

Open Doors DVD

International guide to improve access to culture

Equal access to cultural heritage sites means that everyone is able to obtain information and take part in cultural activities in a variety of settings. DVD guide *Open Doors – Making Cultural Heritage Sites and Exhibitions Accessible* is an inspiring and illustrative tool to improve the accessibility and user friendliness of cultural heritage sites.

Extensive audio visual guide includes an introduction film and eight short films (113 minutes in total). Each short film addresses one section of accessibility. The sections are familiarizing oneself with the needs of diverse audiences, creating policies and action plans, making access surveys, improving communication, the barrierfree built environment, facilitating understanding, taking into account diverse cultural backgrounds and encouraging learning.

The examples in the guide have been collected from different development projects of museums and other cultural heritage sites in Finland, Norway, United Kingdom, Germany and Greece. The DVD offers five subtitle options, and the introduction film can also be viewed by utilizing international sign language or audio description in English.

The Open Doors DVD is intended for cultural service providers and it offers illustrative examples especially from cultural heritage sites. The guide can be used with a DVD player or with a computer equipped with a DVD station.

The guide can also be used for training purposes. The Open Doors DVD has been produced by the Art Museum Development Department of the Finnish National Gallery in collaboration with the MediaLab from the University of Art and Design Helsinki. The guide is produced within a wider international cultural heritage project called ACCU. *Access to Cultural Heritage: Policies of Presentation and Use 2004-2007* project is led by the Finnish National Board of Antiquities. The project is supported by the Culture 2000 Programme of the European Union.

The DVD can be loaned from the libraries throughout Finland. See the list of the libraries:
<http://www.cultureforall.info/index.php?k=12595>

More information from the Culture For All Service and from the Finnish National Gallery. We are also very happy to receive feedback. More information on the ACCU project: www.accessculture.org.