

THE MUSEUM

The National Museum of Science and Technology (MNCT) is the main Spanish institution devoted to protecting our scientific and technological heritage. First open to the public in 1997, it fulfils several modern museum tasks:

- To exhibit scientific instruments and industrial apparatus, supported by multimedia elements.
- To bring science near to people of any age and education.
- To provide contact with Spanish scientists. Prestigious researchers cooperate on regular basis with the Museum.
- To acquire new objects and develop curatorial tasks.

These are achieved through the research of collections and the use of the most advanced museological and media systems

The National Museum of Science and Technology and its managers are members of prestigious international institutions such as the International Council of Museums (ICOM, UNESCO), the Scientific Instrument Commission, the Spanish Society for the History of Science, and the International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage (TICCIH). They also cooperate with other Spanish institutions related to science and the study of our historical heritage.

THE COLLECTION

The Museum's collection is made up of scientific instruments, tools, professional devices, and daily use objects. These elements are material testimonies of the history of science and technology, and in particular of the scientific, technological, and educational evolution of Spain.

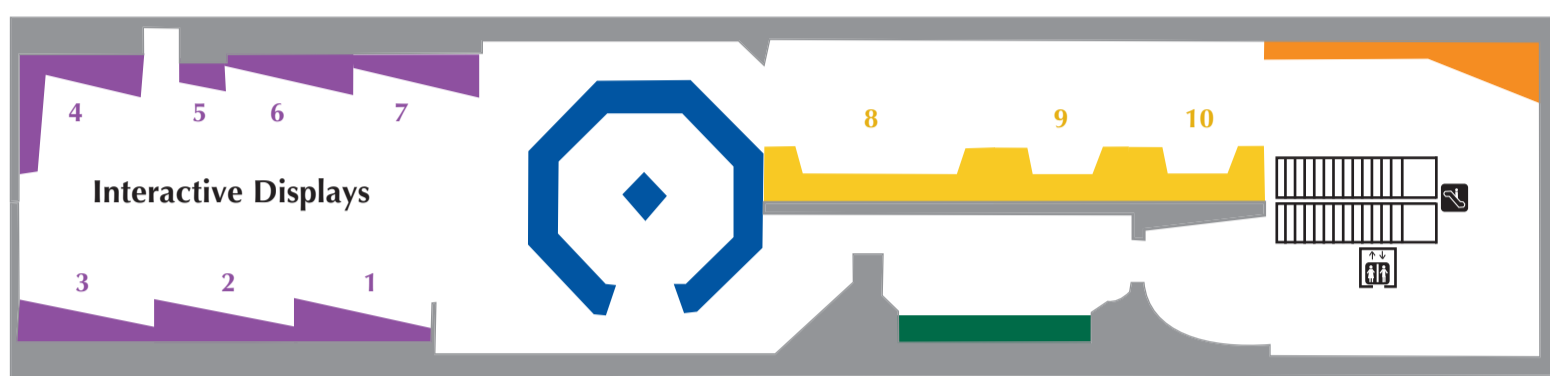
An important part of the collection comes from Spanish educational and research institutions. Many of them had a very important role in the development of science and culture in Spain. Our collection consists of objects from institutions such as the Royal Academy of Mathematics of Felipe II, the Imperial College established by Mariana de Austria (the mother of Carlos II), and the Royal Studies created by Carlos III, centres in which young Spanish noblemen and others were educated in scientific subjects. Other instruments come from the Faculty of Physics of the Complutense University, the Molecular Biology Centre of the Autónoma University, and other academic institutions, as well as from several Spanish industrial firms.

The collection includes instruments from the 16th to the 20th century. One of the most interesting parts is that related to Astronomy, Navigation, Time Measurement, and Geodesy, from the 16th to the 18th century, which include instruments made by Gemma Frisius, Georg Hartmann, Luis Collado, George Adams, James Short, etc. Other relevant sections are those related to Physics, Medicine, and Clocks.

Visitors at the Museum can now not only come to understand the instruments, their history, and their scientific principles, but can also access the collection through virtual displays.

The Museum and the Collection

First Floor



Measuring the Universe: Mathematics, Navigation and Astronomy

Measuring the Environment: Surveying, Topography

Understand to predict and predict to advance: The experimental sciences

- 1 Mechanics
- 2 Acoustics
- 3 Optics
- 4 Electricity and electromagnetism
- 5 Meteorology
- 6 Heat
- 7 Earth Sciences, chemistry and biology

Industry and technologies

- 8 Modern culture technologies
- 9 Everyday solutions
- 10 Communicating our planet

Photography

All showcases have multimedia elements with information about the use of the instruments

Ground Floor

Clocks

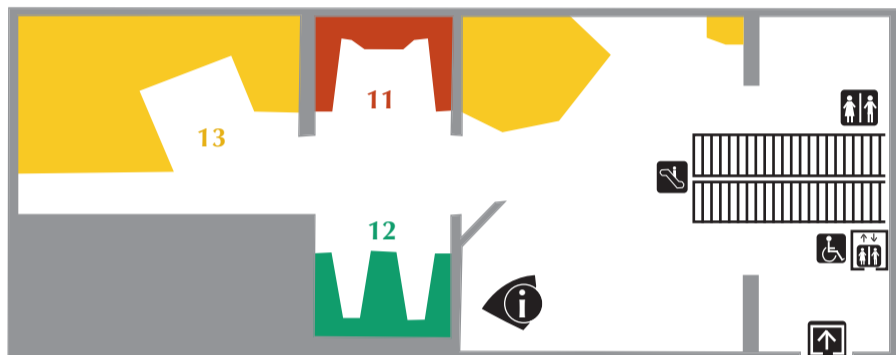
- 11 Clocks and machinery

Medicine

- 12 Medical instruments

Means of transport and games

- 13 Vehicles and other mobile elements



Map

From October to June the Museum organizes several activities to promote science. The agenda of the Museum and the Museum's Support Foundation (FAMNCT) is to bring science close to the general public. Participants choose their favourite subjects and the level of participation.

Activities for children between 3 and 7.

THE GARDEN OF SCIENCE



The Garden of Science aims to bring science and technology near to small child through a short visit to the exhibition, complemented by a scientific workshop. Two possible tours may be selected, each one with a series of recommended workshops. From them, one might be chosen as well. During the scientific workshops, kids will experiment and learn on aspects related to concepts such as electricity, sound, flotation, magnetism, chemistry, etc.

Free admission. For Primary Schools groups by appointment.

Activities for children between 8 and 14.

CHAT WITH OUR SCHOLARS



Spanish researchers talk to children about scientific subjects. These activities are complemented with workshops set up by the Educational Department of the Museum and the Foundation.

From October to June. Free admission by appointment.

Activities for children and families.

KIDS AND FAMILIES AT THE MUSEUM and ENTERTAINING VISITS



Presentation of scientific experiences made by Secondary School teachers and students. Their enthusiasm brings the Museum closer to the visitor.

Activity for families. Free admission, no needs previous appointment

Activities for adults.

SCIENTIFIC MARATHONS



Five-hour seminars in which prestigious experts explain current issues in science and technology. The seminars are recognised by the following universities of Madrid: Complutense, Politécnica, Autónoma, and Rey Juan Carlos.

Free admission

Information for university students: It is necessary a registration to obtain an institutional recognition.

Other Activities

GUIDED VISITS: Tuesday to Friday, by appointment. Free

CHRISTMAS WORKSHOPS: At Christmas time, there is always an activity for the families to learn more about science. Free admission

SCIENCE FAIR: The Museum and the Museum's Support Foundation set up every year at the Fair a different stand in which visitors play an active role.

SCIENCE & CINEMA: During Madrid Science Week (november), movies are the perfect way to approach science to the public.

INTERNACIONAL MUSEUM DAY: Each May 18 th, the Museum organizes activities to celebrate that day. Free admission

Activities

LIBRARY

The Museum has become an important centre of historical and scientific documentation in Spain. The library has a collection of 8000 books and 800 journals.

The catalogue is available on-line at <http://www.mec.es/biblioteca.htm> or at the reading-room from 9:00 to 15:00, Monday to Friday.

MEDIA LIBRARY

The Media Library of the Museum is a space in which visitors may access to any multimedia information related to the history of this institution : from photographs of educational activities and instruments to sounds records of the cylinders, including institutional videos, interactive displays, etc.

It is available at the exhibition gallery and soon on the Internet.

THE FOUNDATION



The Museum's Support Foundation is a non-profit institution created in 2000. It was created to help the Museum to develop and promote Spanish scientific culture.

The Trustees and the members of the Scientific Council are significant individuals and institutions. That take an active part in the Museum's daily life and promote its activities and social presence.

All educational activities at the Museum have the management and support of the Foundation.

GENERAL INFORMATION

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28045 Madrid

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museo.mnct@mec.es

Department of Education. Telephone ext. 38 - 39
didactica.mnct@mec.es / visitas.mnct@mec.es

documentacion.mnct@mec.es

Department of Communication and Difussion. Telephone ext. 40
comunicacion.mnct@hotmail.com

Department of Restoration. Telephone ext. 30
restauracion.mnct@hotmail.com

Library. Telephone ext. 32
biblioteca.mnct@mec.es

Museum's Support Foundation: Telephone ext. 22
fundacion.mnct@mec.es

Opening hours are

10:00 to 14:00 and 16:00 to 18:00, Tuesday to Saturday

10:00 to 14:30, Sunday and Bank holidays

The Museum is closed on Monday

It is also closed on:

24, 25 and 31 December; 1 and 6 January; 1 and 15 May

Summer opening hours (July and August)

9:00 to 15:00, Tuesday to Saturday

10:00 to 14:30, Sunday and Bank holidays

How to get to the Museum

Buses: 8, 19, 45, 47, 59, 85, 86

Underground: Line 3 (Exit: Delicias)

Train: Delicias Station

Web: <http://www.mec.es/mnct>

Web: <http://www.mec.es/mnct>

Admission is Free

Library - Media Library / The Foundation / General Information

MNCT

MUSEO NACIONAL DE CIENCIA Y TECNOLOGÍA

www.mec.es/mnct

