

**Visit to Lord's Cricket Ground and Canal Boat Trip
on Thursday 7th April 2011**

This visit has been organised by Tony Manning.



Lord's has long been seen as the '*Home of Cricket*' and the game's spiritual 'headquarters'. But its importance is not merely historical. In practice it remains, to this day, perhaps the most important single place in world cricket.

Its owner, **Marylebone Cricket Club**, remains the guardian of both the Laws and the Spirit of Cricket, and MCC sides (which play around 500 games a year) perform a key role in promoting cricket - in Britain and elsewhere.

Lasting approximately 1 hour 40 minutes the tour starts in the Museum, home of the famous ashes urn. Other attractions include the Wisden Urn, bats, balls and kit donated by famous players, and paintings and photographs covering 400 years of cricket history. You will walk through the famous Long Room, the players' dressing rooms, the Real Tennis court and the MCC Indoor Cricket School. You will also see the outstanding architecture of both the original pavilion and the modern stands and media facilities.

Before leaving there will be a short time to visit the Lord's Shop for some "grandson delights.

For those coming on the afternoon Waterbus Trip we will depart for Little Venice (indicated by yellow arrow on map below, bottom left corner), about 10 minutes' walk away. Lunch is planned for when we arrive at Camden Lock, but there will be a brief opportunity for some refreshment at the floating cafe at Little Venice.



The Regents Canal runs from the Limehouse Basin in East London's Docklands to Little Venice in North-West London's Maida Vale. It provides a tranquil corridor through the busy city and provides much-needed breathing space for Londoners.

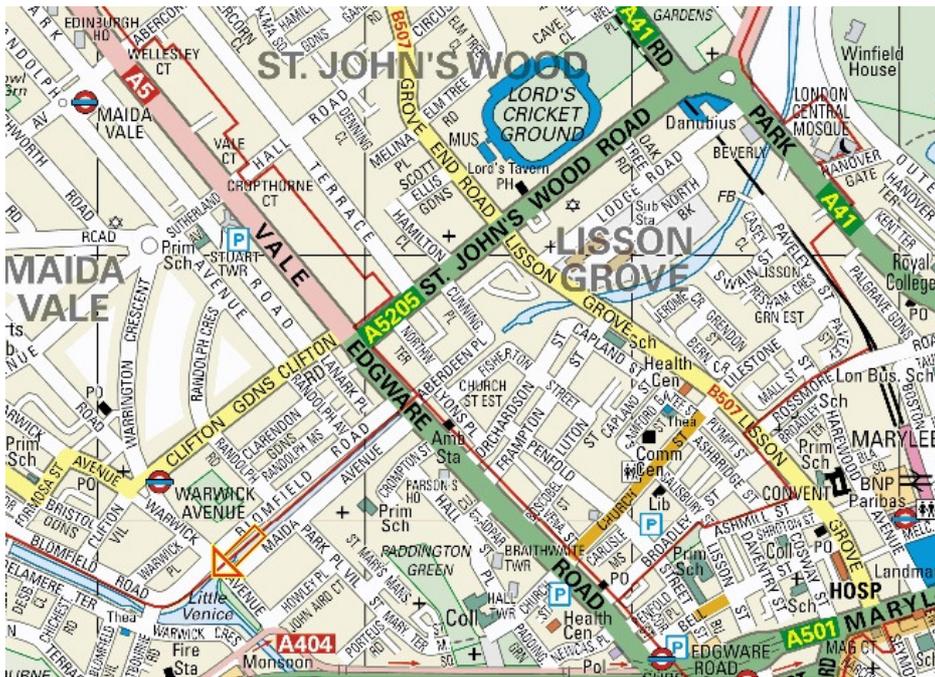
From the Little Venice boarding point we will take the Waterbus trip to Camden Lock. This involves a passage through the tunnel followed by sailing through the zoo, all in a former working narrowboat. We then arrive at Camden Lock at around 2pm.

There is a Wetherspoons, the Ice Wharf, right where we dis-embark, for a sociable lunch. There are other eating options all around this tourist honeypot site for those who prefer to do their own thing.

Where and when to meet

Meet at the Lord's main entrance at 10.30. The entrance is at the western end of the Lord's complex on St John's Wood Road.

Getting there:



Lord's is located in St John's Wood - part of the London borough of Westminster. Out of respect for its neighbours, and the environment, MCC encourages visitors to take public transport to and from Lord's whenever they can. The Ground has good public transport links. The nearest tube stations are **Warwick Avenue** (Bakerloo Line) and **St John's Wood** (Jubilee Line).

Lord's is reasonably close to two mainline rail stations, **Marylebone** and **Paddington**.

Lord's is well-served by buses as well. Several bus routes run alongside the Ground, while others are within easy reach.

Don't forget to obtain a travel card for travel to Lord's, and return from Camden Lock.

Lunch arrangements:

There is a Wetherspoons, the Ice Wharf, right where we disembark, for a sociable lunch. There are other eating options all around this tourist honeypot site for those who prefer to do their own thing.

Timetable

Time	Details
10:30 – 11:00	Assemble at Lord's main entrance. The entrance is at the western end of the Lord's complex on St John's Wood Road.
11:00 – 12:30	Tour of Lord's.
	End of Morning Session. The day continues for members taking the optional Waterbus trip.
12:30 – 13:00	Walk to Little Venice (~10 minutes), taking light refreshments at the cafe restaurant atop Maida Hill canal tunnel or preferably at the floating cafe at the Little Venice boarding point (refreshments not included in cost).
13:00	Assemble at Little Venice boarding point.
13:15 – 14:00	Waterbus trip to Camden Lock.
14:00 - whenever	Lunch at Wetherspoons, the Ice Wharf where we disembark (lunch not included in cost).
	Official end of Tour. The rest is optional.
After lunch	Free time at Camden Lock, with shopping opportunities at Camden Market.
15:00, 16:00, 17:00	Return trip via Waterbus to Camden Lock (departures on the hour, last at 17:00). Members pay extra on the day when boarding on the way out.

Maximum size of party: 40

Cost: Lord's visit: morning only - £10.00
 Lord's visit + Waterbus trip to Camden Lock - £15.00

Contacts: Tony Manning mob: 07747 611503, or John mob: 07986 379935, email: john.a.belling.secrems@gmail.com

Late arrivals: Tony or John, contact details as above