

This is our museum



Before you visit.

We are happy to answer your questions about the museum by telephone, post or email.

Telephone: 01736 810966

Email: info@pkporthcurno.com

Post: PK Porthcurno, Eastern House, Porthcurno, Penzance, Cornwall TR19 6JX

Booking in advance is now required via www.pkporthcurno.com or call 01736 810966.

PK Sensory Map - you can download a copy of our Sensory Map from our website or ask for a copy at the front desk.

Our Story...

Why is our Museum here?

The tiny Cornish village of Porthcurno was once the heart of international telecommunications, boasting the largest telegraph station in the world.

At the museum you can discover our World War II Bunker, visit the Cable Hut where the underwater cables came up from the sea. You can touch our interactive displays and read about the amazing story of global communications.

Arriving at PK Porthcurno:

You can arrive by car or bus. The bus stop is next to our car park.

You can park in our main museum car park.



There is a single Blue Badge parking space immediately outside the entrance to Eastern House (our main museum building).



There are three additional blue badge spaces on Old Cable Lane approximately 50 metres to the north of the entrance to Eastern House.

From our main car park

Walk up 12 steps or walk along the long tarmac path to get to our museum main entrance. There are 19 more steps at the top of the path or a steep slope.



Entering our museum

Please wear a face covering in our museum unless you are exempt. Our museum staff will also be wearing face coverings.

You have to pull open the main door.

The first room you enter is the where the admissions front desk is and the shop. The front desk has a screen to keep you Covid safe. There is hand sanitiser for all visitors to use.

We currently only take card and contactless payments.



Ask our friendly staff at the front desk if you need any assistance.

The cafe is beyond the admissions desk. Sometimes you can hear unexpected noises from our coffee machine in the cafe and there may be smells of food.



You are welcome to wear your own ear defenders during your visit. We have a small number of Covid clean ear defenders available at the front desk to borrow, please ask a member of staff at the front desk if you would like to use these. Ear defenders must be returned after use for quarantining.

The men's, women's and accessible toilets are on the museum ground floor.



No food or drinks are allowed in our exhibition spaces, this helps to protect our museum displays.

You can pick up a Pigeon Morse code trail to do as you go around the museum from the front desk. There is a backpack designed for early years that you can borrow. The backpack contains a children's magnifying glass and binoculars to spot the Pigeons. Backpacks must be returned to the front desk for quarantining after use. A sticker can be collected from the shop on completion of the trail.



Other things to do may be on offer particularly during school holidays, check our social media channels and the website for up to date information.

Our Exhibitions

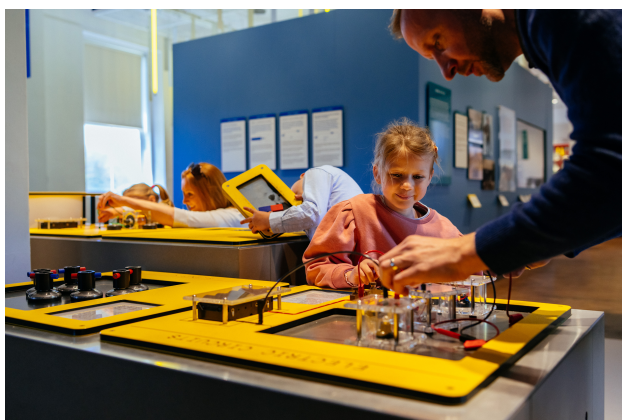
Go up 20 steps or use the lift to the first room of displays. The flooring is a mix of carpet, wood and vinyl throughout the museum.

Lighting throughout is mainly by spotlights.

Our displays include information text panels, labels, listening posts (currently closed), objects for handling and interactives to explore.

You may need to wait your turn to use the interactives.

During busier days in the museum, please be mindful of other visitors waiting to have a go too.



Demonstration Area



Seating is provided in the demonstration area. Visitors are asked to be seated a safe distance from one another.

Regularly throughout the day there are 20 minute talks and demonstrations. Please be mindful of other visitors listening to talks.

There is a Lego cable ship model on display in our temporary exhibition space on the first floor.



There are 18 steps or a lift back down to the ground level.
To go to the Bunker, follow the signs that say WWII Bunker.
You will pass a dummy soldier that is not a real person.
You will also pass areas outside.



As you walk into the bunker you may hear pretend loud noises that sound like planes, alarms and explosions.

The way into the bunkers looks dark from the outside.



The WWII Bunker

Inside the bunker it is well lit, the displays are all on one level and there is vinyl flooring.

There are things that you cannot touch in here as the equipment is very old and needs to be protected. As you walk in there are unexpected noises.



You are allowed to touch the interactive displays, please use the hand sanitiser before you use them.



There are 120 escape stairs that you will be able to walk up when it is safe to do so again. You will have to wear a plastic hard hat.



When escape stairs are open you can see what the escape stairs are like on a wall mounted screen.

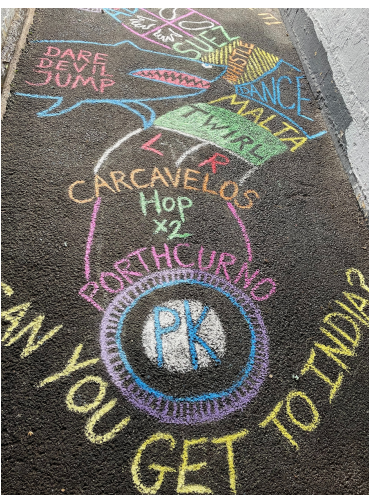


Some of the corridors in the bunker are long and thin, some well lit, and others are more dark areas.

There are toilets signposted before you exit the bunker. There is currently a single unisex toilet, adapted for accessibility.



There is a playful hopscotch game on the tarmac outside the exit of the bunker. You can have a go!



The Gardens

Our beautiful gardens are green and grassy and you can find a large outdoor sculpture to see. During late spring there are wild flowers to see.

In the gardens there are some narrow wooden steps which can become slippery when wet.

There is also a small play park and picnic area close to the museum main car park.



We are a dog friendly museum

Dogs are welcome on a lead all year round in our museum and cafe but not in our bunker (except for support dogs). Please make sure they go outside to go to the toilet. Please help to keep our valley safe and clean and pick up after your dog.



The Wilshaw Building, Clore Learning Space and Search Room

The Wilshaw Building is a separate building from the main museum and is adjacent to our main museum car park.



You can enter the building using a gentle sloping walkway or by going up 6 steps.

The Clore Learning Space is in this building and is used for most indoor based school workshops, activities and events.



The Learning Space is well lit and the floor is wooden.
The Search Room is open by appointment only.
Please email info@pkporthcurno.com for more information.

In this building there are three unisex toilets, one of which has been adapted for accessibility.