

80 years after its discovery the most beautiful prehistoric site entirely revealed thanks to an exclusive Virtual Reality experience!

Following on from the success of the award-winning Lascaux international exhibition which has toured the world and amazed more than 2.5 million visitors on four continents, LASCAUX 3D proposes an unprecedented discovery of a Unesco's World Heritage site closed to the public since 1963.

Visitors will have a unique opportunity to decipher the mystery of the oldest human expression, discover the Cro-Magnon culture and engage in a multidisciplinary exploration of the most remarkable sanctuary of Palaeolithic art.

- An exceptional journey at the dawn of art
- An unforgettable and emotional encounter with France's prehistoric jewel and our Cro-Magnon ancestors
- The most unique opportunity to go down the Cave by yourself and admire the Lascaux masterpieces thanks to virtual reality



More informations

Olivier RETOUT, PhD
CEO Lascaux international exhibition
o.retout@dordogne.fr



M0 The Virtual Reality Room

A 12 minute immersive experience where visitors will explore, contemplate, decipher and unveil the invisible: a treasure hunt for all audiences!

Visitors will enjoy the exclusive virtual reality experience of Lascaux in a large cutting edge free-roaming room with 3D VR autonomous headsets. They will have a once in a lifetime opportunity to go down the cave like it has never been possible before.

1. **Go down the cave by yourself** and identify with the teenagers who discovered the site
2. **Explore all the rooms** at the light of your torch and interact with the Lascaux walls, mimic the artist gesture and let your own creation come to life
3. **Watch the animals move** in the flickering light of the oil lamps and torches of the Lascaux artists.



M1 The story of the discovery

How four teenagers and their dog called Robot found by chance a treasure which amazed the world and welcomed more than a million visitors following its discovery - before being closed to the public.

4. **Admire a dynamic gallery** of unpublished B&W photographs from the 40's



M2 The evolution of the reproduction technology

Since the 80's France has made Lascaux accessible by Reproductions and has opened in 2016 in Montignac the largest fac similes production ever created, with 900m² of painting work.

5. **Test your ability to reproduce** a drawing on a non-planar surface... look at the effect of the relief on your drawing
6. **Play with the resolution of a laser scan** to understand how relief is accurate at millimetric level
7. **Enjoy in a film** the impressive work of dozens of artists and technicians who have entirely reproduced Lascaux



M3 A miraculously preserved cave

A scale model (1/25) shows the geometry and the mineralogy of the cave who have inspired the choice of pigments, paintings or engravings

8. **Discover how the geological context** and the topography explains why this site was chosen 200 centuries ago to create the most spectacular sanctuary of prehistory.



M4 The oldest "visual narrative" in the world

Continuously studied since 1940, the Scene of Shaft here finely reproduced (fac simile) remains exceptional as it is clearly telling us a story: Lascaux appeared as a film of which we would have lost the sound track.

9. **Look at the life size replica** of the most mysterious scene of Lascaux, the only one with a human...and a rhinoceros!
10. **Try to understand what has happened...**and notice strange details (how many fingers has the man? Is he wearing a mask?)



M5 An interactive exploration of the paintings and engravings

Lascaux is not only "beautiful" : it is also a unique cradle of many artistic techniques such as monumental art (painted animals are bigger than in nature), the invention of the reserve to figure the perspective, the subtle use of the relief (anamorphs) and the consistent use of a same style...over many generations

11. **Play with 8 interactives touch screen** tables providing explanations and illustration of the art of Lascaux: discover how the artists of Lascaux managed to create movement and to tell a story.
12. **Enjoy an 8 mn scientific animation** showing how the Panel of the Black Cow comes to life, dissolves and re-forms to reveal the existence of paintings and engravings which intertwine, overlap and mask each other.
13. **Discover invisible engraving** thanks to the "black light" and share the emotion and beauty of one of the first masterpieces of Humanity.



M6 Research around an enigma

14. **Turn the pages to appreciate the fine details of the engravings** digitized in exclusivity from the tracings papers realised by prehistorians in the 50's.
15. **Take the time to appreciate the colours and the structure** of the huge fresco of the Hall of Bulls
16. **Combine a set of mysterious signs** and maybe discover the Cro Magnon language!
17. **Guess the age of Lascaux** by comparing different methods of dating
18. **Examine in a showcase**, the shape of the tools used to appose the natural pigments on a limestone wall



M7 The life and culture of Cro-Magnon

The masterpieces but also the tools and foods remains found in the cave tell us how were living these semi-nomadic populations.

19. **Consider four stations.** Eating, Living, Clothing and Hunting with showcases and videos presenting the objects discovered on the site and how they were made.
20. **Make a selfie** with 4 exclusive hyper-realistic reconstructions of members of a Cro Magnon family created by the paleo-artist Elisabeth Daynes from real fossils skull borrowed by the French National Museum of Prehistory



M8 Meet the experts

For years, the meaning and the function of Lascaux has remained a mystery and a focus of debate. A hunting scene, pure decorative art, a space for totemism or shamanism, a sanctuary for spiritual initiation or just a community place, even the specialists, as you, have their own interpretation.

21. **Listen to the personal point of view** of eight of the most prominent Lascaux specialists.
22. **Watch an extract from the film "L'Age du Renne"** showing the lifestyle of Cro Magnon

"Lascaux - International Exhibition opens a window to understanding man's earliest artistic endeavours revealing a multifaceted and subjective reality, unfathomable through one science alone."

Prof. Yves Coppens
French Academy of Science,
President of the Scientific Lascaux Committee.

