

School Visits to the Roman Baths – Top Tips & What to Expect

Thank you for booking a **teaching session** at the Roman Baths! We aim to make your day as pleasant and stress-free as we can.

Numbers are limited in each 15-minute timeslot. This means that for the smooth running of your day good timekeeping is essential.

Before You Arrive

- At the time of booking, you will be asked to provide a contact detail for
 - The member of staff leading the group on the day
 - The member of staff responsible for payment
- Split your class into smaller groups before you arrive, each with an accompanying adult (depending on the age of the students). We advise a ratio of 1 adult per 6 children. If you have booked a teaching session, your class will need to be split into three near-equal groups to complete the activities (KS2 only).
- Most car/ coach parks are at least a 10-minute walk to the Roman Baths. There is a pick-up/drop-off point at Terrace Walk/ North Parade, approx. 5-minute walk.
- Arrive at the Roman Baths Clore Learning Centre (for a teaching session) or the Roman Baths Main Entrance (for a self-led visit) in plenty of time.
- Please prebook the number of children and adults you have at least 48 hours before your arrival. You can confirm the number when you reach the tills. You will be invoiced for your exact numbers on arrival at the learning centre.
- No food or drink can be consumed anywhere in the museum (except water).
- Please let us know beforehand if you have any access requirements – we can prepare audio-guides (in multiple languages), BSL guides, and ear defenders for when you arrive.
- If you believe that you will be late arriving at the Roman Baths, please contact Group Bookings on 01225 477785.

What you need to bring

- Bring along your booking confirmation and timetable of your day. This will tell you where to go and at what time.
- For your visit to the museum, you might like to bring clipboards, activity sheets (there are some on the Roman Baths website), plain paper and pencils. Photography is permitted but please, no tripods.
- Make sure the students are wearing weather appropriate clothes, sturdy shoes and have plenty of water. You can bring packed lunches with you if you like (if you have booked the lunchroom with your teaching session you can eat there). If you have booked a teaching session, you can store coats, bags and lunchboxes in the Roman Baths Clore Learning Centre but please take anything you think you might need in the museum with you as you will not be able to access the storage from the museum.
- For KS2 teaching sessions, please make sure the students wear clothes and shoes they don't mind getting dirty.
- Although many staff at the museum are First-Aid trained, it is advised to bring your own First-Aid kit and medication for any students who require it. The museum has a defibrillator.

How your Roman Baths visit will work

- Toilets for the Roman Baths are located at the beginning and exit of the museum. It is strongly advised that they are used before and/or after the visit as it is difficult to arrange movement to them from the centre of the museum. There are accessible toilets at the beginning and centre of the museum. Please ask staff for assistance. The Roman Baths Clore Learning Centre has dedicated toilets, including two accessible toilets (one with a hoist system).
- If you have booked a teaching session you will meet your Workshop Leader who will help you with the day. They will be happy to answer any questions.
- Audio-guides are free of charge to all visitors and are available in 12 languages. Children's versions of the audio guide are available in English, French, German and Mandarin. Guides run for 1-1.5 hours, but you can choose what to listen to. Type in a number (orange numbers are a special trail for children) to listen to 1-2 minutes of commentary. The Workshop Leaders in the Learning Centre will prepare these for you.
- Visitor Experience Hosts are stationed at regular intervals inside the museum to help you.
- The museum can get very busy, so please be mindful of other visitors. Keep the children within each group together with their adult. Please allow distance between each group so your class doesn't end up going round as one. To help with identification it may be helpful for all adults in your group to wear high-vis jackets.
- We can provide safe & quiet spaces for students with sensory requirements, taking of medicines, and for prayer. Please ask a member of staff who can assist you. These spaces are not for eating packed lunches.

By the Great Bath

- The water in the Great Bath is not treated – please do not touch it, it could make you very ill.
- The paving stones are 2000 years old so are very slippery and uneven. Please do not run.
- There may be Roman re-enactors around the Great Bath for you to talk to. They will stay in character and chat to you about their Roman lives. They will also pose for photos.
- The Great Bath is a loop; the museum exit and shop are located via a set of steps in one corner. The East Baths, Roman Gym and Circular Bath are all routes which lead back to the Great Bath.
- Some areas have low levels of light and can be wet and slippery. Some of the projections show Romans having massages and treatments – nudity is implied but not explicit.
- For groups who have booked teaching sessions and/or lunch after a museum visit – your Workshop Leader will show you how to access the underground entrance to the Roman Baths Clore Learning Centre via the Roman Gym. You may be given a swipe card to access the metal grill door – please return the card at the end of your visit. PLEASE ENSURE THE GRATED DOOR IS FIRMLY CLOSED BEHIND YOU to ensure members of the public cannot follow you or access the Learning Centre. This access route is dependent on the size of your group, you may be asked to exit the museum along the visitor route and return to the Learning Centre via the main doors at street level.

Roman Baths Shop

- The main gift shop is located at the exit of the museum and is accessible from the street. There is a smaller gift shop inside the museum. Schools are welcome to visit the shop, but it may be necessary to limit numbers as appropriate.

- Pocket money items include Roman themed stationary, replica coins and jewellery, gemstones, postcards and keyrings.
- Once your group has visited the shop:
 - If returning to the Roman Baths Clore Learning Centre for a teaching session, lunch or to collect bags, exit onto the street and turn left. Take another left turn onto York Street, then a right turn to Swallow Street just before the World Heritage Centre.
 - If returning to the main entrance of the Roman Baths (Abbey Church Yard) exit onto the street and turn right. Continue until you reach a short colonnade and turn right to pass underneath. Keep the Abbey in front of you, The Roman Baths main entrance is on your right.

Lunchroom

A lunchroom is provided only for schools who have booked a teaching session. Depending on the size of your class you may need to be split across two rooms. Please make a note of your lunchroom times and keep to them as the rooms may be needed for other groups or rearranged for an afternoon teaching session. It may not be possible to admit your group to the lunchroom outside of your booked times.

The lunchroom is located in the Roman Baths Clore Learning Centre, which has tightly controlled access. It is not possible for teachers or students to leave and re-enter freely during lunchtimes. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the lunchroom for teachers.

There are many parks and open spaces for students to enjoy their own packed lunch as well as numerous options to purchase hot or cold lunches from local businesses.

Useful links

Information on our teaching sessions – at the Roman Baths Clore Learning Centre and virtual visits:

[Roman Baths School Sessions](#)

Walkthroughs of the Roman Baths

[Roman Baths Walkthrough](#) [Collection Highlights](#)

Finding Us

[Directions](#)

Accessibility Information

[Accessibility](#)