

Educational visits to The Canal Museum



A popular venue for educational visits for all ages, The Canal Museum at Stoke Bruerne offers...

- an attractive, historic canalside village, with its busy canal, locks and famous Blisworth Tunnel,
- a colourful array of displays showing the growth, decline and rejuvenation of canals - a communication and transport system that was vital to the Industrial Revolution,
- dedicated school room for educational sessions and packed lunches, plus grassy areas, ideal for outdoor activities on sunny days.

Museum displays and the many interesting features of the wider site can be interpreted to encompass many aspects of the National Curriculum across the age ranges, and to provide stimulating learning situations, observational exercises and subjects for classroom projects.

Facilities and resources include:

- Free preview visits for teachers plus partner or friend
- Information/resource sheets
- School rooms for activities, picnic lunches and showing videos/DVD's
- Traditional costume for children to dress up in
- Advice and support from specialist staff
- 'Sculptor' the Museum's traditional working narrowboat
- Café and grassy picnic area
- Gift and bookshop

Topics relating to:

- Communications, geography and history
- Communications and industrial development
- Victorian studies
- World Wars I and II
- Ways of life
- Technology and engineering
- Art, design and architecture
- Environmental issues
- Leisure and recreation

www.wow4water.net

This excellent website is packed with information and ideas for lessons looking at canals and rivers. There are topic packs, fact files and trails to download including two for Stoke Bruerne.

Senior students, with specialist requirements

We are happy to devise bespoke packages which, with advance notice, can include access to the Museum's library. Interesting materials can also be found on www.virtualwaterways.co.uk, which includes plans, drawings, accounts, photographs and audio-visual recordings from the archives of British Waterways and the early canal companies.

Booking your visit

Prices

Pupils	£3.25 each
Under 5s	free
Teachers & helpers*	free

*Recommended teacher/pupil ratio **1:10**.

Free Preview

We recommend that teachers visit the site prior to confirming a visit. David or Louise will be happy to discuss your booking requirements and you will have the opportunity to become familiar with the site.

Bookings

Please call **01604 862229** or email stokebruerne@thewaterwaystrust.org.uk

Your contacts are David Henderson (General Manager) and Louise Stockwin (Operations Manager).

We require three weeks notice for confirmation of your booking and final requirements.

If you have to cancel your visit please give us as much notice as possible.

Payment

On arrival or in advance. Please make cheques payable to *The Waterways Trust*.

Boat Trips

Boat trips **need to be booked separately**. There are two options;

- Narrowboat *Charlie*, seats 26; trips both to and through the Blisworth Tunnel. 07966 503609, www.stokebruerneboats.co.uk
- Narrowboat *Indian Chief*, seats 40, 01604 862428 or enquiries@boatinn.co.uk

We recommend you secure your boat trip before confirming your Museum booking.

Further information

Walks

Guided walks are available around the locks, to the tunnel and further afield. Please talk to David or Louise about these.

Photography

We recommend you bring a camera. Stoke Bruerne is highly picturesque and ideal for taking photos of wildlife, canal scenes, roses and castles painting and pupils in traditional costume.

Museum Shop

The shop sells a large range of educational material, books, maps and guides, as well as souvenirs and canal painted ware.

Refreshments

The Museum Café sells hot and cold drinks, sweets, sandwiches and cake. Ice creams are sold in the Museum shop. You can picnic in the lunch room by prior arrangement or on the grassy area beside the Museum. Refuse facilities are available and we ask that all rubbish created is bagged up and placed in the BIFFA bin before you leave.

Toilets

Toilets are at the back of the Museum and are open during Museum opening hours. The disabled toilet is at the side of the building. Please ask for the key in the Museum Shop.

Parking

Coach parking costs £5. This charge is waived for pre-booked educational parties.

Guidelines, supervision and safety

A visit to Stoke Bruerne is completely safe if groups are adequately supervised and pupils made aware of the need for care. A copy of our Risk Assessment for School/Group visits is enclosed. We recommend;

- teachers sign a risk assessment declaration at the start of the visit
- teacher/pupil ratio of **1:10**

Additionally, the car park is small and there is no other parking in the village so we ask groups to kindly adhere to their allotted visit time so that other groups can also enjoy a visit to Stoke Bruerne.

**Thank you and we look forward to
welcoming you to Stoke Bruerne.**

