

FolkMog "A Day Out in Lavenham"

Lavenham is a south Suffolk village that is bursting with historic buildings. Wool was spun and woven in people's homes to produce a cloth known as Lavenham Blue, then handled by the clothiers and sent as far away as Russia. This created significant wealth - hence the enormous 'wool church', which is celebrating 500 years of its Tower this year.

www.lovelavenham.co.uk

Please aim to arrive and park for around 10.30am.

Park in the large public car park beside The Cock Horse Inn. Pay and display (All day £2.50, cash or card - or less time depending on plans for the day). There are Public Toilets here too.

Those who wish to walk, change to suitable footwear and be ready to walk around 11am. Depending on the recent weather, we would suggest boots of some form. The village is on a hill, but the railway line path itself is fairly flat - where shaded under the trees can get muddy. We will walk into the village together to see the various buildings en route. There is a Coffee machine in Lavenham Butchers for those that need caffeine on the run!

The "walkers" will then go to the edge of the village to join the disused railway line for a 30-40 minute walk, which will take in a brief view of the Sculpture garden (no longer open but partially visible from the road, the Church (which has beautiful stained glass windows and a thriving secondhand bookshop), before returning to the cars to change footwear.

Anyone not wishing to do the walk can just explore or go for a coffee in one of the many tearooms.

Lunch will be in The Cock Horse Inn. I have reserved 20 places and preorders are requested, to ease service. Individuals can pay for what they have had separately. They have a fairly wide menu choice, plus £10 specials - which we believe is a Roast on Wednesday. The pub is entirely Dog friendly, so Folkmog hounds can come too!

After lunch you can choose to explore the village further:

Retail - Art, Antiques, Individual jewellery, gifts, clothes, Accessories, etc

The Ice Cream Parlour is great too. This makes for an excellent pudding, having let your filling pub meal go down a bit.

www.theparlourlavenham.co.uk

Lavenham Guildhall is National Trust - various historical displays, secondhand books and a tearoom. Open 10am - 4pm

www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Little Hall - The Story of Lavenham in a Unique Family Home. £6 admission fee, normally open 1pm - 4pm

www.littlehall.org.uk

Tea is available in a range of locations - many having an excellent choice of cakes.

There is a detailed Map and Guide, which we can share for those who want to be a little more planned in their exploration.

Most of the day is very flexible, so you can choose what you want to do on the day. However, we do need to know who wants to join us for the pub lunch as menus will need to be sent out in advance and choices consolidated. There are currently 13 individuals signed up, so spaces are still available.