SILVER COLLECTION

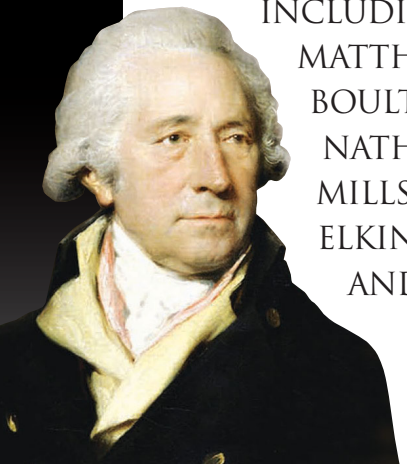
GROUP VISTS

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR RECOGNISED GROUPS
TO VIEW THE HISTORIC SILVER COLLECTION
AT THE BIRMINGHAM ASSAY OFFICE

THE ASSAY OFFICE
1773
BIRMINGHAM

SILVER COLLECTION

THE COLLECTION FEATURES OVER 1400 OBJECTS, MANY OF THEM SPECTACULAR EXAMPLES OF THE WORK OF SOME OF BIRMINGHAM'S MOST CELEBRATED SILVERSMITHS INCLUDING MATTHEW BOULTON, NATHANIEL MILLS AND ELKINGTON AND CO.



OVER 235 YEARS OF BIRMINGHAM'S HISTORY

The Birmingham Assay Office was formed in 1773 as a result of a successful lobbying campaign led by Birmingham industrialist, entrepreneur and silversmith Matthew Boulton.

Since then it has grown to become the largest Assay Office in the world and still continues to carry out its statutory duty of hallmarking articles manufactured in platinum, gold, silver and palladium.

Housed in an impressive Grade II listed, late Victorian building, located on the edge of Birmingham's historic Jewellery Quarter, The Birmingham Assay Office organises, by prior arrangement, visits from recognised groups and associations.

These unique visits are designed to be both enjoyable and informative and provide the only opportunity for the public to see inside the Assay Office.

SILVER STANDARD

Refreshments in the domed grand entrance hall on arrival followed by:

- **A CONCISE HISTORY OF HALLMARKING AND THE BIRMINGHAM ASSAY OFFICE**
  Narrative provided by The Curator
- **PRECIOUS METAL ASSAYING AND HALLMARKING**
  Film of the traditional and modern processes employed by The Birmingham Assay Office
- **TOUR OF THE SILVER COLLECTION**
  Accompanied by The Curator
- **TOUR OF THE BIRMINGHAM ASSAY OFFICE LIBRARY**
  View our collection of rare books and manuscripts in their historic setting

We are now able to offer alternative visits with content designed to meet the needs of different groups.

SILVER COLLECTION

HOW TO BOOK YOUR VISIT

- If you would like to organise a visit to The Birmingham Assay Office:
- Call us on 0871 871 6020 or email silver@theassayoffice.co.uk to check for available dates.
- Please do this PRIOR to completing the form overleaf.
- Once dates are confirmed, please complete the form and return with your deposit*.

GIFT SHOP

OUR GIFT SHOP IS OPEN TO ALL VISITORS.

It offers a range of precious metal keepsakes, manufactured in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter, together with other mementos and specialist literature.

GOLD STANDARD

Refreshments in the domed grand entrance hall on arrival followed by:

- **THE HISTORY OF HALLMARKING AND THE BIRMINGHAM ASSAY OFFICE**
  An informative narrative that traces hallmarking from its beginnings in 1300
- **PRECIOUS METAL ASSAYING AND HALLMARKING**
  Film of the traditional and modern processes employed by The Birmingham Assay Office
- **TOUR OF THE SILVER COLLECTION**
  Accompanied by The Curator
- **HANDS-ON SILVER SESSION**
  A unique chance to handle, examine and discuss some of the rare items from the Silver Collection
- **TOUR OF THE BIRMINGHAM ASSAY OFFICE LIBRARY**
  View this collection of rare books and manuscripts in their historic setting

EVERY VISITOR WILL RECEIVE A COPY OF THE SILVER COLLECTION BOOKLET

PLATINUM STANDARD

Refreshments in the domed grand entrance hall on arrival followed by:

- **BESPOKE PRESENTATION – TAILORED TO YOUR GROUP'S INTERESTS**
  The Curator will present a talk on a subject of specific interest to your group – for example Matthew Boulton, the Arts and Crafts Movement, Birmingham's Silver Toys.

  Please contact the Curator to discuss your requirements.
- **PRECIOUS METAL ASSAYING AND HALLMARKING**
  Film of the traditional and modern processes employed by The Birmingham Assay Office
- **TOUR OF THE SILVER COLLECTION**
  Accompanied by The Curator
- **HANDS-ON SILVER SESSION**
  A unique chance to handle, examine and discuss some of the rare items from the Silver Collection

- **TOUR OF THE BIRMINGHAM ASSAY OFFICE LIBRARY**
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OTHER VISITS & EXTERNAL TALKS

Student and technical visits to The Birmingham Assay Office can be arranged and the Curator is also available to give external talks on the history of hallmarking and The Birmingham Assay Office.

A fee plus travelling expenses is charged for these talks.

SILVER
COLLECTION

BOOKING FORM

PLEASE CALL ON 0871 871 6020 TO AGREE A DATE FOR YOUR VISIT PRIOR TO COMPLETING THIS FORM.

GROUP NAME:

NUMBER OF VISITORS:

CONTACT NAME:

ADDRESS:

TEL NO:

EMAIL:

AGREED DATE FOR VISIT:

WHICH VISIT SELECTED: (*Please tick*)

☐ SILVER STANDARD ☐ GOLD STANDARD

☐ PLATINUM STANDARD

PLATINUM STANDARD BESPOKE SUBJECT SELECTED:

DEPOSIT* ENCLOSED:

*A DEPOSIT IS REQUIRED. THIS IS TRANSFERABLE, BUT NOT REFUNDABLE. ENCLOSE CHEQUE OR PAY BY CREDIT/DEBIT CARD BY CALLING US ON 0871 871 6020.

THE ASSAY OFFICE
1773
BIRMINGHAM

SILVER
COLLECTION

GROUP VISIT CHARGES

COST PER PERSON (INC. VAT)	SILVER STANDARD £7.00
	GOLD STANDARD £15.00
	PLATINUM STANDARD £20.00

Minimum charges apply to each booking: Silver £70, Gold £150 and Platinum £200 (inc VAT). A deposit of £50.00 is required to secure the agreed date for your visit. This is transferable, but not refundable.

EXTERNAL TALKS (INC VAT)	PRICE ON APPLICATION

(In addition travelling expenses will be charged)

THE ASSAY OFFICE 1773 BIRMINGHAM

For more information please contact
The Birmingham Assay Office PO Box 151 Newhall Street Birmingham B3 1SB
Tel: 0871 871 6020 e-mail: silver@theassayoffice.co.uk.

Or visit our website at www.theassayoffice.co.uk