The innovative galleries will showcase over 3,000 objects including new acquisitions, much-loved favourites and treasures which have not been on permanent display for generations.

The development is the third stage of an ambitious £80 million Masterplan to restore the much loved Victorian building to its original grandeur, reveal the remarkable treasures of National Museums Scotland’s collections and create inspiring visitor experiences.

Ten new galleries open July 2016

This summer, on 8 July, we unveil ten new galleries at the National Museum of Scotland, dedicated to excellence and innovation in decorative art, design, fashion, science and technology.

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We’re here to help
Email us at tours@nms.ac.uk, call +44 (0) 131 247 4352 or visit www.nms.ac.uk/traveltrade
Group tours at the National Museum of Scotland with Mercat Tours

This year we bring exclusive new options for groups visiting the museum with five unique tours delivered by award winning Mercat Tours. Developed to meet the specific needs of the tour operator and cruise companies, all tours are bookable directly with Mercat Tours.

Mercat’s accredited guides will trace the story of the objects which have shaped Scotland’s past, present and future offering five different themes to suit all itineraries.

T1 – A History of Scotland in 10 Objects
Follow the story of Scotland’s history through key objects in the collections with your expert guide able to adapt the objects and theme to best suit your group’s interests.

T2 – What Makes a Scot?
This tour will explore Scottish identity – from the earliest people to Scots today in the 21st century, including the Scottish diaspora. Explore why so many Scots left the country and how their influence has impacted throughout the world.

T3 – Scotland’s Dark History
The museum is rich in objects to tell our darker tales, from the mysteries of Pictish stones; ancient implements of punishment and links to Jekyll and Hyde through to the intrigue of the Arthur’s Seat coffins.

T4 – Exploding the Myths
Were Scotland’s early people savages or civilised? Were Vikings really horned helmeted raiders? And was Bonnie Prince Charlie truly a romantic hero? All this and more can be explored through the museum’s collections.

T5 – Symbols of Scotland
This tour will look closely at images and objects that people associate with the Scots. Famous the world over, what do the Saltire, Lion Rampant and the Thistle truly signify?

Rates and bookings
£14 pp net rate (max 20 per group)
info@mercattours.com
+44 (0) 131 225 5445
www.mercattours.com

Meals at the museum
Book your groups in for coffee, lunch or afternoon tea at the museum’s cafés and restaurants. Group menus are available for the Brasserie and Tower Restaurant. For set menus at the Museum Brasserie contact nms@benugo.com or +44 (0) 131 247 4040

Coach parties
Coaches can drop groups off outside the museum. Metered parking for coaches is available nearby on Johnston Terrace, the same as for Edinburgh Castle.

To discover our other collections from World Cultures, the Natural World, Art & Design and Science & Technology, and to book your groups for self-guided visits, contact the museum tours@nms.ac.uk +44 (0) 131 247 4352

Start a tour of Scotland at the National Museum of Scotland

“One of the best attractions in Edinburgh” TripAdvisor
“…a must-see for first-time visitors to Scotland” Fodor’s
Blockbuster exhibitions 2016 and 2017

**Celts Until 25 September 2016**
This five star exhibition, organised in partnership with the British Museum, unravels the complex story of the different groups who have used or been given the name ‘Celts’ through the extraordinary art objects they made and used. It features more than 300 treasured objects from across the UK and Europe, assembled together for the first time.

**Monkey Business**
2 December 2016–23 April 2017
An engaging and highly interactive exhibition for all ages, which explores the world of primates, from the tiny mouse lemur to the mighty gorilla.

**Blockbuster exhibitions 2016 and 2017**

**Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobites**
Opening June 2017
This major new exhibition from the National Museum of Scotland examines the Jacobite legend and legacy. Drawing on a rich wealth of material, the exhibition tells a compelling story of love, loss, exile, rebellion and retribution and challenges many of the misconceptions that still surround the Jacobite legacy.

The story of Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobite cause has an enduring fascination and now renewed global interest due to the hugely popular *Outlander* books and television series.

This exhibition will present visitors with a rich and dramatic re-telling of a turbulent period in Scottish history – a must for visitors looking to learn more about and enjoy Scottish history. The perfect start to a ‘Jacobite’ tour of Scotland.

**Special exhibition tours and talks**
Contact us for group tours, talks and exclusive out-of-hours opening visits for all exhibitions. Advance booking is required.
tours@nms.ac.uk or +44 (0) 131 247 4352
Scotland’s treasures not to be missed

Our precious iconic objects reveal the story of Scotland from pre-history to the present day.

▼ Mary, Queen of Scots’ jewellery
This gold necklace, locket and pendant date from the late 16th century and are said to have belonged to Mary, Queen of Scots, arguably the most famous and controversial character in Scottish history.

▼ Lewis Chessmen
Found on the island of Lewis in 1831, the Chessmen are Scotland’s most significant archaeological discovery.

▼ Bonnie Prince Charlie’s travelling canteen
This elaborate silver travelling canteen is an exquisite Jacobite relic for Outlander fans! See it in Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobites exhibition from June 2017.

▼ Arthur’s Seat coffins
Great mystery surrounds these miniature coffins. No one really knows what they were for. They have generated many theories and also featured in crime writer Ian Rankin’s Inspector Rebus novels. Discover more about their secret at the museum.

▼ Iron Age torcs
These four Iron Age gold necklaces were part of a hoard found at Blair Drummond, Perthshire, by an amateur treasure hunter in 2009. See this amazing find in the Celts exhibition until 25 September 2016.

▼ Hunterston brooch
Made around AD700 this stunning brooch was found at Hunterston, Ayrshire during the 1830s. Up close you can observe the work of a highly skilled craftsman. See the brooch in the Celts exhibition until 25 September 2016.

Our other museums
Our three other museums in Scotland are all four or five star attractions and offer special group tours, bookings and discounts.

National War Museum
within Edinburgh Castle

National Museum of Flight
East Lothian

National Museum of Rural Life
East Kilbride