

The St Neots Tour



Children admiring the exhibits at the St Neots Museum



Frosts Garden Centre, Brampton

The St Neots Tour at a glance

Morning: St Neots Museum and a guided walk around St Neots

Lunch: Frosts Garden Centre, Brampton

Afternoon: Paxton Pits, Little Paxton

Walking requirement: 2 to 3 miles of walking required throughout the day.

St Neots Museum is approximately 20 minutes drive from Frosts at Brampton. Paxton Pits is in Little Paxton, a small village 5 minutes drive from St Neots.

Morning: St Neots Museum

St Neots is signposted from the A1 and coach parking is available on the south side of Cambridge Street. The Museum occupies St Neots Victorian Police Station and Magistrates Court building, on New Street in the town centre. Here, you will find a wealth of objects and information. Visit the cells, still much the same as when they were built in 1907. In the story of St Neots Gallery, find out about St Neot himself, about the town's vanished Priory, the battle of St Neots in 1648, the age of coaching on the Great North Road (and its first petrol pump!), and the arrival of the Great Northern Railway in 1851.

Opening times: February to December:
Tuesday to Saturday: 10.30am - 4.30pm.
Last admission: 4pm. Closed January. Other times by arrangement. Please phone to book visit.

Average visit time: 40 minutes

Max. group: 57 (in 2 groups)

Coach parking: Coach 'drop-off' point within 200m, outside Corner House, on the Market Square. Coach parking on the south side of Cambridge Street.

Contact: The Curator on 01480 388921

Notice required: Preferably 1 week

Toilets: 1 unisex toilet with wheelchair access. Public toilets available at South Street and Tebbutts Road.

Cost: £2 per person

Disabled facilities: Level access to ground floor, stair lift to first floor. Ground floor toilet accessible to wheelchair users. Loan wheelchair available. Staff are happy to help with other requirements where they can. Visitors with guide dogs welcome.

Guided Walk around St Neots

Whilst one group is in the Museum, the other may like a guided walk around the town. Please call the Town Centre Manager on 01480 388943, who will advise on the availability of guides and walks around the town. Alternatively, if you would like your group to go on a self guided tour, St Neots Town Trails are available from St Neots Tourist Information Centre (located in the Museum building). Please call 01480 388788 for more details. Farmers' Markets take place on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of every month from 9am to 1pm in the market square. Please contact the Town Centre Manager on 01480 388912, for more details.

Lunch: Frosts Garden Centre, Brampton

From the riverside at St Neots follow signs to the A1 (North). At the Buckden roundabout drive straight over, continuing on the A1 (North) and ignoring the first sign to Brampton as there is a low bridge. At the next junction turn off and bear right onto the A14 towards Huntingdon. Come off at the first left and turn right at the first mini roundabout you come to. Carry on over the next 2 mini roundabouts. At the third roundabout turn right and after a mile you'll come to Frosts Garden Centre on the left hand side.

Frosts Garden Centre in Brampton is ideal for a group visit. Not only can visitors look at the myriad of shrubs and plants, but they can also mooch around the extensive gift shop or relax in the newly refurbished café (outside area also available).

Opening times: Summer: (March to August): Open 9am, Close 6pm (except Thursdays April to August: 8pm).

Winter: September to February: Open 9am - 5.30pm. (except Thursdays in December: 8pm).

Average visit time: 1 hour

Max. group: 57

Coach parking: Ample coach parking directly outside the Garden Centre by prior arrangement. Free meal for the coach driver.

Catering contact : Afternoon teas and lunch available. Large groups not accepted on Thursdays throughout the year. In March, April and May, groups are only taken on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Call the Restaurant Manager on 01480 447605.

Notice required: 1 week

Toilet facilities: Ample toilet facilities (including wheelchair accessible toilets).

Disabled facilities: All facilities on one level, wheelchair accessible toilets available, 2 wheelchairs available on site, wide walkways. Assistance available and visitors with guide dogs welcome.



Paxton Pits Visitor Centre



St Neots Farmers' Market

Afternoon: Paxton Pits Nature Reserve

Paxton Pits Nature Reserve can be found in the village of Little Paxton which lies 2 miles north of St Neots. Follow the signs on the A1 to Little Paxton and then, once in Little Paxton, follow the signs to the Nature Reserve.

Paxton Pits Nature Reserve includes 75 hectares of lakes, meadows, grassland, scrub and woodland, and consists of a series of restored gravel pits with excellent paths and two bird watching hides. The site is famous for its nightingales (which can be heard in May) and its wintering wildfowl. There are two waymarked circular trails and part of the Ouse Valley Way long distance footpath runs alongside the Reserve.

Opening times: The Nature Reserve is open at all times. The Visitor Centre is open weekends and most weekdays, staffed by the voluntary wardens and rangers.

Average visit time: 2 hours

Max. group: 57

Min. group: No minimum

Coach parking: Coaches can park outside the main car park, by prior arrangement.

Contact: The Rangers on 01480 406795. Talks can be given by the team at Paxton Pits, by prior arrangement.

Notice of visit: 2 weeks' notice

Toilets: Toilet facilities at the Visitor Centre, including one disabled toilet.

Cost: Free, but there is a small charge for guided walks and talks.

Disabled facilities: The Visitor Centre and toilets are wheelchair accessible. The first mile of the Heron Trail is a hard surface track. Most manual wheelchairs and pushchairs can use the kissing gates, while larger wheelchairs can gain access using a RADAR key. These keys can be purchased from the Visitor Centre.



A view of part of Paxton Pits

The logo for Huntingdonshire District Council, featuring a stylized white bird or wing shape above the text "Huntingdonshire" and "DISTRICT COUNCIL" below it.

Please phone each attraction prior to your visit. Thank you.