

Bristol Aero Collection Museum - Kemble Airfield

General Visiting Information for School and Youth Groups

Location: Hangar E2, from the Malmesbury to Cirencester road A429, entering by the main gate where there is a security post. Follow the perimeter road by the airfield fencing, then take the next left (signposted Bristol Aero Collection) and go to the right-hand (far) end of the hangar you see ahead.

Opening Times:

Sundays and Bank Holidays 10am – 4pm, Easter from Good Friday to Easter Monday, until the end of October, excluding Christmas and the New Year.

Mondays 10am – 4pm all year; restoration team at work except Bank Holiday Mondays. Group visits and school parties are welcomed at other times, by arrangement.

Group Admission:

Primary Schools and Cubs etc, age 5-11 years, £2.50 each, with a minimum of 24 children outside normal opening hours
Adult Ratio 1:6 ; Adults within ratio free entrance; Adults above ratio £4.00 each.

Secondary Schools and Cadets etc, age 11-18 years, £4.00 each, with a minimum of 20 young people outside normal opening hours.
Adult Ratio 1:10 ; Adults within ratio free entrance; Adults above ratio £4.00 each.

Adults Groups £4.00 each, minimum of 20 people outside normal opening hours.
Private visits out of hours, minimum charge £80.

Facilities:

Car parking – adjacent to the entrance and nearby.

Coaches – drop off area; plenty of parking nearby.

Refreshments – cold drinks and a small selection of sweets available Easter to October; there is limited outside seating, but lots of grass adjacent.

Museum shop – a range of mainly aviation and bus souvenirs are available for sale.

Toilet facilities – single unisex facility with wash hand-basin.

The Display:

The exhibits are arranged in the hangar in a broadly chronological order around the perimeter of the hangar space, with blocks of larger items collected in appropriate groups in the centre. There is a Concorde cabin mock up which you can walk through and imagine flying at Mach 2; it has a number of prototype seats with colourful sixties fabric décor to set off the experience. The Archives store (visits only by prior arrangement) and Models Room link the pre-war and post-war parts of the timeline. The website at <http://www.bristolaero.com> describes the exhibits in more detail.

Visit Organisers:

To arrange a booking, please contact the museum when open on 01285-771204, or when closed, please leave a message or phone Bristol Aero Collection at Filton, 0117 936 5485.

School visit organisers should initially contact the Education Officer, David Hall, on 01761-490653 to discuss the options and opportunities available. You are encouraged to make a preliminary visit free of charge to help you prepare for the visit.

We look forward to showing you the unique record of this pioneering aviation company as it has developed over the past 100 years.

The Museum Team

Practical Information for School and Youth Group Visits

To ensure these go as smoothly as possible, please read the following information and pass it on to the youngsters and the other helpers before you arrive.

Planning your visit:

If you have particular questions about a visit, please contact the Museum or the Education Officer in good time. We encourage you to make a free preliminary visit to make the most of the facilities.

General Information:

The hangar has no heating system, so while it is a relief on a hot day, it is wise to wear warm clothes at other times, particularly during the colder months.

As there are very limited toilet facilities at the Museum, special arrangements may be needed for large groups arriving from some distance.

Supervision of youngsters:

Please make sure your youngsters are under supervision at all times while in the Museum. It may be helpful to divide your class into smaller groups before-hand, with an adult responsible for the supervision and behaviour of each group. We recommend a ratio of adults to children of 1:6 for Primary, and 1:10 for Secondary age. Free entry for supervising staff is allowed at these ratios. Primary pupils should remain with their designated group at all times.

All of the Museum exhibits are special, and many of them are on loan from their owners. We trust our visitors to respect items on display, so they are not all nailed-down or behind glass. Please help us ensure they remain undisturbed for others to enjoy, and avoid touching them unless invited to do so.

While the Museum is substantially a safe environment, there are plenty of hard surfaces and heavy objects on display which could hurt if collided with. Please ensure youngsters do not run in the Museum and that they keep alert to avoid walking into the exhibits. Yellow lines are painted on the floor to show safe walkways. If you visit on a Monday, there may be volunteers working on the exhibits, so please avoid any areas where work is in progress.

We are happy to lend personal MP3 players to help with the visit, but need your co-operation to ensure they are all returned safely and intact. Signs on the exhibit show the audio track to use.

There is an activity zone with some hands-on activities, and where model gliders and rockets can be made and launched. This can be used on a 'self-help' basis or as an organised activity with a helper.

On arrival:

Please keep pupils on the coach until we have welcomed the group and outlined our behaviour guidelines and health & safety matters. Please leave unwanted items in your coach or cars.

Payment:

The charge for school and youth groups is £2.50 per youngster under-12. A cheque made payable to "Bristol Aero Collection" is the most convenient. Please inform on booking if you will require an invoice.

Museum Shop:

This is a small area and not geared up for large groups, but there are some small mementos for purchase, with an emphasis on aviation.

Health and Safety:

A Risk Assessment of the museum premises is attached; we take every care to minimise all perceived risks. If you are unhappy with any aspect of the Museum H & S, please speak with a Museum official and we will sort out the problem.

David Hall, BAC Education Officer.

12-01