

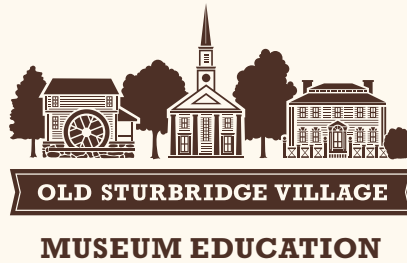


OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE

MUSEUM EDUCATION

Teacher & Chaperone Guide





Welcome!

Dear Educators,

We are so excited to see you and your students during your upcoming visit to Old Sturbridge Village. Please consult this packet for more information about what to expect during your time with us; from logistics about arrival and bathrooms, to helpful tips for students and chaperones. We hope that this guide will make your trip as seamless and rewarding as possible.

Feel free to reach out to Museum Education staff if there is anything we can do to help make your field trip a richer and engaging experience for your students.

See you soon!

Contact: osved@osv.org
(508) 347-0274

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FAQ for Teachers



Where does my group enter the Museum?

Most school and youth groups enter through Museum Education Center entrance. It is located separately from the main Visitor Entrance. Click [here](#) to view a map. At Museum Education, your bus (or buses) will be greeted by an OSV staff member. The lead teacher will enter the ticketing office inside Museum Education to check in your group and receive maps and stickers for your chaperones.

Please note: Groups attending the Town Meeting or Abolition and Social Change programs may enter through the main Visitor Entrance. These groups will still be greeted by Museum Education staff.

How do I get to Museum Education?

Museum Education can be difficult to find if you have never been to this entrance. Click [here](#) to view a map that details how to get to Museum Education.

What should we expect during group check-in and drop-off?

Your bus will be greeted by an OSV staff member who will welcome your group to the Museum and go over a few guidelines. On busy field trip visitation days, the greeting and disembarking process may take some time. Please do not allow the students to get off the bus until you have been greeted by a staff member and the bus has moved to a safe location. The OSV staff member will instruct the lead teacher to head inside Museum Education to the ticketing office.

Ticketing office staff will supply you with the following:

- Stickers for all visiting adults
- A Village map guide with a listing of the day's events for each adult
- Confirmation of the times of any workshops or programming
- An assigned lunch time during busy visitation dates

Where can chaperones park?

Limited free parking is available at Museum Education for buses and chaperone vehicles. Please carpool whenever possible as the lot can fill up quickly, especially during May and June. If the lot is full, you will be directed to park in the main Visitor Center lot, on the other side of the museum.

Is lunch space available?

Limited, non-refrigerated, sheltered lunch storage and eating space is available on a first come first served basis in the Lunch Room by the Museum Education Center. Outdoor picnic tables are available on a seasonal basis throughout the Village campus. Because storage space is limited, please consolidate lunches into boxes or large bags.

Is food available to purchase?

There are several **dining options** available at our museum. There is no food available for purchase at the Museum Education Center.



Please note: Due to limited space, school groups are not allowed to dine in the Bullard Café unless purchasing food.

Where can we shop?

The Miner Grant Store in the Center Village offers fresh-baked goods and unique gifts in a country store setting. The Ox & Yoke gift shop, located at the Museum's main entrance, also has many wonderful gifts and toys. Groups are welcome at the gift shop; chaperones must accompany students inside. During May and June the shops can get very busy with school groups, which can result in long lines at the cash registers. Please plan accordingly to allow plenty of time if you plan on shopping.

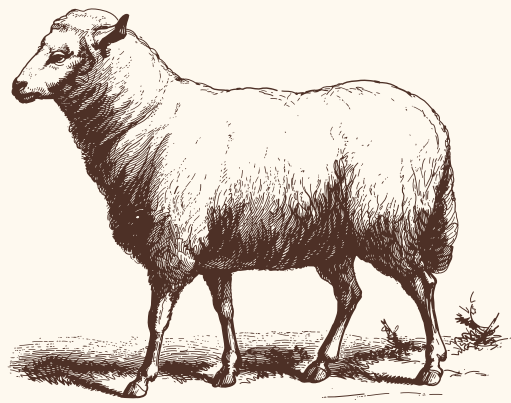
What do I wear?

The Village buildings and exhibits are connected by dirt roads and spread over a large area. Students, teachers, and chaperones should wear comfortable shoes and dress appropriately for the weather.

What should I expect during our education program?

For more details about each program, see our *What to Expect* guides here: www.osv.org/education/educator-resources/





How can I orient students to the Village before our visit?

1. Explore the Village using the 3D tours on OSV's website: www.osv.org/education/3d/
2. Look at photos and video of the Village here: www.osv.org/about/old-sturbridge-village-shareable-visual-assets/

What can my students do during a self-guided visit?

1. Use our self-guided materials! We have free, kid-friendly guides and maps available in the Museum Education Center. They are a wonderful way to focus your students during the visit.
2. Check out the daily map guide for performances, games, and activities for your students to enjoy. You will be given an up-to-date map guide upon check in, but you can get a sneak peek of activities on our website here: www.osv.org/events-experiences/calendar/ (programs subject to change)
3. Short on time? Follow a suggested route for self-guided groups, which you can find here: www.osv.org/content/uploads/2023/09/Suggested-routes-for-self-guided-groups.pdf

What should we do if we are going to be late?

We understand that groups run late due to unforeseen circumstances. If you are going to be significantly later than your scheduled arrival time and you have programming during your visit, please call us at (508) 347-0274 to update staff. If you are more than 10 minutes late for your scheduled programming, this may affect the quality and duration of your workshops or tours.

What should we do if we need to cancel?

If you need to fully cancel your field trip reservation, your 25% deposit is refundable up until 2 weeks prior to your visit date. After this point, your deposit becomes non-refundable. Please see our cancellation policies here (link to page on the website). We are happy to reschedule your trip, when possible.

Tips for Chaperones



Educators, please share the following tips with your non-teacher chaperones! We appreciate your help in advance to make this trip fun, safe, and seamless.

You are responsible for the behavior of the students in your group. You are representing your school and community while you are here. While exploring the Village, it is MANDATORY that you remain with your students at all times. Please enter the historic buildings with your students: this is a signal to our costumed historians that the students are supervised.

Please be kind to our animals. The animals that you will see today are working animals, not pets. Please make sure your students do not touch, feed, yell at, or chase any of the farm animals.

Respect our fences and buildings. You will see a variety of fences, stone walls, and buildings throughout our campus. While tempting to students, these structures are not safe for climbing, sitting, or leaning.

Respect other visitors. This includes other school groups and general, non-school audiences.

Pay attention to signage and barriers. In some spaces, mobility is restricted to

protect our historic objects and exhibits. If you aren't sure if you can touch or if a space is accessible to visitors, just ask!

What if someone in my group gets hurt?

First aid services are available at the Village's Security Office (marked on your Village map).

During our workshops, you may have a different role. If your group has signed up for a workshop in the Museum Education Center, the classroom teacher and 1 or 2 chaperones may be asked to help with the activities. If there are a number of chaperones in your group, some chaperones may be asked to take a break as space is limited. If you are present for a workshop, please refrain from talking to other chaperones, making cell phone calls, and other disruptive behavior that may distract the students from learning.

Photography and videos are allowed for personal use only. We do not allow selfie sticks or tripods for safety reasons and do not allow commercial use of any photographs you take at the Village.

OSV is a non-smoking campus. Please respect this policy.

Check out this orientation video to share with your students!
<https://youtu.be/RKY3F2jtQfU>

Tips for Students



Compare your life today to life almost 200 years ago. Old Sturbridge Village depicts rural life in New England in the 1830s. The Village features historic buildings, animals, nature trails, and costumed historians working on 19th-century chores and trades. As you walk around the museum, think about how life in the 1830s compares to your life today. How is it similar? How is it different?

Please be kind to our animals. The animals that you will see today are working animals, not pets. Please respect the animals and do not touch, feed, yell at, or chase them.

Respect our fences, artifacts, and buildings. You will see a variety of fences, stone walls, and buildings throughout our campus. While they seem fun to climb on, the fences and walls are not always stable, so please do not climb, sit, or lean on them while you are in the Village. If you have food and drinks with you in the museum, make sure to put it away before entering one of our historic buildings.

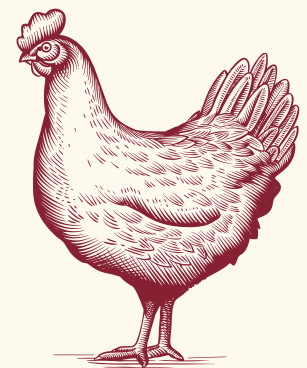
Respect other visitors. On the day you visit, there might be students from other schools or people who are visiting who aren't part of a school group at all. Make sure to show these other visitors the same respect you show your teachers and classmates.

Talk to Museum staff. While you're at the Village, you'll see Museum Educators in blue polo shirts and costumed historians wearing clothing from the early 1800s. They are modern people, just like you, who can help you understand the past and compare it to life now. Make sure to ask them questions to learn more!

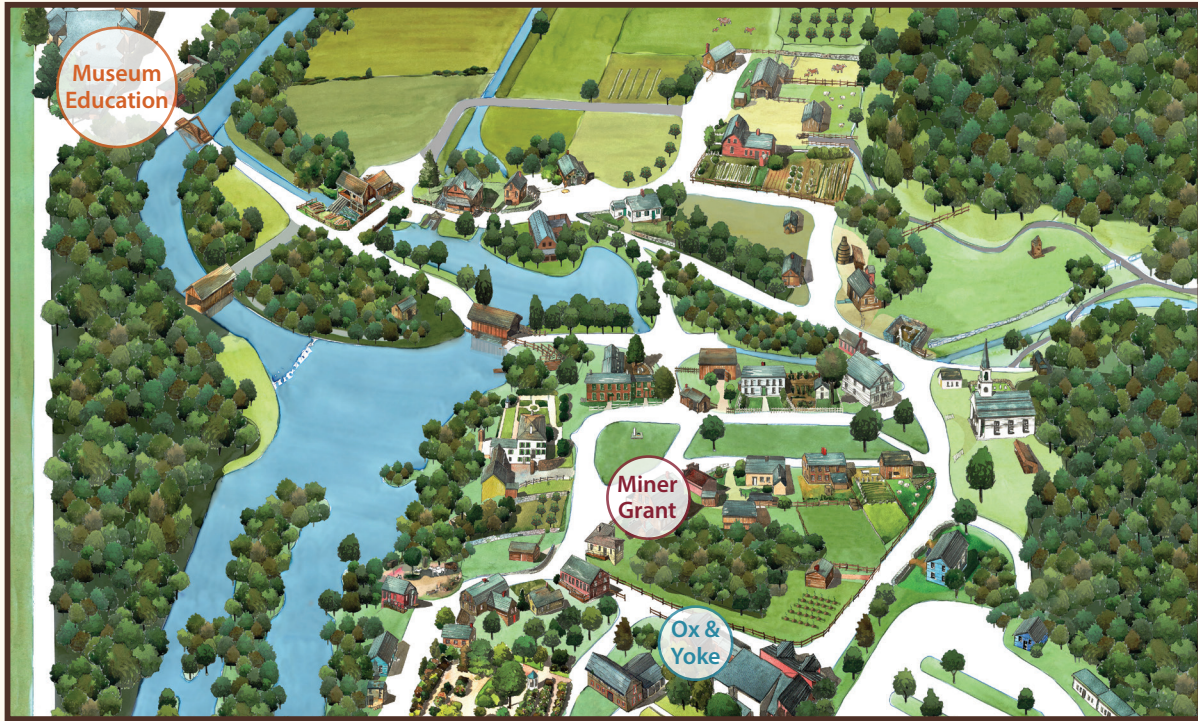
Pay attention to signage and barriers. In some spaces, you will see ropes or barriers to protect our historic objects and exhibits. If you aren't sure if you can touch something or wonder if a space is accessible to visitors, just ask!

Stay with your chaperones. Old Sturbridge Village is very big, and it is easy to get lost or separated from the rest of your group. As you walk around, make sure that you stay within sight of your group and chaperones, including when you enter museum buildings.

Check out our video detailing rules for visiting the Village: <https://youtu.be/RKY3F2jtQfU>



Gift Shop Tips



Miner Grant Store

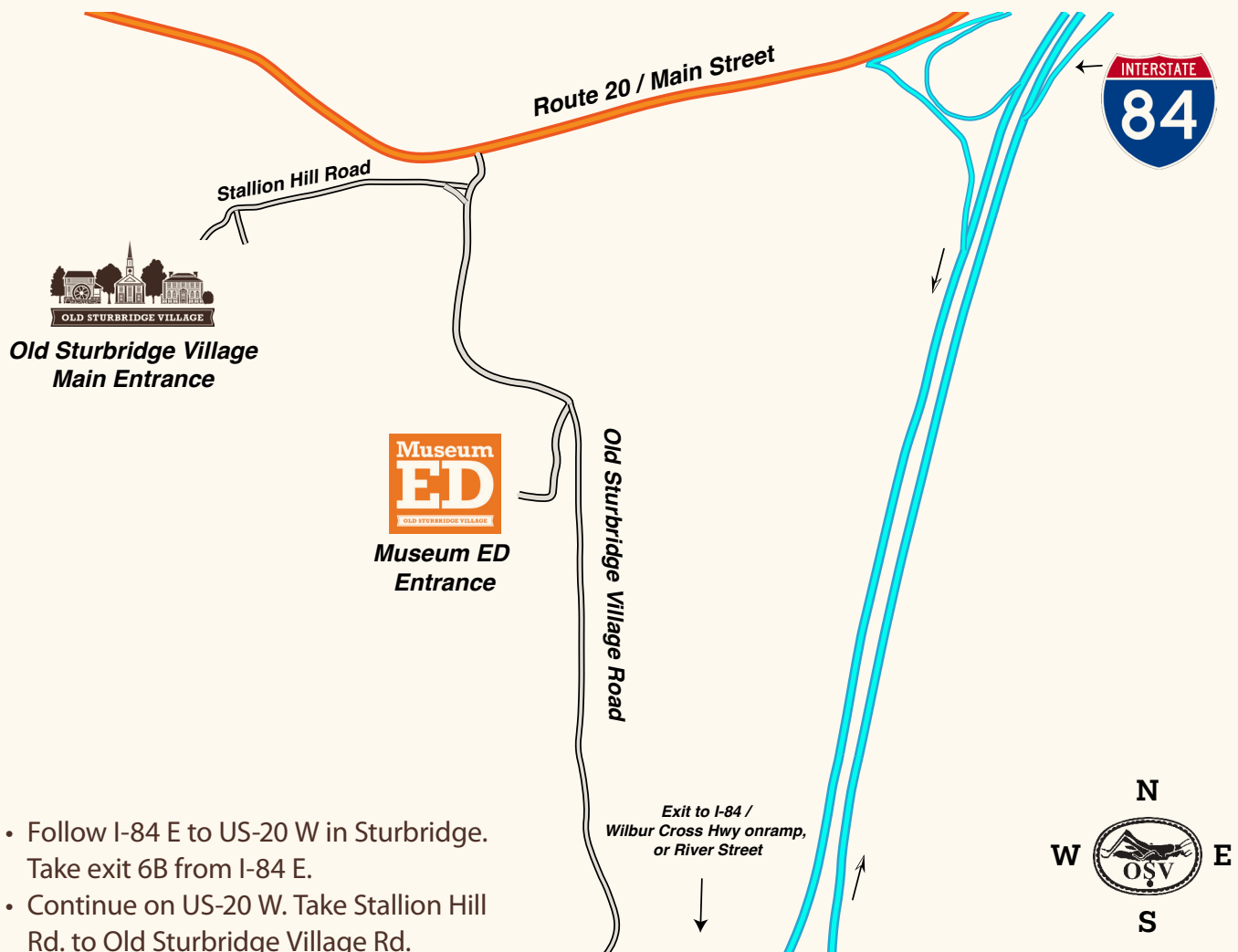


Ox & Yoke Mercantile

Old Sturbridge Village has two gift shops on site for your students to check out during their visit: the **Miner Grant Store** and the **Ox & Yoke Mercantile**. Since the gift shops can be very exciting and overwhelming places for school groups, retail staff would like your students and chaperones to know the following:

- Miner Grant has the best selection for kids while Ox & Yoke is more focused on books and home goods.
- Students **MUST** have their chaperones with them in the shops at all times.
- It is the responsibility of the chaperone to help the student to determine if they have enough money for their purchase, including sales tax.
- We ask that students do not put anything to their mouths in the store (candy, bugles, fifes, etc.).

Directions to Museum Education





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Thank you to Cornerstone Bank for sponsoring the 50th Anniversary of the Museum Education Center. Their commitment to community education and financial literacy makes a significant difference in the lives of learners of all ages.

