

FACT SHEET



FAST FACTS

- Opening 21 November 2020
- Free for visitors for the first 18 months
- A \$400 million State Government project
- Situated in the heart of the Perth Cultural Centre
- A landmark building with extraordinary exhibitions and visitor experiences
- Managing Contractor Multiplex, designed by international architectural consortium Hassell + OMA

Image: Michael Haluwana, Aeroture.

Stunning new Western Australian Museum

Showcasing our extraordinary history, people, spirit, culture, creativity, and place in the world, this is a museum about what it means to be Western Australian.

It will be a gateway to our State, giving visitors a taste of everything Western Australia has to offer, and a vibrant centre of inspiration, learning and enjoyment for people of all ages. The voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their communities, culture, and connection to Country will be featured throughout.

The new Western Australian Museum will be a place for sharing ideas, and promoting discussion and debate about our past, present, and future. It will be exciting, entertaining, participatory and informative.

What we will feature

Eight major permanent exhibitions, all multi-disciplinary and all co-created with Western Australians.

Explore our State, our world and worlds beyond.

Ngalang Koort Boodja Wirn

Our heart, Country, spirit

Innovations

Creative minds, amazing inventions

Reflections Our people, our stories

Origins Land, water, sky Wild Life Discover nature's diversity

Changes Transforming landscapes

Tianqi Lithium Connections Our place in the World

Stan Perron WA Treasures Highlights from the State's Collections







What you will experience

- Eight new permanent exhibitions
- A 1,000sqm Temporary Exhibition Gallery for special exhibitions
- Retail and café spaces
- Five revitalised heritage-listed buildings
- Thousands of items from the Museum's collections displayed in ways you've never seen before
- Exhibitions and experiences featuring stories from all around Western Australia
- Four levels of displays
- An open and welcoming entrance and foyer space
- Multi-media and interactive displays
- Multipurpose spaces for programming, events, and functions
- Woodside Learning Centre for lifelong learning and programming

The stories of our people, places and planet

The new Museum shares stories of Western Australia, its diverse peoples, its extraordinary places and its role in a global context. Our past, our present and our future is explored through innovative displays, extensive collections and amazing stories.

For the people, by the people, with the people

The Museum represents the heart of our State and the spirit of our people. To deliver on this aspiration the Museum talked to more than 50,000 Western Australians and consulted on a regular basis with four community panels. We also engaged with more than 60 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander language groups from around Western Australia, whose voices stories and objects will be featured throughout the Museum.

Where we came from

The Western Australian Museum preserves, documents and shares collections that relate to the State's natural and cultural heritage.

Established in the Old Perth Gaol in 1891, it was originally known as the Geological Museum because the first State Collection comprised geological samples from around Western Australia. In 1892, it became the Perth Museum with cultural, ethnological and biological collections added from the Swan River Mechanics Institute and local constabulary. It was officially named the Western Australian Museum and Art Gallery in 1897. When the botanical collection was transferred to the Western Australian Herbarium in 1959, the Museum and Art Gallery became separate institutions. The Museum began focusing its research in the areas of natural sciences, anthropology, archaeology and WA's history. Over the 1960s and 1970s it also began to work in the emerging areas of historic shipwrecks and Aboriginal site management.

Today, the Western Australian Museum has seven public locations and a collections and research centre that houses more than eight million objects.

The Western Australian Museum is an active member of the State's many diverse communities, working alongside national and international organisations, contributing to global research, promoting life-long learning, and developing and hosting world-class exhibitions.

Where we are going

We want our Museum to be owned, valued and used by all Western Australians and to be a gateway to our State from visitors from afar.

We want you to enjoy your visits, to be thrilled by your experiences and to think about our world.

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