

# SWANAGE RAILWAY

## Timetable & Information 2012

**Under 5s GO FREE!**



www.swanagerailway.co.uk

The first train ran on the Swanage Railway in 1885. British Rail closed the line and lifted the track in 1972. The Swanage Railway Trust, a charity, subsequently took over the line and it has been painstakingly rebuilt, section by section, by volunteers. Steam trains now operate over almost six miles of track between the seaside town of Swanage and the beautiful Dorset countryside at Corfe Castle and Norden.

### Steam to the Beach

The Swanage Railway provides an ideal and fun way to get to the beach without the need to park in Swanage. Simply leave your car at Norden Park and Ride, which is conveniently located off the A351, north of Corfe Castle, and start your holiday early!



### Absorb the History

Whether it is the railway itself, the ruins of Corfe Castle, mining around Norden or visiting the Jurassic Coast, the Swanage Railway provides the ideal way to explore the rich history of the Isle of Purbeck.



### Explore the Countryside

The Swanage Railway runs through an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and the stations provide an ideal starting point to explore the countryside on foot or by bicycle. You can view the surrounding countryside in style from the restored railway, watch out for wildlife and relax during your journey.

- Visit Corfe Castle or the beach at Swanage by train
- Combine history, education and a fun day out
- Children under five go free on standard days
- Sample our station buffets and Wessex Belle dining train
- Visit our shop located on Swanage station
- Disabled access at all stations
- Convenient and attended parking at Norden
- Help to run our railway, and become a volunteer



## HOW TO FIND THE RAILWAY

The Swanage Railway runs through the heart of the Isle of Purbeck from Norden to the coast at Swanage. Norden is just 4 miles from Wareham, 19 miles from Bournemouth and 22 miles from Weymouth. Norden Park & Ride is located off the A351 Wareham to Swanage road, before Corfe Castle.

Swanage is situated on the Dorset coast between Poole and Weymouth and is reached via the A351 from Wareham (Wilts and Dorset route 40). Boat services also operate from Bournemouth and Poole. Wareham is the nearest main line railway station, served by a half-hourly service from London, Southampton, Bournemouth, Poole and Weymouth.

Photographs courtesy of Andrew P.M. Wright  
Designed by Luke Farley

The hours or times stated in the Swanage Railway Company's books, bills and notices are appointed as those at which it is intended, as far as circumstances permit, that the trains will depart from and arrive at the several stations but their departure or arrival at the times stated is not guaranteed, nor will the Swanage Railway Company Limited under any circumstances be held responsible for any delay or detention, however occasioned, or any consequences arising there from. The right to alter, suspend or cancel the running of any train or to substitute diesel traction is reserved. All information was correct at time of going to print. Train service details are subject to change. We recommend you visit our website, or call us for the latest timetable information to be sure you enjoy your visit to the Swanage Railway.

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Swanage Railway Trust. A registered charity - no. 1087318



**Calendar:** To find your train, look for the date on the calendar, and then go to the timetable of that colour. Where there is no colour on the calendar, trains do not run. Days marked Red are Special Events.

January 2012	February 2012	March 2012	April 2012	May 2012	June 2012	July 2012	August 2012	September 2012	October 2012	November 2012	December 2012
M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S	M T W T F S S
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
9 10 11 12 13 14 15	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	3 4 5 6 7 8 9
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	10 11 12 13 14 15 16
23 24 25 26 27 28 29	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	21 22 23 24 25 26 27	18 19 20 21 22 23 24	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	17 18 19 20 21 22 23
30 31	27 28 29	26 27 28 29 30 31	23 24 25 26 27 28 29	28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30	23 24 25 26 27 28 29	27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	29 30 31	26 27 28 29 30	24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

**Blue Timetable:** All these trains operate DAILY when the Blue Timetable is in operation

	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Diesel
Swanage	dep: 1000	1120	1240	1400	1520	1640	1710
Herston Halt	dep: 1000	<b>All trains stop at Herston Halt on request</b>					
Harmans Cross	dep: 1010	1130	1250	1410	1530	1650	1720
Corfe Castle	dep: 1020	1140	1300	1420	1540	1700	1727
Norden Park & Ride	arr: 1025	1145	1305	1425	1545	1705	1735
	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Diesel
Norden Park & Ride	dep: 1040	1200	1320	1440	1600	1720	1744
Corfe Castle	dep: 1042	1202	1322	1442	1602	1722	1746
Harmans Cross	dep: 1052	1212	1332	1452	1612	1735	1753
Herston Halt	dep: 1052	<b>All trains stop at Herston Halt on request</b>					
Swanage	arr: 1104	1224	1344	1504	1624	1744	1804

**Orange Timetable:** Daily Services

	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel
Swanage	dep: 1000	1120	1240	1400	1520	1640
Herston Halt	dep: 1000	<b>All trains stop at Herston Halt on request</b>				
Harmans Cross	dep: 1010	1130	1250	1410	1530	1650
Corfe Castle	dep: 1020	1140	1300	1420	1540	1700
Norden Park & Ride	arr: 1025	1145	1305	1425	1545	1705
	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel
Norden Park & Ride	dep: 1040	1200	1320	1440	1600	1720
Corfe Castle	dep: 1042	1202	1322	1442	1602	1722
Harmans Cross	dep: 1052	1212	1332	1452	1612	1735
Herston Halt	dep: 1052	<b>All trains stop at Herston Halt on request</b>				
Swanage	arr: 1104	1224	1344	1504	1624	1744

**Green Timetable:** All these trains operate DAILY when the Green Timetable is in operation

	Steam	Diesel Steam	Diesel Steam	Diesel	Steam	Diesel	Steam	Diesel	Steam	Diesel	Steam		
Swanage	dep: 1000	1040	1120	1200	1240	1320	1400	1440	1520	1600	1640	1720	1800
Herston Halt	dep: 1000	<b>All trains stop at Herston Halt on request</b>											
Harmans Cross	dep: 1010	1050	1130	1210	1250	1330	1410	1450	1530	1610	1650	1730	1810
Corfe Castle	dep: 1020	1100	1140	1220	1300	1340	1420	1500	1540	1620	1700	1740	1820
Norden Park & Ride	arr: 1025	1105	1145	1225	1305	1345	1425	1505	1545	1625	1705	1745	1824
	Steam	Diesel Steam	Diesel Steam	Diesel	Steam	Diesel	Steam	Diesel	Steam	Diesel	Steam	Diesel	Steam
Norden Park & Ride	dep: 1040	1120	1200	1240	1320	1400	1440	1520	1600	1640	1720	1800	1835
Corfe Castle	dep: 1042	1122	1202	1242	1322	1402	1442	1522	1602	1642	1722	1802	1837
Harmans Cross	dep: 1052	1132	1212	1252	1332	1412	1452	1532	1612	1652	1732	1812	1844
Herston Halt	dep: 1052	<b>All trains stop at Herston Halt on request</b>											
Swanage	arr: 1104	1144	1224	1304	1344	1424	1504	1544	1624	1704	1744	1824	1854

**Charter Trains**

Since 2009, Swanage has become a popular destination for charter trains arriving from across the country. These trains are organised and run by charter companies, not by the Swanage Railway.

On days when charter trains arrive, there will be a special timetable operating on the Swanage Railway. This is made available on our Web site and displayed on all stations.

**Yellow Timetable:** All these trains operate DAILY when the Yellow Timetable is in operation

	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel		
Swanage	dep: 1000	1040	1120	1200	1240	1320	1400	1440	1520	1600	1640	1720	1800				
Herston Halt	dep: 1000	<b>All trains stop at Herston Halt on request</b>															
Harmans Cross	dep: 1010	1050	1130	1210	1250	1330	1410	1450	1530	1610	1650	1730	1810	1754	1915	2025	2245
Corfe Castle	dep: 1020	1100	1140	1220	1300	1340	1420	1500	1540	1620	1700	1740	1820	1759	1922	2032	2251
Norden Park & Ride	arr: 1025	1105	1145	1225	1305	1345	1425	1505	1545	1625	1705	1745	1824	1807	1925	Terminates at Corfe Castle	
	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Steam	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel		
Norden Park & Ride	dep: 1000	1040	1120	1200	1240	1320	1400	1440	1520	1600	1640	1720	1800	1812	1930	Starts from Corfe Castle	
Corfe Castle	dep: 1042	1122	1202	1242	1322	1402	1442	1522	1602	1642	1722	1802	1840	1945	2100	2255	
Harmans Cross	dep: 1012	1052	1132	1212	1252	1332	1412	1452	1532	1612	1652	1732	1812	1848	1955	2107	2301
Herston Halt	dep: 1012	<b>All trains stop at Herston Halt on request</b>															
Swanage	arr: 1024	1104	1144	1224	1304	1344	1424	1504	1544	1624	1704	1744	1824	1859	2007	2117	2311

**Local Events - Travel by Train**

2-4 March	12th Swanage Blues Festival	13 July	Olympic Torch Relay in Purbeck	27 August	Harmans Cross Fete
28 April - 6 May	3rd Swanage & Purbeck Walking Festival	13 - 15 July	Swanage Jazz Festival	7 - 9 September	Swanage Folk Festival
11 - 13 May	Dorset Beer Festival Harmans Cross	28 July - 4 August	Swanage Regatta & Carnival	5 - 7 October	6th Swanage Blues & Roots Festival
26 May - 10 June	Purbeck Arts Week	11 August	Enid Blyton's Birthday Party	12 - 27 October	Purbeck Film Festival
30 June - 1 July	Armed Forces Weekend	12 - 19 August	Swanage Lifeboat Week		

### Special Events & Non-Standard Timetables

These events may operate with a special timetable. Please check www.swanagerailway.co.uk or call 01929 425800 for more information.

**January / February Weekend Service (From 7 January)**  
A diesel shuttle is operating between Norden and Corfe Castle. Park at Norden to take the train to visit the beautiful village of Corfe Castle.

**March 18th - Mothering Sunday Luncheon**  
Our first Wessex Belle Sunday Luncheon train of the year and always very popular.

**March 24th - 25th - Railway at Work Weekend**  
Your chance to see behind the scenes of a working steam railway. This incorporates the Swanage Railway Trust's annual members' weekend. Take the opportunity to talk to our volunteers and maybe join our team.

**May 11th - 13th - 7th Diesel Gala and Dorset Beer Festival**  
Diesel action all weekend with special visiting locomotives. An intensive service with three trains running all day with the Wessex Belle Bistro and regular service Friday & Saturday evenings. Dorset Beer Festival at Harmans Cross.

**June 4th - 5th - Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations**  
Come and help us celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

**July 13th - 15th - Swanage Jazz Festival**  
Evening trains may be running. Please check our Web site.

**July 28th - 4th August - Swanage Regatta & Carnival**  
The top carnival on the South Coast. Norden Park & Ride will be open until late for the duration of Carnival week with some additional trains.

**Sept 7th - 9th - Grand Steam Gala & Vintage Transport Rally**  
All Swanage-based locomotives will be in steam over the weekend with special workings and a rally of vintage transport at Harmans Cross. An intensive service with the Wessex Belle Bistro and regular service Friday & Saturday evenings.

**October 27th - November 4th - Half-Term Fun Week**  
A week of fun on and around the railway.

### Santa Specials - Book Early!

December 1st, 2nd, 8th, 9th, 15th, 16th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th.

Every child receives a present, drink and biscuit from Father Christmas during the hour-long return train journey. Adults receive a mince pie and a seasonal drink. **Advance booking is essential.** Children under two go free.

## Useful Information

**Latest Information**  
A recorded information service and the booking office may be contacted on 01929 425800. Latest events, timetables and other information are available on www.swanagerailway.co.uk. Our booking office staff are also happy to provide information about Swanage Railway services.

**Car Parking**  
Car parks are located adjacent to Norden, Harmans Cross and Swanage station (charges will apply). There is no parking at Corfe Castle or Herston Halt stations.

**Tickets**  
Tickets can be purchased at Norden, Corfe Castle and Swanage stations as well as on the train. Credit cards are accepted at all booking offices. Check our Web site or call on 01929 425800 for our range of fares.

Bookings can be made on-line for standard travel, special events or the Wessex Belle. Our reservations office can take telephone bookings for special events or the Wessex Belle. For special charters or corporate bookings please telephone Reservations on 01929 425800.

**Refreshments**  
The Bird's Nest buffet on Swanage station is open every day except Christmas Day. The Norden Nest buffet is open most train operating days and an on-train buffet is available on some services.

**Toilet Facilities**  
These are available at Norden, Corfe Castle and Swanage stations as well as on most trains. There are no toilet facilities at Harmans Cross or Herston Halt. Disabled toilets and baby changing facilities are available at Norden. The nearest disabled toilets to Swanage station are situated at the Recreation Ground Car Park (off Rempstone Road) and on the seafrost near the Tourist Information Centre.

**Sat Nav Location Information**

Norden Park & Ride -	BH20 5DW (Nearest location)
Corfe Castle -	BH20 5EJ (No parking available)
Harmans Cross -	BH19 3EB
Swanage -	BH19 1HB

**Guide and Assistance Dogs**  
Please note that no dogs except for guide and assistance dogs are allowed in the buffets, on the Wessex Belle dining train or in the Swanage Shop.

**Disabled Facilities**  
Disabled access is available to most trains and step-free to all station platforms. A dedicated coach to make travel easier for disabled passengers is available on some services. This includes wider access doors for wheel chairs and disabled toilet. More details available under Accessibility on the Website. Hearing loops are available in booking offices, shop and static buffets.

**No Smoking**  
The Swanage Railway prohibits smoking on all its trains, platforms, picnic areas, gardens, and other property.

### Norden Park & Ride

The car park at Norden offers the ideal place to start your journey on the Swanage Railway. The 'Pay & Display' car park is operated by the Swanage Railway and is clearly signposted off the A351 Wareham to Swanage road, just north of Corfe Castle.

Facilities at Norden include the developing Purbeck Mineral & Mining Museum, a children's play area, toilets with facilities for the disabled and baby-changing, refreshments and a picnic area.



### Steam into the Past

Most trains on the Swanage Railway are steam hauled using the same types of steam locomotives that operated trains on the Swanage Branch in the 1950s. These locos have been lovingly restored. Most of the coaching stock is approaching 50 years old, providing an authentic journey back in time to the golden age of railways.

### Purbeck Mineral & Mining Museum

Purbeck has a rich ball clay mining history. The new Purbeck Mineral & Mining Museum is due to be opened at Norden during the summer of 2012 (please check website and posters for details). This is a fascinating exploration into the history of the area that will allow visitors to experience what it was like to be inside a mine and understand the lives of ball clay miners.

### Corfe Castle

Our station is conveniently located in the shadow of perhaps the most famous castle ruins in Southern England. It is just a short walk from the 'picture postcard' village in the heart of the Isle of Purbeck and the short trip from Norden provides some of the best views of the castle. You can also visit the Railway Museum in the former Corfe Castle goods shed.



### Enid Blyton - Famous Five Trail

Follow the Famous Five along a trail across Purbeck - to celebrate 70 years of the books. Visit places that were part of Enid Blyton's Dorset such as Corfe Castle, Brownsea Island and the railway to Swanage. Follow in the footsteps of the Famous Five. Running from June to November, it will be up to you to solve the puzzle, using the clues provided.

### Driving Experience

Learn the roles of the driver and fireman during your hands-on journey between Swanage and Corfe Castle. A range of driving experience packages are available that provide a unique insight into the operation of a railway locomotive, as well as a 'once in a lifetime' experience. Details are available by telephone or via the website. Advance booking is required.

### Harmans Cross

The relaxing tranquility of Harmans Cross station, with its carefully tended gardens in the heart of the countryside, provides the perfect spot to simply sit and watch the trains go by. Our station also provides a convenient place to start and finish many walks, as well as being close to a number of camp sites.



### Evening Diesel Service

Diesel trains provide services on selected evenings during the summer (as well as providing additional trains during others parts of the year). These services are generally provided by heritage diesel units over 50 years old. The evening services provide an ideal way to dine out in Swanage or Corfe Castle without the need to drive. You can also travel on the evening services to give yourself more time in Swanage or Corfe Castle.

### Herston

Trains stop on request at Herston, which provides a convenient stop for walks to the coast and countryside, as well as serving local camp sites. Tickets are available on board.

Please signal clearly to the driver of the train, by raising your arm, if boarding at Herston, or ask the guard to stop if alighting.



### Wessex Belle Dining Train

Enjoy a relaxing meal on the prestigious Wessex Belle. Your meal is cooked on the train and you are served by attentive staff while travelling through the spectacular Purbeck countryside. These services are provided on selected evenings and Sunday lunchtimes. Details are available in a separate leaflet, by telephone or via the website. Most services require advance bookings.

### Swanage

Swanage has long been popular as a bustling seaside town and has gained further popularity as the 'Gateway to the Jurassic Coast'.

Facilities at Swanage station include the Railway Shop and Bird's Nest buffet. It also provides the local bus interchange, including open top services to Studland and Bournemouth.



### Enjoy the Views

On many occasions during the year, you can watch the beautiful countryside from the luxury of a restored Pullman Observation Car. This coach has a fascinating history including running on the Devon Belle and touring the USA with the Flying Scotsman. Now fully restored and offering superb views of the Purbeck countryside. A supplement may be charged for travelling in this coach.

