

# Guided tour: The London Priory of the medieval Order of St John



Museum of  
THE ORDER OF  
**ST JOHN**



Welcome to the Museum of the  
Order of St John.

The Museum is in a building  
called St John's Gate.

It is free to visit the Museum.

It is open from 10am to 5pm  
Wednesday -Saturday.

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The Museum tells the story of a group of people called the Order of St John. The story starts almost one thousand years ago in Jerusalem where they cared for sick pilgrims.

Today the Order runs St John Ambulance, an international first aid charity. In the Museum there are lots of objects that have been made or used by the Order of St John and St John Ambulance.

If you want to, you can see what the reception area and museum galleries are like before you visit on Google Street View at <https://bit.ly/2QPSfy2>.

Some things have changed a little bit, but mostly it's the same.



This is the front entrance. It's under the archway in the gate. Push the glass door to open it.



Visitor Welcome  
Assistants have yellow  
name badges and will be  
wearing a transparent  
mask. They will welcome  
you when you arrive.  
They can help you.






The tour will last about 45 minutes. There won't be an opportunity to go the toilet during the tour, but you can go to one in the Museum before or after.



If the fire alarm goes off there will be a loud noise. Follow the green signs to an exit. It might be a different exit from the one you would usually use.







There are lots of steps on the tour. If you have physical access needs, please look at our physical access guide or speak to a member of staff.

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The indoor spaces that the tour visits are very quiet, but outdoor spaces might be busy and noisy. You can ask at the reception desk if you would like to borrow ear defenders.

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The first stop on the tour is just outside the Museum. The ground is paved with a mixture of flagstones and cobbles.





The tour guide will now lead you across St John's Square and Clerkenwell Road. There are often lots of people walking around and lots of cars on the road. It's likely to be very busy and noisy.





This is St John's Square. The guide will talk to you in the square outside the church before you go in.



This is the Priory Gallery- you will visit here next.





You will then be in the church foyer.



From the church foyer you will go downstairs into the crypt. It might feel and smell cool and damp..





In the crypt you will see two effigies (stone sculptures of people who have died).





This is the second effigy.



You will then  
be shown the  
treasury in  
the Crypt.

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From the Crypt, you will go into the Church. It is very big and has a high ceiling. In Winter it is quite cold.





The tour guide will then take you through this door to our Cloister Garden.



This is the Cloister Garden, where your guide may finish the tour or take you back into the square.





If you want to, after the tour, you can look around the Museum galleries or the garden.



The Museum galleries are open all year and are free to visit. You are welcome to come again whenever you like.

You might also enjoy one of our other tours. You can find out more about them on our website.

<https://museumstjohn.org.uk/planning-your-visit/guided-tours/>

