

Wallace discovery trail

Intrepid explorer, brilliant naturalist and pioneering intellectual, Alfred Russel Wallace co-discovered the process of evolution by natural selection with Charles Darwin. This year, on the centenary of Wallace's death, the Natural History Museum is celebrating his life and achievements. Follow this trail to encounter some of the spectacular specimens Wallace collected and start your own journey of discovery through the Museum.



1 Search for the origin of species

See bird specimens Wallace gathered in the Amazon as he honed his collecting skills.

2 Portrait of Wallace

Painted by J W Beaufort, this portrait was presented to the Museum in 1923 by the Wallace Memorial Fund to commemorate Wallace's achievements.

3 Flights of imagination

Putting his surveying skills into practice, Wallace mapped the Rio Negro from 1850-1852, while collecting specimens along the way.

4 Collectors in the Amazon

Look at insects from Wallace's personal collection, caught in the Malay Archipelago, 1854-1862.

5 Orang-utans of the Malay Archipelago

These orang-utans from Sarawak, Borneo, were sold to the Museum at a time when 'exotic' specimens were in high demand in Victorian Britain.

6 Wallace's birdwing butterfly

Contemplate specimens of the butterfly species that so enthused Wallace when he caught one in 1859.

7 Beautiful beetles

Examine impressive beetle specimens Wallace collected in the Malay Archipelago, 1858-1862.

8 Wallace the scientific hero

Discover Wallace's lasting contributions to science. Delve into his past using a timeline of Wallace's life, and hear how he has inspired people such as the comedian Bill Bailey.

9 Collecting evidence for natural selection

Spot Wallace's flying frog and other specimens that informed his thinking on the mechanism for evolution.



Inspired by the life and work of Alfred Russel Wallace? Here are some ideas for further exploration.

Find out how the Natural History Museum is celebrating his centenary
www.nhm.ac.uk/wallace100.

Explore more of Wallace through his letters, with Wallace Letters Online
www.nhm.ac.uk/wallacelettersonline.

Discover more about the Museum and our science with live talks and events in the Attenborough Studio
www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/nature-live.

Visit the Wildlife Garden outside the Cromwell Road entrance, or get outdoors and study your local environment with the Open Air Laboratories Network (OPAL) www.opalexplornature.org.

Become a Member
www.nhm.ac.uk/visit-us/become-a-member
or pick up a copy of *evolve* in the shop – a quarterly, full-colour magazine, packed with features and articles about the Museum, our science and our collections.



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Key

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Ground Floor

Courtyard

Entrance
(from Courtyard)

Darwin Centre

West lawn

Central Hall

Entrance
(Cromwell Road)

