



# ***Cutty Sark* Teacher's Guide**

## **Preparing for your visit**

### **Pre-visit**

We strongly recommend arranging a pre-visit to the ship to plan practical details, complete your risk assessment and to assist in briefing your group leaders and pupils before they arrive. Pre-visits are free of charge for up to two teachers per group and must be booked in advance. Please contact the Bookings Unit on 020 8312 6608 to arrange your pre-visit.

### **Arrival, coats, bags and toilets**

On arrival, please report to the main visitor reception with your confirmation letter. Your group will need to wait outside while you are checked in.

Limited facilities are provided for storage of coats and small bags during your visit. We cannot take responsibility for any loss or damage to personal belongings during your visit. Please advise students not to bring any valuable items on site.

There are toilets under the ship by the café. There are 2 accessible toilets on board.

### **Lunches**

There are no lunch spaces on the ship. Lunch spaces are available at the National Maritime Museum, however this is subject to demand. Please contact the Bookings Unit to check availability.

There are plenty of picnic places nearby including Cutty Sark Gardens, Old Royal Naval College lawns (including sheltered areas) and Greenwich Park (including sheltered colonnades at the National Maritime Museum)

### **School visit ratios**

---

<b>Key Stage</b>	<b>Minimum required ratio</b>
EYFS/KS1	1 adult : 5 students
KS2	1 adult : 8 students
KS3/KS4	1 adult : 10 students
KS5	1 adult : 16 students

### **Weather**

The main deck of the ship - also known as the weather deck - is exposed to the elements. There is some shelter in the deckhouses, but please bring appropriate clothing in case you get caught in a storm!

### **Shop**

Our shop has affordable products at pocket money prices. If you would like to visit the shop, please make sure you factor in time to do so in small groups. Groups must be supervised at all times by a responsible adult.

### **Access**

Please contact the Bookings Unit to discuss any special requirements.

### **Wheelchair access**

All levels of the ship are fully wheelchair accessible and there are accessible toilets on site. However, due to the ship's historic nature, some areas of the Main Deck are not accessible to wheelchair users, and we can only allow a limited number of wheelchairs on site at any one time.

If you are planning a visit that will require wheelchair access, please speak to the Bookings Unit about your requirements and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

### **Pencils only**

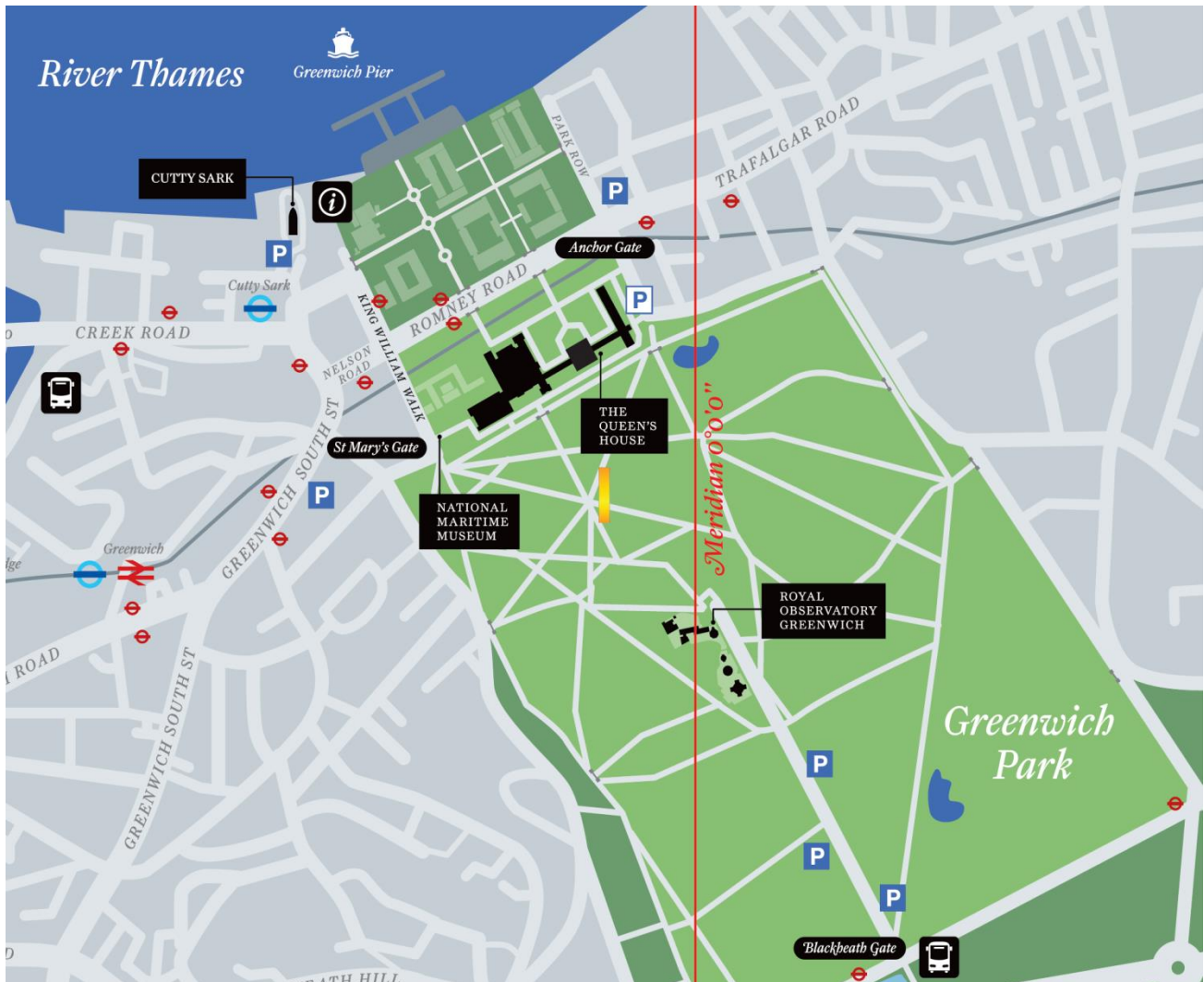
Please do not use pens on board the ship.

### **Photography**

Photography is welcomed on board, but please do not use tripods.

**Please feel free to contact the Bookings Unit if you have any other questions.**

## Finding your way



Parking is limited in Greenwich, so please use public transport if possible.

For information about coach parking and drop off points in Greenwich please visit [www.visitgreenwich.org.uk/getting-to-greenwich](http://www.visitgreenwich.org.uk/getting-to-greenwich)

A map of the ship can be downloaded from [www.rmg.co.uk/cuttysark](http://www.rmg.co.uk/cuttysark)

Underground: Cutty Sark Zone 2

Overground: Greenwich Zone 2

Ferry: Greenwich pier Zone 2 from Westminster, Waterloo, Tower Bridge and Embankment Piers

For specific London travel information visit [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk)

## **Risk Assessment Guidelines**

Cutty Sark is a Victorian clipper ship with original features which may trip you up! Please remain aware of your surroundings as you enjoy your visit.

Schools are responsible for completing their own risk assessments. The following information is designed to assist you. We strongly recommend arranging a pre-visit to the ship.

### **Arrival**

- Depending on how you get to Greenwich, it is likely you will need to cross at least one road to get to the ship. We strongly recommend testing your route in advance of your visit.

### **Overview of the ship**

- The Cutty Sark has four levels - Main Deck, 'Tween deck, Lower Hold and Sammy Ofer Gallery.
- Groups must be supervised at all times by a responsible adult.
- All levels of the ship are fully wheelchair accessible by lift. Due to the ship's historic nature, please note some areas of the main deck (the poop deck, monkey fo'c'sle and the Captain's saloon) are not accessible to wheelchair users. Due to restricted space, we can only allow a limited number of wheelchairs on site at any one time and access may be restricted for larger wheelchairs.
- Groups who do not require the lift for access reasons should use staircases. Please walk in single file on the left hand side of staircases.
- Some companionways or staircases are narrow and steep; care must be taken when going up or down steps.
- Essential maintenance and conservation work are carried out to the ship on a daily basis, work areas are clearly roped off so that children cannot encroach on the work area.
- Fire exits are clearly marked and procedures are in place to assist visitors in the event of an emergency.
- Please note that CCTV is in operation and monitored for the safety and well-being of our visitors.
- All staff and freelancers delivering schools sessions are DBS checked.
- The site is self-contained and the main entrances are staffed at all times.
- For health and safety reasons, a limited number of children are allowed in the shop at any one time.

### **Sammy Ofer Gallery**

- The stepped concrete sides of the dry dock in the Sammy Ofer gallery are high and must not be climbed on.
- Limited facilities are provided for storage of coats and small bags during your visit. We provide unlocked tubs for coats and bags on this level.
- We cannot take responsibility for any loss or damage to personal belongings during your visit. Please advise students not to bring any valuable items on site.
- Toilets are located on this level and are shared with other visitors.

## **Lower Hold**

- This is an immersive environment with film, sound, light effects and smells.
- The space is lit, but there is no natural lighting and some areas may seem quite dark.

## **'Tween Deck**

- The 'tween deck's ceiling is quite low - taller visitors should be aware of the risk of bumping into support beams.
- There is a slight slope to the Deck

## **Main deck**

- The decks are made of planking, which can present trip hazards; visitors should take care and be aware of where they are walking.
- Decks may become slippery when wet. Running is strictly prohibited at all times and visitors should walk with care.
- The rigging, masts and sides of the ship are within reach of the public and must not to be climbed on by any visitor at any time.
- Authentic ships' equipment is on display on the main deck, as well as other interpretative medium. Visitors are advised to take care when meeting these objects. Signage will appear to alert visitors when it is not safe to touch.
- There is a slight slope to the Deck.
- The main deck is exposed to the elements. There is some shelter in the deckhouses, but please bring appropriate clothing in case you get caught in a storm!

## Overview of the ship

### Introduction

*Cutty Sark* is the world's last surviving tea clipper. She was a cargo ship, built in 1869 to bring tea back from China, fast. The streamlined shape and large sail area of ships like *Cutty Sark* meant they could 'go at a clip' across the waves.

*Cutty Sark* has a long and varied history, including a period of Portuguese ownership when she was renamed the *Ferreira* and time as a training ship in Kent. She has been in her dry dock in Greenwich since the 1950s and is displayed as she would have been in 1872 when she was working as a tea clipper.

### There are four levels to explore:

- The Sammy Ofer Gallery - underneath the ship, inside (also where café and toilets are located)
- The Lower Hold - inside the ship
- The 'Tween Deck - inside the ship
- The Main Deck - weather deck

We recommend breaking into small groups and starting on different levels rather than following the main visitor route.

### Before coming on board

It is worth spending some time looking at the exterior of the ship before coming on board.

Look out for:

- The **ship's figurehead**, *Nannie*, at the **bow** (the front of the ship)
- Decorations on the **stern** (rear) of the ship
- The **port** side (west side, Cutty Sark Gardens), marked with a red lantern
- The **starboard** side (facing the access tower), marked with a green lantern
- The **ship's name** and decorative 'gingerbread' work at the bow and stern
- The **Star of India** at the stern
- **Cat-head beams** (which stop the anchors hitting the ship) at the bow.



## The Sammy Ofer Gallery

*Cutty Sark* the icon

The space beneath the ship tells the story of *Cutty Sark*'s preservation since the 1950s, including the recent **conservation project**, the **2007 fire** and the **naming** of the ship. You can walk right underneath the ship to examine her streamlined shape and **touch her spectacular hull!**

This gallery also houses a fascinating collection of **figureheads** from different ships.

Look out for:

- The **shape of the hull**
- Famous figurehead characters such as **Florence Nightingale, Abraham Lincoln** and **Hiawatha**
- *Cutty Sark*'s own figurehead, Nannie
- **Roman numeral** waterline marks at the bow and stern of the ship showing footage for loading
- The **Tam O'Shanter** film and the naming of *Cutty Sark*
- **Fire damage** on the ship's longest plank



## The Lower Hold

*Cutty Sark* the trader

The Lower hold was for ballast (used to balance the ship), and **storing cargo**. It did not have a deck. This immersive space uses film, sounds and smells to tell the **story of tea**, from its production, to loading the ships, drinking tea and the famous tea races. There is a short **introductory film**, which you can watch with your class.

This level introduces you to ***Cutty Sark's* owner**, John 'white hat' Willis, and explains how the ship was built. It is a great place to look at the ship's **construction and materials**.

As you enter the hold you will see copper-alloy sheathing on the hull, which protected the wood from ship's worm and stopped barnacles growing on the hull to help her sail faster. Inside, her **iron framework** gave her strong shape, a bit like a rib cage, and freed up space to allow more cargo to be packed in. Her **wooden hull planks**, are made from teak and rock elm which are very strong and long lasting woods. You can easily spot the original metal work; it is all painted white. New metalwork is grey.

Look out for:

- Patterned tea chests
- Names for **types of tea**
- Process of how tea is made
- Models of the ship
- **Ship's structure** (original metalwork is painted white, new is grey – note how **little was lost in the fire**)
- The plaque marking where the fire started.





## The 'Tween deck

*Cutty Sark* the voyager

Like the Lower Hold, this level was for cargo and storage. It was separated from the lower hold with a deck. The 'Tween deck tells the story of other **cargoes** *Cutty Sark* carried after her tea trade days were lost to steam ships and the **Suez canal**.

On the 'Tween deck, you can learn about *Cutty Sark's* fastest and most **dangerous voyages** carrying wool from Sydney, as well as other cargoes she carried when leaving London or 'tramping' from port to port.

You can examine the routes *Cutty Sark* sailed from Shanghai and Sydney on a tactile globe, and use **digital interactives** to discover the ports she visited both as a British ship and during the time she was owned by the Portuguese and re-named the Ferreira.

You can also find out about the **crews** of *Cutty Sark*, the **food** they ate, their **hobbies**, names and roles. Make sure you look at the fo'c'sle at the bow, where sailors used to sleep before being relocated to the main deck in 1872.

Look out for:

- **Hatches** for loading cargo and access
- **Stamps** on the main hatch (showing registration and tonnage of ship) and on a beam in the fo'c'sle (showing the number of bunks there once were)
- **Portholes** cut when *Cutty Sark* was a training ship in the 1930s
- Original portholes in the fo'c'sle
- Other cargoes the ship carried



## The Main Deck

*Cutty Sark* the sailing ship

The Main Deck – also known as the weather deck - is where the crew of *Cutty Sark* lived and worked. Here you will find deckhouses with the **crews' accommodation**, the **galley** (kitchen), carpenter's **workshop** and the Liverpool House where the Master and other officers lived.

Everything on the Main Deck is labelled to help you understand the various pieces of working equipment and living spaces.

Look out for:

- The **ship's wheel** at the stern
- The ship's two **names** at the entrance to the gangway
- **Views** of famous London landmarks
- How the ship worked (pumps, **rigging**, equipment)
- **Pig pens** and **chicken coops**
- Masts and rigging
- **Toilets** – 'heads'



## **Where to find out more during your visit**

### **Building *Cutty Sark***

- Introductory film in the *lower hold*
- Tea chest stacks in the *lower hold*
- Ship's Manual in the *lower hold*

### **Construction of the ship**

- Ship's Manuals on *lower hold* and *'tween deck*
- Half hull models in the *Dock*
- *Dry dock* exhibition panels
- Labels on deck furniture on *main deck*

### ***Cutty Sark's* name**

- Introductory film in the *lower hold*
- *Dry dock* exhibition panel and film
- Figurehead collection interactive panel

### **Cargoes the ship carried and ports visited**

- Tea chest stacks in the *lower hold*
- Glass panels on the *'tween deck*
- Ports of Call digital interactive on the *'tween deck*
- Cargoes exhibits on the *'tween deck*

### **The fire and preservation of the ship**

- History in hats in the *dock*
- *Dry dock* exhibition panels and films

### **The ship's time as the *Ferreira***

- Tea chest stacks on the *'tween deck*
- Ports of Call digital interactive on the *'tween deck*
- Model of the ship with barquentine rig on *'tween deck*

### ***Cutty Sark* the training vessel**

- Tea chest stacks on the *'tween deck*
- Digital newspapers on the *'tween deck*
- Oral histories on the *'tween deck*
- History in hats in the *dock*

### **Crew & life on board**

- Glass panels on the *'tween deck*
- Crew interactive and panels on the *'tween deck*
- Hobbies displays and panels on the *'tween deck*
- Food drawers on the *'tween deck*
- Living accommodation on the *main deck*
- History in hats in the *dock*