



—The—
Wilton Windmill
—Society—

Information to Help You Organise Your Visit

WILTON WINDMILL

Wilton, Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 3SW. 8 miles/12km South East of Marlborough.
(N.B. - Not Wilton near Salisbury.)

CONTACT US

School Parties: **Sue Challen Tel: 01672 870202 suechallen@btopenworld.com**
Wilton Windmill Society President: Tel: 01672 870909

VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.wiltonwindmill.co.uk

More information, additional worksheets and further resources are stored in a secure area of our website. Once a trip is booked the school will be given a password for access to this secure area.

The Windmill is owned and maintained by Wiltshire Council but all the activities including milling, guiding, special events and tours are run by members of the Wilton Windmill Society, who are all volunteers.

OPENING

Wilton Windmill is open for school parties during the summer months from 3 weeks or so before Easter until mid-October. To arrange a school visit please contact Sue Challen on 01672 870202. Our Education Guides are volunteers. We aim to negotiate a suitable weekday when a guide is available.

OUR SHEPHERD'S HUT

This is our new (2012) visitor centre and shop. The shop sells postcards and souvenirs as well as 1.5kg bags of Wilton Windmill Flour. Ice Creams and refreshments are available. Here one group can do a range of activities while a second group views the windmill.

OUR PICNIC SITE

This is open all year and has stunning views across the Pewsey Vale and the Inkpen Beacon. The Mill is centred in the North Wessex Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and is floodlit every evening from dusk until 10pm. We have toilet facilities on site when the windmill is open.

PARKING

Please note: Car and Minibus parking is limited to the lay-by opposite the entrance drive. Coaches are by appointment only. Please do not leave your cars unattended for long periods or leave valuables in vehicles.

SCHOOL TOURS

After a briefing on the ground floor our 19th century Miller (Education Guide) would normally take our visitors (16 max. in each group) up to the top floor of the mill. There they will explain the history/workings of the mill and interesting facts about the life of a miller in the year 1851. We progress down via each floor explaining details and answering questions. This progress from top to bottom is the route the grain takes as it is ground to flour and finally bagged ready for sale. Each tour of the Windmill takes approximately 40 – 50 minutes.

ACCESS

Teachers should make sure that all pupils and staff are wearing sensible clothes. Trousers/shorts are more suitable than wide skirts and flip-flops/backless shoes should be avoided. Shoe laces should be tied securely and hands should be free to hold handrails.

A full safety briefing is given to all groups before entering the Windmill. There is an exhibition of mill artefacts including a life-sized Victorian miller in our ground floor display area. The stairs are quite steep but have very good handrails. They are best climbed and descended facing the steps, (i.e. coming down backwards). Be aware that the occasional visitor may find them challenging although most have no problem at all.

The door to the gallery outside is normally chained to restrict access. It is opened at suitable times but children will need close supervision. In some cases they may be asked to keep one hand on the brickwork while walking round the outside as an added safety precaution.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

Wheelchair access is limited to the ground floor only. The approach path to the Windmill is uneven.

ORGANISING YOUR DAY

Normally one class arrives and is divided into two groups. One group meets our real life 'Miller', John Barnes, and has a guided tour round the Windmill whilst the second group works on activities in the hut or outside. One teacher would normally be expected to assist in leading these activities with the resources we have available.

Other ways of organising the day are possible especially in summer. On fine days the area around the mill and picnic area can be used. Local walks are possible (see leaflet), either to the canal or the delightful countryside. Whilst visiting the Windmill an extension to the day can easily be made to Crofton Pumping Station and the Kennet and Avon Canal.

We have 'PowerPoint' presentations on a variety of topics, ready to view, in our brand new, purpose-built Shepherd's Hut. There are also a range of activity worksheets for use by schools.

SCHOOLS' ADMISSION PRICES

Children £2.00 Adults £2.50

Minimum spend £25.00 per school group.

We recommend a staff ratio of at least 1 adult to 10 pupils.