

Cumbria Crystal Glass Blowing Programmes

All the experiences offered will take place with a highly skilled professional glass maker who will guide you through your chosen experience step-by-step. Your safety is our paramount concern so you will enjoy extremely close supervision & tuition.

Once completed your crystal is put into an annealing oven to cool slowly overnight, you will be advised when it will be available to collect. We are happy to arrange postage if it is not feasible to collect.

HOT GLASS EXPERIENCES

Coloured Baubles:

Age: 8+ years £20.00

Age: 13+ years £25.00

Duration: 15 minutes per person.

Product Code: BWS-904-CHILD

Product Code: BWS-904-ADULT

Your instructor will first demonstrate how coloured glass baubles are made and talk through the processes involved. You will be invited to select the colours you would like to use to decorate your bauble. The colour will then be placed on a metal table ready to be applied to the molten glass.

Once prepared your instructor will gather molten glass from the furnace on a 'blowing iron'. Participants over 13 years of age will take control of the iron & fuse the coloured glass granules to the glass. Additional help will be given to children under the age of 13 years of age for safety reasons. The granules then need to be melted, so you will apply additional heat in a reheating chamber until the glass is liquid and moving in the flame. Your instructor will then take the iron as you seat yourself at the glass makers bench ready to form the glass into the correct shape ready to be inflated.

Once this is done you will blow your bubble and use metal tools to finish the shape of the bauble. You may have to blow a number of times to get the right size and shape. Once this is done your instructor will apply a glass hook so it may be hung from a tree or in a window.

Paperweight Experience:

Age: 13+ years. £45 per person

Duration: 30 minutes.

Product Code BWS-904-PWB

Your instructor will initially demonstrate the processes involved in making a paperweight. You will select a range of coloured glass granules to add to the molten glass and then heat and shape the glass into an oval or round solid glass paperweight using wet newspaper pad or wooden blocks. You will be shown how to use a variety of glass-makers tools to create unique patterns in the colour. If you wish to include decorative air bubbles you will be shown the secret to achieving this. Metal jacks are then used to finish the shape and prepare the glass for removal from the iron.

Paperweights take 2-3 days to finish after your experience as they take 24 hours to cool and our craftsmen grind the bases so they sit flat.

Blow your Own Tumbler Experience

*Age: 16+ years: £155 per person
Duration: 3 hours. Min 2, Max 3 people.
Available as a gift voucher*

Product Code WS-908-TUM

In this unique half-day experience, you will learn to gather molten glass from the furnace and to shape it into a blown glass tumbler. Learning to blow glass requires the repetition of certain processes and so you will take it in turns to 'gather' glass from the furnace on a blowing iron; shape the glass into the correct form before blowing the initial bubble. You will learn how to inflate the glass and how to shape the glass using traditional wood and metal tools. The bubble will then be transferred to a separate punty iron before being opened up to create an open vessel.

Although not guaranteed, we hope to send you away with at least one tumbler from which you can enjoy your favourite tippie.

This experience will definitely challenge! This is an excellent gift idea.

TUITION:

Introduction to Glassblowing Tuition

*Age: 16 + years, £155 per person
Duration: 3 hours. Min 2, Max 3 people
Available as a gift voucher*

Product Code: WS-910-IGB

This 3 hour introductory glassblowing class is ideal for a couple or a small group. You will learn how to gather liquid glass from the furnace at 1200 degrees and work through a number of practical exercises, learning how to correctly use the tools of the trade to shape and control molten glass, apply colour and form bubbles. This will be a more hands-on & in-depth experience than the bauble or paperweight experiences and is intended to enable you to develop a deeper understanding of glass blowing. Participants will finish with a number small pieces as outcomes from the practical exercises. These are likely to include a bauble, paperweight but possibly other items.

During your session ask your instructor about making a Prince Rupert's Drop. The Introduction to Glassblowing option works best with two or more people as you are able to encourage one another and get a little down time to cool off when the other person is having a go.

One-to-One, Half-Day Glassblowing Tuition:

*Age: 16 + years. £310
Duration: AM / PM available. One person.
Available as a gift voucher. Friends & family may watch.*

Product Code WS-906-HD

One-to-One Glass Blowing tuition will be tailored specifically to your needs depending on what you wish to make & prior experience.

This is an opportunity to work with a skilled glassmaker to produce your own designs and to learn and build your confidence and skills set. This is an intensive experience so tuition is very hands-on. Your tutor will give you as little or as much support as you may require throughout the day.

One-to-One Full-Day Glassblowing Tuition:

Age: 16 + years. £550

Product Code WS-907-FD

Duration: AM / PM available. One person.

Available as a gift voucher. Friends & family may watch.

One-to-One Glass Blowing tuition will be tailored specifically to your needs depending on what you wish to make & prior experience.

This is an opportunity to work with a skilled glassmaker to produce your own designs and to learn and build your confidence and skills set. This is an intensive experience so tuition is very hands-on. Your tutor will give you as little or as much support as you may require throughout the day.

COLD GLASS EXPERIENCES – 1 day

Diamond Wheel Glass Cutting workshop

Age: 14+ years. £140 per person

Product Code: WS-907-DWC

Duration: Full day. Min 2, Max 5

An intensive one-day workshop introducing you to the traditional craft of glass cutting. Participants will be shown how to use a diamond cutting lathe and guided through a number of practical exercises to develop an understanding of the practical process & creative possibilities. You will create your own designs, transfer them onto crystal and finally cut then on the lathe. If you have time you are free to cut as much crystal as you like.

Two hand-blown Cumbria Crystal lead crystal tumblers are included in the cost, as is acid polishing to create the beautiful shine and refractive qualities expected from cut crystal. This is the only course of its kind in the UK.

Creative Sandblasting Workshop: Full day

Age: 12+ years. £79.00 per person

Product Code: WS-907-SB

Duration: Full-day. Min 2, Max 6

An intensive one-day workshop introducing you to the processes of creative sandblasting. This course is suitable for beginners or people wishing to extend their skills, especially engraving with different depths to create a three-dimensional quality.

Participants will be introduced to the tools required, covering all aspects of safe working practices. Through practical demonstrations and a series of short exercises you will learn, practice and apply techniques to create your own unique decorative imagery on glass. You are free to develop your designs or bring pre-selected images, patterns or text with you.

One hand blown Cumbria Crystal hi-ball tumbler is included in the cost. Of course you are more than welcome to experiment with your own glasses, bottles or jam jars (without labels) before moving to lead crystal.

SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

Keep an eye out for our school's programme coming in 2019.

Larger Group, Corporate & Team Building Experiences

We are able to cater for larger groups, tailoring experiences to suit your needs. Please contact us directly to discuss your requirements.

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