

National Science Museum

Our exhibits are:

Fossil Lab

Peek behind the scenes to see Museum staff at work, carefully chipping away stone to reveal nature's treasures for scientific research. This working lab is fully equipped with tables that hold 2,000-pound rocks, microscopes, mini-jackhammers, mini-circular saws, and mini-sandblasters that shoot baking soda (strong enough to whittle away rock, soft enough to not damage precious fossils). A special exhaust system removes the resulting dust from the air.

At the Fossil Lab and in the surrounding gallery, you can:

Discover how scientists in the field remove chunks of earth that contain fossils and transport them back to the lab.

Watch fossil preparators at work and see what it takes to extract the remnants of ancient life from the stone matrix that has trapped them for millions of years.

See Sue's gastralium, a group of fossil bones so rare and unusual that scientists aren't sure how they fit onto Sue's skeleton. Among the most fragile of T. rex bones, they are most often incomplete, badly damaged, or missing altogether from fossil finds.

Hall of Gems

Explore the natural beauty of Earth's gems and witness their magical transformation from rough specimens, to stunning stones, to spectacular jewelry in the Museum's Hall of Gems. Exquisite rare jewels and gold objects from around the world, as well as never-before-seen creations from top designers, await you in the most comprehensive exhibition of its kind between the east and west coasts.

Gallery of Birds

Learn how their different shapes help birds live in their environment. Learn how their different shapes help birds live in their environment. The Royal Albatross, shown here, has an incredible nine-foot wingspan that helps it fly great distances over water.

The world of birds awaits you in a light-filled gallery showcasing more than a hundred winged creatures, many presented in full flight. From the albatross with its nine foot wingspan to tiny songbirds, details come alive from all angles as you walk around and under the specimens.

Discover the incredible diversity of birds found in our world: from mighty sea birds and majestic ratites to exotic tropical birds and those found in our own backyard. Be carried away by one of the most comprehensive bird collections in Canada.

All the present day taxonomic orders found in birds are represented. Over 100 birds from around the world are displayed, covering all the avian orders in the extant species today. Specimens displayed are from the 19th to 21st centuries, and provide an engaging snapshot of the wonder, beauty and diversity of birds today.

Age of the Dinosaurs

Stand in the shadow of mighty T. rex... or underneath Gordo, the enormous Barosaurus... or beside our famous hadrosaur Parasaurolophus. No matter what the first stop on your dinosaur journey will be, you'll enter a gallery showcasing one of the world's best collections.

Hundreds of specimens welcome you to a gallery bursting with iconic and unusual dinosaurs, fossilized plants, insects and marine life. At the time dinosaurs lived, they shared the planet with other life on land, in the sea and in the air. Trace the development, relationships and legacy of all creatures that lived during the Age of Dinosaurs.

Specimens represent life during the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods, grouped within the themes: Life on Land, Life on Sea, and Life in the Air. You'll see all of your favourites, including Tyrannosaurus rex, Stegosaurus, and Triceratops.

Specimens reflect life in the northern hemisphere, primarily from North America. The gallery is dominated by original dinosaur skeletons from the famous fossil fields of Alberta, Canada.

From the Jurassic (200 to 145 million years old) to the Cretaceous (145 to 65 million years old) periods.

We have summer camps for kids

One of the city's most creative and fun summer camps we offer an exciting array of fun, activity-based programs inspired by the collections and research of a world-class museum. Our huge variety of offerings ensures that you'll find a program to match your child's interests and abilities. The National Science Museum's fascinating halls, authentic artifacts and outstanding professional staff guarantee an unforgettable camp experience.

(attach PDF for registration here)

Half Days

Mini Explorers

(short description to come)

Ages: 4 to 5

Cost: \$140 (5-day week), \$120 (4-day week)

Morning Dates: July 24 to 28, August 21 to 25

Afternoon Dates: July 4 to 7 (4-day week), July 31 to August 4

Full Days

Call of the Wild

(short description to come)

Ages: 6 to 7

Cost: \$285.00 (5-day week), \$235.00 (4-day week)

Dates: July 4 to 7 (4-day week), July 10 to 14, July 17 to 21, July 31 to August 4, August 8 to 11 (4-day week), August 14 to 18

Hours of Operation

Friday & Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Sunday - Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Address #1 T-rex Drive
Edmonton, Alberta
T8N 2I8
Phone 780-555-1309

(include basic form for messages & Google map)

The National Science Museum is one of Canada's leading museums of human and natural history. Located in Edmonton, the museum collects, preserves, researches, interprets, and exhibits specimens and objects related to the heritage of Alberta's people and natural environment. The museum's expansive permanent galleries feature engaging exhibits complemented by internationally touring features.

The National Science Museum has wide ranging collecting and research activities, which support exhibitions, outreach and learning programs. Currently, the museum has 13 curatorial programs: western Canadian history, ethnology, cultural communities, military and political history, archaeology, ornithology, mammalogy, ichthyology, invertebrate zoology, botany, geology, Quaternary paleontology, and Quaternary environments. These are supported by conservation and collections management programs. The museum is also home to the Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute processing centre.

Our Mission statement

The National Science fuels a process of discovery to create a deeper understanding for a brighter future rich in nature and culture.

Featured Upcoming Exhibit (for a limited time)

Explore the First Nations

This gallery offers a dramatic view of the history and traditions of Aboriginal societies that live in Alberta. See First Nations artwork and learn about their relationship with the land over the past 10,000 years.

The signing of Treaty 4 in 1874 between Alberta's Indigenous peoples and the Government of Canada marked the beginning of a relationship that will endure as long as the sun shines, the rivers flow, and the grasses grow. Today, united by the agreements made in Treaty 4, we are all Treaty people. In this exhibit, see Treaty 4 presented in a rare document: Canada's only known written record of Treaty promises from the viewpoint of the Indigenous people.

The Gallery opens with a life-size alabaster and bronze sculpture by Cree artist, Lloyd Pinay. The sculpture incorporates characters and elements from the many different versions of the Wi sa ke cahk and the Creation of Turtle Island story. The Trickster is a principal character in many First Nations' stories. He is known as Wi sa ke cahk to the Cree, Nanabush to the Saulteaux, Inktoome to the Dakota and Nakota, and Sagija'k to the Dene.

Coming June 14 - July 11, 2021

Tickets & Admission Costs

TMOS Members: Free+

Adults: \$12.50

Children 6 and under: Free

Seniors (65+)/Students: \$8.50++

Family (2 adults + up to 4 minors): \$26.50

Prices do not include GST

+ TMOS Members must show their Member cards to enjoy free access.

++Students must present a valid student ID.

+++Students 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Becoming a Member of the National Science Museum is a great way to connect with like-minded people who are passionate about their city.

Your support as a member helps us continue to create award winning exhibitions, interactive programming and ground-breaking events that create a deeper understanding of Alberta.

TMOS members receive unlimited admission to the Museum for one year, 10% savings on TMOS Gift Shop purchases, access to events, and MORE.

Tea & Fossils

The National Science Museum invites you to afternoon tea with a serving of fossils at the T.rex Discovery Centre. Each Saturday afternoon event will include an hour of hands-on work with real fossils, (no experience necessary) followed by tea, coffee and conversation. We'll show you how to prepare fossils like the pros. This event is free and no registration is required — all you need to do is bring your favourite teacup!

Date: May 1, 2019

Time: 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Place: EASTEND | T.rex Discovery Centre

Cost: Free.

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