Museum map
The musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac opened its doors in 2006, spearheaded by Jacques Chirac. Born out of his encounter with collector Jacques Kerchache, the museum is the culmination of a long-held dream of numerous 20th century writers, critics and anthropologists: to give non-Western civilisations and arts their place in national museums.

The collections:
history of a legacy

The musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac brings together the collections of a double legacy: that of the Musée de l’Homme and that of the Musée national des Arts d’Afrique et d’Océanie. It conserves around 300,000 works originating from Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Oceania and the Americas comprising sculptures, paintings, photographs and musical instruments that illustrate the richness and cultural diversity of non-European civilisations from the Neolithic period (nearly 10,000 years ago) to the present day.

The architectural project:
a refuge for the collections

“This is a museum built around a collection”. Designed by Jean Nouvel, the building itself also plays its part in the establishment’s primary role: to build bridges between cultures and navigate easily between one cultural realm and another. Built on stilts and docked on the banks of the Seine, this complex structure has broken free from the codes and conventions of Western architecture. The dock-side of the building is adorned with a living wall created by botanist Patrick Blanc and bordered by a vast garden designed by landscape architect Gilles Clément which is illuminated at dusk with an artistic installation entitled L’Ô, by Yann Kersalé.

The Main Collections Floor:
a unique and constantly changing gallery

Designed in the form of a vast territory to explore, the Main Collections Floor houses some 3,500 works organised by geographical region. It is constantly changing, and regularly reinvigorated with new displays chosen in the light of acquisitions and imperatives linked with the conservation of the works. The fragile nature of some works requires relative semi-darkness, which encourages visitors to wander around the exhibitions. The light intensity varies according to the season and the time of day, thanks to the large windows overlooking the garden and the city. Running through the centre of the Floor, La Rivière (the river) creates an original and touch-sensitive circuit with around twenty sequences offering an insight into the relationship between mankind and our environment.

The musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac:
an interdisciplinary museum

The museum puts on a dozen exhibitions over the course of the year in its Garden Gallery and on its three mezzanine levels, while performances, concerts, talks, events and debates all take place in the Claude Lévi-Strauss theatre, the Jacques Kerchache reading room and the media library.
MORE TO DISCOVER

> The other museum spaces

The temporary exhibitions
Temporary exhibitions are on display on the three mezzanine levels of the Main Collections Floor and in the Garden Gallery throughout the year.

*Mezzanine levels: access via the stairs from the Main Collections Floor or via the lift in the lobby/Garden Gallery: access via the lobby.*

The musical instruments tower
With around 10,000 instruments, the tower is a centrepiece of the building’s architecture. Designed by Jean Nouvel, it acts as a transparent backbone revealing the various behind-the-scenes parts of the museum.

*Level 0, Main Collections Floor and Mezzanine levels.*

The Claude Lévi-Strauss Theatre
A forum for creation and discussion, the theatre hosts events, performances and concerts, conferences and international symposia all year round.

*Level JB: access via the stairs or lift from the lobby.*

The reading rooms
The talks in the Jacques Kerchache reading room are given by authors, researchers and artists. The media library also boasts a documentary resource bank full of materials relating to ethnology and the history of non-Western art.

*Jacques Kerchache reading room: access from the lobby.*

*Media Library: access via the lift from the lobby (registration required).*

The River
An audiovisual creation by Charles Sandison, *The River*, runs along the ramp at the entrance to the museum’s Main Collections Floor. Installed since 2010, it invites visitors to immerse themselves in a river of moving words.

*Level 0: ramp at the entrance to the Main Collections Floor.*
PLAN A VISIT

Museum
musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac
37, quai Branly Paris 7e
218, rue de l’Université Paris 7e
Access reserved for people with motor disabilities:
222, rue de l’Université Paris 7e
Information: +33 (0)1 56 61 70 00
All information at www.quaibranly.fr

Opening hours
Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday, 11am to 7pm
Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 11am to 9pm
Closed on Mondays (except during half-term school holidays)
Admission for groups (booking required) and museum members from 9:30am
Closed 25 December and 1 May

Access
Metro 9 Alma Marceau
RER C Champ de Mars-Tour Eiffel
(Pont de l’Alma station closed for works)
Autocarro 42 Tour Eiffel
63 80 e 92 Bosquet-Rapp
72 Musée d’art moderne - Palais de Tokyo

Accessiblity
Reservation on: +33 (0)1 56 61 71 72
accessibilite.reservation@quaibranly.fr

Equipment loan
Wheelchairs, folding chairs, seats, walking frames, pushchairs, magnifying glasses and torches available on loan free of charge from the cloakroom (level JH) on presentation of proof of identity.

Hearing loops available on loan free of charge from the reception desk for groups of adults (lobby).

A baby-changing table is available in the toilets on level JB (-1).

Services
Café Branly
Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday, 10am to 6pm
Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 10am to 7pm
+33 (0)1 47 53 68 01

Les Ombres Restaurant
Access via the museum garden or 27, quai Branly
Open every day from midday to 2:15pm and from 7pm to 10:15pm
Booking required: +33 (0)1 47 53 68 00

Bookshop-Gift Shop
Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday, 11am to 7pm
Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 11am to 9pm

Become a member!
Enjoy unlimited fast-track access and much more for one year!
More information at the membership area in the museum lobby or at www.quaibranly.fr

Follow us!

All information at www.quaibranly.fr

Cover: “The garden.” The museum’s garden, designed by landscape architect Gilles Clément, was created thanks to the patronage of the ENGIE Corporate Foundation © musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac, photo Cyril Zannettacci
Artwork: Anthropomorphic mask © musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac, photo Patrick Gries, Bruno Descoings