

FORT PAULL



Fort Paull, Museum, Armouries and Visitor Centre
Battery Road, Paull, Nr. Hull, Tel ; 01482 896236



Home of the World's only Blackburn Beverley Transport Aircraft

Dear History Co-ordinator,

I would like to bring to your attention the benefits of a visit to FORT PAULL the only remaining Napoleonic Fortress in the North of England, and an ideal site for school visits encompassing many aspects of the school curriculum in a child friendly, safe and secure environment.

The fort lies along the banks of the River Humber near the village of Paull, just 10 minutes from Hull and the Deep with easy access via the A63 and the A1033.

First built in 1542 as part of Henry VIII's coastline fortification plans, Fort Paull has been rebuilt three times, with the current fort being completed in 1864 and garrisoned until 1950.

The Fort offers schools the opportunity to bring history to life with exhibits and displays covering the Fort's 450 year existence including its role in the English Civil War, the Napoleonic wars and both World Wars. There are a wide variety of exhibits to view both on the surface and in the underground tunnels and caponieres (small forts within the main Fort) including the Humberside Fire Brigade Museum, The TRENCH and the huge Blackburn Beverley aircraft among many others, all set within an 10 acre site allowing the children plenty of room to explore either as a group or individuals or small parties. There is also an array of military vehicles and artillery plus much much more.

A potted history of the fort is included in this package.

Fort Paull can also offer your school

1. **Discounts**— large discounts are available for school groups (see attached pro-forma for details)
2. **A 31 seat audio visual theatre**— set out like a small cinema and including television with computer link and O.H.P set up if required.
3. **Undercover Areas**—35 seat restaurant within the only remaining section of "The BERLINER " train, which ferried troops from West Germany to West Berlin during the period of the cold War from 1949 to 1991.
6. **Storage Room**—secure lock ups for equipment and bags etc. while your students explore the site.
7. **Indoor and Outdoor Eating Areas**- there are several areas of seating within the fort, ideal for lunch breaks.
8. **Play areas**— large open areas and an assault course for releasing pent up energy.
9. **New Exhibits each Year**— each year the staff try to improve the exhibitions available at the Fort .
10. **Safety**— The Fort offers a safe environment for your children being totally surrounded as it is by huge walls and offering only one entry and exit point.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE HISTORY AND FACILITIES OF FORT PAULL

Fort Paull stands in 10 acres on the banks of the Humber estuary with magnificent views along the length and breadth of the river.

Inside the 20 feet high walls stands a military barracks in use from 1542 to 1950 comprising of various living quarters and several gun emplacements built around a flat central area containing a roadway which extends around the main parade ground area.

First built in 1542 under Henry VIII , then again during the English Civil War as a refuge for King Charles after he had been refused entry to the arsenal in Hull , it was rebuilt a third time in 1807 to defend against the threat of invasion from Napoleon.

On three sides are large earthen mounds on which are mounted complex concrete gun emplacements under each of which are various sizes of underground magazine rooms .

In the two outer corners are a single and double Caponiere (a small fort of its own) and in the centre is the parade ground and yet more underground rooms.

To the other two sides of the fort are the garrison living quarters, comprising an officers section , the married quarters , the hospital and the men's quarters and several smaller buildings many of which also have underground sections. Although the interior of these buildings have been altered over the years there basic shape has not.

All the underground rooms and tunnels are filled with exhibits and displays detailing the history of the fort , whilst the central area also houses the Licensed Café and Tea Rooms as well as yet more exhibits including the World's only remaining Blackburn Beverley Transport Aircraft and the only remaining section of the BERLINER Train which ferried troops from West Germany to West Berlin during the Cold War period.

Entry to and exit from the fort can only be made via the guard room and gift shop and the fort also provides large picnic areas , plus three toilet blocks including disabled facilities.

There are 3 large car parks and coaches may park on the concrete roadway at the Fort . Next door is a newly created nature reserve which can be reached on foot from the Fort in 5 minutes and includes plenty of concrete walkways throughout..

We are a family friendly Museum run by a small group of dedicated volunteers and encourage children to adopt a hands on approach to history whilst encouraging the use of imagination, steering away from gadgets and touch screens. If an area or exhibit is not fenced off then the children are encouraged to touch, climb, Investigate and use their imagination to gain knowledge from the environment they are in .

We hope you enjoy your visit

The Fort can also offer on request from your school:-

A) **Ready Prepared Worksheets**—Work sheets relevant to the Curriculum and prepared by senior teachers are available copyright free when you book a visit

B) **Guided Tours**—fully informative tours by trained guides who will take your party through any relevant part of the fort's history in relation to your schedule (if available).

E) **Pre-ordering of gifts from the Fort Paull gift shop**
Order your gifts in advance from our list and save time and hassle by having the gifts packaged and ready for collection.

F) **Buffet Lunches**—can be provided at an extra charge.

G) **Varied opening and closing Times**—The Fort can be opened early to suit your time of arrival and also during those dates when the Fort is advertised as closed to the Public, thereby allowing you to visit safe in the knowledge your group may be the only persons within the complex.

H) **Free Food and Drink for coach Drivers**

PRE -VISITS

All teachers are most welcome to visit the Fort to assess the suitability of the venue and to make any preparations necessary. Simply bring a letter, on headed notepaper signed by the Head teacher outlining the purpose of the visit to show to our staff.

RISK ASSESSMENTS

This following is safety guidance offered to all visitors to the fort
“Whilst every attempt has been made to ensure the fort is safe and accessible to all, please bear in mind that the Fort is a scheduled ancient monument and as such has to adhere to certain English Heritage regulations regarding what work can be completed at the fort. Please supervise children at all times within the fort. Please do not cross any rope barriers or no entry signs, these are in place for your safety.”

Exemplar Risk assessments are available.

If you wish to expand your day why not visit the newly created nature reserve right next door to the fort and bordering on the estuary.

Yours Sincerely

Phil Rochester , Event Co-Ordinator

FORT PAULL, BATTERY ROAD , PAULL, Nr. HULL , HU12 8FP
TEL 01482 896236 FOR BOOKINGS AND VISITS OR 01482 813010
OR VISIT www.fortpaull.com E-MAIL fortpaull@aol.co.uk