

# Visit Information

## For Teachers

### Our Learning Programmes

All the resources, lesson plans and activities on offer through Canal & River Explorers are developed in partnership with teachers and education consultants. This means that they are very closely linked to the National Curriculum and can be easily updated to comply with any curriculum changes. Learning materials and activities are evaluated throughout the academic year using teacher and pupil evaluation methods. This information is then used to continually improve the quality of resources and standard of provision.

### Our Volunteers

The majority of educational visits are run by the education volunteer team which is managed and supported by the Education Coordinator. Recruitment of volunteers is targeted; volunteers are interviewed, must provide two references and are required to have a standard DBS check. They also undertake health and safety training specific to the museum site, safeguarding training and specific training around leading educational activities. Volunteers are closely monitored by the Education Coordinator and their training is recorded through our volunteer database. The quality of delivery is monitored through the evaluation forms that are provided to every teacher and group leader visiting the museum, as well as to all teachers who book outreach activities.

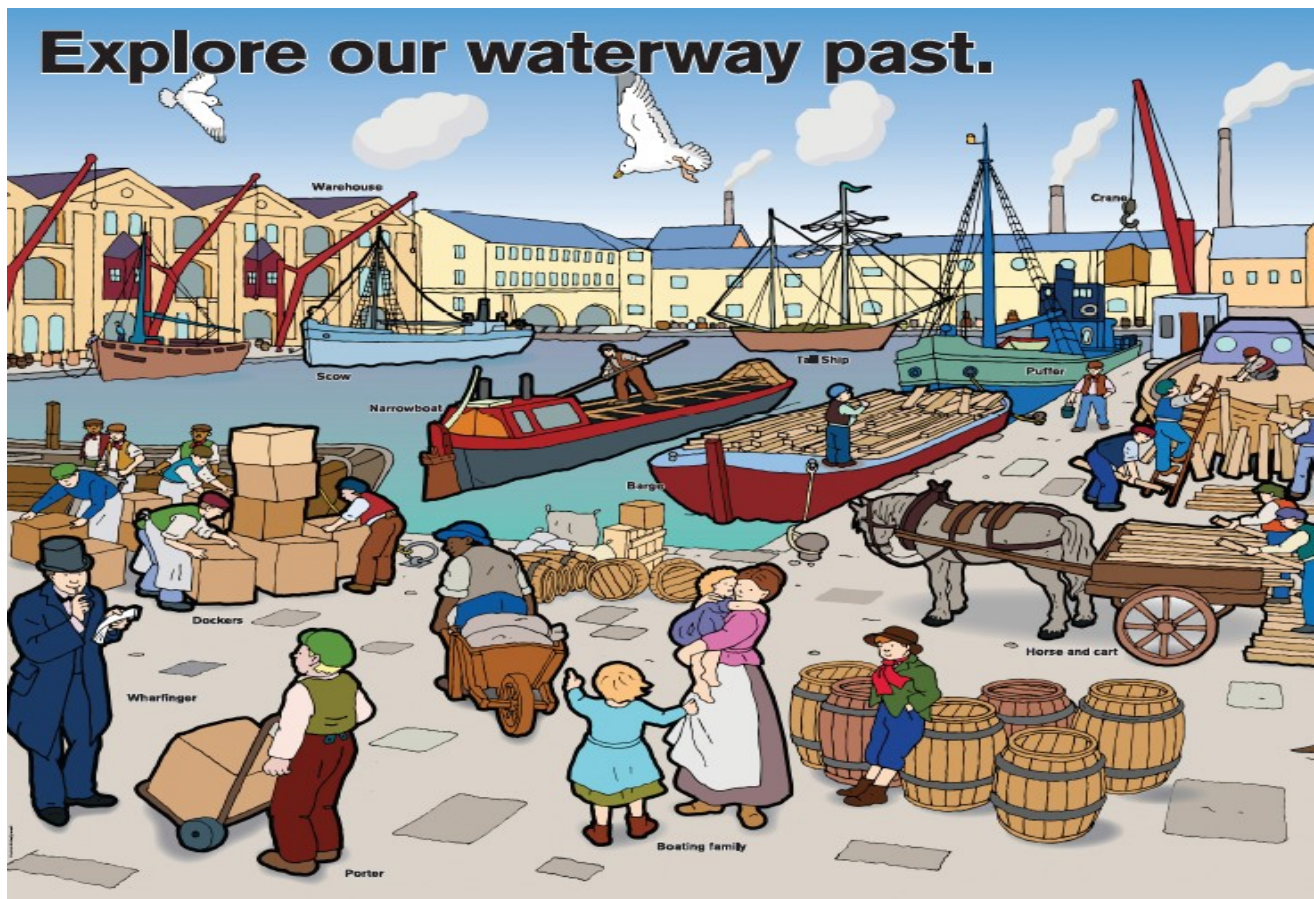


Please remember that teachers and group leaders are responsible for children at all times.



# A Brief History!

The museum occupies part of a 200 year old historic dock, originally designed by Thomas Telford. It was a major transshipment point for cargoes travelling between the port of Liverpool and the inland waterway network. It was also the industrial heart of the Ellesmere Port community. This is one of the largest and most complete dock complexes in the UK and is well placed to tell the story of the growth of the industrial revolution in Britain. The museum collection further enhances our ability to tell this story through boats, buildings, objects and our archive.



Make sure you visit [www.canalriverexplorers.org.uk](http://www.canalriverexplorers.org.uk) for National Curriculum linked pre and post visit resources.



# Book a Self-Led Activity

All our self-led activities are free of charge

A self-led visit to the museum is good value and allows you to plan your own itinerary. It is still important that you book your visit and let us know about any equipment you would like to use as well as any particular needs your group has.



## Self-Led Activity for EYFS:

*Porthole Trail:* Book up to 15 trails incorporating EYFS linked activities. The trail focusses on people and jobs within the docks. (1hr)

## Self-Led Activity for KS1:

*Explorers Backpacks :* Book up to 15 backpacks for your group and use the resources within to explore the wide variety of exhibits, objects and buildings across the site. A teachers pack will be sent out to you prior to your visit containing all the information you need to use these effectively with your group. (2hrs)

## Self-Led Activity for KS2:

*Interactive NWMuseum App:* Download this before you arrive or on the day of your visit from Google Play or Apple store. The App helps pupils explore the historic slipway, meet characters who would have lived and worked in the docks and learn about the importance of Ellesmere Port to the rest of the world. We have four ipad mini's (with the app pre-loaded) available to book if needed. (1hr)

Don't forget to take advantage of our FREE teacher visit to do your own risk assessment!



# Book a Volunteer-led activity

## Tours and Demonstrations

*Walking Tour* - enjoy a guided walk around the museum, themed to a topic of your choice. (45mins-1hr)

*Boat Trip* - hop aboard our trip boat centaur for a guided ride along the Shropshire Union canal. (30-40mins)

*Blacksmith Demonstration* - watch our blacksmith at work and take a memento back to school. (20-30mins)

*Lock Demonstration* - see how locks work and learn about their purpose. (20-30mins)



All volunteer-led activities  
are charged at £1 per pupil.

## KS1 Workshops

*Homes from the Past* - pupils become characters from the past, dressing up, learning about dock life and visiting the homes they would have lived in. (2 hrs)

*Narrow Boat Art* - pupils learn about the origins of canal art. They visit a traditional narrow boat, design and make a range of arts & crafts; and use these to decorate a life-sized narrow boat cabin. (1hr 30mins)

## KS2 Workshops

*Maps Workshop* - this focusses on local history and geography. Pupils use geographic observation, visit our archive, explore historic maps and aerial photographs AND create their own giant map, showing why Ellesmere Port is a window on the world. (1hr30mins)

*Locks Workshop (summer term only)* - this includes a lock demonstration. Pupils learn how to calculate area and volume, safety around locks, how locks work and the purpose of a lock. (1hr15mins)



# Arriving at the Museum

## Instructions for Coach Drivers

The drop off point for school groups is directly outside the museum entrance. There is a coach parking bay here, where drivers can leave a coach for the duration of the visit, if necessary.



A4 paper copies of this map will be provided upon your arrival.



# Museum Facilities

## Toilets

There are toilets located throughout the museum. The main facilities for groups are in the reception area (1) and on the upper floor of the Island Warehouse (4). There are disabled toilets and baby change facilities in these areas. There are also a small number of toilets located in our conference centre (12).

## Lunch

Our large indoor lunch room is located on the upper floor of the Island Warehouse, near to the toilets (4). We also have a small lunch space within the classroom (11). Additionally, there is an outdoor picnic area directly outside the classroom (13). Eating lunch during a boat trip can be arranged. Please request this on your booking form.



We offer a **FREE** teacher pre-visit to the museum .

## Café

There is a café in our reception building selling hot and cold drinks, meals and snacks. Teachers and helpers are welcome to use the café during your visit; however if you wish to eat in the café as a group, provide ice-creams for your group or similar, this will need to be arranged with our front of house team and food will need to be pre-ordered. Please contact them on 0151 355 5017.

## Access

All our main exhibitions, activities and buildings are wheelchair accessible, with a lift in the Island Warehouse for access to the upper floor. Please note that our trip boat is not fully wheelchair accessible as it can only currently be accessed via steps and it is also not possible to access our historic boat cabins in a wheelchair. Mobility restricted pupils (not in a wheelchair) should be able to access all our exhibitions and boats. Our learning team are proficient in adapting activities to suit a wide range of learning needs, so please indicate on your booking form if there are any additional needs for your group.

# Exploring the Museum

## Great for Local Schools

On the ground floor of the Island Warehouse there is an exhibition dedicated to telling the story of Ellesmere Port. This exhibition includes lots of hands on activities, displays at different levels and is spacious enough to accommodate a whole class.

## Great for Creative Play

There is a small play area on the first floor in the Island Warehouse, an outdoor play boat in the picnic area and a variety of old fashioned toys and games at Porter's Row cottages. For under 5's there is a dedicated play area in the Island Warehouse.



Our KS1 Explorers Backpacks are ideal for encouraging curiosity and getting to see the whole site.

## Interactive Exhibits— Things to do with your group!

- **NEW Interactive App “Window on the World” can be downloaded from Google Play and Apple store. This helps pupils explore the NEW slipway exhibition, where they can watch people from the past come to life!**
- Ellesmere Port Exhibition: Ground Floor Island Warehouse: Various
- Carpenters Workshop: Ground floor Island Warehouse: Audio
- Setting Out Block: Ground Floor Island Warehouse: Create different shapes
- Ice Breaker: Ground Floor Island Warehouse: Turn handle to demonstrate
- Sacks: First floor, Island Warehouse: Levers and Pulleys
- Brass Rubbing: First floor Island Warehouse
- Friendship: First floor Island Warehouse: Audio in cabin
- Navvy's Hut: First floor Island Warehouse: Audio
- Archimedes Screw: First floor Island Warehouse: Turn handle to demonstrate
- Porters Row Cottages: Various



# Pricing

## Local Schools

If your school is within the CH64, CH65 or CH66 postcodes, you qualify as a local school and can access our discounted local rate.



All teachers and adult helpers visit free of charge.

**Museum Admission:** £4 per pupil

**Museum Admission (local rate):** £1.50 per pupil

**Volunteer-led Activities:** £1 per pupil

**Tours and Demonstrations:** £1 per pupil

**Self-led Activities:** Free of charge