

World War 2 Trail

10.00 – 11.00 Solent Sky (formerly Southampton Hall of Aviation)

Southampton's most famous resident was RJ Mitchell who developed the legendary Spitfire aircraft at his factory on the banks of the River Itchen. Mitchell's achievements feature among the exhibits at Solent Sky. Of the aircraft on display, including the Spitfire, some are the only examples still surviving.

Admission (2009): Adults £6.00

Concessions £5.00

Children £4.00 (5-16 yrs)

Children under 5 yrs FREE

Opening times: Monday – Friday 10.00am – 4.00pm

Saturday - Sunday 11 – 4.00pm

Contact: 023 8063 5830

11.30 – 11.45 Mayflower Memorial, Western Esplanade

The memorial was erected in 1913. There are various plaques on the monument, one of which records the two million U.S. troops who left Southampton in June 1944 for the invasion of Normandy. During the Second World War Southampton was the U.S. Army's 14th Major Port of Transportation.

The memorial also commemorates the Pilgrim Fathers who commenced their voyage to the "New World" from Southampton, both the *Mayflower* and *Speedwell* were at Southampton in 1620.

12.00 – 12.15 D-Day Wall

On the De Vere Grand Harbour Hotel boundary with Western Esplanade is a small section of brickwork with graffiti, some of which was written by troops waiting embarkation for the D-Day landings.

12.30 – 13.00 Holyrood Church, High Street, Southampton

Holyrood Church was bombed during the night of the 30th November/1st December 1940. Its shell now remains as a memorial to seamen of the Merchant Navy who have lost their lives. Just inside the door is an audio point about RMS *Titanic* and in front of the railings of the chancel is a similar point about the history of the church itself.

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

In the High Street and Above Bar you will find pubs and restaurants where you can enjoy a relaxing lunch.

14.15 – 14.30 Civic Centre and Book of Remembrance

The Book of Remembrance is available for the general public to view. It lists all Southampton's men and women who lost their lives during the Second World War. A different page is opened to view each day. Pages can be

requested in advance. A copy is kept in Southampton City Archives and another copy in the Local Studies Library, part of Southampton Reference Library.

Admission: Free. Please ask at main reception just inside the main door to the Civic Centre for directions to the Book.

Opening times: The Civic Offices are open Monday – Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm

Contact: 023 8083 2433

14.30 – 14.45 Cenotaph

Standing in Watts Park, to the north of the Civic Centre, the Cenotaph is a memorial to the brave men and women from Southampton who died in the First World War. Plinths nearby commemorate those from the Second World War. The Cenotaph was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens and was used by him as the basis for the design of the Cenotaph at Whitehall in London.

15.15 – 16.15 Southampton Common, The Avenue, Southampton

Take a leisurely stroll through this green oasis and imagine what life would have been like during those hectic days before the D-Day invasion in 1944, when the Common was home to troops preparing for embarkation.