

SHEIKH FAISAL BIN QASSIM AL-THANI MUSEUM

Description

This magnificent private collection was acceded to His Highness Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim Al-Thani by his father, Sheikh Qassim bin Faisal. Beginning its life in the 1960s, it has now grown in size and splendor and is now beautifully displayed at the museum for the public to enjoy.

The sizeable 5,000 sqm building features more than 3,000 unique pieces, including ancient Islamic manuscripts, major archaeological findings, metal objects, textiles, carpets, embroidery and antique furniture. There is also a comprehensive and fascinating collection of historic cars, including a 19th century steam vehicle.

The museum is about to launch a greatly-anticipated 12,000 sqm extension, showcasing an unprecedented collection of antique rugs and carpets originating from all over Arabia, from Morocco to Persia and the Caucasus. It will also hold a compelling narrative of the history of Islam, conveyed through the evolution of the region's silver and gold coins which have been beautifully preserved and presented.

In an expression of Qatar's renowned respect for cultural diversity, the museum's pavilions will also display religious objects from other faiths.

Planning a visit

The museum is open on demand. To book an appointment, call the curator at 556 19 48 or 522 05 30. For more information, visit the Web site of the museum [<http://www.fbqmuseum.com/>]. The museum is a member of the International Council of Museums (ICOM). Public restrooms are available in the building.

UTM coordinates N 25° 21' 10" E 51° 15' 17"

Directions

The Museum is in Al-Samariyah, 20 km west of Doha. Take the road to Dukhan, and follow the signs "Al-Samariyah Faisal bin Qassim Al-Thani Museum". When going towards Dukhan, you will need to make a U-turn as the museum is located on the opposite side of the road.