



**JULY - DECEMBER 2009
EXCURSION PROGRAMME**

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SUPPORTED BY
 Birmingham City Council

WELCOME



Welcome to our programme covering the period from July to December 2009. Most of our trains will feature **Premier Dining** in our former British Rail Mk 1 Pullman's, with seats at tables for four persons and a limited number of tables for two persons, **First Class**, also with seats at tables for four and two persons and **Standard Class** with seating at tables for four persons. ALL SEATS ARE INDIVIDUALLY RESERVED unless otherwise stated.

Bookings can be made by telephone - **0121 708 4960 - Mon-Fri 0930-1630 answer phone outside of this period**) using your credit or debit card (a £1.50 charge will be made for credit card bookings), or by post with cheques made payable to 'Vintage Trains Ltd'. Tickets, final information and confirmed timings are mailed out to you AS SOON AS WE RECEIVE FINAL TIMINGS FROM NETWORK RAIL, normally about ten days before a tour is scheduled to depart.

If you have an e-mail address and would like to receive updates direct to your inbox please include this information on the booking form, or e-mail us at: newsletter@vintagetrains.co.uk

The programme can also be viewed on our web-site : www.vintagetrains.co.uk



THE SHAKESPEARE EXPRESS

EVERY SUNDAY FROM
5TH JULY - 13TH SEPTEMBER 2009



© Clive Hanley

The 'Shakespeare Express' operates every Sunday from 5th July to 13th September between Birmingham Snow Hill, Birmingham Moor Street and Stratford-upon-Avon. Trains may also be joined at Tyseley and Henley-in-Arden. Standard Class fares remain unchanged from 2008! The pre-booked adult standard return fare is £17.50, child (5-15) £10, and adult single is £10, child £5; Surely the best value fare for main line steam travel in the country, especially travelling at up to 75mph!

ADULT STANDARD CLASS RETURN JUST £17.50 (PRE-BOOKED)
ADULT STANDARD CLASS SINGLE ONLY £10 (PRE-BOOKED)
FAMILY TICKET £39 (2 ADULTS & 2 CHILDREN OR 1 ADULT & 3 CHILDREN (PRE BOOKED)
CHILDREN (5-15) £10 RETURN, £5 SINGLE.

PREMIER CLASS

Enjoy a 3-course Sunday Lunch in Premier Class - £48.50 adults and £38.50 children (5-15), inclusive of fares. Lunch is served on departure from Stratford (Train B) and is completed on the return from Birmingham(Train C).

The Premier Class return fare is £30, Child (5-15) £20, with breakfast an additional £11.50 and High Tea an additional £16.00. Premier Class breakfast is available on Train A from Birmingham whilst High Tea (choice of chicken or salmon) is available on Train D from Stratford.

ALL PREMIER CLASS DINING MUST BE PRE-BOOKED BY THE FRIDAY BEFORE THE DAY OF TRAVEL

*****STANDARD CLASS AFTERNOON RETURN SPECIALS*****

Travel on Train B from Stratford (return on Train C) or Train C from Birmingham (return on Train D).
One child FREE with every Adult -or- £10 off a Family Ticket! - MUST BE PRE-BOOKED.

www.shakespeareexpress.com

Connections into Train B from London (Marylebone), High Wycombe and Banbury to and from Stratford-upon-Avon are available with Chiltern Railways. www.chilternrailways.co.uk

EXCURSIONS

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 31ST AUGUST 'STAPLEFORD PARK STEAM OPEN DAY'

The Friends of Stapleford Park Miniature Railway are holding a rare open day to the public, giving you the chance to ride on this superb 1/5th scale railway. With nearly two miles of track this 10 ¼" Gauge line includes extensive lakeside running. Locomotives include an East African Railways 31 Class 2-8-4 oil burner, a superb replica LMS Jubilee and GWR Saint, a mighty New York Central Niagara and NKP Berkshire American locomotives. Those of a 'certain age' may remember Mrs Peel (Diana Rigg) being tied to the track until a timely rescue by Steed (Patrick Macnee) in an episode of 'The Avengers' filmed here in October 1965! Other attractions at Stapleford Park :- Showman's Engine & Fairground Organs, Trade Stands, Exhibits, Licensed Bar and Catering. Return transfer by bus from Melton Mowbray, admittance and one full round trip on the miniature railway are included in the total fare.

The event is being held to raise funds for LOROS (Hospice Care for Leicestershire & Rutland). From: Dorridge (pick up) – Solihull (pu) - Tyseley (pu) – Coleshill Parkway (pu) – Nuneaton (pu) then via Leicester to MELTON MOWBRAY and return - Steam hauled by 4953 'Pitchford Hall' throughout

	<u>Stations from Dorridge to Coleshill</u>	<u>From Nuneaton</u>
Standard Class	£55 Adult - £35 Child 5-15 Family ticket £145 **	£35 - £20 5-15 Family ticket £90**
First Class	£69	£49
Premier Dining	£99 (Includes full English breakfast and a 3-course traditional roast dinner)	N/A

Tables for two in First Class and Premier Dining : £20 (£10 per person extra)

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 31ST AUGUST 'STEAM OVER HARRINGWORTH'

An opportunity for people living in the East Midlands to take a steam hauled (one way) trip over the Harringworth Viaduct, situated on the lightly used line between Manton Junction and Corby. However, it is a very useful route for diverted trains when the Midland main line is blocked between Kettering and Leicester.

The spectacular viaduct is one of the greatest and certainly the longest masonry viaduct across a valley in Great Britain, 60 feet in height at the centre and 3,825 feet long, almost three quarters of a mile. The imposing, yet elegant 130 year old structure strides boldly across the Welland Valley with 82 massive brick arches, each of 40 foot span, containing about twenty million bricks, made on the spot from local clay.

From Melton Mowbray only to Kettering and return. Steam hauled outward by 4953 'Pitchford Hall' with diesel haulage on return (Steam loco will remain attached at the rear of the train).

Standard Class : £20 (£10 child 5-15); Family Ticket : £45 **

** Family Tickets – are for two adults + 2 children aged 5-15 or one adult + 3 children aged 5-15

First Class Non-Dining : £30
(Tables for two : £5 per person extra)

Premier Dining : £45
(Includes a 3-course roast lunch. Seats at a table for two : £5 per person extra)

EXCURSIONS

SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 'CITY OF ST ALBANS'



The historic Roman city of Verulamium is the destination of today's journey, which will include passage over the Manton Junction – Kettering North Junction route, a relatively lightly used line, but also a very useful diversionary route when the Midland main line through Market Harborough is blocked. This route includes the crossing of the spectacular Harringworth viaduct, one of the greatest and certainly the longest masonry viaduct across a valley in Great Britain. The city of St Albans is famed for its Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Alban, best known as the shrine of St Alban – Britain's first Christian martyr. Other sights include Verulamium Museum with its magnificent mosaics, the Roman Theatre – the best preserved example in Britain and the 15th Century Clock Tower one of only two medieval belfries in England.

From Tyseley (Warwick Road Platform) – Coleshill Parkway (pick up) – Tamworth High Level (pu) – Burton-on-Trent (pu) - Melton Mowbray (pu) – Oakham - Kettering – Bedford – Luton – St Albans and return - Steam hauled by 5043 'Earl of Mount Edgcumbe'.

Standard Class : £59

(£49 from Melton Mowbray)

First Class : £79

(£69 from Melton Mowbray)

Premier Dining : £130

Includes a full English breakfast and traditional three course roast dinner.

Tables for two in Premier Dining and 1st class : £20 per table (£10 per person extra).

EXCURSIONS

SATURDAY 3RD OCTOBER 'WAVERLEY PADDLE STEAMER CRUISE'



'Waverley' – the last sea going Paddle Steamer in the world! Join this historic ship on an afternoon cruise from Southend Pier, along the River Thames passing the Flood Barrier and Millennium Dome then through Tower Bridge and back to Tilbury Riverside. Class 47 Diesel hauled train throughout.

From Birmingham Snow Hill (pick up) – Solihull(pu) – Dorridge(pu) – Warwick Parkway(pu) – Banbury (pu) – Bicester North(pu) then via High Wycombe, north London, Barking and Tilbury to Southend Central. Train returns from Tilbury Town station setting down at joining stations. Fares : including the 'Waverley' cruise:-

Standard : £69
(£59 from Bicester North)

First Class : £99
(£89 from Bicester North)

Premier Dining : £139

Includes a full English breakfast and a 3-course traditional roast dinner.

Tables for two in 1st class and Premier Dining : £20 per table (£10 per person extra)

The fare for the single journey on the Southend Pier Railway (at 1.33 miles the longest pier in the world) is payable locally; adults £3, Seniors £2.

Note: This tour involves quite a bit of walking at Southend. There will also be an included bus transfer from Tilbury Riverside Pier to Tilbury Town station.

EXCURSIONS

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER 'BLACKPOOL ILLUMINATOR'



Britain's number one holiday resort, Blackpool, has something for everyone whatever your age! The famous Tower, Piers, the Golden Mile, Pleasure Beach and many other attractions. Today the annual illuminations are due to be switched on at 7.00pm, and we have requested that our train will not depart before 8.00pm. The train will be steam hauled to and from Preston with diesel haulage between Preston and Blackpool. Due to engineering work on the return journey we will be providing a replacement coach from Stafford for our Tamworth and Nuneaton passengers.

Steam hauled Tyseley-Nuneaton-Crewe-Preston and Preston-Stafford-Wolverhampton-Tyseley by 5043 'Earl of Mount Edgcumbe'. Diesel hauled Preston-Blackpool-Preston

From Tyseley Warwick Road Platform (pick up) - Nuneaton (pu) - Tamworth (pu) - Lichfield TV (pu) - Stafford (pu) - Crewe - Preston - Blackpool. Returning as outward to Stafford (set down, with a replacement coach from Stafford for our Lichfield, Tamworth and Nuneaton passengers) then via Wolverhampton - Walsall - Tyseley Warwick Road Platform (set down)

Standard Class : £69

First Class : £99

Premier Dining £140

Includes a full English breakfast and traditional 3-course roast dinner.

Tables for two in 1st class and Premier Dining : £20 per table (£10 per person extra)

EXCURSIONS

SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER 'CUMBRIAN FELLSMAN'

LMS 'Jubilee' 5690 'Leander' is scheduled to haul this Cumbrian extravaganza over 200 miles, firstly the testing 'long drag' northbound from Hellifield to Carlisle over Ribbleshead Viaduct, through Blea Moor tunnel, past Dent, Garsdale, Kirkby Stephen and Appleby, then after a layover for servicing at Carlisle, the train returns southbound over Shap summit to Carnforth.
Diesel (Class 47) hauled Birmingham-Hellifield & Carnforth-Birmingham

From Tyseley Warwick Road Platform - Birmingham New Street(pick up) - Sandwell & Dudley(pu) - Wolverhampton(pu) - Stafford(pu) - Crewe(pu) - Blackburn(pu) to Hellifield.

Note: Passenger joining at Blackburn will be set down at Preston on the return journey.

Standard class : £75
(£65 from Blackburn)

First Class : £109
(£99 from Blackburn)

Premier Dining £149

Includes a full English breakfast and traditional 3-course roast dinner.

Tables for two in First Class and Premier Dining : £20 per table (£10 per person extra)

SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER 'WEST COAST PRINCESS'

Sir William A. Stanier designed the 'Princess' Pacific's specifically for the London to Glasgow west coast line, and whilst we cannot undertake this entire journey, we are able to offer a good proportion of it in mileage terms – 231 miles behind 6201 'Princess Elizabeth' from Crewe to Carlisle via Preston, Lancaster and the testing climb over the Fells at Shap, returning via the same route back to Preston.

Diesel (Class 47) hauled Birmingham-Crewe & Preston-Birmingham

From Tyseley Warwick Road Platform(Pick up) - Birmingham New Street(pu) - Sandwell & Dudley(pu) - Stafford(pu) to Crewe. Due to engineering work, the return from Preston will take the route via Manchester and Stoke-on-Trent then set down at joining stations.

Standard : £75

First Class : £109

Premier Dining £149

Includes a full English breakfast and traditional 3-course roast dinner.

Tables for two in 1st class and Premier Dining : £20 per table (£10 per person extra)

EXCURSIONS

SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 'SLS SPECIAL'

Two Great Western 'Pannier' tanks – 9466 & 9600 - take charge of our train from Bescot Yard and head via Wolverhampton, Cosford and Madeley Junction to Ironbridge (courtesy of E'on UK) crossing the River Severn en-route. Returning via the same route to Bescot, the train continues via Perry Barr North to West Junction, Soho East to North junction, Smethwick Rolfe Street, Cradley Heath and Stourbridge Junction to Kidderminster. Here our two Panniers will take a well earned rest, whilst the Severn Valley Railway's Pannier tank takes the train to Bridgnorth and back to Bewdley, again crossing the River Severn.

At Bewdley, 9466 & 9600 take over again for the run back to Birmingham including the climb up Old Hill bank, stopping at Moor Street station to set down passengers and finally Tyseley Warwick Road Platform.

The train will be diesel (Class 47) hauled outward from Tyseley Warwick Road Platform and Birmingham New Street (pick up) to Bescot Yard.

Standard class : £55

Premier Dining : £99

Includes a full English breakfast and High Tea – choice of chicken or salmon.
Please specify at time of booking.

Tables for two : £20 (£10 per person).

SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 'CITY OF CHESTER'

The historic city of Chester offers much for the visitor – well preserved city walls, the Dewa Roman Experience, the 17th Century Bishop Lloyd's House, castle, Grosvenor Museum, great shopping and a diverse selection of eating and drinking establishments.

From Tyseley Warwick Road Platform (pu) - Walsall (pu) – Wolverhampton (pu) – Stafford – Crewe - CHESTER, returning via Wrexham – Gobowen – Shrewsbury.

Steam hauled by 5043 'Earl of Mount Edgcumbe' throughout

Standard Class : £59

First Class : £75

Premier Dining £125

Includes a full English breakfast and traditional 3-course roast dinner.

Tables for two in 1st class and Premier Dining : £20 per table (£10 per person extra)

EXCURSIONS

SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER 'ROCHESTER DICKENSIAN CHRISTMAS'

Each year on the first weekend in December, Rochester holds a Victorian Festival in the form of a Dickensian Christmas. Known as the "City of Great Expectations" due to its association with Charles Dickens, the event has Dickens characters exploring the journey that was the great writers life, in the form of street entertainment, readings and song and dance. With the magnificent surroundings of Rochester Cathedral and castle plus a guaranteed snowfall this combines to ensure a memorable day out for everyone.

From Birmingham Snow Hill (pick up) – Solihull(pu) – Dorridge(pu) – Warwick Parkway(pu) – Banbury (pu) – Bicester North(pu) – then via High Wycombe, Ealing Broadway, West London, Bromley South and Swanley to Rochester and return

Class 47 Diesel hauled throughout.

Standard class : £65
(£55 from Banbury & Bicester North)

First class : £89
(£79 from Banbury & Bicester North)

Premier Dining : £135
Includes a full English breakfast and traditional 3-course roast dinner.

Tables for two in First Class and Premier Dining : £20 per table (£10 per person extra)

SATURDAY 12TH DECEMBER 'THE WHITE ROSE'

The city has a great range of shops, plus a variety of eating and drinking outlets to relax in afterwards. Then there are all the other 'must do' attractions of the city itself – the Minster, Jorvik Viking Centre, Castle Museum, National Railway Museum and so much more!

From Tyseley Warwick Road Platform (pu) – Coleshill Parkway (pu) - Tamworth High Level (pu) – Burton-on-Trent (pu) – Langley Mill (pu) - Chesterfield – Pontefract – YORK (set down)

Steam hauled by 5043 'Earl of Mount Edgumbe' throughout

Standard Class : £69
(£59 from Burton-on-Trent & Langley Mill)

First Class : £89
(£79 from Burton-on-Trent & Langley Mill)

Premier Dining : £130
Includes a full English breakfast and traditional 3-course roast dinner.

Tables for two in First Class and Premier Dining : £20 per table (£10 per person extra)

BOOKING FORM

EXCURSION TITLE: _____

EXCURSION DATE: _____

JOINING STATION: _____

TITLE: _____ INITIAL(S): _____ SURNAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTCODE: _____ CONTACT TEL: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

SEATS REQUIRED: _____

CLASS (STD, FIRST, PREMIER): _____

PRICE PER SEAT: _____

TOTAL: £ _____

For Premier Class dining, please telephone Vintage Trains for availability and reservations
BEFORE completing this form.

SPECIAL REQUESTS OR _____

OPTIONAL EXTRAS: _____

PAYMENT METHOD - CHEQUE: CASH: CREDIT/DEBIT CARD:

PLEASE NOTE: There is a £1.50 charge for Credit Card Bookings - Sorry, we are unable to accept AMEX or DINERS cards

CARD NUMBER: _____

SECURITY NUMBER (last 3 digits on reverse of card): _____

START DATE: _____ EXPIRY DATE: _____

ISSUE NUMBER: (SWITCH & SOLO ONLY): _____

SIGNED: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

COACH: _____ SEAT NUMBER(S): _____

VINTAGE TRAINS LTD, 670 WARWICK ROAD, TYSELEY, BIRMINGHAM, B11 2HL
TEL: 0121 708 4960 - Bookings are only accepted under Vintage Trains Ltd's
standard conditions of bookings and travel. A summary of which is overleaf.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Juniors & Child reduced fares (age 5-15 years) are available on some Vintage Trains excursions - please check individual trains for details. Juniors must travel with an adult. Children under 5 may travel free and should not occupy a seat. Only one child per adult qualifies for these concessions.

Customers are reminded that as from 1st July 2007 UK government legislation came into effect prohibiting smoking in public places. Areas designated '**NO SMOKING**' include **ALL CARRIAGES ON ALL TRAINS AS WELL AS ALL RAILWAY PLATFORMS AND PREMISES.**

We regret that Dogs are not allowed on any train except for specially trained dogs for the disabled.

FREE CAR PARKING is available for trains that start or finish at our Warwick Road platform, which is located within the Tyseley Locomotive Works Visitor Centre site. If you are travelling by service train to Tyseley main line station, allow 10 minutes to walk to Warwick Road platform.

WM Travel bus route 37 operates a frequent service between Birmingham City Centre (Corporation Street) and Solihull station - alight at the Warwick Road / Tyseley Hill Road stop.

BOOKING INFORMATION

TO MAKE A BOOKING OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, TELEPHONE;

0121 708 4960

(MON-FRI 09:30-16:30)

ANSWERPHONE OUTSIDE THESE TIMES

OR FILL IN THE BOOKING FORM AND POST TO;

VINTAGE TRAINS LIMITED

670 Warwick Road, Tyseley, Birmingham, B11 2HL

For more information on these and other Vintage Trains excursions visit our website;

www.vintagetrains.co.uk

STANDARD CONDITIONS OF BOOKING & TRAVEL

The following is a summary of the standard conditions of booking and travel for Vintage Trains Ltd. Copies of the full conditions may be obtained on application to the company.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the locomotive, rolling stock, route and timings will run as advertised, but the company reserves the right to alter these at any time and shall not incur any liability to any person who has bought, or contracted to buy a ticket, or tickets, as a result of any such change. On the day of the train, again, all reasonable efforts, within the control of the company, will be made to ensure that the train runs as planned, but it cannot accept any responsibility for delays, mishaps, alterations or curtailment of the tour from situations outside of the company's control. The Company cannot accept any responsibility for events or circumstances under the control of third parties and are required only to return passengers to the station at which they joined. Making a firm booking constitutes your acceptance of the company's standard conditions. Please note that refunds will only be made in the event of a cancellation by Vintage Trains Ltd. VTL reserves the right to charge an administration fee of £5.00 for any alteration to details of travel requested by the client subsequent to the original booking. VTL reserves the right to refuse access to, or remove from the train, any person or persons who are considered to be using inappropriate behaviour, affecting the safety of the train and its passengers, spoiling the enjoyment of other passengers on the train, or failing to comply with any reasonable requests made by a member of the train staff.

All trains are operated by West Coast Railway Company.

This leaflet is available in large print.
Please phone 0121 708 4960 to arrange a copy

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