



מוזיאון ישראל, ירושלים
the israel museum, jerusalem
متحف إسرائيل، أورشليم القدس

About The Israel Museum, Jerusalem

The Israel Museum is the largest cultural institution in the State of Israel and is ranked among the world's leading art and archaeology museums. Founded in 1965, the Museum houses encyclopedic collections, ranging from prehistory to the present day, and features the most extensive holdings of biblical and Holy Land archaeology in the world, among them the Dead Sea Scrolls. Over its first 50 years, the Museum has built a far-ranging collection of more than 500,000 objects, representing the full scope of world material culture, through an unparalleled legacy of gifts and support from its circle of patrons worldwide. Its far-reaching exhibition and public programs reflect the universal nature of its collections and serve nearly one million visitors annually.

The Museum's 20-acre campus underwent the most comprehensive upgrade in its history in 2010. Led by James Carpenter Design Associates of New York and Efrat-Kowalsky Architects of Tel Aviv, this three-year project was designed to enhance visitor experience of the Museum's collections, architecture, and surrounding landscape, complementing its original design by Alfred Mansfeld and Dora Gad. Encompassing new and expanded collection and temporary exhibition galleries, entrance facilities, and public spaces, the project also included the complete renewal and reconfiguration of the Museum's Samuel and Saidye Bronfman Archaeology Wing, Edmond and Lily Safra Fine Arts Wing, and Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel Wing for Jewish Art and Life.

The Museum's campus also features the Shrine of the Book, designed in 1965 by Armand Bartos and Frederick Kiesler to house the Dead Sea Scrolls—the oldest biblical manuscripts in the world—as well as other rare biblical manuscripts. Adjacent to the Shrine is the Dead Sea Scroll Study Center and the Model of Jerusalem in the Second Temple Period, which reconstructs the topography and architectural character of the city as it was prior to its destruction by the Romans in 67 CE and provides historical context for the Shrine's presentation of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

The Museum's celebrated Billy Rose Art Garden, designed by Japanese-American sculptor Isamu Noguchi, is counted among the finest outdoor sculpture settings of the 20th century. On view are works by modern masters including Jacques Lipchitz, Henry Moore, Claes Oldenburg, Pablo Picasso, Auguste Rodin, and David Smith, together with more recent site-specific commissions by such artists as Magdalena Abakanowicz, Mark Dion, Doug and Mike Starn, James Turrell, and Micha Ullman.

The Ruth Youth Wing for Art Education, unique in its size and scope of activities, presents a wide range of programming to more than 100,000 schoolchildren each year, and features exhibition galleries, art studios, classrooms, a library of illustrated children's books, and a recycling room. Special programs foster intercultural understanding between Arab and Jewish students and reach out to the wide spectrum of Israel's communities.

In addition to the extensive programming offered on its main campus, the Israel Museum also operates two off-site locations: the Rockefeller Archaeological Museum, an architectural gem built in 1938 for the display of archaeology from ancient Israel; and the newly renewed Ticho House, which offers an ongoing program of exhibitions by younger Israeli artists in a historic house and garden setting.