

What's on for schools



**The Battle of
Bannockburn**

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Introduction

Visiting the Battle of Bannockburn is a thrilling way to learn about the characters and events of the most pivotal battle from the Scottish Wars of Independence.

Our visitor centre is situated in the New Park of Stirling, where the Scottish army camped before the battle. A school trip here puts your class at the heart of the story – they can witness the sights and sounds of medieval conflict, and explore the impact of the battle and the wider wars.

During interactive sessions, pupils will have the exciting opportunity to handle replica armour and weapons, as well as walk in the footsteps of the opposing armies who fought on this site in 1314.

Planning your visit

We offer two options for school visits to The Battle of Bannockburn.

Our half-day visit consists of an exclusive guided tour of our Exhibition Experience, as well as access to a lunchroom space and a chance for a self-led visit around our grounds to see the statue and monuments.

Our full-day visit allows your class to work with one of our Learning Assistants, who will guide you through the Exhibition Experience and lead your group in an armour- and weapons-handling workshop. They will also take you on a tour of our grounds and monuments, including the famous equestrian statue of Robert the Bruce.



The Exhibition Experience

(included in full-day and half-day visits)

Immerse your class in the Battle of Bannockburn Experience. Standing shoulder-to-shoulder with medieval warriors, your class will learn about the tactics of the two opposing kings and the lasting impacts of this cataclysmic clash at Stirling.

Workshop

(included in full-day visits only)

To complement your visit to the Exhibition Experience, we can offer your class an interactive and curriculum-linked workshop. Using discussion and roleplay, this session will explore the historical context of the battle.

Pupils then have the opportunity to handle replica armour and weapons, learning about the different types of soldiers present at the battle and their social backgrounds.

Outdoor Tour

(included in full-day visits only)

We offer an outdoor tour of the New Park, during which pupils can walk in the footsteps of Robert Bruce, on the site where he trained his army before the battle.

School visits are suitable for stages P4–S6 and can be adapted to suit your pupils' existing knowledge and relevant topic of study. We also offer provision for learners in tertiary and further education.



Where to find us

The Battle of Bannockburn
Glasgow Road
Whins of Milton
Stirling
FK7 0LJ



Charges

Full day

(workshop, Exhibition Experience and outdoor tour; available Tuesday–Thursday)

£5 per pupil*

Time: 10am arrival and 2pm departure

Number of pupils: 66 (max.)

*The charge for Full day visits will increase to **£6 per pupil** in the 2026–27 academic year.

Half day

(Exhibition Experience; available Monday and Friday)

£3.50 per pupil

Time: 11am–12 noon or 12–1pm

Number of pupils: 66 (max.)

Accompanying adults are free of charge in the following ratios: 1 adult:10 pupils.

Any carers/support workers visit free of charge.

Additional adults will be charged at the standard rate of admission.



Practicalities

Booking in advance

All visits must be booked in advance. Please note full-day visits are very popular all year round and October–June is our peak season; you may have to contact us at least 6 months in advance to secure a booking during this period. Once you have booked, you will be sent a confirmation email with further pre-visit information. Please ensure you have read this before your visit.

How to book

Please get in touch with us to discuss your booking. You can email us at learningatbannockburn@nts.org.uk or phone us on **01786 812664**.

Travel subsidy

Thanks to generous support from the Scottish Government, we're able to offer a transport subsidy to Scottish schools wishing to visit Bannockburn. The subsidy covers 75% of transport costs, up to a maximum of £300. Scotland's special schools and units can apply for 100% of transport costs, up to a maximum of £300. Funding is limited and priority will be given to schools in areas with high indicators of multiple deprivation. We will provide more information, including a link to the application form, once you book.

Cancellations & amendments

Please let us know as far in advance as possible if there are significant changes to your anticipated pupil numbers or arrival time.

For any cancellations we require at least 14 days' notice. If cancelled with less than 14 days' notice, a charge may be incurred. We will endeavour to reschedule any groups that have to cancel due to circumstances outwith their control, such as extreme weather.

Parking

If you're arriving by coach, follow the signs to the coach parking area, which is situated beside the visitor centre. Parking for schools is free of charge. Once parked, please check in at our front desk.

Inclement weather

Full-day visits involve spending some time outdoors, so please advise pupils to wear weather-appropriate clothing.

Toilets

There are toilets (including an accessible toilet) inside the visitor centre.

Where you can eat

Spaces are available for the eating of packed lunches when you pre-book a visit. Groups can also use our café.

Visiting the shop

Pupils are welcome to visit our shop. We ask that they visit in small groups and are supervised by a leader.



Accessibility

At Bannockburn, we aim to be accessible for all. The site includes the following features:

- ▶ Dedicated accessible parking bays are available at the nearest parking point to the visitor centre.
- ▶ The Exhibition Experience uses a range of audio, visual and sensory techniques to convey the story of the Battle of Bannockburn. Please contact us for more information.
- ▶ Our site is wheelchair-accessible and suitable for mobility vehicles, prams and buggies.
- ▶ An accessible toilet is available inside the visitor centre.
- ▶ Translated materials are available in select languages to assist pupils with English as an additional language. Contact the Learning Team for more information.

Find out more in our accessibility guide, which includes more detailed information, images and a sensory map:

Sessions can be adapted to meet the needs of your group. Please contact us to further discuss any physical or sensory access needs.

Resources

We can provide a range of pre- and post-visit resources to support your learning in class. We will share these with you once you have booked your visit.



Sustainability

Our sessions are designed to avoid waste and to re-use materials. We provide recycling facilities for you to use during your visit.



Primary school sessions

Full-day visit

This full-day visit brings the Battle of Bannockburn to life! Led by one of our expert guides, your class will enter our immersive exhibition experience, take part in an interactive workshop including the unique opportunity to handle weapons and armour, and be led outdoors where they will be trained as schiltrons soldiers from the Scottish army!

Suitable for P4–P7

4 hours

Curriculum for Excellence:

SOC 2-01a | SOC 2-03a | SOC 2-06a



Half-day visit

The half-day visit puts your pupils in the heart of the action! Led by one of our expert guides, your pupils will learn about the events of the epic two-day confrontation between the Scottish and English armies through an immersive digital experience. Half-day visits also provide a lunch space for your class to use.

Suitable for P4–P7

2 hours (1 hour experience and 1 hour lunchroom use)

Curriculum for Excellence:

SOC 2-01a | SOC 2-03a | SOC 2-06a



Secondary school sessions

Full-day visit

This full-day visit is a deep exploration of the battle and its impacts. Our expert guide will lead your class through an immersive exhibition experience and an interactive workshop that analyses primary sources and provides the unique opportunity to get hands-on with replica weapons and armour used at the battle. An outdoor tour of the New Park will fully situate your class within the wider battlefield landscape.

Suitable for S1–S6

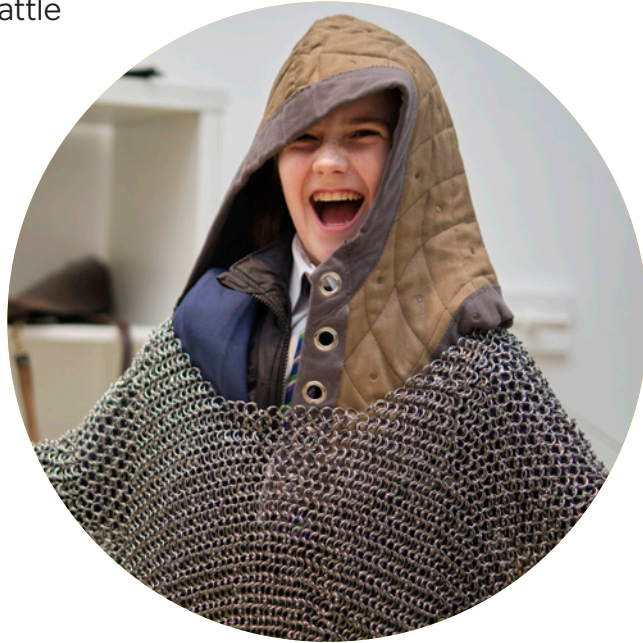
4 hours

Curriculum for Excellence:

SOC 3/4-01a | SOC 3/4-06a | SOC 3/4-06b

Senior Curriculum:

National Qualification | Higher/Advanced Higher History



Half-day visit

This half-day visit puts your pupils in the heart of the action! Led by one of our expert guides, your pupils will learn about the events of the epic two-day confrontation between the Scottish and English armies through an immersive digital experience. Half-day visits also provide a lunch space for use.

Suitable for S1–S6

2 hours (1 hour experience and 1 hour lunchroom use)

Curriculum for Excellence:

SOC 3/4-01a | SOC 3/4-06a | SOC 3/4-06b

Senior Curriculum:

National Qualification | Higher/Advanced Higher History



Evaluation

We'd love you to share your experience of visiting with your class.

Please complete our online survey after your visit: nts.org.uk/schoolsurvey



Our 10-year strategy

From historic castles to natural landscapes, the special places in the National Trust for Scotland's care offer exciting opportunities to enhance learning and inspire exploration and engagement. Our 10-year strategy, launched in 2022, explains our vision to provide access and enjoyment of Scotland's nature, beauty and heritage for everyone. We are committed to supporting a greater diversity of people to benefit from heritage, gardens and nature across the Trust, and enabling more people to connect with our places for improved wellbeing and learning opportunities.





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The National Trust for Scotland is a Scottish charity, SC007410