

## ITINERARY

### Media visit: Culture in Birmingham



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## Day 1

**Morning**

### **Explore Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery**

*Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery is centrally located on Chamberlain Square, beside the Council House.*

Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery (BMAG) first opened in 1885.

It is housed in a Grade II listed city centre landmark building. There are over 40 galleries to explore that display art, applied art, social history, archaeology and ethnography:

- The art gallery is famous for its Pre-Raphaelite paintings, which are part of the largest public Pre-Raphaelite collection in the world.
- You can also see art and objects spanning seven centuries of European and World history and culture. This includes Greeks & Romans and Ancient Egypt.
- Recently Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery has also become home to the Staffordshire Hoard. There is a temporary Hoard gallery where objects can be seen on display. A permanent gallery will be developed.
- The Birmingham History collections feature prominently in the new 'Birmingham: its people, its history' gallery, which opened in late 2012.



**Address:** Chamberlain Square, B3 3DH

**Telephone:** 0121 348 8000

**Website:** <http://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/bmag>

**Take a look around the iconic Library of Birmingham**

The Library of Birmingham is a major new cultural destination, rewriting the book for 21<sup>st</sup> century public libraries.

The Library of Birmingham provides a showcase for the city's internationally important collections of archives, photography and rare books. New facilities including state-of-the-art gallery space open up public access to the collections for the first time. It is also home to a BFI Mediatheque, providing free access to the National Film Archive. Other facilities include a new flexible studio theatre, an outdoor amphitheatre and other informal performance spaces, a recording studio and dedicated spaces for children and teenagers.



**Address:** Library of Birmingham, Centenary Square, Birmingham, B1 2ND  
**Telephone:** 0121 242 4242  
**Website:** <http://www.libraryofbirmingham.com/>

**Afternoon**

**Visit the Ikon Gallery and Cafe Opus**

Ikon is an internationally acclaimed art gallery situated in central Birmingham.

Housed in a magnificent neo-gothic school building, it is an educational charity and works to encourage public engagement with contemporary art through exhibiting new work in a context of debate and participation.

It offers free entry to all. The gallery programme features artists from around the world.

A variety of media is represented, including sound, film, mixed media, photography, painting, sculpture and installation.



### Cafe Opus

Located within the Ikon Gallery, Café Opus serves unfussy British classics such as boiled egg and soldiers or creamy forest mushrooms and tarragon on toast served at any time of day or night. More substantial meals include the Brixham Market fish of the day, the roasted chicken with bubble and squeak polenta, or roasted pumpkin and butternut squash Nicoise salad with fennel seed dressing. There is also an extensive children's menu, traditional tea and cakes and a good choice of wines by the glass.

**Address:** Ikon Gallery, 1 Oozells Square, Brindleyplace, Birmingham, B1 2HS

**Telephone:** 0121 248 0708

**Website:** <http://ikon-gallery.org/>

**Immerse yourself in arts and culture at one of Birmingham's finest theatres...**



### Birmingham Hippodrome:

Welcoming audiences averaging around 500,000 each year, Birmingham Hippodrome can lay claim to the highest regular annual attendance of any single theatre in the UK. Since its £35m redevelopment in 2001, the city centre venue has attracted ever-increasing


numbers of people to performances and events from across the country – hosting musicals, comedies, pantomimes, ballets, operas, and more.

**Address:** Hurst St, Southside, Birmingham B5 4TB


**Telephone:** 0844 338 5020

**Website:** <http://www.birminghamhippodrome.com/>

**Evening**

	<p>~OR~</p> <p><b>Birmingham Repertory Theatre (The REP)</b></p> <p>The REP is one of Britain’s leading producers of new theatre. The REP’s mission has always been to produce excellent theatrical experiences, to entertain, enlighten and engage audiences and, wherever possible, to reflect the diversity of Birmingham and the surrounding region.</p> <p><b>Address:</b> Broad Street, Birmingham B1 2EP  <b>Telephone:</b> 0121 245 2000  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.birmingham-rep.co.uk/">http://www.birmingham-rep.co.uk/</a></p>	
<p><b>Overnight</b></p>	<p><b>Radisson Blu</b></p> <p>The Radisson Blu Hotel, Birmingham soars above the cityscape in an impressive 39-storey structure that’s located near the business district, convention centre and shopping complexes.</p> <p>Designed by Matteo Thun, the 211 rooms and suites showcase exceptional accents and furnishings and provide amenities like free high-speed, wireless Internet.</p> <p>Delicious dining options include an award-winning Italian restaurant, and guests can order their drink of choice at one of two on-site bars.</p> <p>Maintain your exercise regimen in the 18th-floor fitness centre, where you can take in sprawling views of the city. The flexible meeting facilities provide plenty of space and equipment for efficient events.</p> <p><b>Address:</b> 12 Holloway Circus Queensway, Birmingham, B1 1BT  <b>Telephone:</b> 0121 654 6000  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.radissonblu.com/hotel-birmingham">https://www.radissonblu.com/hotel-birmingham</a></p>	<p><b>Hotel Indigo Birmingham</b></p> <p>Located in the building at the heart of our city’s transformation, the Hotel Indigo Birmingham is perched on the top floors of the iconic Cube building, giving our guests stunning, uninterrupted views over a captivating skyline and our thriving, ambitious neighbourhood and its canals.</p> <p>Our beautiful boutique guest rooms, corridors and lobby include decorative accents, vivid murals and thoughtful design touches that effortlessly capture our neighborhood’s bold heritage, color, and forward-looking architecture. Our restaurant and bar serves up locally sourced, locally inspired dishes in a modern setting.</p>  <p><b>Address:</b> The Cube, Wharfside St, Birmingham, West Midlands, B1 1RS  <b>Telephone:</b> 0121 643 2010  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.hotelindigobirmingham.co.uk/">http://www.hotelindigobirmingham.co.uk/</a></p>

## Day 2

<p><b>Morning</b></p>	<p><b>mac birmingham</b></p> <p>With one million visits every year mac birmingham has served as one of the country's foremost arts centres for over 50 years. With artists and audiences at its heart mac provide opportunities for people from all backgrounds to see, hear and, most importantly, make art. mac is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation, also funded by Birmingham City Council and partners.</p> <p><b>Address:</b> Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham, B12 9QH  <b>Telephone:</b> 0121 446 3232  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://macbirmingham.co.uk/">http://macbirmingham.co.uk/</a></p>
<p><b>Afternoon</b></p>	<p><b>Discover the Barber Institute of Fine Arts</b></p> <p>The Barber Institute of Fine Arts has an outstanding collection of Old Masters alongside and modern classics. This purpose built gallery boasts an “outstanding collection” of works from Old Masters – which include Rubens, Renoir and Monet – to the Cubist movement’s co-founder, Picasso.</p> <p>Opened by Queen Mary in 1939, it’s now a Grade II Listed feather in Edgbaston’s cap, and it is described as one of Birmingham’s finest Art Deco buildings.</p> <p><b>Address:</b> University of Birmingham, B15 2TS  <b>Telephone:</b> 0121 414 7333  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://barber.org.uk/">http://barber.org.uk/</a></p>
<p><b>Evening</b></p>	<p><b>Dinner at The Mailbox</b></p> <p>A £50 million redevelopment of luxury retail and leisure destination The Mailbox will see its famous Harvey Nichols store more than double in size. There will be a host of luxury brands situated within the urban room, a new type of social meeting place designed to hold a range of events.</p> <p>Have a meal alongside The Mailbox’s ever popular canalside restaurants and bars, including Gas Street Social and Cote Brasserie, then watch a film at the brand new boutique Everyman Cinema, with its trademark sofa seating, state-of-the-art digital screens and stylish bar area.</p>  <p><b>Address:</b> Commercial Street, Birmingham, B1 1RS  <b>Telephone:</b> 0121 632 1000  <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.mailboxlife.com">www.mailboxlife.com</a></p>

**Enjoy the Electric Cinema's vintage setting...**



Originally starting life as a silent movie theatre, the Electric cinema is the oldest working cinema in the UK. Based in the Southside district of Birmingham, the Electric offers a truly unique cinematic experience - boasting a stylish interior, sofas, a bar and waiter service. The cinema has two digital screens which show a mixture of the latest quality

mainstream, independent, foreign and classic films.

**Address:** The Electric Cinema, 47-49 Station Street, Southside, Birmingham, B5 4DY

**Phone number:** 0121 643 7879

**Website:** <https://www.theelectric.co.uk/>