THE BRUNEL MUSEUM THAMES TUNNEL

FAQs & practical guidance

This guidance is for **schools before or after booking** a visit to the Brunel Museum and supports visit planning and risk assessments.

Activities Available

Schools may book **one or both** of the following activities (KS1–KS4):

How to Build a Tunnel Under the Thames: A Guide for Young Engineers

- Self-guided, on-gallery activity
- Approx. 1 hour

Discovery Walk

- Self-guided, interactive local history walk
- Takes place on public routes around Rotherhithe
- Approx. 1 hour

Activities may be booked **individually or combined**.

Group Size & Supervision

Maximum capacity

- Up to **two classes (60 pupils total) per day**
- Visits for **three classes** must be split across **two separate days**

Minimum adult-to-pupil ratios

- Early Years: 1:4
- Year 1–3: 1:6
- Year 4–6: 1:8
- Year 7+: 1:15

Please notify us in advance of any **SEND or additional support requirements**.

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Visit Length

- One activity: **approx. 1 hour**
- Both activities: **2.5–3 hours total**, including transitions and breaks

Pricing

One class = **up to 30 pupils**

One Class – Single Activity

- Either activity
- **£200 + VAT**

One Class – Both Activities

- On-gallery activity + Discovery Walk
- **£300 + VAT**

Two Classes – Both Activities

- Activities run at alternate times
- Up to 30 pupils per class
- **£400 + VAT**

Three Classes – Both Activities

- Must be split across **two days**
- Up to 30 pupils per class
- **£700 + VAT**

If unsure which option to book, please contact the Museum team for advice.

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Travel & Arrival

Location:
Behind **Rotherhithe Overground station**

Public transport

- London Overground (Windrush Line) stop at Rotherhithe Station.
- Bus routes: **381** and **C10**

Coach travel

- Limited parking nearby
- Please arrange local drop-off only

Lunch Arrangements

Lunch spaces must be booked in advance.

- **Good weather:** courtyard or garden
- **Wet/cold weather:** Tunnel Shaft and/or Engine House

Please let us know at booking if you plan to eat lunch on site.

Accessibility

The Brunel Museum is an historic site.

- Ramps installed where possible
- Tunnel Shaft accessed via **spiral staircase**
- Viewing platform available at top of stairs
- Most outdoor areas accessible
- Garden on top of Tunnel Shaft accessed by **steps only**

Please inform us in advance of any access needs.

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Facilities & Practical Information

- **Toilets:** 2 on site
- **Heating:** limited – please dress for the weather
- **Outdoor spaces:** shared with the public (except the garden)

Discovery Walk – Safety Information

- Takes place on **public, paved routes**
- Groups are **not taken onto the foreshore**
- River separated by road and pavement
- Traffic levels are generally low
- **Teachers remain responsible for pupil supervision**, including road crossings

Pre-Visits

Teachers are welcome to arrange a **free pre-visit** to support planning and risk assessments.
Please contact the Museum team to book.

Payment & Cancellations

- Bookings are confirmed by **confirmation email**
- Cancellations made less than **three weeks before** the visit may incur a **cancellation fee**, which may be up to the **full cost of the visit**
- Short-notice bookings may require **full payment in advance**
- All cancellations must be made **in writing or by email**

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Museum-Led Cancellations

In rare circumstances, visits may be cancelled or postponed due to:

- Staff illness
- Extreme weather
- Emergency situations

We will give as much notice as possible and work with schools to rearrange visits.