

Intro to Graffiti Culture

Graffiti is a global art movement rooted in expression, identity, and community. Emerging strongly in the 1970s in New York City, graffiti quickly evolved from simple tags on subway trains into complex murals, characters, and stylistic forms.

This guide introduces:

- The origins of graffiti in urban culture
- The transition from tagging to full-color burners
- Key figures in graffiti history
- The impact of graffiti on modern street art and design
- Ethical considerations and the difference between illegal graffiti and legal street art spaces

Understanding graffiti requires recognizing its cultural context—often tied to youth expression, resistance, and the reclaiming of public space. Today, graffiti influences advertising, fashion, digital design, and mainstream art galleries.