

**Site:** JORVIK Viking Centre

**Address:** 19 Coppergate, York YO1 9WT

**Contact:** Reservations team- 01904615505 or email [schools@yorkat.co.uk](mailto:schools@yorkat.co.uk)

**COVID-19 Procedures:** Following government guidance, we have introduced a number of new measures to keep visitors to JORVIK Viking Centre safe, including restricting the number of people in the attraction, ensuring social distancing and adding extra cleaning and hygiene precautions for visitors, staff and volunteers.

Our procedures have gained the 'Good to Go' certification from Visit England, so visitors can be assured that we have followed government and industry COVID-19 guidelines. Our website offers further information on these measures, under [Social distancing and safety](#), but we require all schools intending on visiting the attractions to make use of [COVID-19 Advice for Visiting Schools](#) document, which contains important information for teachers undertaking a school trip with us. Further references to our new COVID-19 procedures occur in red text throughout this document.

**Access:** JORVIK Viking Centre is completely accessible for people who are wheelchair users although fire regulations require that we permit no more than one person who uses a wheelchair into the building. It is essential for you to inform us of any pupils or staff who are wheelchair users in your group when you are making your booking so that we can guarantee access and support on your arrival. Please let our Reservations team know of any additional access needs your group may have as we have a range of resources we can supply should you require them. You can learn more about our access provision at JORVIK Viking Centre [here](#).

**Opening Hours and Times:** All opening times can be found on our website [here](#). A school tour lasts for approximately 1 hour. Admission slots are offered every 20 minutes and will be reserved solely for the entry of the school group as part of your booking.

To aid social distancing, the capacity for the number of school groups admitted in a day has been reduced, allowing for school groups visiting the attraction to maintain social distancing from each other.

## Synopsis

The JORVIK Viking Centre experience is hosted by a number of our Viking team members, who will guide you through a series of educational talks and activities on a variety of Viking topics. As well as learning more about how the archaeological remains of the Viking city of Jorvik were discovered and analysed, you can also experience life in the 10th century for yourself on our famous ride around a bustling recreated Viking street.

*Please be aware that the content of our attractions includes human remains, and briefly touches on sensitive topics such as death, illness, injury, and slavery, although these topics are not the major focus of any schools offer, unless otherwise stated.*

## On Booking

**JORVIK Visits:** Use the information provided on our [Education](#) webpages to choose which activities you wish to book and to view our [pricing](#). You should also decide if you want to book a joint visit with another of our attractions; we offer discounted tickets for joint visits.

**Workshops:** Viking-themed workshops are carried out at DIG in our classroom, not at the JORVIK Viking Centre. DIG is approximately a 5-minute walk away.

**Lunches:** No lunch facilities are available at JORVIK however there are plenty of seats in St Mary's Square outside. If you require a Lunch Room please ask our Reservations department as lunch facilities are available at DIG for no extra cost.

The DIG Lunch Room can accommodate groups of 30 children and 5 adults at any one time, and are subject to limited availability: pre-booking is essential. Picnic tables are also available in the DIG Garden but are only available in good weather and must also be booked in advance.

**Placing a booking:** Contact our Reservations team at [schools@yorkat.co.uk](mailto:schools@yorkat.co.uk) or on 01904 615505 to place a booking. Make sure you give us your preferred dates for your visit ready to check for availability, and let us know how many children you are booking for. If you are making an enquiry about a session, please let us know the age of your pupils and any special education needs they might have so we can tailor your package to your requirements.

[Further advice on how to place a booking is provided at the end of the document in our handy step-by-step guide.](#)



## How to Find Us

### How to reach York

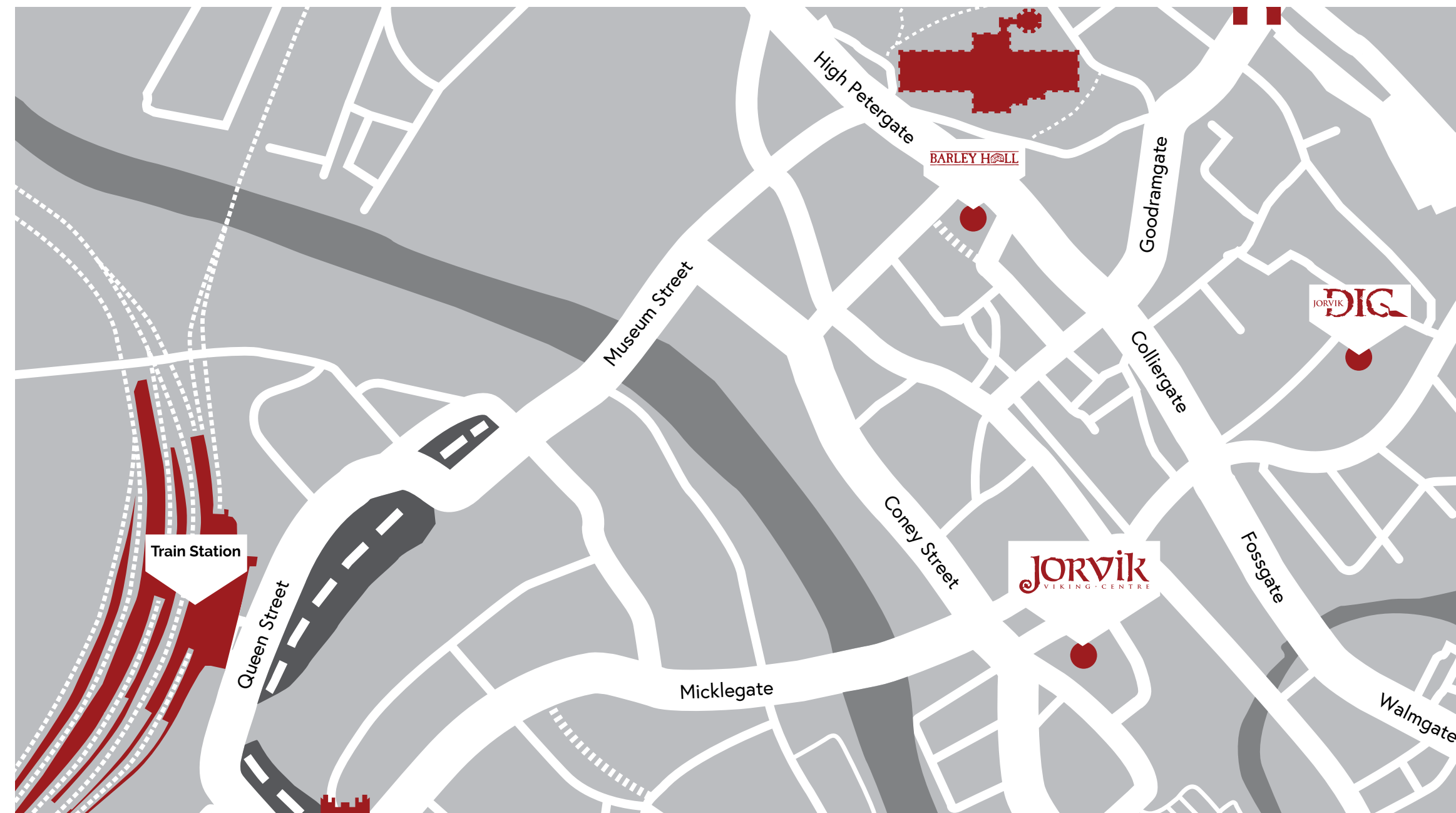
#### By Rail

From York Railway Station – 15 minutes' walk to DIG and 10 minutes' walk to JORVIK & Barley Hall.

#### By Road

Coach Parking: St George 's Fields Coach Park Union Terrace Please note: coaches are not allowed inside the city walls.

All of our attractions are located within York city centre, but remember to allow time in your schedule for the short walks between your chosen attractions. While some routes may be largely pedestrianised, please be aware that walks across the city may involve several road crossings and narrow pavements. We highly recommend arranging a complimentary familiarisation visit for up to 2 group leaders if you have not visited us before. Familiarisation visits can be arranged once your booking has been confirmed.



Click the address below for  
Google Maps location.

[JORVIK Viking Centre](#)  
[19 Coppergate, York](#)  
[YO1 9WT](#)

## On Visiting

**COVID-19 Procedures:** Following government guidance, we have introduced a number of new measures to keep visitors to JORVIK Viking Centre safe, including restricting the number of people in the attraction, ensuring social distancing and adding extra cleaning and hygiene precautions for visitors, staff and volunteers.

**Arrival:** You will be provided with a set entry time for each of the groups you have booked to visit JORVIK. Each group will need to arrive no earlier than 10 minutes before your scheduled entry time. Make yourself known to the staff members positioned near the admissions door, who will ask your group to stand in the pre-booked waiting area, which is marked by a barrier along the side of the building.

If you are going to be late, please notify our Reservations team as soon as possible before arrival so we can try to make arrangements to accommodate late entry for your group. Please note that if your group is late we may have to cut down or remove activities in order for you to keep to your schedule.

As you enter the attraction, a thermal camera will detect if any member of your school party has a raised temperature. If a member of your party is found to have a persistent elevated temperature your group will not be permitted to enter the attraction.

**Bags:** Unfortunately there are no storage facilities at this site and personal belongings should be kept with their owners at all times.

**Toilets:** Unisex and accessible toilets are available at JORVIK. These are located before the ride, and are limited to one facility of each type. It is highly recommended that you make alternative arrangements to use public facilities ahead of your entry to JORVIK so as not to impact on your visitor experience. If you have a booking at DIG more comprehensive facilities are available there.

Please note that JORVIK is now exclusively one-way; with the exception of health needs and emergencies, the only opportunity for children to use the toilet facilities will be at the start of your visit.

**Gift Shop:** Due to the restricted space, we are offering controlled access to our shops and limitations on the number of students using them at one time. If you want to visit the gift shop on your visit, please let us know at time of booking so that your party has the time in their schedule to visit the shop in smaller groups.

To save time, you can also pre-order souvenirs by reserving our Souvenir Packs as part of your booking. These can then be paid for and collected from the shop when exiting. Visit our [webpages](#) to learn more about Souvenir Packs.

## Schools Experience Outline

The schools experience currently on offer at JORVIK Viking Centre has been amended to reflect that we are currently not offering any artefact handling opportunities due to our COVID-19 procedures. Hand gel stations are available to use at regular intervals throughout the attraction, and necessary touch points are minimal: handrails, commentary selection for the ride, and activity boards in the gallery area.

**Discover Coppergate:** The children will be introduced to the history of the Vikings and the excavation that uncovered the remains of the 10th-century city of Jorvik through an interactive talk from one of our Viking guides, learning how the dig unearthed evidence of Viking settlement in the city and how archaeologists interpret these discoveries. Pupils will be able to view a detailed reconstruction of how the excavation appeared to the archaeologists and will be prompted to try interpreting some of the features.

Your group will then be directed to the ride. On each capsule there are six seats. There will need to be an adult on the first and last capsules. It is recommended that you plan your groups for the ride before arrival and bring them into the centre in these groups.

All visitors must use hand sanitiser before boarding and after exiting the ride.

**The Ride:** The ride has been designed to show what life might have been like on the Viking street of Coppergate in around the year 960AD. The ride is set in that year as dating analysis of the timbers found during the Coppergate dig indicates that the timber-built buildings were constructed and used during this time. This date corresponds with the period described in historical sources as occurring immediately after King Eric Bloodaxe's exile from the city of Jorvik, after which the city returned to Anglo-Saxon control.

The replica houses have been built on the exact footprints of the original archaeological remains and the activities in each building were represented in the finds around each structure. Several key themes are examined through the scenes that feature Viking characters, including domestic life, homes, crafting and trade. This also highlights the potential for a range of ethnicities living in the city, influencing the languages spoken, the religious practices followed and touches on the fact that slavery was a part of Viking life.

The ride is now even longer at 16 minutes so there is plenty of time to absorb the sights, sounds and smells of Viking life and watch the inhabitants of Jorvik going about their daily lives on the street of Coppergate.

**The Galleries:** After the ride, your group will be guided through our artefact galleries by members of our Viking team, where you will have the chance to view many important and unique archaeological objects unearthed on-site from 1000 years ago.

Following an introduction to the galleries and the collections on display, your group will then make their way to the coinstrike position where the coinstriker will give a talk about crafting on the street of Coppergate and their job of minting coins for the city.

You will then have the option to explore the rest of the gallery space independently, before exiting via the staircase and through the Gift Shop.

## 1 PLAN YOUR BOOKING

Read through the Education pages on the JORVIK website ([www.jorvikvikingcentre.co.uk/education](http://www.jorvikvikingcentre.co.uk/education)) to see our Attractions and Workshop options and further booking information. Joint tickets can make your visit and workshops considerably cheaper so our Reservations team would be happy to create a quote for your visit.

**Please note: to avoid disappointment please aim to book your visit at least 6 weeks in advance.**

### Your contact details:

School name and address

Name of Lead Teacher

Contact number

Contact email

### Your Visit:

Which attraction(s) you would like to visit?

JORVIK   DIG   Barley Hall

Preferred date(s):  Alternative date(s):

### Extras:

Workshop:

Lunch Space: Yes   No

### Your Group:

How many children, teachers and carers will be in your group?

Do you need to book wheelchair access at JORVIK? Yes   No

Does your group have any special Educational or other Access needs?

*Please note coaches are not allowed inside York's city walls. St George's Field and Union Terrace are the only designated Coach Parks. Remember to allow time in your schedule for the short walks between your chosen attractions*

## 2 CONTACT US

Contact our Reservations Team on 01904 6155505 or email [schools@yorkat.co.uk](mailto:schools@yorkat.co.uk) to enquire about a booking, providing the information needed in the box opposite. If you wish, you can download this pdf and open it on your computer, fill out the fields in the box above and then save the pdf (press CTRL+S or CMD+S to Save, editing the name of the document to include your school name as an extension) to send to us at the above address as an email attachment.

Remember to book any extras to make your visit run smoothly. Let our Reservations team know if you want to reserve a lunch space or pre-order Souvenir Packs.

## 3 CONFIRM YOUR BOOKING

Our Reservations team will offer you a schedule based on your requirements. **Please note that this does not represent a booking at this stage.**

If you would like to book this schedule, please let us know **within 3 working days**. After those 3 days, the proposed schedule will no longer be valid and you will need to make a new enquiry. Please have full payment details ready at this stage so that we can record them on our bookings system.

## 4 CHECK & RETURN YOUR CONFIRMATION PAPERWORK

Once you have confirmed you would like to book, our Reservations team will send you confirmation paperwork detailing your visit schedule and final pricing. Check the details are correct and sign the form. Return the form to us via email to [schools@yorkat.co.uk](mailto:schools@yorkat.co.uk) or posted to: **Reservations Department, JORVIK Viking Centre, 15-17 Coppergate, York, YO1 9WT.**

*We will also ask you to confirm that you have read and understood our COVID-19 Advice for Visiting Schools requirements and procedures.*

## 5 BOOK A FREE FAMILIARISATION VISIT

Ask our Reservations team to organise a teacher familiarisation visit to allow you and your colleagues to tour the attractions free of charge. Our Visitor Operations staff will be happy to answer any questions, and you can familiarise yourself with the locations of our workshops and facilities.

## 6 ENJOY YOUR VISIT

Countdown to the big day and enjoy your session!

*Follow the guidance in these Teachers' Notes and our COVID-19 Advice for Visiting Schools document to best prepare your group for their visit.*

We hope that you will find organising your visit well in advance will give you peace of mind and allow your class to have a great educational experience with The JORVIK Group.

## 7 HOW DID WE DO?

Remember to fill in an Evaluation Form to let us know how your visit was or contact us at [schools@yorkat.co.uk](mailto:schools@yorkat.co.uk) to pass on your feedback.