

ISLE OF WIGHT STEAM RAILWAY

An unforgettable adventure
through time

Education Brochure 2025



Offering a Warm Welcome to Schools

As a living, breathing, working museum, Isle of Wight Steam Railway is a popular and fascinating destination for all age groups.

Beautifully restored Victorian and Edwardian carriages, often hauled by 19th century locomotives, can take school groups on a 10 mile journey through the Island's unspoilt countryside, and through stations showing different time periods of Isle of Wight railway history.

As a registered educational charity, our priority is to provide a positive learning experience for your students, in line with the National Curriculum.

We offer a range of learning opportunities, including a guided tour with train ride and a variety of educational workshops, enabling you to tailor your visit to the learning needs of your school group. Led by our Heritage & Learning Manager, who heads a team of knowledgeable and experienced volunteer School Guides, we can cater for educational groups from Reception up to Key Stage 5.

We look forward to welcoming your school group to Isle of Wight Steam Railway during 2025.



Guided Tour of Havenstreet Station and Train Ride

Key Stage: All Key Stages

Travel back in time with our tour of key sites at Havenstreet Station, including visiting the historic Station Yard area, our Carriage & Wagon Workshop, where an experienced team of staff and volunteers restore our heritage carriages and wagons, and our interactive Train Story Discovery Centre. This educational option also includes an audio-visual presentation (approx. 11 mins) on the history of railways on the Isle of Wight, and a 1 hour train ride aboard our restored carriages, often hauled by 19th century locomotives.

Curriculum Links (History):

Key Stage 1

- Significant historical events, people and places in their own locality

Key Stage 2

- Develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history
- A local history study

Key Stage 3

- Extend and deepen their chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history
- A local history study



Educational Workshops

PACKAGE OFFER

Book the Guided Tour and Train Ride with one of our Education Workshops to get a special combined price for 2025. Contact us to find out more!

The Garden Isle by Train

Key Stage: Key Stage 1

Discover our 'seaside holidays' workshop, which explores why the Isle of Wight was, and still is, a tourist destination. Pupils will learn about key seaside locations on the Isle of Wight, and how visitors could visit them during the Golden Age of Seaside Holidays in the 1920s/30s. They can buy their train tickets to the Island's seaside stations using real old pennies. As Train Guards, they will organise Passenger Luggage in Advance and ensure carriages are ready for the tourists.

Curriculum Links (History):

Key Stage 1

- Develop an awareness of the past, using common words and phrases relating to the passing of time
- Know where the people and events they study fit within a chronological framework and identify similarities and differences between ways of life in different periods
- Significant historical events, people and places in their own locality

Local Study - The History of the Isle of Wight Railways

Key Stage: Key Stage 2

Discover the history of railways on the Isle of Wight through a presentation, taking pupils from 1862 right up to the present day, across three key eras; Edwardian/Victorian era, the Golden Age of Seaside Holidays (1920s/30s), and the preservation of steam railways. Pupils will handle real artefacts and create a Museum Object Record and Museum label.

Curriculum Links (History):

Key Stage 2

- Develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history
- A local history study

World War Two - Evacuation to the Isle of Wight and the Role of Railways

Key Stage: Key Stage 2

NEW WORKSHOP!

This workshop focuses on the journey of children evacuated to the Isle of Wight during World War Two, and how the railways were part of that journey. Through a short presentation and activities, pupils will follow the journey of evacuees from leaving home to arriving with their host family.

Curriculum Links (History):

Key Stage 2

- Develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history
- A local history study
- A study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066



Self-Guided Tour of Havenstreet Station

Key Stage: All Key Stages

Your self-guided tour can discover the sights and sounds of Havenstreet Station, including the Station Yard area, Carriage & Wagon Workshop, where restoration and conservation of historic engines, carriages and wagons takes place, and Train Story Discovery Centre.

Curriculum Links (History):

Key Stage 1

- Significant historical events, people and places in their own locality

Key Stage 2

- Develop a chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history
- A local history study

Key Stage 3

- Extend and deepen their chronologically secure knowledge and understanding of British, local and world history
- A local history study



Guided Tour and Train Ride

Morning Visit - Suggested Visit Duration: 3-3.5 Hours

- 9.45am Arrival at Isle of Wight Steam Railway.
- View audio-visual presentation on the history of railways on the Isle of Wight (15 mins).
- Wait in Station Yard in preparation for moving onto station platform and boarding train (10 mins prior to train departure time).
- Train departs Havenstreet Station, calling at Smallbrook Junction, Havenstreet Station and Wootton Station, before travelling back to Havenstreet Station (1 hour).
- Move to Park area for lunch (inclement weather location available) (30 mins).
- Stop by the Carriage & Wagon Workshop, where our staff and volunteers undertake the restoration of historic carriages and wagons (5-10 mins).
- Continue on to Train Story Discovery Centre, our interactive museum space where pupils can learn more about the history of railways, see examples of historic locomotives, carriages, wagons and more (20-25 mins).
- 1.15pm Return to coach.

Afternoon Visit - Suggested Visit Duration: 3 Hours

- 1.30pm Arrival at Isle of Wight Steam Railway (1pm if having lunch at the Isle of Wight Steam Railway).
- View audio-visual presentation on the history of railways on the Isle of Wight (15 mins).
- Stop by the Carriage & Wagon Workshop, where our staff and volunteers undertake the restoration of historic carriages and wagons (5-10 mins).
- Continue on to Train Story Discovery Centre, our interactive museum space where pupils can learn more about the history of railways, see examples of historic locomotives, carriages, wagons and more (20-25 mins).
- Wait in Station Yard in preparation for moving onto station platform and boarding train (10 mins prior to train departure time).
- Train departs Havenstreet Station, calling at Smallbrook Junction, Havenstreet Station and Wootton Station, before travelling back to Havenstreet Station (1 hour).
- 4.30pm Return to coach.

Educational Workshop, Guided Tour and Train Ride

Full Day Visit - Suggested Visit Duration: 5 Hours

- 10am Arrival at Isle of Wight Steam Railway.
- Wait in Station Yard in preparation for moving onto station platform and boarding train (10 mins prior to train departure time).
- Train departs Havenstreet Station, calling at Smallbrook Junction, Havenstreet Station and Wootton Station, before travelling back to Havenstreet Station (1 hour).
- Stop by the Carriage & Wagon Workshop, where our staff and volunteers undertake the restoration of historic carriages and wagons (5-10 mins).
- Continue on to Train Story Discovery Centre, our interactive museum space where pupils can learn more about the history of railways, see examples of historic locomotives, carriages, wagons and more (20-25 mins).
- Move to Park area for lunch (inclement weather location available) (30 mins).
- Transfer to the Education Room for educational workshop (1-1.5 hours).
- 3.00pm Return to coach.



Educational Workshop, Guided Tour and Train Ride

Afternoon Visit - Suggested Visit Duration: 4 Hours

- 12pm Arrival at Isle of Wight Steam Railway.
- Transfer to the Education Room for educational workshop (1-1.5 hours).
- Stop by the Carriage & Wagon Workshop, where our staff and volunteers undertake the restoration of historic carriages and wagons (5-10 mins).
- Continue on to Train Story Discovery Centre, our interactive museum space where pupils can learn more about the history of railways, see examples of historic locomotives, carriages, wagons and more (20-25 mins).
- Wait in Station Yard in preparation for moving onto station platform and boarding train (10 mins prior to train departure time).
- Train departs Havenstreet Station, calling at Smallbrook Junction, Havenstreet Station and Wootton Station, before travelling back to Havenstreet Station (1 hour).
- 4pm Return to coach.



Key Information for Booking Your Visit to Isle of Wight Steam Railway

Guided Tour and Train Ride*	£8.00 per child
The Garden Isle by Train Workshop**	£3.00 per child
Local Study – The History of the Isle of Wight Railways**	£3.00 per child
World War Two – Evacuation to the Isle of Wight and the Role of Railways**	£3.00 per child
Self-Guided Tour of Havenstreet Station	FREE

*Train compartments seat 8-9 children and 1 adult. We recommend an 8 children to 1 adult ratio.

**Workshops – minimum of 15 children/maximum of 32 children

Package Offer

Book the Guided Tour and Train Ride with one of our Education Workshops to get a special combined price for 2025. Contact us to find out more!

- Accompanying teachers and supervising adults FREE
- Ample coach parking at Havenstreet Station
- Both indoor and outdoor picnic areas are available on site for education groups
- Station sites fully physically accessible, all trains include a wheelchair accessible compartment
- Risk assessments available

For more information, or to book a visit, please email us:
learn@iwsteamrailway.co.uk or call on 01983 882204.

ISLE OF WIGHT STEAM RAILWAY

An unforgettable adventure
through time



IWSTEAMRAILWAY.CO.UK/VISIT/SCHOOLS • 01983 882204
LEARN@IWSTEAMRAILWAY.CO.UK • [f](#) [@](#) [▶](#)

Isle of Wight Steam Railway, Station Road, Havenstreet,
Isle of Wight, PO33 4DS