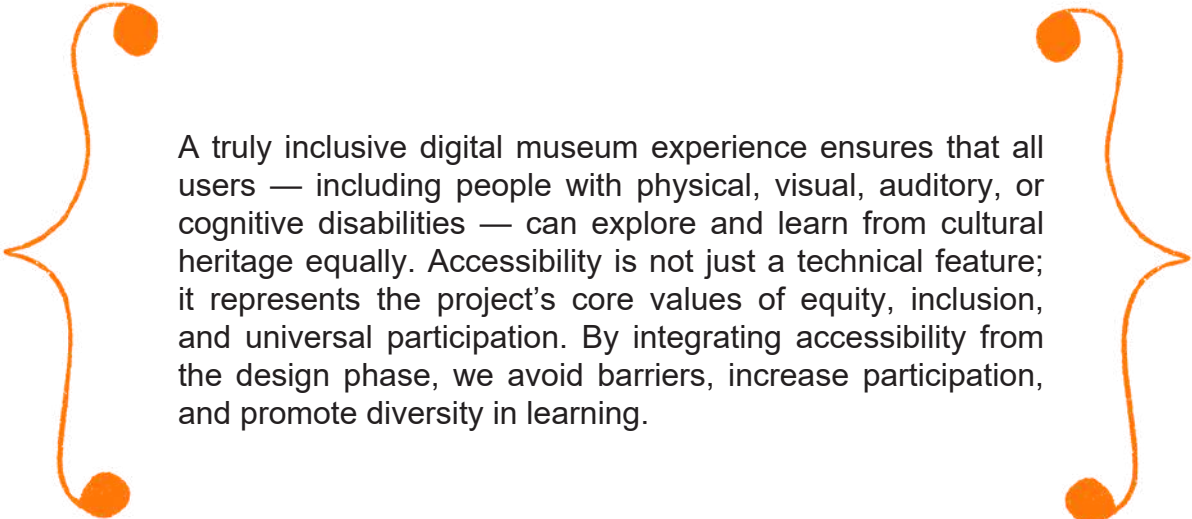# CHAPTER 6

Accessibility for Everyone

WHY IT MATTERS

A truly inclusive digital museum experience ensures that all users — including people with physical, visual, auditory, or cognitive disabilities — can explore and learn from cultural heritage equally. Accessibility is not just a technical feature; it represents the project's core values of equity, inclusion, and universal participation. By integrating accessibility from the design phase, we avoid barriers, increase participation, and promote diversity in learning.

COMFORTABLE MOVEMENT AND NAVIGATION

Purpose: To make sure that every visitor can move through the virtual museum easily and intuitively, regardless of their physical abilities or device type. Provide keyboard navigation (Tab, Enter, Arrow keys). Ensure clickable buttons and menus are large and clearly labelled. Include a "Return to Main Menu" or "Home" icon on each screen. Optimize scrolling, zooming, and object rotation. Provide clear visual focus indicators for keyboard users.

READABLE COLOURS, FONTS, AND TEXT-TO-SPEECH

Purpose: To ensure that all text and visuals can be easily read and understood by users with low vision, dyslexia, or colour blindness. Follow WCAG 2.1 contrast ratio ≥ 4.5:1 between text and background. Use the MUSED colour palette: Blue #2458A0, Orange #F29100, Grey #666. Use Arial only: 11 pt for body text, 14 pt bold for section titles. Provide text-to-speech functionality or reader support. Offer audio descriptions for visual content. Include a "Change Text Size" button where possible.

ALL-TEXT, CAPTIONS, AND SUBTITLES

Purpose: To ensure that visual and audio materials are accessible for visitors with visual or hearing impairments. All images must have descriptive alt-text (≤140 characters). All videos must include subtitles (.srt or .vtt). Audio recordings must have plain-text transcripts. Provide captions for meaningful sounds. Use a consistent caption style: 9 pt italic, centered.

Quick Accessibility Checklist:

Check Item	Status
All images have descriptive alt-text	☐
Videos include subtitles or captions	☐
Audio materials have transcripts	☐
Colour contrast meets WCAG standards	☐
Screen reader compatibility tested	☐
Fonts and layouts are clear and uniform	☐
No flashing or time-limited visuals	☐
Accessibility reviewed by real users	☐

Tips and Good Practice

Tip: Use online tools such as WAVE or Google Lighthouse to check accessibility.

Warning: Avoid decorative images without alt-text; they confuse screen readers.

Checklist: Each partner should conduct at least one accessibility test before upload.