



NATIONAL GLASS CENTRE VISUAL STORY

This story is to help you plan your visit to National Glass Centre.

There are lots of things to see and do in National Glass Centre. You can check our website for the latest opening times [here](#).



GETTING TO NATIONAL GLASS CENTRE

You can travel to National Glass Centre in lots of ways. People usually come by car, train or bus.

If you travel by car, there is a car park right outside the centre.

You might travel by bus and there are bus stops at St. Peter's Campus and Roker Avenue which is only a short walk away.

St Peter's Station is the closest Metro station to the National Glass Centre - it's only a 10 minute walk away.



ARRIVING AT RECEPTION

As you walk up to National Glass Centre you will see the doors to reception. There is a revolving door in the middle and a push pad door on the right.

This area can be busy when groups are visiting. The Reception area can be very bright on sunny days and can get very warm. It can get quite noisy in reception. You can hear music, sounds from the cafe and people talking in other parts of the building.

There will be a member of staff at the reception desk when you arrive. This person can help if you need anything.



THE LEARNING STUDIO

The Learning Studio is to the left of Reception.

There are tables and chairs in here and you might visit to take part in an activity.

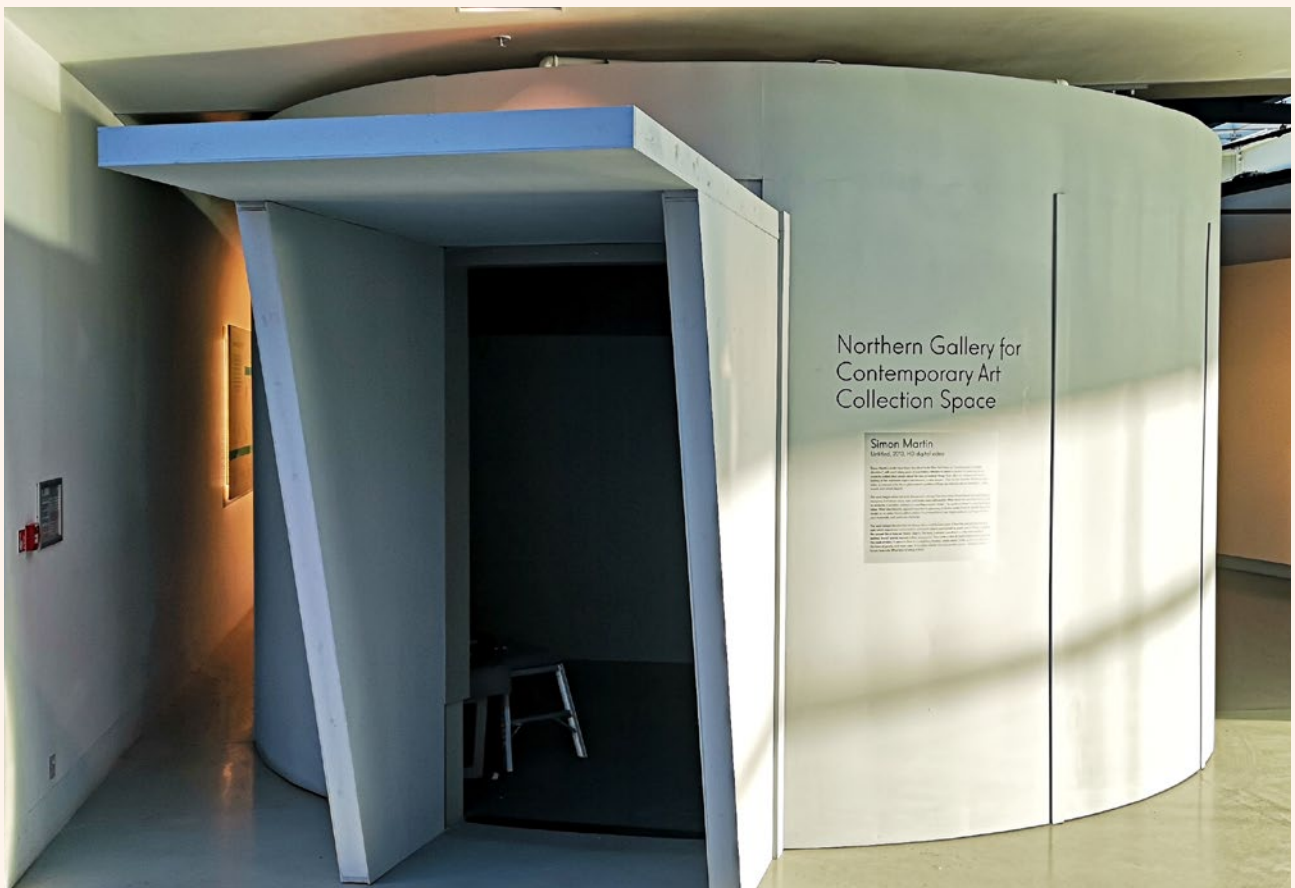


THE COLLECTION SPACE

The Collection Space is next to the Reception desk.

The things on display in this space change during the year. There is a screen and projector showing short films about art.

This space is small and dark. There is music playing sometimes which you can hear in Reception.

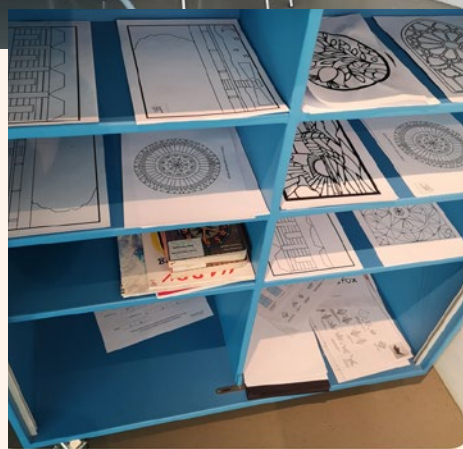


STORIES OF GLASS IN SUNDERLAND

This area has lots of interesting parts. There are information films to watch, audio guides, touch screens and displays to press and touch.

You will be able to learn about the history of glass making in Sunderland.

You can sit at the desk if you want to. You will find things to build and colour.



MAIN GALLERY

The Gallery is to the right of reception. This is where the temporary exhibitions are. There may be artworks on the walls or on plinths of different heights. There is a Gallery Facilitator present at all times who will be happy to talk to you about the artwork if you wish.

You can check which exhibition is on before your visit at www.nationalglasscentre.com

Artworks must not be touched but sometimes there are films or audio guides that you can sit and watch or listen to.



BALCONY GALLERY

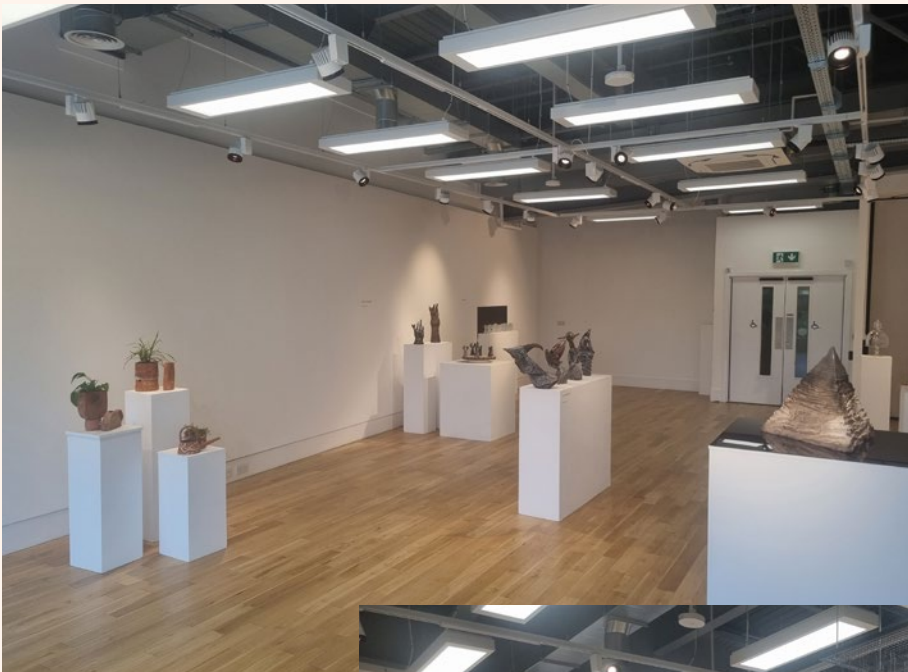
The Balcony Gallery is past reception and at the top of the stairs turn right. Sometimes there are works of art to look at on the wall and sometimes they are in glass display cases.



SUNDERLAND CREATIVES GALLERY

The Sunderland Creatives Gallery is at the far end of the Balcony Gallery, through a wide doorway on the right. The gallery presents work by students and graduates of the University of Sunderland's Faculty of Art and Creative Industries.

You can check what will be on display before you visit at www.nationalglasscentre.com

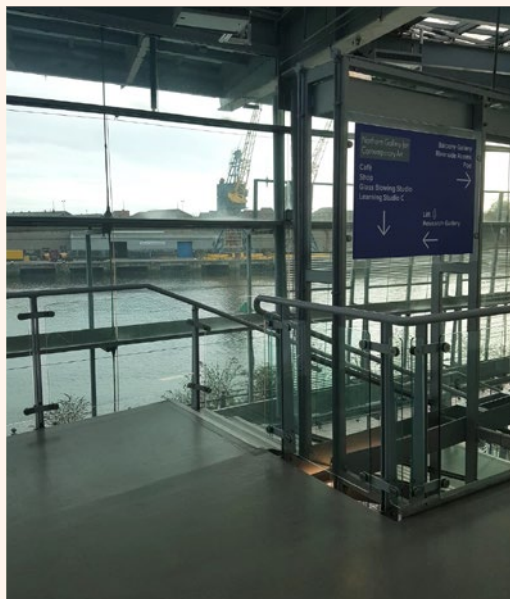


GETTING DOWNSTAIRS

You can get downstairs to the other areas in 2 ways.

There is a lift that can take you down or there are steps that you can use.

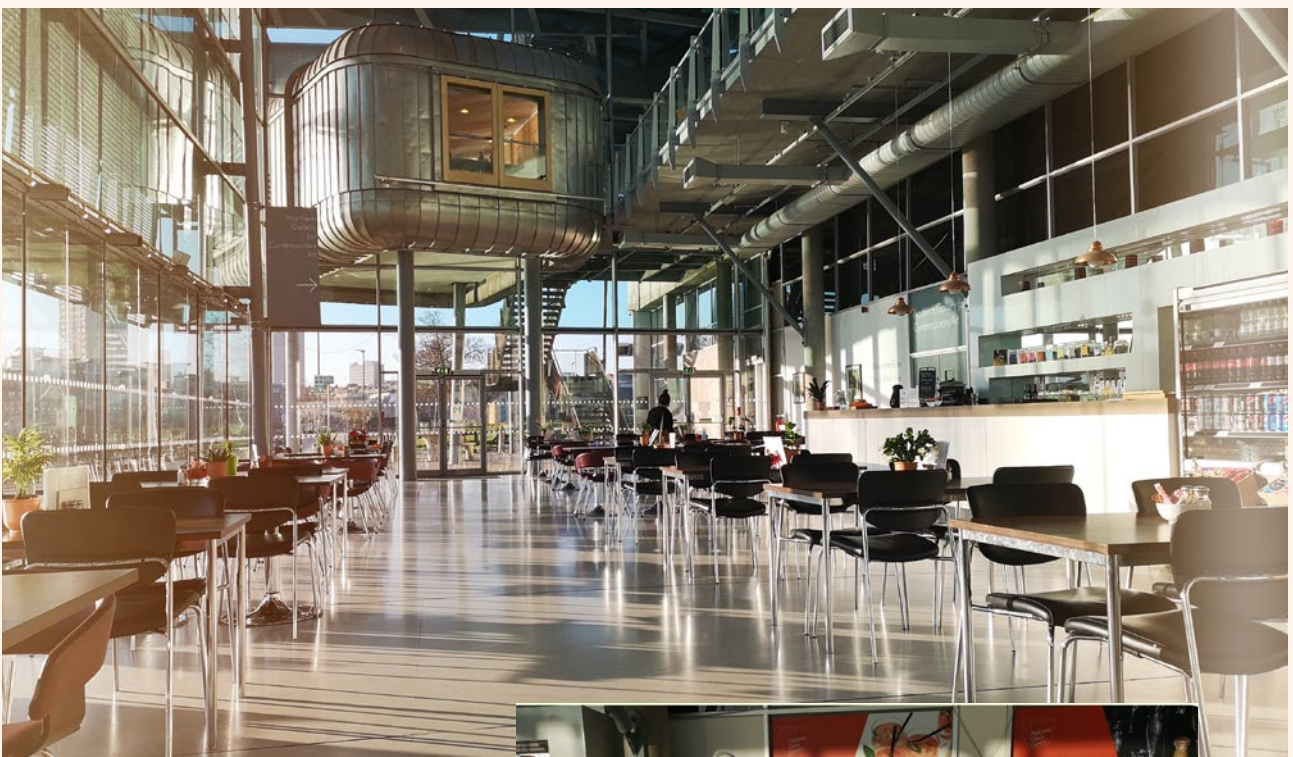
The lift is glass inside meaning you will be able to see out in the the centre as you travel up or down.



THE GLASS YARD

The Glass Yard is the name of the cafe. You can buy food and drinks. There are menus on the tables telling you what is available to buy. There is a selection of soft drinks and cakes on display at the counter.

There are food smells, kitchen sounds and music in this area. It can be very bright and warm on a sunny day.



SHOP AND RIVERSIDE ENTRANCE

The shop has a range of things to buy.

There are automatic doors leading outside, onto a path by the riverside. You can use these to enter and exit the building.

There are some big windows in the shop that look into the Hot Glass Studio and demonstration area. You can see people working with hot glass through these.

Sounds from the demonstration are played in the shop during demonstration times.



HOT GLASS DEMONSTRATION AREA

This area is open at all times of the day. You are welcome to come in and watch the Glass Blowers working and you can ask questions at any time.

The demonstrations are held at different times throughout the day. You can check the website for these details. During these sessions, the seating area can become very busy. The people doing the demonstrations talk to the audience through a microphone. They explain what they are doing with the hot glass.

This area can become very warm. If you feel uncomfortable, you can leave the area at any time.



NORTHERN GALLERY FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

You can get to Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art through the cafe. The door is usually open and you are welcome to go in to have a look around.

There may be a member of staff sitting or standing in this room. This member of staff is here to talk to visitors who want more information about the art.

If you have any questions about the art you see, please ask the member of staff but you don't have to talk to the member of staff if you don't want to - you can just look around.



FACILITIES

There is an accessible toilet located near reception. You can follow signs to find the toilet or ask a member of staff.

There are also toilets located near the cafe.

There are seats located around the building if you need to rest or would just like some time out. If you need a quiet space to go, please ask a member of staff and they will help you.



You are always welcome to visit our venue when we are open. If you would like any more information or have any questions, please contact us in the following ways:

Sunderland Culture
info@sunderlandculture.org.uk

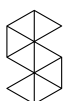
National Glass Centre /
Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art
info@nationalglasscentre.com
0191 515 5555

Arts Centre Washington
acw@sunderland.gov.uk
0191 561 3455

Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens
museums@sunderland.gov.uk
0191 561 2323



Northern Gallery for
Contemporary Art



**SUNDERLAND
CULTURE**



**University of
Sunderland**



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