



This guide has been created through the Portals to the World programme, a partnership initiative between the University of Cambridge Museums and Dementia Compass.

Dementia Compass are a social venture with over a decade of experience supporting individuals with Alzheimer's or other dementias and their families.

Dementia Compass builds and provides resources that reduce the impact of dementia and help people stay connected with who and what matters.

For more information visit the Dementia Compass Website:

www.dementiacompass.com



Or contact them on

07876 350 638

hello@dementiacompass.com

Notes:



Access information

Are there places to sit?

There is seating in our Main Gallery, Learning Gallery, and Upper Gallery.

Is the museum wheelchair accessible?

The museum is accessible for wheelchair users. The museum has a wheelchair for visitors' use.

Are there accessible toilets?

There is an accessible toilet for all genders on the ground floor of the museum.

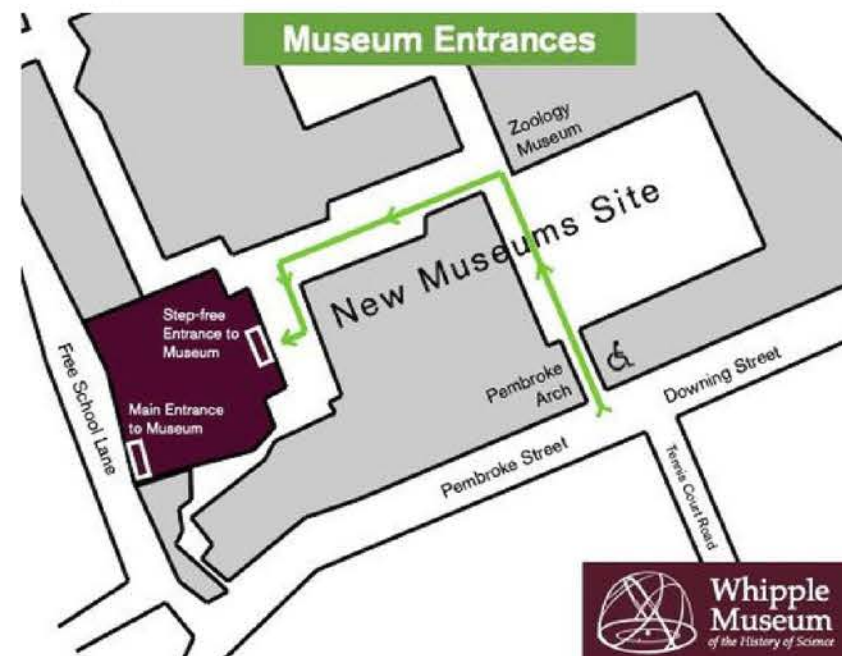
Is the museum accessible with visual impairments? Assistance dogs are welcome in the museum. Large print labels are used for our Special Exhibition.

Is there Step-free access?

The museum has step-free access via the Pembroke Arch entrance on the New Museums Site. Please see the map below for guidance.

Telephone: 01223 330906

Email: hps-whipple-museum@lists.ac.uk



Museum Walk

Space Toys

An exploration of Space through science and fiction



Grand Orrery

John Adams, 1750

People have always been fascinated by the idea of space, this model of the solar system has a handle which moves the planets around the sun.

It was a rich man's toy, designed to showcase the owner's knowledge and wealth. The name Orrery does not come from its skilled creator but the Earl of Orrery, the owner of an early version.

Herschel's Telescope
William Herschel, ~1790



This telescope was built by William Herschel, at a time when astronomy was astronomically popular.

William's sister Caroline was also a very important astronomer and the first woman paid for scientific work in Britain.

William discovered Uranus and Caroline discovered several comets using telescopes like this one here.

This telescope was presented to George III and was kept as a status symbol rather than for scientific use.

Space Commander
TN (Nomura), 1960



This Japanese spaceship reflects the excitement and huge demand for futuristic toys during the 'Space Race'.

The toy moves around the room, lights flash and inside a cartoon strip spins to show people moving.

The spaceship is total science fiction; however, the packaging includes images resembling the "Blue Marble" photo of Earth from the Apollo 17 NASA mission in 1972 and a modern space shuttle.

Sputnik Globe
Michael Seidel, c.1960



Made to capitalise on the 'Space Race' this tin globe depicts boat and aeroplane routes. A wind-up mechanism rotates two objects around Earth, Sputnik and a 'flying saucer'.

Sputnik, the first satellite launched in 1957, is relatively accurate. The 'flying saucer' carrying an astronaut is not!

Created in 1960s West Germany, was the Soviet Sputnik seen as a triumph or a threat?

Terra-Lune Toy
Technofix, ~1950



Designed in the US Zone of Germany before the 'Space Race' and modern spaceflight, this toy shows space travel using flying cars!

A wind-up mechanism inside the Earth allows the cars to shoot around at high speeds.

The illustrations show possible spaceship designs and European cityscapes.

