





WELCOME TO READING MUSEUM

We are delighted to welcome you to Reading Museum, and hope that you will wish to take part in some of the many activities that we have planned. Don't forget to visit our lovely shop and the Pantry café. Please keep an eye on our website for all the latest information. All information correct at time of printing.

Admission FREE

OPENING HOURS

Tuesday – Friday 10am – 4pm

Saturday 10am – 5pm

Closed Sundays, Mondays and Bank Holidays

Please see our website for Christmas opening times

Reading Museum

Blagrove Street
Reading Borough
Council
RG1 1QH

Information:
0118 937 3400

Follow us on:    

REGULAR EVENTS

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Rhymetime at Reading Museum

Families, 10.30am – 11am
Free, drop in

EVERY THURSDAY

Museum Surgery

All ages, 12pm – 4pm
Drop in

EVERY FRIDAY

Object Handling

All ages, 10.30am – 12pm
Drop in

EVERY SATURDAY

Bayeux Tapestry Tours

All ages, 2pm – 3pm
£5.50, book online

Museums, My Way

For neurodivergent visitors and their families.

Families, free, drop in



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



For more information and bookings, visit www.readingmuseum.org.uk

EXHIBITIONS

SIR JOHN MADEJSKI ART GALLERY

ART STORIES

**Saturday 7 September
2024 – Saturday 22
February 2025**

Every picture tells a story. Some the artist leaves for you to find. Some you can make up for yourself. Art Stories includes many exciting contemporary paintings, photographs, prints and sculptures such as pieces by Pablo Picasso and Cornelia Parker. Others tell older stories of Reading people and places.

Some of them have inspired writers to slip their own mini-stories into the gallery to delight you and you are invited to do the same.

The exhibition showcases recent additions to Reading Museum's collection including works acquired by Reading Foundation for Art, a remarkable charity which has been collecting art for the town for fifty years.



ARTS EXHIBITIONS @ TURBINE HOUSE, RIVERSIDE MUSEUM

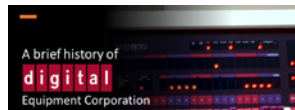
From 1 May to 30 September the atmospheric Turbine House at Riverside Museum will host a lively series of exhibitions and residencies by Reading artists

THE WELCOME GALLERY

A BRIEF HISTORY OF D.E.C.

Until Saturday 12 October

Discover the remarkable story of Digital Equipment Corporation in Reading. A prelude to a major new exhibition happening in 2025, this display will mark the 60th anniversary of Digital Equipment Corporation opening its first UK office in Reading.



THE ART OF DANCE FROM THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

From Saturday 26 October

Drawing together artefacts collected by the people of Reading with the Museum's own historic world objects, this display explores how the local Indian community express themselves through dance. In partnership with Kala the Arts and generously funded by the Arts Council.



BECOMING ROMAN

Late Autumn 2024

This pop-up display in the Welcome Gallery will feature finds from the University of Reading excavations at Silchester, complementing our permanent galleries. Look out for details on our website or follow us on social media. (In association with Hampshire Cultural Trust.)



TALKS, TOURS AND WORKSHOPS



SPORT IN MIND SESSION: MUM & BABY MOVEMENT & EXERCISE FOR MENTAL WELLBEING

Every Monday from 9
September (RBC term
time only)

Adults, 1pm – 2pm
Free, for more information,
please contact Sport in Mind
0118 9479762 –
info@sportinmind.org –
www.sportinmind.org



READING MUSEUM'S OFFICIAL ABBEY QUARTER TOURS

Don't miss the last few weeks
of this year's official Abbey
tours. Check our website
for dates and availability for
Abbey Quarter Tours, Abbey
Gateway Rooftop Tours and
Oscar Wilde Tours.

All ages
From £10 per person,
book online via our website



HERITAGE OPEN DAYS: READING ABBEY GATEWAY TOUR

Friday 6 September

A special opportunity to
visit the Abbey Gateway
and learn about this listed
building's fascinating
history and its role in
the Abbey Quarter. Hear
about the Abbey monks,
visiting royalty, links to
novelist Jane Austen and
much more.

Please note that the
Gateway has no step free
access and there are
uneven steps and floors.

Tour starts at 11am
Adults and older children
Free, book online via
our website



HERITAGE OPEN DAYS: READING MUSEUM STORE TOURS

**Wednesday 11
September**

Join us behind the scenes
at our store in Whitley. This
year's theme is Roman
Silchester, looking at
objects connecting the
regional capital to the wider
Roman empire. Tours are
in small groups (up to 6) led
by Museum staff and last
about an hour. Directions
will be sent by email five
days before the tour.

Tours starting at 11am,
12.15pm, 2pm and 3.15pm
Adults and older children
Free, book online via
our website





DRAWING ON LOCATION

Monthly on a Friday, from 20 Sept (see website for dates)

Adults, 10am – 12pm
£17 / or Free* for eligible learners



ART IN THE DARK MONTHS: PORTRAITS

Saturday 30 November

Adults, 10.30am – 4pm
£17 / or Free* for eligible learners

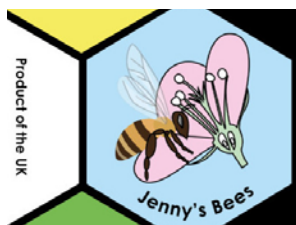
**These sessions are delivered by New Directions College as part of their Tailored learning, Community Arts & Wellbeing programme. Please check our website for full criteria. Enrol via: www.newdirectionsreading.ac.uk*



RELAXED TOUR OF READING ABBEY QUARTER

Friday 4 October

Tour starts at 11am
Suitable for older people
Free, book online via our website



BEEES AND BEEKEEPING IN READING AND BERKSHIRE

Saturday 5 October

All ages, starts at 11am
£5.50, book online via our website



BLACK HISTORY MONTH TALK: WHAT DID DIVERSITY MEAN IN THE ROMAN WORLD?

Saturday 12 October

Adults and 16+, 2pm – 3pm
£5.50, book online via our website



LOCAL HISTORY WALK & TALK: THE DAY READING WAS BOMBED

Saturday 16 November

All ages, 11am – 1.30pm
£5.50, book online via our website



ALL ROADS: COMMUNITY ART PROJECT WORKSHOPS

Fridays from 6 September – 15 November

Fridays 9.30 – 11.30am
(check our website for dates)
Free, drop in, no booking necessary



FAMILY ACTIVITIES

October Half Term – Don't miss our special Monday opening

Saturday 26 October – Saturday 2 November 2024

ACTIVITY CART

Free, drop in



THE BIG PUMPKIN AND LITTLE MOUSE TRAIL AT READING MUSEUM

From Saturday 5 October onwards

£1 per trail, pay on the day or book online via our website

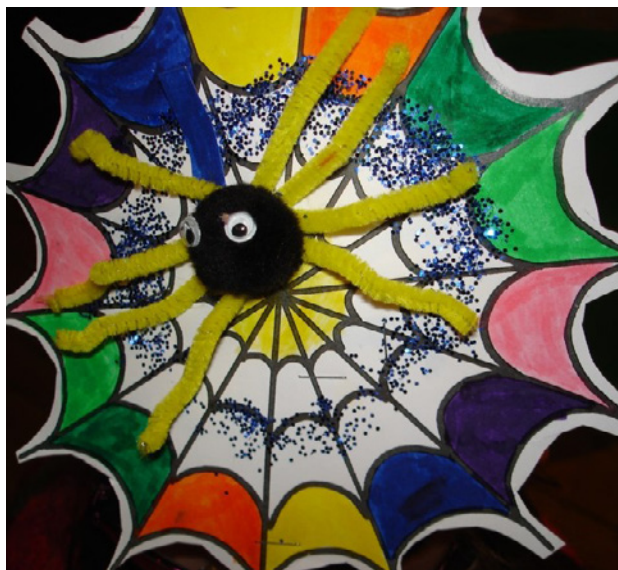


THE BIG ARTWORK EVENT

Tuesday 29 October

All ages, 10.30am – 3.30pm
Free, donations welcome, drop in

 **New Directions College**
Build your future here



ROMAN MODELLING

Wednesday 30 October

Ages 5+, Families, 1-hour sessions starting at 10am, 11.15am, 1pm & 2.15pm
£4 per child, book online via our website



SEASONAL RHYMETIME AT READING MUSEUM

Wednesday 30 October

Families, 10.30am – 11am
Donations welcome, drop in

MAKE & TAKE: POM POM SPIDERS AND BATS

Thursday 31 October

Families, half-hour sessions 10am – 12pm & 1pm – 3pm
£2, pay on the day, drop in

VICTORIAN SCHOOLROOM EXPERIENCE IN THE GATEWAY

Friday 1 November

Gateway

Ages 5+, 11am & 2pm (meeting at the Abbey Gateway)

£2 per person, pay on the day or book online via our website

For more information and bookings, visit www.readingmuseum.org.uk

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Christmas Events

Throughout December

THE FORGETFUL ELF'S CHRISTMAS FEAST TRAIL

Throughout December

Families

£1 per trail, pay on the day or book online via our website



FESTIVE RHYMETIME AT READING MUSEUM

Every Wednesday, throughout December

Families, 10.30am – 11am
Free, drop in

ACTIVITY CART

Free, drop in

READING CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday 30 November

With more than 25 stalls, plus 10% off all Museum Shop purchases and Delicious Treats available in The Pantry Café.

Free Entry



MAKE & TAKE: CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

Saturday 30 November

Families, half-hour sessions
10am – 12pm & 1pm – 4pm
£2, pay on the day, drop in

FATHER CHRISTMAS' VICTORIAN WINTER GROTTO

Saturday 14 December

Families, sessions between
10am – 12pm & 1pm – 4pm
£5.50 per person, book online (please see our website for dates and timeslots)



MAKE & TAKE: CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

Saturday 14 December

Families, half-hour sessions
10am – 12pm & 1pm – 4pm
£2, pay on the day, drop in

EDUCATION: READING MUSEUM – HANDS ON LEARNING FOR SCHOOLS

Reading Museum offers a wide range of learning opportunities for school children. Our Schools Loans Service provides hundreds of boxes containing real objects for classroom use. These dynamic and engaging resources help enhance and develop children's learning and understanding. We also have a range of creative and interactive educational sessions on offer in the museum and online, from prehistory to the Victorian era.

For more information about our education services please see our website www.readingmuseum.org.uk or email museum.education@reading.gov.uk



We are closed between Christmas and New Year. Please see our website for full details.

For more information and bookings, visit www.readingmuseum.org.uk

HOW TO FIND US

Reading Museum

Reading Museum is in the Town Hall opposite the rear entrance to Marks & Spencer. The entrance is via glass doors on Blagrave Street, a two minute walk from the railway station and main bus stops.

We recommend using public transport or park and ride to reach central Reading.

www.readingmuseum.org.uk 0118 937 3400

Reading Abbey Quarter

We suggest you begin your visit at Reading Museum to see our permanent Reading Abbey displays.

The Ruins are a 5 to 10 minute walk away. They can be accessed via the Forbury Gardens or from Chestnut Walk beside the River Kennet.

Riverside Museum

The Riverside Museum is about a 20 minute walk from Reading Museum. It is accessible from Kenavon Drive or from the Kings Road via Gasworks Road bridge.



Reading Museum, Town Hall, Blagrave Street, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 1QH



READING MUSEUM SHOP

The Reading Museum gift shop draws inspiration from the Museum's diverse and fascinating collections through handmade gifts and souvenirs created by local artists and makers. Every purchase made goes towards supporting the Museum.

Browse our online shop via our website

www.readingmuseum.org.uk



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