



Walker  
Art Gallery

**Walker Art Gallery**  
**The Tudors**  
**Passion, Power and Politics**  
**Special Exhibition**

William Brown Street, Liverpool, UK  
L3 8EL

**Visual Story**



[liverpoolmuseums.org.uk](http://liverpoolmuseums.org.uk)

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## Welcome to the Walker Art Gallery

This **Visual Story** will help you plan a visit to our special exhibition  
**The Tudors: Passion, Power and Politics**

To find out more about a visit to the Art Gallery please see our visual story which explores our permanent collections here: <https://bit.ly/3MnqA19>

Entry to the Art Gallery is free but the exhibition is ticketed.

Tickets can be purchased online at [www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/tudors](http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/tudors), in the Gallery (subject to availability) or by calling our box office on 0151 478 4444 from 10am to 6pm, Tuesday to Sunday.

Tickets are lower in price if bought in advance. Carers, children under six years and National Museums Liverpool members can enter the exhibition free.

**We are committed to making our Museums and Art Galleries as inclusive and accessible as possible.** In this visual story we have thought about the needs of people with a wide range of disabilities and neurodiverse conditions like Autism, Dyspraxia and ADHD.

**Our contact details can be found on the last page of this guide.**



A view of the outside of the Walker Art Gallery.

## Getting here

**Transport:** You can visit the Walker Art Gallery by bike, car, train, bus, ferry, or walking. Our website provides more details about different ways to get here:

<https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/walker-art-gallery#section--getting-here>

**Useful things to know:** Outside the entrance there is cobbled floor surface.

William Brown Street sometimes holds busy events so please contact museum staff if this may affect your visit. There are large road works outside of Lime Street Station so you may find it easier to approach the Gallery via William Brown Street where there is parking available.

The route to the Gallery includes a small hill, when approaching from the bottom of William Brown Street.

**Accessible parking:** There are two accessible parking spaces available in the rear car park. You will need to pre-book an accessible space before your visit.

**Guide Dogs and assistance animals are welcome**



The cobbled floor area outside the Walker Art Gallery.

## Entering the building

The main entrance takes you to the gallery information desk by two sets of **automatic glass doors** which have vinyl lettering on them. There are heavy glass doors between many of the upstairs rooms which wheelchair users may need assistance with.

Entry to the Tudors exhibition is via the lift or right hand side staircase.

You can buy a ticket for the exhibition on the ground or first floor, you will not be asked to show your ticket until you reach the exhibition entrance on the first floor.

### Security:

Our security team will help ensure you have an enjoyable visit. We do use security measures to ensure the safety and security of all our people and collections, they are designed not to be intrusive. If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us in advance.



The glass entrance doors at the Walker.

## What is The Tudors: passion, Power and Politics?

- This is a major exhibition in partnership with National Portrait Gallery, displaying paintings and objects from one of the most dramatic times in British history.
- Featuring around one hundred objects with almost 70 items from the National Portrait Gallery. It is the first time so many of the National Portrait Gallery's Tudor portraits have been lent for exhibition.
- The exhibition presents the five Tudor monarchs, Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I, some of the most familiar figures from English history.
- The dynasty's reign over sixteenth-century England, from 1485 to 1603, encompassed the tumultuous years of the Reformation; a literary renaissance. Conflict with Scotland, France and Spain; conquest and colonisation in Ireland and America; and the expansion of England's global reach through piracy and trade.
- This exhibition explores the Tudors from a range of perspectives and spotlights some historically underrepresented aspects of the period, including Black Tudor history and LGBTQ+ history.
- Some of the work included in the exhibition has never been shown outside of London.
- Some highlights are the **Westminster Tournament Roll**, produced in 1511, the Roll celebrates the birth of Henry VIII's son with Katherine Aragon, Henry, who died in infancy. This spectacular document was last on public display almost 20 years ago.
- Another incredible loan is the **Bacton Altar Cloth** which is believed to be an item from Elizabeth I's wardrobe, making it the only known surviving example of her clothing.

## What to expect from the exhibition?

- The exhibition entrance can be found on the first floor of the Art Gallery via rooms 8 and 9 and is spread across three large rooms, divided by high walls.
- Your ticket will be scanned at the entry point and you will then enter the exhibition entry foyer.
- If you do not have a ticket you can purchase one from our exhibition shop. This is subject to availability. We recommend you book this exhibition in advance.



Signage on the glass door directs visitors to the exhibition entrance.



Signage above the doorway directs visitors to the exhibition entrance.

## A visual walk through the exhibition

Staff will welcome you and scan your ticket at the ticket desk in room 9



A picture of the special exhibition entrance including glass doors.

The entrance to the exhibition is through double glass doors to the right of the title wall. There are reflections on the glass. Please note the exhibition uses low lighting to preserve the paintings.

Tudor chamber music can be heard in the exhibition rooms including a trumpet call, birdsong and a harp. This audio track will be switched off for our relaxed views on:

**Saturday 11 June 10am - 1pm**

**Thursday 7 July 10am - 1pm**

**Sunday 7 August 2 - 4.30pm**

During the guided tours **Tuesday to Sunday 3-4pm** and during **school visits**.



A picture of the title wall and glass double door.

## Exhibition introduction

The first room you enter is the darkest of the three spaces and is lit by ceiling spotlights, and includes large walls with suspended arches. If you would like to avoid this room please ask a member of staff to direct you to the large exhibition space via a different route.

The lighting within this exhibition varies, please be careful when walking through the exhibition.



A picture of the walkway in the exhibition, including suspended arches.



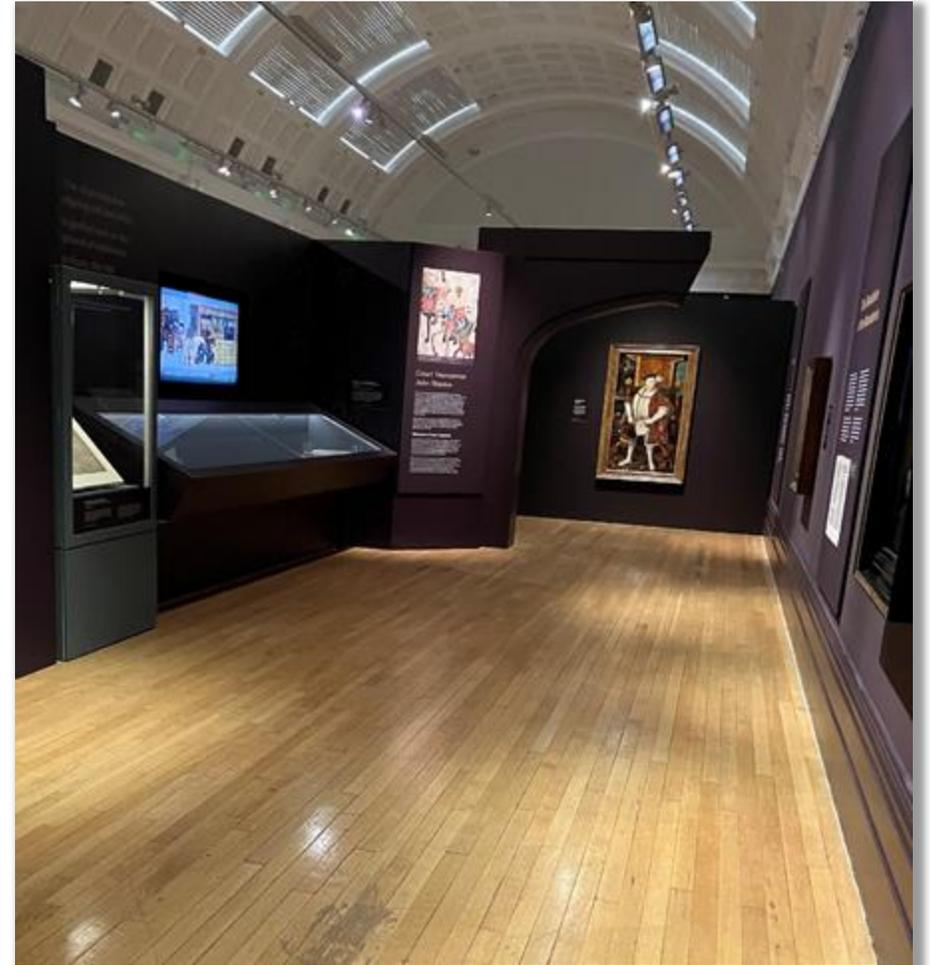
A picture of the walkway in the exhibition, including suspended arches. Demonstrating the light changes.

## Exhibition continues

There is a suggested route through the exhibition, follow this to see the famous portrait of Henry VIII. This takes you through to a large room filled with many more incredible paintings and objects from the Tudor times.



An image of a Henry VIII painting.



A picture of the exhibition walkway, including overhead spotlights.

## Exhibition continues

### Trigger warning:

The Westminster Tournament Roll is a very rare illustrated parchment celebrating the birth of Henry VIII's son, who died in infancy.

The document is a celebration and does not reference his passing.

There is a video screen above the roll which moves slowly showing you the full length of the roll as only a portion is on display.



An image of the video screen above the Westminster Tournament Roll.

## Exhibition continues

Seating is provided at intervals throughout the exhibition. If you would like a portable stool to carry with you, please ask a member of staff.



An image of the freestanding information boards and wooden bench.



A picture of the walkthrough to the final exhibition room. Includes a pair of glass doors.

## Exhibition continues

The final exhibition space is a squared off figure of eight shape. You may move around this room as you wish but we suggest starting to the left of the doorway.

Near the world globe display case you will see a set of glass doors which take you back to the first room of the exhibition, if you choose to revisit this space.



A picture of the walkway in the final room of the exhibition.

Two static mannequins mark the final space in the exhibition and take visitors into a contemporary art display exploring the legacy of African Tudor trumpeter John Blanke. Visitors then exit the space into the exhibition shop or foyer.



A picture of the mannequins in the final exhibition space.

## Exhibition shop and foyer

The exit from the exhibition takes you into the exhibition shop via the door you originally entered through. This space is much brighter so it may take a moment for eyesight to adjust.

You are welcome to continue your visit through our permanent collection galleries, which are free to explore.



A picture of the exit leading to the exhibition shop. This includes a pair of glass doors.



A picture of the glass doors leading to the exhibition shop.

## Seating in the permanent collection galleries

There is a range of seating for you to use throughout the Walker Art Gallery.

There are **cushioned benches** in the Craft and Design gallery on the ground floor.

There are **wooden benches** available on the first floor in:

- Room 5: 18<sup>th</sup>-century paintings gallery
- Room 7: Victorian Narrative Paintings gallery
- Room 8: Victorian High Art 1860-1900
- Room 9: Modern and Contemporary Art
- Room 10: Impressionism and Post-Impressionism

**Black fold out stools are available at any point in your visit.** Please ask our staff for more details or need assistance.



A wooden bench with no fixed armrests, on wooden flooring. A large white humidifier is located next to the bench.

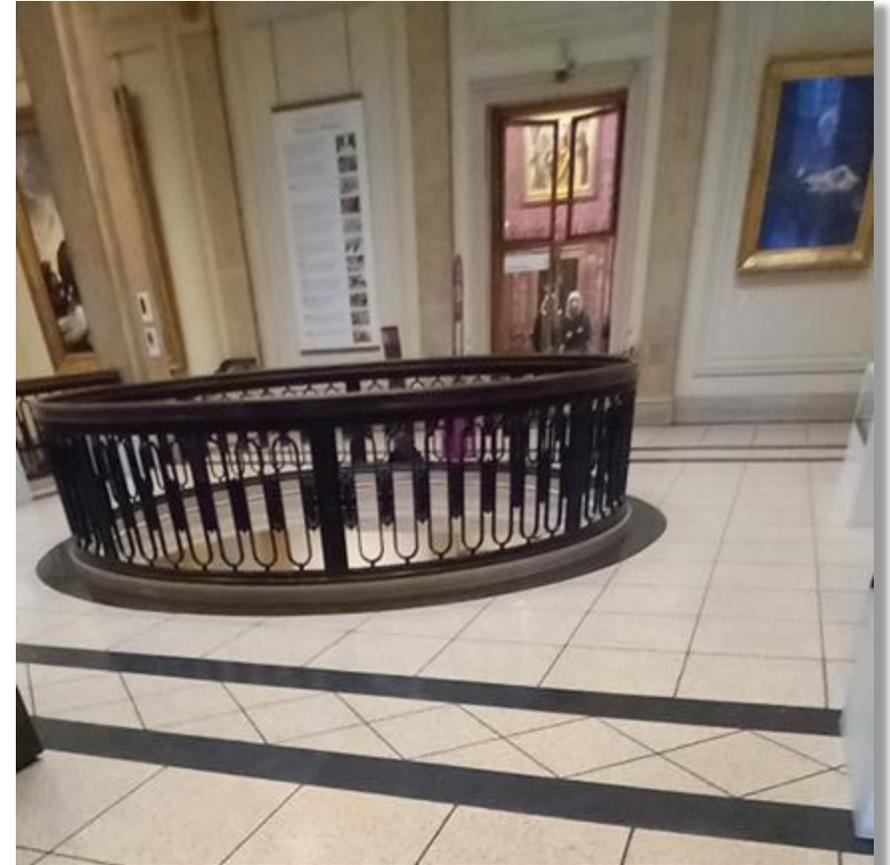
## Noise levels

There are stone and wooden floors throughout the Walker Art Gallery, this can cause **echoes that can be heard throughout the First Floor.**

There is also a constant **low tone, like a hum, from the humidifiers** throughout the galleries.

Be aware that with large school groups and busy periods, voices and footsteps can add to the additional noise pollution, particularly from the cafe.

**Noise defender headphones or earbuds may be useful** in these galleries and during your visit.



First Floor landing area with stone floors.

## We hope you enjoy your visit

### Address

William Brown Street, Liverpool, UK L3 8EL

### Visit our website for detailed directions

<https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/walker-art-gallery#section--getting-here>

### Opening times:

Tuesday to Sunday 10am - 6pm  
In winter venues close at 4pm, please check times before you travel.

### Accessibility features

To find out more about our accessibility features please visit:  
<https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/walker-art-gallery/access-and-facilities>

If you have any questions about accessibility at the Walker Art Gallery, do contact us by:

Phone on 0151 478 4199

or

Email [thewalker@liverpoolmuseums.org.uk](mailto:thewalker@liverpoolmuseums.org.uk)

## Our nearby Galleries

### Museum of Liverpool

Pier Head, Liverpool, UK, L3 1DG  
0151 478 4545

### World Museum

William Brown Street, L3 8EN  
0151 478 4393

### Merseyside Maritime Museum and International Slavery Museum

Royal Albert Dock Liverpool, L3 4AQ  
0151 478 4499

### Lady Lever Art Gallery

Port Sunlight Village CH62 5EQ  
0151 478 4136

### Sudley House

Mossley Hill Road L18 8BX  
0151 478 4016

Our venues are open all year round except on Mondays when they are closed, excluding Bank Holiday Mondays.

They are also closed on 24, 25, 26 December.