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

Dementia Compass is 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 impacts of dementia and to 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

Why a museum walk?
Visiting a museum is a great opportunity to meet friends and have some gentle exercise as you explore the collections.

How long will it take?
With time to stop and look the walk should take you approximately 50 minutes.

How far is it?
It's approximately 300 steps.

Are there places to sit?
There is seating in our Main Gallery, Learning Gallery, and Upper Gallery.

What access support is there?
The museum is accessible for wheelchair users and the museum has a wheelchair for visitors’ use.

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

Assistance dogs are welcome in the museum. Large print labels are used for our Special Exhibition.

The museum has step-free access via the Pembroke Arch entrance on the New Museums Site.

Mrs Johnstone’s dissected globe, 1812

This globe is part of the Craftswomen exhibition at the Whipple Museum. The exhibition highlights women makers of scientific instruments.

A model of Earth, the dissected globe comes apart, helping children and young people to learn. The globe is one of the few objects in the museum’s collection made and signed by a woman, Mrs Johnstone.
Botanical atlas 1860-1890
Carolina Dodel-Port (1856-?)

Botanical art was an area where female scientists excelled. It was common for wives to illustrate their husbands’ work, but often they were not credited. This example is unusual with Arnold and Carolina Dodel-Port both credited as authors of the Botanical Atlas.

Mars globe, hand painted c.1913
Ingeborg Brun (1872-1929)

This globe of Mars was hand painted by Ingeborg Brun, a Danish female astronomer. Ingeborg created her globes when bedridden. Her illness was caused by a nine-year confinement in a mental institution enforced by her brother. The globes are inspired by maps created by Percival Lowell, an American astronomer. Lowell made popular a belief that canals existed on the surface of Mars. The canals were, he believed, created by an advanced life form.

Fume cupboard, in use late 1800’s
Ida Freund (1863-1914)

This fume cupboard is from the science labs at Newnham College for women, here in Cambridge. These labs created a place where women could study science, especially chemistry, without discrimination or barriers. The Labs were run by Ida Freund, a Girton College-trained chemist. Ida later became the first chemistry lecturer in the United Kingdom.

Herschel’s telescope, made c.1790
Caroline Herschel (1750-1848)

This telescope is credited to the astronomer William Herschel, who frequently collaborated with his sister, Caroline. Caroline Herschel was also an astronomer. She discovered many comets and won the Royal Astronomical Society’s Gold medal in 1828 – the next woman to win it was the American, Vera Rubin in 1996, 168 years later. Caroline was the first woman (we know of) to be paid for scientific work in the United Kingdom.

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