



ENGLISH HERITAGE  
EDUCATION

KS1-2

KS3

## DISCOVERY VISIT GUIDE

### Pendennis Castle

This guide has been designed to give teachers everything they need to know about our expert-led Discovery Visits at Pendennis Castle. Your students can explore the castle's more than 400-year history of defending the coastline and life at Pendennis through costumes, object handling and an expert-led tour.



GET IN TOUCH WITH OUR EDUCATION BOOKINGS TEAM:

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*Step into England's story*

# WELCOME

This guide for Pendennis Castle 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 useful guide 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 quickly identify which key stage each Discovery Visit is for.



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# EXPERT-LED DISCOVERY VISIT

## NOW AND THEN

KSI

### Recommended for

KSI (History, Geography)

### Learning objectives

WHAT: develop an understanding of the strategic location of Pendennis Castle; learn about the lives of the people who lived here in the past; appreciate how we know about the past through surviving artefacts.

HOW: through interactive exploration of the site and handling replica items.

OUTCOME: students understand how and why international events influenced the location and building of Pendennis Castle. They are able to articulate differences between life in the Tudor era and their lives today.

### Duration

1 hour 15 minutes

### DISCOVERY VISIT SUMMARY

Our Discovery Visits are award-winning, hands-on, expert-led, site-based activities that combine inspiring experiences out of the classroom with quality learning. 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, they enable students of all ages and abilities to meet characters from the past, role-play or handle intriguing objects.

### NOW AND THEN

This hands-on guided session uses costumes and handling artefacts to help your class consider who might have lived and worked at Pendennis Castle in Tudor times and to look at the similarities and differences with our lives today.

### PRIOR LEARNING

We recommend you do the following before the Discovery Visit:

- Explore the location of Pendennis Castle on a map so that students have an understanding of its position on the coastline.
- Develop students' chronological understanding and remind students where the Tudor period features on a timeline.

### SHARE YOUR VISIT WITH US

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# EXPERT-LED DISCOVERY VISIT

## ENEMIES ON THE HORIZON

KS2

KS3

### Recommended for

KS2 and KS3  
(History, Geography)

### Learning objectives

WHAT: understand the strategic position of Pendennis Castle and St Mawes Castle and their role as artillery forts; learn about the conditions for people living at Pendennis and how the castle reflects the changing nature of warfare.

HOW: observing and exploring the surrounding landscape and key locations at the castle; using role-play to re-imagine the lives of the people who lived and worked at Pendennis and episodes in the castle's history.

OUTCOME: summarise why Pendennis is a significant local landmark; identify how the castle responded to changing warfare from the Tudor period to the Second World War; demonstrate empathy for the people living at the castle.

### Duration

1 hour 30 minutes

### DISCOVERY VISIT SUMMARY

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### ENEMIES ON THE HORIZON

This interactive guided tour explores the importance of Pendennis Castle in defending Cornwall from foreign attack over the past 400 years. Your class will explore the site and use role-play to consider how defences and weaponry have developed over time and what life was like for those working here, from a Tudor gunner in Henry VIII's Gun Tower to a Second World War officer in the Battery Observation Post.

### PRIOR LEARNING

We recommend you do the following before the Discovery Visit:

- Explore the location of Pendennis Castle and St Mawes Castle on the coastline and their proximity to Spain and France
- Develop students' chronological understanding and remind students where the Tudor, Elizabethan and Second World War periods feature on a timeline.

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