

British Museum



The British Museum is one of the oldest and one of the most important museums in the world. The British Museum was established in 1753, largely based on the collections of the physician and scientist [Sir Hans Sloane](#) who bequeathed them to the English nation after his death. The collections he donated were later joined by many other collections of books and manuscripts.

The museum first opened to the public on 15 January 1759. Since then, the building and collections have changed a lot. Many objects have for instance been displaced and removed to other museums (mainly the British Museum of Natural History in South Kensington).

The collections of the museum number more than 7 million objects, from prehistoric to modern times. Due to the lack of space, most of these objects are

stored in the basement of the museum.

The *Queen Elizabeth II Great Court* is a covered square, at the centre of the museum. It was designed by the architects [Foster and Partners](#).

Admission to the British Museum has always been free, apart from a short period of a few months in 1972. However, charges are levied for some temporary special exhibitions.

Room n°4: Find the Rosetta Stone.

When and **where** was the Rosetta Stone discovered?

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What **mystery** was solved thanks to the Rosetta stone? **Who** by and **when**?

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.....

Room n°18 :

Which **civilization** is presented in this room?

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What **historical** period do these remains correspond to? **Who** ruled this city at that time?

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Find the **frieze representing people in religious procession**. On which **temple** were these metopes and statues found?

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Room 21 :

Find the remnants of one of the « **seven Wonders of the world** » of the ancient world.

What is the name of this « Wonder »?

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What did it represent? When and where was it erected? How did this « Wonder » come to be destroyed?

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**Upstairs,
Eastern wing :**

Room 49 :

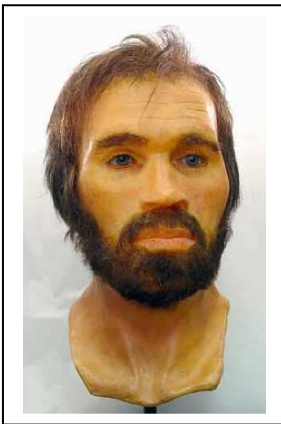
Spot the **oldest written** document known in Great-Britain.

What is its **name** ?

When was it produced ?

Find the Lindow Man.

If you can't find him, ask the staff or a visitor.



When did he live?

When was he discovered ?

How can his « good and exceptional» **state of conservation be explained** ?

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Rooms 61-66 :

Which **civilization** is presented in these rooms?

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Which creatures used to be embalmed? Give at least two answers:

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What **materials** were used to make sarcophagi? Give several answers :

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