



Tour Information



Industrial Heritage of the Black Country





The tour commences and concludes at the **Ramada By Wyndham Park Hall, Wolverhampton**

Park Drive

Goldthorn Park

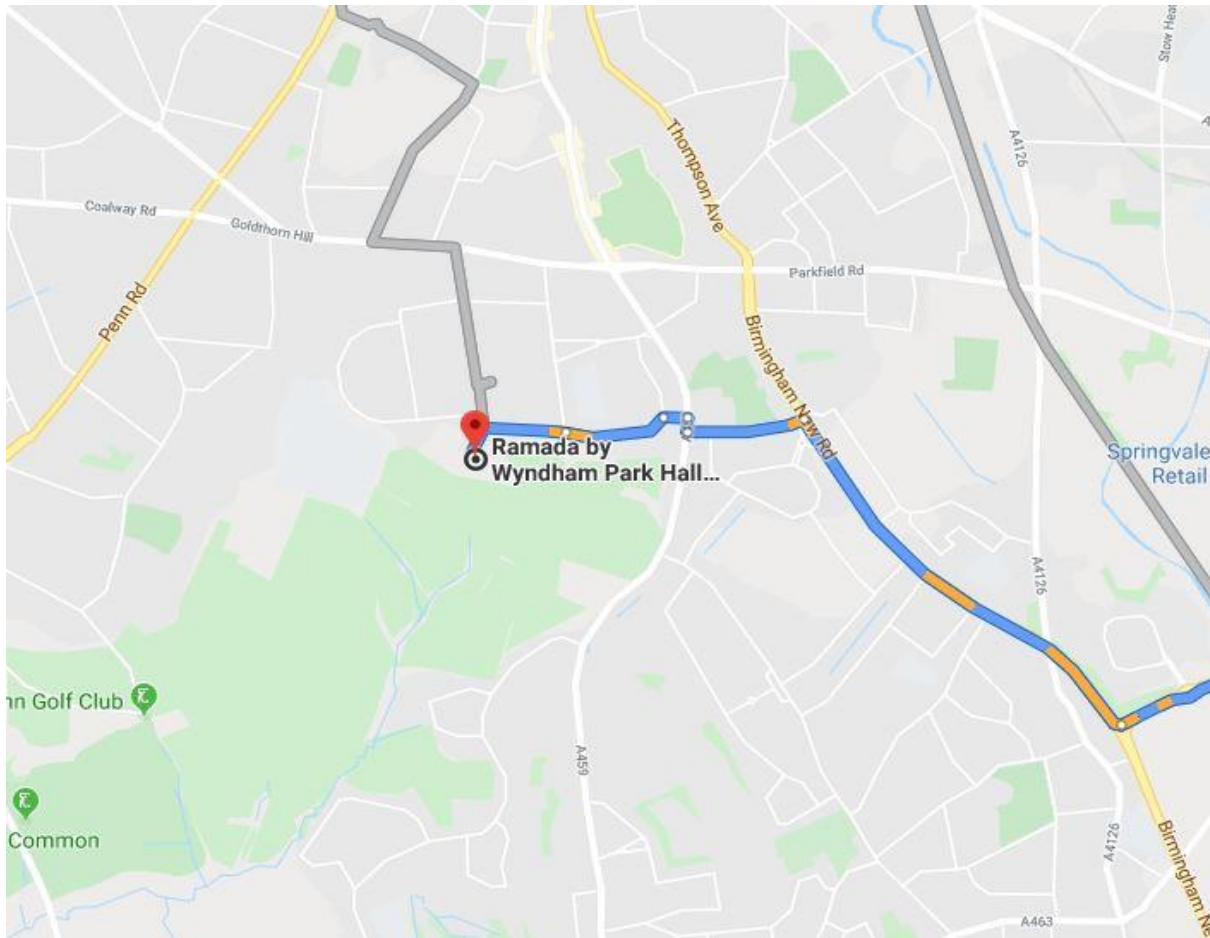
Wolverhampton,

West Midlands

WV4 5AJ

Tel: 01902 349510

Please note that transport to the hotel is not included in the price of the tour.



Transport

If you are travelling by car:

At junction 19 of the M1, take the M6 exit to Coventry/Birmingham and continue on M6, following signs for M42 S, take the A454 exit to Walsall/Wolverhampton. At the roundabout, take the 1st exit onto Black Country Route/A454 and continue straight onto Black Country Route/A463. Continue for approx. 2 miles and turn right onto Birmingham New Toad/A4123, then left onto Lawnswood Avenue. Turn right onto Wolverhampton Road E/A459, then left onto Sherington Drive, then left onto Park Hall Road. At the roundabout, continue straight onto Hornby Road and turn left at Park Drive, your destination will be in the left.

If you are travelling by train: The nearest train station is Wolverton station – 2 miles away.



Accommodation

Ramada By Wyndham Park Hall, Wolverhampton

Located in the heart of the Midlands and set in a Grade II listed mansion, the hotel is easily accessible from the M5, M6, and M54, and just minutes from Wolverhampton City Centre, making it an ideal location for exploring the Black Country. Facilities include a health club and spa with indoor pool, bar and restaurant. Each of the comfortable bedrooms feature en-suite facilities with complimentary toiletries, TV, tea and coffee making facilities and free wifi. Car parking is complimentary.

More information can be found via the hotel's website: <https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/en-uk/ramada/wolverhampton-united-kingdom/ramada-resort-park-hall-wolverhampton/overview?CID=LC:RA::GGL:RIO:National:16329&iata=00093796>

Check-in and departure from the hotel

On the day of arrival, you will be able to check-in to the hotel from 14.00, and the tour manager will meet you in the evening at the welcome reception.

On the last day, the tour will not finish until approximately 17.30 so you should check with your tour manager, or the hotel reception, where luggage should be stored until your departure.

Extra nights

If you have booked to stay an extra night at the hotel, this is on dinner, bed and breakfast basis and check out from the hotel is at 11.00.

Dining

On the first night, a private dinner with wine is provided in the Lower Orangery at the hotel and included in the price of the tour. For the second evening, dinner will be provided in the Lower Orangery. Breakfast on all days of your stay plus one light lunch is included in the price, but meals other than these stated are not included.

Special requests

If you haven't already done so, please notify Travel Editions of any special requests as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements.



Places Visited

Stourbridge – Red Cone Glass House Museum

The Red House Glass Cone lies in the heart of the Stourbridge glassmaking industry and is next to the Stourbridge Canal. Built at the end of the 18th Century the Cone was used for the manufacture of glass until 1936 and is now one of only four cones left in the United Kingdom. Reaching 100 feet into the sky, the Cone enclosed a furnace around which men made glass for 140 years and was originally built for the purpose of making window glass.

<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums/red-house-glass-cone/>

Leather Museum

Walsall Leather Museum was opened in 1988 in a Victorian factory building. It tells the story of the leather trade in Walsall, charting the town's rise from a small market town into an international saddle-making centre. Walsall Leather Museum celebrates the great achievements of local leather craftsmen and women and tells the story of the Walsall leather trade and the local people who have been making some of the world's finest saddles and leather goods for over two hundred years. The museum displays feature splendid examples of historic craftsmanship and exciting contemporary designs.

<https://go.walsall.gov.uk/leathermuseum>.

Bantock House Museum

Explore the history of Wolverhampton and its people in the period settings of the former Bantock family home. Reflecting the Arts and Crafts movement, and other popular fashions of the period, the interior features carved oak panelling and, in the grand Staircase Hall, six Pre-Raphaelite paintings by Frederick Shields and a cosy inglenook fireplace. Bantock House also has fine examples of English porcelain and ceramics including Delftware tiles, Royal Worcester, Bloor Derby and Myatt, exquisite examples of locally made japanned ware, enamels and steel jewellery, as well as a display of children's toys and dolls.

<http://www.wolverhamptonart.org.uk/visit/bantock/>

Black Country Living Museum

An immersive experience from start to finish, the Black Country Living Museum is an award-winning open-air museum that tells the story of one of the very first industrialised landscapes in Britain. Set across 26 acres, you'll explore over forty carefully reconstructed shops, houses and industrial areas that represent the Black Country's story. You'll learn how steam power, human ingenuity and an increasingly interconnected world transformed this region into a manufacturing powerhouse. The Black Country is often seen of a collection of 20 or so towns falling within the four Metropolitan Boroughs of Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton. While no one quite agrees on the exact boundaries of the region, one thing is known for certain: Black Country folk changed the world. They built world's first successful steam engine; put the first steam train (the Stourbridge Lion) on US soil; fuelled the introduction of the first minimum wage; produced the anchor for the Titanic; practically built the Crystal Palace and so much more. From the early 20th century onwards, the Black Country region became one of the most industrialised parts of the UK with coal mines, iron foundries, glass factories, brick works and more dominating the landscape.

<https://www.bclm.co.uk/>

Canal Cruise

Discover a magical world deep under the heart of Dudley. Limestone mines and rocks date back 428 million years and the knowledgeable skippers take you back through the ages to talk about the formation of the area, its impressive Industrial Revolution legacy and the formation of the Dudley Canal Trust in the 60's as they set about preserving this unique environment for future generations.

<https://www.dudleycanaltrust.org.uk/>

Your Speakers

Dr Malcolm Dick is Director of the Centre for West Midlands History and Lecturer in Regional and Local History at the University of Birmingham, UK. He is also Editor-in-Chief of History West Midlands: www.historywm.com and co-director of the Centre for Printing History and Culture www.cphc.org.uk. He ran two lottery-funded history projects between 2000 and 2004: Millennibrum and Revolutionary Players: www.revolutionaryplayers.org.uk The latter, which focussed on the West Midlands during the Industrial Revolution introduced him to the Lunar Men. Subsequently, Malcolm edited books on Joseph Priestley (2005), Matthew Boulton (2009 and 2013) and Erasmus Darwin (2010) and wrote books and articles on Birmingham and ethnic community history. Two edited publications with Liverpool University Press include Birmingham - the Workshop of the World (2016) with Carl Chinn and John Baskerville - Art and Industry in the Enlightenment (2017) with Caroline Archer.

Malcolm will accompany you during the tour and give the following talk on the first evening:

'Emergence of the Black Country during the Industrial Revolution.'

Paul Atterbury Well-known TV personality, antiques expert and inland waterways enthusiast Paul Atterbury will be your speaker for this tour. Paul is a steam and canal enthusiast who has been a member of the Antiques Roadshow's team for over 20 years

Paul will give the following talk on the second evening of the tour:

'At the Heart of Industry: the canals of Birmingham and the Black Country'

Practical Information






Tour manager - Your tour manager will be on hand throughout the tour to ensure that everything operates according to plan. If you have any problems or questions please see him or her immediately – it is often possible to resolve complaints or problems very quickly on the spot, and do everything to help you enjoy your holiday.

Tipping –To keep our tours affordable, we do not increase the tour price by adding in tips. However, in the tourism industry, there is a certain level of expectation that when receiving a good service, one does award with a tip. Tour Managers, Representatives, Guides and Drivers appreciate a tip at the end of their involvement with the tour, but this is entirely at your discretion. We believe in allowing you to tip according to your level of satisfaction with their services.

Walking Content – This tour has been graded a 4 out of 5 for walking difficulty.

Walking difficulty: 

Please see the key below for an explanation of the footprint symbols:

Very little walking involved	
Relaxed easy pace, mainly walking from coach to site	
Some walking between sites, good, flat walking surfaces	
Walking between sites, lots of standing for viewings	
On your feet all day, uneven terrain (cobblestones etc)	



Insurance

Although this is a UK holiday please note that, should you cancel your holiday, the amount paid is non-refundable. For this reason you may wish to take out insurance just in case an unforeseen event caused you to have to cancel the tour. As well as covering cancellations, your travel insurance will also cover your baggage and personal belongings in case they are lost or stolen.



Emergencies

Should an emergency arise, please call our offices on:

020 7251 0045

Outside office hours (Mon-Fri 0900-1700), telephone our emergency staff on:

07841 023807

PLEASE USE THESE NUMBERS ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A GENUINE EMERGENCY.

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