My Visit to York Art Gallery

Planning my visit
Outside the gallery

This is the gallery entrance. There is a queuing area to enter the building. A member of the Visitor Experience Team will be here to help you.

Book tickets online at https://www.yorkartgallery.org.uk/tickets/
This is the entrance to the café. It is next to the gallery’s main entrance.
Inside the gallery

There are people who can help you at the art gallery in the Visitor Experience Team. They wear purple shirts and a name badge. If you have a question you can ask anyone from the Team and they will be happy to help.

To protect staff and visitors during the Covid pandemic, they may wear masks or face visors and stand behind a plastic screen.
There is a children’s activity pack available to buy in the foyer. This contains; crayons, a pencil, sketchbook, illustrated activity guide and a kaleidoscope. You can take this round the gallery to complete the activities and even take it home.
Throughout the gallery there are hand sanitation stations for your use.
In the first space we have…

Accessible toilets and baby changing facilities.

A lift to the second floor.
We have stairs to get to the second floor.

To help protect staff and visitors from Covid, we have a one-way system in place.

There are signs which will direct you around the building.
On the ground floor we have three main galleries. These will change regularly and show different types of art. We often show art from other museums.

If there is anything that visitors should be aware of in these galleries, there will be a notice on the door and you can ask the Visitor Experience Team for help if you are unsure about the art on display. These galleries can be quite dark.
On the second floor we have four gallery spaces.

The first is bright and airy. It contains the gallery’s permanent painting collection.
The second gallery is usually bright. It houses the Anthony Shaw collection. There may be videos to watch here.

There is also a large colourful wall of pots.
The third gallery space is called CoCA (centre of ceramic arts). It is usually bright and spacious and can be a little bit noisy.

The gallery tells us about the history of British pots in the 20th and 21st centuries. The displays in here often change.
The fourth gallery can sometimes be quite dark. It may also have flashing lights and loud noises. Signs will alert you to this.
There is a large dark box with a video inside that you can watch.
There are plenty of lockers upstairs where you can store bags and coats.
There is a shop upstairs where you can buy ceramics, books, postcards, cards, and other things.
Exiting the gallery

You leave the gallery through the shop. There is a balcony which takes you into the Artists’ Garden and through to the Museum Gardens.

You can exit the balcony by the lift or the stairs.
There is a mat on the balcony surface to stop you from slipping.

In the Artists’ garden there are some sculptures by the artist Michael Lyons.
We hope you enjoy your visit and if we can do anything to help you, just ask!

York Museums Trust