

AN EXCITING NEW SERVICE FOR PARTICIPANTS

Should you wish to extend your stay, we are offering four overnight accommodation options:

1. Our very own brand-new self-catering accommodation block at New Romney station. Fully heated and serviced (bed linen and towels provided), fitted kitchen, two bathrooms, four single and one double bedrooms. This accommodation must be booked and paid for in full in advance.

£50.00 per night per double bedroom

£40.00 per night per single bedroom

2. The Captain Howey Hotel, just a stone's throw from New Romney station. www.thecaptainhowey.com
3. Romney Bay House. This stunning 10-bedroomed property is just a five-minute drive from New Romney station and situated along a private road on a totally-unspoilt stretch of coastline. www.romneybayhousehotel.co.uk
4. Both www.broadacrehotel.co.uk and www.martinfieldmanor.co.uk are based in New Romney and are also well patronised by our visitors.

Our sales team will be happy to make a reservation on your behalf at any of the above properties (subject to availability). For payment, please deal directly with the hotel (check their website for Terms and Conditions). Please call 01797 362353 to book RH&DR's own accommodation.

Please tell us at the time of booking if the participant has any physical or mental disabilities which may affect the way the course is run. The cabs of our locomotives are very restricted spaces. Please consider this when booking. The Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway reserves the right to decline taking a participant on the day of the course if we consider that to do so would endanger the participant or driver, or interfere with the safe operation of the locomotive. Should you have any concerns or questions in this regard, please speak to our staff at the time of booking.



RH&DR

ROMNEY, HYTHE & DYMCHURCH RAILWAY

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The Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway reserves the right to alter anything mentioned in this leaflet. Any prices quoted are correct at the time of publication.

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Making it special

Why not share the memories of this very special experience with family members?

RH&DR is offering each participant the opportunity to bring along up to two family members or friends (who must be aged 10 years or over) to travel on the Driver Experience train. (Please note there may not be service trains operating on Driver Experience dates, and terms and conditions apply.) Travel on the train as much as you wish and join your relative or friend for lunch all for just £25.00 adult and £12.50 child (10-15 years). Tickets and lunch must be pre-booked at least one week in advance of the date of the course and paid for in full at the time of booking. Just call us on 01797 362353.

Why not take home your own Headboard as a souvenir of this very special experience?

All you have to do is tell us what colour, wording and any special design elements you wish the Headboard to have and we will do the rest! From just £70.00 +VAT, our Headboards really do mark the occasion. Headboards must be pre-ordered at least four weeks prior to the date of your course and payment must be made in full at the time of ordering. Just call us on 01797 362353 with your credit or debit card details and we will make all the arrangements for you.

Height and Weight

Due to the confined environment of our locomotives, it is necessary to take the physical build of anyone wishing to partake in a Driver Experience course into consideration. Therefore a maximum height and weight restriction for each participant must apply.

It may be necessary to decline the acceptance of a participant on the day of the course if the information provided is found to be inaccurate.

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR YOUR BMI CHART

WHAT A GREAT GIFT!

For that special person in your life

Purchase a Voucher for the full value of the selected course or in denominations of £50.00

It is easy to arrange. Just call our Sales Team on

01797 362353

or visit

www.rhdr.org.uk for more information

Terms and Conditions

- Due to the confined environment of our locomotives, it is necessary to take the physical build of anyone wishing to partake in a Driver Experience course into consideration. Therefore a maximum height and weight restriction for each participant must apply.

Please do not be offended when our sales team ask for this information at the time of booking the course. If you are purchasing a Driver Experience course as a gift, we will still require this information before we are able to proceed with the booking.

Our staff will also ask about the general physical and mental health of the course participant. This is to ensure their safety and the safety of the driver. It may be necessary to decline the acceptance of a participant on the day of the course if the information provided is found to be inaccurate.

- Whilst we make every effort to provide our customers with the very best service, there are certain dates and times of the year when Driver Experience courses cannot be operated. Therefore to avoid disappointment, please call our sales team or check our website for availability.

Driver Experience courses are open to anyone who is over the age of 18 years and is physically fit. Please be advised that the participant will be driving in a relatively confined space.

- No previous experience is required to participate in our Taster, Silver, Diesel or Signaller's Day courses. Gold and Bespoke courses (depending on the individual requirements) are only open to anyone who has completed a Silver Course in the past.

The participant will require overalls or warm clothing, strong, enclosed shoes or boots (no trainers) and a coat or jacket. We will provide heavy-duty gloves but you are welcome to bring your own.

- Participants who have particular dietary requirements must advise us in advance and our Café staff will be more than happy to accommodate you.

- We ask that all courses are paid for in full at the time of booking. We accept cheques, made payable to the Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway or payment can be made by telephone with a credit or debit card, or purchased on-line from our shop. You will then receive written confirmation of your booking.

- If you are purchasing a course as a surprise gift, don't worry, we go to all sorts of lengths to keep the secret! Just advise us at the time of booking.

A PDF copy of this leaflet is downloadable from our website
For more information on Railway Experience Days

visit:

www.rhdr.org.uk

or call 01797 362353 or

email drivingexperience@rhdr.org

RH&DR

THE DRIVE OF A LIFETIME!

RAILWAY EXPERIENCE DAYS

RH&DR

**ROMNEY, HYTHE
& DYMCHURCH
RAILWAY**



Experience the world-famous miniature trains for yourself!

Our Railway Experience courses continue to delight the participants

Many return time after time, bitten by the “driving a steam engine” bug. Taking the controls of one of our world-famous locomotives is a totally unique experience and leaves one wanting more.

To that end, we have extended our repertoire of courses and now offer a full range of half-day, one-day and two-day courses to suit all levels of driving ability and pockets.

What each course member will receive:

- Where applicable, use throughout the course of one of our world-famous steam engines (unless clearly specified as a diesel engine).
- The course as described, with full tuition from qualified Drivers or Signallers.
- A light breakfast of tea and toast or a cooked breakfast where stated (not applicable on the Taster Course).
- A hot lunch.
- Hot beverages.
- One pair of heavy-duty gloves.
- A certificate of participation with the option to have it framed (extra charge applies).
- Free membership for one year of the RH&DR Association (providing discounted travel and other benefits – normally £21.50pp to join). Not applicable for the Taster Course.
- The option for each participant to have up to two family members travel with them all day.

Taster Course

£180.00 per participant

Only available on selected dates when the GREEN timetable is in operation. Please call for current availability.

As the title suggests, this course has been devised to offer the enthusiast a taste of what it's like to take the controls of one of our world-famous steam locomotives, and also to enjoy the experience of riding the footplate. The first part of the course involves a double run between New Romney Station and Romney Warren Halt, with the participant driving a light loco, fully supported by one of our highly-experienced drivers. The second part of the course is an exhilarating 27-mile full round trip riding the footplate. The course commences at 11.30am and concludes at approx. 3.15pm and includes a £10.00 Food & Drink voucher.

Silver Course

£295.00 per participant

Silver courses are available on selected dates only in Jan, Feb, March, Oct, Nov. Please call for current availability.

Your day commences at New Romney station where you will be greeted by one of our team and escorted to the Heywood Buffet for a light breakfast and safety briefing. You will then be introduced to the driver who will be instructing you throughout the course.

There are three participants per course and each participant should get at least 15 miles of actual driving. Which ever section of the line you choose, there is similar mileage behind the regulator but mastering each section is a challenge in itself.

With the 5-mile non-stop gallop between Dymchurch and Hythe, it really tests the mettle of each course member to keep the fire and water at the correct levels on a long run. The level crossings and very different atmosphere on the Dungeness section test the powers of concentration and observation as the train winds its way behind houses and out on to the great shingle bank.

Gold Course

£420.00 per participant

Gold courses are available on selected dates only in Jan, Feb, March, Oct, Nov. Please call for current availability. (only available to those who have completed the Silver Course)

Designed for two participants (and so perfect for family members, friends or colleagues to share) this course covers the full 13½-mile line and provides each participant with the opportunity to drive for at least 27 miles in total.

To add to the experience, there will be opportunities throughout the day to shunt coaches, run the locomotive around the train, turn the engine on the turntable and then shut down the engine at the end of the day. Should you wish to be “up with the lark”, this course also offers you the opportunity to assist with early morning fire-lighting. A light breakfast and a two-course lunch included.

Bespoke Course

Bespoke courses are available on selected dates only in Jan, Feb, March, Oct, Nov. Please call for current availability.

Our bespoke courses are a steam enthusiast's dream! A one-to-one course, spanning two full days but meticulously planned by our highly-experienced Operations team and tailor-made to your level of experience.

The following is a sample itinerary:

Day one – you will be greeted at New Romney station by one of our team and escorted to the Heywood Buffet for a light breakfast and safety briefing. You will then be introduced to your driver, and an opportunity to assist him with engine preparation and fire-lighting duties will follow. During the morning you will be able to run the engine light (without hauling any coaches) and then possibly progress to hauling a full set of coaches later in the day.

Day two – provides you with an opportunity to rise bright and early to perfect your fire-lighting skills! Once your engine is ready, a hearty breakfast will be provided before you start out for the day, taking a set of coaches around the railway. A short stop for a light lunch – and then back out again to get in some more miles.

Drive a Diesel Train

£220.00 per participant

Maximum group size of six

Diesel courses are available on selected dates only in Jan, Feb, March, Oct, Nov. Please call for current availability.

With no steam to get in the way of the view, there are of course still signals, points and stations to negotiate and taking the controls of a diesel engine presents its own set of challenges. Our experienced drivers will teach you how. Run as a half-day course for one participant or it can be extended to a full day for a group of no more than six participants. The course includes a safety briefing, lunch and either the full 27-mile round trip or two return trips to either end of the line.

Signaller's Day

£220.00 per participant

By popular demand! Learn first-hand what it takes to operate RH&DR safely.

This is a “hands-on” experience commencing with a Footplate Ride from New Romney to Hythe, where, after a safety briefing, you will spend the morning working alongside our qualified Signaller, learning the principles of interlocking and block working, turning and watering the locomotives.

Depending on the service operating on the day of your course, you will return to New Romney station on the Footplate again, where a packed lunch will be delivered to you in the Signal Box.

The afternoon session will be spent at New Romney with more opportunities to practise the skills learned during the morning session, but with additional Signaller duties including token exchange and shunting engines and coaches if required, oiling points and loco berthing at the end of the day's service.

Please call to arrange a date.

Footplate Ride

RIDE THE FOOTPLATE FOR AN EXHILARATING 27-MILE FULL ROUND TRIP ABOARD A STEAM ENGINE

Footplate Rides are NOT available when the PINK timetable is in operation.

Price £90.00 full round trip and £45.00 half round trip.

Please call our sales team for availability.