
Museum of the Second World War

Plac Władysława Bartoszewskiego (Square) 1, 80-862 Gdansk

Accessibility information available here: "Udogodnienia dla osób z niepełnosprawnościami" on the museum website:

<https://muzeum1939.pl/dostepnosc>

If you are a person with mobility impairments or a caregiver for one, please plan your visit to the Museum of the Second World War in advance. Visiting the Museum can be an engaging experience, but individuals with mobility impairments and their caregivers should familiarize themselves with the layout of the grounds and expect difficulties in moving around and accessing some of the content.

The grounds around the Museum and access to the building

The square is made of concrete slabs and cobblestones – difficult for people using manual wheelchairs. Information boards are placed at appropriate heights, but the crossings lack textured or contrasting markings. There are no guide paths or warning signs in the square. The benches do not have side or backrests. Access to the art installation and the monument is unobstructed – approaching from any side is possible, even in a wheelchair. Identifying the entrance to the building can be difficult – the museum facade lacks clear, contrasting markings. Information boards around the building are difficult to find, and the alternative entrance with a ramp is difficult to find without prior knowledge of its location. The elevator leading to the main entrance is clearly visible and facilitates access, but a sign near the ramp vaguely states that it is intended for strollers only.



Level 0

The space is wide, allowing easy access to the display cases and multimedia stations. The wall signs are of appropriate size and contrast, and the screens are placed at the correct height, allowing wheelchair access. However, it's worth being prepared for possible difficulties: lack of clear directions, too-thin fonts making descriptions illegible, incorrect inclination angles, some display cases placed too high/low, and some exhibits and content are inaccessible from a wheelchair. The exhibition is located away from the main circulation area and poorly marked.

Level -1 – Entrance Hall

The hall is spacious, and navigating it, as well as reaching the information desk and the elevators, is relatively easy. The elevators are large and comfortable, with panels at the appropriate height. The information boards have good contrast, but the text is small and difficult to read. Significant difficulties: the glass entrance door lacks contrasting markings and has a slippery metal threshold; the alternative door is heavy and lacks an external intercom; the information desk is too high for a wheelchair user. Level -1 features attention areas to aid orientation, but using certain elements of the exhibition may require additional physical effort (e.g., boards placed too high or with too small captions).



Level -3 – Main Exhibition

This is the most demanding part of the tour. The space is expansive, with a wide circulation route, but people with mobility impairments should be prepared for specific difficulties: difficulty finding the entrance to the exhibition – poorly visible information boards, some display cases and multimedia screens mounted too high or in difficult-to-reach places, information boards that are sometimes illegible, audio systems equipped with heavy headphones that are difficult to operate and put away (and often poorly positioned), the exhibition colours, and uneven lighting. Additionally, in one of the rooms, films can only be watched standing up – there are no seats.