



THE NATIONAL TRUST

Brownsea Island Day Visit Booking Pack Adult Groups 2009

This information is to help ensure that your visit is a success please read it and contact us about anything which is not clear. It also forms part of our Health & Safety procedures.

1. Booking Process

- Contact us to discuss your booking, the date, timings and your programme. We can make a provisional booking at this stage.
- Contact the ferry company.
- Confirm your booking by returning your completed Booking Form at least 30 days before your visit together with your payment for any booked activities.

2. Group admission rates

Party rates for pre-booked groups of 15 or more.

Adult	£ 4.40
Child (5-18 year olds)	£ 2.20
National Trust members	Free

Please make cheques payable to 'The National Trust' or we can accept credit and debit cards.

Local Authority or NHS registered care homes and day centres and groups affiliated to national disability charities can apply for a Links Pass, which entitles groups to 50% discount on admission charges. We can give you further information.

On arrival at Brownsea Island you will be greeted by a member of National Trust staff. Members of your group can join the National Trust and enjoy free access to over 300 historic houses, 200 gardens, and 240,000 hectares of countryside and 700 miles of coastline. Please ask at Reception if you wish to join.

3. General Information

Access for all

We aim to make Brownsea Island and our services accessible for all. Please discuss with us any exceptional needs which the group or group members may have.

On your *Booking Form* please give us any information about your group, which will help us prepare for your visit e.g. disabilities, learning, or health needs etc. We have manual wheelchairs for visitors to borrow at no charge – we advise you to book these in advance.

We have tractor trailer tours for less mobile visitors around the island twice a day seven days a week. We advise that you book these in advance. Please note that visitors using wheelchairs must contact the ferry operators to discuss access to ferries.

Toilets

There are public toilets, including disabled and baby changing facilities, at the Quay and Baden Powell Outdoor Centre. The toilets at the Visitor Centre have disabled access.

Shopping

The **Brownsea Island Shop** has a wide range of things to buy including items specific to Brownsea Island and to the local area.

The shop is open from 10:00am until 30 minutes before closing time.

You can pre order special Souvenir bags – please ask for an information sheet. Scout & Guide volunteers run The Trading Post at the Camp Site selling souvenirs related to Scouting & Guiding. The Dorset Wildlife Trust has a small gift shop in The Villa. Tel: 01202 709445

4. Food & drink

The **Villano Café** offers delicious home cooked refreshments including hot and cold meals, deserts, cakes and hot and cold drinks.

The café is open from 10.00am until 30 minutes before closing time.

Please let us know if your group would like to visit the café.

The Catering Manager can also arrange other catering including packed lunches for your group – let us know if you would like the Catering Manager to contact you.

There are lots of great places to have a picnic. If you need advice please let us know. We will try to make arrangements for you to have your picnic under cover if the weather is poor.

5. Health & Safety

Please remember that Brownsea Island is managed as a countryside property. There are potential hazards in places (for example from deep water and strong currents, steep and unstable cliffs, vehicles, machinery and from wildlife including the peacocks).

We carry out risk assessments on all our organised activities.

6. Emergencies

We have procedures in place so in the event of an emergency please inform any member of staff. Please do not contact emergency services yourselves – we will do this.

If there is an accident or near miss please let us know so that we can record the details.

We have First Aid kits available in various locations on Brownsea Island and there are First Aiders on call each day.

7. National Trust bylaws

We ask all groups to follow The National Trust bylaws.

8. Getting to Brownsea Island

From March to October a half-hourly scheduled ferry service runs from Sandbanks and Poole Quay. There are also ferries from Bournemouth and Swanage.

Service from	Ferry operator	Contact telephone no
Poole Quay	Greenslades Pleasure Boats	01202 631828
	Brownsea Island Ferries	01929 462383
Sandbanks	Brownsea Island Ferries	01929 462383
Bournemouth	The Dorset Belles	01202 558550
Swanage	The Dorset Belles	01202 558550

Public Car Parking in Poole and Sandbanks

For information on current parking charges at Poole Quay and Sandbanks, please contact Peter Tarchetti on 01202 262152 mobile 07779 880389 or e-mail p.tarchetti@poole.gov.uk

Limited free parking is sometimes available in the residential streets of Sandbanks within walking distance of the jetty. The car park near the jetty is short-stay only.

Public Transport

There is a train service to/from London, Southampton (connections for Salisbury, Bristol, Cardiff, West Country etc), Reading, Woking for link to Heathrow, Brighton etc) and Weymouth. The nearest main rail station is Poole (about 1km from ferry at Poole Quay) or Bournemouth.

Coach and bus National Express coaches arrive / depart from Poole bus station which is about 1km from Poole Quay. There are buses serving Poole, Sandbanks, Bournemouth and Swanage and other destinations in Dorset and Wiltshire. Contact Wilts and Dorset buses 01202 673555 or Yellow buses on 01202 636000.

The Cross-Channel Ferry terminal is approx 1.25 km from Poole Quay. There is an all year round service to / from Cherbourg.

Road

There is road access to Poole Harbour from the West / East (A31, M27 / M3, A338 and A35) and North (A350)

9. Guided Walks

We have a series of special guided walks available for groups at a cost of £2.10 per person and they must be booked in advance. The walks start at 11.30am or 2pm and they are approximately one hour long.

The Centenary of Scouting - Birthplace of Scouting and Guiding

A must for anyone who has ever been a scout or guide! To celebrate 100 years of scouting - a guide will take your group on a walk across the island looking at why Brownsea Island was chosen for the 1907 camp, the kinds of activities that the boys did and how Scouting has developed into the worldwide movement that it is today. You will see the original campsite, Baden-Powell's statue and the 'Trading Post' souvenir shop. This walk will last for approximately **1 hour 30 minutes**.

Introduction to Brownsea Island

Brownsea Island has a surprisingly varied history and today is managed for nature conservation. On this walk, you will learn about some of the previous owners of the island and see how they left their mark behind. We also tell you about the nationally and internationally important wildlife that now makes Brownsea so important.

Red Squirrels

Introduce yourselves to our rarest but most famous inhabitants. The Brownsea red squirrel population is very special, being one of only two places left in southern England to still enjoy them in the wild. Join our guided walk to learn more about these beautiful creatures and how we are helping to conserve them here. You may even be lucky enough to catch a rare glimpse! This guided walk is not available during June, July and August as the squirrels are more difficult to spot at these times.

A Walk on the Wild Side

Today, Brownsea Island is very important for nature conservation. We have four main types of habitat that we manage for wildlife – the woodland, heathland, wetland and shoreline. Examples of our nationally and internationally important wildlife include the red squirrels, breeding common and sandwich terns, nightjars, several species of dragonfly and butterfly and the largest over wintering population of avocets in the UK. On this walk you will find out about our fascinating wildlife and how we manage the island to ensure its future.

The Island at War

Since the Tudor times of Henry VIII, Brownsea's location at the entrance to Poole Harbour has ensured its military involvement and importance. This interesting tour will lead you through the island's military past, paying particular attention to its vital role in the Second World War, not as a look out, but as a decoy for Poole and temporary 'safe' home for refugees.

The Victorian Community

Let us take you back to one of the most interesting and important periods in the history of the island. A time of much building and development, including the

church and model farmyard; a time when Colonel Waugh began a thriving pottery industry that spawned a community of over 200 people living and working here. Learn about the ill-fated Colonel's story and what made Victorian Brownsea so remarkable.

Views of Poole Harbour

Poole Harbour is the second largest natural harbour in the world, so why not celebrate this natural beauty by joining us for a walk and talk tour around the coastline of the island. You'll enjoy stunning views of the harbour itself, the exclusive Sandbanks area (home to millionaires!), the Studland peninsula, Old Harry Rocks and the Purbeck Hills, as you discover the history and natural history of the harbour.

10. Contacts

The National Trust:

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BH13 7EE

Tel: 01202 492161
Email: brownseaisland@nationaltrust.org.uk
Website: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/brownsea

The Dorset Wildlife Trust:

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