

# Group Visits 2011



**Uncover Hidden Histories  
at Ripon's Award Winning Museums...**



# Group Visits 2011

Our museums are sited in fascinating listed buildings, are within easy walking distance of one another in Ripon City centre and together represent the history of Yorkshire Law and Order.

**RIPON LAW & ORDER TRAIL**

There are lots of sites connected with law and order in Ripon, including our museums. This is partly because the 'Liberty of Ripon' (the Ripon and its surrounding villages) operated an independent justice system for over 1000 years, until 1888.

The Courthouse Museum, Prison & Police Museum and Workhouse Museum & Garden form part of a 'law and order trail' of buildings still visible on a short stroll about the city centre. Visit us to find out more...

**WORKHOUSE MUSEUM & GARDEN**

Ripon Union Workhouse was a place of last resort for local poor people from 1854. You are invited to walk in the steps of the Victorian paupers and explore what their lives were like. Workhouse gardens are rare survivals. We have recently restored ours using fruit and vegetable varieties around in the 1890s. Meet today's gardeners on Tuesday and Saturday mornings and buy their produce from the Workhouse Museum shop.

**COURTHOUSE MUSEUM**

The Georgian Courthouse remains virtually unchanged since it was built in 1850. Our displays tell the story of the courthouse and the people who have passed through it - those who have worked here and those who fell foul of the law. Even children stood in the dock here and faced transportation to Australia for as little as stealing coal!

**PRISON & POLICE MUSEUM**

The buildings in St Marygate served as a prison for the Liberty from 1686 to 1879 and as the Police Station from 1880-1959.

Extensive displays illustrate the history of policing in Yorkshire from the Wakeman and parish constables to modern police motorcyclists and riot police. Imagine the harsh conditions of Victorian prisons as you pass the whipping post, stocks and shackles to enter the cold empty cells...

Ripon Museums welcome many group visits throughout the year. We pride ourselves on tailoring visits to suit the very different groups we entertain. Some options are:

- One museum (allow 1 ½ hours)
- ...or more than one and the garden (allow half a day)
  - Costumed guided tour
  - ... or make your own way
- ...or take an active part re-enacting a Victorian court case; enduring hard labour at the Prison, or task work at the workhouse
- Themed Christmas tours mid November to Mid December

## **We ask you to:**

- Talk to us about what you want, preferably making a previsit so that you know what you're getting
  - Guarantee a minimum number of participants
- Fill in our booking form and return it with one month's notice (if possible)
  - Pay in advance or on the day, in one amount by cash or cheque

## **Access**

The museums are a 5-10 minute walk from one another on a route around the city centre, all close to the coach park on Victoria Grove. Do allow time for your party to travel between them without having to rush.

The Workhouse Museum & Garden and Prison & Police Museums are fully accessible for wheelchair users with lifts to upper floors and access toilets. The Courthouse is not accessible to wheelchairs – please talk to us about options here.

## **Refreshments**

The Workhouse Museum can usually supply tea and biscuits by arrangement in advance at £1 per head. Other refreshments can easily be arranged via Tiffin's Cafe (light lunches and afternoon teas) or Golden Lion Pub (hearty, down to earth pub food), both next door to the Workhouse Museum and seating up to 60. We are happy to advise on other venues for refreshments. Please book direct:

Tiffin's Cafe: 01765 603631

Golden Lion: 01765 602598

## **Contact details**

Please contact **Sue** (Learning and Access officer)  
or **Shirley** (Visits Co-ordinator) on:

**Tel:** 01765 690799

**Email:** [admin@riponmuseums.co.uk](mailto:admin@riponmuseums.co.uk)

**Website:** [www.riponmuseums.co.uk](http://www.riponmuseums.co.uk)

## Suggested Itineraries and Group Prices 2011:

Accompanying guides, drivers and organisers may undertake a free previsit and are given free entry to the museums during the visit

These are only suggestions to help you plan.  
If you have other constraints or ideas please do discuss them with us.  
Prices are per person and apply to groups of 10 people or more.

### Visit time 1-1 ½ hours:

**Workhouse Museum & Garden or Prison & Police Museum**

Guided tour : £4.00 (evenings or weekends £5.00)  
Unguided tour: £3.50

### Visit time 2 hours:

**Workhouse Museum & Garden or Prison & Police Museum + Courthouse Museum**

Guided tour : £5.00 (evenings or weekends £6.00)  
Unguided tour: £4.00

### Visit time 3 hours or more:

**Workhouse Museum & Garden + Prison & Police Museum + Courthouse Museum**

Guided tour : £8.00 (evenings or weekends £9.00)  
Unguided tour: £7.00

**We look forward to welcoming you to:**

