

2nd Floor Floorplan

2F

History Culture Gallery I

The history of human activity in Gwangju and Jeollanam-do Province stretches back more than 65,000 years, and a wide variety of prehistoric stone tools have been found in the region. The Neolithic Period and the Bronze Age are respectively represented by shell mounds on the islands along the southern coast and Liaoning-type bronze daggers excavated from Goheung and Boseong. The bronze mirrors and bells recovered from the Daegok-ri site in Hwasun are notably sophisticated, and the Archaeological Site in Sinchang-dong is Korea's largest known complex agricultural village from prehistoric or ancient times. During the Samhan (ca. 8000 BCE – 300 CE) and Three Kingdoms Period (57 BCE–668 CE), a distinctive culture developed in the area of what is now Gwangju and Jeollanam-do Province, and traces of the region's exchanges with the Gaya (42–562 CE) can be found in the eastern parts of the province.

History Culture Gallery II

Following Silla's unification of the Three Kingdoms, Hwaeomsa Temple in Gurye became the center of the Gyojong (Doctrinal) School of Buddhism. Gyeon Hwon (r. 892–935), who developed a power base in Mujinju (today the city of Gwangju), founded the kingdom of Later Baekje (892–936). During the Goryeo Dynasty (912–1392), Gangjin was a production site for fine celadon. In the Joseon period (1392–1910), the sarim (local intellectuals) led the development of dohak (learning of the true way) and made great cultural achievements, including lyric verse and the development of the Southern School of painting. The tradition of civilian militias that emerged during the Japanese Invasions of Korea (1592–1598) with the righteous armies who sought to defend their hometowns and nation, reemerged in the nineteenth century in the form of the Donghak Peasant Revolution.

Must-see Treasures

2F 1



Tanged Point

Wolpyeong and Juksan in Suncheon, Paleolithic Period

2



Accessories (Earrings, Shell Bracelet, etc.)

Shell Mound on Ando Island, Neolithic Period

3



Bronze Artifacts from Daegok-ri

Hwasun, Early Iron Age, National Treasure No. 143

4



Pottery Excavated from the Archaeological Site in Sinchang-dong, Gwangju

Early Iron Age

5



Helmet and Armor

Ancient Tomb of Andong in Goheung Three Kingdoms Period

6



Gilt-bronze Cowl Cap

Ancient Tomb of Andong in Goheung Three Kingdoms Period

7



Twin Lion Stone Lantern of Jungheungsanseong Fortress, Gwangyang

Unified Silla Period, National Treasure No. 103

8



Stone Avatamsaka Sutra of Hwaeomsa Temple

Goryeo, Unified Silla Period, Treasure No. 1040

9



Iron Seated Buddha

Goryeo Dynasty

10



Stone Seated Arhat

Seobongsa Temple Site in Damyang Joseon Dynasty

11



Miniature Shirine and Amitabha Triad

Suncheon, Joseon Dynasty, 1468, Treasure No. 1874

12



Buncheong Memorial Tablet of Yi Seon-je with Inlaid

Joseon Dynasty, 1454, Treasure No. 1993

1F 13



Celadon Bottle

12th–13th century, Goryeo Dynasty

14



White Porcelain Jar with Dragon Design

18th century, Joseon Dynasty

15



Bronze Lion-shaped Incense Burner

Yuan Dynasty (1271–1368), China

16



Celadon Jar with Ribbed Design

Yuan Dynasty (1271–1368), China

17



Blue-and-white Porcelain Jar

Jingdezhen Kilns, Ming Dynasty (1368–1644), China

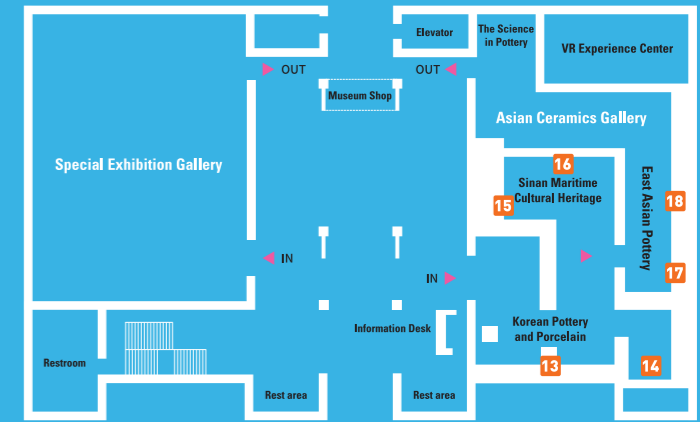
18



White Porcelain Ewer with Elephant and Horse Design in Cobalt-blue Underglaze

15th century, Vietnam, National Museum of History

* For preservation needs, the exhibitions of paintings, calligraphy, and documents are regularly changed.



1st Floor Floorplan

1F

Asian Ceramics Gallery

This gallery is dedicated to presenting Korean ceramics within the broader context of the development of Asian ceramics culture and also provides a showcase for relics recovered from the Sinan shipwreck. The first section introduces the development of Korean ceramics from celadon to buncheong and white porcelain in conjunction with the social and cultural history of the related times. The second section features Sinan relics, including trade commodities such as ceramics (the greatest proportion of the shipwreck findings), metalware, and red sandalwood that was carried on the vessel. It also features objects presumed to have been used by the people on board. The third section introduces ceramics from China, Vietnam, and Japan to help highlight and explain the characteristics unique to each nation as well as the similarities and differences with Korean examples.

The Science of Pottery

This space presents an experiment that grew out of the question of if it would be possible to make finished ceramics out of local clay. The results of the experiment demonstrate that ceramic pieces can indeed be made with locally obtained materials if certain necessary elements are added.



Buncheong vessel made with 100% clay from Maegok district collected on the mountain behind the museum.



Buncheong vessel made with Maegok clay and buncheong clay mixed at a 70:30 ratio

Outdoor Exhibition Space

The museum's garden displays cultural assets that have been transferred from former temples and other historic sites in Gwangju and the surrounding area.



Children's Museum

At the Children's Museum, our young visitors can explore prehistoric villages as they existed more than 2000 years ago and play at being a potter making ceramics. Children can develop an understanding of the wisdom and community spirit of the people of the past, ceramics production, and international exchanges as demonstrated by the Sinan Shipwreck. [1st Floor, Education Center]



VR Experience Center *Travelling 700 Years Back in Time*

This is a space where visitors can travel back in time 700 years using extended reality (XR) combining 4D projection mapping with augmented reality.

Plan Your Experience

- Location: 1st Floor, Inside the Asian Ceramics Gallery
- Operating Hours: 10:00 – 17:00 (13 sessions per day)
- Capacity: Max. 4 people per session
- For safety purposes, participants must be 130 cm or taller
- Advanced reservations via the museum website are highly recommended (on-site booking may be possible depending on availability)

Visitor Guide

Hours: 10:00~18:00

- * Special Evening Hours : 10:00~20:00 every Saturday (March through October)
- * For detailed information on opening hours, please visit the museum website.
- Closed on January 1, Lunar New Year, and Chuseok (Korean Thanksgiving Day)
- Free Admission
- Last admission is 30 minutes before closing.

Children's Museum: 10:00~17:00 (Closed on the third Monday of the month)

- Reservations to visit the Children's Museum and participate in educational programs
- Learning Resources and "Listen and Learn about the Artifacts" (Refer to the "Education" section of the museum website)
- Inquiries: 062-570-7048
- Search / Reservations

* **Sign up for our monthly newsletter and Asian Ceramics Culture newsletter and various cultural events on the museum website.**

Library: B1 Floor, Education Center
10:00~17:00 (Mon-Fri)

Museum Shop: Inquires: 062-570-7116

Strollers and wheelchairs are available free-of-charge



QR Code for the Museum Website

Notice to Visitors



- The museum is a smoke-free environment.
- Food and drink are not allowed in the galleries.
- No pets are allowed, excluding service animals.
- Please set your phone to silent or vibration mode before entering the galleries.
- Please refrain from touching the exhibits or any other actions that could result in damage.
- Flash photography, tripods, and commercial photography/filming are not permitted in the galleries.
- Visitors accompanying children are requested to always keep them under close supervision to ensure a safe and enjoyable visit for everyone.
- Bicycles, scooters, rollerblades, and skateboards are not allowed on the premises.

Social Media Channels of the Museum



GWANGJU NATIONAL MUSEUM
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Gwangju National Museum through Time

- December 6, 1978 Opening of the Gwangju National Museum
- July 26, 1982 Launch of the Museum Academy
- December 15, 1998 Construction of collection storage
- December 20, 2005 Completion of the Education Center
- September 1, 2006 Reorganization of permanent exhibitions
- December 6, 2006 Opening of the Children's Museum
- September 17, 2013 Reorganization of the Agriculture Gallery
- May 21, 2020 Opening of the VR Experience Center
- December 18, 2020 Establishment of the Asian Ceramics Gallery
- March 8, 2021 Opening of the History and Culture Gallery

Major Special Exhibitions

- Portraits from the Joseon Dynasty : 3.5~4.6. 1980.
- Treasures Recovered from the Sinan Shipwreck : 9.1~11.30. 1986.
- True-view Landscape Painting : 1.9~12.7. 1987.
- Pre- & Proto-historic Tools and Technology in Korea : 10.25~11.26. 1994.
- Masterpieces of Modern Korean Painting : 9.19~11. 5. 1995.
- Ancient Culture around the Yeongsangang River : 12.8. 1998.~2.7. 1999.
- A Journey across Prehistoric and Ancient Times : 10.18~11.27. 2005.
- 200 Years of Sochi Heo Ryeon, Master of the Southern School of Painting : 7.8~8.31. 2008.
- Namdo Culture Exhibition I Gwangju : 9.12~12.28. 2008.
- Birds Carrying Prayers on Their Wings : 9.4~10.24. 2010.
- Namdo Culture Exhibition II Gwangyang : 10.4~12.4. 2011.
- Namdo Culture Exhibition III Gangjin : 7.10~9.2. 2012.
- A Time Capsule Buried 2,000 Years Ago : 12.25. 2012.~3.3. 2013.
- Namdo Culture Exhibition IV Suncheon : 5.7~6.30. 2013.
- Buncheong Ware of Mt. Mudeung : 7.23~10.13. 2013.
- Namdo Culture Exhibition V Goheung : 7.8~9.28. 2014.
- Gongjae Yun Du-seo Encounter with a Great Master : 10.21. 2014.~1.18. 2015.
- Namdo Culture Exhibition VI Damyang : 8.25~11.1. 2015.
- A Buddha in the Heart : 8.15~10.22. 2017.
- Jeolla-do Province and Its People over the Past 1000 Years : 10.23. 2018.~2.10. 2019.
- Masterpieces of Cizhou Ware from China The Art of Black and White : 5.28~8.18. 2019.
- Six Perspectives Photo Exhibition of Masterpieces : 9.7. 2020.~1.31. 2021.
- The Mystery of Sindeok Ancient Tombs : 7.19~10.24. 2021.

Gwangju National Museum BI Brand Identity



The brand identity incorporates the first letter of Gwangju National Museum, "g" and ceramics, which make up a major part of the museum collection. Resembling the sun and moon as they change over time, it represents a museum undergoing a constant process of transformation and development.

GWANGJU NATIONAL MUSEUM

English

Rhee Jaeyong | Memories of the Gaze | 2020 | 159 × 135cm

