Event 2: Dudley - Black Country Living Museum

22/08/2025 - Friday Day Trip by Bus, followed by dinner in Birmingham

Birmingham - The Industrial History and its surroundings

Meeting point: Buses leave from The Crescent Theatre at 10.00.

Birmingham is on the edge of the region known as The Black Country. The name comes from the coal outcrops that fuelled the Industrial Revolution in the 17th and 18th centuries. This outing gives you a chance to see how people lived in that area and to explore over 250 years of history from the Industrial Revolution to post-war prosperity, through living interpretations.

- Leave the 21st century behind for the day. Experience sights, sounds, smells, and tastes of the Black Country as you explore rebuilt and recreated shops, houses and industrial workshops.
- Step into the 1940s, 50s and 60s and experience the hustle and bustle of a period high street. Meet historic characters, spot vintage transport, and don't forget to listen to the Talking Clock or 'Dial-a-Disc' in the beautiful 1960s telephone box.
- Meet costumed characters bringing history to life
- Try the underground Coal Mine experience
- Enjoy the fairground with rides and stalls
- There is a variety of cafés, pubs and shops around the Museum for you to find something to eat or drink during your visit, including traditionally cooked fish and chips in beef dripping (vegetarian and gluten free alternatives are available upon request).
- You can also bring your own picnic to enjoy in the designated outdoor areas of the Museum. Each picnic area has accessible benches available
- With 29 acres (almost 12 hectares) to explore and historic characters to meet, there's a lot to see!

It is a stunning video and photo opportunity.

At the museum we start with a welcome talk by the local staff.

Then you can wander and discover for yourself all sorts of old-style shops, homes, workshops and transport. There are many demonstrations of bygone crafts which make striking images.

There is so much to see and do that we will not round up everyone for a lunchtime meal. Enjoy spending your own British pounds on snacks and meals in the pub, café or at various shops.

You can even buy a 45-minute canal trip too. (Credit cards are widely accepted.)

At 16.30 we gather at the front gate for our buses back to Birmingham ... and to a "farewell" meal in a local hostelry. This final meal is included in your trip.