

BRUNEL'S
SS GREAT

BRITAIN

Sensory Trail



**Explore with your senses
to discover the stories of
this incredible ship**

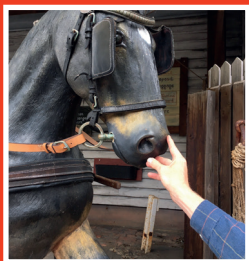
Use your senses to explore SS Great Britain and discover amazing stories and facts about this historic ship.

Find eight sensory markers highlighting interesting things to smell, touch, hear and see.

They are located in the Dockyard, on the Top Deck of the ship, Dry Dock and Being Brunel Museum.

What incredible stories will you find today?

What will you discover today?



Rough or smooth?



Nasty or nice?



Moving or still?



Quiet or loud?



When it first sailed in 1845 the SS Great Britain changed the way people travelled around the world, with its iron body and steam powered propeller.

It was built here in Bristol in this dry dock and designed by engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

He was born in Portsmouth and came to Bristol at the beginning of his working life. Brunel designed bridges, railways, tunnels and ships, making him a very famous engineer.

Want to know more?

Head to the Dockyard Museum and Being Brunel Museum.



Timeline of SS Great Britain

1839-1843

SS Great Britain designed by Brunel. Built in this very dry dock in Bristol.

1845

Ship's first journey as a luxury first class passenger liner travelling to America.

1852-1882

SS Great Britain starts taking all passengers to Australia.

1882-1886

The ship's engines are removed, and it becomes a sailing ship taking cargo from Britain to America.

1886-1933

Damaged in a storm in 1886. The ship remains working in the Falkland Islands, South America.

1933-1970

The ship is abandoned (holes are made in the hull to sink it) in the Falkland Islands.

1970

SS Great Britain rescued and brought home to Bristol.

1970-1992

Restoration of SS Great Britain begins.

1992-now

Open to visitors, ongoing restoration and creation of this incredible heritage destination.

In the Dockyard



Roll out the barrels!

The ship was loaded with barrels of food and drink to feed people and animals. On a 60-day voyage to Australia they took 28 tons of ship's biscuits. That's 373,333 biscuits!



Tap the barrels, to hear if they are fully loaded or empty.

In the Dockyard



Let's get tied up in knots

The ship's crew pulled rope to raise the sails to catch the wind and sail quickly to Australia. They also used rope to tie down important cargo.



What knots can you make today? Look at the examples to help you.

On the Top Deck



Top deck, a farmyard at sea!

Animals travelled on the ship to be food for the first and second class passengers. One journey had 400 ducks, 150 sheep, 500 hens, 100 geese, 30 pigs, and four cows!

On the Top Deck



Sailing come wind, rain or shine

In good, windy weather SS Great Britain sailed across the ocean. If there was no wind, the captain told the crew to burn coal to power the ship's steam engine.

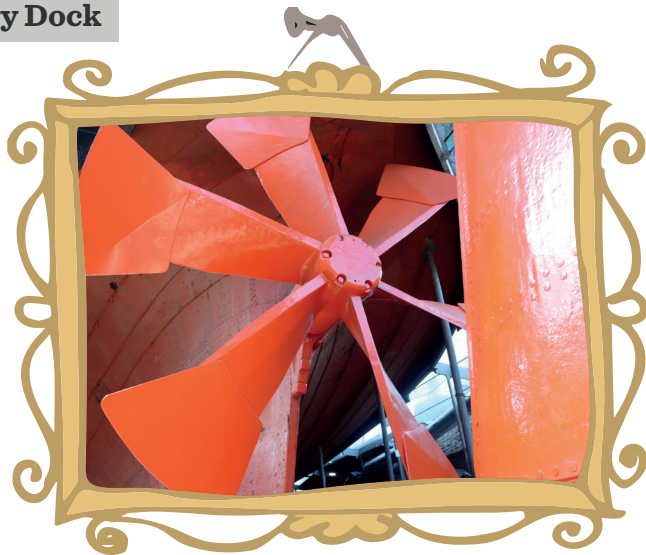


Take a sniff! Could you travel with these smelly passengers?



Is it windy today? Look at the flags. Are they flapping?

**In the
Dry Dock**



Propelling the future

Brunel chose to use a propeller on SS Great Britain, changing sea travel to be faster and safer. People and cargo now crossed the world in half the time!

**In the
Dry Dock**



Dry as a desert in Arizona

The ship is made of iron. After years in the salty sea its body rusted. Today the ship is protected with dry air to stop it rusting even more.



**See the large red propeller that
moved the ship around the world.**



**Put your hand over the air vent to
feel the dry air.**

In the Dockyard



Gold, glorious gold!

The ship was decorated in gold and the royal coat of arms to celebrate that it was the biggest and best ship to be built in Britain at the time.



Scan the QR code to listen to an audio description of SS Great Britain.

Being Brunel Museum



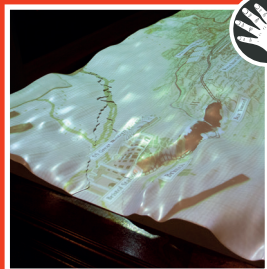
If the hat fits wear it!

This famous picture of Brunel with a stovepipe hat and muddy trousers shows him as a hard-working engineer. He designed three steamships, engineered over 30 railway projects and many tunnels and bridges.



Try on a stovepipe hat and pose like Brunel.

Explore the Being Brunel Museum to see, touch and hear about Brunel's other projects.



Did you know that ships use flags to talk to each other?



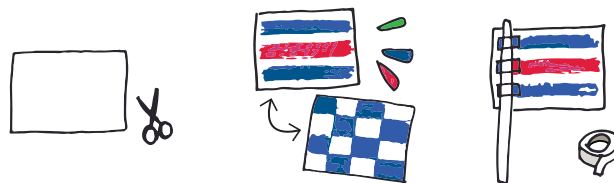
Here are two signal flags.

Yes

No

Try making a flag at home

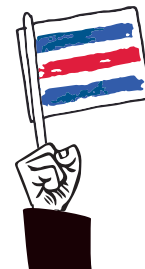
You will need: Piece of paper, scissors, colouring crayons/pens, a stick or pencil and sellotape.



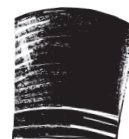
1. Cut out a rectangle.
2. Colour in the 'yes' flag on one side and the 'no' flag on the other.
3. Stick your flag to a stick or pencil using sellotape.



Scan this QR code to discover more about flags.



4. Enjoy using your flag to talk.



With thanks to Bristol Autism Project,
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inspiration for the trail.

Images courtesy of the Brunel Institute in
collaboration with University of Bristol.

Created with the help of Sensory Trust,
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Access our free wifi: SSGB Guest

