

# FISH AND CHIP SUPPERS & REAL ALE TRAINS

## PLUS NEW FOR 2010 - WINE & DINE TRAINS

On selected evenings we operate special early evening Fish and Chip Supper and Real Ale Trains whilst travelling along the Spa Valley Railway. With fares from a bargain £14 you can travel on two return trips and be served with a meal of your choice. In standard class food is served in a heat retaining container, normally prior to the departure



of the 18:45 train. Premier class options are also available. Drinks, including real ale from local breweries, are available on these special trains. Advance booking is essential so that we can have the meal ready on the day. Vegetarian options are available.

Seats for the Real Ale Train only are also available (for two return trips),

and may either be booked in advance or will be available on the day subject to space being available.

**Fish and Chip Supper & Real Ale Trains will operate on 24th April, 8th May, 5th June, 3rd, 30th & 31st July, 4th September and 23rd October.**

### NEW FOR 2010 - EVENING WINE & DINE TRAINS 26th June, 14th August, 18th September & 4th December

A three course dinner prepared by a professional chef will be served at your seat as the Wealden countryside slips slowly past. Enjoy sunset drinks from the bar car. Please contact the railway for sample menus, fares & times.

Additional dates may be added subject to demand or for group bookings. Latest dates will be published on our web site, [www.spavalleyrailway.co.uk](http://www.spavalleyrailway.co.uk).

### YOUR RAILWAY NEEDS YOU!

The Spa Valley Railway is managed and operated by volunteers. We are always looking for new volunteers to help run the railway. There is a wide range of jobs including Train Crew, Painters, Engineers, Gardeners, Administrators, Caterers... the list really is endless. We will provide training where necessary, so this is a chance to learn new skills. The age range of existing volunteers is from 14 to 80 plus, and they come from all walks of life. Our volunteers are members of a supporting society, membership of which gives them, amongst other things, a regular society magazine and travel benefits. If you would like the opportunity to do something constructive with your spare time, you can be assured of a friendly welcome. Please introduce yourself to one of our volunteers, give the railway a call, or pick up one of our membership leaflets today.

## 2010 Train Services

Trains run on the dates shown in colour. Please refer to the timetable below.

2010	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	
January							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
February			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28								
March			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
April						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
May	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							
June				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					
July						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
August			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
September					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				
October						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
November			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						
December					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
January, 2011	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							

### STANDARD TIMETABLE - SATURDAYS AND BANK HOLIDAYS

	D	A
Tunbridge Wells West dep	10:50	12:05
High Rocks dep	10:57	12:12
Groombridge dep	11:04	12:19
* Eridge arr	11:16	12:31
* Eridge dep	11:22	12:37
Groombridge dep	11:34	12:49
High Rocks dep	11:41	12:56
Tunbridge Wells West arr	11:48	13:03
Tunbridge Wells West dep	13:50	15:05
High Rocks dep	13:57	15:12
Groombridge dep	14:04	15:19
* Eridge arr	14:16	15:31
* Eridge dep	14:22	15:37
Groombridge dep	14:34	15:49
High Rocks dep	14:41	15:56
Tunbridge Wells West arr	14:48	16:03

### STANDARD TIMETABLE - SUNDAYS

	D	A
Tunbridge Wells West dep	10:35	11:50
High Rocks dep	10:42	11:57
Groombridge dep	10:49	12:04
* Eridge arr	11:01	12:16
* Eridge dep	11:07	12:22
Groombridge dep	11:19	12:34
High Rocks dep	11:26	12:41
Tunbridge Wells West arr	11:33	12:48
Tunbridge Wells West dep	13:35	14:50
High Rocks dep	13:42	14:57
Groombridge dep	13:49	15:04
* Eridge arr	14:01	15:16
* Eridge dep	14:07	15:22
Groombridge dep	14:19	15:34
High Rocks dep	14:26	15:41
Tunbridge Wells West arr	14:33	15:48

Note: A = Outward trip (ex Tunbridge Wells) runs 15mins later until Eridge opens  
 Note: D = Until Eridge opens, this train will normally be hauled by a Heritage diesel  
 \* Eridge expected to open during 2010. Until then trains run between Tunbridge Wells West and Groombridge.

### MID - WEEK AND LOW SEASON

Tunbridge Wells West dep	10:50	12:15	14:15	15:30
High Rocks dep	10:58	12:23	14:23	15:38
Groombridge dep	11:06	12:31	14:31	15:46
No service to Eridge on Yellow Timetable days				
Groombridge dep	11:37	12:50	14:50	16:05
High Rocks dep	11:46	12:59	14:59	16:14
Tunbridge Wells West arr	11:55	13:08	15:08	16:23

**SPECIAL TIMETABLE SPECIAL EVENT WEEKENDS**  
 An enhanced timetable will apply - Please visit [www.spavalleyrailway.co.uk](http://www.spavalleyrailway.co.uk) or phone for details.

**SPECIAL TIMETABLE "A Day Out With Thomas"**  
 Advanced booking recommended  
 NOTE: Passengers may only board at Tunbridge Wells West. Other stations closed.

**SPECIAL TIMETABLE SANTA SPECIALS**  
 Advanced bookings recommended

### FISH AND CHIP SUPPER / REAL ALE TRAIN

runs in addition to the advertised service on dates below  
**24th April, 8th May, 5th June(D), 3rd, 30th(D) & 31st(D) July, 4th Sept & 23rd Oct.**

Tunbridge Wells West dep	18:45	19:50	Groombridge dep	19:20	20:25
High Rocks dep	18:52	19:57	High Rocks dep	19:28	20:33
Groombridge arr	19:00	20:05	Tunbridge Wells West arr	19:36	20:41

**Midweek Fish and Chip Lunch Train** Available to book on 12:15 departure on following dates;  
**10th June, 15th July, 19th Aug, 9th Sept, & 28th Oct**

**Wine and Dine Train** Enjoy a 3 course meal travelling through the Wealden countryside on;  
**26th June, 14th August, 18th September & 4th December**

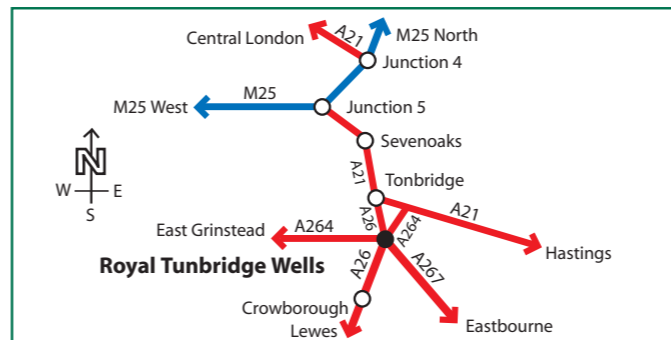
Advance booking essential for all dining trains

On opening to Eridge, most Standard (Green) timetable services will be operated with a steam locomotive at one end of the train and a heritage diesel locomotive at the other end.

On Low Season (Yellow) timetable days trains are scheduled to be hauled by a steam locomotive however in unavoidable circumstances a Heritage Diesel Locomotive may be used.

**Getting there:** By road: approximately 35 miles from central London, 18 miles from Junction 5 of the M25 via the A21, then either the A26 or A264 to Tunbridge Wells Town Centre. West station is adjacent to the Sainsbury's superstore off the A26 Eridge Road, follow the brown tourist signs once you are in the town centre. There are pay and display car parks nearby at Union House and Linden Close. Coach Park in Linden Park Road. Sat Nav TN2 5QY. Please note that the Sainsbury's car park is for their customers only. There is a large free car park at the High Rocks Inn. Sat Nav TN3 9JJ. Please do not park at Groombridge Station. Eridge station is located off the A26. Follow the signs to the main line station. Sat Nav TN3 9LE.

**By train:** By Southeastern to Tunbridge Wells, then either a short bus ride or a pleasant 10 minute walk down the hill along the High Street and Pantiles. Frequent local bus services stop at Sainsbury's. By Southern to Eridge. Spa Valley Trains will share Eridge Station with National Rail Services from a date to be announced during the currency of this timetable.



## Royal Tunbridge Wells – High Rocks – Groombridge – Eridge



## 2010 TIMETABLE AND INFORMATION

West Station, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN2 5QY Tel: 01892 537715



[www.spavalleyrailway.co.uk](http://www.spavalleyrailway.co.uk)

Take the Spa Valley train for a day out in itself or to visit one of the many established tourist attractions served by the railway. At **Tunbridge Wells**, West station is the headquarters of the railway complete with Victorian engine shed where you can glimpse our collection of historic locomotives and carriages undergoing restoration. There is also a gift shop, buffet and model railway. The Pantiles, an historic colonnaded shopping area is a short walk away. During the summer you can take the waters from the 'Chalybeate' spring at the bath house.

Adjacent to **High Rocks Halt** there are acres of sandstone outcrops to explore, linked by ornamental bridges. Discount admission is available for railway ticket holders. The station is next to the High Rocks Inn, Restaurant and Banqueting Complex. An ideal starting point for woodland walks, suggested itineraries are available.

At **Groombridge** village there is a traditional green, historic pub and picturesque church. A short walk from the station brings you to award winning Groombridge Place Gardens and the 'Enchanted Forest', designed to celebrate history, mystery and intrigue. The gardens feature a 17th Century manor house set in a moat dating back to 1230. Joint railway / admission tickets available. The start of the 'Forest Way' cycle trail is also close by.

During the currency of this timetable Spa Valley trains will return to **Eridge** providing interchange with National Rail 'Southern' main line services from London Bridge, Croydon and stations on the Uckfield line. Come by rail and make it a real day out on the train. The opening date for Spa Valley services into Eridge will be announced on [www.spavalleyrailway.co.uk](http://www.spavalleyrailway.co.uk) and in the press. Until then trains will operate between Tunbridge Wells and Groombridge.



Photography: David Staines

Surrounded by the unspoilt beauty of the Kentish Weald, the Spa Valley Railway lies at the heart of one of England's most beautiful regions. Take a trip by steam train for 5 miles from the famous town of Royal Tunbridge Wells through High Rocks to the charming village of Groombridge and on to Eridge, in an area rich in scenery and heritage. The railway frequently operates 'Kate', our award winning buffet and bar car, providing hot and cold drinks, snacks, cream teas and a licensed bar en-route. Make it a great day out by using the train to visit attractions along the line.

## Special Events 2010

Fri 2nd - Mon 5th April	Easter Specials
10th & 11th April	Members / Volunteer recruitment weekend
24th & 25th April	Steam Gala
8th & 9th May	Beer, Wine, Cider & Cheese weekend
15th, 16th, 22nd & 23rd May	"A Day Out With Thomas" event
Sat 5th June	Diesel Running Day (No Steam)
Sat 12th June	Meet Peppa Pig & George
19th & 20th June	Steaming through the 40's
Sat 10th July	25th Anniversary of Line Closure
Sun 11th July	"Wings, Wheels & Steam" (in assoc. with Groombridge Place)
Fri 30th July to Sun 1st Aug	Summer Diesel Gala (No Steam this weekend)
Sun 1st Aug	Ferraris, Balloons and Italian Motorcycles (Groombridge Place)
21st & 22nd August	Teddy's day out
9th to 12th September	Heritage Buildings Open Days
2nd, 3rd, 9th, & 10th October	"A Day Out With Thomas" event
Sat 16th October	Diesel Running Day (No Steam)
23rd & 24th October	Branch Line Gala
28th & 29th October	Autumn Tints Specials
4th, 5th, 11th, & 12th, then daily 18th to 23rd December	Santa Specials

It may be possible to book special trains for Schools or other parties on non service days

**Easter Specials – Fri 2nd - Mon 5th April**  
On Sunday and Monday Easter bunny hunt, plus Easter eggs for visiting children.

**Members / Volunteers weekend – 10th & 11th April**

Come and look behind the scenes and see how you could help run your local railway. Free travel for those joining on the day.

**Steam Gala – 24th & 25th April**  
Our annual steam gala. All available locomotives in steam and perhaps a visiting engine.

**Diesel days – 5th June & 16th October**  
Our fleet of heritage diesels take over for these events in the spring and autumn. No steam on these days.

**Meet Peppa Pig and George – 12th June**  
A chance to meet the characters from the animated children's TV series.



**Steaming through the 40s – 19th & 20th June**  
One of the major events in the railway's calendar. Experience the 1940s on the railway. Army vehicles and personnel, 1940s cooking, dancing and a variety of linked attractions. For more details please check the website or contact the railway nearer the event.

**25th anniversary of the line closure – 10th July**  
A special one-off gala day marking a quarter of a century since British Rail closed the railway between Tunbridge Wells and Eridge.

**Wings, Wheels and Steam – 11th July**  
Groombridge Place hosts this event featuring historic road transport plus a flying display. Special connecting train service.

**Summer Diesel Gala – Fri 30th July - Sun 1st August**  
Our annual heritage diesel three day extravaganza with a special intensive service. No steam on these days.

**Teddy's day out – 21st & 22nd August**  
Take teddy out for the day! All accompanied children who bring a teddy travel for £1 (and teddy goes free!).

**Branch Line Gala – 23rd & 24th October**  
A gala event celebrating country branch lines in the days of steam.

Details and a booking form for "Day out with Thomas" and "Santa Special" events will be available from the railway and on our website at least three months prior to the events. Advance booking is strongly recommended for these popular events to avoid disappointment.

For more details of all special events please visit [www.spavalleyrailway.co.uk](http://www.spavalleyrailway.co.uk)

# GROOMBRIDGE PLACE GARDENS & ENCHANTED FOREST



Groombridge Place Gardens and the Enchanted Forest is a fabulous mix of quintessentially English formal gardens set alongside wild and wacky woodland play areas where children can let their imagination run riot. There is something to entertain all the family for many hours - and a visit to see Adam the zeedonk, who is half zebra and half donkey, is not to be missed.

The formal gardens were designed in the 17th century by the fashionable designer of the day, John Evelyn, and are still laid out in the same style today. Clever planting ensures year-round colour and scent, with the surrounding mellow walls providing shelter and warmth on breezy days.

In complete contrast to the formal gardens is the nearby Enchanted Forest, which encapsulates the magical zeitgeist conjured up by the books of JK Rowling and JRR Tolkien. It can be reached by either canal boat or on foot.

In the ancient woodland, with its 21st century gardens, there is a surprise around every corner. See the Mystic Pool with glass and mirror fragments suspended from trees around a dark pool, the Serpents' Lair with hidden snakes and spiders (not real!) and the delightful Mossy Bottom, a magical fairytale collection of tiny houses where you can imagine characters from 'Wind in the Willows' living.

Special joint tickets offering worthwhile savings are available for Groombridge Place Gardens & The Spa Valley Railway.

For further information please visit our website [www.groombridge.co.uk](http://www.groombridge.co.uk)

## Private Hire Available

**Why not charter a carriage or a whole train for your special event?**

Weddings and birthdays are a speciality. Children's birthday parties an established favourite. 'Kate', our award winning bar and buffet car is also available for hire either on a normal service train or as part of a special charter. Driver experience courses on steam or diesel locomotives may also be booked. For all enquiries please phone or e-mail [enquiries@spavalleyrailway.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@spavalleyrailway.co.uk).

Please ask for our 'special occasions' leaflet.

[www.spavalleyrailway.co.uk](http://www.spavalleyrailway.co.uk)

