MUSE easy to read

Easy to understand museum guide

Project edited by

MUSE

ANFFAS TRENTINO ONLUS
LIBERI DI ESSERCI

Translation in English

Maria Carla Maestranzi

and Sofia Tuccio

Liceo Linguistico Trento -

Sophie Magdalena Scholl

Layout

Ilary Tenorio Camacho

Istituto Sacro Cuore - Trento

Alternanza Scuola Lavoro Project

“All about the MUSE...

multi-lingual translation”

Photo: MUSE Archive

September 2023

Floor 4

High peaks

Floor 3

Labyrinth of Alpine Biodiversity,

Discovery room

Floor 2

Geology of the Dolomites, Environmental

Risks, Temporary Exhibitions

Floor 1

Alpine prehistory, FabLab,

Sustainability and innovation

Floor 0

Science Gym, Maxi Ooh!

Floor -1

History of Life, DNA Gallery,

Tropical Greenhouse


MuSe

MUSE

Since 2013 the city of Trento
has had a new science museum,
called MUSE.
MUSE
is one of the most important
museums in Italy.
The museum
is located in a new area of Trento
called Le Albere.
The area and the museum
were designed
by the famous architect Renzo Piano.

MUSE

In the area Le Albere

there are many things

like for example:

MUSE, shops,

the Biblioteca Universitaria Centrale,

gardens and houses.

Next to the museum

there is the Palazzo delle Albere.

The Palazzo delle Albere

is a building important

for the history of Trentino.

Many years ago

the Palazzo delle Albere

was the summer house

of the Prince-Bishop.

The Prince-Bishop was in charge of

the church and of the city.

MUSE

The museum, seen from the outside,

has a shape

that resembles the mountains.

Around the museum

and in the Le Albere area

there are canals and pools

with water.

On sunny days

the water in the pools is reflected

in the glass windows,

that is, you can see

the image of the pool water reflected.

MUSE

In the gardens,

where there are not houses,

between the Palazzo delle Albere

and MUSE,

there are vegetable gardens

that are also used by schools

for activities.

Behind the vegetable patches

there is a big greenhouse

where plants are grown

at the right temperature

and where the people

who work in MUSE

study and cultivate

many types of plants

that come from all over the world

and especially from

tropical countries.

MUSE

On entering MUSE

we always find a lot of natural light.

The walls of the museum

are transparent because

there are large windows

that let the light in

and it feels like we are

always outside.

MUSE

The museum is sustainable

because it was built with materials

that are found in nature

and that do not pollute

the environment.

For this reason, the museum

has received

the Leed Gold Certification

which is an official document.

It says that MUSE

is committed

to consume little energy.

MUSE

MUSE tells the story of nature from
the perspective of people
and their relationship
with all living things.
The exhibits within the museum
follow two imaginary lines:
the first line is vertical
and goes up from the centre
of the museum
where there is a large empty space.
This area reaches up to the ceiling
and is very high.
This empty space
makes people experience
what it means to go up a mountain
and how it feels to be
many metres above the ground.

MUSE

In this empty space

some animals species

native to Trentino

are hung from thin steel cables,

for clear viewing.

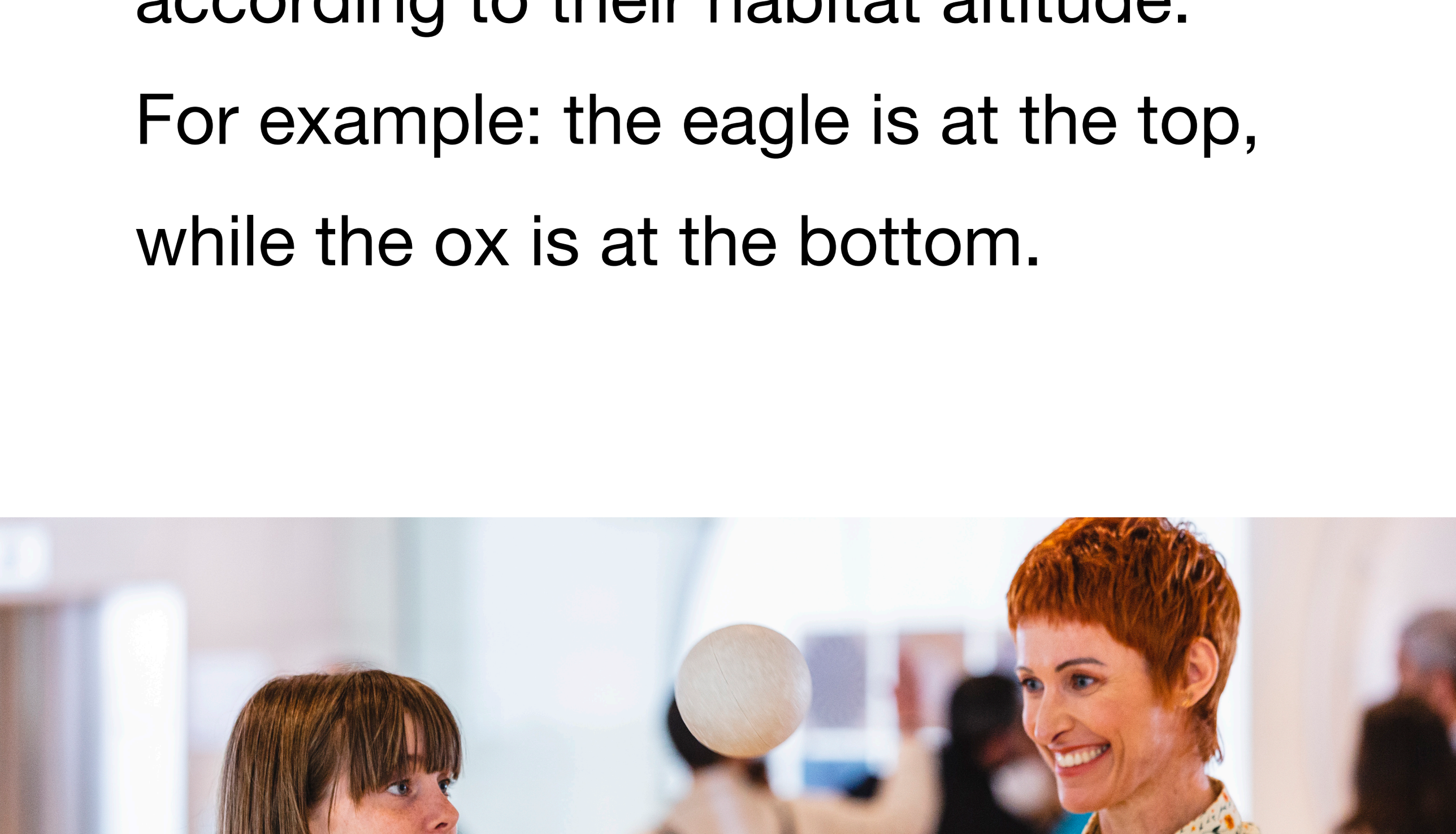
All the animals

are hung at different heights

according to their habitat altitude.

For example: the eagle is at the top,

while the ox is at the bottom.



MUSE

The second line is horizontal

following the museum’s floor area.

There are five floors

which we can visit as desired,

that is, going from the lowest

to the highest or vice versa.

Each floor is divided into two zones.

In the first zone

we can have an exciting experience.

The second zone

goes into more detail

according to specific themes:

for example we can watch a video,

read texts and observe exhibits.

Sei sicura che ciò
che stai mangiando sia

MUSE

The remains are objects
from many years ago
found after long searches.
The exhibits are shown
in glass cases.
The architects and people
working in the museum
decided, however,
to put most of the things
to be seen on tables
without using glass cases
so there are not barriers
between the visitors and the objects.

MUSE

The animals in the museum
are stuffed using a technique
called taxidermy
in order to preserve
and to show an animal
that died in a natural way.
With this technique
we keep only the skin
of the animal,
that covers an artificial body.
The reconstructed animal
is in a natural position
to give the idea of it still being alive.

MUSE

On the first floor there are rooms
with glass walls
where we can watch
researchers working.
Researchers are people
who study everything in nature
that we are able to see
in the museum.

← Return to index

Floor 4

On the fourth floor we can discover
the mountains at a high altitude.
In a part of this floor
we enter a tunnel
to have an immersive experience.
Here we can see
a video projected
onto the two long walls.
The video shows us many things,
for example:
how beautiful the landscape
of a high mountain is but, also,
what the dangers are
that a mountain presents.

Floor 4

The dangers of a mountain
are for example:
avalanches, when the snow
runs down the side of a mountain
and falls very fast into the valley;
storms; the cold; falling rocks.

Outside the tunnel,
on a rock wall,
there is a body of ice
with the shape of a tongue,
forming the lowest part of a glacier.
A glacier is made of snow and ice.
At MUSE we can touch
the ice tongue
to feel how cold it is.

Near the ice tongue
there is a small patch of grass
with many real mountain plants.

Ghiacciaio del MUSE
MUSE Glacier
MUSE Gletscher
+4

Floor 4

All the plants together
are called the flora.
On the other side of the floor
there are some tables
with many objects
and videos being shown
explaining many things very clearly.
They explain for example:
how some plants and animals
have adapted to climate change;
what alpinism is
and what are the sports
we can do in the mountains
and also what exploration,
the search
and discovery of new places, is.

← Return to index

Floor 3

On the third floor we can find a route
that is called
the Labyrinth of Alpine biodiversity.
Biodiversity is many animals
and plants living together,
in the same environment.
Inside the labyrinth
we cross the mountain landscapes,
from the highest ones,
like the alpine prairies,
to the lowest ones, like the woods.
Here we can also find animals
that live there,
like for example the brown bear,
that is one of the symbols of Trentino.

Floor 3

Outside the Labyrinth
of Alpine biodiversity
we can find the wolf
that is coming back to the Dolomites.

On the opposite side of the labyrinth
there is a room
that looks like a forest.
Here children can explore
and touch the plants on show,
look at the animals footprints
and smell the scent of the forest.
This room is called
the Discovery room.

← Return to index

Floor 2

The second floor is about
the history of the Dolomites
that are the characteristic mountains
of Trentino and South Tyrol.
The floor explains how the mountains
were formed
and how they have changed
over millions of years.
Many years ago
there was a tropical sea
where we can find
the Dolomites today.
There are videos explaining
this change.

Floor 2

On the second floor
we can see rocks,
fossils and minerals.
This floor is also about
underground resources
for example:
rocks used to make
monuments and floors,
precious stones
and metals like aluminium.

On the second floor
there is a saltwater aquarium
containing tropical fish.

Floor 2

This aquarium shows us
the environment
where the Dolomites were formed.
On the same floor
there is also a big pool
that is half aquarium
and half terrarium.
Inside the terrarium is a reptile
called a basilisk.
The basilisk is an animal
that can run on water.

Floor 2

This floor is also about
environmental risks,
like the catastrophes
caused by the dangers of nature.
The dangers of nature
are for example: landslides,
avalanches, floods and earthquakes,
that change the form
of the landscape
and can be a big risk to everyone.
On this floor they explain
what the Protezione Civile does.
The Protezione Civile
is an organisation
that manages the area
and helps people
when they are in danger.

← Return to index

Floor 1

The first floor
is divided into two zones too.
In one zone there is a route
that has the shape of a spiral
and that is about
the history of prehistoric humans.

The prehistoric humans
are the people
that lived in prehistory,
a long time ago.

These people lived in the Alps,
the mountains that border
the North of Italy.

Floor 1

In this area we can see:

- human models
  made of synthetic material;
- human remains
  and prehistoric objects;
- some videos;
- explanations about prehistory.

The other area is about
the future of humans and Earth.
Here there are tables that show us,
how we are changing
the environment where we live,
through objects and videos.

Floor 1

This is one
of the most important areas
of the museum,
because it shows us
the state of our planet.
The museum tries to:
give us an experience
on an emotional level
make us understand that
we are changing the environment
through our behaviour
that is causing climate change
with more extreme temperatures
and more floods.

Makeblock
T
R

Floor 1

In the middle of the space
there is a big sphere.
This sphere is hanging
from the ceiling
and is called Science on a sphere.
On this sphere we can see
for example:

- the population distribution
- global flight routes
- the sky and the stars
- the surface of Mars.

Le pietre dipinte di Riparo Dalmeri

Riparo Dalmeri è un vero e proprio "scrigno" per quanto riguarda la più antica frequentazione delle Alpi da parte dell'Uomo.
La scoperta di numerose pietre dipinte in ocra rossa con varie raffigurazioni permette nuove interpretazioni sull'arte e sulla spiritualità degli antichi cacciatori-raccoglitori della fine del Paleolitico, vissuti circa 13.000 anni fa.

The painted stones of the Dalmeri rock shelter

Die bemalten Steine aus dem Riparo Dalmeri

Floor 1

In this area there is also
a laboratory that is called FabLab.
Machines controlled by computers
are used here
to invent and create new things.
Some courses are organised
for young people and adults
in this laboratory.

Floor 1

Addendum: Shelter Dalmeri

In Valsugana, a part of Trentino,
MUSE researcher
Giampaolo Dalmeri
found a shelter
where prehistoric humans
from the Alps lived.
The Alps are the mountains
on the border of northern Italy.

The people that lived in the shelter
hunted animals like the ibex
and gathered berries and roots.

Here some very important stones
were found.
Animals, people and symbols
are drawn on these stones.

Floor 1

Here they also found some bones
and horns of animals,
used to perform rituals.
Rituals are gestures,
movements and chants
made by a group of people.
Thanks to this discovery,
researchers now know that
prehistoric humans
looked to form a connection
with nature too.

← Return to index

Floor 0

In the middle of the floor zero,
or the ground floor,
there is a science gym.
The science gym is an area
of the museum
where we can experiment
to understand and learn
about the laws of nature.
The experiments and the activities
that we can do here
help us think and discover
like scientists.

Floor 0

There is the Maxi Ooh!

on floor zero too.

This is a space

where children aged 0 to 5,

can have a lot of fun,

in the presence of an adult.

Inside this space children

can move how they like,

touch objects with their hands,

hear, listen to and observe

many things.

The Maxi Ooh!

is a simple and quiet space.

In the Maxi Ooh! there is an area

where the museum staff

say how to behave

and what you can do inside.

Floor 0

In the zone

you can relax on the sofas,

read a book and play.

In the Maxi Ooh!

there are also three rooms

that look like three bubbles.

Inside the first bubble children

can see what is happening

when they move in the woods.

Inside the second bubble the children

can hear what is happening

when they are in the woods.

Inside the third bubble

there is a sensory bath.

← Return to index

Floor -1

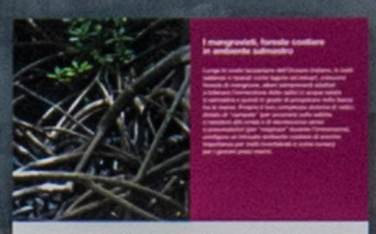
The underground floor
is about evolution
that is how life on Earth
was born and how it has changed
since ancient times.
It is about the first forms of life,
extinct animals,
that is animals
that don’t exist anymore
like dinosaurs,
and mammals around the world.
Mammals are animals that breastfeed
their babies.

Floor -1

There are a lot of animals
that look alive at MUSE.
These animals died
from natural causes
and their skin has been used
to show us how they would look
when they were alive in nature.
This technique is called taxidermy.
Among the mammals
there is also a grey-faced Sengi.
This mammal was discovered
in 2008 in Tanzania, Africa,
by a group of MUSE researchers.
Newspapers and television
mentioned this discovery,
because the discovery of a mammal
is something very rare.

Floor -1

In part of this floor
there is the tangle bush
of human evolution,
that is shown on a platform
connected to a wall
where time that has passed
during our evolution is marked.
The bush of evolution
explains all the steps
from the first humans to the present.
On the wall human-like species
that lived before us are shown.
Today, we are a unique species,
on Earth: Homo sapiens.



I mangrovieti, foreste costiere in ambiente salmastro

The mangroves, coastal forests in brackish water

Die Mangroven, Küstenwälder in Brackwasser

Floor -1

The next room explains
what DNA is
and tells us the story of life.
DNA is something
that is found in cells
and contains vital information.
After this room there is big space
for the exhibits
that only last for some months.
In the back of this room
there are
some big freshwater aquariums
that represent
the water of rivers and lakes.
Fish and plants from Tanzania
live inside the aquariums.
Tanzania is a country in Africa.

Floor -1

After this room we enter
the tropical greenhouse.
Inside here
there are some plants and animals
of the Tanzanian mountains.
Entering the greenhouse
is like going into a real tropical forest
with frogs, birds
and with plants like cocoa, coffee,
banana trees and vanilla.
Researchers of MUSE
are studying the plants
and the animals of Tanzania.

← Return to index

MUSE - Museo delle Scienze

Corso del Lavoro e della Scienza, 3

38122 Trento

www.muse.it