



Auckland Tower



The Bowes Museum Silver Swan



Auckland Castle

**Discover
Durham**

Treasure Troves

A French-style château on the edge of a market town, a splendid collection of Spanish art housed in a former commercial bank and so much more makes Durham full of surprises, as you discover stunning landscapes dotted with cultural treasures.

Auckland Castle has 900 years of historic connections with England's only Prince Bishops, who were granted exceptional powers by Norman kings. The castle is home to paintings by 17th century Spanish master painter Francisco de Zurbarán and is also home to Europe's largest private chapel. Its State Rooms provide some of the finest Georgian Gothic architecture in the country*.

The entire castle, its grounds and the adjacent town centre of Bishop Auckland are currently being re-developed to create an exciting heritage offer of international importance. The recently opened Auckland Tower Visitor Centre offers visitors a chance to enjoy unsurpassed views across Auckland Park, Bishop Auckland and beyond from the tower's 15m high viewing platform. Visitors can also admire collections of original works and famous masterpieces in the Bishop Trevor Gallery, housed within Auckland Castle.

The restoration and building work is set to continue with a fully-restored walled garden and a new Faith Museum, which will be the first in England to explore the history of faith in Britain.

In the market town of Barnard Castle, as you enter through the grandest of gates, the sight of The Bowes Museum is something to behold. A building as impressive as the exhibits within, the story behind the museum is just as fascinating. Built in the 19th century by husband and wife John and Josephine Bowes to house their own collection, themed galleries are home to one of the most important collections of fine and decorative arts in the North of England.

Did you know...

Schedule your visit to The Bowes Museum to coincide with the 2pm daily performance of the famous 18th century mechanical wonder which is the Silver Swan.

Tour suggestions...

Half day:

The Bowes Museum

Full day:

Auckland Castle **plus** The Bowes Museum

Hotel suggestions...

Hall Garth Hotel

Holiday Inn Darlington North

Useful information...

Coach travelling time:

The Bowes Museum to Auckland Castle - 25 minutes

SatNav:

The Bowes Museum DL12 8NP

Auckland Castle DL14 7NR

Hall Garth Hotel DL1 3LU

Holiday Inn

Darlington North DL1 3NL

**Auckland Castle is currently closed whilst exciting developments take place. The castle is set to reopen in 2019 following multi-million pound redevelopment. For more information, visit: aucklandproject.org*

DiscoverDurham.co.uk