ROYAL NAVY
FLEET AIR ARM
MUSEUM

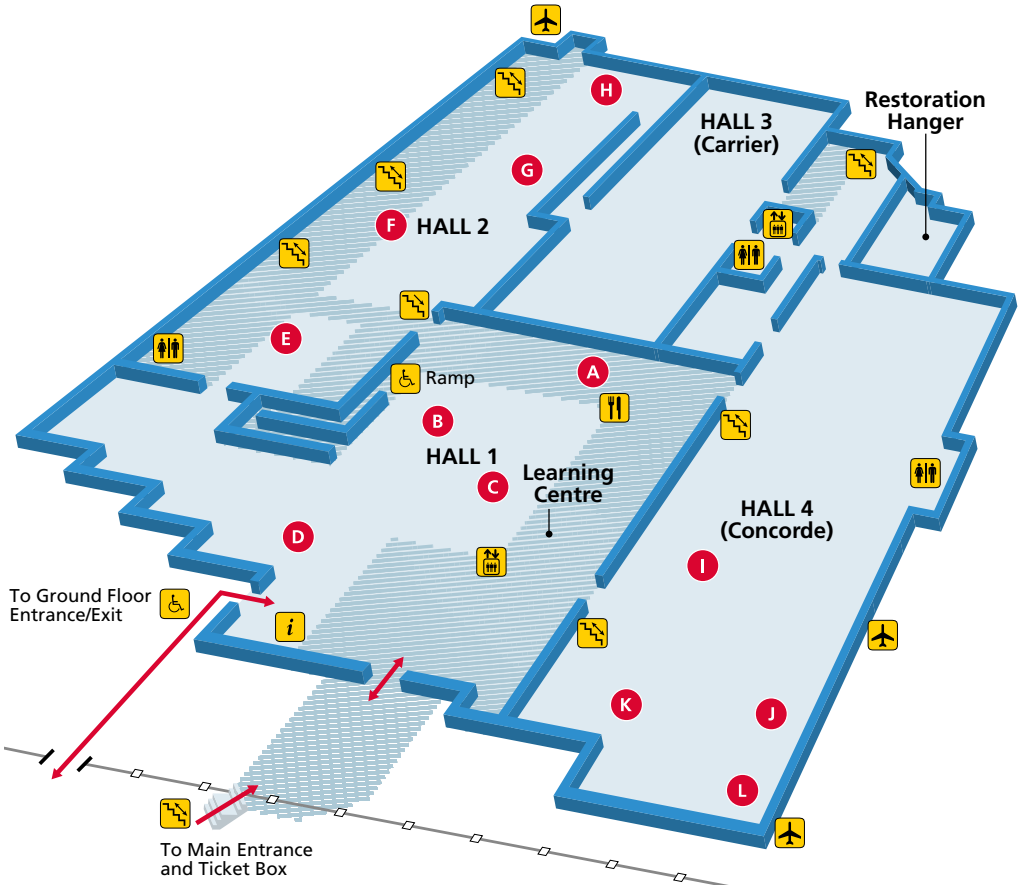
THE NATIONAL MUSEUM ROYAL NAVY

THE HISTORY OF FLYING IN THE ROYAL NAVY

This trail will take you on a journey around the museum looking at how flying in the Royal Navy has changed over time, from early pioneers to modern technologies.

You will explore the development of aircraft design and the roles of the Fleet Air Arm in war, and peace time.

- Disabled Access
- Warnefords Tea Room & Vending Machines
- Aircraft Viewing Point
- Stairway
- Toilets/ Baby Changing with Disabled Access
- Lift
- Information Office/ First Aid Point
- First Floor Exhibits
- Discover Points



MUSEUM RULES

- Please only eat and drink in designated museum spaces.
- Please do not run
- Please stay in your small groups as you go around the museum
- If you are using the Learning Centre as a lunch space, the door code is **C4590Z**

HINTS & TIPS

- As you go around the museum, you will see our amazing volunteers. Make sure you ask them lots of questions!
- Try using the 'See, Think, Wonder' Model as you go around the museum. What do you **SEE**? What do you **THINK** is going on? What does it make you **WONDER**?

HALL 1

Discover the remarkable story of the first Royal Navy fliers, from ships in the air through to aeroplanes on the water.

Just a few years after the World's first ever aeroplane flight, the Royal Naval Air Service was formed and naval aviation began. It would change the way the Royal Navy operated for ever.

A PIONEERS GALLERY

See: For hundreds of years the Royal Navy have known that climbing up high above the sea means you can see more, and further.

Think: Crow's Nest. How did sailors see further from on board ships?

How is your view of Hall 1 different from the balcony than on the floor?

Wonder: Can you find different ways that the Royal Navy put 'eyes in the sky'?

B SHORT S27

See: In 1911, only 8 years after the Wright brothers first flight, the Royal Navy trained its first pilots.

The aeroplanes were very basic and were not able to travel very fast or very far.

Think: Materials. What were these early aeroplanes made from?

Wonder: What do you think it would have felt like to fly an aeroplane like this?

C SOPWITH BABY

See: The first Royal Navy aeroplanes had cameras to spy on the enemy and no weapons, so fighter aeroplanes were sent out to protect them.

Think: Pattern and Colour. How could pilots work out which aeroplanes were friendly, and which were enemies?

Wonder: The first fighter pilots were called 'knights of the skies' – why do you think this was?

D WALRUS

See: For over 100 years, Search and Rescue aircraft have saved the lives of downed pilots and shipwrecked sailors.

Think: Saving Lives. Why are Search and Rescue aircraft especially important for the Royal Navy?

Wonder: How do Search and Rescue aircraft rescue people?

What else might they rescue/do?

HALL 2

Find out about the amazing aircraft and extraordinary people who fought the battle in the air, over land and sea.

Explore the courage of the aircrew of the Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm, the dedication of the people supporting them on the ground, and the clever systems that linked them all together.

E FULMAR

See: Developments in aircraft design and technology meant Second World War aeroplanes could fly higher, faster and further.

Think: Materials. What were these aeroplanes made from?

Wonder: What do you think it would have felt like to fly an aeroplane like this?

F HARVARD

See: In the Battle of Britain, a clever system of technology and communication enabled British aircraft to be guided straight to where they were needed.

Think: Speed and Distance. Why do you think it was important to be able to tell the pilots exactly where to go?

Wonder: How could Fighter Controllers use ice-cream tricycles to practice guiding pilots to targets?

G MARTLET

See: During the Second World War the Battle of Britain was the first battle in history to be fought entirely in the air.

Think: Air Space. Why might winning the battle in the air be so important in a war?

Wonder: Royal Navy pilots flew with the RAF in the Battle of Britain, as well as pilots from other countries. Where might they have come from?

H SEA FURY

See: Aircraft carriers were vital in the Second World War. They enabled aircraft to take off and land from anywhere on the oceans around the world.

Think: Shape and Size. Why do you think aeroplanes on aircraft carriers often have folding wings?

Wonder: Wings can fold in different ways – how many types of fold can you see?

HALL 4

Investigate the incredible technology and aircraft that have helped shape modern Royal Navy flying.

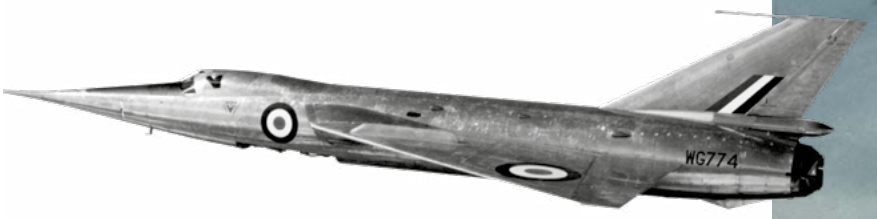
From jet engines that enable aeroplanes to travel faster than the speed of sound or vertically 'jump' up and down, to helicopters whose versatility forms the core of today's Fleet Air Arm.

I FAIRY DELTA

See: The jet engine meant aeroplanes could fly at supersonic speeds – that's faster than the speed of sound (343 m/s)!

Think: Speed and Distance. What advantages/disadvantages are there in travelling so fast?

Wonder: How do you think it feels to travel at supersonic speeds?



J LYNX HELICOPTER

See: Helicopters changed Royal Naval flying with their ability to take off and land virtually anywhere, hover, and move into small spaces.

Think: Shape and Size. Why do you think helicopters are so useful in the Royal Navy?

Wonder: What do you think it feels like to fly a helicopter like this?

K SEA KING HELICOPTER

See: Royal Navy helicopters provide protection and security, help keep the peace and deliver humanitarian relief.

Think: Pattern and Colour. Why might aircraft be painted in different colours?

Wonder: What do we mean by 'humanitarian' relief? Where might this be needed?

L VIEWING AREA

See: Today, Royal Naval Air Station (RNAS) Yeovilton is one of the Royal Navy's two main air bases.

Think: History. In 1939 there were 62 RNAS bases in the UK– why do you think there are just 2 today?

Wonder: Why is the Royal Navy and its aircraft important to Great Britain?