Social Story of the National Museum of Archaeology

for visitors on the Autism Spectrum and visitors with a Sensory Processing Disorder
Welcome to the National Museum of Archaeology

The Museum is found on Republic Street, Valletta. Parking is not possible outside the museum. This is the entrance to the National Museum of Archaeology.

Once you arrive please go in through the door pictured above. A ramp is placed just outside the door for wheelchair users.
On the right you will find the museum’s reception area pictured below.

Here you may buy your ticket. Ticket pricing can be found on the website and also on the last page of this document. There may be other people waiting to buy their ticket, please wait patiently in line.
Once you buy the tickets scan them at the turnstile so you may access the display halls.
Should you wish to visit the restrooms first, please turn to the left. One will also find toilets for persons with mobility impairments and nappy changers. Lockers are also available.

This museum is completely accessible with a lift and ramps where needed.
There are signs around the museum to help you find your way.

Please turn right to start your visit. In various points you will find portable chairs.

The museum is best visited in a chronological order, starting from the Neolithic display at ground floor level. Please follow the path marked on the sensory map, click here to download.

The Neolithic display areas have soft lighting and there are currently no audio-visuals playing, making this area very peaceful and quiet. The exhibits include original archaeological remains found on the islands and are mostly made out of stone and pottery. In the next page you will find images of the display halls.
Please be careful of the glass flooring in the Tarxien hall, flooring pictured below.

Now that you have finished from the ground floor displays, it is time to visit the Bronze Age and the Phoenician Period halls upstairs.

You may go upstairs either via lift or via stairs. Please hold on to the railings if you are using the stairs.
If you have used the lift please turn left, if you have used the stairs please turn right and go through the door pictured below.

You are now in the Bronze Age Hall. There are various audio-visuals in this hall. If you visit during autism hours the volume of all audio-visuals within the museum will be turned down.
A ramp made from glass will take you from the Bronze Age Hall to the Cart Ruts display. Please note that the floor of the cart ruts display is elevated and made from glass. See pictures below for reference.

The quiet room can be found opposite the Cart Ruts display. You may make use of this room throughout your visit.
The Phoenician Hall is on your left. This hall is coloured purple, a colour the Phoenicians were renowned for. Below please find a few pictures of the hall.

Once you have finished visiting the Phoenician Hall please proceed to the Gran Salon. To get to the hall please walk back towards the stairs, turn right and go through the door pictured below. This salon was used as a dining room by the Knights of St John originating from Provence and also as a dancing hall during the British rule.
The last display on this floor can be found on your right once exiting the Gran Salon. This display consists of a comprehensive coin collection with coins spanning the Phoenician period up to the European Union accession. The volume of the audio - visual present on your way to the showcases will be turned down.

Once you have visited the halls at leisure, it is time to go back down. On your way out please visit the temporary exhibition hall on your right.
It’s ok not to visit all of the museum at one time; you may come back to the National Museum of Archaeology another day.

This is the museum shop which is in the reception area. When you have chosen what you would like to buy you can pay for it at the reception. There is no need to buy anything however a small souvenir will help you remember your visit.

Now it is time to leave. The exit is the same door that you came in from. We hope you have had a lovely day at the museum and thank you for visiting us.
Contact us for information about accessibility and programmes for visitors with impairments:

Telephone: +35622954323
Email: education@heritagemalta.org

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For current opening hours please refer to
Heritage Malta website - www.heritagemalta.org

The Museum opens everyday except on Good Friday,
Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year’s Day.

Tickets:

Adults (18 – 59 years): €5.00
Youths (12 – 17 years), Senior Citizens (60+ years), Students: €3.50
Children (6 – 11 years): €2.50
Heritage Malta Passport holders - Free

This resource was created in consultation with Prisms Malta.