

### 2022 – 23 Season



£2.50

### By J Aitken & Solomon Campbell



Guide to the Championship teams for 2019/20 season in this part of the book I have outlined their history old grounds with pictures a ground guide plus historical facts plus how to get there driving, public transport and walking to the ground along with where to drink for a neutral or away supporter and what you will pay to get in.

Remember if travelling by train then you can save on the cost of fares by booking in advance look at you away days and even book as far as possible so visit the Trainline.com



🦾 Tram

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#### Front Cover – The Football League Trophy

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# **Birmingham City**

Ground - St Andrews Ground, Cattell Road Birmingham B9 4RL Main Telephone No: 0844 557 1875 Fax No: 0844 557 1975 Ticket Office No: 0844 557 1875 Capacity: 30,016 (all seated) Pitch Size: 115 x 75 yards Club Nickname: The Blues Year Ground Opened: 1906 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Boyle sport Kit Manufacturer: Nike Website: www.bcfc.co.uk Programme: £3.00



#### **History Facts & Records**

The championship

Founded – 1875 (Small Heath Allaince) Years at Today's Ground – 112 years First Admitted to the Football League – 1892 Founder Member of Division Two First Official Floodlit Match – October 1956 Highest Attendance – 68,844 v Everton, FA Cup Fifth Round, 11/02/1939 Highest Score for – 12 – 0 v Walsall Town Swifts Division Two 4/01/1903, v Doncaster Rovers Division Two 11/04/1903 Highest Against – 1 – 9 v Blackburn Rovers 11/04/1903, v Sheffield Wednesday 13/12/1930 Highest Scorer in a Season – 42 Walter Abbott 1898/99 Highest Scorer Overall – 267 Joseph Bradford 1920 – 35 Player with most First Team Appearances – FE1 Cilbert Harold (Cil) Marriek 1046 – 60

Player with most First Team Appearances – 551 Gilbert Harold (Gil) Merrick 1946 – 60

#### Colours



Former Names

Small Heath Alliance 1875 - 1885 Small Heath 1885 - 1905 Birmingham FC 1905 - 1943

#### **Former Grounds**

Arthur Street (1875), Ladypool Road (1876), Muntz Street, Small Heath (1876 – 1905)

#### **Ground Guide**

After the Hillsborough Disaster in Sheffield three quarters of the ground was rebuilt in the mid 90's. One large two-tiered tiered stand, incorporating the Tilton Road End and the old Spion Kop end, completely surrounds half the pitch and replaced a former huge Spion Kop terrace.



Spion Kop End

The new Tilton Road End was opened in 1995, with the new Spion Kop following in 1996. At the back of the Spion Kop Stand, which runs along one side of the pitch, are a row of executive boxes, as well as a central seated executive area which also incorporates the Directors 'box'.

The Railway End, recently renamed Gil Merrick Stand their appearances record holder of 551 between 1946 to 1960 was opened in February 1999. It is a large two tiered stand and unusual in having quite a small top tier, which overhangs the lower area. Again there is a row of executive boxes in this stand, housed at the back of the lower section.



Gil Merrick Stand

Away supporters are seated in the Gil Merrick Stand, in the section closest to the Spion Kop. Approximately a quarter to a half of the Lower Tier is reserved for away fans although for games when the away allocation is increased to 10% of the total capacity, the section extends down towards all but the last section of the lower tier. When coming to the ground you'll come to the away turnstiles first when walking up from the city centre. The quality of the seating and views of the game from the Gil Merrick Stand are both excellent, though there can be a problem with legroom in parts. And the top tier is smaller than the lower tier.

Pubs for away fans and neutrals are in the centre of town near New Street Station are the Briar Rose which is at 25 Bennett's Hill good food and friendly staff. Near St Andrews is the Cricketers Arms at 48 Little Green Lane it is vibrant and sociable pub popular with locals and visitors alike. Nearby to Birmingham New Street just off the ramp is The Shakespeare Victorian Pub and the Sun on The Hill

which both stock a decent choice of real ales. Nearby to Snow Hill Station there is the Old Contemptible which is an Oak Bar, or the Jekyll & Hyde, the gin parlour which also stocks a variety of real ales.

Food on offer inside the ground includes a range of Pies; Steak and Ale, Chicken & Mushroom (all  $\pounds$ 3), Burger/Cheeseburgers ( $\pounds$ 3.50), and Hot Dogs ( $\pounds$ 3.50) and there are good portions and  $\pounds$ 4.00 a pint. Me I am not for paying those prices so take a Subway Meal from Birmingham New Street or walk over to Pauls or Sixteen Bakery only 160 yards from the station to get hot pies for  $\pounds$ 1.00.



Main Stand

The former Main Stand, which was opened in 1952, now the only part that remains of the former St Andrews Ground. This is a two tier stand running along one side of the pitch and has a row of executive boxes running across its middle and is stand is the smallest at the stadium.

This stand which is now known as the Garrison Lane Stand also houses the press area, television gantry and has the team dugouts located in front of it. The team dressing rooms are now situated within the Gil Merrick Stand, which results in the teams entering the field of play from one corner of the stadium between this stand and the Garrison Lane Stand and there is also in this area a large video screen that was erected in 2009.

#### **Driving to the Ground**



Leave the M6 at Junction 6 and take the A38 (M) the Aston Expressway for the City Centre. Continue past the first turn off and then take the next turn off, for the Inner Ring Road (Dartmouth Middleway).

Turn left at the roundabout at the top of the slip road and take the Ring Road East (Signposted Coventry/Stratford). Continue along the ring road for two miles, crossing straight across three roundabouts. At the fourth roundabout (there is a large McDonalds on the far left hand corner) turn left into Coventry Road going towards Small Heath. Take a left into Cattell Road at the lights and City's ground is on your left. The ground is well sign posted on the Inner Ring Road. There is though plenty of street parking off the left hand side of the ring road. Either around the small park at the third roundabout you cross or along the road next to and behind the BP garage before the fourth island. Bear in mind that if you arrive after 1.30pm these areas are likely to be already full. There are some

local schools and firms that offer parking facilities for around £5. You can park next to the Cricketers Arms in Little Green Lane which is just of Cattell Road via Arsenal Street



#### South West

Take the M5 to junction 3 then take the A456 exit to Birmingham (W & C) then at the roundabout take the third exit onto Quinton Expressway/A456, go through two roundabouts and follow the signs for the A456 on the Middleway and follow this road for about five miles then take the left and follow the signs for Ring Road/ A38. At the roundabout take the third exit into Highgate Middleway and go straight on at one roundabout at the next take the third exit into Coventry Road then at the lights take a left into Cattell Road.

#### **Public Transport**



Train to **Birmingham New Street Railway Station** to walk out onto Station Road and turn left and follow it into Dudley Street and at the lights cross the road slight left and through the pedestrian prescient to Khans go left and then first right to Allison Street and take the **National Express West Midlands 17 or 60 bus** from DS3 Stop to Garrison Lane/Greenway Lane and it's a three minute walk to the ground.

Admission

Adults £30 (B £27) (C £20) (D £18) Senior Citizens/Students £18 (B £16) (C £15) (D £12) Under 18's £13 (B £11) (C £10) (D £7) Under 13's £7 (B £7) (C £5) (D £5)

# **Blackburn Rovers**

Ground - Ewood Park, Nuthall Street, Blackburn, BB2 4JF Main Telephone No: 0871 702 1875 Fax No: 01254 671 042 Ticket Office: 0871 222 1444 Capacity: 31,367 (all seated) Pitch Size: 115 x 76 yards Club Nickname: Rovers Year Ground Opened: 1890 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Encrovite Kit Manufacturer: Macron Website: www.rovers.co.uk Programme: £3.00



#### **History Facts & Records**

Founded - 1875 Former Names – Blackburn Grammar School Old Boys FC Years at Today's Ground – 130 years First Admitted to the Football League – 1888 Founder Member First Official Floodlit Match – November 1958 Highest Attendance – 61,783 v Bolton Wanderers, FA Cup 6th round, 2 March 1929 Highest Score for – 11 – 0 Rossendale FA Cup First Round 13/10/1884 Highest Against – 0 – 8 v Arsenal Division One 25/03/1923 Highest Scorer in a Season – 43 goals Edward Cashfield (Ted) Harper in 1925/26 Highest Scorer Overall – 194 Simon Garner 1978 – 92 Player with most First Team Appearances – 637 Ronald Clayton 1950 – 69

#### Colours



The championship

#### **Former Grounds**

Preston New Road (1875 - 77) Pleasington Cricket Ground (1877) Alexandra Meadows (1877 – 81), Leamington Road (1881 – 90)

#### **Ground Guide**

The ground is quite impressive, having had three new large stands Jack Walker, Blackburn End, and Darwen End built during the 1990's. These stands are at both ends and at one side of the ground. They are of similar design, being two tiered, having a row of executive boxes and similar roofs. The ends are particularly impressive, both having large lower tiers. The only downside is the open corners, although there is a huge screen at one corner by the away end.



Ronnie Clayton, Jack Walker and Riverside Stands (Paul Coleman)

There is also an electric scoreboard at the Darwen End of the ground now renamed Bryan Douglas Stand and this is where the away fans are housed where the facilities provided are good but the spacing between the rows of seats being quite tight (designed for a midget). The Darwen End is shared with home supporters, but if demand requires it the whole of the stand can be made available with 4,000 tickets, which are split between the whole of the upper tier and part of the lower tier (with the lower tier being allocated first).

The Riverside is the only undeveloped stand, running down one side of the pitch. This is a smaller single tiered stand and in fact it looks older than what it is having been opened in 1988. It contains a fair number of supporting pillars and is partly covered (to the rear) but has a huge walk way when leaving the ground and can watch the end of the match as you are leaving. Outside the stadium behind the Blackburn End there is a statue of former club owner Jack Walker.

Away fans are housed in the Bryan Douglas Darwen End, where the facilities provided are good. However, the spacing between the rows of seats leaves a lot to be desired, being quite tight. The Darwen End is shared with home supporters, but if the support demands require it the whole of the stand can be made available.



Bryan Douglas Stand

Normally the away allocation is for three quarters of the stand, at just under 4,000 tickets, which are split between the whole of the upper tier and part of the lower tier (with the lower tier being allocated first). If forgot to buy in advance, then you need to buy one from the away supporter's ticket office at the ground as you can't pay on the turnstiles. The ticket office is located on the corner of the Darwen End & the Jack Walker Stand.

The Fernhurst Lodge which is on Bolton Road where there is good food for price and are only two minutes from the stadium. Failing this you have The Golden Cup which is located quite a bit further along this road near to the M65. Mostly uphill, it is the most pleasant of walks, and unless you have a car or have just exited off of the M65 then you good selection of beers

There is also Uncle Jacks on Branch Road and it welcomes away fans, has an excellent selection of beers, cask ales as well as some brilliant pies and it is only a fourteen mins walk from the ground' you walk past the ground and then take a left down Branch Road. There is a large Weatherspoon's outlet near to Blackburn Railway Station known as the Postal Order, amongst a handful of other small watering holes which allow away and Neutral fans.

Food on offer inside the ground includes a range of Pies; Steak and Ale, Chicken & Mushroom (all £3), Burger/Cheeseburgers (£3.50), and Hot Dogs (£3.50) and there are good portions and £4.00 a pint. Me I am not for paying those prices so take a Subway Meal from Blackburn Railway Station or walk six minutes over to Oddies in New Market Street or Pounds Bakery at 8 New Market Street to get hot pies for £1.50

#### **Driving to the Ground**

#### North

Travel the M6 to junction 30, and merge onto the M61 then at leave junction 9 then onto the M65 towards Blackburn, then leave the M65 at Junction 4 (A666) and follow signs towards Darwen/ Blackburn. At the roundabout take the fourth exit into Earcroft Way and take a right at the lights and go under the M65 past the Fernhurst Lodge Pub then take the third right into the ground.



Travel the M6 to junction 29, then onto the M65 towards Blackburn, then leave the M65 at Junction 4 (A666) and follow signs above



Use Motorway M62 onto M66/A56, then onto the M65, head towards Blackburn then leave the M65 at Junction 4 (A666) and at the roundabout take the first exit into Earcroft Way and then follow the above directions for the North.



Take the train to **Blackburn Railway Station** walk three minutes up to the town centre and from stance 1 and get the **Blackburn Bus Company 1 Bus** and alight at Heys Lane then walk down past the Brown Cow Pub and continue to the main roundabout (Shearers Island) go straight on around McDonald and the ground is on the left.

Admission

**Bryan Douglas Darwen End** Adults £28 (A £22) (B £20), OAP's £18 (A £15) (B £12), Juniors £12 (A £7) (B £5)

## Blackpool

Ground – Bloomfield Road, Seasiders Way, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY1 6JJ Main Telephone No: 0871 622 1953 Fax No: 01253 405 011 Capacity: 16,750 (all seated) Pitch Size: 112 x 74 yards Club Nickname: The Seasiders or Tangerines Year Ground Opened: 1899 Undersoil Heating: No Shirt Sponsors: Visit Blackpool Kit Manufacturer: Puma Website: www.blackpoolfc.co.uk Programme: £2.00



Colours



#### **History Facts & Records**

Founded - 1887

Former Names – Blackpool AFC (merged with South Shore 1899)

Years at Today's Ground – 118 years

**First Admitted to the Football League** – 1896 elected from Lancashire Football League to Division Two for Rotherham County FC

First Official Floodlit Match - October 1958

Highest Attendance – 39,118

Highest Score for - 10-0 v Lanerossi Vicenza, Anglo-Italian Cup 10/06/1972

**Highest Against –** 1 – 10 v Small Heath 02/03/1901, v Huddersfield Town Division One 13/12/1930 **Highest Scorer in a Season & Highest Scorer Overall –** 45 goals 1929/30, 252 James (Jimmy) Hampson 1927 – 38

Player with most First Team Appearances - 569 James Christopher (Jimmy) Armfield 1954 - 71

#### **Former Grounds**

Raikes Hall Gardens (1887 – 97), Athletics Ground (1897 – 98), Raikes Hall Gardens (1898/99), Waterloo Road (Cow Gap Lane) (1899/1900)

#### Ground Guide

The ground has been almost completely re-developed over the last decade, with three permanent stands being built, along with a temporary stand on the East side. The three permanent sides are of similar design, being single tiered, of the same height, all seated and covered.

In March 2010 the long awaited South Stand was finally opened, being a mirror image of the North Stand, and extending around and meeting the West Stand, enclosing the South West corner of the stadium. During the 2011/12 season the South East corner between the South Stand and the temporary East Stand was also filled with an additional 500 seats. The South Stand (Jimmy Armfield Stand) in tribute to the Blackpool legend, Jimmy Armfield which has a capacity of 3,600 seats.



South Stand

The West Stand (Stanley Matthews Stand) on one side of the stadium and the North Stand (Stan Mortensen Kop Stand) at one end, were both opened in February 2002. The North West corner between these stands has also been filled with seating, enclosing this area of the ground. Behind the main seating in the West Stand and the North West corner, is a hospitality balcony to the North West corner is the Sir Stanley Matthews Hospitality Suite.

On the East side of the ground the Club have erected a new covered temporary stand. Although temporary it is of a good size housing some 5,000 fans in a single tier of seating of which half are given to away fans with the press dividing them in the middle of the stand. It is also covered, with the only main drawback is that it has a number of supporting pillars running across the front of it. Situated in one corner of the ground between the East & South stands is a large video screen.



Outside the stadium, behind the North Stand is a statue of the former Blackpool legend Stan Mortensen, whilst outside the main entrance is a statue of Jimmy Armfield.



Stan Mathews and North Stand

#### Driving to the Ground



Leave the M6 at Junction 32 and then follow the M55 into the outskirts of Blackpool and continue straight along Yeadon Way through a number of roundabouts past Blackpoll South Railway Station until you see the ground on your right. A huge pay and display car park is located just across the road from the ground, which stretches all the way from Blackpool South station. It costs £3.50 for three hours (some of the pay machines also accept credit/debit cards).



The championship

Take the train to **Blackpool South Railway** and is around a ten minute walk away just walk up Seasiders Way to the ground. (However fewer trains stop at this station).



Take the train to **Blackpool North Railway** then walk straight and walk straight down Queen Street and then take the first right and take the **Blackpool Bus Company 3 bus** to Park/Westmorland Avenue then cross the road and take a right and follow it to the crossroads and walk straight on into Rigby Road and continue on till you get to McDonalds then take a left up the path into Seasiders Way the ground is on your right.

#### Admission

Adults £22 Over 60's £18 Under 19's £10 Under 11's Free\*\*

\*\* When accompanied by a paying adult.

#### Where to have a Drink

The Old Bridge House pub on Lytham Road It is only short walk away (walk down Bloomfield Road towards the sea front and then turn right into Lytham Road and the pub is down on the right) and has screens showing Sky Sports. The Auctioneer Pub on Lytham Road near Blackpool South Station. It's a 10 minutes' walk to the ground and serves good beer and excellent food.

# **Bristol City**

Ground - Ashton Gate, Ashton Road, Bristol, BS3 2EJ Main Telephone No: 0117 963 0600 Fax No: 0117 963 0600 Ticket Office: 0117 963 0600 (Option 1) Capacity: 21,479 (all seated) Pitch Size: 115 x 75 yards Club Nickname: The Robins Year Ground Opened: 1904 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Mansion Bet Kit Manufacturer: Hummel Website: www.bcfc.co.uk Programme: £3.00

#### History Facts & Records

Founded – 1894 (Bristol South End) Former Names – Bristol South End merged with Bedminster (1887) in 1901 Years at Today's Ground – 114 years First Admitted to the Football League – 1901

First Official Floodlit Match – Jan 1953

Highest Attendance – 43,335 v. Preston North End 16 February 1935
Highest Score for – 11–0 v. Chichester City FA Cup Round One 5 November 1960
Highest Against – 0–9 v. Coventry City F.C. on the 28 April 1934
Highest Scorer in a Season – 36 Don Clark 1946/47 season
Highest Scorer Overall – 351 Peter John Walter (John) Atyeo from 1951 – 66
Player with most First Team Appearances – 646 Louis Anthony Carey from 1995 to 2014



Colours



#### **Former Grounds**

St Johns Lane (1894 – 1904)

**Ground Guide** 

The Atyeo stand named after Peter John Walter Atyeo there highest scoring and appearances till the

most appearances record was taken by Lois Carey in 2013 at one end of the ground, covered all seated single tiered stand. It was opened in 1994, replacing a former open terrace and has made a great difference to the overall look of the ground.



Other parts Ashton Gate Stadium have undergone major transformation recently with the building of two new stands and the refurbishment of a third. The most recent and largest edition is the new Lansdown Stand on the West side of the ground. Opened in August 2016 this huge stand has a capacity of around 11,000, spread over two tiers.

It has a large lower tier, with a smaller one above, whilst in-between the tiers there is a row of corporate boxes stretching across its middle. The stand has quite a high roof with a strip of Perspex running across the top of the upper tier just below, to allow more light to get to the pitch.



Updated Main Stand

At one end is another new stand. The South Stand was opened in August 2015 and has replaced the former Wedlock End. This new South Stand is a good sized single tiered stand, having a capacity of just over 6,000 seats. It extends around both corners of this end of the stadium. It has Perspex panels built into the front of the roof like all the new stands, to allow more sunlight onto the playing surface allowing the grass to grow naturally.



South Stand

On the remaining side is the Dolman Stand which was opened in 1970. It is a two-tiered all seated stand that has a large upper tier and a smaller lower tier. As part of the development works at the ground, its roof was further extended to meet the new stand in the South East corner and the stand itself was refurbished. Ashton Gate Stadium is shared with Bristol Rugby Club.

Fans who visit Ashton Gate are housed at one end of the stadium in the John Atyeo Stand, where around 4,200 fans can be accommodated. The stand is free of supporting pillars and offers good views of the playing action. The stand is also located quite close to the pitch and with good stand acoustics a good atmosphere can be created. Entrance to the ground is gained through the use of electronic turnstiles, whereby your ticket needs to be inserted into a bar code reader.

Alcohol is made available to away fans inside the ground with Brands available include; Heineken (£4.50), Fosters (£4), John Smiths (£4), Butcombe Bitter (£4), Guinness (£4.50) and Thatchers Cider (£4). The Knights Templar pub, at 1 the Square it's a two minute walk straight ahead from the station into the Temple area and off to the left in the square'. Good beer food and wine served by friendly staff.

The Cottage in Baltic Wharf on Cumberland Road is a nice pub situated on the river front and has good real ale (from the Butcombe Brewery). The 'Tobacco House' bar which is a five minutes walk from the road behind the John Atyeo Stand next door to an Aldi store and the Tobacco House on Raleigh Road I found the bar friendly and trouble free and the food was good too.' The Orchard pub is about a ten minutes walk from the ground at Hanover Place on Harbour side this pub is listed in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide and apart from having a number of Ale's on offer; it also has up to 24 different ciders available. Visiting supporters are welcome at the Bedminster Cricket Club, which is located about an 15 minutes' walk away from Ashton Gate, on Clanage Road and you can also park at a cost of £5 per car.'

#### **Driving to the Ground**



Exit the M5 at junction 15 merge onto the M4 to junction 19, exit toward A4174/Ring Road and then onto the M32 then continue on till you get to Cabot Circus take a left into Temple Way then at the

main roundabout take the second exit into Temple Gate/ A4 and at the next roundabout take the third exit into Clarence Road and pass the Peugeot Garage then at the T Junction take a left and after crossing the bridge take the right exit and follow the signs for the A370 and after the lights take a left into Coronation Road.

Then after a mile take the first left after the cafe at the pedestrian crossing into Green Bush Lane then at the bottom of the road at the T Junction take a left into North Road and follow the road round as there is little parking at the ground, I take the third left into Bath Street and park at the flats and then walk it to the ground.



The Alternative route is to Leave the M5 at Junction 18 and travel along the Portway (A4) following signs for the Bristol Airport/Taunton (A38). As you go over the swing bridge (Brunel Way), branch left into Winterstoke Road, and you will see the ground on your left behind the houses and at the roundabout take the first exit up to the ground.



Take the train to **Bristol Temple Meads Rail Station** from outside Temple Meads Railway Station main entrance walk over to the bus stop and take the **First Bus Airport Flyer X1** to Redcliffe Road and walk to Stop 3 and the take the **First Bus 24 Citylines bus** to Dunford Street then walk back down to Ashton Road then take a left and the entrance is on the left down the lane

#### Admission

Away End: Adults £33 Over 65's £25 Under 12's £10

#### **Pubs**

For the neutral try the Rising Sun on Ashton Road and for the away supporters Tobacco House' bar which is a five minutes walks from the road behind the Atyeo stand next door to an Aldi store

# Burnley

Ground - Turf Moor, Harry Potts Way, Burnley, BB10 4BX Main Telephone No: 0871 221 1882 Fax No: 01282 700 014 Ticket Office: 0871 221 1914 Capacity: 22,546 (all seated) Pitch Size: 115 x 73 yards Club Nickname: The Clarets Year Ground Opened: 1883

Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Dafabet Website: BCFC.co.uk Programme: £3



Colours



**Former Grounds** 

Calder Vale (1881-83)

#### **History Facts & Records**

Founded - 1882

Years at Today's Ground – 131 years

First Admitted to the Football League - 1888 Founder Member

First Official Floodlit Match - December 1957

Highest Attendance - 54,775 v Huddersfield Town in the FA Cup Third Round 23/02/1924

**Highest Score for –** 9-0 v Darwen Division 1 9/11/1892, v Crystal Palace FA Cup Second round Replay 10/02/1909, v New Brighton FA Cup Fourth round 26/01/1957 **Highest Against –** 0-10 v Aston Villa Division One 29/08/25, v Sheffield United Division One 19/11/1929 **Highest Scorer in a Season –** 36 Bertram Clewley (Bert) Freeman 1912/13

Highest Scorer Overall – 188 George William Beel 1923 -32

Player with most First Team Appearances - 569 Jeremiah Dawson 1906 - 29

#### **Ground Guide**

The club has played at Turf Moor since 1883, which is one of the longest continual occupations of ground by any club in the League. Half the ground was re-developed in the mid 1990's with two new stands being opened.

The first of these the James Hargreaves Stand was opened in early 1996. It has two large tiers, with a row of executive boxes, housed between them. Which replaced the Longside Terrace, which was a big steep covered terrace and a few months later by the Jimmy McIlroy Stand was opened at one end of the ground. This two-tiered stand is similar in design which gives half the ground a uniform look.



David Fishwick Stand

The Bob Lord Stand at one side of the pitch was opened in 1974. It is a small all seated single tiered stand, with a row of supporting pillars running across its middle and has windshields to either side. The Cricket Field Stand at one end of the ground was opened in 1969 and again it is single tiered stand that has some supporting pillars.

There is a Police Control Box situated in one corner of the stadium in-between the Bob Lord and Jimmy McIlroy Stands. Unusually the teams emerge from a tunnel from one end of the ground in the David Fishwick Stand.

The away fans are housed in the covered David Fishwick Stand (Ladbrokes Stand) at one end of the ground up to 2,100 away fans can be accommodated for league matches and can be found on the Bob Lord side of the stand. Views are unrestricted and facilities are very good with the club keeping the old turnstiles after the redevelopment.



#### Bob Lord Stand

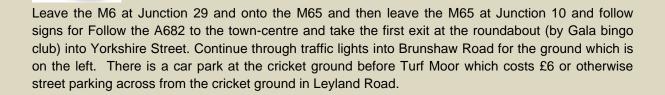
The grub inside the ground includes has a number of refreshment outlets available which serve include; Hot Dogs (£2.70), plus a range of Holland's Pies; Big Potato and Meat (£3), Cheese & Onion (£3) and Peppered Steak (£3). Although the food in the ground is good I fall either Clarets Bakery at the ground or go to Oddies at 38 St James Street on the way to ground pies and cakes are of excellent quality



James Hadgreaves Stand

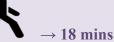
The Cricket Club; 'the clubhouse is open on match days and visitors are always made welcome which is ideal as it is right next door to the ground. The beer and wine are cheap here as well as there is good food.

#### **Driving to the Ground**



#### Public Transport & Walking





Take the train to Burnley Central Railway Station then walk out the station across the road down Railway Street towards a small retail park and then turn left into Curzon Street. You will reach the inner ring road Active Way, straight on across the Active Way till you get to Bankfoot where you turn left then walk to the roundabout walk across the car park into Hall Street this will bring you out into Yorkshire Street. Continue down this road over the canal and you will reach Turf Moor on your left.



From the South take the train to Todmorden Railway Station and walk down to the bus stop 1 and get the First in Halifax 592 bus to Turf Moor on Harry Potts Way just cross the road to the ground.

#### Admission

Adults £33.00 OAP's/Under 22's £18 (£17) (£14) Under 18's £13 (£8) (£5)



Ground - Cardiff City Stadium, Leckwith Road, Cardiff, CF11 8AZ Main Telephone No: 0845 365 1115 Fax No: 0845 365 1116 Ticket Office: 0845 345 1400 Capacity: 28,000 (all seated) Pitch Size: 110 x 75 yards Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Visit Malaysia Kit Manufacturer: Adidas Website: www.cardiffcity.co.uk Programme: £3

#### **History Facts & Records**

Founded – 1899 (Riverside AFC) Years at Today's Ground – 9 years First Admitted to the Football League – 1920 (Founder Member Division Three) First Official Floodlit Match – October 1961 Ninian Park Highest Attendance – 57,893 at Ninian Park v Arsenal 22/04/1953 Highest Score for – 16–0 v Knighton Town, Welsh Cup Fifth Round, 28/01/1961 Highest Against - 2 - 11 v Sheffield United Division One 01/01/1926 Highest Scorer in a Season - Robert Earnshaw 35 goals 2002/03 Highest Scorer Overall - Len Davis148 goals from 1920 - 31 Player with most First Team Appearances - 531 Phil Dwyer 1972 - 85

Former Names

Riverside AFC, (1899 - 1903)

#### Riverside Albion AFC (1903 - 1907)



Colours



#### Former Grounds

Sophia Gardens (Riverside Park) (Glamorgan Cricket Ground 1899 - 10) Ninian Park (1910 – 2009)

#### **Ground Guide**

After 99 years the club have left Ninian Park and moved to a new stadium, which is situated only around 400yards away. The new stadium and has great facilities for the fans. All four stands are of the same height and the stadium is completely enclosed with all four corners having spectator seating. Three sides of the stadium are identical, all being single tiered, all seating affairs.

The roofs above these stands are situated quite high above the seating areas, with a large back wall, part of which contains Perspex panels to provide more light for the playing surface. The Grandstand is a little different, having a second tier of seating that overlaps the back of the lower tier. In this area at the rear of the lower section there is a row of executive boxes. Whilst at the back of the second tier there is visible a glassed frontage to and area used for corporate entertainment. Above each end there is digital video screen and they share the stadium is shared with Cardiff Blues Rugby Union

team.



Ninian Stand

The catering on the concourses are spacious, have televisions to keep you entertained and serve the usual fayre of food, including various Pies; Steak and Ale, Chicken Curry, Veggie (all  $\pounds$ 3.90), Hot Dogs ( $\pounds$ 4.30) and Cheeseburgers ( $\pounds$ 4.50).

If you walk from Cardiff Main Station up to the Castle on Castle Street good food for those non vegans at Nata and co or for the Vegans the Vegan Pie Shop or turn left in front of the castle up to the Y junction turn right into Cowbridge Road and get some pies from Bruntos Bakers on Lower Canton these three bakeries will save you a fortune in food.



The Grandstand

The town centre is your best bet for getting a few drinks before the game. However, if you're an away fan be sure to keep colours covered as there's very rarely any visiting supporters friendly pubs and there are a few pubs around the ground such as The Ninian Park but even without any away fan strings attached you're advised to seek a beer a little further away and so The Yard Bar and Kitchen 42-43, Brewery Quarter St Mary Street is three minutes' walk down St Marys Street while the Gatekeeper at 9, Westgate Street is across from Cardiff Arms Park and Millennium Stadium both a friendly and good food before going on to the match.

#### **Driving to the Ground**



Exit the M4 at Junction 33, and join the A4232 following the signs for Cardiff. Leave the A4232 at the second exit. Keep in the left hand lane, as this joins Leckwith Road and follow Leckwith Road to the traffic lights and then turn right into Sloper Road. The ground is on your left.

Parking is freely available at the stadium providing you arrive in good time. Street parking also exists in the surrounding streets. However, train and bus services are very frequent and reliable and allow easy access to and from the ground.



Take the train to **Cardiff Central Railway Station** then change to Aviva Train Wales to **Ninian Park Halt Railway Station**, which is only a five minutes walk from the stadium and this station is on a local line (city line-direction Radyr) which is served by trains from Cardiff Central (every thirty minutes) on leaving Ninian Park Halt station walk along Leckwith Road and you will see the stadium over on your left.

Alternatively go to main line station Cardiff Central, it's a 18 minute walk to the ground, as you come out of the entrance to the station walk through Station Square, bear left in to Wood Street and at the bottom go on through to Tudor Street. Continue straight on into Ninian Park Road, for around a mile passing the Millennium Stadium on your right. At the end of Ninian Park Road turn left and then left into Leckwith Road and the ground is on your left.

Admission

Adults £30 Over 60's £25 Under 22's £20 Under 16's £15



Ground – Coventry Building Society Ground, Phoenix Way, Rowleys Green, Coventry, CV6 6GE Club Tel No: 0844 873 1883 Fax No: 024 7623 4099 Ticket Office Number: 0844 873 1883 (Option 1) Capacity: 32,600 (all seated) Nickname - The Sky Blues Pitch Size: 116 x 72 yards Year Ground Opened: 2005 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Boyle Sports Away Shirt Sponsors: Boyle Sports Kit Manufacturer: Nike Website: www.ccfc.co.uk Programme: £3.00



#### History Facts & Records

Founded – 1883 (Singer FC) Years at Today's Ground – 13 years off and on First Admitted to the Football League – 1919 First Official Floodlit Match – October 1955 Highfield Stadium Highest Attendance – 51,455 v Wolverhampton Wanderers Division Two 29/04/1967 Highest Score for – 9 – 0 v Bristol City Division Three South 28/04/1934 Highest Against – 2-10 v Norwich City Division Three South 15/03/1930 Highest Scorer in a Season & Highest Scorer Overall – 50 Clarrie Bourton in 1931/32 182 goals from 1931 – 37 Player with most First Team Appearances – Steve Ogrizovic, 601 from 1984 to 2000

#### Former Names

Singer FC 1883 - 1898

#### Former Grounds

Dowells Field (King Richard Street) – 1883–1887 Stoke Road – 1887–1899 Highfield Road 1899 - 2005 Ricoh Arena – 2005–2013, 2014 - 19 Sixfields Stadium Northampton 2013-14 Birmingham City FC 2019 - 21

Colours



#### Ground Guide

The new Coventry stadium is functional and fairly conservative in its design. Three sides of the stadium, which are large single tiered stands and within the complex has an exhibition centre attached to its West side, resulting in a unique looking stand that gives more of a continental feel.



South & East Stand

The Lloyds Pharmacy Stand, it has a small tier of seats overhanging the larger lower tier, with a row of corporate hospitality boxes, running along the back of the lower section. Along the top of the stand is a large area of white panelling (adorned with the logo of the stadium sponsors) that runs along the length of the stand and around the corners of either side of it. In one of these corners is located a Police Control box. Below the white panelling is a large windowed corporate hospitality area.



South, West and North Stands

The stadium is fully enclosed with all corners of the stadium being filled with spectator seating and all the stands are of the same height, giving it a symmetrical look. There a number of clear perspex panels located in the roof at the South end of the stadium, plus a large strip of perspex that runs around the stadium just below the roof at the back of three sides. These measures allow more natural light to enter the stadium, which helps the growth of the grass pitch. There is also a large video screen type scoreboard located in one corner of the stadium between the South and East Stands.

Seating for away supporters is normally allocated within Blocks 6 and 7 of the south stand, although if there is greater demand for seats this is extended to sections 8 and 9 as per the above diagram. One estimate suggest that the away allocation is anywhere between 2,500-4,000 seats and entrance to the stadium is through automatic turnstiles, where you have to put your ticket (which has a bar code on it) into a slot reader, which then allows the turnstiles admit you.

Behind the stands there are spacious concourses and a number of food and drink outlets. Food on offer includes; Steak Pie ( $\pounds$ 3.50), Chicken Curry Pie ( $\pounds$ 3.50), Cheese and Onion Pie ( $\pounds$ 3.50) and Sausage Rolls ( $\pounds$ 3) and the concourses also have a number of televisions which show the game being played inside.

#### Driving to the Ground



North/ South East

Leave the M6 at Junction 3 and then take the A444 towards the city centre. You'll find the stadium on the left after about a mile.

Parking at the stadium is mostly for permit holders, although the Club do sell on the day spaces in Car Park C at £10 per car, although it is best to book a space in advance. Blue badge holders can also park at the stadium itself but again at a cost of £10. The Club are also utilising a number of car parks within walking distance of the stadium, in such places as factory units and local schools, costs of these official car parks varies but are around £2.50-£5 per vehicle.



Fly into from **Birmingham City Airport** then walk over to the railway station and take the train to **Coventry Railway Station** walk over to Sainsbury in Trinity Street and take the **National Express Coventry 3** to the

ground.



Train to **Coventry Railway Station** then change trains to **Coventry Area Railway Station** for those connecting 1 hour before the match then its closed till 1 hour after the match



The Alternative is to walk over to Sainsbury in Trinity Street and take the **National Express Coventry 3** to the ground.

Admission

South Stand Adults £16, Concessions £11, Juniors £8, Under 7's £4

## Huddersfield Town

Ground - Galpharm Stadium, (New Leeds Road) Stadium Way, Huddersfield, HD1 6PX Main Telephone No: 0870 444 4677 Fax No: 01484 484 101 Ticket Office: 0870 444 4552 Capacity: 24,500 (all seated) Pitch Size: 115 x 76 yards Club Nickname: The Terriers Year Ground Opened: 1995 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Ultima Kit Manufacturer: Puma Website: HTAFC.co.uk Programme: £3



#### **History Facts & Records**

#### Founded - 1908

Years at Today's Ground – 23 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1910 for Grimsby Town First Official Floodlit Match – Jan 1961 Leeds Road Highest Attendance – 67,037 v Arsenal, FA Cup Sixth Round, 27/02/1932 Leeds Road Highest Score for – 11–0 v Heckmondwike, FA Cup Preliminary Round, 18/09/1909 Highest Against – 1–10 v Manchester City, Division Two, 7/11/1987 Highest Scorer in a Season – 42 Sammy Davis in 1919/20 Highest Scorer Overall – George Brown 159 from 1921 – 29 Player with most First Team Appearances – William H (Billy) Smith 574 from 1913 – 34

#### Colours



Former Grounds

Leeds Road (1908 – 1995)

#### **Ground Guide**

The club moved 400 yards across the river in 1994 after leaving their former Leeds Road ground, their home for 86 years. When the stadium originally opened it had just three sides with the North Stand being opened later in 1997 and can accommodate up to 24,500!

In 2004 it was renamed the Galpharm Stadium, before becoming the John Smith's Stadium in 2012, in a new five year sponsorship deal with Heineken. Each stand is semi-circular rather than rectangular, and is further enhanced with large white steel tubing above the contours. The ground has won many design awards and is well worth a visit with the corners of the ground are open the wind can blow through in winter and the mountings for the stand should of been put outside so at some time in the future the ground could be fully enclosed.

The Media North Stand at one end and the Riverside Stand at one side are both two tiered stands, each with a row of executive boxes running across the middle. The other two sides of the ground are large single tiered affairs. One of these the Britannia Rescue Stand, at one side of the pitch, can accommodate 7,000 supporters. There is an electric scoreboard at the back of the away end in the South End of the ground known as the Pink Lane Stand which can accommodate up to 4,000 away fans with the stadium is shared with Huddersfield Giants Rugby League Club.



#### South Stand

Food on offer inside the stadium includes; Cheeseburgers (£3.50), Hamburgers (£3.20), Hot Dogs (£3.20), Peppered Steak Pie (£3.50), Meat and Potato Pie (£3.50), Chicken Balti Pie (£3.50), Cheese and Onion Pie (£3.50) and Sausage Rolls (£3). But go the Pound bakery at 60 New Street the pies are cheaper and for a good coffee go Coffee revolution at 8 Church Street you will save money for drinks.



North Stand, East and West Main Stand from the South Stand

For away fans and neutrals, The Head of Steam pub beside the railway station is a good meeting point good beer but for food would go down the road to the Kings Head don't want to have new teeth you have been warned the pies are as solid as concrete.

The Kings Head excellent food The King's Head specializes in real ales and also stock well-known brands of cider, bitter and lager. They offer quality and reliable products you can count on. In addition, the friendly and professional staffs are expedient, professional service of the highest calibre. Whether you want to sample ale from one of the many well-known independent breweries, or one of the lesser known micro-breweries, they have what you need at prices you can afford. Disabled access is via platform 1. Families and dogs are welcome. The King's Head is situated on the 'East Wing' of Huddersfield's Railway Station.

#### **Driving Directions**



Leave the M62 motorway at junction 25 and follow the A644 and A62 (Signposted Huddersfield). About one mile from the town centre, the stadium becomes visible. Turn either into Bradley Mills Road and then right into Kilner Road or take the following left into St Andrews Way and left into Stadium Way.



South from M1 Leave the M1 motorway at junction 38 and follow the A637, A642 to Huddersfield. At the ring road, follow signs for A62 Leeds. Turn right into St Andrews Road and left into Stadium Road, or next right into Bradley Mills Road and right into Kilner Road.



From M62

Alternatively exit the M62 at junction 24 and follow the A628 to Huddersfield. As you approach the town, turn left onto the ring road. Exit the ring road onto the A62 Leeds Road. The ground is on the right hand side. There is a large sized car park located at the ground and costs £5 and there are number of unofficial car parks nearby.





**Public Transport & Walking** 

 $\rightarrow$  15 minutes

Train to **Huddersfield Railway Station** then walk out on Northumberland Street and then walk across the junction into Leeds Road at the Geometers turn right down Gasworks Road then at the next junction walk straight on the ground is in front of you over the bridge.

Admission

Adults £30.00 OAP's/Students £19 Under 16's £12



Ground - KC Stadium, the Circle, Walton Street, Hull, HU3 6HU Main Telephone No: 01482 504 600 Fax No: 01482 304 882 Ticket Office: 01482 505 600 Ticket Office Fax: 01482 304 923 Capacity: 25,404 (all seated) Pitch Size: 114 x 78 yards Team Nickname: The Tigers Year Stadium Opened: 2002 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: GIACOM Kit Manufacturer: Umbro Website: www.hullcitytigers.com Programme: £3



Colours



#### **History Facts & Records**

**Founded** – 1904

Years at Today's Ground – 11 years First Admitted to the Football League – 1905 Division Two First Official Floodlit Match – January 1953 Boothferry Road Highest Attendance – 55,109 Boothferry Road Highest Score for – 11 – 1 v Carlisle United Division Three South 14/01/1939 Highest Against – 0 – 8 v Wolverhampton Wanderers Division Two 04/11/1911 Highest Scorer in a Season – 39 William Frederick (Bill) McNaughton 1932/33 Player with most First Team Appearances – 520 Andy Davidson 1952 – 68

#### **Former Grounds**

The Boulevard Ground (1904/05, 1945/46), Anlady Road Cricket Ground (1905 – 45), Boothferry Road (1946 – 2007)

#### **Ground Guide**

The Club moved to the KC Stadium in December 2002 and sharing with Hull RFC after leaving their former Boothferry Park home where they had been resident since 1946 and were the easiest to get to by train as the old station was outside the park.

Built in a parkland setting of their very first ground Anlady Cricket Ground, the stadium is totally enclosed and only 100 yards from their original Anlady Road Cricket Ground, with the West Stand being around twice the size of the other three sides. Apart from the West Stand, each of the other three stands is single tiered. The West Stand also benefits from having a row of executive boxes running across its middle. There is a large video screen at the North End of the stadium and the P.A system within the stadium is also excellent.



All four stands

Away fans who visit the KC Arena are housed within the north-east corner of the stadium, something which is made possible by the bowl-shaped nature of Hull's modern stadium. The allocation by default sits at around 1,300 tickets for the visiting team, however if there proves to be greater demand the club essentially double the figure to 2,600. The concourse is well-sized which reduces the half-time stampede, and snacks and beverages are served efficiently and this makes the experiences of any fan's visit much more positive.

#### **Driving Directions**



North/West At the end of the M62, and continue onto the A63 towards Hull. Stay on the A63 and take the exit for Beverley/A164. At the roundabout take the third exit for Beverley/ Humber Bridge/ York and go on through three roundabouts and at the fourth take the second exit (Signposted City Centre/ Hull Royal Infirmary) and then turn left at the lights and then over the flyover, right at the next lights and the ground is down on the right.



Take the M1 to Junction 21A take the A46 exit to Braunstone Frith/ Kirby Muxloe/ B5380 then keep right at the fork, follow the signs for A46/ Leicester North/ Newark and merge onto A46 and follow the signs for A46 to just past Lincoln and at the roundabout take the first exit for Humber Bridge/ A15 then at the third roundabout after

about 21 mile take the Third Exit for the M180/ Humber Bridge/ Scunthorpe and then take the M180 to Junction 5 and take the sign for Hull/ Hull Airport then at the roundabout take the second exit onto the A15 and cross the Humber Bridge (cost £2.50 for Cars £4 for Buses) then at the roundabout take the third exit (Signposted City Centre/ Hull Royal Infirmary) and then turn left at the lights and then over the flyover, right at the next lights and the ground is down on the right.

### **Public Transport & Walking**



 $\rightarrow$  20 mins

Take the train to **Kingston upon Hull Railway Station**. The stadium is around a 20 minutes' walk away so you should leave the train station on the South side and turn right onto Anlaby Road and walk straight down it past Hull Royal Infirmary after crossing the railway bridge turn right into Walton Street and walk through the park, the ground is in front of you.

Admission

Adults £30 Over 65's £24 Under 19's £24

#### Where to have a Drink

'Linnet & Lark' at 30 Princess Street which is one mile away from the station going across the footbridge over the railway line turn left and walk through the car park and take a left at the roundabout down the back of Tesco when you get to the end at the petrol station take a right into Park Street then second right into Colonial Street and then fourth right into Argyle Street and four hundred yards up to the end of the road take a left then first right into Princess Avenue on the right a few hundred yards up is the Linnet is a great pub to watch the footy in, there are screens everywhere.

It's a nice open plan beer pub. When going back to the ground its straight back down the way you came but turn a right into Londesborough Street just before the road bridge and take the pedestrian bridge over the railway to the ground its 16 minutes walk from the pub and just under a mile walk.

# Luton Town

Ground - Kenilworth Road 1 Maple Road, Luton, LU4 8AW Main Telephone No: 01582 411 622 Fax No: 01582 405 070 Capacity: 10,226 (all seated) Pitch Size: 110 x 72 yards Team Nickname: The Hatters Year Ground Opened: 1905 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: JD Kit Manufacturer: Umbro Website: www.lutontown.co.uk Programme: £3

### **History Facts & Records**

Founded – 1885 (merger of Luton Wanderers (1876 -1885) & Luton Excelsior (1879 - 1885) Years at Today's Ground – 111 years First Admitted to the Football League – 1897 for Burton Wanderers First Official Floodlit Match – October 1953 Highest Attendance – 31,069 v Blackpool in the FA Cup Sixth Round Replay on 4 March 1959 Highest Score for – 15–0 Great Yarmouth Town, FA Cup, Fourth Qualifying Round 21/11/1914 Highest Against – 0-9 v Small Heath (Birmingham City) Second Division, 12 November 1898

Highest Scorer in a Season – 58 Joe Payne in 1936/37

Highest Scorer Overall - 276 Gordon Turner from 1949 - 64

**Player with most First Team Appearances –** Robert H (Bob) Morton 562 from 1948 - 64 (played his entire career with The Hatters 1948 – 64)

Most League Appearances – 509 Fred Hawkes from 1899 – 1920 (Fred played all his careers for The Hatters)





Former Grounds

Dallow Lane Ground (1885 – 97) Dunstable Road Ground (1897 – 1905)

#### **Ground Guide**

The ground is made up of five stands opposite the eponymous Kenilworth Stand is the Oak Road End, and to the left is the Main Stand, which is flanked to its right by the David Stand. Opposite them stand a row of executive boxes?

The Main Stand covers approximately two thirds of the length of the pitch, though the attached enclosure is longer, covering the whole distance. The Main Stand, which seats 4,277 fans, also contains the dressing rooms, club offices and television gantry, as well as a number of supporting pillars, a car park and the Nick Owen and Eric Morecambe suites.



#### Bobbers End

To the Main Stand's right, in the corner above the end of the enclosure and next to the Kenilworth Stand is the David Preece Stand, a family area which seats 711 spectators. The David Preece Stand acquired its present name in 2008, a year after the former player's death, Preece had played eleven years with the club and made 390 appearances and scored 21 goals and was part of the League cup winning team that beat Arsenal.

Opposite the Main and Preece Stands are 25 executive boxes, which have an attached net to catch balls directed over them and a total capacity of 209. The Bobbers Stand stood here until 1986, when the seats were removed from the stand and replaced with the boxes.

To the right of the Main Stand is the 3,229 seaters Kenilworth Stand, which backs onto Kenilworth Road. The Club Shop is behind this stand, which was once an open terrace but is now a roofed all-seater stand. In the corner between the Kenilworth Stand and the boxes is the stadium clock.

Away fans are housed on one side of the Oak Road Stand (on the Executive Stand side) at one end of the ground. Around 1,500 fans can be accommodated in this area. This covered all-seated stand is shared with home supporters with an area of tarpaulin, keeping the fans apart. You can also purchase hot pies inside the bar (£3.50) and there is one small television showing the early kick off.

It is best getting your food at the Mall across from the railway station before going to match at Wenzels or Don Millers plus tea or coffee from Costa and therefore more to spend in the pub the Beech Hill Conservative Club at 18A Leagrave Road, which welcomes both home and away supporters. To find the club, then with the away entrance in front of you turn left and walk down to the bottom of Oak Road turn left into Dunstable Road then cross the road take the first right walk straight on and you will see the sign for the club on the right between two shops. There is a car park (cost £3) and offers reasonably priced beer. You will be charged 50p to go in, but you make it up on the cheaper than pub beer'.

#### **Driving to the Ground**



#### North West/East

Leave the M1 at Junction 11 take the A505 exit to Luton/ Dunstable towards Luton. At the roundabout, take the 1st exit onto Dunstable Rd continue down the road to the lights then take a left and then a right into Leagrave Street which merges into Dunstable Road then take the third on the left into St Francis Street and then first right into Sainsbury car park don't exceed 3 hours or you will get a ticket and from there it's only 4 minutes' walk up to the ground.



Kenilworth Road Entrance

South & West



From the M5 go to Junction 14 on to the M4 then at Junction 4B merge onto the M25 and from the South East take the M25 to junction 21, exit onto M1 toward Luton Airport At junction 10, exit toward A1081/Luton(S)/Airport At the roundabout, take the 2nd exit then At the next roundabout, take the 1st exit onto London Rd Continue onto Castle St At the roundabout, take the 1st exit onto Chapel Viaduct/A505 continue through one roundabout then Turn right onto Hatters Way/A505 then first left into Dunstable Road then first right in St Francis then right into Sainsbury Car Park don't exceed 3 hours or a £30 ticket (OUCH) from there it's only 4 minutes' walk to the ground.

There are three other car parks to park your car these are recommended by the club: Dallow Road Primary School Car Park – LU1 1LZ Beech Hill Primary School Car Park (Dunstable Road) – LU4 8AR and Hazelbury Crescent Car Park – LU1 1DS.



From the North West change at **Milton Keynes Railway Station** and from the North East change at **Luton Airport Parkway Railway Station** and from the South take the Thameslink train to **Luton Railway Station** is a good 18 minutes away from the ground, from the station, turn left along the railway bridge, down the steps, and turn right along Bute Street which runs through the Arndale Shopping Centre.

The walk is around 20 minutes from the railway station; you turn right out of the railway station and go along Station Road, at the traffic lights into Mill Street. On reaching a junction where the road bends to the right into

New Bedford Road, turn left then right into Collingdon Street. At the end of Collingdon Street you will reach a dual carriageway. Then turns left alongside the road and follow the pedestrian walkway and then take a right to go along the footbridge over the A505, as footbridge passes over the roundabout it splits into two. Take a left and this will lead you down into Dunstable Road, then do a right and Continue straight along Dallow Road and then take the 5th road on the right hand turn into Clifton Road for the visitor's turnstiles.

You can take the right fork on the footbridge and go up Dunstable Road and again take the fifth on the left and walk down Oak Road for the visitor's turnstiles



Main Stand

At the top of the centre, bear right along Library Road and at the Galaxy cinema complex turn left and walk down Bridge Street turn right into New Bedford Street there cross the road and walk down to Collingdon Street and then end of the road take the path and the footbridge into Dunstable Road, then left down Hazelbury Crescent then left into. Kenilworth Road and the ground are on the right.



For those coming into Waterloo Railway Station get off at Clapham Junction Railway Station then take the train **East Croydon Railway Station** and then take the Thameslink to Luton Railway Station this saves using the London Underground.



For those coming through London Bridge Railway Station then walk over to the Underground Station the Hammersmith & City Line to West Hampstead Underground Station and then change to the Thameslink for Luton Railway Station.

From the south east you can take the train to **St Pancras International Railway Station** and then take the Thameslink to **Luton Railway Station**.

Admission

Adults £23 (B £20) (C £18) Over 65's/Under 22's £18 (B £15) (C £13) Over 75's £15 (B £12) (C £10)

The championship

Under 18's £11 (B £8) (C £6) Under 10's £7 (B £5) (C £3)

# Middlesbrough

Ground - Riverside Stadium, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS3 6RS Telephone No: 08 44 499 6789 Main Fax No: 01642 757 690 Ticket Office: 0844 499 1234 Ticket Office Fax: 01642 757 693 Capacity: 35,100 (all seated) Pitch Size: 115 x 75 yards Club Nickname: Boro Year Ground Opened: 1995 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: 32Red Kit Manufacturer: Hummel Website: www.MFC.co.uk

Programme: £3



# History Facts & Records

Founded - 1876

Years at Today's Ground – 23 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1899 from the North Eastern Football League First Official Floodlit Match – October 1957

Highest Attendance – 53,596 v Newcastle United Division One 27 /12/1949 Ayresome Park

Highest Score for - 11-0 v Scarborough FA Cup Qualifying Round 4/10/1890

Highest Against - 0-9 v Blackburn Rovers Division Two 6/11/1954

Highest Scorer Overall/ Highest Scorer in a Season George Henry Camsell 345 goals from 1925 – 39 and 59 goals in 1926/27 Season

Player with most First Team Appearances - Reginald Garnet "Tim" Williamson 602 from 1902 - 1923

**Former Grounds** 

Old Archery Ground (1876 – 79), Breckon Hill Road (1879/80), Linthorpe Road (1880 – 85), Paradise Ground (1885 – 1903), Ayresome Park (1903 – 1995)

Colours



**Ground Guide** 

The Club moved from its former home of Ayresome Park where it had played since 1903 to the Riverside Stadium in 1995. The stadium is totally enclosed, after the previous open corners to either side of the West Stand were closed with seating in 1998. All the stands are two-tiered, although the West Stand is slightly larger than the other three sides.



This stand also has a row of executive boxes running across its middle and the roof around the stadium is raised up above the seating areas to allow more light to get to the pitch, through perspex panels located between the

#### roof and the back of the seating areas. There is also a large video screen situated in the South East corner.

Away supporters are housed on one side of the East Stand (towards the South East corner) at one side of the stadium and just under 3,000 fans can be accommodated in this area. The turnstiles are electronic which means that you have to insert your ticket in a reader, to gain entry. The away turnstiles are numbered 53-61 and then there is the regular fayre of food; Cheeseburgers (£3.80), Burgers (£3.50), Hot Dogs (£3.50), Pizza (£3), Chicken Balti Pies (£3), Cheese & Onion Pasties (£3) and Minced Beef Pies (£3). If you head over to the local shopping Centre then go to Copelands there selection of food and bakery are the cheapest in the town and get you coffee from Muffins in the Centre.



#### West and North Stands

Outside the main entrance you will find a pair of statues dedicated to two former Boro greats; George Hardwick & Wilf Mannion. In between the statues are the old entrance gates to Ayresome Park and are a reminder of the old ground.

#### **Driving Directions**



#### 5

From the A1/M1 you should follow the A66 (signposted Darlington/ Teesside A66/ M66) follow this past Darlington and on into Middlesbrough. Carry on up the A66, through a number of roundabouts and into the centre of Middlesbrough and you will pick up signs for the Riverside Stadium after you cross the river bridge so follow the sign for away coaches. There is a small amount of parking available in Car Park E. It costs £6 per car and spaces can be booked through the ticket office. Otherwise there are a number of private parks located nearby who charge £4.



Take Junction 54 on the A1 (M) and take the A68 through Darlington then at the third roundabout in Darlington take the first exit into Parkgate through one roundabout and join the A66 at Woodburn Hospital and follow the directions above.



Train to **Middlesboro Railway Station** then come out onto Bridge Street from the station and walk up on to Dock Street here you can take two ways follow the way round by the river or take the right into Wayward Road or

taking the Dock Street fork on the left pass the college and at the Clock turn right into Scott Street and follow the road round the old harbour and cross the bridge to the ground

Taking a right down Wayward Street and with about a mile you will find the ground on your left both routes take about 16 minutes

### Admission

East Stand: Adults £30, Over 65's £17, Under 18's £14

# Where to have a Drink

The Bridge Inn beside the station (No colours) as its mainly a home pub but neutrals are welcome it have good range of beers and food but if it's a derby match then we meet in Dr Browns at 135 Corporation Road Excellent Deuchars IPA and Everards Tiger. Good for a pre-match ale until about an hour before kick-off when it heaves. Big and small screen TV and friendly.

# Millwall

Ground - The New Den, Zampa Road, London SE16 3LN Main Telephone No: 020 7232 1222 Ticket Office: 020 7231 9999 Fax No: 020 7231 3663 Capacity: 20,146 (all seated) Pitch Size: 105 x 68 yards Club Nickname: The Lions Year Ground Opened: 1993 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Huski Chocolate Kit Manufacturer: Macron Website: www.millwallfc.co.uk Programme: £3



# History Facts & Records

Founded – 1885 (Millwall Rovers)

Years at Today's Ground – 21 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1920 Founder Member of Division Three & Founder Member of Division Three South 1921

First Official Floodlit Match – October 1953

Highest Attendance - 48,762 v Derby County FA Cup 20/02/1927 at The Old Den

**Highest Score for –** 9-1 v Torquay United Division Three South 29/08/1927, Coventry City Third Division South 19/11/1927

Highest Against – 1 – 9 v Aston Villa FA Cup Fourth Round 28/01/1946

Highest Scorer in a Season - 37 Richard (Dick) Parker in 1926/27 season

Highest Scorer Overall - 138 Neil Harris from 1998 -2004, 2007 - 11

Player with most First Team Appearances - 596 Barry Raymond Kitchener from 1966 - 82

Former Names

Millwall Rovers, Millwall Athletic, Millwall Dockers

**Former Grounds** 

Colours

Glengall Road 1885/86, East Ferry Road (Lord Nelson) (1886 – 90), New East Ferry Road (1890 – 1901), North Greenwich (1901 – 1910), The Den (1910 – 1993)



### **Ground Guide**

The Club moved the relatively short distance to then was called the New Den after leaving their original Den ground which was their home for 83 years. This was first new major football ground to be constructed in London since before the Second World War. The stadium is made up of four separate two-tiered stands that are of the same height and look fairly similar. On one side is the Barry Kitchener Stand (named after a former player) which has the players tunnel and team dugouts at its front.

This simple looking stand has the same characteristics as both ends with windshields to either side in the upper tier and with the upper tier slightly overhanging the lower tier. The Dockers Stand on the other side is slightly

different having a row of executive boxes running across its middle. Between the East & North Stands in one corner is a large video screen.

Away fans are located at one end of the ground in the North Stand (usually in the upper tier only). Around 4,000 away fans can be accommodated in this end. The food is the usual assotement of Steak & Ale and Chicken Balti (£3.50). There are also Cheese & Onion Pasties (£3.50), Sausage Rolls (£3.10), Burgers (£4) and Chips (£2.10).



#### West Stand

To save you waiting in the long ques get your food at either London Bridge or if you coming through Strafford International there is plenty of grub around there and for those who wish a drink before the game then there really aren't any pubs around Millwall's Den according to local listings, and any which are, are unlikely to be suitable for visiting supporters. This means that traveling supporters have the option of either drinking exclusively inside the stadium or going for a few beverages at London Bridge Station which is where the connecting train is for most fans.



A pub with a bit of character is The Shiprights Arms at 88 Tooley Street next to London Bridge which boasts of having an "original shipwrights mural", with the 17th century George Inn 77 Borough High street and as is The Slug and Lettuce chain pub both of which are on 34 Borough High Street which is 500 yards away from London bridge station.

Also, at 8 Borough High Street is the Barrow Boy & Banker, which is a Fullers pub and further down the High Street on nearby Stoney Street is situated the legendary Market Porter pub. This pub is on the listing in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide and always has real ales on tap.



**Driving Directions** 

Follow the A2 into London from Junction 2 of the M25. Once you go past New Cross Gate tube station at the Park Hotel the road forks following the signs A2 City/Westminster and keep on the right hand side and follow the road to the lights at Birmingham Park just after the bridge at the light take a right into Ilderton Road. Go up this road to the church on the right then take a right into Zampa Road under the bridge to the ground. Street parking can be found on the small estate on your left just past the ground. There are no sizeable car parks around the ground

### **Air and Public Transport**



Train to the main rail terminuses in London then:

- From Charing Cross, Euston and Kings Cross Railway Stations to London Bridge Railway Station take the Northern Line direct to London Bridge Underground Station
- From the Thameslink take it to the Elephant & Castle Railway Station and then take the Metropolitan line to London Bridge Underground Station

Then walk up from the underground to **London Bridge Railway Station** to **South Bermondsey Railway Station** is only a few minutes' walk from the ground. There is a direct walkway to the stadium.



From Victoria and Waterloo Railway Stations take the Jubilee Line Canada Waters Underground Station and then London Overground to Surrey Quays Railway Station.



From East Anglia and Essex fans take the train **Stratford Railway Station** then take the Jubilee Line to **Canada Waters Underground Station** and then London Overground to **Surrey Quays Railway Station** from the station it's takes a left out of the station then first left and at the bottom take a left right into Olive Grove and follow it to the ground.

Admission

Adults £22, Over 60's £13, Under 16's £13, Under 12's £8\*

# **Norwich City**

Ground - Carrow Road, Norwich, NR1 1JE Main Telephone No: 01603 760760 Ticket Office: 0844 826 1902 Fax No: 01603 613 886 Capacity: 27,220 (all seated) Pitch Size: 114 x 74 yards Team Nickname – The Canaries Ground Opened – 1935 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Lotus Kit Manufacturer: Jopa Website: www.norwichcity.co.uk Programme: £3



# History Facts & Records

**Founded** – 1902

Years at Today's Ground - 80 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1920 founder Member of Division Three joined from Southern League First Official Floodlit Match – October 1956

Highest Attendance - 43,984 v Leicester City in the FA Cup Sixth Round on 30/03/1963

Highest Score for - 18-0 v Brighton & Hove Albion, wartime, 25/12/1940

Highest Against – 10–2 v Swindon Town 05/09/1908 Southern Football League

Highest Scorer in a Season - 31 Ralph Hunt 1955-56 in Division Three (South)

Highest Scorer Overall – John Thomas (Jonny) Gavin 122 from 1948 – 54 & 1955 - 58

Player with most First Team Appearances - 592 Ronald George (Ron) Ashman 1947 - 64

#### Former Grounds

Newmarket Road (1902 – 08), Rosary Road (The Nest 1908 – 35)

Colours



#### Ground Guide

The ground has been steadily redeveloped since the late 1970's, with all four sides of the ground having either two or single tier new stands. The newest of these is the Jarrold (South Stand) at one side of the pitch which was opened in 2004. It is an impressive looking single tier, all seated stand that can house up to 8,000 supporters.



Jarrold Stand

It is unusual in having not one, but three separate television gantries suspended beneath its Perspex roof. This stand was further extended in 2005 and now surrounds the corner of the ground where it joins the Norwich & Peterborough Stand, filling in the corner.

The first of these to be built was the River End in 1979, with the Barclay End opposite opening in 1992. On the remaining side is the Geoffrey Watling City Stand. Named after a former club president and opened in 1986, this single tiered stand is smaller than both ends and houses amongst other things the Directors Box and Press Area. This stand extends around to meet the ends at both corners, giving the ground an enclosed look on that side. In one corner in-between, the Barclay End and Jarrold South Stand,

The stadium has the Holiday Inn Hotel at one end of the ground between the Jarrod and the Barclay inn. The corner in-fill between known as the Thorpe Lower tier between the Barclay Stand and the Geoffrey Watling City Stand is affectionately known to Norwich fans as the "Snake Pit!"



Barclay Stand (Dan 92)

The rest of the ground is also all seated and all stands are covered. Both ends look particularly smart, being large twotiered affairs, complete with a row of executive boxes and distinctive pairs of large floodlight pylons protruding from their roofs like the old days.



River End (Dan 92 & BGE)

#### Driving Directions



Take the A1 to Newark on Trent and then take sign for Sleaford/ Newark/ Lincoln then at the roundabout, take the 3rd exit onto A17 and go straight on through four roundabouts at the fifth take the third exit staying on the A17 and go straight on at the next four roundabouts then at the fifth and sixth roundabouts take the second exit

go past Kings Lynn and straight on at the next five roundabouts (Worse than Milton Keynes) and onto the A47 and stay on this till Norwich.

From the southern bypass (A47) take the first exit at the Trowse Newton Roundabout on to the A146 into the city. At the traffic lights turn right towards the city centre on Martinhead Lane. At the next roundabout stay in the lefthand lane and continue towards the city centre along Bracondale. At the next set of traffic lights, turn right into King Street. This street as it bends around to the right and goes across the river where it becomes Carrow Road with the ground is further down on the right.

The best car park for fans is Norfolk County Hall, which is well sign posted on the left of Martinhead Lane, as you follow signs towards the ground from the Southern Bypass and when you get to the roundabout at the top of the Lane then take the first exit up to the car park which cost is currently £6 but you are home quicker from here



From the M11 Junction 27, exit onto M11 toward Stansted Airport/ Cambridge/ Harlow and follow the A11 toward Thetford/ Norwich the just before Norwich at Cantley Wood take the fourth exit onto the A47 and join the southern bypass and follow the above directions from here



Train by Anglia Rail to **Norwich Railway Station** and it should take you around 5-10 minutes to walk to the ground. From the station turn left and head for the Morrison's supermarket and you should see the ground behind that. If coming from the North change at Peterborough. It is quicker than going into London

#### Admissio

It depends on when you go they have different categories for games! Adults: £30 Over 65's: £25 Under 16's: £20 (B £15) Under 12's: £12 (B £10)

#### here to have a Drir

The best pubs are the Coach and Horses on Thorpe Road and The Murderers in Timberhill have both have good food and fine sample of beers and ales and are only 10 minutes walk to the ground.

# Preston North End

Ground – Deepdale, Sir Tom Finney Way, Preston, PR1 6RU Main Telephone No: 0870 442 1964 Main Fax No: 01772 693 366 Ticket Office: 0870 442 1966 Ticket Office Fax No: 01772 693 365 Capacity: 23,408 (all seated) Team Nickname: The Lilywhites Year Ground Opened: 1875 (Preston North End Cricket Club) Pitch Size: 110 x 77 yards Sponsor: Par Group Designer: Nike Website: www.pnefc.net Programme: £3



# History Facts & Records

Founded - 1878 Former Names – Preston Nelson FC Years at Today's Ground – 140 years First Admitted to the Football League – 1888 Founding Member First Official Floodlit Match – October 1955 Highest Attendance – 42,684 v Arsenal Football League First Division 23 April 1938 Highest Score for – 26–0 v Hyde FC FA Cup Round One 15 October 1887 Highest Against – 0–7 v Blackpool, Division 1, 1 May 1948 Highest Scorer in a Season – 37 goals Ted Harper in 1932–33 Highest Scorer Overall – 187 Tom Finney 1946 – 60 Player with most First Team Appearances – 513 Allan Kelly from 1961 - 75

# **Former Grounds**

Bow Lane (1878) Moor Park (1878)

# Colours



#### **Ground Guide**

Three sides of the stadium are composed of modern all seater stands, each has a likeness of a past player outlined on the seats and is named after that player. Tom Finney record all time goal scorer, Bill Shankly and goalkeeping legend and record appearance holder of 513 appearances for the club Alan Kelly, are all honoured and this is a nice touch for people who played and managed the club over the past 140 years

Old Deepdale was higgle to piggle of stands and enclosures that had been there since the beginning of the football club and after the Bradford, Hillsborough and Heysel disasters North End started to revamp the ground.



#### Main Stand

The first of these stands to be built was the Sir Tom Finney Stand in 1995. This was followed by the Bill Shankly Kop in 1998 and the Alan Kelly Stand in 2001 and complete and they are of the same height and style and are all large, covered, single tiered stands. Up to 6,000 away fans are accommodated in the Shankly Kop end of the ground and the club have a good deal for away fans of £48 for two adults plus two under 16's saving a family £20 on the day.



The Invincuble Stands

The last new stand, the Invincible Stand (named after the legendary Preston team of 1888/1889 who went through the whole season unbeaten and were also the first in that season to win the League & FA Cup double and in the FA Cup didn't lose a goal); this stand is slightly different to the other three. Even though it is of the same height and has a similar roof, it has a smaller tier of seating, with 22 executive boxes sitting above. But

unlike the other stands has only PNE FC in the stand.

The stadium was the original location for the National Football Museum, which opened in 2001, recognising Deepdale's status as the world's oldest football league ground still in use

However, in 2010 the museum was controversially closed, to be relocated to Urbis in Manchester, where it reopened in 2012. The move prompted Sir Tom Finney to withdraw his personal memorabilia from the museum in protest.



Allan Kelly Stand

Despite the museum's closure at Deepdale, the National Football Museum retained the long-term lease on its former site, which has since been used to store 90% of the museum's collection and as an "archive and research centre", but has otherwise remained vacant and closed to the public, despite periodic proposals to put the site to other uses.

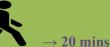
#### **Driving Directions**



Leave M6 at Junction 31 from the North its third exit at the first roundabout then straight through the next roundabout on to Preston New Road/ A59 and from the South take the first exit at the roundabout onto the A59. Go up the hill (stick to 30 mph) and follow the road down to a mini roundabout and at the roundabout with the Hesketh Arms turn right into Blackpool Road. Go straight on over three sets of lights and just before a fourth set, the ground appears set slightly back on the left. Parking is mainly in the streets surrounding the ground.

Parking for cars is available for £3 a car at Moorfields Special School. Just follow the directions above and at the last set of traffic lights continue straight on for about 200 yards, and you will see the school on the left near Moor Park and is quicker for getting out of the ground after the match

### **Public Transport**



Take Virgin Rail train to **Preston Railway Station** and is 20 minutes walk. Leave the railway station out the main entrance, and on to Butler Street, continue along the Fishergate/Church Street, when you reach the ring road, you head straight over the large traffic lights, heading towards Preston Prison, then cross the road turn left at the jail into Deepdale Road, continue straight along Deepdale Road and after about a mile you will reach the ground its opposite Moor Park where in spring and summer you can sit and have sandwiches before going into the

ground.

#### Admission

Bill Shankly Kop: Adults £21, OAP's/Under 21's £14, Under 16's £8, Under 7's Free Family Tickets: 2 Adults + 2 Under 16's £48 Disable & Helper £21

## Where to have a Drink

The Old Vic at 78 Fishergate is the best for neutrals and away fans police don't move you on here like other pubs in the city centre and its 150 yards from the station Large open plan pub with centre bar,5 casks of ales available and good food as well and the prices are cheap.

# **Queens Park Rangers**

Ground – Loftus Road, South Africa Road, London, W12 7PA Main Telephone No: 020 8743 0262 Ticket Office: 08444 777 007 Ticket Office Fax: 020 8740 2505 Capacity: 18,360 (all seated) Pitch Size: 112 x 72 yards Team Nickname: The Superhoops or Rangers Year Ground Opened: 1904 (Shepherds Bush AFC) Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Ashfield Holdings Kit Manufacturer: Erra Website: www.qpr.co.uk Programme: £3



# **History Facts & Records**

Founded – 1882 (St Judes Fc)

The championship

**Former Names** – St Jude's FC (Amalgamated with Christchurch Rangers FC (1882) in 1885) **Years at Today's Ground** – 100 years off and on

First Admitted to the Football League – 1920 Elected from the Southern League to be a Founder Member of Division Three & Division Three South in 1921

First Official Floodlit Match – October 1953

Highest Attendance - 35,354 v Leeds United Division One on the 27/04/1974

**Highest Score for –** 9 – 2 v Tranmere Rovers Division Three 3/12/1960

**Highest Against –** 1-8 v Mansfield Town Division Three 15/03/1965, v Manchester United Division One 19/03/1969

Highest Scorer in a Season - Rodney William Marsh 44 in 1966/67 season

Highest Scorer Overall - George Goddard, 186, from 1926 - 34

Player with most First Team Appearances - 548 Anthony (Tony) Ingham from 1950 - 63

### Former Grounds

Queens Grounds (1879 – 1882) St Jude's Artillery Fields (1882 – 1884) Christchurch Rangers City Park (1884/85) Shepherds Bush Running Track (White City) (1885/86) Welford's Fields (1886–1888) Blackheath Common London Scottish R.F.C.'s Ground (1888–1889) Brondesbury Common, Home Farm Kensal Green, Gun Club & Wormwood Scrubs (1888–1889) Kilburn Cricket Ground (1888–1889) Kensal Rise Athletic Ground Queens Park (1889–1901) (1902–1904) Latimer Road/St Quintin Avenue (1901–1902) Royal Agricultural Society Showground (1904–1907) Park Royal Ground (1907–1917) Loftus Road (1917–1931, 1933 – 62) White City Stadium (1931–1933) (1962/63)



# **Ground Guide**

Loftus Road has a tight compact feel, enclosed, with supporters being close to the pitch. An unusual aspect is that all four stands are roughly the same height, their roofs meet at all four corners with no gaps. The pre 1991's ground was open to the elements on three sides.



Ellerslie Stand (Dan 92)

The South Africa Road Stand on one side has a larger upper tier, compared to the lower tier, with a row of executive boxes running across the middle. There are a couple of supporting pillars in this stand. The other side, the Ellerslie Road Stand, is single tiered, with a television gantry suspended below its roof.



South Africa Stand (BEG)

On one of these, the School End where the away fans are situated in the upper tier of the stand, where around 2,500 fans can be accommodated. If demand requires it then the lower tier can also be allocated. If the away club only takes the upper tier allocation, then the lower tier is allocated to home supporters. The entrance for away fans to the School End upper tier is now longer in South Africa Road, but on the opposite side of the ground in Ellerslie Road and there is a large video screen located on the centre of its roof.



Loftus Road Stand

Below this and situated between the lower and upper tier is a small electric scoreboard. The ground has a tremendous atmosphere. You are close to the pitch, close to the visiting fans and most importantly close to the action'. Another plus point was that the food is served within the ground was quite good and the service prompt. Entrance to the stadium is gained by inserting your ticket into a bar code reader.



School End

**Driving Directions** 



From the North West/ East Take the M25 to Junction 16 on to the M40. At the end of the M40, take the A40 towards Central London. Follow the Westway/A40 (M), turn off onto the A40 at the Harlesdean/ White City junction and turn right at the lights into Wood Lane, turn right after the BBC into South Africa Road for the ground. For parking I take the next junction of the A40 and at the roundabout take the third exit onto West Cross Road then go straight on at the next roundabout down Holland Road and then turn right into Kensington High

Street over the bridge and first right up to Olympia and park there and walk 15 minutes to the ground £4.00 for three hours

### Public Transport



From all the major London Railway Stations take the underground to **Oxford Circus Underground Station** take the Central Line to **Shepherds Bush Market Underground Station**, simply because you can do a pub crawl (O'Neill's, Springbok and Walkabout). Leaving Shepherds Bush Market tube station; turn right and walk up Uxbridge Road and about 200yards then right into Bloemfontein Road then 300yards right into South Africa Road or walk down Wood Lane then into South Africa Road the ground will come into view.

#### Admission

School End:

Adults £34 (B £33), Over 60's/Under 22's £24 (B £23), Under 18's £17 (B £16) **School End Upper Tier Wings & Lower Tier:** Adults £29 (B £28), Over 60's/Under 22's £20 (B £19), Under 18's £14 (B £13)

### Where to have a Drink

O'Neill's, the place is not bad with a good range of lagers and wines Friendly bar staff and decent food at a good price and highly recommended. The police are now denying neutrals on match days to the Springbok that is not fair if they are not wearing any colours so they don't know what team they support

The Walkabout at 56 Shepherds Bush Green is the away supports pub for match days The atmosphere is incredibly friendly and good times are guaranteed every day of the week. The meals are cheap, delicious the beers are always flowing everywhere you look there is a plasma TV and is one of the best places for watching live sport in London for all these bars don't wear colours as the doormen on the doors.

Belushi's Bar, which is located in the Vue Complex and this basic bar also shows Sky and BT Sports. Otherwise alcohol is generally available inside the Loftus Road Stadium, although for some high-profile games the Club opt not to sell any to visiting supporters.

# Reading

Ground - Madejski Stadium Bennett Road, Reading, RG2 0FL Main Telephone No: 0118 968 1100 Fax No: 0118 968 1101 Ticket Office: 0844 249 1871 Ticket Office Fax: 0870 999 1001 Capacity: 24,200 (all seated) Pitch Size: 102 x 70 metres Team Nickname: The Royals Year Ground Opened: 1998 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Select Kit Manufacturer: Puma Website: www.readingfc.co.uk Programme: £3



# **History Facts & Records**

Founded – 1871 Years at Today's Ground – 16 years First Admitted to the Football League – 1920 elected from the Southern League as a Founder Member of Division Three and Founder member of Division Three South 1921 First Official Floodlit Match – February 1956 Elm Park Highest Attendance – 33,042 v Brentford in the FA Cup Fifth Round 19/05/1927 at Elm Park Highest Score for – 10 – 2 v Crystal Palace Division Three South 4/09/1926 Highest Against – 0-18 v Preston North End F.A. Cup Round One 27/01/1894 Highest Scorer in a Season – 41 Trevor Senior in 1983/84 Highest Scorer Overall – 158 Ronald Henry (Ronnie) Blackman 1947 – 54 Player with most First Team Appearances – 603 Martin Hicks 1978 – 1991



Reading Recreation Common (1871 – 72), Sonning Lane Reading Cricket Ground (1872 – 82), Coley Park (Coley Recreation Ground) (1882 – 89), Caversham Cricket Ground (1889 – 96), Elm Park (1896 - 1998) \*

### **Ground Guide**

The Royals after having spent 102 years at their former home of Elm Park moved to the stadium in 1998. The stadium is of a fair size and is totally enclosed, with all four corners being occupied. Three sides are single tiered; with the West (Main) Stand is two tiered, including a row of executive boxes.



#### East Stand

This stand has a curve in its roof and unlike the West Stand, the others stands have a more conventional look to their roofs, although there is a gap between the roofs and the back of the stands, that contains Perspex, to allow more light to reach the pitch like most modern build grounds.



#### West Stand

The ground has been designed with the supporter in mind as the fans are housed very close to the pitch and the acoustics are very good. The stadium also has a video screen in the South East corner with the ground named after Reading's chairman John Madejski who saved the club in there darkest hour and put up the money for the new ground.

The away fans are housed behind the goals up to 4500 in the Foster's Lager South Stand and the leg roof has been well designed and you can stretch your legs and the food well the Steak pie is good and the coffee is strong

and can keep you awake if the game is boring.



North End

**Driving Directions** 



Leave the M4 at Junction 12, bear left on to the A4 and go into Reading City Centre then at the Castle Hill roundabout take the second exit and follow the road to the Sahara Bar then take the road to the right then follow the road to the Bridge Roundabout and then take the third exit onto the A329 and follow it on to the A33 relief road which leads you directly to the stadium. The Madejski Complex is well signposted from the A33 but the traffic is horrific on match days



Train to **Reading Railway Station** walk three minutes from main entrance over to Station Stop SC and take the **Reading Bus 60M** will drop you of at the ground the same bus will take you back at 17.02 from the stadium

# Admission

Adults £30, Over 65's & Under 21's £17, Under 16's £10

#### Where to have a Drink

Three Guineas bar has a good beer selection with friendly staff. Plenty of seating in and out the food is fine.

The Gateway 31 Greyfriars Road with the loss of the Malthouse is the next pub on a walking route to the ground the London Pride is usually OK (£3 pint) and the bar staff friendly enough. And its 200 yards from the station

Red Cow its 800 yards away from the station if you're looking for a real British gem of a pub come here. It's the genuine article the biggest fry up for  $\pounds 2$ , it can't be beat. It's a pub that will transport you back to the 1970's

The Hop Leaf Pub at 163-165 Southampton Street why on earth this pub is not in the Good Beer Guide I go in every time I am back and am never disappointed by the quality of the ales - 6 Hop Back beers plus a Downton

(this time their Imperial Stout at 9%) two of the them and your walking on air believe me.

# **Rotherham United**

Ground – New York Stadium New York Way off Main Street Rotherham S60 1AH Main Telephone No: 0844 4140733 Main Fax No: 0844 4140737 Ticket Office: 0844 4140737 Capacity: 12,000 (all seated) Pitch Size: 110 x 72 yards Team Nickname: The Millers Year Ground Opened: 2012 Undersoil Heating: No Shirt Sponsors: Hodge Clemco, Mears Kit Manufacturer: Puma Website: www.themillers.co.uk Programme: £3.00



# History Facts & Records

Founded – 1870 (Thornhill FC)

**Years at Today's Ground** – 6 years

First Admitted to the Football League - 1919 as Rotherham County FC

First Official Floodlit Match - November 1960 Milmoor

**Highest Attendance –** 25,170 v Sheffield United, Football League Second Division, 13 December 1952 at Millmoor Stadium

Highest Score for – 8 – 0 v Oldham at Millmoor, Division 3 North, 26 May 1947

Highest Against - 1-11 v Bradford City, Division 3 North, 25 August 1928

Highest Scorer in a Season – 40 Wally Aldron in 1946/47 with 123 apperances and 100 goals 1938 - 1950 Highest Scorer Overall – Gladstone Guest, 130 league goals, between 1946–1956 with 358 Appearances Player with most First Team Appearances – 621 Danny Williams, from 1946 -62 with 21 goals

# Former Names

Thornhill FC 1870 -1890

The championship

Thornhill United, 1890 - 1905 Rotherham County 1905 1925 (Merged with Rotherham Town 1925) to become United

Former Grounds

Red House Ground – 1870 – 1907 Milmoor (1907 – 2008) Don Valley Stadium (Sheffield) (2008-2012) Milmoor (1907 – 2008) \*



**Ground Guide** 

The club moved out of there old ground of 101 years Milmoor and would spend four years at the now demolished at the Don Valley Stadium in Sheffield, before the Club have returned home to Rotherham in 2012. The new stadium, which cost in the region of £20m to build, is 200 yards North East to their old Milmoor Ground and 500 yards from their first ground as County next to Thornhill Primary School in Henley Road.

The area of Rotherham where the ground is located is historically known as New York (hence the stadium name) and is built on the site of the old Guest & Chrimes factory. The stadium from the outside looks far larger than its 12,000 capacity and is quite San Siro in Milan in its design. It is totally enclosed and all seated.

On one side is the Eric Twigg Foods Pukka Pies (West) Stand. This is the largest of the four single tiered stands. The stand has a middle seated area of the stand which is situated at a lower level than either of the wings. There is an executive area above this with seating outside and yet further above is a television gantry, set into the red panelled wall. The other sides of the stadium are much smaller in size. Both ends are virtually identical, except that the Morrison's (South) Stand has a small electric scoreboard situated at the back of it.

The Ben Bennett (East) Stand, which is slightly less tall than both the ends. This stand has two large areas built into the front of the stand for the use of disabled supporters and they get a great view of the game.

Away fans are normally housed in the Morrison Stand at one end of the stadium, where around 2,500 supporters can be accommodated and tickets can be obtained at the Away ticket office in the Morrison Stand. On the roof of the East Stand are two futuristic looking floodlight pylons that are supplemented by a row of lights above the West Stand.



South & West Stands

For the away fans the Bluecoat pub at The Crofts are three hundred yards away from the station having visited before I knew that this is one of the better Weatherspoon where the staff seems to be fairly well clued up. Surprise, surprise, the Real Ale was served at a more ambient temperature and in decent condition, therefore much more acceptable. The only disappointment was that I thought the beers on offer were not as interesting however this obviously depends on personal taste.

The Bridge Inn, in Greasbrough Road, which is located quite close to the railway station turn right out of the station and then cross the bridge and the pub is across the road in front of you. This pub which is listed in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide serves beers from the Old Mill Brewery as well as guest beers and a real cider. This pub has a warm welcome for all fans and it wasn't too bad to get served inside.

Alcohol is also available inside the stadium in the form of: Fosters, John Smiths (Both £3 a pint), Bulmers (£3 a bottle), plus Red, White and Rose wines (£3.90 small bottle).

#### **Driving Directions**



#### From the North:

Don't use the postcode for sat nav use Main Street Rotherham. Leave the M1 at Junction 34 and take the fourth exit at the roundabout onto the A6178 towards Rotherham. At the third roundabout (Ickles Roundabout) take the first exit onto Centenary Way (Signposted Doncaster) cross over the bridge, you will see the stadium on your right and at the next roundabout (Masbrough roundabout) turn right onto Main Street and the entrance to the stadium is down on the right down New York Way.



#### From the South:

Leave the M1 at Junction 33 and take the third exit onto the A630 towards Rotherham. After a few yards at the next roundabout take the first exit and at the next take the second exit onto Centenary Way and go straight on at the next roundabout you will reach the stadium on your right and at the next roundabout (Masbrough roundabout) turn right onto Main Street and the entrance to the stadium is down on the right down New York Way. Car parking at the stadium is for permit holders only. However there are a number of pay & display car parks located around the town centre. Otherwise there is some street parking available around the area of the old Millmoor ground, which is around a 10 minutes walk away to the ground.

Public Transport



Train to **Rotherham Central Railway Station** and a five minute walk to the ground just walk down the canal to Main Street take a right and walk down to the ground.



North Stand

Admission

Morrison's (South) Stand: Adults £18, Concessions £10, Under 16's £6

# **Sheffield United**

Ground – Bramell Lane, Sheffield, S2 4SU Main Telephone No: 0871 995 1899 Fax No: 0871 663 2430 Ticket Office: 0871 995 1889 Capacity: 32,702 (all seated) Club Nickname: The Blades Year Ground Opened: 1853 (Sheffield United Cricket Club & Yorkshire County Cricket Club for 120 Years). Oldest playing Football Ground in the Football League (Sheffield FC) 1862 (159 not out)) Pitch Size: 112 x 72 yards Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Randox Health Kit Manufacturer: Adidas Website: www.sufc.co.uk Programme: £3



The cricket ground is now part of the car park behind the south stand on the right

# Colours



# **History Facts & Records**

Founded - 1889

Years at Today's Ground – 129 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1892 Founder Member Division Two

First Official Floodlit Match - March 1955

Highest Attendance – 68,287 v Leeds United, FA Cup 5th round, 15 February 1936

Highest Score for - 10-0 v Port Vale, Division Two, 10/12/1892 & v Burnley, Division One, 19 January 1929

Highest Against – 0–13 v Bolton Wanderers, FA Cup 2nd round, 1 February 1890

Highest Scorer in a Season - Jimmy Dunne 41 goals from 41 appearances, Division One, 1930-31

Highest Scorer Overall - Harry Johnson scored 201 goals in 313 games from 1919–1930

Player with most First Team Appearances - Joe Shaw made 631 appearances from 1948-1966



Former South End Stand (Pavilion End)

#### **Ground Guide**

I liked when it was half cricket ground and half football ground as Bramall Lane use to be like Northampton Cricket ground but unlike Northampton most of the Cricket Ground was put under the new South Stand and south car park in 1973 and the pavilion demolished. The South Stand (GAC Stand) and Bramell Lane (Jessica Ennis Stand) corner was filled in during the summer of 2006.



The construction of three large modern looking stands, on the North East & West of the ground plus the filling in of the corners (albeit one corner is filled with administrative offices), makes it a great ground and one that has character.



South Stand (Dan 92)

Both sides of the ground are large single tiered stands. Whilst the GAC (South) Stand is a fairly plain looking stand, the North Stand (Visit Malta Stand) which sits opposite, and this stand which was opened in 1996, has had the corners to either side of it filled in, by offices on one side and a family seated area on the other, called the Fortina Spa Corner, in a corporate sponsorship deal.



The Kop End (Dan 92)

At the back of the stand are a row of executive boxes and on its roof is a small gable, reminiscent of when many older grounds featured them. At one end is the Kop Stand, has two large supporting pillars. Also the roof was replaced with a new cantilever structure, allowing the supporting pillars of the old roof to be removed giving fans more cover and an unimpeded view of the playing action. This stand is two tiered and also has an electric scoreboard, perched between the two.



John Street Stand (Dan 92)

Away fans are housed in the lower tier of the Jessica Ennis (aka the Bramall Lane) Stand at one end of the ground, where around 3,000 supporters can be accommodated. For cup games if the demand requires it, then the upper tier can be made available too. For Away fans The Rutland Arms is at 86 Brown Street the best place to have a drink Great beer, brilliant range of ciders They now have at least two beers from their own Blue Bee brewery (the Nectar was just right - light and tasty). Great snacks (try the Smutty Rutty Butty). Very busy pub is probably the nearest and best for real ale and "sensible" fans and is only a 230 yards walk from the station.

Alcohol is available inside the ground in the form of plastic 500ml bottles of Carlsberg (£3.60) or 330ml bottles of Cider (£3.60). The food is fair priced at for pies £3.50 Sausage Rolls £3, cheeseburgers £4 and Hot dogs £4, Great snacks at the Pasty Shop for pies and butties 30 yards walk from the station platform. Outside the stadium behind the GAC stand is a statue of former Club Chairman Derek Dooley and another of former playing legend Joe Shaw.

### **Driving Directions**



#### North

Leave the M1 at Junction 36 and take the third exit at the Barnsley Roundabout onto the A61 through one roundabout into Sheffield City Centre. Then at Shalesmoor roundabout take the third exit onto Netherthorpe Road which is the ring road around the western side of the city centre. Take the second exit at the next two roundabouts and at the third roundabout take the third exit at St Mary's roundabout onto Bramall Lane. The ground is a short way down on the left.



#### South

Leave M1 at Junction 33 and take the first exit onto A630 till Castlebreck where it joins the A57 and carries on till Sheffield City Centre. On reaching the inner ring road keep in the left hand lane then at Park Square Roundabout take the third exit into Sheaf Street follow this onto the one way system and at the bottom of Sutton Road get into the right hand lane and take a right into St Mary's Road go past Pure Gym then at St Marys roundabout take the first exit and follow the signs for A621 Bakewell, the ground is about a 400 yards down Bramall Lane.

The best place to Park is at **Meadowhall Railway Station**, near to the Shopping Centre, just by Junction 34 of the M1, which is free, then take the **Supertram** to Granville Road and then walk to the ground which is about 10 minutes. You walk straight on at the first set of lights and carry on down St Marys Road till the roundabout then

take a left and walk down to the ground.



Take the East Midlands train to **Sheffield Railway Station** which is twelve minutes from the ground. As you come out of the station, walk left along the main road. Where the road splits take the right fork which is Shoreham Street and continue at St Mary's Road cross over and down this road to the ground. The bus for the ground is the **252 TM Travel** from Pond Street/Howard Street it drops you of at Bramell Lane its 3 minute walk up to the ground.

Admission

Adults £24 (B £23), Concessions £18 (B £14), Under 16's £12 (B £7.50)

# **Stoke City**

Ground - Britannia Stadium Stanley Matthews Way, Stoke On Trent, ST4 4EG Main Telephone No: 0871 663 2008 Main Fax No: 01782 592 210 Ticket Office: 0871 663 2007 Ticket Office Fax: 01782 592 201 Capacity: 30,812 (all seated) Pitch Size: 115 x 75 yards Club Nickname: The potters Year Ground Opened: 1997 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Bet365 Kit Manufacturer: Macron Website: www.stokecity.com Programme: £3





#### Founded - 1863

Former Names – Stoke Ramblers (merged with Stoke Victoria Cricket Club 1878), Stoke FC 1878 – 1928) Years at Today's Ground – 21 years First Admitted to the Football League – 1888 Founder Member

First Official Floodlit Match – October 1956 Victoria Ground

Highest Attendance - 51,380 v Arsenal at the Victoria Ground in Division One on 29/03/1937

Highest Score For – 26–0 v Mow Cop Staffordshire Football Association Senior Cup 1877

Highest Against – 0–10 v Preston North End, First Division, 14/09/1889

Highest Scorer in a Season - 38 Arthur Edwin Griffiths 1908/09 & Charlie Wilson 1927/28,

Highest Scorer Overall – 176 John Henry Ritchie from 1962 – 75

Player with most First Team Appearances – 597 Eric Thomas Skeels 1959 – 1976

#### **Former Grounds**

Victoria Cricket Ground (1863 – 75), later became the Victoria Ground Sweetings Field (1875 – 78), Victoria Ground (1878 – 1997)

#### **Ground Guide**

The Club moved to the Britannia Stadium 1997, after playing for 119 years at their old Victoria Ground which had been the original ground as Stoke Ramblers when it had been Victoria Cricket Ground in 1862 and you walk past this piece land to get to the ground.

The largest of these is the Q-railing (West) Stand, which is the tallest at the Britannia. This imposing stand has a large lower tier of seating with a smaller tier above. Situated between the tiers is a row of Executive Boxes. There are quite large open areas with the Marstons Pedigree (South) Stand at one end of the stadium which is partly given to away supporters and covered, with windshields to either side. It is though quite steep, meaning that fans are kept close to the playing action. The teams come onto the pitch from one corner of the ground, between the Marstons Pedigree (South) Stand and the Q-railing (West) Stand. In the corner on the other side of the Marstons Pedigree (South) Stand and East Stand is a large video screen which blocks out the old free view.

At the Boothen End there are three statues of the legendary former player Sir Stanley Matthews, which were originally unveiled by Kevin Keegan'. The club also have a couple of unusual looking mascots, with a blue coloured hippo called 'Pottermus' and his white girlfriend 'Pottermiss' as bad as Man City and MK Dons.



South & East Ends

The stadium can be seen from afar, as it is perched upon a hill with hardly any buildings around it. It especially looks good at night when it is lit up. The ground has one large single stand, incorporating the Boothen End and Seddon Stands, completely surrounds half the pitch as it extends around one corner. Whilst the other two stands South and West Stands on the other sides are 'free standing' having open corners to either side.



**Boothen Stand** 

#### **Driving Directions**



Leave the M6 at Junction 15 and then go straight across the roundabout onto the A500 (Queensway) towards Stoke. Continue along the A500 following signs for the A50 towards Derby. At the top of the slip road at the Sideway roundabout take the second exit and after a 100 yards then move into the second from left lane (Signposted Britannia Stadium). You can see the stadium over on your right. Turn right at the top of the slip road and then right at the next roundabout for the stadium. For Parking see the Football Ground guide England as there are many places to park my favourite is at the old Victoria Ground just 200 yards from today's ground and charges £4.00





Take either the Cross Country, East Midlands Trains, London Midland, Northern and Virgin Trains to Stoke on Trent Railway Station is just over two miles away from the stadium, 'there are some shuttle buses than run from Glebe Street in Stoke up to the Britannia Stadium, which depart every 15 minutes. There are return buses after the game back to Glebe Street from behind the Sentinel Stand'. The alternative is take D&G Buses 14 to the ground

If you want to use the buses turn right from the station into Station Road, at the bottom, turn right into Leek Road. Then go straight across the A500 dual carriageway and into Glebe Street. You should then see the line of buses that will take you to the stadium.

#### Admission

Sharp (South Stand): Adults £30 Over 65's £27 Under 17's £23 Under 11's £20

Category B Games: Adults £25, Over 65's £19, Under 17's £15, Under 11's B £12

#### Where to have a Drink

The above pubs on the alternative route any of them are good for away and neutrals I have found since going to the Britannia Stadium i.e. Terrace Inn, Bench & Bar and Railway Pub.

### Sunderland

Ground - Stadium of Light, Millennium Way, Sunderland, SR5 1SU Main Telephone Number: 0871 911 1200 Main Fax No: 0191 551 5123 Ticket Office: 0871 911 1973 Capacity: 49,000 (all seated)

Pitch Size: 105 x 68 yards Club Nickname: The Black Cats Year Ground Opened: 1997 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Great Annual Savings Kit Manufacturer: Nike Website: www.safc.com Programme: £3.00



#### History Facts & Records

Founded – 1879 (Sunderland and District Teachers A.F.C)

Years at Today's Ground - 21 years

First Admitted to the Football League – 1890 for Stoke FC

First Official Floodlit Match – December 1952 Roker Park

Highest Attendance - 75,118 v Derby County at Roker Park FA Cup Sixth Round 08/03/1933

Highest Score for – 23-0 v. Castletown, 20/12/1884 Durham FA Cup

Highest Against – 8–0 v. Sheffield Wednesday, 26 /12/1911, v. West Ham United, 19/10/1968 and v. Watford, 25/09/1982

**Highest Scorer in a Season** – 43 David Halliday in 1928/29 with 156 goals in 166 appearances 1925 - 29 **Highest Scorer Overall** – 228 goals Bob Gurney from 1925 – 50 with 350 appearances **Player with most First Team Appearances** – 627 Jimmy Montgomery from 1960 – 77

#### Colours



**Former Names** 

Sunderland and District Teachers A.F.C (1879 - 82)

#### **Former Grounds**

Bluehouse Field (1879 – 82), Groves Field (1882/83), Horatio Street Roker (1883/84), Abbs Field (1884 – 86), Newcastle Road 1886 – 1898), Roker Park (1898 – 1997)

#### **Ground Guide**

The Club moved from their former home of Roker Park where they had played for 99 years to the Stadium of Light in 1997, on the site of the former Wearmouth Colliery their club placed behind the West Stand there is a large red wheel, an emblem of the lifts that used to take the miners down to the coal face.

The stadium is of a good size, is totally enclosed and on the whole is quite impressive. It is composed of two three tiered stands at the North end and the West side of the ground, whilst the others are two tiered. The West (Main) Stand on one side also has a row of executive boxes (which you can sit outside if you wish), that are situated just below the top tier. Currently the away section is in the South Stand where 7000 fans can be accommodated.

However, if at some point the Club were to add an additional tier to the two remaining sides, then an even more remarkable stadium would emerge. There is also a large electronic scoreboard perched upon the roof at either end.



Taken from South East Corner

The PA system deafening especially when the classical piece of music is played before the players come on to the pitch at the start of the game and U2's 'Elevation', as the teams come out of the tunnel and outside the stadium behind the South Stand there is a statue of former FA Cup winning manager Bob Stokoe, as well as some reminders of the Colliery, as also outside one corner of the stadium is a large miners lamp.

For away fans The Albion pub on Victor Street is a 17 minutes away from the ground and a 14 minute walk from either St Peters or Stadium of Light metro stops, is a small pub the size of a house They serve food from there set menus the food have had here has been nice and drinks are not bad prices. They have pool tables and darts and show all the football matches on big screens so if you want a quiet drink I would stay away on match days as it gets packed out with supporters.

#### **Driving Directions**



North Exit the A1 at Junction 62, at Seaton and follow the signs for Cramlington/ Blyth/ Ashington and at the roundabout, take the 3rd exit onto A19 (Signposted Tyne Tunnel, Newcastle Docks/ Blyth/ Ashington) then follow the A19 through three roundabouts and through the Tyne Tunnel and Jarrow



After about three miles, stay in the left hand lane and take the second slip road towards Sunderland (Signposted Stadium of Light, A1231 Sunderland). This takes you onto a bridge crossing over the River Wear. Turn right onto the A1231 following the signs for Sunderland. Go straight over four roundabouts into Sunderland on Washington Highway, and then follow the signposts to the ground.



Take A1 (M) to junction 35 then go along Westway/ A195 then at the first roundabout take the first exit onto Washington Highway and take the second exit off and then take the third exit onto Sunderland Way then at the sixth roundabout on Queens Way take the second exit then the second exit at the next roundabouts into the ground.



Take the train to **Newcastle Central Railway Station** then take the Metro link Stop and then take the **Metro to the Stadium of Light Metro Station** and then from the station turn right into Union Street Turn right onto High Street West, and then immediately turn left onto Back Bridge Street, and the road name changes to Pann Lane turn right onto A183 / St Marys Way after 100yards over the bridge, at roundabout, take second exit onto the A1080, and then after 200 yards turn left onto Sheepfolds North, and then the road name changes again to Easington Street 200 yards later and turn left onto Millennium Way follow the road round the ground in front of you.

#### Admission

The price of ticket varies so go on to their web site and buy your tickets on line: Category A Games: Adults £30 Category B Games: Adults £27

Category C Games: Adults £25 Over 65's £27 (B £21) (C £19), Under 17's £23 (B £17) (C £15), Under 11's £20 (B £14) (C £12)

## Swansea City

Ground – Liberty Stadium, Morfa, Swansea, SA1 2FA Main Telephone No: 01792 616 600 Fax No: 01792 616 606 Ticket Office: 08700 400 004 Capacity: 20,700 (all seated) Pitch Size: 114 x 74 yards Club Nickname: Swans Year Ground Opened: 2005 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Bet UK Kit Manufacturer: Joma Website: www.swanseacity.com Programme: £3

#### **History Facts & Records**

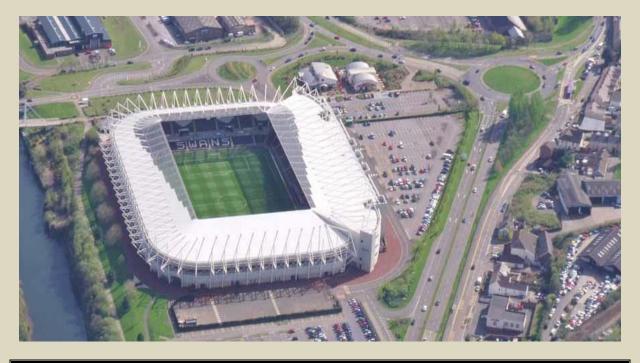
Founded – 1912 (Swansea Town) Years at Today's Ground – 15 years First Admitted to the Football League – 1920 from Southern League Founder Member Division Three and Division Three South in 1921(As Swansea Town) First Official Floodlit Match – September 1960 Vetch Field Highest Attendance – 32,796 v Arsenal @ Vetch Field FA Cup Fourth Road 17/02/1968

**Highest Score for** – 12–0 v Sliema, European Cup Winners Cup First Round, first leg, 15/09/1982 **Highest Against** – Liverpool 8-0 FA Cup Third Round Replay, 9/01/1990 AS Monaco European Cup Winners Cup First Round, second leg, 1/10/1991

Highest Scorer in a Season – 40 Cyril Pearce in 1931/32

Highest Scorer Overall – 166 Ivor John Allchurch 1947 – 58, 1965 – 68

Player with most First Team Appearances – 586 Wilfred Milne 1919 – 37



Colours



#### Former Names

Swansea Town (1912 - 1969)

**Former Grounds** 

Vetch Field (1912 - 2005)

**Ground Guide** 

The Club moved to the Liberty Stadium in 2005, after spending 93 years at their former Vetch Field home. The ground is located near to the former site of the Morfa Athletics Stadium on the West side of the River Tawe which is shared with Ospreys Rugby Union Club. The stadium was named the Liberty Stadium under a 10 year corporate sponsorship deal.



It is completely enclosed with all four corners filled with seating. Each of the four stands is two tiered and three are of the same height. The West Stand at one side of the pitch is slightly taller, having a row of 28 corporate hospitality boxes, situated above the upper tier. The Club's offices are also located behind this stand.

Both ends have an electric scoreboard situated on the front of their roofs, although for some reason the scoreboard at the North End is larger than the one at the South End. Outside the stadium at the South West corner, by the club shop is a statue of former Swansea legend Ivor Allchurch there all-time scorer in their history with 166 goals in 18 seasons.

Away fans are housed in the North Stand at one end of the stadium. Up to 2,000 fans can be accommodated in this area, with the views of the playing action from this area are excellent as there is a good height between rows and the leg room is probably one of the most generous of any stadium that I have visited over the years (1240 and counting).

#### **Driving Directions**



Leave the M4 at Junction 45 and take the A4067 towards the City Centre (Signposted A4067 South). Stay on the A4067 for around two and half miles and you will reach the stadium on your left. Car parking at the stadium is for permit holders only and most of the immediate residential areas around the stadium now have 'residents only' parking schemes in place. Do not park on the nearby Retail Park as you will end up with a ticket or be clamped!



#### 4, 4a, X50 120, 122, 125, 132 and 501

So for the away/neutral supporters use the Park & Ride facility located at the Felindre Steel Works site, this is signposted off Junction 46, shortly after leaving the M4. The cost of parking there including transport by bus to and from the stadium is £6 per car and with dedicated buses **4**, **4a**, **X50 120**, **122**, **125**, **132 and 501** back here you are off home quicker and without a ticket.



Train to Swansea High Street Station with the ground about two miles from the stadium. Regular local bus services routes 4, 4a, X50 120, 122, 125, 132 and 501 from the train station to the stadium.

Walking to the ground you pass a few good pubs on the way to the ground by walking up the High Street than at the Y junction go right up on Bridge Street at the cross road walk straight turn right into Neath Road. Proceed straight along Neath Road with the ground 10 minutes up the road unless you visit the pubs on the way so leave time.

Admission

Adults £30

Concessions £17.50

Concessions apply to Over 60's, Under 16's and Full Time Students (ID required at turnstiles). Disabled supporters are admitted at the senior citizen price.

#### Where to have a Drink

Frankie and Benny's are an away friendly pub this pub is located at Unit 19b, Morfa Shopping Park off Brunel Way and is only two minutes from the ground good food and beer

### Watford

Ground - Vicarage Road, Vicarage Road, Watford, WD18 0ER Main Telephone No: 0845 442 1881 Fax No: 01923 496 001 Capacity: 17,400 (all seated) Pitch Size: 115 x 75 yards Club Nickname: The Hornets Year Ground Opened: 1922 Club Nickname: Hornets Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Stake Kit Manufacturer: Kelme Website: www.watford.co.uk Programme: £3

#### **History Facts & Records**

Founded - 1891
Former Names – Watford Rovers
Years at Today's Ground – 92 years
First Admitted to the Football League – 1920 Founder Member of Division Three & Division Three South in 1921
First Official Floodlit Match – October 1953
Highest Attendance – 34,099 v Manchester United FA Cup 4th round 3/02/1969
Highest Score for – 10 – 1 v Lowestoft FA Cup Round One 27/11/1926
Highest Against – 0 – 10 v Wolverhampton Wanderers F.A. Cup Round One Replay 13/01/1912
Highest Scorer in a Season – 42 Cliff Holton in 1959/60
Highest Scorer Overall – 186 Luther Blissett from 1976-1992

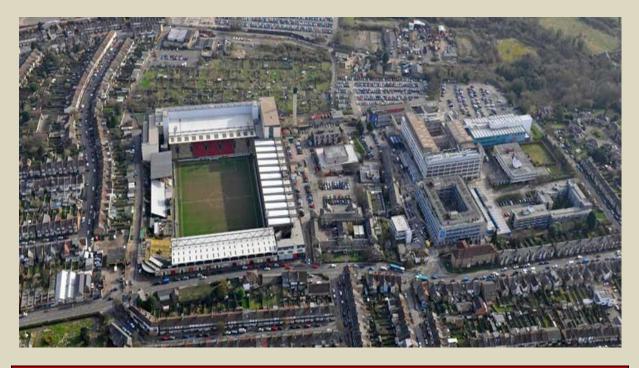
Player with most First Team Appearances – 503 - Luther Blissett from 1976-92

**Former Grounds** 

Cassiobury Road (1891 – 1905),

West Hertfordshire Sports Ground 1905 – 16),

Cassio Road (Part of it now Vicarage Road Rookery Road End) (1916 - 22)









#### **Ground Guide**

The ground is going through a number of changes at the moment, the most significant of which is the redevelopment of the East side of the stadium, with a new stand which will hold 2,600 fans demolishing two old stands on that side plus open terracing and the new stand will look like Torquay United new stand.



Graham Taylor Stand

Opposite to where the new stand is being built is the Graham Taylor Stand. This stand is named after their most famous manager and was opened in 1986. It is a two-tiered stand that has an interesting roof design; with a number of semi-circular arches like at the old Main Road in Manchester and it also has a row of executive boxes running across the back.



**Rookery Stand** 

The ground has had both ends re-developed during the 1990's along with the front of the Graham Taylor stand. Both ends are similar looking large single tiered stands, with away fans are housed in one of these ends in the Vicarage Road Stand up to 3,000 depending on support.



Vicarage Road End

Opposite the Rookery Road Stand is larger, housing some 6,950 supporters. With construction of a large office block immediately behind the stadium, beyond the corner between the Rookery Stand and the Rous Stand, the Club embarked on internally 'filling in' this corner. However due to financial difficulties, the work has never completed leaving a somewhat ugly half-finished shell.



East Stand (Sir Elton John Stand)

The new East part of the ground has been redeveloped; the teams still emerge from some temporary dressing rooms on that side. The teams come out to the old theme tune of the old Police series Z-Cars from the 1960's and 70's like Everton.



#### **Driving Directions**

Leave the M1 at Junction 5 and take the A4008 Stephenson Way into Watford. At Waterfield Roundabout take the second exit onto the A411 just past the Premier Inn and follow the signs for Watford General Hospital then

follow the road into Breechen Grove. Continue down the road till you see the sign for Vicarage Road Girls School/ Watford General Hospital and take a left down Vicarage Road then at the bottom of the road take a left and get in the right hand lane and follow the road round and then get in the left lane and at the lights turn left into Vicarage Road and follow it down to the ground.

There are also some private match day car parks available at some industrial units near the ground, as well as the Vicarage Road Girls School in Vicarage Road, which is 5 minutes walk down the lane to the stadium and charges £7 per car.

From the M25 get of a Junction 18 then turn right onto the A404 and follow it to the Rickmansworth roundabout then take the first exit onto the A412 Park Road go straight on at the first roundabout then take the third exit into Ascot Road at the second roundabout then after a few yards at the next roundabout take the second exit into Whippendell Road then at the lights take a right into Hagden Road then go on at one roundabout then at the crossroads take a left into Vicarage Road the ground is on the right after about 200yards.

#### Public Transport & Walking



It is a choice of four Stations for this ground all within 20 minute walk these are on the **Watford Underground** on the **Metropolitan line** and the is **Watford Junction**, **Bushy and Watford High Street Train Stations**.



From the south take the train to **Clapham Junction** then take the London Overground to **Watford Junction Railway Station**. The ground is well signposted from **Watford Junction** it's a left out of the station down Claedon Road through the precinct onto Vicarage Road and its 50 yards on the left. For those who like to sample the beer well there is plenty as plenty of pubs to quench your thirst.

From North take the train to **Watford Junction Railway Station** with the ground is well signposted from **Watford Junction** it's a left out of the station down Claedon Road through the precinct onto Vicarage Road and its 50 yards on the left. For those who like to sample the beer well there is plenty as plenty of pubs to quench your thirst.

Admission

Vicarage Road Stand Adults £26, Concessions £15, Under 16's £10

£3

Programme

#### Where to have a Drink

The 'Odd Fellows (Macs Bar) in Fearnley Street 'It is only a couple of hundred yards from the ground the bar is situated off Cassio Road and is clearly visible when taking the route to Vicarage Road from the town centre via Market Street from Watford Rail Station which is 400 yards away. Good pub just around the corner from the stadium. Patio area at the back, friendly and efficient staff there is a square bar with service on three sides and an island in the middle holding optics etc. There's a pool room out the back and a decent amount of covered outside seating.

### West Bromwich Albion

Ground - The Hawthorns, Halfords Lane, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B71 4LF Main Telephone No: 0871 271 1100 Main Fax No: 0871 271 9861 Ticket Office: 0871 271 9780 Ticket Office Fax No: 0871 271 9781 Capacity: 26,500 (all seated) Pitch Size: 115 x 74 yards Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: Ideal Boilers Kit Manufacturer: Puma Website: www.wba.co.uk Programme: £3



#### History Facts & Records

Founded - 1878

Former Names – West Bromwich Strollers (1878 – 80) Former Grounds – Coopers Hill (1878 – 1881), Dartmouth Road (1879 – 81), Bunns Field (1881/82) Four Acres (1882 – 85), Stoney Lane (1885 – 1900) Years at Today's Ground – 118 years First Admitted to the Football League – 1888 Founder Member First Official Floodlit Match – September 1957 Highest Attendance – 64,815 v Arsenal FA Cup Sixth Round 06/03/1937 Highest Score for – 12–0 v Darwen, First Division, 4/04/ 1892 Highest Against – 3–10 v Stoke City, First Division, 4 February 1937 Highest Scorer in a Season – 40 Walter G Richardson in 1935/36 Highest Scorer Overall & Player with most First Team Appearances – 279 goals Anthony (Tony) Brown in 1963 – 80 and 720 appearances 1963 – 80

#### Colours



#### **Ground Guide**

The club took over 30 years to convert the old ground into the Modern and they started with the Halfords Lane Stand. This stand which was opened in 1982 which stretches around two corners of the ground with the home end Birmingham Road Stand which is a large, covered, and quite steep and at the opposite end is for the away fans where around 3,000 are accommodated which are housed in the Smethwick End with both these ends were built and completed in 1995.



The East Stand is an impressive, large single tiered stand which completed the building programme in 2001, which has been well integrated with the rest of the ground. It has a row of executive boxes running along the back, and to each side of the stand the previous open corners have been filled with corrugated sheeting. There is a thin supporting pillar on each side of the stand to support the corner structures.

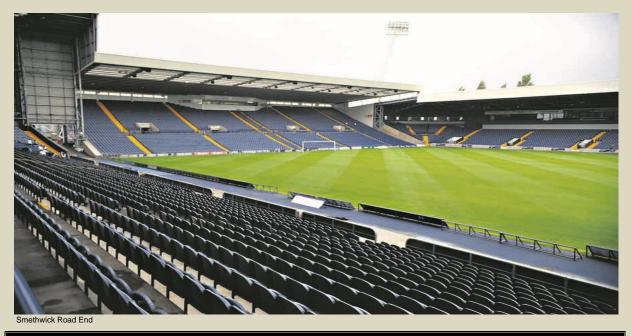


In between the East Stand & Birmingham Road End you will notice perched up on a wall, a large Throstle (the clubs emblem) standing on a football. This has been kept over from the previous stand it used to sit above the clock on the half time scoreboard and maintains the links with tradition.



Birmingham Road Stand

Outside the ground on the same corner are the Jeff Astle Memorial Gates who played for the club between 1964 to 1974 and scored 174 goals the club erected them in tribute to the legendary striker and watch they don't close them or you will need a tom tom to find your way back to either Rolfe or Hawthorns Stations. Whilst just beyond the East Stand Car Park is a Memorial Garden and look out for the West Brom Mascot called 'Baggie Bird', who does a good job of entertaining the away fans before the game.





#### **Driving Directions**

Leave the M5 at Junction 1 take the A41 towards Birmingham, the ground is on your right after 400 yards (speed cameras on this stretch of the A41). Street parking or alternatively there are a few private Matchday car parks at local industrial units near the ground, or at Hawthorns Railway Station which costs £4.

#### **Public Transport**



Take the train to **Birmingham New Street Railway Station** and then walk over to the Grand Central metro Stop and take the **MM1 tram** to the **Hawthorns Metro Station** which is about five minute walk from the ground just turn right and walk up to the ground which is on the right.



From the North take the train to **Wolverhampton Railway Station** and then take the path up to the Price Albert pub then take a left then walk down to the court house and take a right and the stop is on the left about 100 yards take the metro **Tram MM1** from St Georges Wolverhampton it's a six minute walk from the main station, and take it to the **Hawthorns Metro** which is about five minute walk from the ground just turn right and walk up to the ground which is on the right.

Admission Adults £30 Over 60's £20 Students/Under 23's £20 Under 17's £15

#### Where to have a Drink

The Vine' on Roebuck Street which is 400 yards from Smethwick Galton Bridge train station and a mile from the Hawthorns Tardis-like! You walk into a cosy backstreet boozer; go past the bar to a conservatory-type eating area and then beyond to the indoor Indian barbecue. Fantastic! The food is superb and great value for money and the size of the nans has to be seen to be believed. As for the ale this really is a 'must visit' and easy to get to and get to the ground via the metro

# Wigan Athletic

Ground - DW Stadium, Loire Drive, Wigan, WN5 0UZ Main Telephone No: 01942 774 000 Fax No: 01942 770 477 Ticket Office: 0871 663 3552 Capacity: 25,023 (all seated) Pitch Size: 110 x 60 metres Team Nickname: The Latics Year Ground Opened: 1999 Undersoil Heating: Yes Shirt Sponsors: DW Fitness Kit Manufacturer: Puma Website: HTAFC.co.uk Programme: £3



#### History Facts & Records

Founded – 1932 Years at Today's Ground – 16 years First Admitted to the Football League – 1978 for Southport FC First Official Floodlit Match – October 1965 Springfield Park Highest Attendance – 27,500 v Hereford United, FA Cup Round 2 12/12/1953 Springfield Park Highest Score for – 12–0 v Stubshaw Cross, Lancashire Combination Cup, 15 September 1954 Highest Against – 1–9 v Tottenham Hotspur, Premier League, 2009 Highest Scorer in a Season – 31, Graeme Jones, 1996–97 Highest Scorer Overall – 70, Andy Liddell, from 1998–2004 Player with most First Team Appearances – 317 Kevin Langley from 1981–1986 & 1990–1994



Springfield Park (1932 - 2000)

#### **Ground guide**

The Club moved from its former home of Springfield Park, where it had been in residence since the Club's formation in 1932 to the DW Stadium in 1999. The four separate stands are of roughly the same height and are all single tiered. They are also quite steep meaning that fans sit quite close to the playing action, although the stands themselves are set back a fair distance from the pitch boundary and The Latics share the ground with Wigan Warriors RFC.



both the side stands have large supporting steel frameworks visible above their roofs, with the ground doesn't have the large corporate areas and executive boxes it has less than most modern grounds. There is an electric scoreboard above the Boston (East) Stand, on one side of the ground.

The stadium was originally named the JJB Stadium under a sponsorship deal was lasted for 10 years. This was replaced by a new deal in August 2009, which saw the stadium being renamed the DW Stadium in partnership with DW Sports Fitness.

Outside the ground is Robins Park, where Wigan play their reserve games and athletics meetings are held. There is quite a sizeable stand on one side of the Park, as is used by Wigan Robin Park FC.

#### Wheelchair users:

Each stand at the DW Stadium has two designated disabled platforms with catering and toilet facilities available, along with a lift to each concourse and direct access to the platforms. These platforms are designated for people totally confined to a wheelchair with personal Assistant seats, if required, are allocated at the side of each platform. There are additional facilities for wheelchair supporters at the front of the West Stand and as wheelchair spaces are limited, these will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Supporters using this facility will be charged the relevant price, with their personal assistant being free of charge.



**Driving Directions** 

Leave the M6 at Junction 26 take the M58 exit to Skelmersdale/ Southport. From the South get in the right hand lane and follow the road markings for the A577 round the roundabout under the M6, from the North take the M58 exit to Skelmersdale/ Southport then at the roundabout, take the 2nd exit onto A577. Follow the road down and then turn right onto Orrell Road and follow the signs for Wigan town centre then at the roundabout take the first turn left into Robin Park Road and continue into Scot Lane with the ground is on the right down Scot Lane.

#### **Public Transport**





Train to either **Wigan North Western & Wallgate Railway stations** are a good 20 minute walk from the ground or break up the journey with a few pub stops on the way! On exiting Wigan North Railway Station turns left and go down the road heading under a railway bridge. On leaving Wallgate station turn right and go down the road passing Wigan North station on your left and then proceed under the railway bridge and walk down the Wallgate to the Roundabout then. It is a fairly straight walk along Robin Park Road passing the Jacobs Well Pub, when you reach the Seven Stars Hotel then turn right down the road to the stadium, or take a shortcut along a Leeds and Liverpool canal to the stadium off the Wallgate.

Admission

Adults £25, Concessions £18 Under 16 £10

#### Where to have a Drink

The Berkeley on Wallgate near the railway station visited this place admittedly after seeing it listed in good beer guide but from outside it looks far too trendy and lively to be the pub, then I walked in and discovered a sixteen barrel beer fest with beers straight from the barrel Otherwise alcohol is available inside the stadium with a dedicated away bar and the Jacobs Well Pub a good mix of away supporters serves five ever changing real ales