

2000
NEW DATES ADDED



A GREAT DAY OUT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE RAILWAY 200 AT THE BLUEBELL RAILWAY



RAILWAY 200 @ BLUEBELL RAILWAY

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



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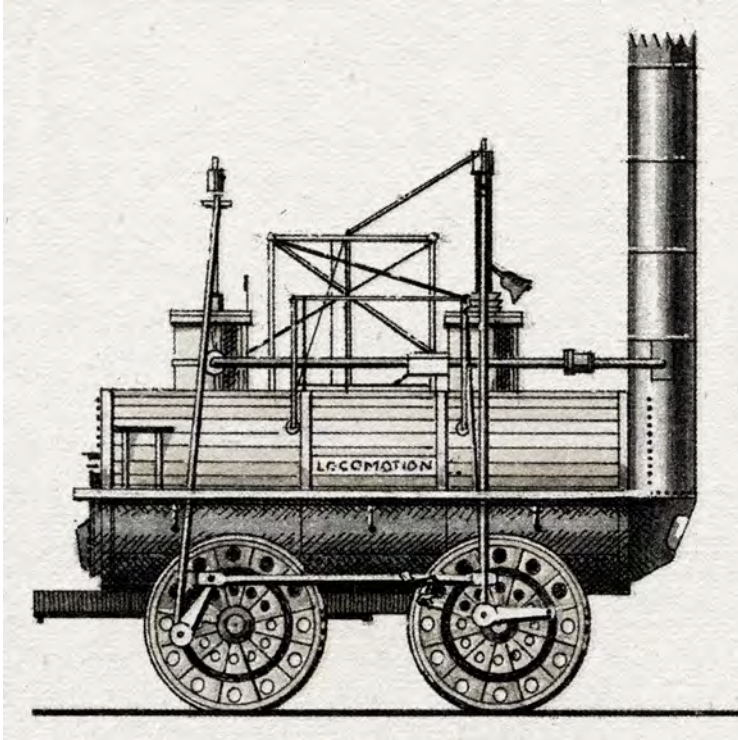


The
RAILWAY
Magazine



WHAT IS RAILWAY 200?

2025 marks the 200th anniversary of the opening of the Stockton to Darlington Railway, the world's first public railway. It changed the world.



Public railways allow anyone to travel or transport goods at a published fare. They accelerated the industrial revolution, as raw materials were transported to factories and finished goods were taken to markets or ports. Railways allowed great cities to emerge; the population of London grew from 1.6 million people in 1821 to 7.4 million in 1921 because fresh food could be transported from afar quickly and cheaply, whilst urban and underground railways allowed Londoners to travel around their city, creating a huge integrated economy. Railways allowed ordinary people to travel around the country, leading to the massive expanding of seaside resorts like Blackpool, Southend and Brighton. In North America, railways opened up the prairies and allowed American grain to be exported worldwide and transcontinental

routes allowed economic activity to operate at national and international, rather than local, scale. Railways even standardised time.

The story of railways is the application of science through engineering to create economic growth and social development. And the story continues, with rail and mass transit systems set to play an essential role in land transport through the twenty first century as Britain moves to a net zero carbon economy.

Railway 200 @ Bluebell Railway brings the past to life, whilst introducing Scouts and members of Girlguiding to rail safety and the career opportunities offered by the transport and logistics sector.



LOTS TO SEE AND DO



VOLUNTEERING
Get involved in something for fun, learn life skills and make friends.



FUN
See a working steam engine. Ride on our railway. A day out in the beautiful High Weald.



SAFETY
Stay safe around the railway.



TECHNOLOGY
See the equipment used to build and maintain today's railways.



STEM
Understand the maths, science and engineering that makes railways possible.



CAREERS
Understand the jobs available in rail and logistics and how to get into the sector.



ENVIRONMENT
How will public transport help achieve net zero?



HISTORY
How did the invention of railways change the world economically, socially and politically?

TELL ME MORE

WHEN CAN WE VISIT?

Railway 200 @ Bluebell Railway runs from 3rd June to 7th September. There will be lots to see and do every day we are open. We're also running a final special day for Scouts and Girlguiding members on 14th September.

IS THE BLUEBELL RAILWAY SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES?

Yes! Our Railway 200 exhibition is designed for all age groups from 5 to 95.

IS THE BLUEBELL RAILWAY ACCESSIBLE?

We've made a lot of effort to make our Railway accessible to visitors with special needs. Most of the Railway is accessible to wheelchairs with specially-adapted carriages operating in some trains - these are [shown in our timetables](#). Choose a day and click More Info to see which trains are planned to include accessible carriages. We welcome visitors with neurodiverse conditions. Our customer services team will be happy to discuss any special requirements. They can be contacted at enquiries@bluebell-railway.com.

ARE THERE SPECIAL DAYS FOR GIRLGUIDING AND SCOUTS?

Yes! On 2nd August and 14th September we'll be running special activities for members of Girlguiding and Scouts, including rail safety and Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) workshops. There will be sessions aimed at different age groups. This is an opportunity to meet lots of other Scouts and Girlguiding members and enjoy some special activities.

DO YOU OFFER SPECIAL FARES FOR GUIDES AND SCOUTS?

Yes! Girlguiding members and Scouts can visit at a **Special Fare** of just £8 per person (girls or leaders) on most dates between 3rd June and 4th September, and on 14th September.

The Special Fare will be best for most groups, but we also offer 'Kids for a Quid' at weekends and during school holidays. This allows up to four children under 16 to visit with any adult paying full fare of £27, and may be cheaper for groups with a high adult to child ratio. We also offer special rates for children and carers. You can book these tickets directly at the [Bluebell Railway website](#). If you book direct and you're coming on 2nd August or 14th September please also email railway200event@bluebell-railway.com.

WHEN ARE THESE SPECIAL FARES AVAILABLE?

The **Girlguiding and Scouts Special Fare** is available on any day the Bluebell Railway is open to the public during Railway 200 @ Bluebell Railway **except** during these special events:

- 19th and 20th July (Southern at War Weekend)
- 23rd to 29th July (Visit of the National Exhibition Train 'Inspiration')
- 8th, 9th and 10th August (Bluebell Railway 65th Anniversary Gala)

The Bluebell Railway is open to the public almost every day over the summer. You can see the full calendar [here](#).

FREE TRAVEL OFFER

TRAVEL FREE TO THE BLUEBELL RAILWAY ON SOUTHERN & THAMESLINK

Our friends at Southern and Thameslink have kindly made a significant number of free tickets available to enable young people to visit Railway 200 @ Bluebell Railway. Girlguiding and Scout groups using these free tickets can visit the Bluebell Railway for the day and pay just the £8 entrance fee.



HOW CAN WE GET TO THE BLUEBELL RAILWAY BY TRAIN?

Trains to East Grinstead depart from London Victoria and call at Clapham Junction, East Croydon and then all stations to East Grinstead via Oxted. The free ticket offer includes connecting Southern and Thameslink services. The Bluebell Railway station is 150m from the Southern station at East Grinstead.

WHO CAN BENEFIT FROM THESE TICKETS?

Any Girlguiding group travelling to the Bluebell Railway on Southern or Thameslink trains via East Grinstead can benefit. We have a significant but limited number of free tickets, which will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

ARE THERE ANY RESTRICTIONS?

Yes. Your entire journey must be on Southern or Thameslink trains and you must have purchased your Bluebell Railway tickets at least two weeks in advance so we can get your free Southern / Thameslink tickets to you. The offer is most suitable for Scout and Girlguiding groups located close to Southern and Thameslink stations. You can see a map of those stations [here](#).

INTERESTED? HERE'S WHAT TO DO

Email enquiries@bluebell-railway.com or call 01825 720800

We'll need to know the number of tickets you require, and how you are planning to get to the railway (this is for capacity management). If you want to take advantage of the GTR free travel offer then please let us know your starting station when you book. Tickets are sent directly by GTR to the group leader.

Remember - your entire journey must be on Southern or Thameslink trains to take advantage of this offer.

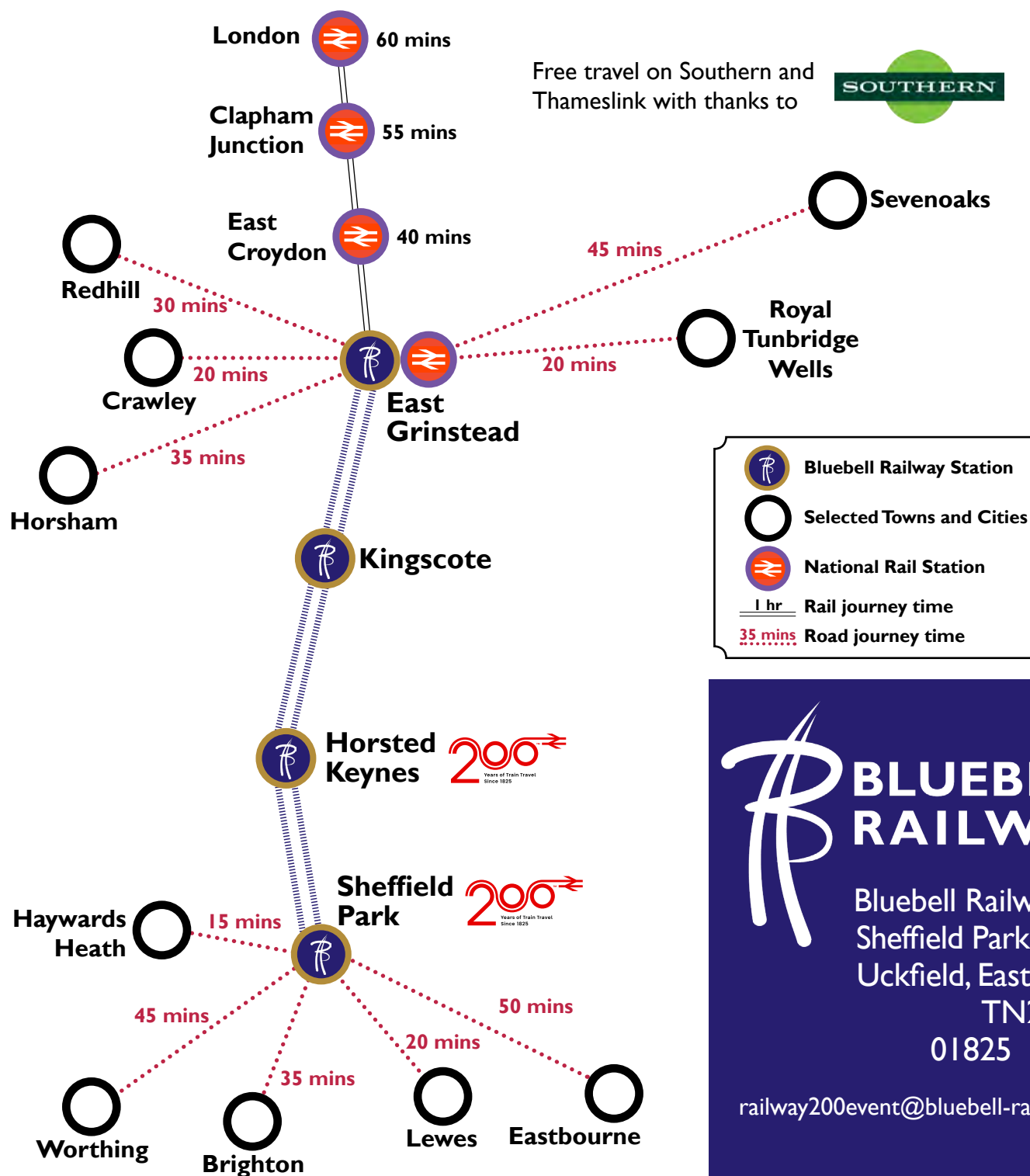
EASY TO GET TO

FROM LONDON, SURREY, KENT AND SUSSEX

Visits to Railway 200 will start at either East Grinstead or Sheffield Park.

Our station at East Grinstead is 150m from the national rail station, making it easy to arrive by train. Coach drop off (by arrangement) is also possible. Trains to East Grinstead run from Victoria and call at Clapham Junction, East Croydon and then stations through Oxted to East Grinstead. We will operate a shuttle service from our station at East Grinstead to Horsted Keynes and the Railway 200 event.

Visitors from the South Coast should arrive by road at Sheffield Park where there will be parking for coaches.



Bluebell Railway PLC
Sheffield Park Station
Uckfield, East Sussex
TN22 3QL
01825 720800

railway200event@bluebell-railway.com

www.bluebell-railway.com

RAILWAY 200 @ BLUEBELL RAILWAY

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