

MAAP

Musée d'art et d'archéologie du Périgord



Museum floorplans

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- 1** In honour of the creators and the donators
- 2, 3 and 4** Prehistory
- 5** Hidden Treasures
- 6** Africa
- 7** Oceania
- 8** Zoology
- 9** Egypt and Mediterranean Antiquities
- 10** Sculptures and architectural decor

- 11 to 18** Fine Arts and Decorative Arts
 - 11 - from the 16th to the 17th centuries, France, Spain, Italy, Flanders
 - 12 - from the 17th to the 18th centuries, Flanders
 - 13 - 18th century, Italy, France
 - 14 - 19th century, France
 - 15 - from the 19th to the 18th centuries, France (artists from Périgord)
 - 16 - sculptures of the 20th century, G. Privat
 - 17 and 18 - sculptures of the 20th century, E. Hajdu
- 19** Temporary exhibitions



Left Wing – Ground Floor

Room 1 - In honour of the creators and the donors

This great museum project was begun in 1828 by the archaeologists Wlgrin de Taillefer and Gabriel de Mourcin. Since then it has been very regularly enriched by art and archaeology donations and bequests. Among the most remarkable pieces are a 12th century pill-box, a 14th century enamel statue of the Virgin, a 15th century stained glass image of Saint-Silain, antique vases from the renowned Campana collection, objects from pre-Columbian America and contemporary art works. There are also finials, ceramic oil jars, baptismal fonts and chests in iron and cast iron, evidence of the skills in the Périgord from the 15th to the 19th centuries.

First floor

Rooms 2, 3 and 4 - Prehistory Fourth most important collection in France

Richly endowed with some 18,500 items, this collection, which was the first to be put together in the Périgord, is now considered the fourth most important in France after those in the museums of Saint-Germain-en-Laye, of les Eyzies and of Nemours.

In these rooms, priority is given to an attractive and informative presentation of the most remarkable objects. Tools, decorative art objects and human fossils are exhibited by location and era, with the purpose of illustrating the fundamental landmarks in the first moments of the human adventure.

Room 2

A passageway brings us closer to the Palaeolithic world by presenting a 'family portrait' of our ancestors as depicted by Elizabeth Daynes, a sculptor specialising in historical reconstruction. Opposite this image, a display case shows the first experiments in flint work in France dating from the 1960s-1970s.

Room 3 - The Neanderthal World 450,000 - 35,000 years ago

In the central showcase, Acheulian and Mousterian bifaces, found at Cours Tourny, opposite the museum, are proof of human presence in Périgueux 400,000 years ago. All around, the showcases evoke the major sites of the Périgord, such as the fossilised skeleton known as 'l'homme de Regourdou', more than 90,000 years old and the subject of research at the international level.

Room 4 - The Homo Sapiens World 35,000 - 10,000 years ago

This 'modern man' developed the techniques of working flint, deer antlers and bone in order to produce his tool kit of needles, spears, harpoons and fish hooks. On entering, on the right, a series of showcases show how they evolved.

In the centre, engraved and painted stone and bones are displayed, all original. The other showcases are dedicated to significant sites throughout the Dordogne. At the end of the room the skeletal remains known as 'l'homme de Chancelade' bear witness to ceremonial funerary practices more than 15,000 years ago.

Room 5 - Hidden Treasures

This room regularly presents the museum's hidden treasures.

Ground floor, at the foot of the stairs

Rooms 6 and 7, Africa and Oceania Seventh most important collection in France

The first pieces of this collection were donated to the museum in the 1860s. They were brought back by missionaries, colonial civil servants, merchants and explorers, most of them originating in the Périgord. Acquired initially for comparison with objects found during the excavation of prehistoric sites and presented beside them, they have since the 1960s been exhibited in such a way as to evoke the cultures that they belong to. They also

allow a better understanding of the social and spiritual order of African and Oceanic cultures.

The showcases in Room 6, dedicated to Africa, present numerous objects such as Kota reliquaries, N'Guéré masks, and statues from Baoulé and Anyi. Room 7 gives a panorama view of Oceania cultures, particularly from New Caledonia and the Vanuatu, Solomon and Marquis Islands.

Room 8 - Zoology

Room 9 - Egypt and Mediterranean Antiquities

Donated by Périgourdins or loaned by the state, these collections present objects associated with funeral rites in Egypt, Greece and Etruria, from Antiquity until the 7th century AD.

A mummy, death masks, sarcophagus covers, engraved inscriptions and Coptic cloths bear witness to Egyptian practices. Greek vases and bronze jewellery have been found in Etruscan tombs.

The Cloister

Room 10 - Sculptures and architectural decor

The display of carved stones bear witness to the richness of architecture in Périgueux and the Périgord from the Gallo-Roman period up to the 17th century. They are presented in the romantic image of 'the ancient ruin' by way of reference to the rediscovery of the forum in Rome in the 18th century. Among the most remarkable pieces to be found are original decorative sculptures from the Cathedral of Saint-Front, dating from the 10th-12th centuries. Large sculptures from the 19th and 20th centuries have been placed in the Cloister recesses and in the garden. Since 2002, high on the walls, 'inscriptions' in chalk by contemporary artists reflect today's society by way of an echo of the Gallo-Roman originals.

Right Wing

Rooms 11 to 18 - Fine Arts and Decorative Arts, 16th-21st centuries

These rooms display the museum's most significant pieces in the visual arts : painting, sculpture, furniture and other art objects.

The high picture rails unfurl the history of French and European painting from the 16th century to the present day:

- historical painting through amazing works such as 'The extraction of the stone of madness' by Huys, 'The siege of Namur' by Martin des Batailles, 'The spirit in the sky' by Bouguereau and 'Riders of the Apocalypse' by Leeson.

- the landscapes of Blomaert, Manglard, Canaletto, Guigou and Daniel.

- portraits of important local figures such as Pierre de Bourdeilles dit Brantôme (16th century), Fénelon (17th) and of Sem, the famous 20th century caricaturist.

Among the sculptures are:

- references to antiquity, with the bust of a Roman emperor (16th century) and a crouching Diana (19th).

- famous figures such as Montesquieu (18th century), Aurélie de Tounens (19th) and Fulbert Dumonteil (19th -20th).

- major works of Jane Poupelet, Gilbert Privat, and Étienne Hadju (20th century). Alongside these major works, and as if belonging in the paintings themselves, a display of furniture, earthenware, enamel work and decorative arts completes the collection.

Room 19 - Temporary exhibitions

Four or five times a year, the museum organises exhibitions dedicated to contemporary artists and to making the most of its resources in partnership with other associations and cultural institutions.

At the heart of the city, this great institution dating from 1835, the Museum of Art and Archaeology of the Périgord, was the first museum established in the Dordogne.

With an inventory of 33,500 items and a permanent exhibition space of 2000 square metres, it presents a selection of the most remarkable pieces. It offers a tour of the arts from pre-history to the present day, and of local, European, African and Oceanic origin. It is the only collection of its type in the Dordogne. These collections have been assembled thanks to purchases by the city, gifts from collectors in the region, and loans and donations from the state.

Opening hours (closed Tuesdays and public holidays)

From October 1 to March 31

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday : 10h - 17h

Saturday, Sunday : 13h - 18h

From April 1 to September 30

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday : 10h30 - 17h30

Saturday, Sunday : 13h - 18h

Admission

Tickets include entry to temporary exhibitions.

Full price : 4,5 €

Reduced price* : 2,5 €

Family price : 9 €

includes all children aged under 26

Free

for all children aged under 6 and all young people aged under 26 living in Périgueux.

**proof of eligibility required - further information from front desk.*

Cultural and educational activities

Treasure hunt - free from front desk

Games of investigation and observation with the aim of finding a mystery person, a fake picture, a murderer... and of learning about the collections while having fun.

Aids to discovery - free from front desk

Booklets and other material with which to play, observe and learn all about the temporary exhibitions and the permanent collections.

Thursdays at the museum

Thursdays 12h30 to 13h, October to May - free entry for all

30 minutes to find out about a particular work, by way of a short talk followed by questions and answers.

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