

Coach Drivers Pack 2010



- FREE ENTRY
- FREE PARKING
- PUBLIC TOILETS
- GUIDED TOURS
- WHEEL CHAIR WALKWAY (Monday to Friday only)
- OTHER NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

Contents:

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a) Welcome:

- i) **Opening Hours:**
The shop and factory are open for guided tours 9am - 5.0pm, Monday - Friday all year except Christmas and Good Friday. The shop only, is also open from 10am on Saturdays, July to October inclusive.
- ii) **Useful Information**
Thank you for your enquiry about bringing a group to visit the Ropeworks. Coach drivers are always very welcome and entitled to a free drink from the vending machines located in the video room (on arrival please ask any member of staff for a token). Entry to the ropeworks is free but there is a charge if an escorted tour is required.

With a café next door and a number of attractions nearby, the Ropeworks is an ideal place to visit for an interesting day out. Just across the road is a large Pottery and adjacent to that is a delightful playground which is ideal for those visitors with young children. The award winning Dales Countryside Museum is just 100 yards away on the other side of the car park and the famous Wensleydale creamery, with its own visitor centre, is also just a short distance away. Other nearby attractions include,

Hardraw Falls, boasting the longest single drop in the country, a Glassblower, a Woodturner and numerous shops, restaurants and pubs.

OTHER NEARBY ATTRACTIONS Useful telephone numbers:

- a) **Tourist information – 01969 667450**
- b) **Hawes Health Centre – 01969 667200**

b) The Ropemakers of Hawes – Their Story.

This interesting and informative book is available for a cost of £1 and includes a detailed guide to the ropeworks. If drivers are happy to sell this guide to their passengers before they enter the Ropeworks then they will be entitled to a 20% commission. (please ask about supplies)

c) Escorted visits: These, if required, last approximately an hour and include:

- 1. Watching ropes made by the traditional method.
- 2. Viewing the ropeworks video.
- 3. A tour of the factory and shop.

HOW TO BOOK

- 1. YOU TELEPHONE to check that your preferred time and date is available.
- 2. WE MAKE a provisional booking, following your telephone call.
- 3. YOU COMPLETE AND RETURN the booking form.
- 4. WE ACKNOWLEDGE and confirm your booking in writing and send you a sketch map of Hawes and our location, including suggested parking areas, with a work sheet (photocopiable) if required.

HOW TO PAY

£2.90 per person, paid on arrival the day of the visit . Cheques, credit cards or cash (for which a receipt will be given) are all acceptable; cheques should be made payable to Outhwaites Ltd.

We are always pleased to help if you need any further information.

**Outhwaites Ltd, Ropemakers
Town Foot, Hawes
North Yorkshire
DL8 3NT
UK**

**Tel: 44 (0) 1969 667487 Fax: 44 (0) 1969 667576
e-mail: info@ropemakers.co.uk website: www.ropemakers.co.uk**

P.S. WHEN PLANNING TRAVEL please allow approximately 1 hour's driving time from either the A1 or the M6 to reach Hawes. There is car and coach parking in the Old Station car park (adjacent to our premises).

d) BOOKING FORM FOR A GROUP VISIT 2010

Before completing this form, please read notes on 'How to Book' and 'How to Pay'

DAY AND DATE OF VISIT

NAME ORGANISATION.....

ADDRESS

.....Postcode.....

Tel.....Fax.....

NAME AND POSITION:

TIME OF VISIT 9.30 - 10.30 11.00 - 12.00

please tick one 2.00 - 3.00 4.00 - 5.00

NO. IN GROUP..... Age group (senior citizens etc)

N.B. Visits are accepted on the understanding that there will be sufficient supervising adults for the age and ability of the group.

HOW MANY SUPERVISING ADULTS? (if relevant).....

TOPICS TO BE COVERED DURING THE VISIT - **(Details overleaf please)**

(N.B. All groups will see ropemaking using traditional methods)

DOES YOUR GROUP HAVE ANY SPECIAL NEEDS? - **(Details overleaf please)**

eg. disabilities, wheelchair users, non English speakers YES/NO

WILL YOU BE ARRIVING by car, coach, mini-bus or on foot? (please underline one)

Are you staying in the area? - WhereTel.....in case of problems

NAME OF PERSON BOOKING VISIT.....

YOUR SIGNATURE.....DATE.....

Don't forget to detail overleaf your: Topics? Special Needs?

c) Maps & Directions:

f) Guide to the Ropeworks

Welcome ...Willkommen...Bienvenue...to the Hawes Ropemakers

During your visit this Guide will take you through the various manufacturing processes, from the new building to the old building, finishing in our well stocked shop. The headings below are matched by large signs on equipment throughout the two buildings. We hope you enjoy your visit.

- **For safety, please keep to the marked route and do not enter working areas or machine rooms. Staff are happy to help with enquiries but may not be able to interrupt or stop the job they are doing.**
- **Parents and Teachers!! - Please remember your children are your responsibility and need to be in your sight throughout your visit.**

The Ropewalk

Runs the whole length of this new building. For a rope longer than 100 feet (30 metres) we can open the door on the left and go outside, just like the ropemakers of old!

Here we use traditional methods to make *church bell ropes*, *bannister ropes*, *barrier ropes* and *cattle halters*. Other products, such as *horse leading reins* and *skipping ropes*, are made throughout the day on our short ropewalk in the other building.

Thomas Wharton (1778-1852) was a ropemaker in Hawes when the first national census was taken in 1841. A century ago, most towns and villages had a ropemaker, just as they had a local cobbler and blacksmith. Here in Hawes the ropemaker's products were used by farmers; near the coast sailors and fishermen used ropes. Nowadays Outhwaite's products go to more than 20 countries!

Knit-Braiders

These three machines produce warp-knitted braid in different diameters, about finger thickness. We use these for making *dog leads* and *clothes lines*. Note that the yarn is supplied directly to the machines from 'creels' behind the braiders.

Dog Lead Store

Please look to your right - here is the colourful dog lead packing area, where orders are being assembled for despatch to wholesalers and pet shops. The *dog leads* go out with our own brand labels - ask your local pet shop if they stock the 'Harlequin' or 'Rainbow' products made here!

Moulding Department

Beside the packing area, the famous *Outhwaite Cleats* are used to make handles on dog leads and hold the trigger hook in place. Small plastic granules are heated, melted and moulded around the braid to make a secure and neat fastening. Your Club emblem or Company logo can be included on our dog lead; please ask for details

Bannister & Barrier Ropes

Please look left - lengths of coloured rope hang ready to make into *bannister ropes* and *barrier ropes*. As orders arrive the rope is cut to the exact length required; solid brass or chrome fittings finish off the product. Handmade decorative 'rose knots' are used on the *bannister ropes*, which you will see advertised in glossy magazines. There are displays, with order forms and free samples of the coloured yarn used in Bannister and Barrier Ropes available on request.

Happy to Help! - Now we move out of this building via the door at the end. Staff are always glad to assist visitors in wheelchairs –*please do ask for help.*

From the Bridge

Ropeworks are usually long and rope-shaped. This one bends to follow the Blackburn Syke (stream). There may be a street in your town called the Ropewalk, the Ropery, or similar, marking the place where ropes used to be made.

Old Outhwaite Ropewalk

Numbers on the floor were used to measure, in feet, the ropes being made (1 *foot* = approx. 30 *centimetres*).

Video and Refreshment Room

Take the opportunity to take the weight off your feet whilst watching the Ropemakers video. (7 minutes – copies can also be purchased from the shop!)

Snacks with hot and cold drinks are also available from the vending machines nearby. (food and drink are forbidden in other areas of the factory or shop!)

Paper and crayons are available to entertain the little ones with frequent competitions for best picture being held. (different monthly theme!)

Formerly the candlewick room ‘where the wick was dipped’ this pleasant area also houses information boards for the candle wicks, banister ropes and the restoration of the Wensleydale railway. ([website link](#))

Winding Room

One automatic and two semi-automatic winding machines are used to wind yarn onto the bobbins used on the “Maypole” braiding machines (see below).

Finished reels of twine and braid are wound on the traditional Leeson machine on the left-hand wall.

Maypole Braiders

These produce plaited cord for uses such as *light pulls, carrier bag handles, anorak draw cords* etc.

The Shop and Traditional Ropemaking

We hope you enjoy browsing around our ‘Aladdin’s Cave’ of a shop. Here you can also watch yarns being ‘warped up’ for traditional ropemaking. Part of the fascination of watching ropes made is the satisfaction of seeing the complete process, in which many thin strands of yarn are rapidly twisted into a strong rope.