



2010 BOOKINGS INFORMATION PACK



Hat Works Museum of Hatting

Hat Works is an award winning, fully VASQA accredited visitor attraction and is the UK's only museum dedicated to the hatting industry, hats and headwear. The team at Hat Works are of course very proud of these honours and are constantly working to ensure that visits to our museum are both informative and enjoyable by offering visitors professional museum tours led by experts and a diverse exhibition and events programme.

Our lower ground floor of exhibits takes you on a journey through the history of the once thriving hatting industry of Stockport, our Gallery on the 1st floor has examples of hats from across the world and through time, a family fun area and our temporary exhibitions. The 2nd floor offers a café (Level 2 Café) and souvenir shop.



Our Tours

Your visit can be tailored to the specific requirements of your party. Our tours can be customised to the length of time you have to spend in the museum and to the size of your party. The level 2 café offer a range of light refreshments and lunches that can be pre-ordered. Please discuss your requirements with our booking desk and we will ensure that your needs are accommodated to the best of our ability.

Hat Works tours are led by expert demonstrators who will share their knowledge of the history of the hatting industry. The tours will give you insight of the processes involved in producing a hat. You will learn about the cottage industry, pay a visit to a typical hatter's cottage, observe our original working Victorian machinery and much more.

Following the tour your party will be able to enjoy our large hat gallery with a collection of over 400 hats from around the world, including The Duke of Wellington's Bi-corne hat which dates from 1857 and a top hat reputed to be the worlds tallest. In this gallery visitors will also find our temporary exhibition space which is always popular with visitors and has a wide – ranging exhibition programme.



The Facilities

Hat Works Museum is situated over three floors within the grade 2 listed Wellington Mill, which fittingly was once a local Hat Factory. Hat Works entrance is situated on the A6 "Wellington Road South" road, just a few minutes walk up the hill on the right hand side from the town centre. This entrance is suitable for wheelchair users and pushchairs. There is a lift to all floors with toilets located on 2 levels, disabled toilet / baby changing facilities are located on the A6 level, toilets including disabled toilet are also on our Gallery level. Hat Works aims to be fully accessible, so if you require any extra assistance on your visit please contact the Booking Desk and we will endeavour to accommodate you.



Tour Package Costs

For all pre- booked tours the charges are as follows:

Daytime Visits

Tuesday to Saturday
Sundays
Bank Holidays

Opening Times

10.00a.m until 5.00p.m
11.00a.m until 5.00p.m
11.00a.m until 5.00p.m

All Visitors (Adults, Concessions & Children):

£2.65 per person

Children's tours (Weekends & School Holidays)

£2.00 per child
(Accompanying adult £1.00)

Evening Visits * Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday evenings, after 5.00pm, latest time 7.00p.m until 9.00p.m

All Visitors Adults, Concessions & Children

£6.10 per person*

*Please note that our **minimum** number for an evening group tour is **15 people** and that only the A6 entrance will be open for use unless other arrangements have been made

All prices quoted are not available in conjunction with any other offer.



Booking Conditions

All bookings can be made during Hat Works opening hours by telephoning the Bookings Desk on 0161 355 7770. Once booked a full 48 hours notice is then required for any cancellation or reduction in numbers. Otherwise you will be liable for the FULL cost of the original number booked.

Our friendly and efficient team will take all your party details and requirements. A letter of confirmation and directions will be sent out to the organiser, detailing in full your visit to the museum. Payment for tour of Hat Works can be made in advance or on the day by cash, credit or debit cards or with a cheque made payable to: Stockport MBC (Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council).



Coach Parking

Hat Works offers free coach parking for groups that have pre-booked a guided tour. Please ask for further information.



Joint Visits

Thinking of visiting Stockport for the full day? Then why not combine a visit to Hat Works with a visit to one of our other Heritage sites: - Stockport Air Raid Shelters, Stockport Art Gallery, Staircase House and Stockport Story all offer the visitor a varied and interesting experience or you could visit Stockport's Historic Town Market and Stockport Mersey Square shopping centre for some retail therapy! For more information on opening times, prices and parking just give us a call on 0161 355 7770.



Level 2 Café

The Level 2 Café is situated on the second floor of the museum. They offer a selection of coffees, pastries and light lunches; please see the enclosed menu for full details. **Group tours wishing to use the café ad hoc for refreshments, will need to give an indication of numbers when booking and food must be ordered in advance or at the latest before the tour begins. As refreshments are prepared to order food must be booked in advance or cannot be guaranteed.**

To order refreshments for your party contact Hat Works Bookings on 0161 355 7770

Please note that all orders must be placed 7 days prior to your booking. Hat Works require at least 48 hours notice of any alterations to numbers or requirements. Otherwise the full charge of the original order will be liable. All payments for refreshments must be made separately by cash or cheque only on the day to: Pure Innovations Ltd, please note that the Level 2 Café do not have the facilities to accept credit/debit cards.

Café opening hours: -

Tuesday to Friday

10.00a.m until 4.00p.m

Saturday

10.00a.m until 5.00p.m

Sundays' and Bank Holidays

11.00a.m until 5.00p.m

Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day

Hat Works Directions

Hat Works is located in Stockport Town Centre and is easily accessible by major roads and public transport. Hat Works entrance is situated on the A6 "Wellington Road South" road, just a few minutes walk up the hill on the right hand side from the town centre. This entrance is suitable for wheelchair users and pushchairs.

From the M60

Coach companies

Come off motorway at junction 1. The Co-operative Building Societies large blue pyramid building is an easily identifiable landmark. Take the 2nd turning into TRAVIS BROW, which runs into "HEATON LANE", this is sign posted 'Town Centre'. Continue to roundabout (under motorway) take the 3rd turning into KING STREET.

Continue along KING STREET to the traffic lights (Chestergate) and turn left, which will take you into a bus lane then into Stockport Bus Station.

Important Information for Coach Driver

Please ask your driver to drop passengers off at our A6 entrance before parking in either bay 7 or 8.



Stockport Bus Station is directly opposite Hat Works lower entrance on Daw Bank.

Stockport Train Station is just a few minutes walk away. Come out of the station along station approach, turn left at McDonalds continue down Wellington Road South, Hat Works is located about 300 metres on the left.

Parking

There is limited pay and display and disabled parking around the Museum. The nearest main car parks are Heaton Lane (opposite Debenhams) or Grand Central (near Stockport Train Station).

The nearest designated Disabled parking is located on Exchange Street, opposite the Main Central Library just off the A6 (just around the corner from Hat Works)

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO HAT WORKS

August 2010