



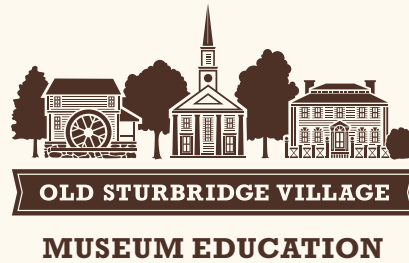
OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE

MUSEUM EDUCATION

Teacher Guide

2026–2027





Welcome!

Dear Educators,

We are so excited to see you and your students during your upcoming visit to Old Sturbridge Village (OSV). 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

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 or tags 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. On the [last page](#) of this PDF there are directions.

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 or tags 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 and use the metal shelves provided to store your lunches.

Is food available to purchase?

There are several dining options available at our museum. Please note: Due to limited space, schoolgroups 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 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.

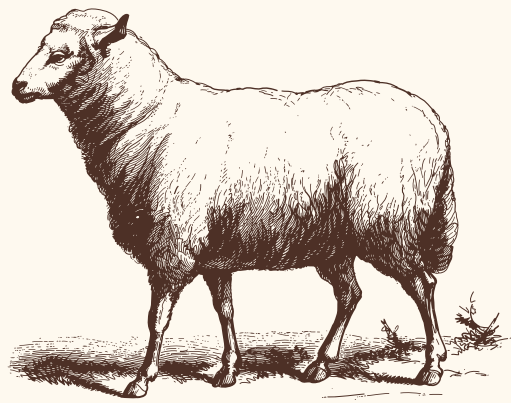
What should I expect during our education program?

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

Are there accessible bathrooms?

There are accessible, gender-neutral bathrooms located in the Museum Education lunchroom. There are small changing tables as well as a larger changing table available in these bathrooms.





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

Look at photos and video of the Village here: <https://www.osv.org/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: <https://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
4. Consult our accessibility materials to prepare your students with sensory needs: <https://www.osv.org/visit/accessibility/>

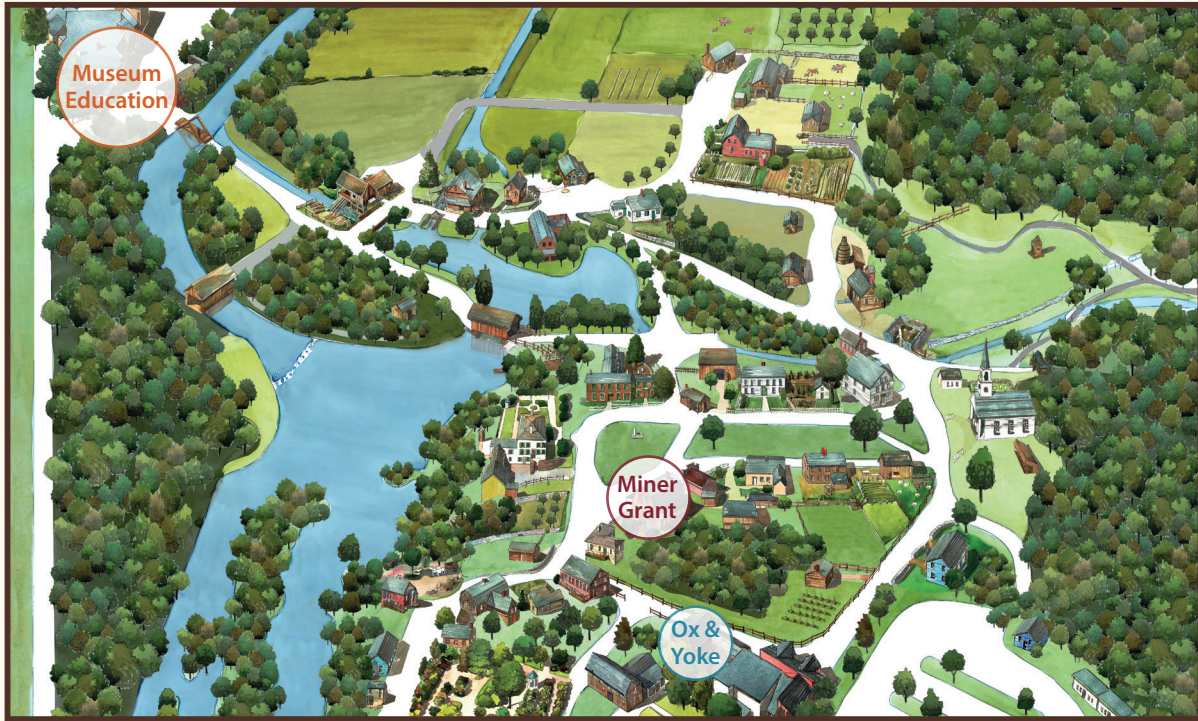
What should we do if we are going to be late?

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](#). We are happy to reschedule your trip, when possible.

Gift Shop Tips



Miner Grant Store

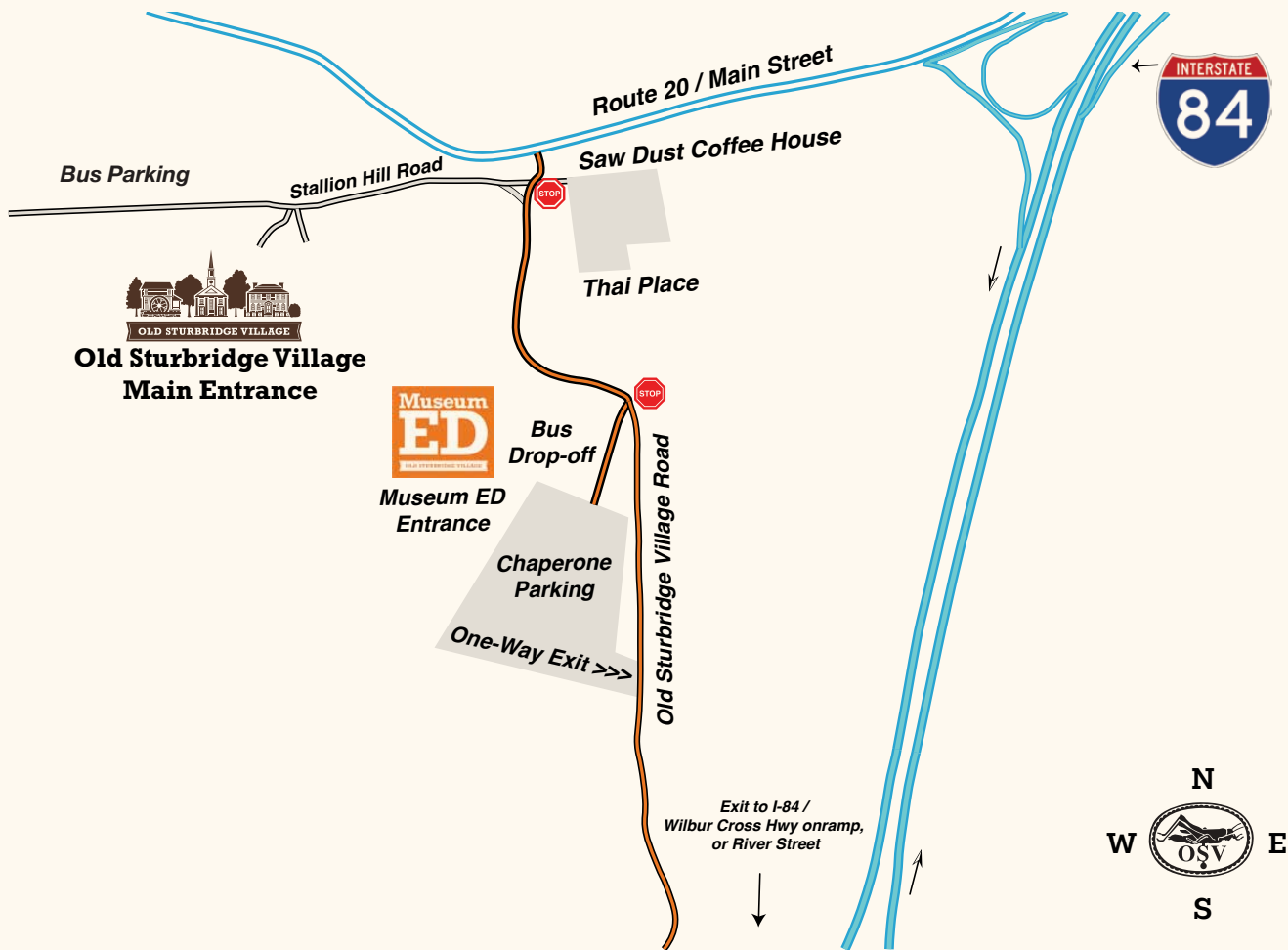


Ox & Yoke Pop-Up Shop

Old Sturbridge Village has two gift shops on site for your students to visit: the **Miner Grant Store** and the **gift shop located in the Country Bank Visitor Center**. 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 the gift shop located inside the Visitor Center has more 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



- Follow I-84 E to US-20 W in Sturbridge.
Take exit 6B from I-84 E.
- Continue on US-20 W. Take Stallion Hill Rd.
to Old Sturbridge Village Rd.

Link to location: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/yUkRsHoY5Q8aRrCz6>



Museum Ed