

National Portrait Gallery
St Martin's Place
London WC2H 0HE
www.npg.org.uk
020 7306 0055
Text Direct 18001

01 / 2011



Please recycle this Guide by using the drop-box in the Ondaatje Wing Main Hall or Cloakroom



National
Portrait
Gallery



Access information

Welcome to the National Portrait Gallery

The Gallery houses the world's largest collection of personalities and faces from the late Middle Ages to the present day. On display you will find over 1,000 portraits featuring the men and women who have shaped British history and culture.

A journey through the galleries weaves together 500 years of history, art, biography and fame.

The galleries are arranged chronologically starting with the Tudor collection on Floor 2 and ending with contemporary portraits in the Lerner Galleries on Floor 0.

We hope that you enjoy your visit.

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Main entrance





Admission

Entrance to the Gallery is free. There are charges for special exhibitions throughout the year. Ticket prices vary.

Disabled visitors pay concessionary rates and carers are entitled to free admission. Concessionary rates also apply to senior citizens, ES40 cardholders and students in full-time education.

Opening hours

Daily 10.00 – 18.00

Closure commences at 17.50

Thursdays and Fridays until 21.00

Closure commences at 20.50

Last admission to paying exhibitions is 1 hour before the Gallery closes.

To find out more visit:

www.npg.org.uk

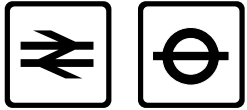
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7306 0055

Late Shift

www.npg.org.uk/lateshift

Late Shift offers new ways to explore the Gallery after hours and socialise after work. Every Thursday and Friday enjoy art, music, performance, talks, tours and workshops.

Getting to the National Portrait Gallery



By rail

Charing Cross station
320 metres from the
St Martin's Place entrance.

By Underground

The nearest Underground
stations: Charing Cross
(230 metres) Leicester
Square (195 metres)
and Embankment (490
metres). Please note these
stations do not have a lift.

By bus

To Trafalgar Square

For all transport information
call 0843 222 1234
or visit www.tfl.gov.uk.

By car, taxi or Dial-a-Ride

Set down and pick up
at the ramp entrance in
Orange Street.

Parking information

There are no car parking
facilities at the Gallery. Five
public parking spaces for
orange / blue badge holders
are located in St Martin's
Street opposite the National
Gallery's Sainsbury Wing.

A public car park is located
on the corner of Whitcomb
Street and Orange Street.

For more information
contact 0800 243 348.

Planning your visit

Arriving

Step-free access to the
Gallery is via the Orange
Street ramp entrance and
the Shop entrance on St
Martin's Place (see below).

The Heinz Archive and
Library entrance is at the
National Portrait Gallery's
administrative offices
located on Orange Street
opposite the ramp.

Orange Street entrance



St Martin's shop entrance





Planning your visit continued



Wheelchairs

Manual wheelchairs can be provided for visitors with mobility difficulties. To book a wheelchair in advance of your visit contact 020 7306 0055.



Public telephone

A public telephone is located next to the toilets on Floor 0 adjacent to the Orange Street entrance.



Lifts

The Shop lift is located inside the Shop entrance, to the left of the main entrance on St Martin's Place. It provides access to the Shop, Bookshop Gallery and Portrait Café.

Inside the St Martin's Place entrance a lift provides access to most areas of the Ondaatje Wing including the Ondaatje Wing Theatre and Floor 0.

The lifts near the Orange Street entrance provide access to galleries on Floors 1, 2 and the Portrait Restaurant.

A separate lift is also available from Floor 0 providing access to the IT Gallery only.

Planning your visit continued



Toilets

There are four accessible unisex toilets.

- **Floor 0**
Orange Street entrance.
- **Floor –2**
adjacent to the Ondaatje Wing Theatre.
- **Floor –3** Bookshop
Gallery, via the shop lift.
- **Floor 3** adjacent to the Portrait Restaurant, via the Orange Street lifts.

Baby changing

Located adjacent to the Ondaatje Wing Theatre.

Cloakroom

Accessible through the Ondaatje Wing Main Hall.

Emergency evacuation

If you have particular needs in the event of emergency evacuation, please inform the Information Desk on arrival.

Water fountain

Next to the toilets on Floor 0.

Ondaatje Wing Theatre

Hosts talks, performances and films. Accommodates five manual wheelchairs or up to three electric wheelchairs. Contact the Learning Department in advance on 020 7312 2483 to reserve a space.

Visit www.npg.org.uk/events

IT Gallery

The IT Gallery is located on the Floor 0 mezzanine. The Portrait Explorer touch-screens allow visitors to explore many portraits in the Gallery's collections, using video, sound and animation. All images can be explored in detail using the magnification facility.

Portrait Café

Located on Floor 3. Access the Café via the Shop lift on Floor 0. Serving a selection of homemade sandwiches, pastries, fresh soup and refreshments. Open during Gallery hours. Closes one hour before the Gallery.

Portrait Restaurant

Located on Floor 3. One of London's finest dining rooms with skyline views, serving a modern British menu Monday to Saturday. Opening hours vary and booking is advisable, please call 020 7312 2490 (Text Direct: 18001) for information.

Shops

Shops are located on Floor –1 at the St Martin's Street entrance and at the Orange Street entrance. The Bookshop is located on Floor –3. All are open during Gallery hours.

Access services



Large print information

Available at the Information Desk, for many of the portraits in the Collection and temporary exhibitions.



Magnifying glasses

Available from the Information Desk.



Visualising portraits

Monthly picture descriptions and workshops for visually impaired visitors. Contact the Learning Department for details, or visit: www.npg.org.uk/events



Descriptive folders

146 tactile images, Braille and large print text are available from the main Information Desk. Picture descriptions are available as audio recordings.



Guided tours

Picture descriptions are available for visually impaired visitors. Contact the Learning Department on 020 7312 2483. Maximum group size 10.



Audio guides

Available from the Sound Guide desk free of charge for disabled visitors. These contain recordings about portraits in the Collection, including descriptive recordings. Please ask about a version in British Sign Language. Family Audio Tours are also available. Neck loops are available on request.

Induction loops

Induction loops operate in the Ondaatje Wing Theatre, the Information Desk and Main Hall. Portable induction loops for hearing impaired visitors are situated at all information desks; Heinz Archive and Library, Orange Street reception, Cloakroom, Portrait Café, Shops and IT Gallery.

Access services continued



Guide dogs and Assistance dogs

Guide, hearing and assistance dogs are permitted in all areas of the Gallery.



British Sign Language

British Sign Language interpreted talks and events are available throughout the year. Please see website for more details at www.npg.org.uk/events





Further information

Membership

020 7312 2404

Single membership from £30 a year. Gallery Membership offers a range of benefits including free entry to exhibitions, regular newsletters, events and special offers including discounts in the Gallery Shops and Restaurant. Visit www.npg.org.uk/members

Heinz Archive & Library

020 7306 0055 ext 6617
(Text Direct: 18001)
archiveenquiry@npg.org.uk
A resource for those wishing to conduct research in the field of portraiture. Visits by appointment only, Tuesday to Friday 10.00–17.00.

The Learning Department

020 7312 2483

Offering activities, talks and resources for a wide range of learners, including colleges, universities and adult groups. We also offer an access, outreach and community programme for people with disabilities.

Website

www.npg.org.uk

The website provides comprehensive information on the Gallery's Collection, exhibitions and facilities. A BETSIE facility is available for visually impaired visitors to access the site.

Keep in touch

Register online for the Gallery's free e-newsletter and follow us on Facebook or at NPGLondon on Twitter.

Special thanks to the Gallery's Disability Action Group for helping to compile this guide. If you would like further information about the Disability Action Group please contact outreach@npg.org.uk

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Recorded Information
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For general access information visit:
www.npg.org.uk/access

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