



Location Overview

Blandford Camp

www.mod.uk/hive **'Home of the Royal Signals'**

Blandford HIVE

Community Centre, Howe Road, Blandford Camp, Dorset, DT11 8RH

Tel: Civ – 01258 482537 Mil – 94371 2537 E: blandfordhive@armymail.mod.uk
Blandford electronic community notice board: <http://www.blandfordhive.blogspot.com>

Opening hours: Mon – Fri 0900 - 1500

LOCAL AREA

The Camp lies two miles north of Blandford Forum in rural Dorset. Seaside resorts of Bournemouth, Poole and Weymouth are all less than 30 miles away as is Salisbury. Closer to Blandford are the smaller rural towns of Dorchester, Shaftesbury, Sherborne and Wimborne.

Blandford Forum hosts The Great Dorset Steam Fair, Georgian Fayre and a carnival. Street markets are held every Thursday and Saturday and a Farmers market once a month. Situated in Blandford are a jobcentre plus (limited opening), leisure centre (nearest swimming pool to camp) and a variety of small shops, restaurants and takeaways, pubs, banks and building societies.

Useful websites:	www.ruraldorset.com	local Tourist Information
	www.blandford-tc.co.uk	Blandford Forum Town Council
	www.dorsetforyou.com	information/ services across Dorset
	www.gdsf.co.uk	Great Dorset Steam Fair

UNIT OVERVIEW

11th (Royal School of Signals) Signal Regiment: Responsible for the training of all Royal Signals soldiers from Phase 2 trade training to a wide variety of career progression and professional courses. Approximately 6,000 students per annum.

Blandford Garrison Support Unit (BGSU): Provides general support to all units located on Blandford Camp encompassing welfare, MT, LAD, Infrastructure, Security (MPS & MPGS), Discipline, H & S, GAO, Medical, QM etc.

Headquarters Signal Officer in Chief (Army) HQ SOinC(A): This unit covers the Contemporary Operating Framework detailing how the Royals Signals will meet its commitments in the current climate.

Regimental Headquarters Royal Signals: Responsible for domestic affairs, recruiting, the Royal Signals Museum, the Royal Signals Motorcycle Display Team and the Corps Band all of whom are located on Blandford Camp.

InfoA SEIG, DS&E, DE&S Blandford: Information Assurance (IA) is part of Systems Engineering Integration Group dealing with many aspects of specialist communications.

Related website: www.army.mod.uk/signals

UNIT FACILITIES

All garrison facilities are located 'behind the wire' and are within walking distance of Service Families Accommodation (SFA). Most facilities are located in camp centre with education and childcare facilities available on the soldiers' SFA area. A variety of children's clubs operate on camp. The Blandford Garrison Golfing Society is affiliated to Ashley Wood Golf Club two miles from camp.

The contractor Avenance operates all of the catering, retail and leisure outlets on camp including the Pay As You Dine (PAYD) facility which is available to the whole community.

Garrison Community Centre

Mon – Fri 08.30 – 16.30. Available for hire

Chequers Deli & Takeaway

Tues – Sun, various opening hours

Mace Shop – Grocery store

7 days a week. Cash machine co-located

Rendezvous Café

Mon – Fri 07.30 – 15.00

Royal Signals Museum & Café

Fluctuating opening hours

Christines Hair Salon

Mon – Fri. Appointments not always required

Denbury Bowl

Various opening hours & available for hire

Thrift Shop

Fluctuating opening hours

Forum Cinema

Full programmes delivered to all MQ & HIVE

Garrison Internet Café

Mon – Fri 07.00 – 00.00.

Gurkha Temple

POC: Gurkha Support Worker

Garrison Gymnasium

Open 7 days a week for all

PRI Shop

Mon – Fri. Wide selection of kit for sale

All Saints Garrison Church

Weekly pattern of services

Services Welfare Centre

Open 7 days a week for Phase 2 soldiers

MOD Police Station

POC for any local police matters

ACCOMMODATION

Service Families Accommodation (SFA)

Two married quarter locations: the Officers' patch adjacent to the front gate (106 MQ); the Soldier's patch located on the opposite side of the camp centre (385 MQ). A large number of houses have been completely refurbished over the past 2 years.

Contact details for Service Families Accommodation:

Local accommodation

There is one 3 bedroom contact house available on camp. To book the Contact House please contact the Army Welfare Service on 01258 482450.

Alternatively, contact the Tourist Information Centre for local places to stay:

Blandford Information Centre

Riverside House, West Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7AW

Telephone: (01258) 454770

E-mail: blandfordtic@btconnect.com

Website: www.ruraldorset.com

Single Living Accommodation (SLA)

Junior Ranks 1554 bedspaces. None have been 'SLAMMED' - all are Y type.

Sergeants' & Warrant Officers' Mess 341 bed spaces. 1 x block is 'SLAM' – 'Vinny Block' - 120 single person bed spaces all Z type.

Officers' Mess accommodation 165 bed spaces including 2 suites and 6 x 2 person rooms

Accommodation requests

Phase 2 soldiers: Temporary accommodation until induction complete.

NCO and below: On notification of assignment, relative SSM will book accommodation

SNCO: WOs' & Sgts' Mess Reception on 01258 482309, mil: 94371 2309.

Commissioned Officer: HQ Officers' Mess Reception on 01258 481238, mil: 9 4371 3238

Collection of MFO boxes

MFO boxes are delivered to the QM department / MFO stores. On arrival serving personnel should contact MFO stores on: 01258 482023 mil: 94371 2023.

TRAVEL

Unit postcode: DT11 8RH.

By car:

From M3/London: Take the the A303 for Salisbury/Exeter, travel through Salisbury heading for the South Coast until you see signs for the A354 to Blandford/Dorchester. Follow signs for Royal Signals Museum & Blandford Camp.

From M4 Chippenham: Take the A350 and head towards Blandford/Poole. Follow signs for Royal Signals Museum and Blandford Camp.

From M27: Join the A31 towards Dorchester and Wimborne. Continue until you view signs for the A350 towards Blandford. Follow the signs for Royal Signals and Blandford Camp.

By train: Salisbury rail station has the preferred transport links to Blandford Camp.

Rail Enquiries – for times and information call 08457 484950 or visit www.nationalrail.co.uk

Taxi: 24 hr taxi rank located directly outside Salisbury station.

MOD bus to Blandford Camp picks up at Salisbury station at 20.00 every Sunday evening.

HEALTHCARE

Service Personnel:

Station Medical Centre - Civ:01258 482446. Mil: (9)4371 2446

Station Dental Centre - Civ:01258 482447. Mil: (9)4371 2447

Dependents:

Medical - Families Medical Centre tel: 01258 482448. Open Mon – Fri 10.00 – 12.15
Linked to Eagle House Surgery in Blandford Forum, appointments outside above hours contact the main surgery at Eagle House: 01258 453171.

Dental - Diplomat House Surgery, Blandford Forum tel: 01258 45690. Open Mon – Fri 08.00 – 16.30. Will take all service dependants from Blandford Camp as NHS patients.

The nearest hospital is Blandford Hospital, tel: 01258 456541. Minor injuries A & E. Hospital opening hours 08.00 – 20.00, 7 days a week.

NHS Direct offers a 24-hour nurse advice and health information service, and provides details of local healthcare services, such as doctors, dentists or late night opening pharmacies. **NHS Direct - Tel: 0845 46 47** www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

SCHOOLS AND CHILDCARE

Childcare

Little Jimmy's Nursery & Pre School, Blandford Camp, Tel: 01258 450624 / 482761

Cygnets Pre School, Blandford Camp, Tel: 01258 453348

Blandford Forum Children's Centre, Black Lane, Blandford Forum, Tel: 01258 480147

Primary School

Catchment primary school is located on Blandford Camp and is within walking distance of Service Families Accommodation, breakfast and after school club available.

Downlands Primary School, Tel: 01258 453348 www.downlands.org.uk

Secondary School

Blandford School, Tel: 01258 451121 www.blandford.dorset.sch.uk

A school bus service operates through Blandford Camp to Blandford School, bus passes are arranged through the school.

Applications for school places are made through your current Local Education Authority (LEA), if you have not yet moved you should apply online or by post to your LEA who will coordinate with the relevant council to where you are moving to. If you are currently living abroad, in Scotland, or Wales then you should apply direct to the LEA where you will be living.

The LEA for Blandford is: Dorset County Council, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ Tel: 01305 228592. Application forms can be accessed online at

www.dorsetforyou.com/schooladmissions

Ofsted reports can be accessed at www.ofsted.gov.uk

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

These are the main Unit contact details. For other Unit contact numbers please call the HIVE on 01258 482537 Mil 94371 2537		
	Mil	Civ
Army Welfare Service	94371 2450	01258 482450
Blandford Camp main switchboard		01258 452581
Garrison Welfare Office	94371 3936 94371 3938	01258 481936 01258 481938
Guard Room	94371 2311	01258 482311
MAA	94371 2189	01258 482189
MGS Pass Office	94371 2402	01258 482402
Padre	94371 2444	01258 482444
Unit Welfare Office	94371 2901	01258 482901
11 th (RSS) Training Regiment	94371 2619	01258 482619

For details about what's on, local job vacancies, garrison community notices and discounts please visit the Blandford HIVE Blogspot – updated regularly:

<http://www.blandfordhive.blogspot.com>

This is a brief overview of the area and facilities available at Blandford Camp. The HIVE holds further information and will research information on your behalf.