



ENGLISH HERITAGE  
EDUCATION

KS1-2

KS3

KS4+

## DISCOVERY VISIT GUIDE

### 1066 Battle of Hastings, Abbey and Battlefield

This guide has been designed to give teachers everything they need to know about our expert-led Discovery Visit at Battle, Abbey and Battlefield. Students will walk in the footsteps of King Harold and William the Conqueror, and learn about the events of 1066 and the impact it had on England.



GET IN TOUCH WITH OUR EDUCATION  
BOOKINGS TEAM:

☎ 0370 333 0606

✉ [bookeducation@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:bookeducation@english-heritage.org.uk)

📄 [bookings.english-heritage.org.uk/education](http://bookings.english-heritage.org.uk/education)

Share your visit with us on Twitter [@EHEducation](https://twitter.com/EHEducation)

Step into England's story

# WELCOME

This guide for 1066 Battle of Hastings, Abbey and Battlefield has been designed to support teachers and group leaders on a Discovery Visit at the site. We know that each class and study group is different, so we have collated all the information into one guide so you can prepare for your upcoming Discovery Visit.

For practical information and activity ideas to help support a free self-led visit, download the Teachers' Kit on our **Schools page**. Here you can also find ready-made Risk Assessments for your Discovery Visit and general Hazard Information for the place you are visiting.

We hope you enjoy your visit and that you find this Discovery Visit Guide useful. If you have any queries please don't hesitate to get in touch with a member of our team either via [bookeducation@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:bookeducation@english-heritage.org.uk) or on 0370 666 0303.

English Heritage Learning Team

## ICON KEY

The icons below will help you to quickly identify which key stage each Discovery Visit is for:



## CONTENTS

1066 Conquest Tour and Tales Summary 	3
1066 GCSE Tour Summary 	4

## SUMMARY

# 1066 CONQUEST TOUR & TALES

KS1-2

KS3

### Recommended for

KS2 and KS3  
(History, Drama, English)

### Learning objectives

**WHAT:** Learn about the story of 1066, the events of the Battle of Hastings and the aftermath of the battle.

**HOW:** Handle replica artefacts in the Discovery Centre and explore the site of Battle Abbey using costume and role play.

**OUTCOME:** Understand, through role play and object handling, the events of 1066 and the Battle of Hastings and how it has had an impact on how we live our lives today.

### Duration

1 hour 10 minutes



Gathered students taking part in the 1066 Conquest Tour and Tales session at Battle.

### DISCOVERY VISITS AT ENGLISH HERITAGE

Our Discovery Visits are award-winning, hands-on, expert-led, site-based activities, which combine inspiring experiences with quality learning out of the classroom. At just £100 a session at selected sites, these visits are delivered by our experts and have been designed to meet the needs of different groups across the key stages.

Led by specialist educators, site staff and volunteers, with knowledge and expertise across the curriculum, these visits enable students of all ages and abilities to meet characters from the past, through role play or handling intriguing objects.

### CONQUEST TOUR AND TALES DISCOVERY VISIT

Walk in the footsteps of William the Conqueror and King Harold on our expert-led Discovery Visit and take learning out of the classroom. Your students will meet our resident Anglo-Saxon who tells the tales of Norman power and English rebellion, and through dress-up, role play and more, students will learn about the events of 1066 and the impact they had on England.

To see this Discovery Visit in action, watch our YouTube video (2 min 17 sec): <https://youtu.be/3dij7A4LxS8>

### PRIOR LEARNING

We recommend you do the following before the Discovery Visit:

- Introduce students to the history of 1066 by discussing key events and significant figures from the year, including similarities and differences between the Norman and Saxon armies.
- Develop students' chronological understanding and remind students where 1066 features on a timeline.

### BEFORE YOUR VISIT

Download the ready-made Risk Assessment for this Discovery Visit from the **Schools page**.

You can also download our free Teachers' Kit from the same place. It's full of self-led activity suggestions to help you make the most of your time at Battle Abbey and Battlefield, including a bookable Discovery Chest.

# SUMMARY

## 1066 GCSE TOUR

KS4+

### Recommended for

KS4 (History)

### Learning objectives

**WHAT:** Understand the causes of the Norman invasion, including the death of Edward the Confessor and the claims to the throne in 1066. Explore the military aspects of the Norman invasion: the Battle of Stamford Bridge; the Battle of Hastings; and Anglo-Saxon and Norman tactics. Begin to consider how the Normans established and maintained control following their victory.

**HOW:** Take part in an expert-led tour of the 1066 battlefield. Consider the events, tactics and consequences of the Battle of Hastings from both sides, using the carvings and landscape to put this in context.

**OUTCOME:** Recall key information about the events leading up to the battle and how the battle itself unfolded on 14 October 1066. Consider the strengths and weaknesses of both armies, and draw conclusions about why William won.

### Duration

1 hour 30 minutes

### DISCOVERY VISITS AT ENGLISH HERITAGE

Our Discovery Visits are award-winning, hands-on, expert-led, site-based activities, which combine inspiring experiences with quality learning outside the classroom. At just £100 a session at selected sites, these visits are delivered by our experts and have been designed to meet the needs of different groups across the key stages. Led by specialist educators, site staff and volunteers, with knowledge and expertise across the curriculum, these visits enable students of all ages and abilities to step into England's story.

### 1066 GCSE TOUR DISCOVERY VISIT

This interactive, outdoor session has been created to support GCSE groups learning about the Norman Conquest. It is particularly relevant to those studying of the AQA exam module 'Norman England 1066-c.1100'. Through engaging activities and discussions, students will explore the key events before, during and after the Battle of Hastings on the spot where it happened.

### PRACTICAL NOTE

This session takes place entirely outdoors, and involves lots of walking, so please come prepared for the weather, wearing sensible clothes, e.g. waterproof jackets in case of rain, and sun hats on bright days. We strongly recommend sturdy shoes with good soles as the battlefield can be uneven in places and slippery when wet.

