

Earlybird Sessions at Cornwall's Regimental Museum

Additional Information for Supporters, Parents and Carers

Our Earlybird sessions are suitable for people with neuro-diversity and their families.

We want everyone to be able to enjoy a visit with family and friends to our museum, so during our Earlybird sessions we make special adaptations to make your visit more enjoyable for anyone with a sensory processing disorder.

What can you expect?

We open the museum early and limit the number of tickets we sell so you can enjoy the museum at its quietest.

We make special adaptations to the museum this includes removing the motion-sensor lighting and turning down the sound. We make every effort to remove anything that might be noisy or unexpected. In the toilets we also turn off our hand-dryers and replace these with hand-towels.

During our Earlybird sessions we install a temporary sensory space. You can use the sensory space at any time during your visit. The sensory space will be on the second-floor – follow the signs or ask someone from the museum team to show you.

We have prepared an easy read pre-visit guide. This includes lots of pictures of the museum and information about what to expect during your visit. We have also made a short walk-about film of the museum with some Makaton. You can find these guides on our website.

We'll have extra staff on hand to offer you any help or support during your visit. Some of our team have learnt basic Makaton and all have taken part in autism-friendly briefings.

Good to know

You are welcome to come and go during the Earlybird session – you can take a break in the sensory space or leave the museum entirely and return again when you are ready. You can arrive at 8am and stay for the whole session (and longer) or you can drop-in for just a short time – it is up to you. Our Earlybird sessions start at 8am. The museum will open to the general public at 10am.

Our museum is located over two floors. In order to access the museum you need be able to climb two sets of short granite steps. There is no lift access.

The toilets are on the ground floor. There is one ladies toilet, a men's and an accessible toilet with baby-change.

Drinks and other light snacks can be purchased from the second-hand bookshop on the ground floor. Food and drink, except for water, is not permitted in the museum.

There is a small shop that you can buy souvenirs from such as books, toys and other items should you wish. Due to the layout of our museum you will have to go through the shop in order to enter the museum.

There is some car parking available at the museum. If the car park here is full there is also on-road parking outside the museum or a large pay and display car park at Victoria Square which is a minute away.

In the museum

You are welcome to take photos in the museum. You can tag us on Twitter @BodminKeep or on Facebook Cornwall's Regimental Museum. We love hearing about your visit.

There are many mannequins in the museum. You can see some of these in the pre-visit easy read guide. Some of the mannequins can appear quite life-like, particularly to young children. We also have a large selection of real guns on display.

In the museum we have two bugles which you can try to play. We have a small number of ear defenders available for visitors to use if needed. These will be available at the reception desk.

Please help us to look after our objects. Many can't be touched for conservation reasons – some are too delicate, fragile or precious and we want to look after them for generations to come. When this is the case these objects are often in a case or have a label so you will know. Other objects can be touched or handled and we encourage visitors to do so. There will be a chance to try object-handling and get involved with a fun make-and-take activity as part of your visit.

If you are unsure please ask a member of the team - we love talking about our objects!

Booking Tickets

Tickets for our Earlybird Session must be reserved in advance. You can reserve your ticket here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/autism-friendly-earlybird-opening-tickets-47113481692>

You will then need to pay for your ticket at our reception desk. Tickets are:

Adults: £6

Under-18s: £2

Family tickets (2 adults and up to 4 children): £15

5 & Under's: Free

Carers: Free

Want to know more?

Check out our easy read guide and pre-visit walkabout film.

If you have any questions about the Earlybird Session and whether this is right for you please get in touch at info@cornwalls-regimentalmuseum.org or call Verity or Chloe on 01208 72810