

# cit 

sciences  
et industrie

# fire

travelling  
exhibition



In partnership with





Mastering fire was crucial in the long evolution of all human beings, changing their lives and thoughts. But what do we know about fire? We fear it just as much as we are fascinated by it. It represents warmth, vitality, desire, conviviality, creation, progress, technology, but also danger, war and destruction. We can only master it to a limited extent, it can always overwhelm us. From the warm flame to the desolation of the ashes, what ambivalence governs our relationship with this companion of humankind? This exhibition will not focus on the sun, or on lightning, or on volcanoes, but only on fire. It is from the scientific angle, but also from the societal, everyday lives, and industrial perspectives, that it will look at the combustion phenomenon, which results into flames, heat and smoke...

## mastering fire

When did human beings start using fire? The question is still open. But irrefutable traces prove it: it has been part of domestic life for at least 400,000 years. Humans knew how to tame it before they understood its nature. On all continents, it is at the centre of many myths and countless festivals and rituals. All cultures have developed and perfected over time a variety of inventive techniques to light, collect, maintain and use fire... Using fire has opened new perspectives and played a decisive role in the hominization process.

## understanding fire

How is fire born? What is its nature? It was only in the 18th century, with the advent of modern chemistry, that a true scientific explanation began to emerge. Knowing the conditions that had to be met for a fire to be lit and understanding the behaviour of the flames made it then possible to use its power more effectively. And what about tomorrow? Pollution and climate change are prompting us to open up new perspectives. Is the era of fire coming to an end? Will scientific research be able to revive the flame? After the fire in a box, will we face new challenges?

## fighting fires

A blaze or a wildfire is a fire out of control. To fight it more effectively, researchers, firemen and other professionals study the behaviour of flames and smoke. It is all about intervening on each phase of the fire, ignition, growth and decay. Objectives: to prevent, contain, extinguish and minimize the effects of the fire. And you? Would you know how to react? From fryer fires to electric fires, there is no single formula... but knowing the risk factors and the appropriate behaviours can make all the difference. We will focus here on domestic fires and forest fires. We will discover that a burning forest is not always a disaster...



## good to know

### Audience

For families and school visitors aged 9 upwards

### Surface area

600 sq. m

### Composition

13 audiovisuels  
6 multimedias  
5 interactive manipulations  
9 models  
3 hybrid exhibits

### Languages

Trilingual exhibition: French, English, Italian. Consult us about the possibility of adaptations in other languages.

### Accessibility

Universal accessibility.

### Rental fees

Contact us. Possibility of acquiring technical files for reproducing the exhibition.



## contact

[contactpro@universcience.fr](mailto:contactpro@universcience.fr)

Tel: + 33 (0) 1 40 05 73 53

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