



Purchase your tickets in advance online www.bhrailway.co.uk or on arrival at our ticket office at our Furnace Sidings station. Payment by card or contactless preferred otherwise cash accepted. Further details on our operating days, special events, timetable of services, pricing, privacy terms and conditions relating to all our services, provisions and other policies are available on our website or by telephoning 01495 792263.

All services and facilities are liable to change and subject to availability of locomotives, rolling stock, facilities and volunteers.

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Alastair Grieve, Thomas Coombes, Steve Thomas, Philip Coombe, Southern Wales Tourism, Jamie Warner, James Button and other Blaenavon Heritage Railway volunteers.



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The Pontypool and Blaenavon Railway Company (1983) Ltd is a not-for-profit, volunteer-run charitable organisation.



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BLAENAVON'S HERITAGE RAILWAY

Creating a legacy for future generations to enjoy



bhrrailway.co.uk

About Us: 100% volunteer-run.

We are a volunteer-run heritage railway set within the stunning Blaenavon World Heritage Site on the edge of the Brecon Beacons National Park.

Founded in 1983 by enthusiasts who wanted to preserve the Brynmawr to Pontypool line for future generations, since then we've grown and developed to welcome thousands of passengers every year!

Today our volunteers operate steam and heritage diesel services on weekends and bank holidays throughout the spring and summer, allowing visitors to take a trip back in time through the heritage landscape!

We also operate on selected Wednesdays during the school summer holidays and have an exciting year-round programme of special events, including our popular **Halloween Ghost Trains** and **Christmas Steam Santa Specials**.

Our timetable of services and special events is available to view on our website and from our station shop or ticket office.

FIND US:

Our main station at Furnace Sidings, located close to the A465 Heads of the Valleys Road, has ample free car and coach parking, together with refreshment, toilet, and gift-shopping facilities. We are just off the B4248 at Garn-yr-Erw between Brynmawr and Blaenavon. Please use postcode NP4 9SF for satnavs and mobile devices. Continue heading down this road until you reach the station.



What to see:

Travel through the beautiful landscape behind our steam or heritage diesel locomotives.

Savour the atmosphere on board our lovingly restored carriages, including the vintage train on selected running days.

At Furnace Sidings enjoy a wide selection of refreshments in the Fireman's shovel tea room and buy that practical souvenir or gift from Eric's Emporium.

Alight at one of our stations to visit one of the nearby attractions, including the Big Pit National Coal Museum and World Heritage Centre.

Alight at Whistle Inn Halt and partake of liquid refreshments or food at the Whistle Inn.

Go for a walk alongside the track on the Pontypool to Blaenavon Cycle Route.

For more details visit www.sustrans.co.uk

Explore the other attractions in Blaenavon. To find out more visit www.visitblaenavon.co.uk

The Journey:

Our railway and its four stations are the ideal way to explore the stunning UNESCO-listed World Heritage landscape in style!

A round trip on the railway lasts approximately one hour, and on standard running days, we typically operate to the following service pattern:

Trains first head south, starting from Furnace Sidings and travelling along a short branch line to serve Big Pit Halt. Situated next to the Big Pit National Coal Museum, the station is always popular with those combining their trip with a visit to the museum!

Trains then head north from Big Pit, back through Furnace Sidings towards Whistle Inn Halt. Here passengers can visit the adjacent Whistle Inn public house, or explore the Garn Lakes, which have been beautifully reclaimed from their mining past.

Leaving Whistle Inn Halt your train then heads south again along the former mainline towards Blaenavon.

After passing through Blaenavon High Level station, the train reaches the current end of line at Coed Avon. Although passengers cannot alight here, you will return the short distance to Blaenavon High Level. Located above Blaenavon town centre with its many attractions and local businesses, the station makes an ideal place to alight – though please be aware that some may find the climb back up slightly challenging. Here the locomotive will run around, before returning to Furnace Sidings, where the train will terminate. With the crew and engine working extremely hard up some of the steepest gradients in the country, this part of the journey is always popular with passengers!

Your ticket is valid all day and we strongly advise that you make a day of your visit by combining a trip on the railway with a visit to another attraction in the area.

Please Note:

With the exception of The Railway Shop, all other attractions across Blaenavon are owned and operated independently of Blaenavon's Heritage Railway. During certain special events and on selected running days, our services may also be altered to meet operational requirements and ensure visitor safety. Trains may not serve all stations, and tickets may have validity restrictions. Please check the timetable and fare information in advance of your visit.

The Pontypool and Blaenavon Railway (1983) Company Ltd./Blaenavon's Heritage Railway also reserves the right to alter services without notice where circumstances dictate.



Vintage Carriage Stock

TRAVEL IN STYLE ABOARD OUR SALOON VEHICLES

Starting in 2022 customers will have the opportunity to travel in our two superbly restored engineers' saloon vehicles. Built by the Great Western Railway in 1910 and 1948 respectively, they add a new stylish experience.

On regular running days dedicated First Class tickets will be available to purchase, being valid for one round trip aboard the saloon in service on the day from Furnace Sidings station.

Great Western Railway ENGINEER'S SALOON 6479 – 1910

Our resident Engineer's Saloon. Built by the Great Western Railway in 1910 using the frames of an even older former Manchester and Milford Railway carriage, its operating life was spent transporting engineering directors around the Gloucester district area, including Newport.

It has recently undergone a refurbishment and re-entered regular service in late 2021. Freshly painted in resplendent British Railways' 'Crimson Lake and Cream' livery with an interior featuring both settee and directors' table seating, the carriage is particularly suited for larger parties and for those wanting to experience the life of those engineers who were in charge of looking after the line!

Great Western Railway HAWKSWORTH INSPECTION SALOON

In March 2022 we welcomed 1948-built Great Western Railway Hawksworth Inspection Saloon W80976W on an initial three-year hire period from the West Somerset Railway.

Superbly restored, the carriage entered service on our railway in 2022. Painted in Great Western Railway colours and boasting an especially luxurious interior, the carriage is particularly well suited to those wanting to add style to their visit.

Supplementary charges apply.





FURNACE SIDINGS TEA ROOM

We're keeping a welcome on the hillside for you at the Fireman's Shovel refreshment room. Sit inside and savour the vintage atmosphere, or enjoy your refreshments amidst stunning scenery on the platform.

We stock a variety of treats and snacks, including a wide range of hot and cold drinks, through to ice cream. Vegan, dairy-free and gluten-free options are available. The tearoom is open on service days only. If you have any other specific dietary requirements or want anything altered in your order, please let us know. Much of our food is made fresh to order and we can often be flexible. Our volunteers politely request that visitors pay by bank card or contactless wherever possible.



FURNACE SIDINGS EMPORIUM

Our little on-site shop is named after and dedicated to long-serving volunteer Eric Edwards. It offers a wider range of gifts and our own exclusive souvenirs such as fridge magnets, clothing and coasters to commemorate your visit, as well as children's toys, Thomas the Tank Engine, books, and a range of model railway stock. Eric's Emporium is open every running day of the season!

Our **Model Railway Shop**, 33, Broad Street, Blaenavon NP4 9NF stocks Hornby, Bachmann, Peco, Heljan, Dapol, Gaugemaster etc. products. Open Monday to Friday 10.30am to 4.30pm and Saturday 10.30am to 4.00pm. We stock a wide range of products, accessories, scenic materials, locos, rolling stock and our knowledgeable volunteer staff team are on hand to answer any queries you may have. Telephone 01495 792263.

Visit our Facebook page for up-to-date information.

<https://www.facebook.com/Railwayshopblanavon>

We also have our own **model railway club** that meets Tuesdays between 11am and 3pm and Fridays between 7pm and 9.30pm.

New members welcome regardless of experience.

We have layouts in O, OO, O9 and N gauge.

Telephone 01495 792263 for details or search our Facebook group page.

<https://facebook.com/groups/PandBMRC>





Heritage Railway Experience

Looking for a gift for the person who has everything or perhaps you would just like to treat yourself?

Why not consider booking a **Heritage Railway Experience** at Blaenavon's Heritage Railway?

The Experience, suitable for those aged 18 or over, includes:

- Choice of a **steam** or **diesel** experience
- A full round trip with the **Driver** on the footplate, lasting just over an hour for the participant
- A further full round trip assisting the **Guard**
- A **complimentary ticket** for a friend to ride on the train on the same day
- A **certificate** commemorating your special day.

From **£50** per participant. Price includes one guest per participant.



Book online today by visiting our online store.

Have a question? heritageexperience@pbrly.co.uk

Full terms and conditions are available on our website.

Make new friends, have fun and learn some fantastic new skills by volunteering with us.

Blaenavon's Heritage Railway is very proud to be an entirely volunteer-run organisation!

Whether it be the engine driver, ticket inspector, catering staff or track worker, everybody that you see during your visit is giving up their free time to keep our railway running for future generations to enjoy.

Opportunities:

We are always looking for new people to volunteer with us.

Our railway is home to various departments that all play a key role in supporting our railway. These include:

- **Carriage and Wagon** – restore and maintain carriages and wagons.
- **Catering** – manage the Fireman's Shovel tearoom and onboard refreshments
- **Civil Engineering** – maintain and develop structures on and around our railway.
- **Diesel Traction** – restore, maintain and operate our heritage diesel locomotives
- **Operations** – responsible for operating services during running days and events.
- **Permanent Way** – maintain, relay and expand our track in all weather!
- **Stations** - Meet and greet our passengers and help us recreate the golden days of rail travel.
- **Steam Locomotive** – restore, maintain and overhaul our steam locomotives.

Further details and an expression of interest form can be found on our website

<https://www.bhrailway.co.uk/volunteering>

GROUP TRAVEL INFORMATION

Thinking of bringing a group along for a visit to Blaenavon's Heritage Railway?

Located close to the A465 with ample free car and coach parking, refreshment facilities and plenty to see and do, we are an ideal venue for a group visit.

We offer discounts on standard ticket prices for group visitors, with large groups enjoying bigger discounts. We also provide a range of catering options, with groups enjoying special rates if booked in advance.

If you have any queries about booking a group visit, please [email info@pbrly.co.uk](mailto:info@pbrly.co.uk) stating the size of your group, date, facilities and services you require.

As a small organisation we can often be very flexible to meet your requirements.



Support us by becoming a member.

Blaenavon's Heritage Railway is supported by approximately 400 members who, by paying a small annual subscription, help keep the railway running for future generations to enjoy.

Benefits:

In addition to helping to preserve our railway, members enjoy a range of exclusive benefits and opportunities. These include:

Up 50% off ticket prices on normal (i.e., non-event) running days.

- A 5% discount on purchases from Eric's Emporium and The Railway Shop
- Receiving our Top Line in-house magazine, with the latest news, photographs and articles
- The regular Bottom Line newsletter with updates of developments at our railway.
- An invite to our exclusive members evenings, with food and drink, entertainment and trains.
- Voting rights at our Annual General Meeting.

Becoming a member is also essential to becoming a volunteer at the railway, and many members go on to undertake a range of voluntary activities with us! However, even if you do not wish to become a volunteer, by becoming a member you will be helping us to preserve and maintain our railway for future generations to enjoy!

How to join:

Those wishing to become a member may join either the Pontypool and Blaenavon Railway Company or the supporting Pontypool and Blaenavon Railway Society.

Membership of the Company is open to British nationals aged 18 and over and affords the widest range of benefits. This the recommended route for eligible adults to become involved, granting the greatest range of privileges and opportunities. Others, including foreign nationals and young persons under the age of 18, may join the Society.

Purchase online membership or renew membership.

<https://www.bhrailway.co.uk/product-page/membership-renewal>

