

Suggested Itineraries for a Family Day Out at Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway using the 2017 Timetables



Introduction

Fancy a family day out at the railway? We've prepared some exciting ideas about how to spend your time while you are here, including travelling on different trains and visiting various parts of the railway.

We have main car parks at Toddington and Cheltenham Race Course Stations and a small car park at Winchcombe Station. Car parking is free.

See our calendar for the days when trains operate in 2017 and the colour codes for the timetables. Click [here](#) for the 2017 Calendar and Timetables, including special events. We operate at least one steam train and a diesel railcar nearly every operating day. Often there are two steam trains running or a steam train and a train hauled by one of our heritage diesel locomotives (all of which are over fifty years old) plus a diesel railcar service.

For the **Red** and **Green** timetables, the train departure times are the same. The difference is that on **Red** timetable days there will be two steam trains and a diesel railcar service, whereas on **Green** timetable days there will be a steam train, a train hauled by one of our heritage diesel locomotives (all of which are over fifty years old) and a diesel railcar. On **Blue** timetable days there will usually be one steam train and a diesel railcar service, although due to maintenance requirements, on occasions the diesel railcar service may be replaced by a train hauled by one of our heritage diesel locomotives.

You can either buy your All Day Rover tickets in advance online to save a bit of money and avoid any booking office queues (click [here](#) to buy tickets online), or you can buy your tickets on the day at the station booking office.

Things to do

Some of the things to do in addition to riding on the trains:

- You can collect the specially prepared free Children's Quiz Sheet from the booking office when you arrive to help entertain the family all day long, whether you buy your tickets in advance online or on the day
- Relax with a cup of tea or coffee and a piece of cake at the Flag and Whistle café at Toddington and later check out the history of Toddington station using our free self-guided Heritage Trail leaflet (available from Toddington booking office)
- Children's play area at Toddington Station
- Toddington yard loco viewing area (access from far corner of car park)
- There is the delightful 1950s style Coffee Pot tea room at Winchcombe station, serving teas and refreshments
- If the model railway at Winchcombe and the narrow gauge railway at Toddington are operating on the day you visit you may want to spend some time with those as well
- We have our Discovery Coach at Winchcombe Station where you will learn much more about the history of our railway as well as see a fabulous model layout of Toddington Station and lots more



**Inside the Discovery Coach
at Winchcombe Station**

- There are shops at Toddington and Cheltenham Race Course stations where you can check out our stock of souvenirs and toys. You could buy the railway's very own I-Spy book from either of the shops, and at Toddington station shop you might want to look through the extensive stock of railway books. At Cheltenham Race Course station you could purchase a hot drink from our drinks machine there while you wait for the train.

There are nappy changing facilities within the fully accessible toilets at each of our main stations.

Fares

All your travel for the day costs no more than £17 for an adult (£16.50 online in advance), £16 for a senior (£15.50 online in advance), and as little as £7 for a child over 5 years of age. You can avoid the queues at the booking office on the day if you buy your tickets online in advance. You can also save money if you buy three or more Adult All Day Rover tickets together online in advance. Children under 5 and well-behaved dogs are free. Buy a family ticket and you can save even more money. A Family All Day Rover ticket for two adults and up to three children only costs £44 on the day – with a potential saving of £11 compared to buying individual tickets (£42.50 in advance online). Please note, a booking fee of £1 will be added to your online order.

Itinerary Options

Here are some ideas for your visit – there are different options depending on which timetable is operating and whether you start at Toddington or Cheltenham Race Course. All the options shown involve catching the first train of the day at your starting point. As an alternative you could start later in the day, but you may need to miss out some of the suggested activities. Check the timetable [here](#) for other train times and whether the alternative trains are steam, diesel or railcar.

Option 1 – Red or Green Timetable starting at Toddington Station

1 9.30am arrive at Toddington station and park in our large free car park. If you haven't already bought your tickets in advance online, buy your All Day Rover tickets or big value Family All Day Rover ticket at the booking office on Platform 1.



Getting ready for the steam train departure from Toddington station

2 10.00am depart on the steam train southwards from Toddington to Cheltenham Race Course, arriving at 10.34am. Watch the steam loco run round to the other end of the carriages at Cheltenham Race Course station ready for the return journey.

3 10.55am depart Cheltenham Race Course on the return train, and get off at Winchcombe just after the train has passed through the 693 yard Greet Tunnel (arrive 11.18am). Treat yourself to tea or coffee and a piece of delicious home-made sponge cake at the Coffee Pot Tea Room on Platform 1. If you prefer you can pop in to the Discovery Coach at the eastern end of Platform 1.

4 11.55am depart Winchcombe on the northbound diesel railcar service to Toddington. Stay on at Toddington the first time the train arrives back there and go on to the northern end of the line at Laverton, passing over the gently curving 210yds long, 42ft high, 15 span brick arch Stanway Viaduct.

5 12.28pm arrive back at Toddington and get off the train. Head for the station's Flag and Whistle cafe or sit at a table at one of our picnic areas for a spot of lunch. After lunch pop into the shop on Platform 1 to look at the extensive stock of railway books, toys and souvenirs. Then pick up a free Heritage Trail guide leaflet available at the booking office next to the shop and walk the self-guided trail round Toddington Yard. You might like to try pulling the full-size levers in our small Have-a-Go signal box and then stroll down the access track at the far corner of the car park to see what is in the

locomotive yard. Check the map [here](#) for the location of the access track to the viewing area. Perhaps there is still time for another cup of tea in the Flag and Whistle cafe and for the children to let off steam in the play area near the cafe.

- 6 1.30pm or 2.40pm catch the train to Cheltenham Race Course station for a second train ride southwards and back. If you catch the 1.30pm train you will be behind a different steam locomotive (**Red** timetable) or a diesel locomotive (**Green** timetable).
- 7 3.02pm or 4.18pm arrive back at Toddington, exhausted but happy. If you caught the earlier train back you would still have time for one final trip on the diesel railcar service to the northern end of the line at Laverton and back departing Toddington at 3.31pm, passing over the Stanway Viaduct.

Option 2 – **Red or **Green** Timetable starting at Cheltenham Race Course Station**

- 1 10.15am arrive at Cheltenham Race Course station and park in our large free car park. If you haven't already bought your tickets in advance online, buy your All Day Rover tickets or big value Family All Day Rover ticket at the booking office adjacent to the car park. Walk down to the platform to see the steam train arrive at 10.34am and watch the loco run round to the other end of the carriages ready for the return journey.



**Train arriving at
Cheltenham Race Course station**

- 2 10.55am depart Cheltenham Race Course northwards on the steam train. Get off at Winchcombe just after the train has passed through the 693 yard Greet Tunnel (arrive 11.18am). Treat yourself to tea or coffee and a piece of delicious home-made sponge cake at the Coffee Pot Tea Room on Platform 1. If you prefer you can pop in to the Discovery Coach at the eastern end of Platform 1.

- 3 11.55am depart Winchcombe on the diesel railcar service northwards to Toddington. Stay on the train at Toddington the first time it arrives there to go to the northern end of the line at Laverton, passing over the gently curving 210yds long, 42ft high, 15 span brick arch Stanway Viaduct.

- 8 12.28pm arrive back at Toddington and get off the train. Head for the station's Flag and Whistle cafe or sit at a table at one of our picnic areas for a spot of lunch. After lunch pop into the shop on Platform 1 to look at the extensive stock of railway books, toys and souvenirs. Then pick up a free Heritage Trail guide leaflet available at the booking office next to the shop and walk the self-guided trail round Toddington Yard. You might like to try pulling the full-size levers in our small Have-a-GO signal box and then stroll down the access track at the far corner of the car park to see what is in the locomotive yard. Check the map [here](#) for the location of the access track to the viewing area. Perhaps there is still time for another cup of tea in the Flag and Whistle cafe and for the children to let off steam in the play area near the cafe.

- 4 1.30pm or 2.40pm catch the train from Toddington southwards back to Cheltenham Race Course station. If you catch the 1.30pm train you will be behind a different steam locomotive (**Red** timetable) or a diesel locomotive (**Green** timetable).

- 5 2.04pm or 3.14pm arrive back at Cheltenham Race Course. If you caught the earlier train you would still have time for one final round trip to Toddington departing Cheltenham Race Course at 2.25pm.

Option 3 – Blue Timetable starting at Toddington Station

- 1 9.30am arrive at Toddington station and park in our large free car park. If you haven't already bought your tickets in advance online, buy your All Day Rover tickets or big value Family All Day Rover ticket at the booking office on Platform 1.
- 2 10.00am depart on the steam train from Toddington southwards to Cheltenham Race Course, arriving at 10.34am. Watch the steam loco run round to the other end of the carriages at Cheltenham Race Course station ready for the return journey.
- 3 10.55am depart Cheltenham Race Course on the return train, and get off at Winchcombe just after the train has passed through the 693 yard Greet Tunnel (arrive 11.18am). Treat yourself to tea or coffee and a piece of delicious home-made sponge cake at the Coffee Pot Tea Room on Platform 1. If you prefer you can pop in to the Discovery Coach at the eastern end of Platform 1.
- 4 12.28pm depart on the northbound diesel railcar service from Winchcombe to Toddington arriving back at 12.38pm. Head for the station's Flag and Whistle cafe or sit at a table at one of our picnic areas for a spot of lunch. After lunch pop into the shop on Platform 1 to look at the extensive stock of railway books, toys and souvenirs. Then pick up a free Heritage Trail guide leaflet available at the booking office next to the shop and walk the self-guided trail round Toddington Yard. You might like to try pulling the full-size levers in our small Have-a-Go signal box and then stroll down the access track at the far corner of the car park to see what is in the locomotive yard. Check the map [here](#) for the location of the access track to the viewing area. Perhaps there is still time for another cup of tea in the Flag and Whistle cafe and for the children to let off steam in the play area near the cafe.
- 5 3.12pm depart on the northbound diesel railcar service from Toddington to Laverton, passing over the gently curving 210yds long, 42ft high, 15 span brick arch Stanway Viaduct. Stay on the train when it arrives back at Toddington for your return journey to Cheltenham Race Course station.
- 6 5.04pm finish your journey at Toddington after a full and satisfying day.



Tea and sponge cake at the Coffee Pot on Winchcombe Station

Option 4 – Blue Timetable starting at Cheltenham Race Course Station

- 1 10.15am arrive at Cheltenham Race Course station and park in our large free car park. If you haven't already bought your tickets in advance online, buy your All Day Rover tickets or big value Family All Day Rover ticket at the booking office adjacent to the car park. Walk down to the platform to see the steam train arrive at 10.34am and watch the loco run round to the other end of the carriages ready for the return journey.
- 2 10.55am depart Cheltenham Race Course on the northbound steam train. Get off at Winchcombe just after the train has passed through the 693 yard Greet Tunnel (arrive 11.18am). Treat yourself to tea or coffee and a piece of delicious home-made sponge cake at the Coffee Pot Tea Room on Platform 1. If you prefer you can pop in to the Discovery Coach at the eastern end of Platform 1.



Getting ready to depart from Cheltenham Race Course station

- 3 12.28pm depart on the diesel railcar service from Winchcombe northwards to Toddington arriving at 12.38pm. Head for the station's Flag and Whistle cafe or sit at a table at one of our picnic areas for a spot of lunch. After lunch pop into the shop on Platform 1 to look at the extensive stock of railway books, toys and souvenirs. Then pick up a free Heritage Trail guide leaflet available at the booking office next to the shop and walk the self-guided trail round Toddington Yard. You might like to try pulling the full-size levers in our small Have-a-Go signal box and then stroll down the access track at the far corner of the car park to see what is in the locomotive yard. Check the map [here](#) for the location of the access track to the viewing area. Perhaps there is still time for another cup of tea in the Flag and Whistle cafe and for the children to let off steam in the play area near the cafe.
- 4 3.11pm depart on the northbound diesel railcar service from Toddington to Laverton, passing over the gently curving 210yds long, 42ft high, 15 span brick arch Stanway Viaduct. Stay on the train when it arrives back at Toddington for your return journey to Cheltenham Race Course station.
- 5 4.29pm arrive back at Cheltenham Race Course station.



**Approaching the gently curving 15 span
brick arch Stanway Viaduct
between Toddington and Laverton**