

Museums with Asian Collections

(N.B. this is by no means an extensive list; should you know of another good resource, please let us know and we will add to the list!)

Museum of East Asian Art, Bath (Somerset)

Website: <http://www.meaa.org.uk/>



This small museum houses a wonderful collection of ceramics, jades, bronzes and more from China, Japan, Korea and Southeast Asia, and is the only museum in the UK dedicated solely to arts and cultures of East and Southeast Asia.

If you are unable to visit the museum, there are multiple images online that you can use for inspiration in your lesson: <http://www.meaa.org.uk/multimedia/the-gallery.html>

The museum has a strong education department, and can organise both school visits to the Museum, and loan boxes for your school to borrow for free, to take the art back to the classroom. They also have packs for KS 1-4 and older available on their website.

For education information please see: <http://www.meaa.org.uk/education/teachers-and-schools.html>

Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, Bristol (Somerset)

Website: <http://www.bristolmuseums.org.uk/bristol-museum-and-art-gallery/>

Bristol's position as a port city has given it a long-established connection to China, reflected in the wonderful collection of both Chinese art, particularly ceramics, and the locally-made work based on Chinese designs, all on display within the museum. The Chinese collection even has a dedicated education area, and is perfect to take your class for a session, whether it be for an hour, a half day or a full day learning session.

For education information please see: <http://www.bristolmuseums.org.uk/bristol-museum-and-art-gallery/learning/>

Lady Lever Art Gallery, Port Sunlight Village (Wirral)

Website: <http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/ladylever/collections/chinese/index.aspx>



The lady Lever online collection catalogue has over 1000 images documented, from ceramics to jade, enamel, painting and much more, so fits the “quest” event perfectly, even if you are unable to visit a museum physically.

Museum of Liverpool, Liverpool

Website: <http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/mol/visit/galleries/global/shanghai.aspx>

The Museum of Liverpool takes a more personal look at the history between Liverpool and Shanghai, linked by their status as important port cities. Did you know Liverpool was home to the first Chinatown in the whole of Europe?

The Global City “East meets West” collection displays a personal side of Chinese living, through ceramics, furniture and fancy goods, all brought to Liverpool by local collectors.

For education information please see: <http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/mol/learning/>

Oriental Museum, Durham

Website: <https://www.dur.ac.uk/oriental.museum/>

The Oriental Museum is part of Durham University’s Heritage Collections, housing over 10,000 objects from China. There are over a thousand pieces of Chinese ceramic alone, spanning all major dynasties, as well as a very impressive collection of jade and hardstones- one of the largest collections in the UK.

Further details of the Chinese collection can be found here:
<https://www.dur.ac.uk/oriental.museum/whatsere/china/>

For education information please see: <https://www.dur.ac.uk/4schools/>



Ashmolean Museum, Oxford



Website: <http://www.ashmolean.org/>

The Ashmolean Museum houses a collection of modern Chinese art, including pre-dynastic China, Shang, Zhou and Han Dynasties, Jades, writing, calligraphy and greenwares. They also have online collections of Asian Art and their Chinese Gallery.

For education information please see: <http://www.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/education/>

Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge

Website: <http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/dept/aa/>

The department of Applied Arts houses some 20,000 pieces from Europe, the Middle East, India and the Far East. From jade ware to Kangxi vases and a collection of fans online, the Fitzwilliam has plenty for your students to enjoy on either a physical or online “quest.”

For education information please see:

<http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/dept/education/schoolscolleges/>

Burrell Collection, Glasgow

Website: <http://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/museums/burrell-collection/Pages/default.aspx>

An incredible collection of art, collected over 80 years by Sir William Burrell, the largest single collection here is the Chinese art, and is considered to be of outstanding significance.

For education information please see: <http://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/museums/about-glasgow-museums/learning/Pages/home.aspx>



Ulster Museum, Belfast

Website: <http://nmni.com/um/Collections/World-Cultures/Asia/China>

Several centuries of diplomatic and trading links have built the connection between Northern Ireland and China, and this is reflected in the collection of Chinese art and artefacts in this museum, from the personal to the public.

For education information please see: <http://nmni.com/um/Learning>

Compton Verney, Warwickshire



Website: <http://www.comptonverney.org.uk/collections/6/chinese.aspx>

The Chinese gallery at Compton Verney is one of the top three Chinese art collections in the whole of Europe, recently reopening in March 2015. With new low-level cases, the bronzes, pottery and jades are easily accessible for pupils of any height, and are presented thematically to enhance any visit.

For education information please see: <http://www.comptonverney.org.uk/learning/default.aspx>

National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh



Whilst the Looking East gallery is currently closed (until 2016), there is still plenty to see at this museum, particularly in the World Cultures gallery, where you will be greeted by Weituo, a Ming Dynasty statue from Henan Province, explore a Tibetan collection, and see a late 18th century headdress inspired by kingfishers.

For education information please see: <http://www.nms.ac.uk/about-us/schools-programme/>



Museum of Croydon, London



Website: <http://www.museumofcroydon.com/riesco>

The Riesco Collection of Chinese ceramics dates from 2500 BC to the 19th century, collected by businessman Raymond Riesco, and is on display in the Riesco Gallery at Croydon Clocktower.

For education information please see:

<http://www.museumofcroydon.com/ixbin/indexplus?record=ART6085>

British Museum, London

Website: <http://www.britishmuseum.org/visiting/galleries.aspx>

The British Museum houses collections of Chinese art across several galleries and rooms, including ceramics, jades and a more general gallery which explores the history of the material and visual cultures of the region.

For education information please see:

http://www.britishmuseum.org/learning/schools_and_teachers/resources/cultures/china.aspx

