



Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts

info@pica.org.au
(08) 9228 6300
51 James St, Perth
→ pica.org.au

ABN: 49 009 372 927

Excursion Management Information

The following information has been compiled to assist you to plan excursions to PICA in 2024.

Name of Organisation	Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts (PICA)
Physical Address	51 James St, Northbridge (Perth Cultural Centre)
Phone Number	(08) 9228 6300
Website	www.pica.org.au/learning
Postal Address	GPO Box P1221, Perth WA,6844
Contact Person	Jenn Garland – Learning & Access Manager
Email Address	jenn.garland@pica.org.au

Educational Purpose of Excursions to PICA

Excursions to PICA can motivate students to learn by engaging their senses, appealing to their interests, and challenging their perceptions. We provide a positive and inclusive setting to explore important and relevant issues.

Interdisciplinary Learning

With a 30-year history as WA’s leading multi-arts organisation, PICA is an ideal setting for building connections within and across learning areas. Boundary-crossing artists are showcased in our programs, highlighting the intersections between artforms.

Join us for a holistic approach to cross-curricular learning that integrates Art with HASS, Science, Technologies and English. Our 2024 program links to Modern History; Psychology; Health Studies; Children, Family and the Community; Earth and Environmental Science; Material Design and Technology.

Cultural and Artistic Exposure

Located in the heart of the Perth Cultural Centre, PICA is the place to experience the very best of local, Australian and international contemporary art. It is a place to foster appreciation for diverse cultural perspectives and forms of artistic expression. Make the most of your excursion to PICA by visiting other cultural institutions in the area: The Art Gallery of Western Australia – AGWA, State Theatre Centre of WA, WA Museum Boola Bardip and State Library of Western Australia.

Apply Classroom Learning in a Real-World Context

At PICA students have the chance to personally experience artforms that do not translate easily in class, such as time-based and site-specific works. Through hands-on activities at PICA students can apply knowledge and skills gained in the classroom to a real-world context.

Healthy Body and Mind

The body is a central feature of PICA's 2024 program. Performance artists, choreographers and dancers present works that challenge perceptions about how the body is represented. The inclusive and diverse range of performance works presented opens conversations about body positivity, self-acceptance and healthy active lifestyles. Art activities for students engage the mind and body, encouraging self-expression and social bonds as part of holistic wellbeing.

Preparing for the Future

Our learning program is focused on building the capabilities of young people to thrive in the twenty-first century and be active and informed citizens. Our resources and activities encourage students to critically analyse and creatively problem-solve, while promoting diverse perspectives that foster tolerance, compassion and respect.

Setting and Environment

PICA is housed in an iconic heritage building in the Perth Cultural Centre between the Perth Train Station and the cultural hub of Northbridge. The precinct is also home to The Art Gallery of Western Australia – AGWA, WA Museum Boola Bardip, State Library of Western Australia, and State Theatre Centre of WA.

The precinct is in the heart of Boorloo (Perth) on Goolgoolup, part of a chain of freshwater lakes and wetlands. At PICA we recognise that we're situated on the unceded lands of the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation and pay our respects to Elders past, present and those emerging in the community. We acknowledge all First Nations people and the importance of their contribution, care and continued connection to culture, community and Country.

Information Desk & Box Office – Our front desk is located on the ground floor at PICA's entrance. PICA staff can answer questions about the exhibitions and how to access the galleries, toilets or other facilities. Performance tickets can be purchased at the front desk.

Exhibition Spaces and Studios – On the ground floor, is the double-height Central Gallery with open views to the floor above. It is connected to two smaller open-plan exhibition spaces.

On the first floor is the large West End Gallery, accessed via two sets of double doors (on either end of the gallery), and a smaller open-plan screen space for video artworks. There is a

mezzanine balcony on the first floor overlooking the empty space above the Central Gallery, which is occasionally used as an exhibition space.

Along the balcony are doors leading to separate rooms used as studio spaces for resident artists or as additional exhibition spaces.

Performance Space & Seating – PICA’s Performance Space has a capacity of 105 seated visitors. It can be accessed via a double-door entrance on the ground floor. The space opens to a lower level down steps, or via a wheelchair lift. The lift is 1.01 metres wide x 1.4 metres long, with a capacity of 315 kilograms. It can accommodate one person in a chair and one attendant or three people.

Each seat has a depth of 0.4 metres and a varying width of 0.37–0.40 metres. The back of the seat is 0.45 metres high. Accessible seating for people using mobility aids or wheelchairs and their companions is available in the front row of PICA’s Performance Space.

PICA Hub (Activity Space) – The PICA Hub on the ground floor is a community space offering free artmaking activities where visitors can sit, relax and make art. Families and people of all ages can take part in artist-designed activities based on principles of slow-making and craftivism promote wellbeing, mental health, and creativity. It’s often used for workshops, talks and other small community events. Recycled materials sourced from the REmida WA reuse centre encourage working together for a sustainable future.

Accessibility

PICA aims to be a welcoming and inclusive environment for everyone to enjoy contemporary art and performances. We have a range of facilities and services to meet peoples’ access needs.

[Visual Story](#) - see our step-by-step visual and written guide for visitors and learn what to expect on your visit. This helpful guide takes you through every space in the building and includes images of each space.

Pedestrian access - to the Perth Cultural Centre is along wide paved areas from the Perth Train Station concourse, James Street, Francis Street and Beaufort Street. PICA is located on the mid-level of the precinct and accessible by ramps from the upper and lower levels.

ACROD Parking - Free and ticketed street parking is available in the surrounding Northbridge areas. Ticketed parking and accessible parking is located nearby in the following City of Perth car parks: State Library car park, 15 Francis Street, Northbridge; Cultural Centre car park, 2 Roe Street, Northbridge.

Wheelchair & Pram Access - The main entrance to PICA and alternative entry via PICA Bar are wheelchair accessible. All levels of the PICA building and gallery spaces are accessible via lift. The hardwood and board floors of the galleries are suitable for mobility aids.

Lifts – A lift near the main front entrance provides access to the ground floor and first floor. It is 6 metres to the right of the sliding glass doors on the level surface. The lift is accessible for different types of mobility aids. It is 2.2 metres x 0.88 metres between the handrails on each side.

To access PICA's Performance Space, there is a lift 2 metres to the right of the Performance Space entrance. The lift is 1.01 metres wide x 1.4 metres long, with a capacity of 315 kilograms. It can accommodate one person in a chair and one attendant or three people.

Accessible & Wheelchair Seating- for people using mobility aids or wheelchairs and their companions is available for every performance. To book accessible seating, please contact our Box Office at (08) 9228 6300, info@pica.org.au or visit in person during gallery hours.

There are low padded vinyl benches throughout the gallery spaces where visitors can sit and rest and view the works.

Toilets & Baby Change Facilities - On the first floor, accessible toilets are equipped with handrails, an automatic soap dispenser, an assistance alarm and baby change facilities. The bathroom door is manual. The first-floor toilets are accessed from a corridor off the mezzanine balcony. The door to the corridor is 86cm wide. The corridor surface is a low-pile carpet.

On the ground floor, toilets are available at PICA Bar. The ground floor toilets can be accessed through the double doors into PICA Bar. There are hardwood floors to the toilets.

The Perth Cultural Centre has an automated Exceloo toilet nearby at the Cultural Centre car park and the Citiplace Rest Centre.

Sensory Environment (Lighting & Sound) - Some rooms and spaces in PICA will be bright, while others may have dim lighting or be quite dark. Spotlights are used to light artworks, which can cause reflections or glare. PICA provides warnings for artworks or any lighting that flashes, strobes or flickers. Sound from artworks may be heard throughout the galleries and in nearby rooms.

Some artworks are interactive and visitors are invited to participate. We ask that visitors don't touch the artwork unless invited to do so. Interactive artworks will be clearly signed through free-standing floor signs or through the accompanying wall labels.

Each performance has specific content warnings that are noted on the website and emailed to all ticket holders in advance.

Wayfinding – Braille signage is in the lift and entrances to male, female and accessible toilets. Handrail tactile indicators assist those who are blind or have low vision to safely negotiate stairs by indicating where the stairway ends.

Cloaking – is available for free at the front desk. Cloaking is optional for visitors, apart from larger items (e.g., backpacks, suitcases or skateboards). Students are asked to cloak school

bags.

Companion Cards - PICA accepts Companion Cards for all our performances. When purchasing a ticket, we ask that cardholders contact us at (08) 9228 6300 or info@pica.org.au to provide their Companion Card number and expiry date. Our Box Office will then issue a complimentary ticket for their companion.

Guide & Assistance Dogs -We welcome guide and assistance dogs with full access rights.

Tactile tours – are provided in partnership with DADAA, WA’s leading disability arts body, during each exhibition season.

Large format text – Large text versions of all exhibition resources are available from the front desk.

Audio Description Service – is available for selected performances.

Auslan interpretation– is provided for exhibition openings and selected performances.

Sensory friendly sessions – can be arranged upon request to provide a comfortable environment that supports children and adults with Autism and specific sensory needs.

In house wheelchair – contact us on 92286300 to book for use during your visit.

Getting Here and Transport

Transport is arranged by the school.

Charter buses - can drop off and collect students from Beaufort Street near the corner of James Street.

Walk from the city - across the Perth Train Station pedestrian bridge or through Yagan Square.

Bus to Perth Busport - then walk-up William Street to the west entrance of Perth Cultural Centre at James Street.

Train to Perth Train Station - then make your way across the foot bridge to the Perth Cultural Centre.

Cat Bus - the Blue Cat stop 5 (Beaufort St entrance to Perth Cultural Centre), Stop 12 (Corner of James St and Francis St).

City of Perth Parking: - State Library Car Park, Francis Street - Cultural Centre Car Park, Roe Street (Northbridge)

Students' Needs and Abilities

PICA offers experiences and activities for different ages, which are tailored to the needs and abilities of your group.

The PICA website contains information about suggested content suitability, as well as warnings, and descriptions of sensory experiences. For any clarifications on warnings or questions about content, please contact jenn.garlanda@pica.org.au

PICA provides accessible services including translated and large format exhibition texts, along with Auslan interpretation and audio description, to a variety of performances.

Please advise if you have any students with accessibility requirements or sensory needs (including education support and EALD) so we can try to maximize the benefit of their visit.

Supervisory Team

Duty of care remains with the school who is responsible for providing an appropriate supervisory team. The supervisory team should remain with the group for the duration of their visit and are responsible for specific requirements of students, and for intervening if student behaviour is inappropriate. It remains the responsibility of supervisor to ensure head counts are conducted.

PICA has no limit on group sizes but recommends 15-20 as an ideal number of students per group. Large groups exceeding 25 students can be accommodated by splitting into two smaller groups.

Recommended student/staff ratios are:

- At least one teacher/ adult for every 15 students in K- year-1.
- At least one teacher/adult for every 20 students in Years 2-12.
- At least one teacher/adult for every 25 tertiary level students.
- Any groups of over 25 students require at least two teacher/adult supervisors.

PICA's staff are positioned around the building and may assist you during your excursion.

Please be aware that members of the public and other schools may be visiting the building at the same time as your school.

We appreciate students demonstrating courteous behaviour towards other visitors, and refraining from running, shouting, and touching artworks (unless they are interactive or participatory).

<p>External Provider Information</p>
<p>All PICA staff who supervise students in workshop settings have a current Working with Children Check. Our public liability insurance limit is \$20 million and we are insured by Ansvar Insurance Limited. Our Certificate of Currency can be downloaded from our website.</p>
<p>Identification of Excursion Participants</p>
<p>Schools are responsible for selecting an appropriate method of identifying students and school staff. It is preferable, but not essential, that students wear their school uniforms.</p>
<p>Communication Strategies</p>
<p>It is the responsibility of the school group to ensure appropriate methods of communication amongst the group have been established.</p> <p>PICA staff will be responsible for communicating with the audience, including school groups, via emergency management systems in the instance of an evacuation.</p> <p>PICA has normal mobile phone reception, and we recommend that the school supervisory team have mobile phones for use during the excursion.</p>
<p>COVID-19 Safety</p>
<p>The safety of our patrons and staff is our main priority at PICA. All visitors are asked to follow the current WA State Government COVID-19 Guidelines.</p> <p>If you are feeling unwell with cold/flu symptoms, we ask that you stay home and follow the latest State Government guidelines around testing and isolating.</p> <p>We encourage 1.5m physical distancing and good hygiene. Hand sanitizing stations are located throughout our venue for your use.</p>
<p>Emergency Response Plan</p>
<p>Schools will have their own Emergency Response Plan considering the specific needs of their students. In the event of a site emergency, school supervisory teams are responsible for managing the movement of students under the direction of venue staff. School supervisory teams must ensure an appropriate supervisory team to further support these procedures.</p> <p>PICA advises school staff to have access to a list of names of participating students, contact telephone numbers, student medical information and relevant health information of supervisors.</p> <p>All PICA staff are trained in evacuation procedures and our priority is to ensure the safety of our visitors. For further information, please contact jenn.garland@pica.org.au</p> <p>PICA has an Emergency Response Plan which can be provided upon request, detailing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evacuation procedures and assembly areas. • Emergency equipment and phone numbers.

- Emergency alert signals and alarms.

Briefing Students and Supervisors

To ensure a safe and enjoyable excursion to PICA, it is recommended that the teacher-in-charge communicate all relevant information to their students and supervisory team prior to your visit.

To prepare for a visit, supervisory teams are encouraged to visit the exhibition prior to the excursion and to access the education resources available on the PICA website.

Before commencing your tour, a PICA staff member will address your group to:

- direct students to leave school bags in a secure location at front of house reception.
- welcome you to PICA and deliver an acknowledgement of country.
- give a brief overview of PICA's history and role as a contemporary art institution.

All visitors must observe the instructions of PICA staff while in the building and:

- maintain appropriate distance from artworks and not touch unless otherwise signed.
- show respect to other visitors by keeping volume to a minimum.
- avoid overcrowding a particular section of the exhibition.
- not run in the gallery.
- not eat or drink (water bottles excepted) in the gallery.

Photography

Photography in the galleries is for personal, non-commercial purposes only. Please request prior permission if you wish to use flash photography or tripod. We love to see photos of your visit – you can email them to info@pica.org.au or tag us on social media with [@pica_perth](https://www.instagram.com/pica_perth) and [#picaperth](https://www.facebook.com/picaperth).

PICA staff may request photographs of school groups for marketing and communications purposes. Photography of this nature will not be undertaken without signed image release forms.

Please note that photographing or recording the Gallery guide's talk is not permitted unless you have asked for their permission.

Other Relevant Details

PICA's galleries are open to schools and the public: Tuesday - Sunday, 10am - 5pm

Please contact us to make a booking on 9228 6300, Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 5pm

Our postal address is: G.P.O. Box P1221, Perth, WA, 6844

If you require any additional information or wish to discuss any aspect of your visit please contact our Learning & Access Manager – jenn.garland@pica.org.au or visit our website:

www.pica.com.au.

This information is valid until 31 December 2024