

Access and explore the Europeana database

Please note that an English version exists, but in this tutorial, we will explore the French version. You can access the English version by clicking on this [link](#).

1. Access Europeana via the university library website

Go to the university library website at the following address :

<https://bibliotheque.cyu.fr/english>

Under the search bar, click on the “[Databases](#)” tab. This tab links to a page containing all the databases to which the university library subscribes. You can search by subject area or manually. The databases are also listed alphabetically : simply click on the corresponding letter and scroll down the page to find the database you want.

In the case of Europeana, click on “E” and scroll down to “Europeana Collections.” A green padlock next to the resource indicates that Europeana is freely accessible at no cost.

2. Discover Europeana

Clicking on “[Europeana collections](#)” takes us to the “Collections” section of the database. Note that this database is a digital library that provides access to over 50 million digital items from cultural institutions such as museums, archives, and libraries across Europe.

In the “Collections” section, different sections highlight the resources.

Let's take the example of the “Manuscripts” theme. Here again, the page entitled “Manuscripts” is divided into several sections that highlight resources related to this theme.

Click on an icon in the “Scribes” section. This section provides access to various textual and iconographic resources related to the theme. In the right-hand column, an advanced search allows you to refine your results using filters to find the resources that best meet your needs. The filter entitled “Can I use it ?” allows you to filter resources according to the rights of reuse of the works, in other words, copyright.

Select a reference to take a closer look at it and view its details. Beyond mere curiosity, this can be very useful, particularly for citing the work in a bibliography if you are using it in an assignment. Just below on the left, hover your mouse over “copyright” to identify the rights of reuse for the selected work.

Scroll down to access the resource record, which contains all the information needed to identify it : creator, title, item type, Europeana partner institution, etc.

As the resources come from all over Europe, the database offers translations of the descriptions into different languages to make the resources easily accessible to as many people as possible. To access this feature, you need to create an account on the Europeana database : click on “Register” and fill in the form. Then log in with the user IDs you have created. Return to the resource description and see the multiple translation options.

Scroll down to the bottom of the page and look at the related collections (tags) and items, which allow you to continue your search for similar documents.

Return to the top of the page to view the resource. You can zoom in to see the details of the work more easily.

If you are interested in a resource, you can save it in a private or public gallery so that you can find it later on your Europeana profile. To do this, click on the “+” surrounded icon below the resource and fill in the form to create a new private or public gallery. Name it and add a description if necessary. Once created, go to your profile at the top right of the page, then to the “Public galleries” or “Private galleries” section, depending on the settings you chose earlier. You can always change the “public” or “private” status of the gallery later.

Next, explore the “Stories” section in the top banner : it gives you access to articles on specific historical themes or figures.

You can also search using the tags (keywords) provided by the database.

Finally, click on the “Home” tab at the top of the page. A search bar allows you to search for keywords among the millions of documents in the database. Once again,

filters allow you to perform an advanced search, always
with the aim of targeting resources that best meet your documentary needs.

You now know how to use the Europeana database!

Return to your profile and click on the chevron next to your username to log out of the
database.

See you soon on Europeana !