

About the Museums

A journey that evokes time and place,
reflecting culture and identity within six
main galleries.

The National Museum sets itself apart with its seamless integration of exhibits and the notable specialization found within its six galleries, each of which offers an independent and comprehensive presentation that narrates the story of life in the Kingdom, spanning from ancient times through the Islamic period to our modern age and the Saudi reign.

Museum Galleries

Man and the Universe Gallery

Situated on the ground floor, the Man and the Universe Gallery spans a substantial area of 1,500 square meters. The gallery centers around four key themes: the genesis of the Universe and Earth, the geological forces that have shaped our planet ancient environments and the initial inhabitants of the Arabian Peninsula.

The phenomena of continental drift and the movement of continents, as well as the formation and transformation of minerals, rocks and the rock cycle. Within the gallery, visitors can also find authentic fossils of large animals dating back 85,000 years, as well as fragments of human bones.

Arabian Kingdoms Gallery

The Arabian Kingdoms Gallery depicts life in the Arabian Peninsula from the fourth millennium BC to the fourth century CE. The gallery highlights the archaeological remnants of numerous multicultural cities and trade routes that thrived during three significant periods: the ancient, middle and late Arabian kingdoms. Additionally, the gallery displays an assortment of artifacts from ancient civilizations, including Egyptian, Greek. Notably, it also features the magnificent and mysterious treasure of Princess Thaj.

Pre-Islamic Gallery

Situated on the ground floor, the Pre-Islamic Period Gallery captures the era from the fourth century CE until the Prophetic mission. Within this gallery, visitors can embark on a journey through renowned Arab markets, listen to excerpts of historical poetry and rhetoric and delve into the diverse cultural, social and political aspects that characterized the Arabian Peninsula during that period.

Prophet's Mission Gallery

Situated on the first floor of the museum, the Prophet's Mission Gallery sheds light on the life journey of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). This gallery encompasses significant aspects such as his lineage, birth, and life. Among the exhibited materials are manuscripts of the Holy Quran, some of which date back to the era of Caliph Uthman ibn Affan - may Allah be pleased with him-. Approaching the fifth gallery, you will encounter a sizable rectangular ceramic mural that vividly depicts the Prophet's journey (PBUH) from Makkah to Madinah. This captivating mural incorporates drawings, audio elements and written descriptions.

Islam and the Arabian Peninsula Gallery

The Islam and the Arabian Peninsula Gallery showcases significant events in the biography of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), extending to his death. This period marked the emergence of the Rashidun Caliphate, followed by the Umayyad, Abbasid and Mamluk eras. The gallery contains precious items and valuable artifacts, highlighting the most outstanding objects that illustrate the notable advancements during Islamic eras, particularly in areas such as architecture, Arabic calligraphy, theoretical sciences and natural sciences.

First and Second Saudi States Gallery

Adjacent to the fifth gallery, the sixth gallery chronologically showcases the progressive stages of the Saudi state. It starts with the inception of the first Saudi state in 1727 CE, encompassing the significant historical events that took place until the era of the second Saudi state under the leadership of Imam Turki bin Abdullah. The gallery houses an array of models and artifacts from these two distinct periods of the Kingdom's history, including glimpses into everyday life in Diriyah.