

Congratulations, you did it!

We hope you've enjoyed hiking this trail.
Be sure to spend some time visiting the galleries
and exhibitions during your visit.

Become a Member

Membership offers unlimited Museum access to visit galleries and exhibitions, try another hike trail, or walk this one again. Visit the Membership desk at the entrance and ask us how you can turn your admission ticket into a membership today.

joinROM.ca

Printed June 2026

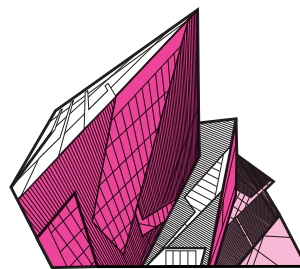
ROM

Fascinated by all things immortal?
This Hike takes an intriguing look
at how different cultures view and
treat life, death, and the afterlife.
You'll encounter mythical beasts,
tomb creatures, sarcophagi,
and much more.

ACCESSIBILITY: Hike the ROM trails are designed to accumulate steps through a walking trail and include stairs. Accessibility routes may require a visitor to backtrack through a gallery, use an elevator, or require Security's assistance with the use of ROM lifts.

ETERNAL LIFE

Hike the ROM Trail Guide



This Hike takes you through
select permanent galleries and
can be walked at your own pace.
Get your steps in, or take your
time, and enjoy not only the stops,
but the collections in between.

Not sure where to start?

ROM Map Guides are a good source
for gallery locations.

TRAIL FINISH



14

LEVEL 3 – BYZANTIUM

This large stone ciborium has carvings of peacocks and palm branches – both symbolize immortality.

Head towards Rome, turn left and into Bronze Age Aegean. Stop at the large object in front of you.

13

LEVEL 3 – EUROPE

Viking warrior swords were carefully balanced, helping their victorious owners earn a place in Valhalla.

Retrace your steps out of Eaton Court and up the Rotunda stairs. Walk down the long hallway beside the Centre Block exhibition space until you arrive in Byzantium. Look up to find our next object.



**YOU'RE
HALFWAY
THERE!**



6

LEVEL 1 – CHINA

This Torturer of Hell with a frightening face carried out the orders of the Hell's Judges.

Move around the corner to the large Chinese tomb.



5

LEVEL 1 – CHINA

This type of fantastic beast was placed in tombs to guard the deceased in the afterlife.

Move out to into the corridor with the Chinese temple. Look for our next object in the long case on the far wall.



4

LEVEL 1 – CHINA

Jade was thought to stop bodies decaying and was used in burials of the elite class.

Move out to the long row of single cases. Turn left and find the first case with the winged figure.



7

LEVEL 1 – CHINA

Can you find the monkeys carved on the tomb mound? They're carrying peaches of immortality.

Hike back into Currelly Gallery. Turn left and take the stairs to Level 2 and enter Biodiversity. Stop at the case opposite the coral reef.



8

LEVEL 2 – BIODIVERSITY

Passenger Pigeons live on at ROM! Once common, they became extinct in 1914 due to overhunting and habitat loss.

Move further along to the entrance to Biodiversity, where something big waits for you.



9

LEVEL 2 – BIODIVERSITY

Bull the rhino walks an eternal trail here at ROM after a long life at the Toronto Zoo.

Move down the Rotunda steps and into Earth's Treasures. Look left to the cases holding quartz.



10

LEVEL 2 – EARTH'S TREASURES

Although there's no scientific data to support it, many cultures throughout time have worn quartz as jewellery to protect and heal.

Cross the gallery to the opposite wall. Can you spot the blue minerals displayed about halfway down?



11

LEVEL 2 – EARTH'S TREASURES

Lapis lazuli is made up of several minerals, including blue lazurite, and is found in many Egyptian burial objects.

Leave the gallery and stop in the Rotunda to view the Weston Heritage doors below.



12

LEVEL 2 – ROTUNDA

The ghost of ROM's founder, Charles Trick Currelly, can sometimes be spotted standing on the balcony over the entrance.

Take the stairs up to Eaton Court on Level 3. Move left into Arms & Armour for the next stop.



16

LEVEL 3 – GREECE

With carving overlapping the frame, this classical Greek stele shows the interplay between the worlds of the dead and the living.

Leave the gallery past Bronze Age Aegean and towards Nubia, stopping at the Etruscan cases.

15

LEVEL 3 – BRONZE AGE AEGEAN

Wavy lines on this Larnax (coffin) represent the sea the deceased's soul would have to cross to reach the afterworld.

Make your way into the centre of the Greece gallery.



22

LEVEL 3 – EGYPT

Some animals, like cats, ibises, and hawks, were mummified out of respect for the gods they represented.

Stay at this end of the gallery. Turn to view the coffin displayed on its own.



23

LEVEL 3 – EGYPT

Ancient Egypt continues to hold mystery and intrigue with its symbols of the eternal afterlife. This iconic coffin was made for a lady named Djedmaatesankh.

Great work! You've completed the Eternal Life trail.



21

LEVEL 3 – EGYPT

Placed in tombs, it was believed that the rowers and boats would come to life in the afterlife.

Continue to the far back of the Egypt gallery for our next stop. Look for the case with mummified animal remains. Can you find a cat?

20

LEVEL 3 – ROME

Mythological battle scenes often decorated Roman sarcophagi, symbolizing triumph over evil in the afterlife.

Hike left into the Egypt gallery. Can you find the next object about half-way down?



19

LEVEL 3 – ROME/EGYPT

Fayum mummy portraits created an eternal likeness of the deceased.

Turn around and move to the stone sarcophagi on the opposite wall.



18

LEVEL 3 – NUBIA

In ancient Meroe, this style of human figure with wings represented the Soul of the Deceased.

Move around the corner, past the Roman busts to the mummy portrait case on the left.



17

LEVEL 3 – ROME (ETRUSCAN)

The mysterious Etruscans! This canopic urn is shaped like a body and would have had a lid in the form of a human head.

Head straight across the main aisle into Nubia.



**TRAIL STARTS
HERE**



**ETERNAL
LIFE**

