



Visitor Experience • SaaS Platform • Creative Studio

# The Rise of Digital Visitor Guides



# Welcome!



**Thanos Kokkiniotis**

**CEO, Smartify**

+15 years in Enterprise and B2C Tech.  
Designed and led orgs of >150 people.  
MBA from London Business School

## About Smartify

Smartify is **leading the digital transformation of visitor experience in the world's most popular museums and heritage sites.**

Trusted by cultural organisations around the world, we entertain, enliven and enrich audiences.

**700+**

Collection  
partners

**4.7 star**

Average  
rating across  
app stores

**6.2 m**

Registered &  
contactable  
users

THE  
NATIONAL  
GALLERY

 Smithsonian

V&A



ACROPOLIS MUSEUM

RA

N NATURAL  
HISTORY  
MUSEUM

Philadelphia  
Museum of Art

belvedere



Historic  
Royal Palaces

# Starting with the Conclusion



**From audio guide...**



## .. to Digital Visitor Guide!



# Impact

**What do these places have in common?**















**Scripted linear** → **Personalised**

**Single sensory** → **Multimedia & XR**

**Passive interaction** → **Participatory**





# The results..

Net Promoter Score [0 to 10]

**NPS 8.6**

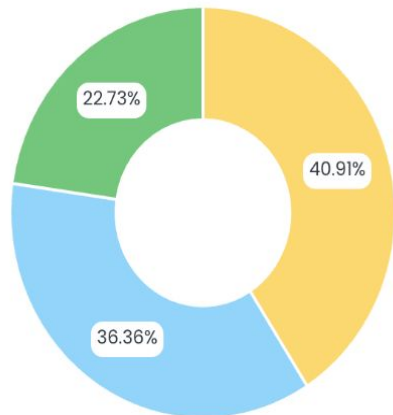
▲ 1% vs previous period

Satisfaction Rate %

**97%**

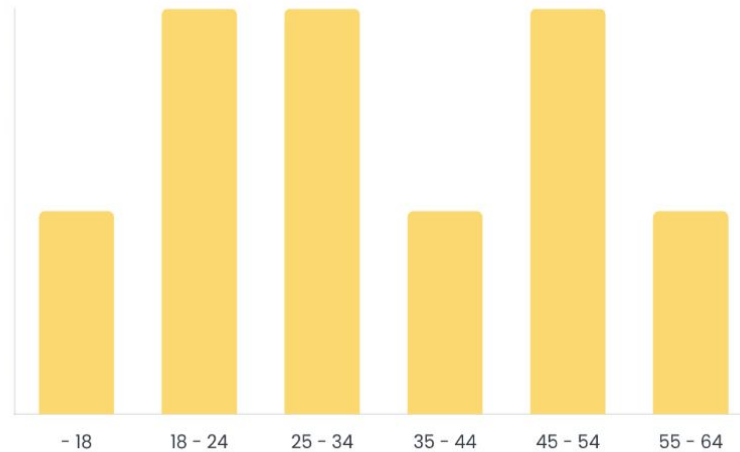
▲ 0% vs previous period

Gender



Female Male Unspecified

Age



**What made these places invest in such a digital transformation?**

# Visitor Expectations

## What visitors want..

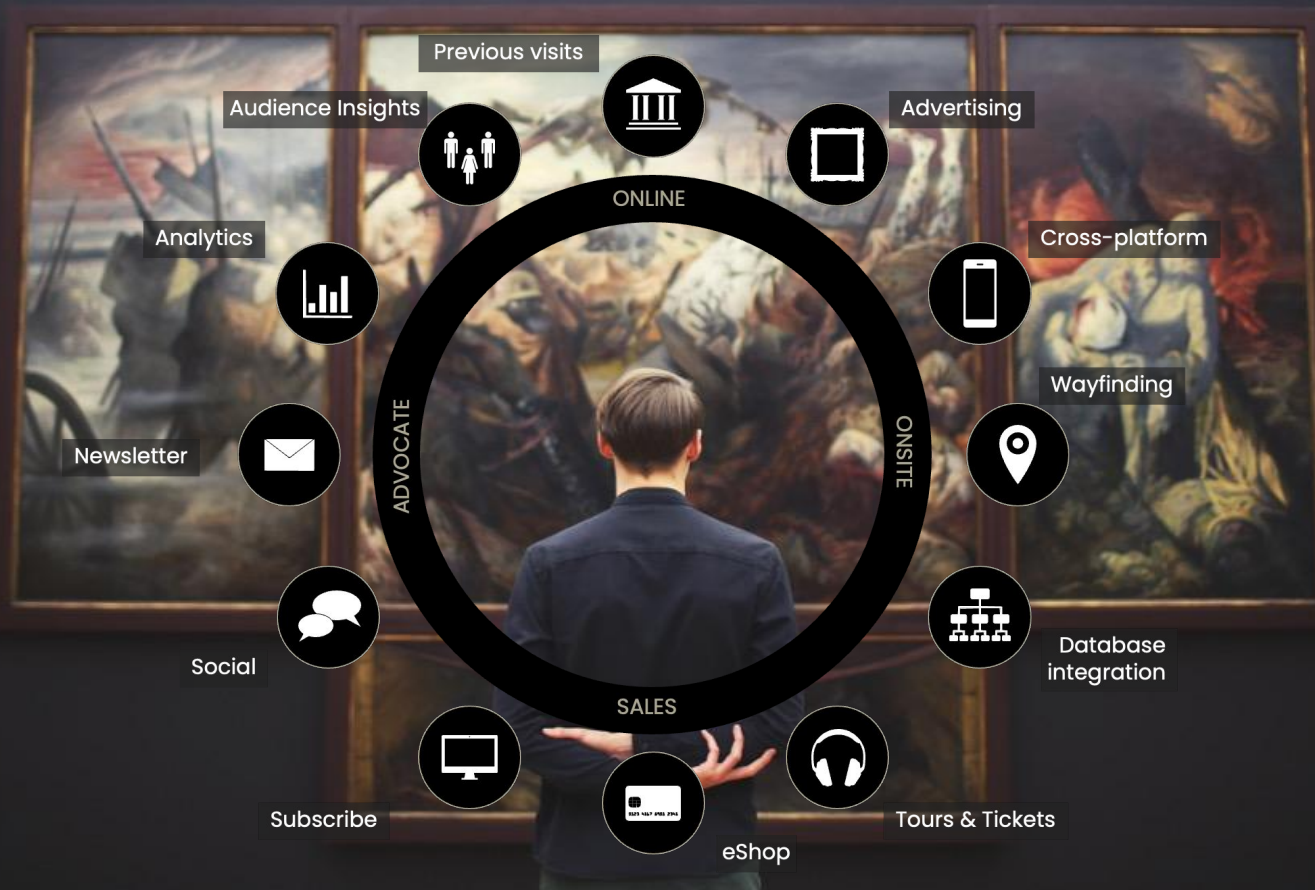


### Sources:

- British Museum Visitor Research and Evaluation Project, 2023
- AIM - Success Guide in Understanding your audiences, 2021
- ICOM - What visitors want, 2023

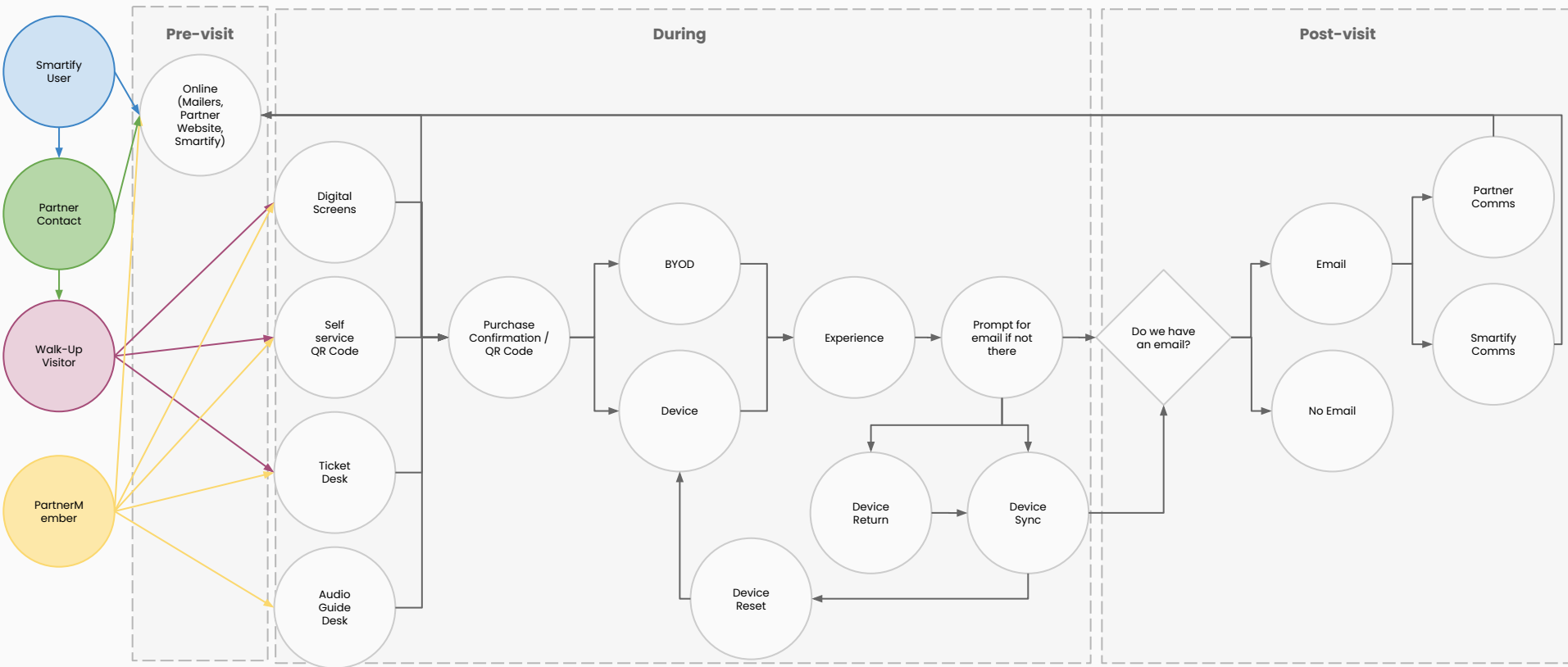
# More Complex Business Models

# What cultural attraction management sees..



**\*Prepare for audible gasp\***

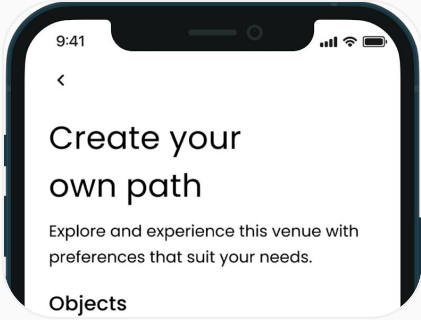
# The operational reality





**Better Tech IS here..**

# What's best in tech at the Moment



## AI for User-Centric Experiences

Empowering your visitors to tell you what they are interested in, what they don't want to miss, and how much time they have.



## AR for Dynamic Digital Storytelling

Relevant and specific uses for Augmented Reality experiences to bring to life historic scenes and characters.



## Digital wayfinding and navigation

Enable a more carefree and accessible experience enabled by easy and intuitive navigation.

# Where do we start?

# Know your audience & your KPIs

## Think Feel & Do

What do we want visitors to **think**?

How do we want visitors to **feel**?

What do we want visitors to **do**?

## KPIs

Digital tour guide effectiveness is measured as a **conversion funnel** that starts from visitors and goes all the way to completion rate. The conversion funnel revolves around the **three primary objectives** that indicate success of a digital experience:

- Take-up rate
- Completion rate
- Net Promoter Score



# Bringing a DVG to life: Technology & Storytelling

# **Creating content that is modular and flexible**



## Modular Content

**Visitors take full control of their experience.**

**Whether they access content through object recognition or curated audio tours, each stop is designed to be enjoyed as standalone as well as part of a whole.**



Self-guided tours



Object recognition



Wayfinding

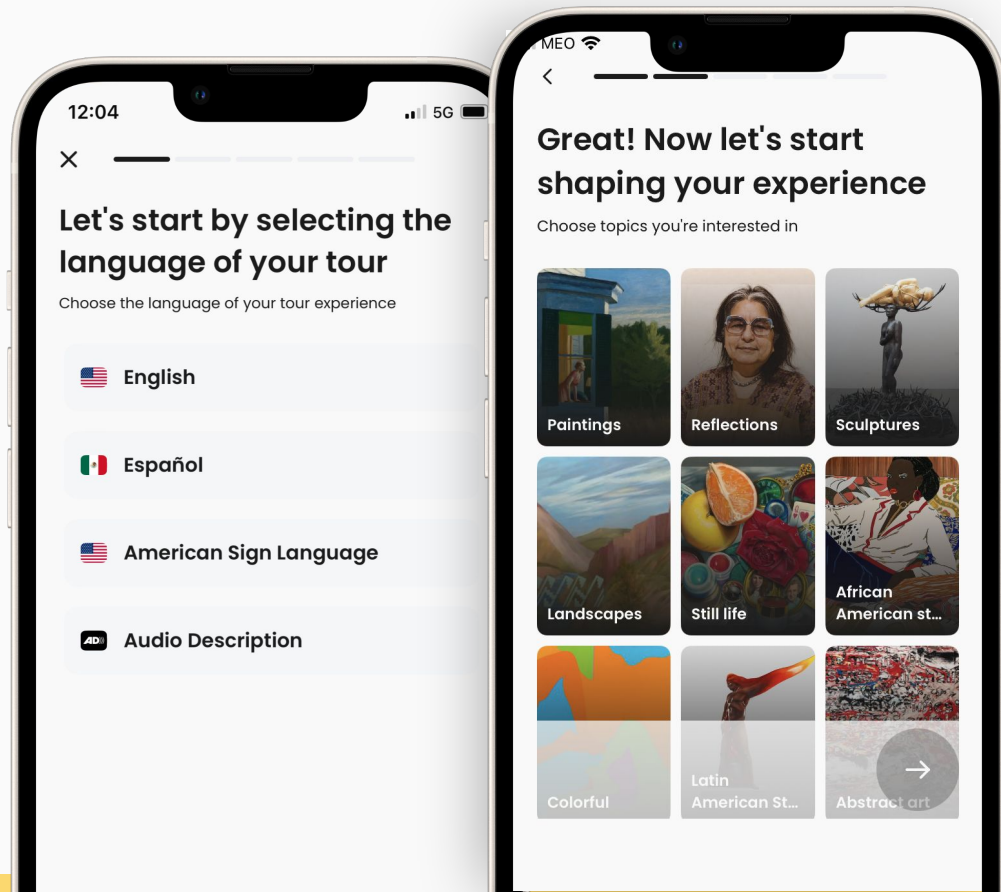


Personalisation

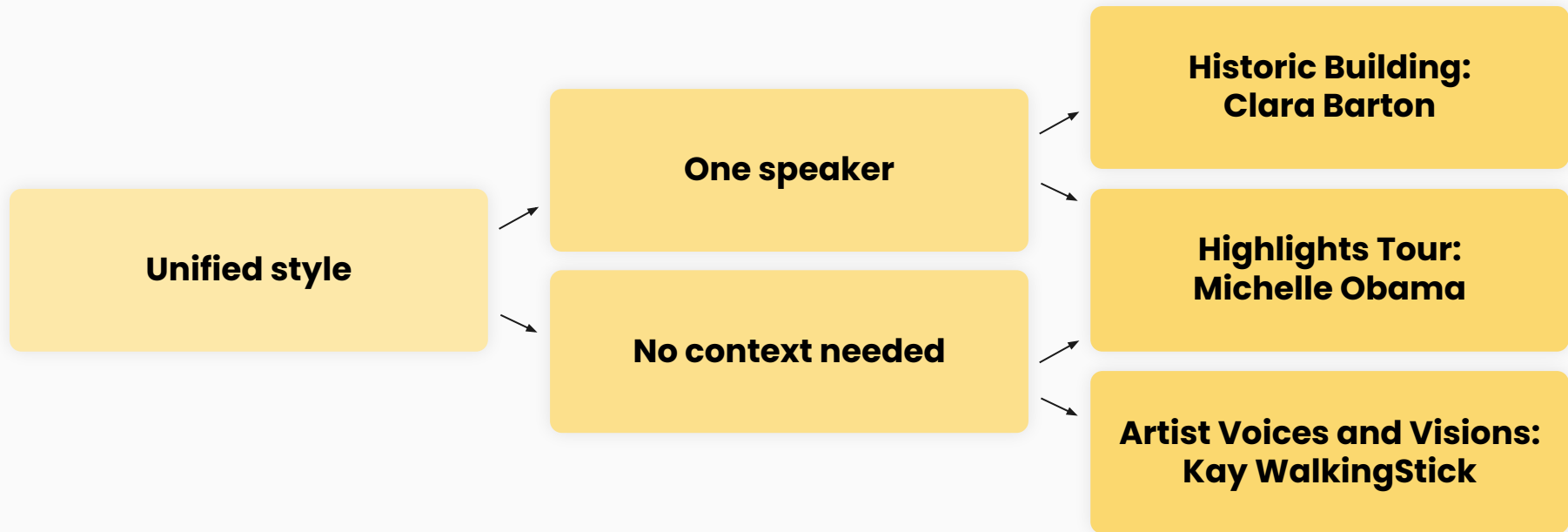
This means that visitors do not need to have listened to any other stops in the tour to enjoy the narrative content.

# Modular Content

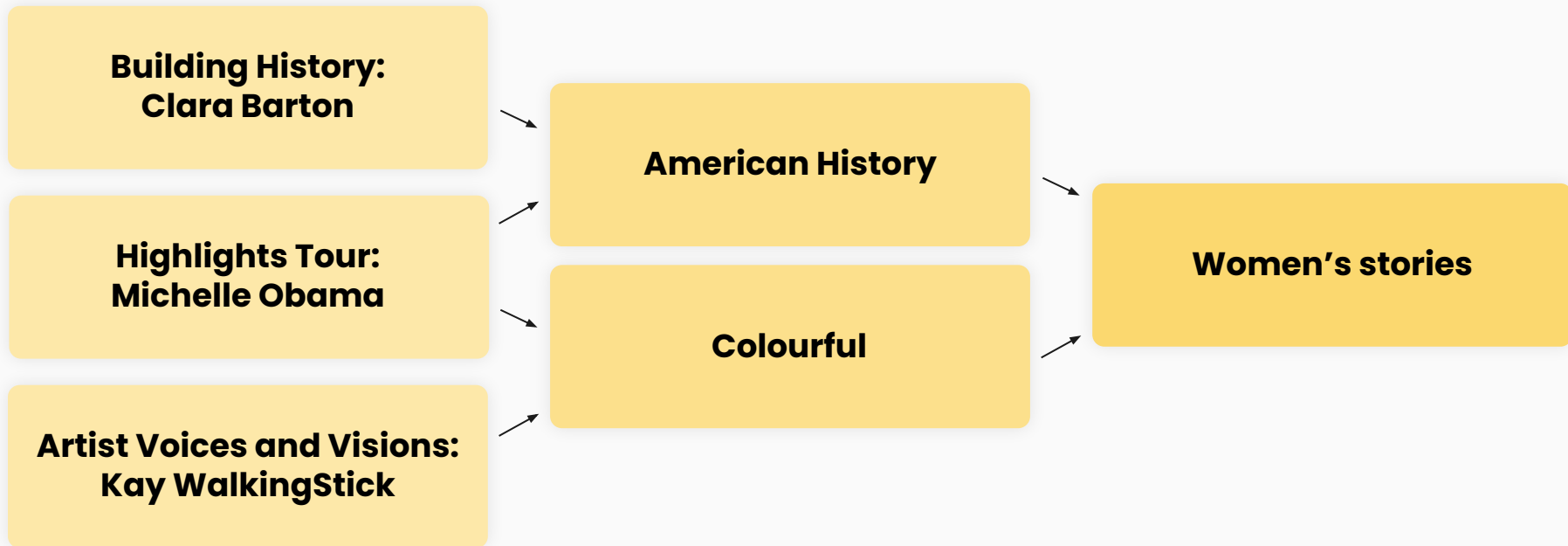
- Modular design
- Content tagging
- Increased visibility
- Using analytics
- Bringing it all together



## Modular content creation



## Content tagging



# Community Based storytelling


# Community based storytelling

- **Local communities**
- Families & Kids
- High Profile Voices



*Spirit of the Highlands, 2022*

# Community based storytelling

- Local communities
- **Families & Kids** 
- High Profile Voices



*Smithsonian American Art Museum, 2023*



## Community based storytelling

- Local communities
- Families & Kids
- **High Profile Voices**



*Royal Academy of Arts, 2024*



# The Technology

## What visitors want..



### Sources:

- British Museum Visitor Research and Evaluation Project, 2023
- AIM - Success Guide in Understanding your audiences, 2021
- ICOM - What visitors want, 2023

# Accessible

# Go cross-platform

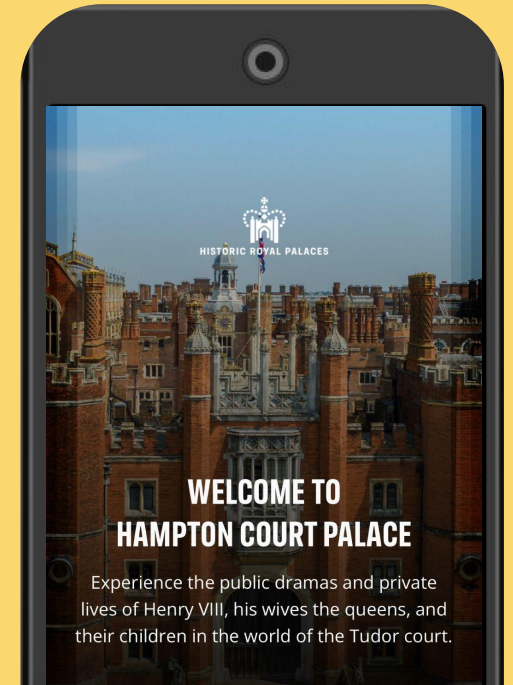
BYOD



Web App

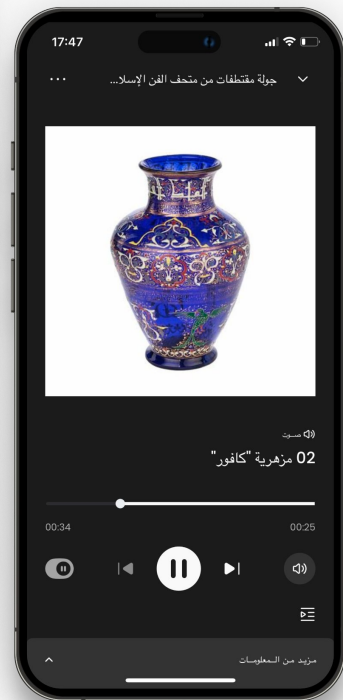
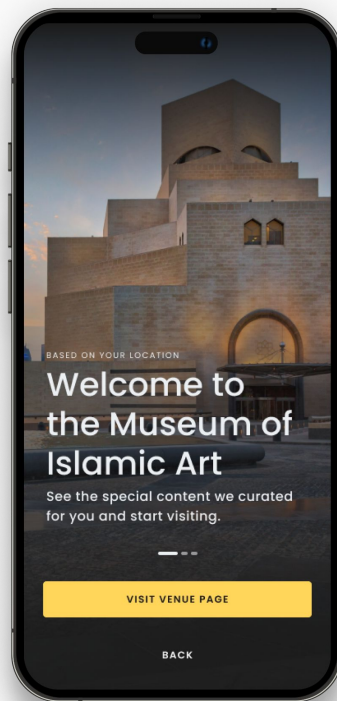


Onsite Devices



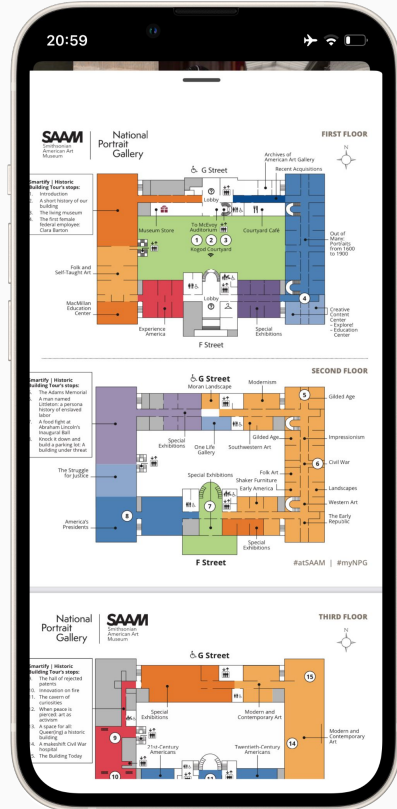
# Prioritising Accessibility

- **Evergreen platform** with continuous improvements
- Ensuring the product conforms to enhanced accessibility **WCAG 2.2 AA/AAA** guidelines
- The extra mile:
  - Text to voice
  - Screen reader and induction loop friendly
  - AI translations
  - Interactive wayfinding with accessible routes

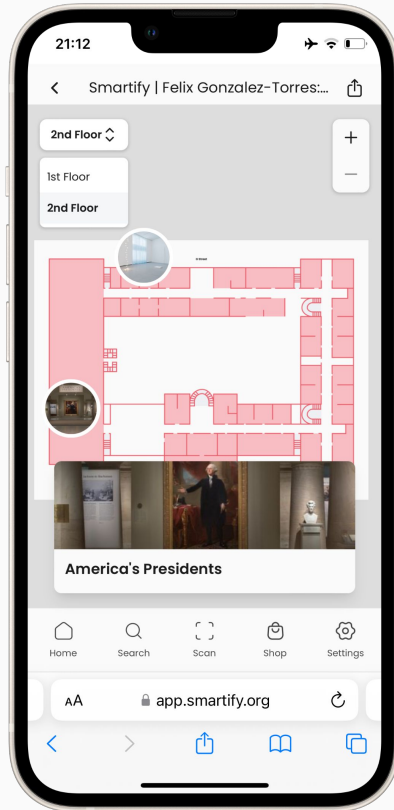


# Easy to Navigate

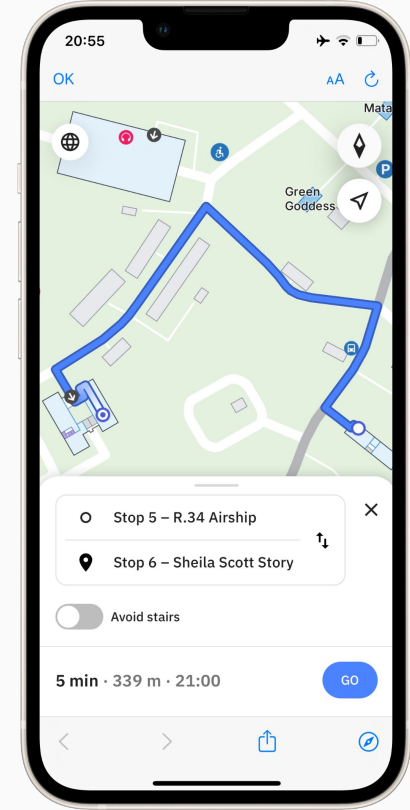
# Easy to Navigate



Pdf maps



Clickable pdf maps



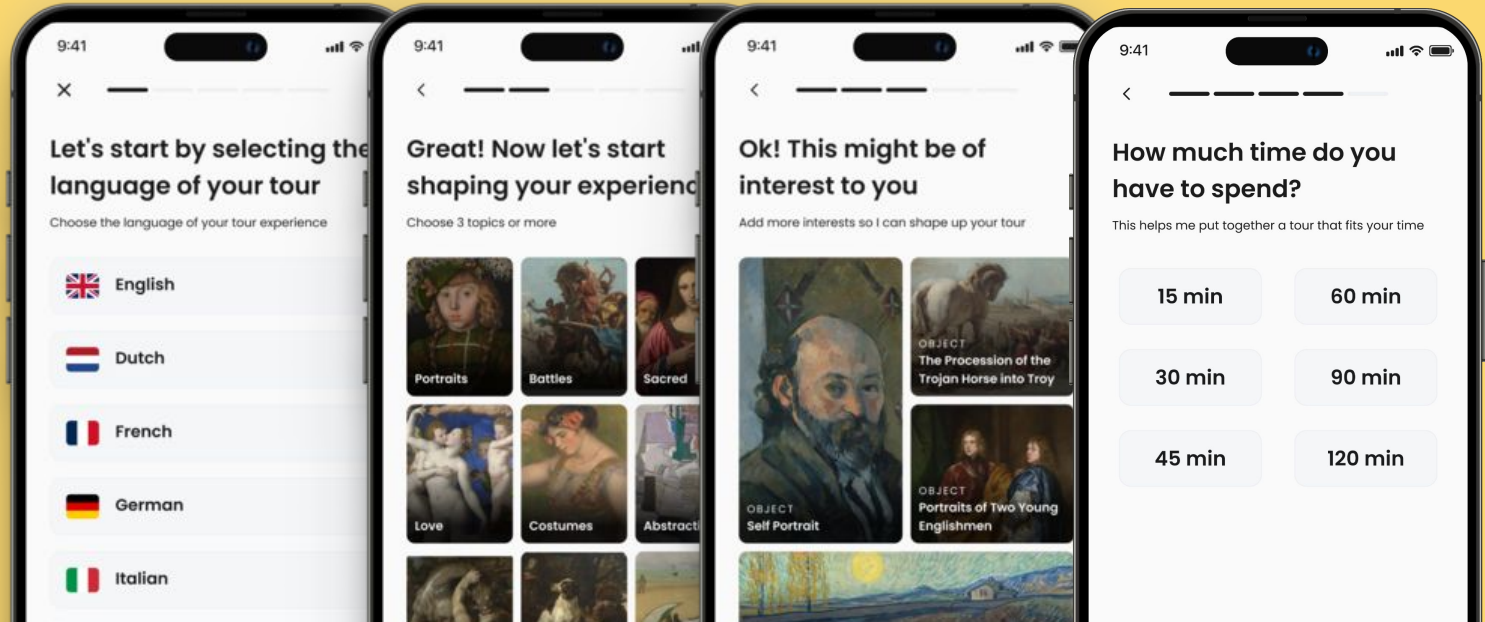
Interactive dot to dot navigation

# Personalised Experience



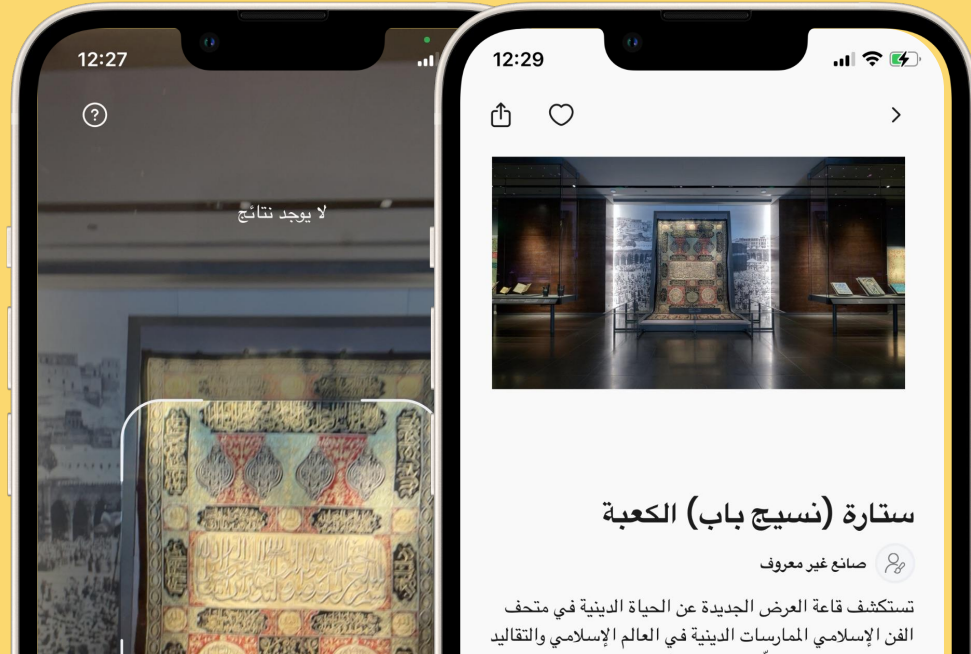
# A.I. Powered Personalisation

Three simple clicks: tell us what you like, tell us who love and how much time you have available. Smartify's algorithm will then create a personalised experience: just for you.



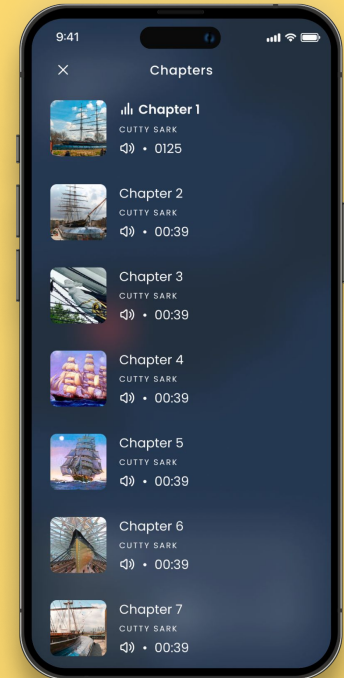
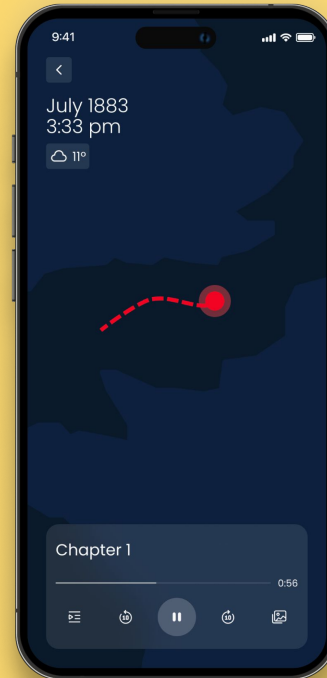
# Object recognition

We will scan the entire permanent collection on the platform, so visitors can scan it on their phones. Fast and reliable; see what you like, scan it, add it to your own gallery, share it, engage with it.



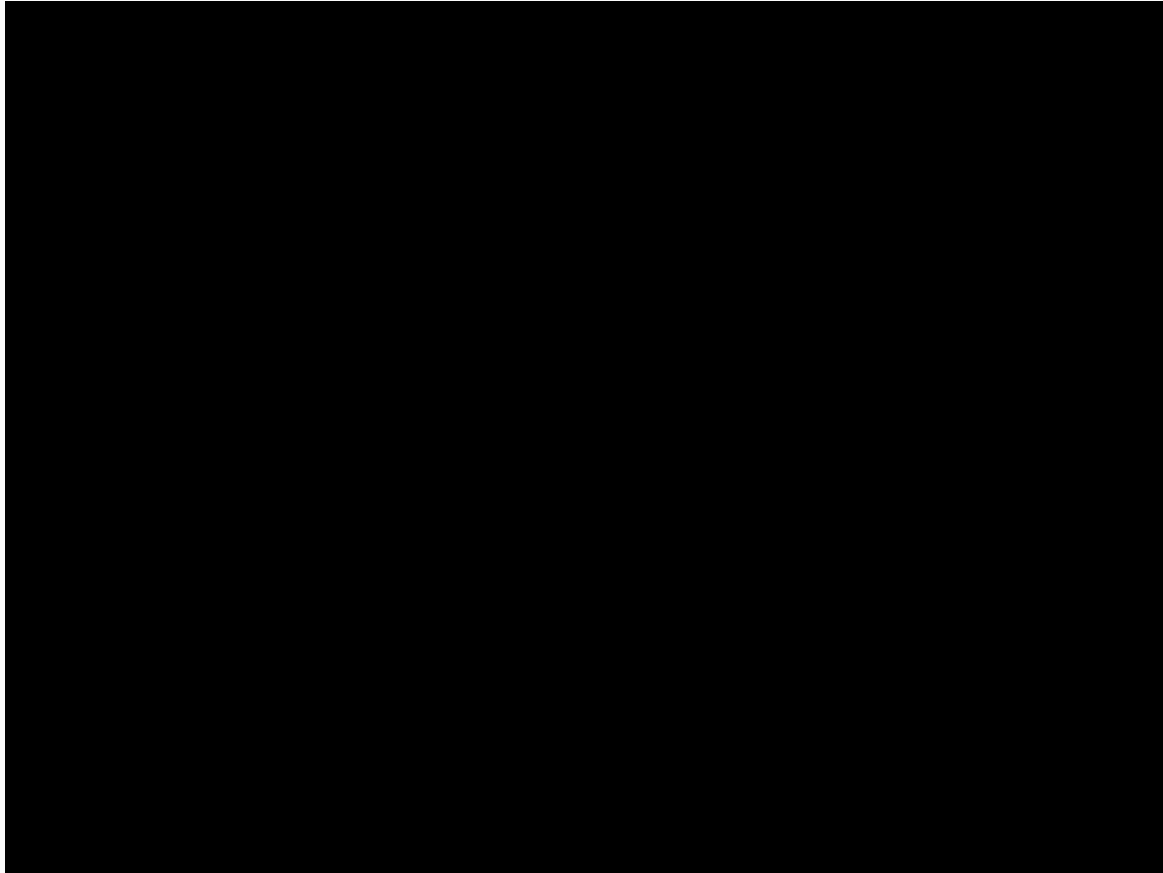
# Location based-triggering

Smartify can integrate with a full diversity of solutions, including iBeacons and WiFi hotspots. This creates an enabler for truly unique visitor experiences.



# Fun & Educational

## Beyond audio: Tower Bridge AR archive photos



# 'The Temple of Invention' AR game for the Smithsonian American Art Museum

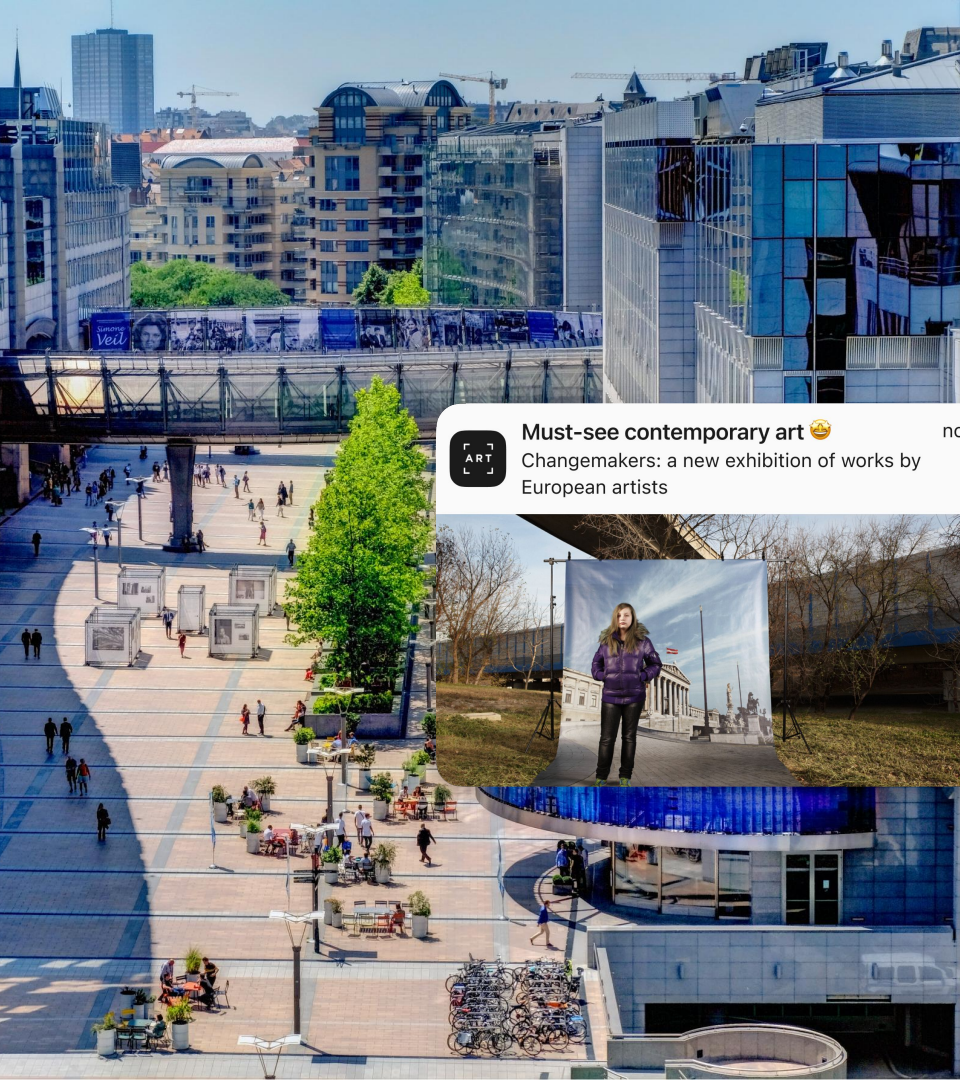


# Stay Connected with Visitors

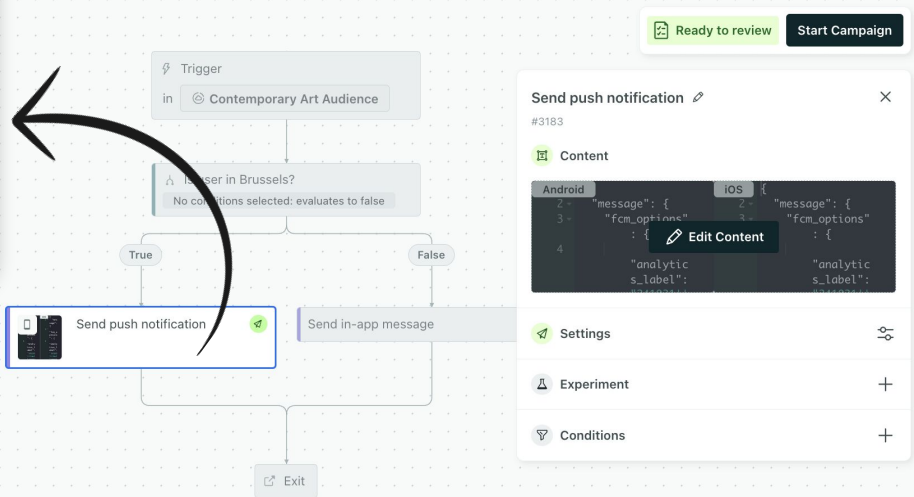
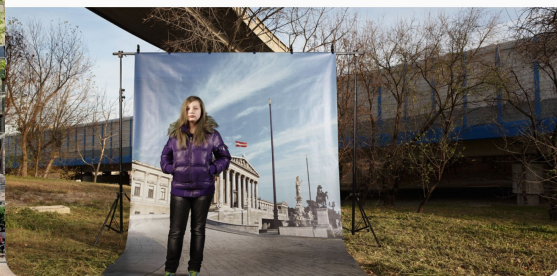


# Interest/geo-based targeting

Organisations like the **European Parliament** use Smartify to **connect with audiences based on the artists they like** (e.g. fans of contemporary art) and their proximity to venues (e.g. tourists visiting Brussels or people living in the city).



**Must-see contemporary art** 📍 now  
 Changemakers: a new exhibition of works by European artists

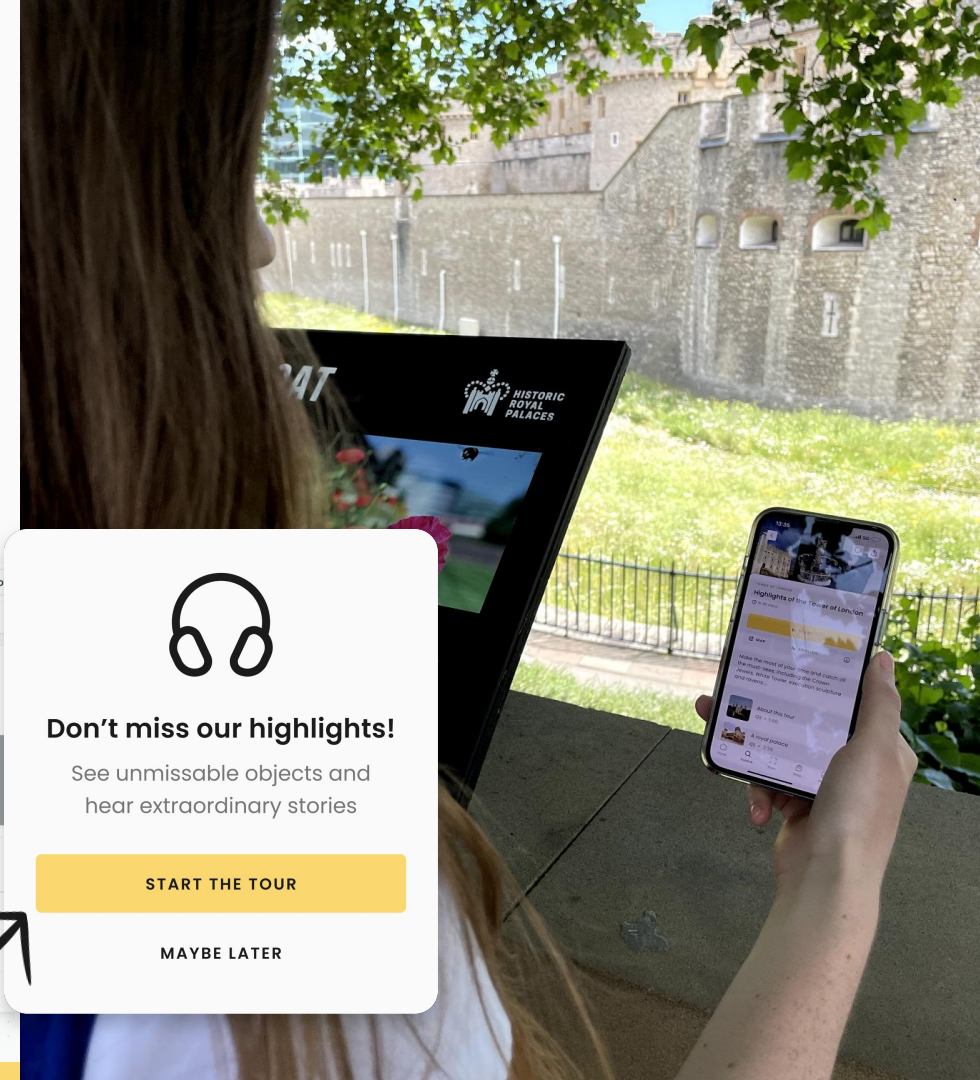




# Automated in-visit messaging

Organisations like Historic Royal Palaces use Smartify to **send important messages to onsite visitors**, such as room closures, tours starting soon or retail

The screenshot displays the Smartify campaign management interface. On the left, a sidebar for the 'Not Yet Played Tour' campaign includes sections for 'Goal' (People convert if they perform track\_start within 1 day of being sent any delivery), 'Messages' (Send to All subscribed and unsubscribed people, Count towards message limit, Don't retry messages), and 'Exit' (People will exit the campaign when). The main area shows a workflow diagram for 'Active Users (24h) - Tower of Lo...'. A decision node asks 'Track played?' with a 'True/False Branch on 1 condition'. The 'True' path leads to a message box for 'Tower of London Tour'. On the right, a configuration panel for the 'Tower of London Tour' (#87) shows 'Content' (with an 'Edit Content' button), 'Settings' (SENDING BEHAVIOR: Send Automatically checked), and 'Experiment' (Conditions).



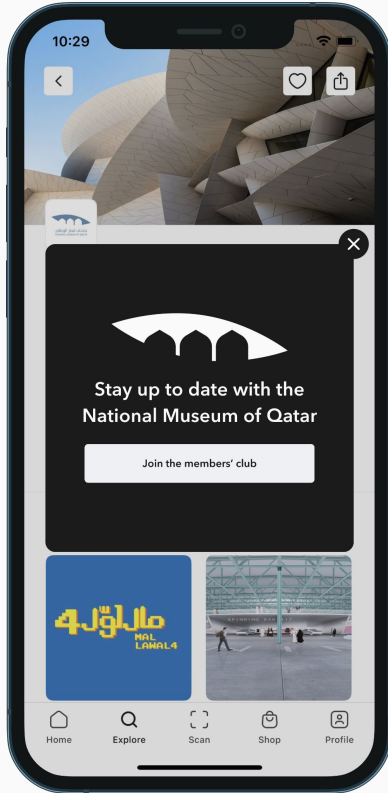
**Don't miss our highlights!**

See unmissable objects and hear extraordinary stories

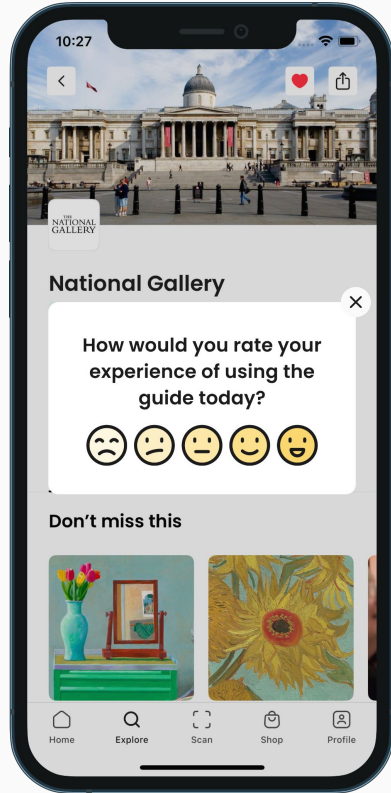
**START THE TOUR**

**MAYBE LATER**

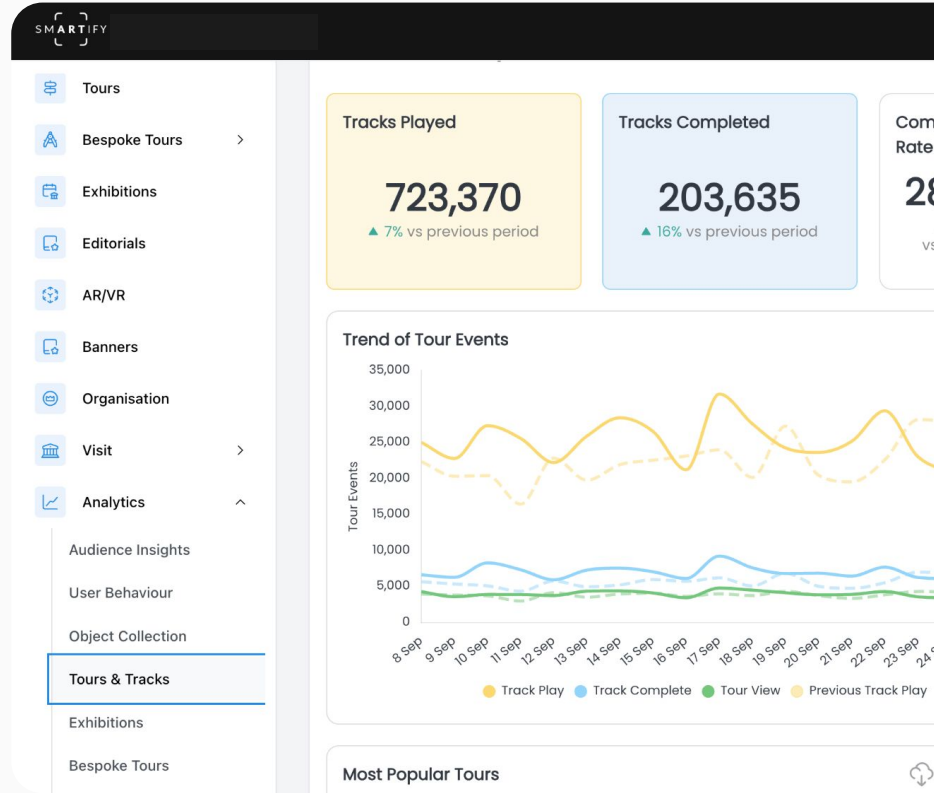
# Visitor Surveys



Data capture



Surveys



Detailed analytics

# Post-visit engagement

Our **post-visit mailer can be used to re-engage visitors after their visit** with a recap of everything they did during the day.

As well as the zones they explored, the objects they saw and the tours they played, it can **show shop items linked to their visit, invite them to sign up for your newsletter with our custom CTAs**, and give them a reason to return by promoting upcoming events or exhibitions.



## We hope you enjoyed your visit

Hi Sophia! Thanks for using Smartify at the Tower of London today. If you're interested in even more arts and culture, here are a couple of highlights to enjoy at home.

[KEEP EXPLORING](#)

### Complete a tour you started



**Highlights Audio Tour**  
UK PARLIAMENT  
🕒 1h 30min

### Some of the places you saw

- Commons Chamber**  
HOUSE OF COMMONS
- Westminster Hall**  
PALACE OF WESTMINSTER
- Central Lobby**  
PALACE OF WESTMINSTER

[CONTINUE EXPLORING](#)

### Keep in touch

Hear about all the ways you can visit UK Parliament in person or online. Sign up to a monthly roundup of tours and events, and the latest from the Parliament shop.

[SIGN UP NOW](#)

### Souvenirs of your visit

- Westminster Hall Heraldic Lion Cast**  
UK PARLIAMENT  
£65.00
- Suffragette Duck**  
UK PARLIAMENT  
£8.00

- Lion Tile China Mug**  
UK PARLIAMENT  
£15.00
- Big Ben 3D Wooden Puzzle**  
UK PARLIAMENT  
£18.00

[SHOP ALL ITEMS](#)



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Registered Company Number 09903509.


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# Measure, Learn & Improve


## Use audience insights

 ARTWORK SCANNED

 ARTWORK FAVOURITED

 TOUR STARTED

 ARTWORK VIEWED

 PRODUCT VIEWED

 PRODUCT PURCHASED

 ADD TO CART

 VENUE VISITED

 TICKETS PURCHASED

 NEW CITY ENTERED



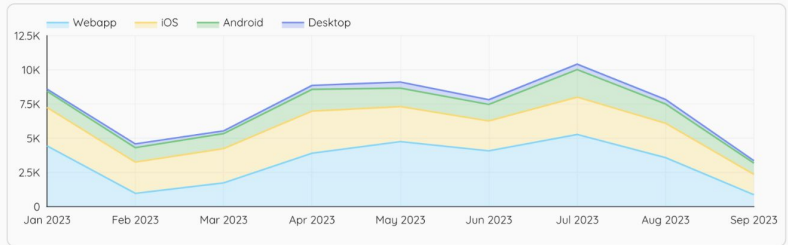
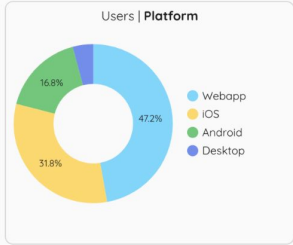
# Analytics

Users  
**60,876**  
 ↑ 3.4% from previous year

Total Objects Views  
**121,022**  
 users who saw objects  
 25,961

Total Object Scans  
**80,171**  
 users who scanned objects  
 8,948

Total Tour Views  
**66,965**  
 users who saw tours  
 29,171



## Top 10 Objects by views and scans

| Object                        | Artist                  | Views | Scans |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------|
| 1. Sunflowers                 | Vincent van Gogh        | 9,768 | 1,232 |
| 2. The Water-Lily Pond        | Claude Monet            | 3,666 | 827   |
| 3. Portrait of Giovanni(?)    | Jan van Eyck            | 2,545 | 774   |
| 4. The Virgin with the Inf... | Leonardo da Vinci       | 2,249 | 1,247 |
| 5. Jean de Dinteville and...  | Hans Holbein the You... | 2,107 | 1,193 |
| 6. The Umbrellas              | Pierre-Auguste Renoir   | 1,937 | 647   |
| 7. Van Gogh's Chair           | Vincent van Gogh        | 1,871 | 602   |
| 8. A Wheatfield, with Cy...   | Vincent van Gogh        | 1,487 | 377   |
| 9. Whistlejacket              | George Stubbs           | 1,415 | 916   |
| 10. The Execution of Lady...  | Paul Delaroché          | 1,167 | 925   |

1 - 10 / 1768 < >

## Top 10 Tours by views and track play

| Tour Name                                     | Views  | Play    |
|---|--------|---------|
| 1. After Impressionism: Inventing Modern Art  | 34,454 | 264,844 |
| 2. Saint Francis of Assisi                    | 11,014 | 52,827  |
| 3. The Credit Suisse Exhibition: Lucian Freud | 10,140 | 53,654  |
| 4. The story of British Art                   | 6,572  | 8,448   |
| 5. Fruits of the Spirit                       | 4,774  | 11,497  |
| 6. The Credit Suisse Exhibition: Frans Hals   | 4      | 0       |
| 7. Dürer's Journeys                           | 2      | 1       |
| 8. Paintings that influenced David Bomberg    | 0      | 196     |
| 9. The Credit Suisse Exhibition: Raphael      | 0      | 30      |

1 - 9 / 9 < >

## Top 10 Tracks by track play and complete

| Track Name                   | Tour                 | Start  | Complete |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--------|----------|
| 1. Introduction              | After Impressioni... | 17,769 | 11,470   |
| 2. Portrait of Ambroise V... | After Impressioni... | 16,963 | 9,707    |
| 3. Landscape with Ploug...   | After Impressioni... | 15,524 | 9,536    |
| 4. Bathers                   | After Impressioni... | 15,350 | 8,353    |
| 5. Vision of the Sermon      | After Impressioni... | 14,433 | 8,290    |
| 6. Setting Sun, Sardinie FL  | After Impressioni... | 13,312 | 8,215    |
| 7. Nevermore                 | After Impressioni... | 13,192 | 7,757    |
| 8. Portrait of Gustave Co... | After Impressioni... | 11,764 | 7,077    |
| 9. Portrait of Lugné-Poë     | After Impressioni... | 12,102 | 6,889    |
| 10. The Talisman             | After Impressioni... | 13,363 | 6,788    |

1 - 10 / 125 < >

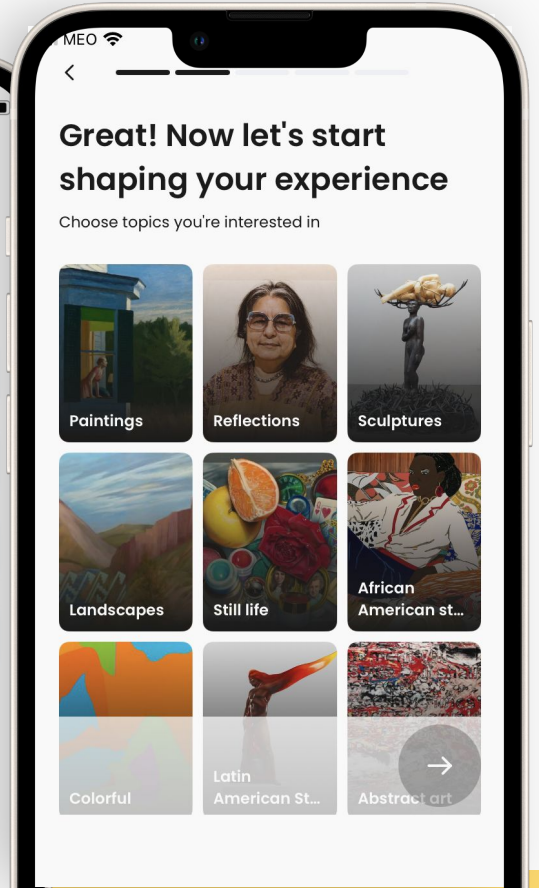
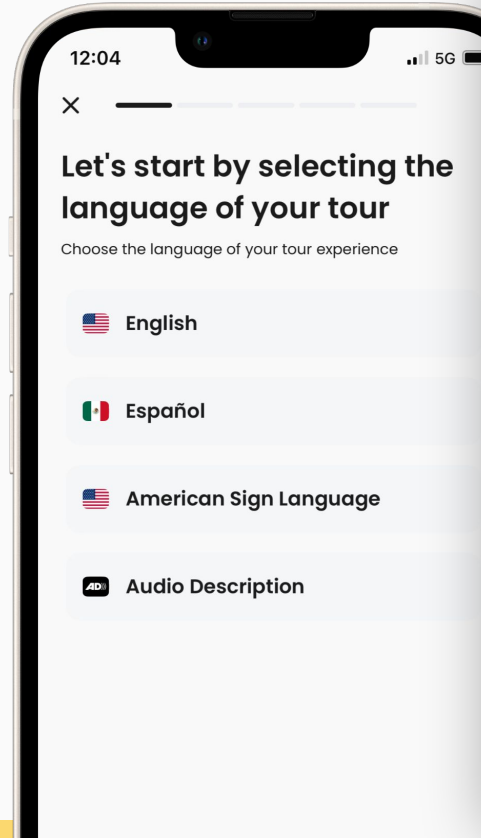
**One final thing...**



# Smartify Social Value Programme

## Eligibility criteria:

- Small to medium sized venues
- >50,000 visitors per year
- Free entry





**Thank you!**

