The aims of the Museo Geominero (Geomining Museum) are to research, conserve and display the geological, paleontological and mineralogical heritage through its important collections from the different regions of Spain and former Spanish colonies, and from other significant sources worldwide. A visit to the Museum allows us to witness the geological evolution of our planet over time thanks its extensive collection of minerals, rocks and fossils on display.

The museum had its beginnings in the work of the Geological Map Commission of Spain, created by Queen Isabel II in 1849. During the early years of the Commission's activities the collection was dispersed across different venues, but it was definitely located in 1927 in its current site, a magnificent building whose visit is in itself worth the visit.

The Museum contains mineral and fossil resources representing the geology of Spain, with significant examples of rocks and minerals originating from former Spanish colonies, including Philippines, Cuba and the Western Sahara, but also from other parts of the world. Visitors to the Museum can make an extraordinary journey through time thanks to the wide-ranging collection of over 40 000 mineral samples, 1500 rock samples and some 67 000 macrofossils. Around 19 000 of these items, representing approximately 17% of the collection are on permanent display.

Ríos Rosas, 23 – 28003 Madrid
Exhibition room and bookings: Tel.: 913.495.759
Museum Office: Tel. 913.495.959
m.geominero@igme.es
www.igme.es/museo

ACCESS

Bus: Lines 3, 5, 12, 37, 45, 149 and Circular
Metro: Line 1 (Ríos Rosas)
Line 7 (Alonso Cano)

OPENING TIMES

Monday – Sunday 9.00 – 14.00.
The Museum is closed on December 24, 25 and 31 and January 1 and 6.

FREE ADMISSION

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IGME INSTITUTO GEOLÓGICO Y MINERO DE ESPAÑA
Museo Geominero
Instituto Geológico y Minero de España

GOBIERNO DE ESPAÑA
MINISTERIO DE CIENCIA, INNOVACIÓN Y UNIVERSIDADES
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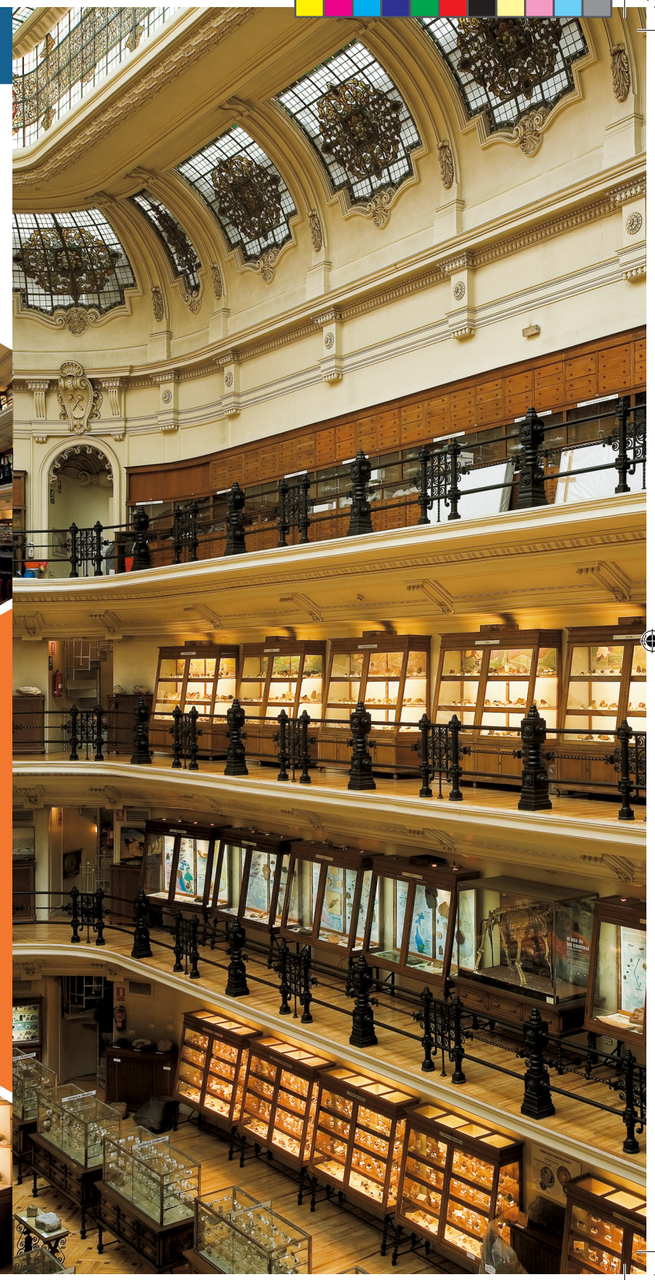
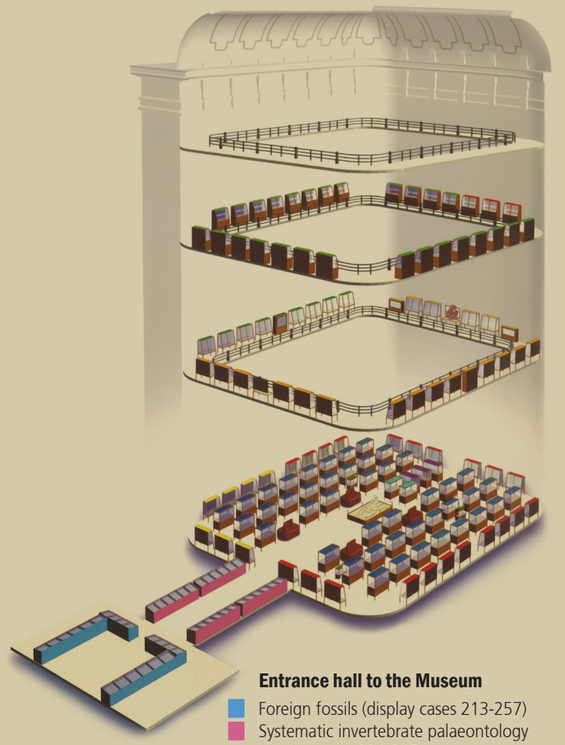




Entrance hall to the Museum

Foreign fossils (display cases 213-257)
Systematic invertebrate palaeontology (display cases 224-245)

Level 0

Mineral systematics (display cases 1-21)
Mineral resources (display cases 22-28)
Spanish fossil flora and invertebrates (display cases 29-72)
Special samples exhibit (display cases 73-75)
Special rocks (display cases 268, 269, 270, 285)
Gems (display cases 283-284)

Level 1

Fossil vertebrates (display cases 83-98)
Monographic display cases (99-111)

Level 2

Rock systematics (display cases 139-141)
Minerals from Autonomous Communities and Cities (112-138)

Level 3

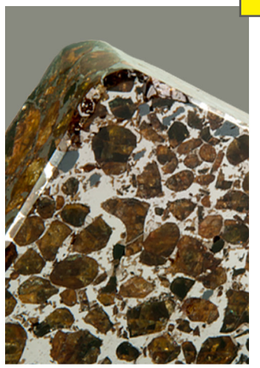
Other collections (no visitor access)

Quartz (amethyst).
Systematic mineral collection.
Display case 19

Prionocheilus mendax. Middle Ordovician.
Systematic invertebrate palaeontology collection.
Display case 229

Blue beryl (aquamarine)
Gem collection.
Display case 283

Quenstedticeras sp. Upper Jurassic.
Foreign fossil collection.
Display case 74



Pallasite (meteorite).
Special rock collection.
Display case 269

Antrimpos sp. Upper Jurassic.
Systematic invertebrate palaeontology collection.
Display case 228

BUILDING

The Museum is located on the first floor of the Instituto Geológico y Minero de España (IGME-CSIC). The building was completed in 1925 and was listed as a protected building of special interest in 1998. In this imposing building the use of wood, wrought iron and stained-glass all contribute to its unique atmosphere. The impressive entrance stairway in white Macael marble is complemented by magnificent stained-glass panels.

The central hall of the Museum is a soaring glass-roofed atrium where the collections are distributed between the main floor and the three perimetral balconies bordering it. The polychrome semi-vaulted stained-glass ceiling was done by the renowned Maumejean atelier. The central motif is a large royal coat of arms with other four coats of arms representing the Mining Engineers Corps, flanked by the sixteen provincial coats of arms of the Mining Districts that existed at the time the building was constructed.

COLLECTIONS

The Museum contains a detailed collection representing the mineral and fossil resources from all the geological areas in Spainas well as from other important international sites. The collections are distributed in more than 250 carved wood and glass display cases which can be viewed in the central hall and access areas. The permanent exhibition includes the following collections:

Systematic mineral collection. It comprises mineral species arranged according to crystallochemical criteria.

Mineral resources collection presenting a selection of substances of mining interest.

Mineral collection from Spain's Autonomous Communities and Cities. It contains a wide selection of samples from important Spanish sites, collected from both historic and active mines.

Gem collection. It holds 159 examples, including ruby, sapphire, emerald and aquamarine, as well as replicas of 14 famous diamonds.

Systematic rock collection. It is mainly intended for didactic activities, including the most common rocks of the lithosphere.

Special rocks collection. It represents a heterogeneous group including meteorites, impactites and natural vitreous rocks.

Systematic invertebrate palaeontology collection. The main fossil invertebrate groups are introduced from an evolutionary perspective, highlighting their general morphological characteristics.

Fossil flora and invertebrate collection. It illustrates the rich Spanish palaeontology arranged chronostratigraphically to provide an approximate overview of the palaeobiological diversity in Spain between the Upper Proterozoic and the Pliocene.

*Fossil vertebrate colletion.*It goes through the main existing groups of vertebrates in an evolutionary and educational way, from fish to mammals.

Collection of foreign fossils. This is a group of primarily historical interest, comprising materials from various classic or now-vanished sites.

VISIT CONDITIONS

Admission to the Museum is free. Equipment for visitors with reduced mobility is available. The dates and times of group visits must be booked in advance by telephone.

Full information on the Museum's activities are available in the sections Programas Educativos (Educational Programs) and Divulgación y Didáctica (Outreach and Didactic materials) on the Museum website (**www.igme.es/museo**) which detail the activities and educational resources available (workshops, learning guides student, materials, audiovisuals regarding the Gea series, exhibition handouts, etc.).

The museum offers guide services to accompany groups and explain the collections, available Monday through Friday. The Guides form part of the Volunteer Programme Voluntarios Culturales Mayores para enseñar los Museos y Catedrales de España (Senior Volunteer Cultural Guides for the Museums and Cathedrals of Spain), organized by the Confederación de Aulas de la Tercera Edad (Confederation of Senior Citizen Education Centers). This service is free of charge, only available for groups and should be requested when booking the visit.