RETURNING STEAM TO THE AVON VALLEY

2019 TIMETABLE

www.avonvalleyrailway.org
Find us just off the A431 between Bristol and Bath: BS30 6HD
WELCOME TO THE AVON VALLEY RAILWAY

Opened in 1869 by the Midland Railway as a route between the Midlands and the South Coast the Avon Valley Railway was later linked to the iconic Somerset & Dorset Railway.

Closed under the Beeching Axe of the 1960’s the line was preserved by an enthusiastic group of volunteers. Today, 40 years on, three miles of track has been re-laid, locomotives and carriages restored, and the sound of steam can once again be heard along the Avon Valley.

WHAT TO SEE ON YOUR VISIT

- See our beautifully restored Victorian station at Bitton
- Take a ride in a heritage carriage behind one of our steam or diesel locomotives
- Go for a walk alongside the track on the Bristol & Bath Railway Path (the 13 mile off-road route between Bristol and Bath city centres)
- Learn more about the history of the line in our small museum area
- Enjoy breakfast, lunch or afternoon tea in our station buffet (open daily)
- Pick up a railway-themed souvenir in our gift shop (open on our operating days).

JOIN OUR 150th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Visit this August and join us to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the opening of the line.

TRAIN FARES

DAY ROVER TICKETS

Our Day Rover tickets give unlimited train fares on the day of your visit. On certain days we run both steam and diesel trains and tickets are valid on both services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>STEAM DAYS</th>
<th>DIESEL DAYS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>£8.50</td>
<td>£7.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 60s</td>
<td>£7.50</td>
<td>£6.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children (5 – 14)</td>
<td>£6.50</td>
<td>£5.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children under 5</td>
<td>FREE</td>
<td>FREE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family (2 adults and 4 children)</td>
<td>£25.00</td>
<td>£21.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For safety reasons all children under the age of 14 travelling on the train must be accompanied by a fare paying adult. Tickets provide unlimited travel on the day of issue except for special events (Timetable C).

Entrance to the station site is FREE!

SEASON TICKETS

If you or your family enjoy travelling on our trains why not take advantage of our special Season Ticket prices?

Valid for 12 months from the date of issue on all of our standard operating days (Timetables A, B & D).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Over 60s</th>
<th>Children (5 – 14)</th>
<th>Family (2 adults and 4 children)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>£35.00</td>
<td>£30.00</td>
<td>£27.50</td>
<td>£97.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 60s</td>
<td></td>
<td>£30.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children (5 – 14)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GROUP AND SCHOOL VISITS

Bring your group or society and travel back in time to the days of steam. Make your visit even more special by booking a delicious cream tea served on the train as you travel the line or combined with a boat trip around Bristol’s historic Harbourside. Generous discounts are available to groups of 20 or more.

School visits are also very welcome and a range of activities can be offered to link with National Curriculum topics. Please contact the Booking Office for more details.
Every effort will be made to provide the advertised services and locomotives, but unforeseen circumstances may entail alterations or cancellations at short notice.
AVON VALLEY RAILWAY EVENTS 2019

(All events subject to change or cancellation without prior notice).

**LOCAL RESIDENTS WEEKEND**

**6 & 7 APRIL**
Join us for the start of the 2019 season and travel for half price if you live in a BS or BA postcode. Bring proof of ID.

**FIRE & WATER**

**13 & 14 APRIL**
Join the ‘Star Tugs’ from 1980s children’s TV and take a trip down memory lane! Enjoy a trip onboard Bristol’s historic fireboat ‘Pyronaut’ which will be joining us with short trips on the River Avon.

**CHOCOLATE TRAIN**

**19 – 22 APRIL**
Join us this Easter weekend as we celebrate the return to steam of the old Fry’s chocolate factory steam locomotive from Keynsham.

**FREE** Fry’s chocolate for every child!

**16TH BITTON BEER FESTIVAL**

**31 MAY & 1 JUNE**
Enjoy a wide selection of real ales from around the country.

**TEDDY BEARS’ PICNIC**

**29 & 30 JUNE**
FREE train travel for children who bring their Teddy Bear.

Plus magic shows, balloon modelling and giant bubbles!

**20 & 21 JULY**
Board the time-travelling train to see your favourite characters at our first Sci-Fi weekend.

**Open Air Theatre - ‘CRANFORD’**

**21 AUGUST**
Enjoy Elizabeth Gaskell’s classic tale of 19th century family life including the coming of the railways to this sleepy community.

**LED LIGHTSHOW**

**23 AUGUST**
Experience the magic of LED lightshow with a spectacular display of twinkling lights and music!

**GRANDPARENTS WEEKEND**

**24 – 26 AUGUST**
Grandparents travel for half price when accompanied by at least one paying child. Bring them along for a fun day out!

**RAILWAYANA VALUATION DAY**

**8 SEPTEMBER**
Have you ever wondered if that old lamp or station sign is worth something? Bring it along and find out.

**TEDDY BEARS’ PICNIC**

**14 & 15 SEPTEMBER**
Another chance for children to travel FREE if they bring their Teddy Bear. Plus magic shows, balloon modelling and giant bubbles!

**1940s WEEKEND**

**21 & 22 SEPTEMBER**
Turn back the clock as we remember the importance of the railways in the War effort.

**MAKE THIS CHRISTMAS ONE TO REMEMBER**

Join the Avon Valley Railway this festive season for a ride on one of our steam-hauled trains and enjoy a special visit from Father Christmas!

Each child receives a quality gift.

Tickets available from July at www.avonvalleyrailway.org
A FIRST CLASS DINING EXPERIENCE

THE PINES EXPRESS
The Pines Express was the Manchester to Bournemouth long-distance service that ran daily through Bitton between 1910 and 1962. Come and re-live this experience with our two and three course Sunday Dining Trains.

You’ll embark at Bitton Station before the whistle sounds and the train gently pulls away. In the kitchen the chef busily prepares your meal with the finest local ingredients while you relax and watch the rolling Avon Valley countryside pass by. The journey consists of a number of six mile round trips and you should allow approximately three hours for the occasion. These trains are usually steam hauled and depart at 12.15pm.

THREE COURSE PINES EXPRESS £39 per adult and £29 per child
A delicious three course meal with coffee and mints
Trains depart: 31 Mar (Mothers’ Day) & 16 Jun (Fathers’ Day)

TWO COURSE PINES EXPRESS £32 per adult and £26 per child
A delicious two course meal with coffee and mints
Trains depart: 7 Apr, 12 May, 7 Jul, 1 Sept & 6 Oct

On both of these services the on-board bar will be open serving a selection of wine, beers and other alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

For your comfort and safety smoking is not permitted on the train. Parents are reminded, for the benefit of the serving staff and other guests, that children should remain seated at all times during the meal.

LUNCHTIME FISH & CHIPS
Enjoy Fish & Chips served onboard as you travel the line. Served at 12:15pm. £21 per adult and £16 per child
19 Apr (Good Friday), 4 & 25 May & 24 Aug

AFTERNOON HIGH TEA
Enjoy a welcoming glass of Prosecco followed by a High Tea of finger sandwiches, scones with jam & cream and a selection of dainty cakes and pastries. Plus tea or coffee. £22 per adult and £17 per child
Served on the 2:45pm train on Bank Holiday Mondays:
22 Apr, 6 & 27 May & 26 Aug

BRUNCH
Enjoy a set menu of orange juice, bacon, sausage, egg & mushroom bap, Danish pastry and tea or coffee.
The perfect way to start to your day!
Trains depart at 11 am on the following weekends and Bank Holidays: 22 Apr, 6 & 27 May & 26 Aug
£19 per adult and £14 per child (to include Day Rover train fare)

EVENING DINING TRAINS
Enjoy a relaxing evening onboard one of our informal evening dining trains this summer. For 2019 these will, as far as possible, be hauled by one of our resident steam locomotives (although heritage diesel locomotives may also be used if required). The train departs at 6.45pm and the journey lasts a couple of hours. Our onboard bar will be available. £21 per adult and £16 per child.

Fish and Chips (followed by ice cream): 7 Aug
Sausage, Cider & Steam: 14 Aug

MURDER MYSTERY
Gather on the platform to hear the plot unfold, then board the train to quiz the suspects as you enjoy your 2 course meal. Then, once back at Bitton it’s your turn to reveal who you believe committed the crime.

Our exclusive Murder Mystery trains depart on:
27 Apr (Sherlock Holmes),
18 May (Midnight Train to Vegas),
31 Aug (Murder on the Disorientated Express - Poirot theme),
21 Sept (Crime at Café Rene - Allo Allo),
26 Oct (Once Upon a Crime). Prices are £45 per person

Guests arrive from 6.30pm, train departs promptly at 6.45pm.
Some elements of the murder mystery event are enacted on the station platform, so it is advisable to wear warm clothing.

PRE-BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL FOR ALL OUR DINING TRAINS
During 2019 we are running a series of courses to give you the chance of a lifetime to drive a steam or diesel locomotive. Courses last from just a couple of hours to a full day and begin at £140. Visit our website for more details and to make a booking.

STEAM TASTER  
**Price £275**
Driving and Firing a Steam Locomotive under guidance of qualified instructors. 3 hour experience. 
**Dates:** 23 & 24 Mar, 5 Apr, 3 May, 7 Sept & 5 Oct

STEAM LOCOMOTIVE & BRAKE VAN  
**Price £375**
Driving and Firing a Steam Locomotive under guidance of qualified instructors, hauling a Brake Van. Act as Shunter and Guard. Refreshments (including lunch) provided. Full day experience. 
**Date:** 4 Oct

STEAM LOCOMOTIVE & COACHES  
**Price £325**
Driving and Firing a Steam Locomotive under guidance of qualified instructors, hauling a Passenger train. Act as Shunter and Guard. Refreshments (including lunch) provided. Full day experience. 
**Date:** 12 Oct

DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE & COACHES  
**Price £275**
Driving and acting as secondman on our resident BR Class 31 diesel locomotives, hauling passenger carriages. Act as Shunter and Guard. Refreshments (including lunch) provided. Full day experience. 
**Date:** 19 Oct

DIESEL MULTIPLE UNIT (DMU)  
**Price £140**
Drive and act as secondman on our resident Class 107 two-car Diesel Multiple Unit (DMU). 3 hour experience. 
**Dates:** 30 Mar, 1 Jun & 6 Jul

Numbers are strictly limited so please book early to avoid disappointment

**MEMBERSHIP**
Join the Avon Valley Railway Heritage Trust to support our work and help ensure that future generations can enjoy the sound and smell of steam. You’ll receive discounted train travel and our members magazines ‘Semaphore’ and ‘Ground Signal’ during the year. Pick up a leaflet or ask for more details.

**VOLUNTEERING**
Volunteers are essential to the running of the Avon Valley Railway and without them we would not have achieved all we have over the last 40 years. We’re always looking for additional help across our departments as we look to the future and grow our operations. In joining us you’ll become part of a friendly team dedicated to the restoration, upkeep, operation and development of our railway. You’ll gain new skills, meet new people and help create lasting memories for our visitors. We have many roles to suit a wide range of interests, lifestyles and abilities. Some of these require little previous experience (just a friendly, welcoming approach) whilst others, such as our Operations roles, require a regular commitment as they involve challenging and comprehensive training.

If you’d like to find out more, download a copy of our new Volunteers Guide or pick up a copy from the Booking Office. You can browse the roles available and discover the benefits of being part of the Avon Valley Railway family. Then, join one of our New Volunteer Days when you’ll have an opportunity to meet existing volunteers and see for yourself what goes into running a heritage railway. We look forward to welcoming you onboard!

**CELEBRATIONS AND PRIVATE HIRE**
Make your special event First Class by hiring our carriages to entertain your guests in the atmosphere of a bygone age. It’s an idyllic backdrop for special birthdays, wedding receptions or anniversaries and corporate events.
HOW TO FIND US

BY BIKE - from Bristol or Bath join the Bristol and Bath Railway Path (route 4 of the National Cycle Network) direct to Bitton Station. A cycle parking area is provided.

BY BUS - bus services operate between Bristol and Bath. For further information telephone “Travel Line” on 0871 2002233.

BY CAR - Bitton Station is situated midway between Bristol and Bath on the A431 road, one mile from Keynsham. Car parking at Bitton is free.

BY RAIL - the nearest mainline station is at Keynsham. For National Rail enquiries please telephone 0845 7484950.

CATERING - a wide selection of hot and cold food and drink, delicious cakes, sweets and ice cream are available from Bitton Station Buffet which is open daily from 9am (excluding Christmas Day).

SOUVENIR SHOP - open on all days trains are running, offering a wide selection of souvenirs and gifts for all ages.

WHEELCHAIRS - a number of wheelchairs can be accommodated in a specially converted carriage. Please let us know in advance so we can assist.

CONTACT US

Avon Valley Railway
Bitton Railway Station, Bath Road
Bitton, Bristol, BS30 6HD
Tel: 0117 932 5538
W: www.avonvalleyrailway.org
E: info@avonvalleyrailway.org

Like -
www.facebook.com/AVRBitton
Follow -
www.twitter.com/AVRBitton
Watch -
www.youtube.com/AVRBitton

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright
The Map Centre Licensed Partner Licence No.: L0001998

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>1 hr 40 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiff</td>
<td>1 hr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloucester</td>
<td>50 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>2 hr 20 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swindon</td>
<td>50 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taunton</td>
<td>1 hr 15 mins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Catering - a wide selection of hot and cold food and drink, delicious cakes, sweets and ice cream are available from Bitton Station Buffet which is open daily from 9am (excluding Christmas Day).

Souvenir Shop - open on all days trains are running, offering a wide selection of souvenirs and gifts for all ages.

Wheelchairs - a number of wheelchairs can be accommodated in a specially converted carriage. Please let us know in advance so we can assist.

Contact Us

Avon Valley Railway
Bitton Railway Station, Bath Road
Bitton, Bristol, BS30 6HD
Tel: 0117 932 5538
W: www.avonvalleyrailway.org
E: info@avonvalleyrailway.org

Like -
www.facebook.com/AVRBitton
Follow -
www.twitter.com/AVRBitton
Watch -
www.youtube.com/AVRBitton

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright
The Map Centre Licensed Partner Licence No.: L0001998