

Nothe Fort Evacuee Experience Guidance Notes

Booking your Visit

Further to your telephone enquiry, a provisional date will be reserved for you. However a firm booking can only be made on receipt of the fully completed application form.

The usual timing of the day is from 10am – 2.15pm. If different timings are required please inform us and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Please note that the maximum number of children that we take in any one day is 50, the minimum is 18. If the number of children is less than 18, we will need to have a discussion as to how the programme may work. If this is the case your enquiry will be referred at the point of contact to our Evacuee Team Leader.

The maximum number of adults should not exceed seven, unless there are special needs children who require one to one supervision. It is advised that schools bring their own First Aider. There will be no charge for accompanying adults.

If you wish the children to visit our Nothe Fort Souvenir Shop please enter in the “Any Other Comments” box on the Booking Form.

Preparation

These notes give general details relating to the Evacuee Experience and are designed to assist you with preparing for your visit to Nothe Fort. Included with these notes are a map, Identity Cards and suggested song sheets.

Once your booking is confirmed you will be advised to split your children into 4 mixed groups prior to arrival (5 if 40-50 pupils) which will save time on the day. These groups will remain together for the day and engage in the activities together.

The Identity Card should be photocopied and given to each child and adult for them to personalise. On arrival two “Sentries” will be chosen who will check everyone’s Identity Card before they enter the Fort. Please ensure that every child is given a label showing both their name and the name of the school. Boys should have their surname only and girls their first name.

Period Dress obviously adds considerably to the experience. As some of the activities take place out of doors we recommend warm clothing or sun protection as appropriate. Everyone should carry a gas mask, instructions are available on the web site.

Lunch Arrangements - A packed Lunch should be brought in a small bag.

We ask you to teach the children a couple of Wartime songs before arrival.

On the Day of your Visit

If your departure is delayed or there is a delay during travelling time, please telephone the Fort 01305 766626 ext 2 to notify us of your anticipated time of arrival.

Please advise your coach driver to join the A354 at Morrison's roundabout from the new Dorchester to Weymouth road. Continue on this road going straight over the roundabout at Asda and up Boot Hill into Rodwell Road. At the third set of traffic lights, turn left into Rodwell Avenue. Your coach will need to drop you off at Newtons Road, which is the fourth road on the right.

Please note that 50 seater coaches cannot access Horsford Street and Barrack Road, they need to drop off in Brewers Quay car park as located on the map. Please also note that coaches can only park at Lodmoor Country park coach park.

On alighting from the coach head towards the footbridge that spans the road. Go under the bridge and take the path on the left. This leads you into Nothe Gardens. Follow the footpath until you come out of the trees and take the path across the grass to join Barrack Road. You will see the entrance to Nothe Fort in front of you. The walk takes about ten minutes.

You will be met in the Gardens or at the entrance to the Fort if wet.

On entering Nothe Fort you will immediately be back in 1940.

Nothe Fort Exacuee Experience Programme

10.00am Arrival

Evacuation party met in Nothe Gardens by Education Team Leader. This is to

form up ready to enter the Fort and set the scene with 1940s discipline. Children should enter the Fort singing. Two children will be chosen to be "Sentries" and will check everyone's Identity Cards.

On entry to the Fort there will be an opportunity for children to use the toilet. Groups then line up on the Parade Ground and teachers will be given coloured labels.

10.15am Assemble in Village Hall

Welcome and housekeeping rules, timetable for the day. Introduction to Film, interspersed with questions and some role play.

11.00am First Session

Each group will be allocated to one of the Education Team for their first Activity which may be Weymouth at War, Shop, Washing, School or Air Raid Shelter.

11.30am Second Session - groups undertake second activity

12.00 noon Third Session – groups undertake third activity

12.30pm Lunch

1.00pm Fourth Session – groups undertake fourth activity

1.30pm Fifth Session – groups undertake fifth activity

2.00pm Gather together to round up the day

2.15pm Depart for the coach.

NB If Sixth Session – Clothes Rationing - is requested this will be at 2.00pm with final departure at 2.45 pm.