibition

The **final zone** in The Postal Museum exhibition is where you can visit our **temporary exhibition** that changes every 6 months to a year.

If you have an annual ticket, this includes **unlimited entry to all our exhibitions, including the temporary exhibitions for 1 year.**



Our current temporary exhibition is ***Voices of Resistance: Slavery and Post in the Caribbean.*** This exhibition includes descriptions of the violent and harsh conditions faced by enslaved people. Historical documents using racist terms to describe enslaved people are on display.



Leaving the museum

When you are ready to **leave** The Postal Museum **exit through the sliding doors**, out into the courtyard and up the ramp onto the street.

If you **borrowed any resources**, like a sensory bag or ear defenders **don't forget** to return them to a member of staff before you leave or leave them on the sensory trolley next to the welcome desk





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**Ambitious
about Autism**

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Art Fund_

Thank you for visiting The Postal Museum, we hope you had a great time.