

Digital collections with a focus on manuscripts

Major national and research libraries include manuscripts in their varied digital collections – for these see the general guide to Digital Collections.

The collections and guides listed below focus specifically or mainly on manuscripts and provide access to a range of major collections from around the globe.

(Descriptions are from information provided by the sites.)

Digital Vatican Library

The project aims to digitise the entire Library's collection of manuscripts, including 80,000 mostly from the Middle Ages and Humanistic period.

International Collection of Digitized Hebrew Manuscripts (NLI)

This collection provides virtual access to over 90 thousand manuscripts with participation from an international group of library partners.

Some useful guides to manuscript collections

Medieval Manuscript Research (Univ. of Chicago)

International content. A selection of links to Major Digitized Manuscript Collections as well as a selection of Individual Digitized Manuscript Collections that can be read cover-to-cover online. Includes music.





Univ. of Pennsylvania guides to:

Open Access Islamic Manuscripts Collections

Manuscripts may be in Arabic, Persian, or Ottoman Turkish.

Digitised collections of Middle Eastern manuscripts

Organised globally by library location.

Manuscripts of South Asia

Access to an extensive range of digital collections and catalogues.

