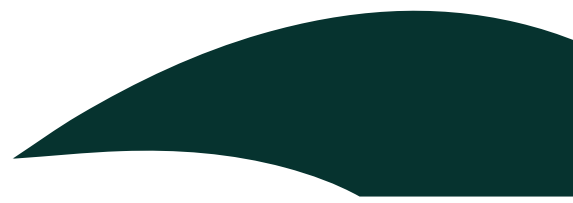


Abbey Group Policy on the Use of Historical and Archaeological Artefacts



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Purpose

This policy outlines our commitment to ethical practices and sustainability in promoting and booking visits to sites where historical and archaeological artefacts are displayed or exhibited. It is designed to ensure respectful engagement, adherence to legal standards, and responsible stewardship. We uphold strict compliance with local and international laws, ensuring that historical and archaeological artefacts are not sold, traded, or displayed unlawfully. Additionally, we collaborate with suppliers to prevent visitors from removing or damaging artefacts, safeguarding their preservation.

Definitions

Historical Artefacts: Objects with cultural, artistic, or historical significance, typically older than 50 years.

Archaeological Artefacts: Items recovered from archaeological sites, including prehistoric tools, pottery, and other materials.

Policy Guidelines

1. Ethical Display and exhibition

The Abbey Group does not own or acquire historical or archaeological artefacts, nor do we display or exhibit artefacts within company premises. If artefacts are discovered during construction or other activities, they must be reported to the relevant authorities. However, as part of our tour programmes we offer visits to sites where artefacts are displayed or exhibited. We collaborate only with institutions, museums, and sites that operate under recognised ethical guidelines, such as UNESCO conventions or national heritage regulations. Venues that display artefacts acquired or exhibited without proper provenance or permissions are excluded from our programmes.

Our strategic itinerary planning incorporates off-peak visits to minimise crowding and mitigate the impact on sites. Additionally, we diversify sites to distribute tourist traffic across various locations, reducing pressure on any single area. Visits are organised along designated paths and viewing areas to minimise physical impact on sensitive sites. Limited group sizes help reduce wear and tear on these locations, ensuring a more controlled and respectful visit. In collaboration with our suppliers we provide engaging activities like workshops and demonstrations that involve visitors without causing harm to



artefacts. Furthermore, more and more sites integrate virtual reality and augmented reality experiences, allowing tourists to explore sites without any physical contact.

2. Support for Preservation and Education

We promote venues and sites that prioritise conservation and ethical exhibition practices and offer educational experiences that enhance visitors' understanding of the historical and cultural significance of artefacts. We work with trained guides who possess in-depth knowledge of the sites and are well-versed in preservation practices. They educate tourists on responsible behaviour. Additionally, we collaborate with local guides and experts to ensure the representation of authentic perspectives on the artefacts and their historical significance. We support community-driven initiatives that promote sustainable tourism and the protection of heritage sites.

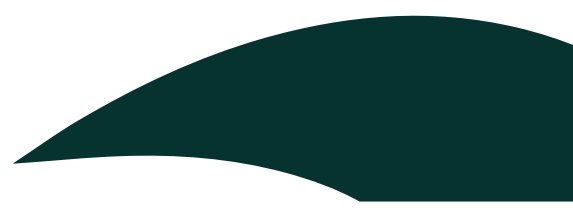
3. Respectful visitor conduct

Pre-trip and on tour we brief clients on respectful behaviour, including adhering to site-specific guidelines and avoiding actions that may harm artefacts or disturb the experience for other visitors. Our exhibitors and tour guides provide clear information on the cultural and historical context of artefacts to foster a deeper appreciation and discourage misuse or trivialization. Guides and local staff ensure visitors understand and follow the rules of the sites, including no touching, staying on paths or behind barriers, photographing (if restricted), or interfering with exhibits.

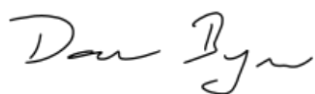
Monitoring and Compliance

We continuously monitor and gather feedback from our suppliers and tourists regarding their experiences and any observed issues related to artefact protection. Additionally, we conduct regular assessments of the impact of tours on sites and adjust itineraries as needed to ensure ongoing protection.

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it aligns with evolving standards in heritage preservation and responsible tourism. Any concerns or violations should be reported immediately to ensure prompt corrective action.



This Policy on the Use of Historical and Archaeological Artefacts has been reviewed and approved by:



Darren Byrne, CEO, 11.02.25



Sarah Muir, Sustainability Co-ordinator - Abbey UK, 11.02.25



Laura Stelling, Sustainability Co-ordinator - Abbey Ireland, 11.02.25



Haryanna Alencar, Sustainability Co-ordinator - Moloney & Kelly, 11.02.25

