

Visitor information.

Opening and Closing Times

The Royal Air Force Museum opens at 10:00 and closes at 18:00, with last admission at 17:30.

Access to the Museum

There are two entrances to the Royal Air Force Museum. There is an entrance to the car park and a pedestrian entrance. Both are located on Grahame Park Way.



Car Park entrance



Pedestrian entrance

There is a car park charge of £3.00 for 3 hours and £4.00 for up to 6 hours. You will find pay and display machines located around the car park.



The Museum Car Park



Pay and display machine

Museum entrances

There are two entrances to the Museum; The Conference reception and the Visitor entrance. If you are visiting the Museum on business or for a work meeting please make your way to Conference Reception where a member of staff will assist you.



The Conference Entrance

If you are visiting the Museum to look around please make your way to the visitor entrance. Look for the yellow sculpture and the entrance is underneath it. There is no admission charge, but if you would like to purchase a guide book you can do so at the reception desk. If you have a bag a member of security staff may ask to look inside it.



The yellow sculpture



The Visitor Entrance

Signage and assistance

Inside the Museum there are signs to help you. The writing and symbols are in yellow and are on a dark background. In all of the halls there will be Museum staff and they will be able to help you if you need assistance. They wear blue uniforms and have walkie-talkie radios. All Museum staff have a pass with their name and photograph on display. Toilets are located in every hall.



Examples of signage

Food and drink

The **Wessex café** can be found in the Historic Hangars, which serves hot and cold drinks, sandwiches and cakes. **E.A.T. restaurant** is located in the Battle of Britain Hall and also serves hot food. You can bring a packed lunch which you can eat in the **indoor picnic area** in Aeronauts Interactive Gallery, although this area can get very busy and is often noisy. If the weather is nice you can eat at the **outdoor picnic area** which can be found outside of the Battle of Britain Hall. Food and drink may not be consumed in the rest of the Museum.



E.A.T. Restaurant



Wessex Café and the indoor picnic area

Quiet Space

If, while you are visiting the Museum, you find that you need somewhere quiet to retreat to, please speak to a member of staff who will assist you. The Museum has a quiet room where you can sit and rest until you feel better.

Alarms

Should an alarm sound, follow the instructions and make your way through any exit door. The meeting point during a fire alarm is by the reproduction Spitfire and Hurricane in the car park.



Our reproduction
Spitfire and Hurricane

Museum Halls

Your visit starts in the **Milestones of Flight Hall**. This hall contains aircraft from different ages, from the very early to the most recent. There are a number of levels that you can access to allow you to view the aircraft. Along one of the walls is a 'Timeline' which charts the progress in aircraft technology, along with important events in history. It starts from 1903, the year that the first flight was undertaken by the Wright brothers, up to 2003 when the Milestones of Flight Hall opened.



The Milestones of Flight Hall from
the car park



The Milestones of Flight Hall

The next hall is the **Bomber Hall**. You will need to go through the double doors and along the poly-tunnel to enter it. This hall contains the larger Bomber aircraft. The Bomber hall is not as brightly lit as the previous hall. When you arrive at the Avro Lancaster, the hall opens out to the Historic Hangars, and this is the next area to visit once you have looked around Bomber hall.



The Bomber Hall and Historic Hangars from the car park



The poly-tunnel



The Avro Lancaster

Historic Hangars contains our collection of helicopters, along with aircraft and vehicles. In this hall you will also find the Wessex Café, the 4D Theatre, the shop, the exit to the car park and the entrance to Aeronauts Interactive Gallery.



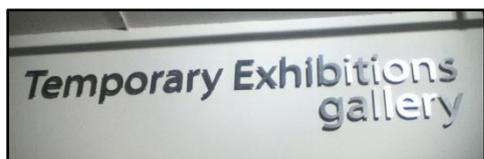
Historic Hangars

Aeronauts Interactive Gallery is designed to show families and young people the science that is involved in flight. This space can get very busy and noisy, especially during lunch periods, weekends, school holidays and Bank holidays. It also gets busy when the weather is bad. Aeronauts Interactive is the one gallery in the Museum where you can touch exhibits. The indoor picnic area is located in this gallery.



Aeronauts Interactive Gallery

The **Art Gallery** and **Temporary Exhibitions Gallery** can be found above the Conference Reception. Take the stairs and turn left for the Temporary Exhibitions Gallery and/or right for the Art Gallery.



Temporary Exhibitions Gallery



Art Gallery

The **Battle of Britain Hall** is in a separate building and to access this you will need to exit Historic Hangars and cross the car park. There is a pedestrian crossing to help you do this safely. As you walk to this building you will see our reproduction Spitfire and Hurricane.



The Battle of Britain Hall from the car park

When you enter the reception area there are two entrances. The entrance on the right takes you to E.A.T. restaurant and the entrance on the left takes you into the Battle of Britain Hall.

In the Battle of Britain Hall you will find scenes depicting life during the Second World War, with aircraft from the same period. There is a light and sound show that runs on the hour every hour from 11:00 and which lasts for approximately 15 minutes. When the show is running the hall is dark as the lights have to be dimmed.



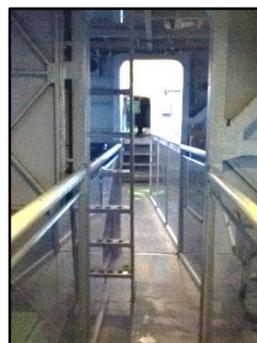
The Battle of Britain Hall

The **Sunderland Hall** is located within this building and is much brighter as it has a glass wall. It is possible to walk through the Sunderland flying boat; please make your way up the stairs if you would like to do so. Inside the plane it is quite narrow and you will walk through the front of the plane and exit near the back.

Walking through the Sunderland is not recommended if you do not like confined spaces.



The Sunderland Hall



Inside the Sunderland

The final building is the **Grahame-White Watch Office and Factory**. It is located to the right of the visitor entrance to the Museum.

These historic buildings house our First World War collections, and tell the story of the men and women who brought aviation to the fore. There are interactives that you can try and stunning audio visual displays with sound effects and narrative. You can view much of the exhibition from the balcony on the upper level.



Grahame-White Watch Office and Factory



Some of our interactives



The view from the balcony

Further information on the Museum and its collections can be found on the Museum website www.rafmuseum.org.uk .