



## GILLINGHAM V IPSWICH TOWN

SATURDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2019, KICK OFF 15:00

*Information in this guide is correct as at 11 September. Any updated information on this fixture will be published on the club website ([www.itfc.co.uk](http://www.itfc.co.uk)), twitter (@Official\_ITFC and @ITFC\_Tickets) and facebook ([www.facebook.com/officialitfc](http://www.facebook.com/officialitfc)).*

### INFORMATION FOR TOWN FANS

We travel to Gillingham on Saturday 21 September in League One. The following guide has been produced for Town fans making the trip to the MEMS Priestfield Stadium. This is based on information on the Gillingham website plus additional information specific to this game.

For any further information, please contact Elizabeth Edwards, Supporter Liaison Officer on [slo@itfc.co.uk](mailto:slo@itfc.co.uk) or (+44) (0) 7968 876504 or on Twitter at @ITFC\_SLO.

### Gillingham information for visiting fans

Address: Gillingham Football Club, MEMS Priestfield Stadium, Redfern Avenue, Gillingham, ME7 4DD

Website: <https://www.gillinghamfootballclub.com>

Phone number: 01634 300000

Supporter Liaison Officer and Disability Liaison Officer: Ben Reeves: [breeves@priestfield.com](mailto:breeves@priestfield.com)

Twitter: @TheGillsFC

Information from the Gillingham website can be found here (note this includes information for both home and away fans):

<https://www.gillinghamfootballclub.com/siteassets/documents/201819/fan-guide/fans-guide-2018-online.pdf>

<https://www.gillinghamfootballclub.com/club/visit-us/>

Information for disabled fans (both home and away) can be found here:

<https://www.gillinghamfootballclub.com/fans/disabled-supporters/>

[www.footballgroundguide.com](http://www.footballgroundguide.com) provides some information here:

<https://www.footballgroundguide.com/leagues/england/league-one/priestfield-stadium-gillingham.html>

We have picked out the key information for Town fans below and added other material based on our own experience of visiting the MEMS Priestfield Stadium and information that is specific to our fans.

### **Specific information for Town fans:**

#### **Ticket news**

Tickets for Town fans have sold out for this match. Please note that this is our full allocation and we will not be receiving any further tickets. Fans are asked not to contact Gillingham FC regarding tickets as this game has been designated an all-ticket fixture.

Disabled fans with ticket enquiries should contact ITFC's Disability Liaison Officer Lee Smith on 01473 400556 or by email on [disability@itfc.co.uk](mailto:disability@itfc.co.uk).

Note that this game is unreserved seating – but please see the information below that describes the away end.

#### **Travelling to Gillingham**

##### ***Supporters Coach***

For those travelling from Ipswich the official coaches are leaving Portman Road promptly at 11:00 (please be at Portman Road at least 15 minutes before this) at a cost of £21 for adults (with concession prices for U23s, U19s and 65+ Seniors). Coaches are estimated to arrive back at Portman Road at 19:25.

Subject to availability, coach travel is now on sale online at [www.itfcdirect.com](http://www.itfcdirect.com). Coach travel (subject to availability) can also be purchased in Planet Blue on a non-matchday or at the Ticket Office on Constantine Road on a Saturday matchday from 9am.

Pick-ups at Marks Tey can be arranged for this game. If you want to organise a pick-up please call the Ticket Enquiries Team on 03330 050503 or email [mainticketoffice@itfc.co.uk](mailto:mainticketoffice@itfc.co.uk). The cut-off point to request a pickup is midday on Wednesday 18 September. Your details will then be passed onto the coach company, Suffolk Norse.

Note there are no planned stops on both the outward and return journeys.

Note that all official coaches are non-smoking and the consumption of alcohol on board is strictly forbidden. ITFC recommend that all supporters under 16 are accompanied by an adult.

Coaches are expected to set down supporters at the Croneens Yard car park which is situated in Railway Street. It is a five-minute walk from here back along Gillingham Road to the away supporters' entrance at the Priestfield Road Turnstile.

##### ***Car***

The Sat Nav postcode for MEMS Priestfield Stadium is ME7 4DD.

***Note: The suggested route involves the Dartford Crossing. You must pay the Dartford Crossing charge by midnight the day after you cross. You will get a fine if you're late or do not pay. Details can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/pay-dartford-crossing-charge>***

From Ipswich, take the A12 to the M25. Join the M25 signposted M20/M23/Dartford/Crossing. Continue on the A282 (which is really the M25 still) and exit onto the A2. Follow the A2 towards Canterbury and join the A289 towards A228/Gillingham/Grain at junction 1 (this is also where the A2 joins the M2).

The Gillingham website then provides the following directions: 'Follow signs for Medway Tunnel. After about three miles take the second exit off the roundabout, again following signs towards Medway Tunnel. At the next roundabout take the first exit. At the next roundabout take the first exit into the Tunnel. On exit follow the A289 over two sets of traffic lights before coming to the Strand roundabout. Take the third exit onto Church Street. Drive up the hill and continue over the level crossing. Take the second left after the crossing and follow Linden Drive to the end. Turn right into Redfern Avenue, where you will see the MEMS Priestfield Stadium on your right.'

With a clear run, [www.googlemaps.co.uk](http://www.googlemaps.co.uk) suggests it will take around one hour and 30 minutes. That assumes no hold-ups of any sort, so it's pretty optimistic. We generally recommend allowing at least an hour beyond the AA / Google / Sat Nav suggested journey time.

### ***Parking***

There is a residents-only parking scheme in operation around the stadium so if you want to street park you will need to park away from the immediate vicinity of the ground.

The Gillingham website lists the following roads to avoid: Balmoral Road, Windsor Road, Ferndale Road, Linden Avenue, Priestfield Road, Gordon Road, Livingstone Road, Coulman Street, Beaconsfield Avenue, Harold Avenue, School Lane, Toronto Road, Redfern Avenue and parts of Sunnymead Avenue.

The website lists alternative parking areas as: end of Sunnymead Avenue, Chicago Avenue, Canadian Avenue, Valley Road, Sturdee Avenue, Woodlands Road, Carlton Avenue, Alexandra Avenue, Larkfield Avenue, Third Avenue and Fourth Avenue.

Woodlands Primary School (Sat Nav code: ME7 2DU) offers the use of its car parks for supporters' use. Its 100-plus spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis at £3 each from 1.30pm for every Saturday match. Staff will be on hand to assist with the arrangements – it closes at 6pm.

[www.footballgroundguide.com](http://www.footballgroundguide.com) suggests a pay and display car park on Railway Street near Gillingham station, which is less than 10 minutes' walk from the ground. It also mentions parking at a cost of £3 at the Our Lady Of Gillingham Catholic Church on Ingram Street (ME7 1YL). This is also a ten-minute walk to the ground.

### ***Train***

**Note: There are planned engineering works with buses replacing trains between Rochester and Gillingham, on both the outward and return journeys**

From Ipswich the most direct route is via Stratford. Change at Stratford and walk through the Westfield shopping centre to Stratford International for a train to Rochester where you will pick up a bus to Gillingham. The journey time is around 2 hours 40 minutes. The return journey is slightly longer (up to 3 hours) with buses leaving Gillingham to Rochester at 17:27, 17:57 and 18:27. Note that these are likely to be very busy. [www.greateranglia.co.uk](http://www.greateranglia.co.uk) indicates that these connect to trains from Rochester at 17:58, 18:28 and 18:58 respectively and from Stratford to Ipswich at 19:11, 19:38 and 20:09.

If you're based in London, then you can pick up a fast train at St Pancras, or a slightly slower, but also slightly cheaper, option from Victoria. The Victoria trains are likely to be less busy, as most Town

fans will be on the St Pancras / Stratford line. There is no service out of Charing Cross / London Bridge on matchday.

### ***Getting to the ground from the railway stations***

The ground is about a ten-minute walk from the station. When you come out of Gillingham station turn left on to Balmoral Road, and follow it to the end of the road. Go straight on into Priestfield Road. The visitors' turnstiles are at the far end of Priestfield Road.

### **Pubs**

The Fleur De Lis pub on Gillingham Road (postcode ME7 4RR) is the designated away fans pub. This is around a ten-minute walk from the railway station and the same from the ground. The pub shows Sky & BT Sports, has hot and cold snacks and is family friendly. From the railway station, walk down Balmoral Road (A231) as if you are going to the ground (note that there are two Balmoral Roads!). Take a right on to Duncan Road and then right onto Gillingham Road. The pub is number 22.

If you are going to the pub from the away end, then with away entrance behind you, walk down to the bottom of the street. Turn left and on reaching a roundabout (where the Livingstone Arms used to be and where there is a fish & chip shop) turn onto Gillingham Road. The pub is on the right.

There are a number of other pubs around the town centre, including the Will Adams, which is a bit out of the way on Saxton Street but will suit real ale fans. We expect many Town fans may take the chance to settle down in Rochester before cab-sharing the 4-mile trip to the ground.

### **At the ground**

#### ***Tickets on the day***

Our ticket allocation is sold out. There will be no tickets available to purchase on the day of the game with the game designated an all-ticket fixture.

#### ***Away end***

The MEMS Priestfield Stadium is an all seater stadium.

We will be in the Brian Moore stand behind the goal. Those of you who have been to Gillingham before will remember that this looks like a temporary stand. It is uncovered so if rain is forecast, make sure you have a coat with you.

We have unreserved seating in both the lower and upper tiers of the stand – you should be able to move freely from one to the other.

**Please note that there will be a large away following and our fans will include older fans, families, those unable to stand for long periods of time and ambulant disabled fans. Please bear this in mind when choosing your position in the away end and please respect those who want to sit at this game as we want everyone to enjoy the day safely. We suggest that fans who know that they will need to sit should occupy the lower rows.**

Six wheelchair spaces are available for away supporters in the Gordon Road Stand.

***Accessible Toilets***

There are accessible toilets on the concourse.

***Security***

As at all grounds, expect to be searched before entering the ground.

***Programmes***

The matchday programme, can be bought from sellers around the ground at a price of £3.

***Food and Drink facilities***

Normal football fare is available in the away end. We understand that alcohol will be available in the away end.

***Smoking***

Smoking of cigarettes and e-cigarettes anywhere in the stadium is not permitted.

***Anti Social Behaviour – Matchday Text Line***

If you should hear or see any racist language and/or behaviour during a match-day, please report this to your nearest steward.

Alternatively, you can report it through the 'Kick It Out' app." The Kick It Out app is available to download from the App Store or Google Play, or via: Facebook /kickitoutofficial; Twitter @kickitout; email [info@kickitout.org](mailto:info@kickitout.org); phone 0800 169 9414.