PLAN THE VISIT

Visiting Hours
Monday to Saturday   10 am – 5 pm
Thursday   10 am – 8 pm
Sunday  12 pm – 5 pm
The BSM is open 363 days a year: closed only on Christmas Day and Good Friday.

General Admission
Friends of the BSM  free
Seniors (65+)  $12
Students (with ID)  $8
Children (5 – 17)  $5
Children under 5  free
Family Pass 1 (1 adult and up to 4 children under 10)  $24
Family Pass 2 (2 adults and up to 4 children under 10)  $35
*admission pricing subject to change
Different prices during March Break.  Special activities may be separately priced.

PayWhatYouCan
Thursday Evenings at the BSM are PayWhatYouCan, made possible with generous support from Bruce Etherington & Associates.

Phone Numbers
General Information  416.979.7799
info@batashoemuseum.ca
Group Tour Bookings  416.979.7799 x242
education@batashoemuseum.ca

Join today and become a part of the BSM community!
Friends of the BSM enjoy a year of free admission as well as discounts to events and programs.
www.batashoemuseum.ca/friendsofthbsm
416-979-7799 x250
friends@batashoemuseum.ca

Accessibility
The Bata Shoe Museum is a fully accessible facility.
A wheelchair is available on a first-come, first-served basis.  For more information, please call 416.979.7799.

Support Persons/Service Animals
A support person accompanying a visitor with disabilities will be admitted to the museum free of charge.  A service animal may also accompany a visitor to all public areas of the museum.  For more information, please call 416.979.7799.

ABOUT THE BSM

The Bata Shoe Museum is the legacy of a determined and passionate collector with a keen eye for footwear. Sonja Bata searched the globe for unusual shoes for decades, resulting in a spectacularly diverse collection found nowhere else in the world.

The shoebox-shaped building designed by world renowned architect Raymond Moriyama and located in the heart of downtown Toronto, welcomes you with its distinctive contemporary architecture, spacious and light-filled.

Three changing exhibitions and one semi-permanent exhibition mean there is always something new to explore, while lectures, performances, special events and family programs enhance your experience and visit.

Stepping into one of the museum’s enchanting galleries is like entering another world, one where the craftsmanship and creativity of the footwear is complemented and put into context by a specially created environment.

The objects in the museum span thousands of years, six continents and many walks of life. Footwear is presented as a key to understanding cultures. Revealing attitudes to childhood, marriage, work, leisure, bequests, social life and so much more, a visit to the museum will enhance your appreciation of human ingenuity and captivate your imagination.

For every shoe there’s a story. Discover thousands at the Bata Shoe Museum.
The Gold Standard: Glittering Footwear From Around the Globe

Now on view
The gleam of gold has seduced people around the world. Treasured for its incorruptibility and remarkable shine, gold has been used ornamentally since time immemorial and as currency since at least the Bronze Age. But gold for shoes? Seems improbable. Yet golden footwear has been central to expressions of status and style in numerous cultures. This exhibition features some of the Bata Shoe Museum’s most impressive and precious artefacts and explores the meanings and cultural uses of golden footwear across the globe.

Art & Innovation: Traditional Arctic Footwear from the Bata Shoe Museum Collection

Now on view
At the top of the world, spanning over fourteen million square kilometers and eight countries, the Arctic landscapes may seem harsh and inhospitable yet the region is home to over forty distinct cultural groups. These people have thrived for centuries by creating beautiful and diverse solutions that both embrace the unique opportunities provided by the Arctic as well as to meet its many challenges. In particular, the footwear and clothing created by Arctic women attests to this history of innovation. The incredible range of circumpolar attire includes inventive technologies that ensure comfort to intricate decorative techniques used to communicate cultural identity. Drawing from information and artifacts gathered during the Bata Shoe Museum Foundation funded Arctic research trips taken between the 1970s and early 1990s, this exhibition offers highlights from the museum’s collection and celebrates the beauty and diversity of traditional Arctic attire.

All About Shoes: Footwear Through the Ages

Semi-permanent exhibition
Take a fascinating journey and experience the many facets of footwear - its evolution and symbolism through the ages, the methods and materials of its manufacture and its place in our lives and imaginations. Finishing off the display is Behind the Scenes, an area which highlights museum artefacts from the Collection and reveals how we collect and store them.

WANT: Desire, Design and Depression Era Footwear

NEW EXHIBITION
On October 24, 1929, the United States stock market crashed ushering in a decade of darkness and turmoil. As global economies tumbled, want proliferated — want of employment, want of security, want of escape. The desires born from want drove an explosion of cultural creativity from film to fashion.

Some of the most innovative shoe designs in the history of Western fashion were created during this decade of want. Famed shoe designers Salvatore Ferragamo, Andre Pérugia, Steven Arpad and Roger Vivier played with the architecture of footwear creating uplifting platforms and wedges as well as futuristic novelty heels and revealing peep toes that reflected escapist Hollywood glamour and well as new conceptions of fashionable femininity.