

TOURS FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Total Cost € 20.800,00

In addition to tactile tours which enable visitors who are blind or visually impaired to explore a selection of original sculptures on display in the Gregorian Profane Museum, a new multisensory itinerary has been developed. This tour would enable the blind and visually impaired to explore a selection of works in the Vatican Pinacoteca, the Painting Gallery. The aim of this tour is to enable these visitors to iconographically understand a selection of masterpieces by allowing them to touch thermoformed panels and scale reproduction bas-reliefs equipped with Braille legends and dark print descriptions. During the tour, the visitors' idea of the work of art is stimulated through other senses, so as to facilitate the understanding of the artistic message. Multidisciplinary didactic communication systems are used, such as literary and musical stimuli as well as multisensory systems using analytic and synaesthetic references. Two works of art have been selected for this project: Melozzo da Forlì "An Angel Playing the Lute" and Caravaggio's "Deposition"



VISIT DETAILS

- Synaesthetic and analytic reading of the works of art reproduced on the thermoformed panels and on the scale reproduction bas-reliefs. In-depth study of the subject, including the different aspects and effects of the composition, techniques, form and colour.
- The visitor can listen to poetry reading and music, which together with analogical, synaesthetic references (aural, olfactory, tactile, etc.), stimulated by the guide, evoke the images depicted, enabling visitors to experience the work of art in its entirety.
- This guided tour offers the possibility of touching a fragment of a fresco with the detail of the halo of the angel, by Melozzo, and a section of the painting portraying the shroud of the Deposition, created - as similar as possible to the original - by expert restorers.

The Vatican Museums hopes to offer this tour to the blind and visually impaired free of charge through the generosity of our Patrons of the Arts. This price assessment would cover the 2012 expenses and be used to pay the specialized tour guides.