

By 1920, VICTORY's condition had deteriorated to the point that she was in danger of sinking at her moorings. Fortunately some ten years earlier in 1910 the Society for Nautical Research had been formed with the aim of encouraging research and scholarly discussion relating to matters seafaring and shipbuilding.

The SNR opened a public fund called the Save the Victory Fund to raise money for her preservation and interpretative display. The fund is still in existence, administered by the SNR and contributes to the ship upkeep and presentation. By 1928 the initial restoration work was complete and VICTORY was once again fully open to the public. The aim of the work was to return the ship to her Trafalgar layout condition and configuration. In the following years she received little further work; however, bomb damage during World War II, the weather and ravages of death watch beetle took their toll. In 1955 the Royal Navy started a major restoration programme. The hull has been secured and the ship's internal layout and decoration has been returned to that of Trafalgar and was completed by the Bicentenary in 2005.

VHMS VICTORY



Preserving The Past, Promoting The Future

Welcome to HMS Victory the oldest commissioned warship in the world and the sixth ship to bear the name. Victory is the Flagship of the Commander in Chief Naval Home Command. The ship was designed by Thomas Slade and commissioned in 1778, remaining in active service until 1812.

Laid down: 23rd July 1759
Launched: 7th May 1765
Built at: Chatham Dockyard in Kent
Crew: 850 (821 at Trafalgar)

For your safety and enjoyment as you go around the ship please follow the advice below:

- No eating, drinking or smoking.
- Mind your head on the low beams and lanterns.
- Beware of trip hazards; ropes, hatches, cannon ball racks etc. Decks are slippery when wet.
- Follow the 'one way system' marked by the blue signs and on this deck plan.
- In the unlikely event of an emergency, please follow the directions of staff members to the nearest exit.

Photography
 Permitted throughout the ship with the exception of the Shrine.

Questions
 Members of the Victory guiding staff are stationed around the ship to answer your questions.

Area closures
 Due to service requirements or maintenance work, some areas may not be open to the public.

You too can help save HMS VICTORY for future generations ...

SOCIETY FOR NAUTICAL RESEARCH

The Society for Nautical Research is flourishing. We are in good shape and looking confidently forward to our centenary in 2010. Much was achieved in the 20th Century; much remains to be done in the new century. All vigorous societies need new members and new blood. Why not join us in our work now!

For more information please contact:
 M P J Garvey, Membership Secretary, The Society for Nautical Research, The Lodge, The Drive, Hellingly, Hailsham, East Sussex, BN27 4EP, UK.

Your ticket also includes the Royal Naval Museum & the Trafalgar Sail

Facing HMS Victory is the Royal Naval Museum. Located in magnificent Georgian storehouses, the museum contains a rich collection of artefacts including ship models, figureheads, swords, uniforms, medals and fine paintings. Also see HMS Victory's only surviving sail from Trafalgar housed in Store House 10 above the Victory shop.



www.hms-victory.com

RN Graphics Centre 06/448

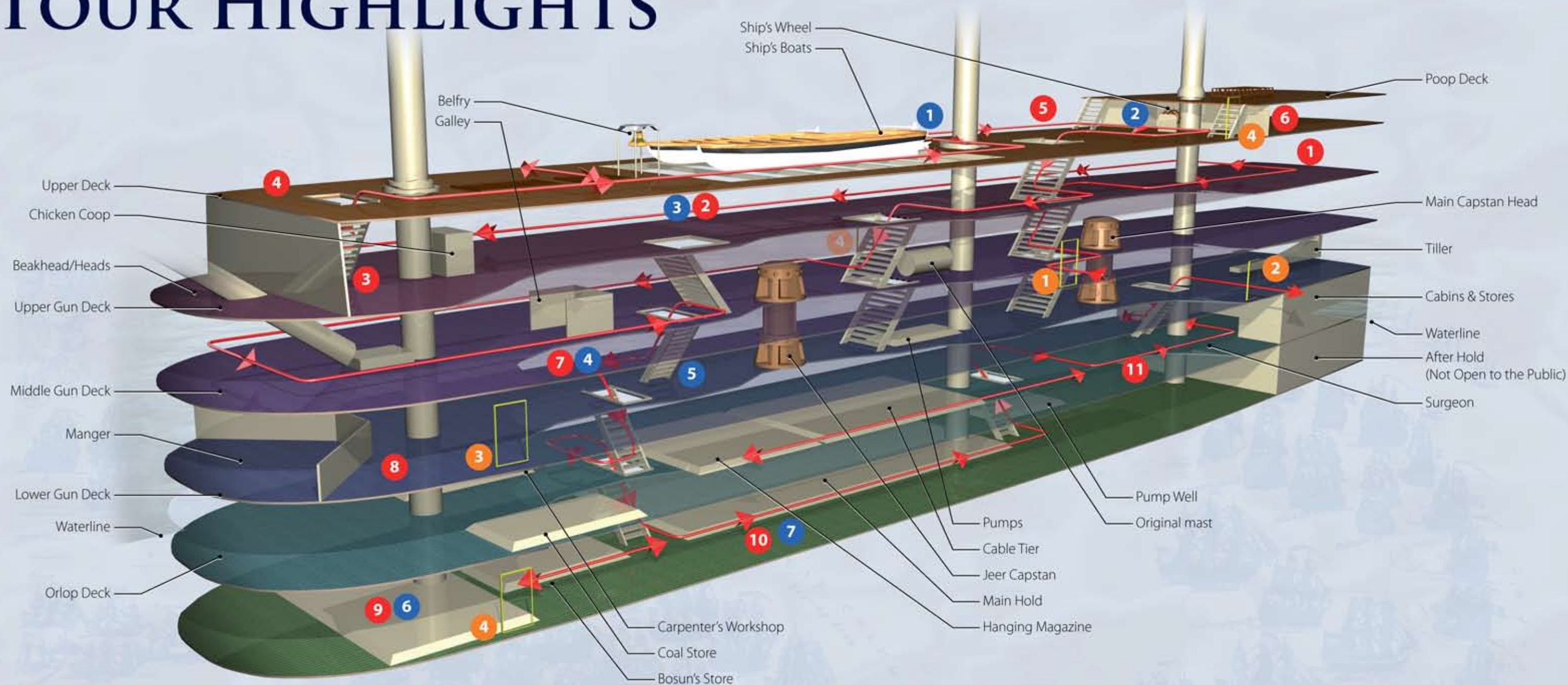
TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Admiral's Cabin:** 1 Is divided into four compartments; the dining cabin in which you are standing, and the day cabin which acted as the admiral's office. The round table in the centre of the day cabin is part of Admiral Lord Nelson's personal furniture; it is reputed, that Nelson wrote his final prayer at this table the evening before the battle of Trafalgar. In battle this became part of the Upper Gun Deck.
- Upper Gun Deck:** 2 Open to the weather, this was the main working area of the ship; it was here men were confined in leg-irons 2 to await punishment.
- Forecastle:** 4 On either side of this deck you can see the ship's heaviest armament of two 68lb carronades. Towards the rear of the deck is the belfry housing the ship's bell which was struck every half-hour governing the sailor's day. In the centre is the galley chimney.
- Quarter Deck:** 5 It is here Admiral Lord Nelson directed the battle of Trafalgar. At approximately 1-15pm, Nelson was shot by a musketeer from the French ship 'Redoubtable' and fell mortally wounded at the spot marked by the brass plaque.
- Middle Gun Deck:** 6 Towards the bow (front) of this deck on the port (left) side is an original 24lb gun 7 of the Trafalgar period weighing 2¼ tons. A fully trained British gun crew could fire this gun at a rate of 1 round every 1½ minutes. Opposite this gun is the ship's galley where food was cooked for all 850 crew. The marines and ship's officers lived on this deck.
- Lower Gun Deck:** 8 The oak deck planking on this deck is original from 1765 when the ship was launched. This deck provided the main living area for the seaman; at meal times approximately 560 men sat down to eat at 90 tables. The main meal of the day was dinner. This usually comprised of a stew of salt beef or pork and occasionally fish, which was accompanied by dried peas, beans or lentils. Owing to drinking water being scarce and of poor quality, beer, wine, grog (watered down rum) or brandy was issued to the men to drink.
- Grand Magazine:** 9 This is the ship's main magazine and occupies the fore part of the ship. This was originally entered through a single hatchway via a complex of lead lined passages from the deck above. The new entrance has been cut through the bulkheads for your safety.
- The Hold:** 10 This is the largest single storage compartment onboard and when fully stored could contain enough provisions for six months. At the bottom is the ship's ballast, comprised of 'pig iron' ingots and shingle. The shingle served two purposes; it could be moved to trim the ship and acted as a bed for the lowest tier of barrels.
 In the after (rear) area of the hold you can see the pumps; there are two types of pumps displayed: the chain pump for clearing water from the bilge water sump and the 'elm tree' pump, which drew water from directly from the sea for fire fighting, washing decks and clothes.
- Shot Lockers:** At the front and rear of the mainmast, 80 tons of shot was stored to supply the guns.
- Orlop Deck:** 11 Admiral Lord Nelson died of his wounds on this deck at 4-30pm on the 21st October 1805. His body was stripped and placed in a leaguer (large wooden barrel) which was then filled with brandy to preserve the body for the voyage back to England. When the ship arrived in Portsmouth Nelson's body was found to be perfectly preserved. Admiral Lord Nelson was given a state funeral on the 9th January 1806 and buried in St Paul's Cathedral London.
 This deck is below the water line and safe from enemy gunfire; it was here the surgeon and mates (loblollymen) would tend the wounded during action.

● Audio interpretation available from the summer of 2007.



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS



Please note that the route may vary due to service requirements and maintenance

Entrance & Exit

Audio Points

Tour Highlights

- 1 Main Entrance
- 2 Exit
- 3 Alternative Entrance
- 4 Emergency Exit

- 1 The Battle of Trafalgar
- 2 The Quarter Deck
- 3 Punishment
- 4 Gun & Galley
- 5 Messdeck
- 6 Grand Magazine
- 7 Main Hold

- 1 Great Cabin
This is where the admiral lived and would have conducted his day to day work
- 2 Leg Irons
Men were brought here to await punishment
- 3 Sick Berth
When the ship was not cleared for action, this was where men suffering from injuries or disease would be tended by the surgeon and his mates
- 4 Forecastle
This was the only part of the ship that the men were permitted to smoke
- 5 Quarter Deck
Here Admiral Lord Nelson was mortally wounded
- 6 Captain's Cabin
These are the ship's captain's quarters

- 7 24lb Gun
This gun was used onboard Victory during the battle of Trafalgar. Behind the gun is the ship's galley and Brodie stove. Audio presentation provided
- 8 Lower Gun Deck
On this deck is Victory's main armament of 32lb guns; it is also the main living quarters for the seamen. At night this deck was home to 480 men. Audio presentation provided
- 9 Grand Magazine
Welcome to the Grand Magazine; please take advantage of the audio presentation provided
- 10 The Hold
This is the main storage area of the ship; please take advantage of the audio presentation provided
- 11 Orlop Deck
After Admiral Lord Nelson was wounded, he was carried down to this deck for the attention of Doctor William Beatty, Victory's surgeon