

GALLERY VS MUSEUM - A

The main difference between gallery and museum arises from the objective of establishing each place. Gallery and Museum are two words that are often confused when it comes to their meanings and connotations. They are two different words that are indeed characterized by different meanings. The word gallery has the meaning of 'balcony' or 'porch.' As an establishment, gallery refers to a place that exhibits and sells artwork of different artists. On the other hand, the word museum has the meaning of 'a place where artifacts are stored.' This is the main difference between the two words. Let us see what other differences there are.

What is a Museum?

A museum is a place where artifacts are stored. In other words, it can be said that the museum is a place where antiques, paintings, coins, zoological items, geological items, and other artifacts are stored. A museum can reflect the history of a land or a country from the prehistoric to the present times. This is the specialty or the purpose of building a museum.

There are a number of museums in various countries of the continent of Europe. Each of these museums is known to house several artworks and artifacts that attract tourists from all parts of the world. It is interesting to note that a museum can be a source for research scholars and students who work on various zoology and history related topics. Usually, every country has museums because these establishments help the government or the society that maintain them to share knowledge and history of the country with fellow citizens, as well as tourists.

What is a Gallery?

A gallery is a place where an artist conducts his solo or one-man shows. It is a building that houses various art works including paintings, oil on canvas, acrylic paintings, watercolors, ink drawings, other types of drawings, sculpture and wooden carvings, and the like. The purpose of starting a gallery is to exhibit the works of an artist.

A gallery is run more on a commercial purpose. It is because, it is there to promote the works of artists and to introduce artists so that artists can sell their products. When one visits a gallery, one goes there with the desire of getting to know an artist's work and possibly to buy some artwork if the price fits. Galleries are private properties that are funded by individuals or organizations to earn a profit. Making copies of the artwork in a gallery is not allowed.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GALLERY AND MUSEUM - B

- Museum generally denotes a collection of any kind of objects (such as scientific specimens, wax figures, art, etc), whereas the term art gallery only refers to a collection of art. However, the general term gallery can also be used to reference a section of a museum, such as the Audubon Gallery in the Museum of Natural History, or a European painting gallery in a survey museum.
- Art gallery can be used interchangeably with museum in some cases, such as the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC.
- Art gallery can also refer to a commercial art gallery, such as the Pace Gallery, which exhibits works of art that are for sale.
- Some museums use neither the term museum nor gallery in their formal title, such as the Cité nationale de l'histoire de l'immigration in Paris or The Frick Collection.
- Commercial galleries generally do not charge admission, as they encourage visitors to view their works in the hope of making a sale.
- Museums do or do not charge admission depending on many factors, including founding mission, endowment requirements/restrictions, etc.
- The choice of whether to call one of these establishments a gallery, museum, or something else is usually not the prerogative of the director, but usually that of the founding person, group or entity at the time of founding.
- Non-commercial entities tend to use the term museum as it denotes something more than display, but also the acquisition, care, study and diffusion of objects and their history.
- An Art Gallery is a privately owned business whose primary purpose is to sell art. It does not maintain a permanent collection or an endowment. They are also not governed by the rules of accreditation (set by AAM in the US). Their business is funded by the sale of art objects.
- Art Museums are public non-profit entities established to collect, preserve, research, and protect objects as well as provide social services and education. They are governed by trustees and a board of directors as well as a director and staff. They are often partially funded by local, state and federal grants, as well as solicited gifts and donations from private donors, foundations and companies. Further funding comes from established endowments for collections purchasing and daily functions and salaries.