

Shropshire Art Society Saturday Gallery Trip to Birmingham – Saturday 31st May 2025

A day trip to Birmingham is planned for Saturday 31st May 2025, to visit an exhibition at the Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, Rembrandt: Masterpieces in Black and White, and the Garman Ryan collection at the New Art Gallery, Walsall. The visits are self-guided and there are cafés at both galleries. Coach travel will start from the Abbey Foregate Car Park, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, leaving at 8:30 hours prompt, with a pick-up stop at Wellington on the way. We will be leaving Walsall at 16:30 hours, arriving back at Abbey Foregate around 18:00 hours. The journey will take approximately one and a half hours and there is a toilet on the coach. Members may book for themselves and for non-member guests using the attached form.

Itinerary

08:30 Collect from Abbey Foregate Car Park, Shrewsbury

09:00 Collect from Wellington

10:00 Drop-off Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

13:30 Pick-up Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

14:00 Drop-off at the New Art Gallery, Walsall

16:30 Pick-up from the New Art Gallery, Walsall

17:30 Drop-off Wellington

18:00 Drop-off Abbey Foregate Car Park, Shrewsbury

After collection from Abbey Foregate Car Park, Shrewsbury, the coach will pick-up from the Holyhead Road, B5061, opposite the Red Lion Service Station in Wellington. Please indicate on the reply slip if you wish to take advantage of this option.

Exhibitions

Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery – Rembrandt: Masterpieces in Black and White

Rembrandt was a renowned 17th-century Dutch painter and innovative printmaker, celebrated for his powerful storytelling and ability to capture human emotion. Rembrandt: Masterpieces in Black and White is an exhibition featuring his exquisite etchings on loan from the Rembrandt House Museum, showcasing his artistic evolution and influence. The display explores his use of light and shadow, nature, self-portraits, and narrative scenes, alongside prints by 20th-century Midlands artists. (Read more online: <https://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/exhibitions/rembrandt>)

New Art Gallery Walsall – The Garman Ryan Collection

The New Art Gallery Walsall, designed by Caruso St John, centres its layout around the Garman Ryan Collection. The collection, curated by Kathleen Garman and sculptor Sally Ryan, features 365 artworks by iconic artists like Constable, Degas, Monet, Picasso, Van Gogh, and Matisse, alongside cultural artefacts and works by family and friends. Displayed thematically rather than chronologically, the arrangement reflects the interests of Garman's late husband, sculptor Jacob Epstein. In 2023, the collection celebrated its 50th anniversary with a special "50 Favourites for 50 Years" trail curated by staff and collaborators. (Read more online about this collection, and about Suzanne Holtom's and other exhibitions at the gallery: <https://thenewartgallerywalsall.org.uk/whats-on/>)

Coffee/Lunch

Shropshire Art Society Saturday Gallery Trip to Birmingham – Saturday 31st May 2025

The Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery has a Tearoom for coffee and/or lunches: for more information and the menu, please visit:

<https://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/birmingham-museum-and-art-gallery/tearoom>

The New Art Gallery Walsall has a Costa Coffee shop.

Other Nearby Attractions

Nearby attractions to the **Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery** include the Ikon Gallery, featuring international contemporary art (www.ikon-gallery.org/), and The Coffin Works, a restored Victorian factory museum (www.coffinworks.org). Victoria Square, right next door to the gallery, has the Town Hall and the Council House, as well as various sculptures and fountains. For shopping, the Bullring & Grand Central are a 10-minute walk (www.bullring.co.uk), while the charming Great Western Arcade is just five minutes away. A 15-minute stroll takes you to Gas Street Basin, a scenic canal area with bars, restaurants, and moored narrowboats.

Just a few minutes from the **New Art Gallery Walsall**, is the Walsall Leather Museum. For shopping, Crown Wharf Retail Park and the nearby Saddler's Centre (www.saddlersshopping.co.uk) offer plenty of options. The Walsall Arboretum (a half-hour walk away) provides a peaceful natural escape with lakes and walking trails.

Cost

The cost of the day is £40 per person, which covers return coach transport, coach parking, a gratuity for the coach driver, £15.50 entry fee to the Rembrandt Exhibition, and a donation for the New Art Gallery Walsall. There are 48 places available and these will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. **The trip may not go ahead if there is not enough interest, and you will be advised if this is the case.**

Please complete the enclosed Booking Form and return with full payment, no later than **25th April 2025:**

- **If you have paid by PayPal** via the Society's website or by **BACS** and wish to email the form rather than post it, please scan and email to gallerytripscoordinator@gmail.com.
- **Otherwise, please return the form by post to** The Gallery Trips Coordinator, Pool House, Ball Lane, Maesbury, SY108AT.

For further information or any queries about this trip, please refer to the contact details in your Focal Points newsletter.

Shropshire Art Society Saturday Gallery Trip to Birmingham – Saturday 31st May 2025

Booking Form

I / We would like to join the Saturday Gallery trip to Birmingham on 31st May 2025

I / We would like _____ (number) places on the coach @ £40.00 per person

I / We would like to be picked up / dropped off in Wellington, on the Holyhead Road, B5061, opposite the Red Lion Service Station.

Name(s) (Please list all names of those joining the trip):

1.	2.
3.	4.

Address of person booking:

Email (of person booking):

Mobile phone number (of person booking): _____

Payments should be made by bank transfer (BACS) or by PayPal where at all possible. Our bank account details are:

Shropshire Art Society Account number: 19183906 Sort code: 09 01 54 Santander.

Payments into this account can be made by internet banking, telephone banking or in-store at your bank. Your payment will be immediately and safely received, with no need for a cheque book!

Visit our website <https://www.shropshireartsociety.org.uk/payments/> for details on how to pay the Society using PayPal. Please use the code BT2025 when making your payment. If you feel you cannot use either of these means of payment, please contact our Treasurer, Sarah Kowenicki, on treasurer@shropshireartsociety.org.uk or 07817 130620.

Please tick ONE to indicate your payment method

I have made a BACS payment to Shropshire Art Society for £..... (please quote reference **BT2025**)

I have paid £via PayPal using the Payments page on the Society's website (please use the payment code **BT2025**)

I have spoken to the Treasurer and arranged a payment by cheque for £..... made payable to Shropshire Art Society

If you have paid by PayPal via the Society's website **or BACs** and wish to email the form rather than post it, please scan and email to gallerytripscoordinator@gmail.com.

Otherwise, please return the form by post to The Gallery Trips Coordinator, Pool House, Ball Lane, Maesbury, SY108AT.

Please return this form as soon as possible and at the very latest by **25th April 2025**.

Note: you must be a member of the Shropshire Art Society to use this Form; thank you!