

# MUSEUMS

IN RUSSIA AND ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES

# HISTORY OF MUSEUMS



Library of Alexandria, Egypt

- The earliest museums resembled today's libraries and scholarly institutes and were established as sources of inspiration and enlightenment.
- The library of Alexandria, Egypt, housed a museum and held more than 400,000 papyrus scrolls of text.
- It contained a huge collection of manuscripts from the Greek world. The museum and most of its library were destroyed about AD 270 during civil disturbances.

# TYPES OF MUSEUMS



ART MUSEUMS



HISTORY MUSEUMS



NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUMS



SCIENCE MUSEUMS



OTHER MUSEUMS

# ART MUSEUMS

Art museums reflect artistic accomplishment, both historic and contemporary. Through exhibitions and educational programs, art museums enhance visitors' understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of art.

They contain many kinds of artworks, including paintings, sculpture, prints, drawings, photographs, ceramics and glass, metalwork, and furniture. Art museums represent diverse cultural traditions from all parts of the world.



# The National Gallery

- ❖ National Gallery (London) is one of the principal art galleries in Britain and among the most important in the world, located in Trafalgar Square, and opened in 1838.
- ❖ The idea of establishing a national gallery grew out of concern for protecting Britain's artistic heritage, threatened by the sale of Sir Robert Walpole's collection to Catherine of Russia.
- ❖ The National Gallery now has over 2000 works representing the principal schools of European painting from the 13th century to 20th century.



The National Gallery (London),



# State Tretyakov Gallery

- ◆ *Gosudarstvennaya Tretyakovskaya Galereya,*
- ◆ Moscow art museum founded by Pavel M. Tretyakov in 1856.
- ◆ It contains the world's finest collection of 17th- and 18th-century Russian icons, having more than 40,000 of them.
- ◆ There are also 18th-century portraits, 19th-century historical paintings, and works of the Soviet period.
- ◆ The museum is organized into Early Russian Art, Art of the 18th Century, Art of the First Half of the 19th Century, Art of the Second Half of the 19th Century, Art of the Early 20th Century, and Soviet Art.



**Tretyakov Gallery**

**Moscow**

# State Hermitage Museum



**State Hermitage Museum,  
Saint Petersburg, Russia.**

- ❖ The Hermitage is the largest public museum in Russia and one of the greatest art collections in the world. Russian empress Catherine the Great founded the Hermitage in 1764 as a museum for the royal court.
- ❖ The collections are now housed in five magnificent interconnected buildings, including the Winter Palace.
- ❖ The Hermitage's collection of Western European art includes major works by Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, Caravaggio, Diego Velazquez, El Greco, Rembrandt, and Peter Paul Rubens.

# Metropolitan Museum of Art



**The Metropolitan Museum of Art  
New York City**

- ❖ **The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, New York, is the largest art museum in the United States.**
- ❖ **With holdings numbering in the millions, it is considered one of the world's great museums.**
- ❖ **Popularly known as the Met, the museum is a private institution. Its collection is housed in a building owned and maintained by New York City.**
- ❖ **Visited by more than five million people each year, the museum is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the city.**



# The Victoria and Albert Museum



London,  
Victoria & Albert Museum

The Victoria and Albert Museum houses vast tableaux of European sculpture, ceramics (including porcelain and other pottery), furniture, metalwork, jewelry, and textiles from early medieval times to the present day.



# Guggenheim Museum

(New York City)



- ◆ Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, museum of modern and contemporary art, located in New York City, opened in 1959 in a building designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.
- ◆ It is named after Solomon R. Guggenheim, an American industrialist and philanthropist.
- ◆ The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York City attracts visitors interested in both the museum's art collection and the unique architecture of the building itself.
- ◆ The museum houses a large collection of art, much of it collected by Guggenheim beginning in the 1920s.
- ◆ The galleries of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York City curve upward in a six-floor spiral.



# HISTORY MUSEUMS

History museums are dedicated to promoting a greater appreciation and knowledge of history and its importance to understanding the present and anticipating the future. They range from historic sites and small historic house museums to large, encyclopedic institutions.

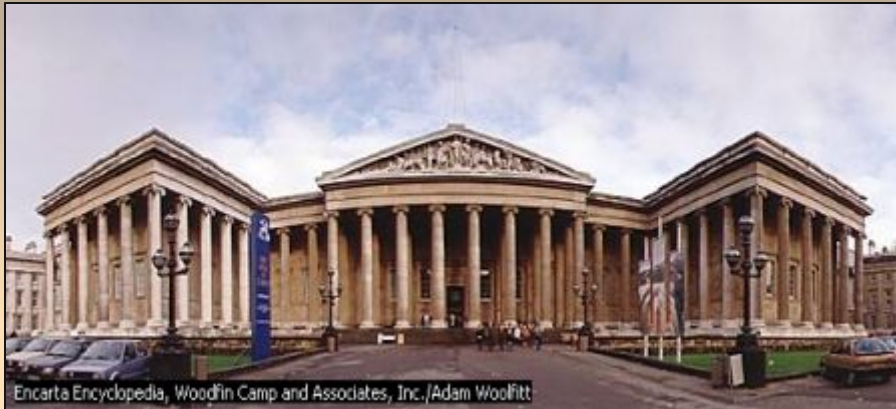
History museums usually collect a wide range of objects, including fine art, furniture, clothing, documents, and other materials. Some history museums encompass the art or natural history of a region as well as its cultural history.





# The British Museum

(London)



Encarta Encyclopedia, Woodfin Camp and Associates, Inc./Adam Woolfitt

The British Museum in London, England, is the United Kingdom's national museum of antiquities, containing more than 6 million objects. Founded in 1743, the museum has occupied the current building, shown here, since it was completed in 1847.

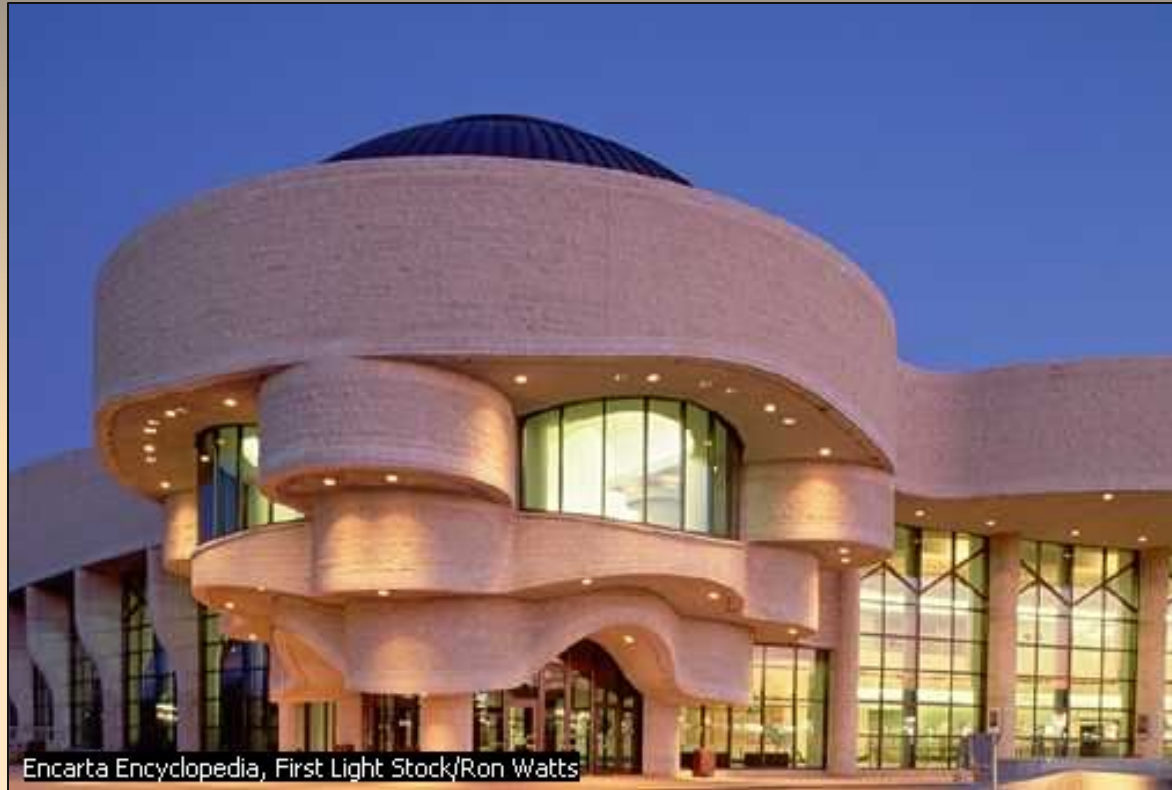
## Reading Room

Since its completion in 1857, the massive, domed Reading Room of the British Museum has become one of the best-known public interiors of the world.



Encarta Encyclopedia, Bridgeman Art Library, London/New York

# Canadian Museum of Civilization



**The Canadian Museum of Civilization is one of the cultural centers of Hull (Quebec). The museum was designed by Canadian architect Douglas Cardinal. Its curves suggest the late Ice Age landscape when the first human beings reached Canada.**



# State Historical Museum

It was founded in 1872 and opened in 1883.

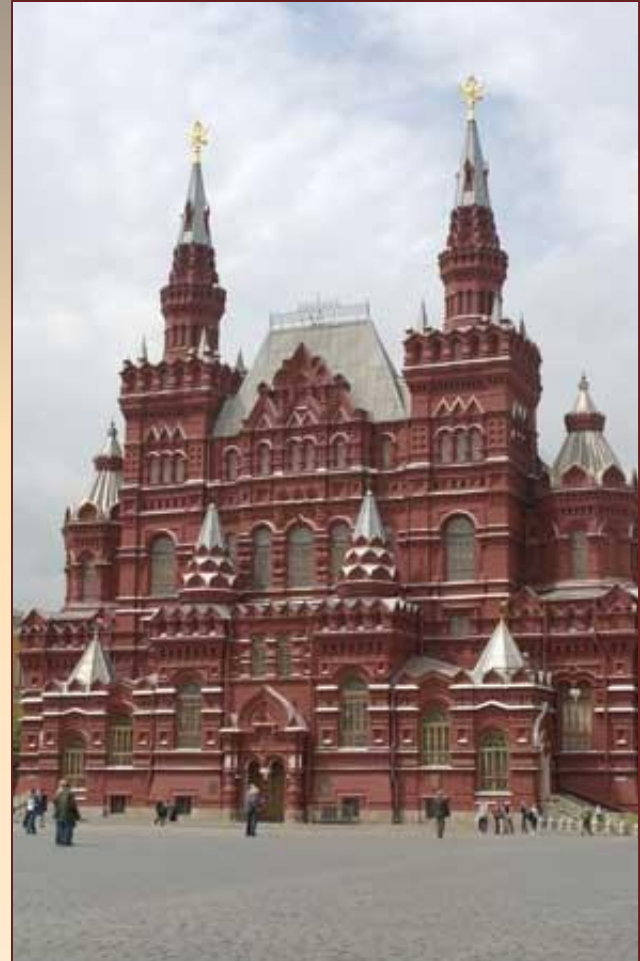
It has the greatest historical and cultural collections of our country.

It has some filials :

Новодевичий монастырь,  
Покровский собор ,  
церковь Троицы в  
Никитниках ,

палаты 16-17 века в  
Зарядье ,

Крутицкое подворье и  
музей декабристов.



State Historical Museum on Red Square,  
Moscow

# NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUMS

Natural history museums are devoted to sharing knowledge about the natural world in all its aspects. Many natural history museums were originally established as centers of scientific research, with collections that accumulated from research expeditions and fieldwork. Today, most major natural history museums combine scientific research with a strong emphasis on public education.

Collections and exhibitions in natural history museums generally focus on nature and culture. Dinosaurs, gems and minerals, native cultures, and ancient cultures are always popular exhibits at natural history museums.



# Natural History Museum



**London Natural History Museum, national museum of natural history in Britain, located in South Kensington, London.**

- ❖ It contains an outstanding collection of over 68 million plants, animals, fossils, and minerals from around the world.
- ❖ The museum has over 1200 child visitors every day and runs an active educational program, including publications and lectures for both children and adults.
- ❖ In addition to educating the general public, the museum is a major research center with a staff of over 300 scientists.



# SCIENCE MUSEUMS

Science museums and science-technology centers are dedicated to furthering the public understanding of science and scientific achievements. Using interactive exhibition techniques and participatory experiences, they stimulate curiosity and allow people to learn at their own pace while exploring the principles, concepts, and implications of science and technology.

Common exhibits teach visitors about computers, robots, machines, the human body and senses, chemistry, physics, and astronomy. Often science museums include aquariums, planetariums, small zoos, and botanical gardens.





# Politekhnicheskyy Muzei

(Moscow)

- ❖ *Russian Politekhnicheskyy Muzei*, in Moscow, museum of science and technology that emphasizes the history of Soviet science and technology and contemporary developments and inventions.
- ❖ The museum was founded in 1872 after the first Russian technical exhibition on the bicentennial anniversary of the birth of Peter the Great.
- ❖ The building housing the museum was completed in 1877. It includes some foreign exhibitions.



Encarta Encyclopedia, Stock Boston Inc./Peter Menzel



# Science & Technology Museum



Encarta Encyclopedia, Photo Researchers, Inc./Rafael Macia

**SciTrek in Atlanta**

- ◆ This museum has over 100 exhibits which help to show the principles of science in our every day lives.
- ◆ Each exhibit is designed for you to do more than just look at it. You can actually experiment with the equipment to learn more about science.
- ◆ It has some halls: Hall of Simple Machines, hall of Electricity and Magnetism, a Hall of Light, Color, Perception, and a special Hall for children under the age of 7, called “Kidspace”.



# OTHER MUSEUMS

Many museums challenge traditional categories. These include sports museums and halls of fame, music museums, and children's museums.



**Train Museum  
In New Jersey**

- ❖ The Northlandz Great American Railway museum in Flemington, New Jersey, features one of the world's largest model railroads, with 135 trains and more than 13 km (8 mi) of track.
- ❖ Owner Brian Williams Zaccagnino, pictured here, created the railroad and its scenery over a period of 24 years.

## Children's Museum

Children play and learn about musical instruments at the Children's Museum of Manhattan in New York City. Children's museums feature lively exhibits for young people that focus on participatory learning.



New York

## Madame Tussaud's

Life-size wax portraits of The Beatles form a popular exhibit at Madame Tussaud's wax museum in London, England. Founded in 1835, Madame Tussaud's is one of London's top tourist attractions.



London

# Moscow museum of Cats

This museum was founded in March of 1993, by the Gallery of Modern Art “ENTER”.

It is very cosy and homly. The cat in this museum is not only a pet, but the cult symbol of the house.

The cat can be different in this museum: it can be the threading but very nice cat Begemot, made of different materials or very kind fish-cat or angry woman changed into a cat.

But the main property of this museum is an alive cat.



Encarta Encyclopedia, Art Resource, NY/Erich Lessing



Encarta Encyclopedia, Art Resource, NY/Erich Lessing





**Museums are agents of historical, aesthetic, and scientific literacy.**

**Visitors experience new ideas, view beautiful or unfamiliar objects, or are exposed to cultural values and experiences different from their own.**

**Schools are important partners in education with museums. Museums offer field trips for school groups.**

**WE HOPE YOU TO BECOME  
ACTIVE MUSEUM VISITORS !**



# Galleries:

- ❖ Would you invite your British/American friend to any museum or picture gallery in your city/town?
- ❖ What could you show him/ her there?
- ❖ Why do people visit museums and galleries?
- ❖ What famous Russian/British/American museums do you know?  
Which of them would you like to visit? Why?
- ❖ What kind of museum would you create for future generations? Why?
- ❖ Have you ever visited the Tretyakov Gallery?  
What paintings impressed you most of all?
- ❖ What picture galleries have you visited \_or heard about in Russia and abroad?