

Chislehurst Caves ~ Phone 020 8467 3264

The caves at Chislehurst are a labyrinth of man made tunnels, forming a maze covering over 6 hectares and are up to 30 metres below the homes and woodlands above. They were dug for chalk used in lime burning and brick making for the building of London, also for flints to fire the tinderboxes and flintlock guns of years ago. First open to the public in 1900 as a showplace, the guides told the Victorian history of Romans, Druids and Saxons, Smuggling and Murder. The last 100 years has added munitions storage for the Woolwich Arsenal in the 1914-18 war. Mushroom growing in the 1920's and 30's and becoming an underground town as the largest deep air raid shelter outside London, protecting over 15,000 people every night during the Blitz. In the 1960's and 70's as avenue for dances and concerts, presenting the foundations of Jazz, Skiffle and Folk music to the most famous names in Pop and Rock. Ideal for school trips all year, the weather is no problem underground. We can arrange private tours for groups of all kinds, including evening tours with meals.

Opening Times

Open from Wednesday to Sunday; the 45 minute guided tours go in hourly, the first is at 10am and the last at 4pm. During local school and Bank Holidays (except Christmas and New Year) the Caves are open every day.

Admission ~ Adults £5, Children £3.

Entrance to the Caves is by guided tour only. Senior Citizens are charged at children's rate. Under 16's must be accompanied by an adult (over 21). Under 5's admitted free.

How to find us

The Caves are a short walk from Chislehurst Railway Station; the entrance is in Caveside Close near the Bickley Arms public house.

By Rail There are regular trains from Charing Cross and London Bridge on the Orpington line.

By Bus to Chislehurst Station The 269 runs between Bromley and Bexleyheath. The 162 runs between Beckenham and Eltham.

By Road Take the A222 between the A20 and A21. At the railway bridge turn into Station Approach, turn right at the end and then right again into Caveside Close.

The Caves Café is licensed and open week-ends and school holidays, serving Home-cooked food, Breakfast, Lunch or just tea and cakes.

