

VISITING THE MUSEUM

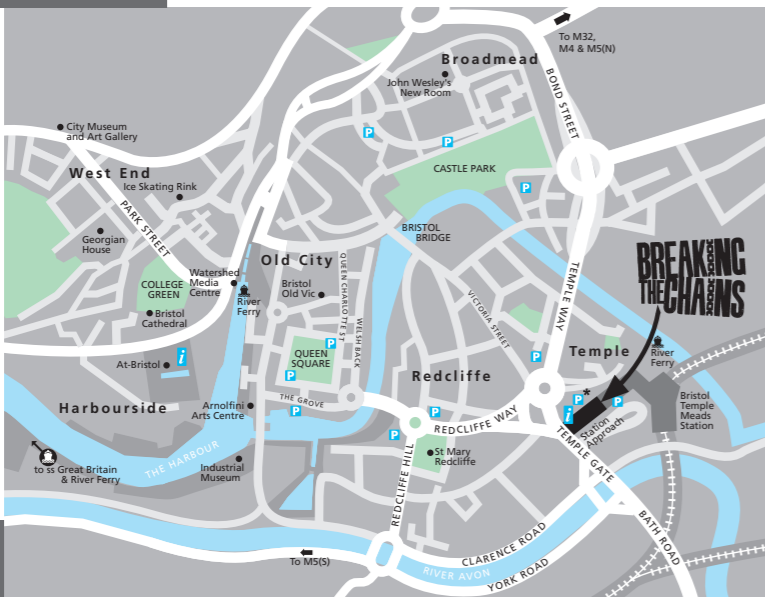
www.empiremuseum.co.uk
empire and us

THE BRITISH EMPIRE & COMMONWEALTH MUSEUM

Opening times

Opens 2pm on 23rd April 2007, then: 10am-5pm every day except Christmas and Boxing Day.

T: 0117 925 4980
 E: enquiries@empiremuseum.co.uk
 W: www.empiremuseum.co.uk



Station Approach,
 Temple Meads,
 Bristol BS1 6QH

By public transport

Situated next to Bristol's main railway station, the Museum is served by the city's principal public transport services, including rail (0845 748 4950), bus (0870 608 26 08), park and ride (0117 922 2910) and river ferry (0117 927 3416).

By car

Leave the M4 at junction 19, taking the M32 to the city centre and Temple Meads rail station. Take junction 19 for Bristol city centre if travelling north on the M5 or junction 18 if travelling south. Limited pay and display parking is available at the rear of the Museum.

Admission prices

Adult: £7.95
 Child: £3.95
 Senior Citizen, student and concessions: £6.95
 Family ticket: £19.95 (up to 2 adults + 2 children or 1 adult + 3 children. One adult may be a nominated carer).

Discount for groups of 10+

Payment of the full admission price includes FREE unlimited re-entry to Breaking the Chains and the Museum for one year.

Cafe and Shop

NEW Caffe Gusto Siesta - the place to explore tastes from around the world.



The Museum shop sells a wide range of specialist books, souvenirs and gift ideas.

The British Empire & Commonwealth Museum gratefully acknowledges the support of Sir Jack Hayward OBE, The Heritage Lottery Fund, Bristol City Council Abolition 200, The Linbury Trust, The Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation, The Garfield Weston Foundation, The Society of Merchant Venturers and the Ernest Cook Trust with the exhibition and its education programme.



A 21ST CENTURY PERSPECTIVE

Breaking the Chains challenges our perception of the slave trade, its history and its legacy. It also challenges the traditional view of a Museum exhibition experience. Using the latest audio-video technology we place the visitor at the heart of the experience, inviting them to play their part in the story. See and hear the evidence, then have your say.

Throughout the exhibition and as an additional resource you will find:

Me deya theatre and film

A multimedia gallery of digital memories, meditations and feelings on the contemporary legacies of the slave trade. Touch screens open up a variety of artistic responses featuring film, video, photography, animation and audio.

Vox box

A place to record your own thoughts and responses in audio or video format to any aspect of the Breaking the Chains exhibition.



Legacy, Bandele Iyapo, 2006. © Bandele Iyapo

Music and oral history

Personal testimonies, historical memoirs and modern day descendants bring this history to life through the exhibition's interactive sound stations. See and hear how spoken word and music provided an important vehicle for African expression and how black music has had a major influence on today's popular culture.

Family learning

To help younger visitors explore and understand the history and legacies of the slave trade, a special Learning Pack is available to all families visiting the exhibition, including trails and activity sheets.

Education resources

A detailed teacher's guide to the exhibition's galleries with worksheets and a CD Rom is available to support group visits and follow-up classroom activities. The pack will incorporate a number of formal learning techniques to explain and investigate the subject, including personal testimonies, images, maps, documents and key stage links.

For more information on the Museum's award winning Education programme call 0117 925 4980 or email learning@empiremuseum.co.uk

Breaking the Chains has been developed in partnership with Bristol's Museums, Galleries and Archives and will run for two years.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES 2007

Monday 23rd April - Monday 28th May

IN STITCHES
 A patchwork quilt created by women from British, African and Caribbean communities will be on display in the Museum galleries.

Tuesday 24th April, 11am - 12pm

LONNIE G BUNCH
 A talk by leading historian and Director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Wednesday 9th May, 12.30pm - 2pm

WOLE SOYINKA
 A talk by Nobel Prize winning author and playwright as part of the Festival of Ideas. Adults: £6, Concessions: £4.

Wednesday 16th May, 6pm - 7pm

WILLIAM DALRYMPLE
 A talk on Indian history by leading writer and historian, as part of the Festival of Ideas. Adults: £6, Concessions: £4.

Saturday 26th May, 11am - 3pm

PATCHWORK ART & CRAFTS
 A textiles workshop inspired by the 'In Stitches' quilt.

Tuesday 29th May - Friday 1st June

WORLD CRAFTS
 A variety of drop-in workshops inspired by arts from around the world.

Wednesday 11th July - Saturday 14th July

BRITISH WORLD CONFERENCE
 An international event with a range of academic speakers. Pre-booked delegates only. For tickets and information contact Bristol University or email: kent.fedorowich@uwe.ac.uk

Wednesday 25th July - Friday 27th July

ROMANTICISM CONFERENCE
 An annual event in the University of Bristol's academic diary. Pre-booked delegates only. For tickets and information contact Bristol University or email: romantic-studies@bris.ac.uk

Lectures & Talks
 Advance booking required.

Special displays
 Artefacts exhibited on temporary basis.

Family Events
 Suitable for families with children aged from 3 years upwards. Plus, look out for monthly arts and crafts days.

Thursday 26th July - 2nd September

DOWN UNDER
 Daily summer holiday activities inspired by travels to Australia and the art of its indigenous people. Themed workshops take place each Wednesday.

Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th October

BLACK HISTORY FAMILY WEEKEND
 Trails, artefact handling and craft activities to explore Africa and the Caribbean.

Saturday 20th October - Tuesday 30th October

SPIES
 Half term activities including code-breaking, storytelling and family entertainment.

Wednesday 24th October, 7.30pm

FREDERICK TUCKETT
 A talk by Richard Fox on a Bristol abolitionist who fought for Maori rights in New Zealand.

Monday 29th October, 12pm

A JURISPRUDENCE OF POWER
 A lecture by legal author and Professor, Rande Kostal on the influence of slave uprisings on the perception of human rights in Victorian England.

Thursday 20th December - Wednesday 2nd January

A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS
 A festive trip back in time with arts, crafts and entertainment, in an elegant 19th century drawing room.

All events take place at the British Empire & Commonwealth Museum and are free with Museum admission unless otherwise stated.

To reserve places for lectures, talks and bookable events contact: T: 0117 925 4980
 E: bookings@empiremuseum.co.uk

For further information on Museum events visit: www.empiremuseum.co.uk

BREAKING THE CHAINS

British Empire & Commonwealth Museum, Bristol



WELCOME TO BREAKING THE CHAINS

**‘THEY WILL REMEMBER THAT WE WERE SOLD,
BUT THEY WON’T REMEMBER THAT WE WERE
STRONG. THEY WILL REMEMBER
THAT WE WERE BOUGHT, BUT NOT
THAT WE WERE BRAVE.’**

William Prescott, former
enslaved African American, 1937.



Roy Hackett, campaigner against racist employment
practices, with his family, Bristol, 1967.
© Roy Hackett



Leonard Parkinson, Captain of the Maroons by H Smith, 1796.
© Bristol's Museums Galleries & Archives.

Two hundred years ago Britain's Parliament passed an Act to end the traffic in enslaved Africans throughout its territories. It was the culmination of years of struggle against a brutal trade that had caused untold misery for millions of Africans and great wealth for Britain. Breaking the Chains tells the story of the slave trade and its abolition and explains why we are all still living with its consequences today.

Breaking the Chains is
dedicated to the memory
of those Africans enslaved
under British rule and to the
many people both black and
white who fought to end the
slave trade.

EXHIBITION

Breaking the Chains is a groundbreaking exhibition that uses authentic artefacts, film, music, photography, video and personal testimonies to provide visitors with an incredible multi-sensory experience.

WHAT IS SLAVERY?

Slavery has existed throughout history. It still exists today. Discover what made the Transatlantic Slave Trade so different from all other forms of human bondage.



An African Slave Caravan, Anonymous, 1865. © Anti-Slavery International/Images of Empire, Bristol.



The scarred back of an American slave, c.1855. © Peter Newark American Pictures, Private Collection/The Bridgeman Art Library.

THE CARIBBEAN

Journey across the Atlantic crossing and experience the reality of life and death in the Americas.

**‘WE MUST NOT TALK OF GRADUALLY
ABOLISHING MURDER, LICENTIOUSNESS,
CRUELTY, TYRANNY...’**

Mrs Grundy, a Wiltshire
campaigner, 1820s.

EUROPE AND AFRICA

Immerse yourself in the richness and diversity of African culture. See how the slave trade dramatically changed the lives of both Africans and Europeans.



The First Day of the Yam Custom (In Mission from Cape Coast to Ashantee, by T.E. Bowdich) engraved by Robert Havell, 1819.
© Images of Empire, Bristol.

ABOLITION

Violent resistance or peaceful protest? Find out what really brought the slave trade to an end.



Hannah More, poet and active
campaigner against the slave trade,
(1745-1833).
© Bristol's Museums, Galleries & Archives.

IN SLAVERY'S FOOTSTEPS

What is the price of freedom? Life in the Caribbean after abolition.



Jamaican Maroons, (Maroons were self-governing communities of escaped slaves). c. 1908-1909. © Royal Geographical Society.

LEGACIES

Past and present - meet the heroes in the fight against slavery.

**‘I WOULD RATHER
DIE ON YONDER
GALLOWS THAN
LIVE IN SLAVERY.’**

Sam Sharpe, resistance leader, 1831.



Global March Against Child Labour in the Philippines, 1992.
© Anti-Slavery International.