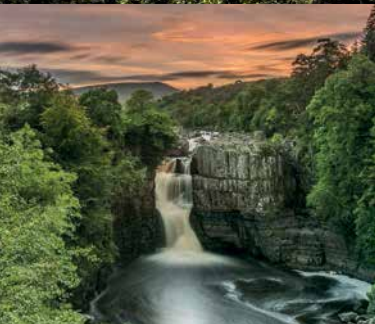


# *This is* durham

# Pocket Guide

FREE maps and money-saving offers inside



north east  
england

Things to see and do  
in Durham City, the Durham  
Dales, Vale of Durham and  
Durham Coast.



## Welcome to Durham, a county with breathtaking dales, a dramatic coastline, a vale steeped in history and a vibrant city at its heart.

Durham City captivates with its characterful streets and prominent peninsula crowned with the towering sight of **Durham Castle** and **Durham Cathedral**, described by author Bill Bryson as ‘the best cathedral on planet earth.’ As well as boasting one of the most stunning city skylines in Europe, the cathedral and castle form part of a treasured UNESCO World Heritage Site. You can discover the stories behind this special place at the **World Heritage Site Visitor Centre** and by exploring the cathedral’s **Open Treasure** exhibition experience, which gives visitors access to previously-hidden spaces within the magnificent Claustral buildings.

Durham shines a light on its fascinating past at award-winning attractions across the county. In the Vale of Durham, step back in time at **Beamish – The Living Museum of the North**. Discover the county’s pivotal role in the development of the railways at **Locomotion: The National Railway Museum at Shildon**. Although **Auckland Castle** is closed during 2017 for exciting redevelopment plans, special events will still be taking place throughout the year. Bishop Auckland is the setting for spectacular open-air show, **Kynren – an epic tale of England**, which takes audiences on a storytelling journey of 2,000 years. And you can discover what life was like for Victorian lead miners at **Killhope**.

For those in search of culture, you will find a host of fascinating museums across the county. In Durham City, **Durham University’s Oriental Museum** is the only museum in the North of England dedicated to the art and archaeology of Northern Africa and Asia. **Durham University’s Palace Green Library** displays some of their own riches, as well as hosting world-class exhibitions. And in the Durham Dales you can explore **The Bowes Museum**, a French-style château, home to stunning themed galleries of fine and decorative arts, which this year celebrates its 125th year of opening.

Take a welcome break in one of the county’s many green spaces. **Crook Hall and Gardens** just a short stroll from Durham City centre,



offers an oasis of calm, or get back to nature at the newly-restored **Wharton Park** and **Durham University's Botanic Garden**. While **Hardwick Park** in the Vale of Durham offers woodland and wildlife in a historic setting.

Get active or enjoy some peace and tranquillity in Durham's great outdoors. Escape to the picturesque surroundings of the **Durham Dales** and **North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**, now officially designated a UNESCO Global Geopark. **High Force**, one of England's most spectacular waterfalls, is a photo opportunity not to be missed. And at **Hamsterley Forest** you can explore 2,000 hectares of woodland, or drink in the dramatic views with a clifftop stroll or cycle at the **Durham Heritage Coast**.

For family fun, there are great days out to be had across the county, with everything from farms and adventure centres on offer.

For the best in entertainment, head to arts venue **Gala Theatre** in Durham City, and for live sporting action, catch the county team and international matches at Emirates Riverside, home to **Durham County Cricket Club**.

Durham City and the county's picturesque market towns and pretty villages are perfect for a spot of retail therapy. Shoppers will find high street favourites sitting alongside independent retailers, boutiques and craft shops. If you're looking for a bargain, head to **Dalton Park**, the biggest outlet shopping centre in the region.

Across Durham, towns including **Bishop Auckland** and **Chester-le-Street** in the Vale of Durham, **Barnard Castle** and **Stanhope** in the Durham Dales and **Seaham** on the Durham Coast are just waiting to be explored.

**There's only one thing for it... stay a little longer.**



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**thisisdurham.com**

Supported by:



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Please ask us if you would like this document summarised in another language or format.















[info@visitcountydurham.org](mailto:info@visitcountydurham.org)  
03000 26 26 26

or for a pdf version visit:

[thisisdurham.com/publications](http://thisisdurham.com/publications)

## Key to symbols

The following symbols are featured throughout the guide. We hope this will help you to choose the most suitable attractions for your visit to Durham.

-  Shop
-  Babychange facilities
-  Tea room and/or coffee shop
-  Restaurant
-  Picnic tables
-  Car parking
-  No dogs (except guide dogs)
-  Dogs welcome
-  No admission charge
-  Accessible parking
-  Accessible toilets
-  Wheelchair access to all areas
-  Facilities for the visually impaired
-  Facilities for the hearing impaired
-  Welcome to Durham
-  The Visitor Attraction Quality Assurance Scheme
-  Fairtrade products available
-  Green Tourism Business Scheme Award - Gold, Silver or Bronze
-  Taste Durham accreditation

## How to use this guide

This handy guide will help you make the most of your time in our amazing county. It's divided into easy-to-follow sections for attractions, activities and shops, events, visitor information and tours, transport and maps.

If you're looking for somewhere to eat or drink, or to find out where to buy local produce, pick up a copy of the **Durham Food and Drink Guide**.

Look out for the **Taste Durham** mark, a sign of great food and service proudly displayed at eateries across the county.



## Inspire me

We've included some articles on Durham, our heritage, great outdoors and shopping opportunities to give you a little inspiration on what you might like to see or do during your visit.

**For more inspiration and itinerary ideas, visit: [thisisdurham.com/inspire-me](https://thisisdurham.com/inspire-me)**

Scan me:



## Special offers

Get value from your visit and take advantage of some great money-saving offers. Look out for this symbol on adverts.

**15% Discount\***

Show advert to redeem - See page 60 for terms and conditions

Scan me:



**For even more savings, visit: [thisisdurham.com/offers](https://thisisdurham.com/offers)**

## Keep in touch

Keep in touch to find out first about Durham news, events and special offers.

**Sign up to receive our free e-newsletter, visit: [thisisdurham.com/newsletter](https://thisisdurham.com/newsletter)**

Scan me:



Follow us on Facebook at: [/thisisdurham](https://thisisdurham.com)



Follow us on Twitter at: [@thisisdurham](https://twitter.com/thisisdurham)



Follow us on Pinterest at: [/thisisdurham](https://thisisdurham.com)



Follow us on Instagram at: [@thisisdurham](https://thisisdurham.com) and upload your Durham photos using [#thisisdurham](https://thisisdurham.com)

© Visit County Durham. Published January 2017. All information correct at time of going to print. You are advised to check opening times and event dates before making plans. All photography in this publication is copyright and cannot be reproduced without permission. Images - Front cover: Cathedral from Pelaw Wood, Ben Lyons; High Force, Simon Saunders; Durham Coast, Neil Rutherford. Pages 2 and 3, left to right: Durham Shopping; Walking in Durham Dales; Beamish Museum; Cycling in Hamsterley Forest. Page 6: Durham Dales. Page 7: The Bowes Museum. Page 8: Durham Cathedral. Page 22: Locomotion NRM. Page 38: Durham Dales. Page 48: Durham Coast. Page 54, Clockwise from left: BRASS Festival - Durham City; Bishop Auckland Food Festival; Durham Cathedral - Lumiere; Durham City Christmas Festival. Page 61, Clockwise from left: Alnwick Castle. © Graeme Peacock; Newcastle Gateshead Quayside; South Tyneside Festival Summer Parade; Penshaw Monument.

A photograph of two people, a man and a woman, standing on a grassy hill with their bicycles. They are looking out over a vast, rolling landscape under a blue sky with scattered clouds. The man is wearing a blue jacket and the woman is wearing a purple jacket. The hill they are on is covered in dry, brownish grass and some small plants.

# Outdoors

Discover Durham's stunning landscapes

**Whether you're in search of tranquil time out or looking to get active, Durham's great outdoors provides the perfect backdrop.**

Walking or cycling are the best ways to experience our landscapes, which have inspired artists and writers through the ages, none more so than 19th Century artist J.M.W. Turner – the painter of light.

Follow in the footsteps of TV presenter Ben Fogle, who recently filmed an episode in Durham of his online series, Great British Adventure.

From countryside, city to coast, get on your bike and explore the cycle paths, disused railway lines, quiet country lanes and off-road trails that criss-cross the county. **Hamsterley Forest** is a magnet for mountain bikers, or let the chain take the strain with the **North Pennines Electric Bike Network**.

Head out into the **Durham Dales** where you can enjoy everything from a leisurely stroll to a challenging trek. A number of long-distance routes also take in the county, including the Pennine Way and C2C cycle trail. Enjoy the scenery and pretty villages en route, or work up an appetite on one of the tasty **food trails**.

Make your way to the **North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**, home to more nationally-recognised Dark Sky Discovery Sites than any other part of the UK. Recently designated a UNESCO Global Geopark, discover more at the award-winning **Bowlees Visitor Centre**. And make sure to take time out to visit **High Force**, one of England's most spectacular waterfalls.

Step out at the **Durham Heritage Coast** for a stroll that weaves its way through wild flowers and coastal villages, enjoying clifftop scenery along the way. Whilst there, take a break at the lively seaside town of **Seaham**, with its cafés, shops, heritage centre, marina and beaches.

Durham is yours to explore.

To find out more about Durham's great outdoors and access more than 120 walking and cycling routes, visit: [thisisdurham.com/outdoors](https://thisisdurham.com/outdoors)





# Heritage

Durham lights up the past

**From social and spiritual, to sporting and industrial, Durham's heritage is waiting to be explored at award-winning attractions.**

In the market town of Barnard Castle in the Durham Dales the striking sight of **The Bowes Museum** comes in to view. This French-style château holds sensational exhibitions as well as housing nationally and internationally-important collections of fine and decorative arts.

Durham City's **World Heritage Site Visitor Centre**, meanwhile, tells stories of saints and scholars. **Durham Castle** and **Durham Cathedral**, both of which form part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site, stand proud above the city below. The cathedral, with its Romanesque architecture and shrines to St Cuthbert and the Venerable Bede, was named in recent years as the UK's number one landmark. Durham Castle was originally built in the 11th Century by William the Conqueror and is now a college of Durham University – today you can take a tour with a student guide.

Blood, sweat and tears went into shaping Durham's industrial heritage alongside a sense of community, laughter and warmth. Step into the past and experience times gone by at **Beamish – The Living Museum of the North** in the Vale of Durham. You will find over 70 heritage rail vehicles from the National Collection at **Locomotion – the National Railway Museum at Shildon**, a Victorian railway town whose skilled workforce played an important role in the early days of steam locomotive power. And in the Durham Dales discover what life was like for lead miners as you work as a washerboy and venture down a 19th century mine at **Killhope**.

Two of last year's exciting new attractions continue to make their mark by shining a light on the past. **Kynren – an epic tale of England**, an action-packed open-air show, which made its debut last summer in Bishop Auckland, is back again in 2017, taking audiences on a journey through 2,000 years of history. Whilst **Open Treasure**, Durham Cathedral's world-class exhibition space, opens the doors to previously hidden spaces. And this summer there will be a unique opportunity to see all three issues of the Magna Carta, alongside their associated Forest Charters, from the cathedral's collection.

Find out more about Durham's heritage, visit: [thisisdurham.com/heritage](https://thisisdurham.com/heritage)

*This is* durham

# Durham City

Author Bill Bryson described it as ‘a perfect little city’ – and we’re sure you’ll agree.





## Adventure Valley



**One Free Bag of Animal Feed\***

Show advert to redeem - See page 60 for terms and conditions

Discover a world of adventures at Adventure Valley, the North East's biggest family adventure park. With over 40 attractions, activities and shows, including the UK's biggest jumping pillow, Adventure Golf, tractor rides and animals to meet. The two huge indoor play barns and indoor animal farmyard means whatever the weather Adventure Valley has it covered.

**Opening times:** Daily, from 10am. Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. See website for up-to-date information.

**Brasside, Durham City DH1 5SG**

**Tel: 0191 386 8291** [www.adventurevalley.co.uk](http://www.adventurevalley.co.uk)

**Facebook: AdventureV** **Twitter: @Adventure\_V**

Netmums awards - Runner Up Best Party Provider

## Botanic Garden



**Child Goes Free\***

Show advert to redeem - See page 60 for terms and conditions

Our 10 hectare Botanic Garden is set amongst beautiful mature woodlands on the southern outskirts of Durham City. Open to the public, the Botanic Garden offers a wide variety of landscapes to explore and discover, with guests young and old visiting throughout the year.

**Opening times:** Daily, March to October 10am–5pm. Daily, November to February 10am–4pm. Closed across Christmas and New Year.

**Durham University, Hollingside Lane, Durham City DH1 3TN**

**Tel: 0191 334 5518** [www.durham.ac.uk/botanic.garden](http://www.durham.ac.uk/botanic.garden)

**Facebook: visitor.attractions**



A Durham University venue

## Cathedral Shop



Enjoy a unique shopping experience in one of the most remarkable, intact, monastic, vaulted undercrofts in the UK.

Browse a wide range of locally-sourced products, theological books and bespoke gifts from hand-crafted jewellery to glassware inspired by Durham Cathedral.

Every sale supports the Cathedral.

Opening times: Monday to Saturday 9am–5.30pm, Sunday 12noon–5pm.

Durham Cathedral, Durham City DH1 3EH

Tel: 0191 386 8669

## Crushed Chilli Gallery



The perfect place to find locally hand-made glass, ceramics, jewellery, wood and textiles. Glass and porcelain artist Janet Rodgers works from her studio within the gallery, and regularly holds fused glass workshops for all ages – see website for details.

Opening times: See website for details.

South Street, Durham City DH1 4QP

Tel: 0191 375 0644

[www.crushedchilli.co.uk](http://www.crushedchilli.co.uk)

Facebook: [crushedchilligallery](https://www.facebook.com/crushedchilligallery)

## The Durham Brewery Ltd



Visit Durham's leading microbrewery. Sample from our range of cask and bottle-conditioned beers on a brewery tour. Check the website or telephone for availability. Bottles, gifts and minicasks available from the shop. Bar open during shop hours.

Opening times: Monday to Friday 9am–4pm, Saturday 10am–4pm.

Unit 6a, Bowburn North Industrial Estate, Bowburn, Durham City DH6 5PF

Tel: 0191 377 1991 [www.durhambrewery.com](http://www.durhambrewery.com)

## Follow us



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Twitter at: [@thisisdurham](https://twitter.com/thisisdurham)



Instagram at: [@thisisdurham](https://www.instagram.com/thisisdurham)

upload your Durham photos using #thisisDurham

## Durham Castle



Built in the Norman period as an imposing fortress, Durham Castle gradually became a lavish palace for the Bishops of Durham. Since the 19th century it has housed students of University College, part of Durham University, and is open to the public for guided tours. Limited wheelchair access, please call for details.

Opening times: As tour times vary, please contact Palace Green Library for details (telephone number below), or WHSVC on 0191 334 3805.

Durham University, Palace Green, Durham City DH1 3RW

Tel: 0191 334 2932 [www.durham.ac.uk/durham.castle](http://www.durham.ac.uk/durham.castle)

Facebook: [durham.castle.museum](https://www.facebook.com/durham.castle.museum) Twitter: @durhamcastle



A Durham University venue

## Durham Climbing Centre



Indoor bouldering for adults and children aged 3+. Pay once – climb all day! Family instruction and daily children's sessions. Comfortable spectator area, café and coffee lounge, free parking. At Durham Climbing Centre there really is a challenge for everyone! Opening times: Monday to Friday 10am–10pm, Saturday and Sunday 10am–6pm, open bank holidays.

St. John's Road, Meadowfield Industrial Estate, County Durham DH7 8TZ

Tel: 0191 378 9555 [www.durhamclimbingcentre.co.uk](http://www.durhamclimbingcentre.co.uk)

Facebook: [DurhamClimbingCentre](https://www.facebook.com/DurhamClimbingCentre)

Twitter @DurhamClimbing

## Durham Light Infantry Gallery at Palace Green Library



Explore the history of the Durham Light Infantry enjoying items from the collection with audio, displays and access to the medal collection on demand in the Barker Research Library.

Opening times: From March 2017. For more information and opening times see website.

Palace Green, Durham City DH1 3RN

Tel: 0191 334 2932

[www.durham.ac.uk/palacegreen](http://www.durham.ac.uk/palacegreen)

[www.durham.gov.uk](http://www.durham.gov.uk)

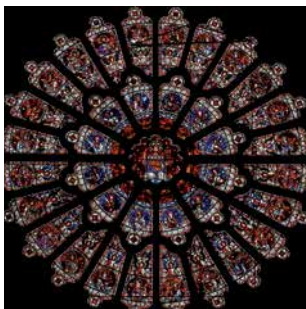
Facebook: [PalaceGreenLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/PalaceGreenLibrary)

Twitter: @PalaceGreenLib



A Durham University venue

## Durham Cathedral



A UNESCO World Heritage Site with breathtaking Romanesque architecture, exquisite stained glass, the Shrine of St Cuthbert and resting place of St Bede. Things to do include guided tours and Open Treasure, a new world-class visitor experience revealing the story of the Cathedral and its incredible collections. The Undercroft Restaurant serves tasty homemade food, opposite the Cathedral Shop. During services and special events, access may be restricted – check the Cathedral website before your visit.

For group bookings and facility hire contact 0191 386 4266 or [visits@durhamcathedral.co.uk](mailto:visits@durhamcathedral.co.uk). Entrance to Durham Cathedral is free, with donations invited. Charges apply to group tours, public tours and Open Treasure.

Opening times: Monday to Saturday 7.30am–6pm, Sunday 7.45am–5.30pm.

The Cathedral Office, The College, Durham City DH1 3EH

Tel: 0191 386 4266 [www.durhamcathedral.co.uk](http://www.durhamcathedral.co.uk)

Facebook: [DurhamCathedral](#) Twitter: [@DurhamCathedral](#)



OPEN  
TREASURE

DURHAM CATHEDRAL

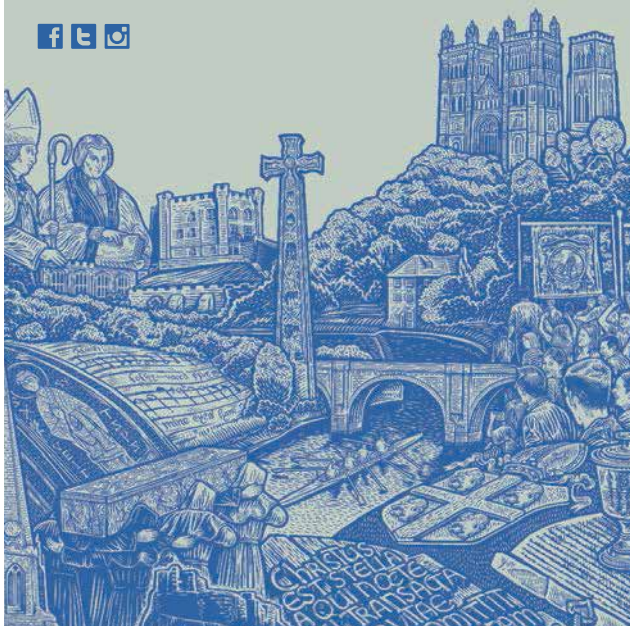
## DISCOVER 2,000 YEARS OF HISTORY AT DURHAM CATHEDRAL

Explore Open Treasure, Durham Cathedral's new world-class exhibition experience located in the most intact surviving set of medieval monastic buildings in the UK.

Journey through these historic spaces and discover two thousand years of history as the remarkable story of Durham Cathedral and its incredible collections is revealed through temporary and permanent exhibitions.

Highlights for 2017 include *Beasts!* from 20 February – 10 June and *Magna Carta and the Forest Charters* from 19 June – 9 September.

Tickets: £2.50-£7.50 (under 5s free) available in advance from [www.durhamcathedral.co.uk](http://www.durhamcathedral.co.uk)





## Durham Market Hall



Durham's Market Hall is more than just a market, it's Durham's 'Independent Department Store' and home to around 50 traders. Each specialises in its chosen products or services. Discover a wide selection of food and drink, hobby supplies, gift ideas, fashion, beauty, homewares and useful services.

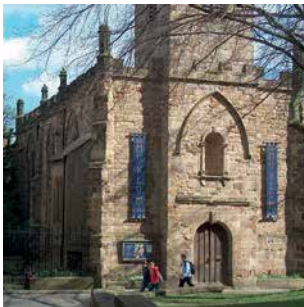
Opening times: Monday to Saturday, and Sundays in December before Christmas.

Market Place, Durham City DH1 3NJ

Tel: 0191 384 6153 [www.durhammarkets.co.uk](http://www.durhammarkets.co.uk)

Facebook: Durham Markets Twitter: @durhammarkets

## Durham Museum and Heritage Centre



The perfect introduction to Durham situated in an historic church close to the Cathedral. Stimulating displays describe the origin and development of the city with fascinating objects illustrating everyday life from the 17th Century to the present day.

Brass rubbing, shop with refreshments and a secluded garden containing sculptures by nationally acclaimed artist Fenwick Lawson.

Opening times: April, May, October weekends and bank holidays 2pm–4.30pm, daily June 2pm–4.30pm, daily July to September 11am–4.30pm.

St Mary-le-Bow, North Bailey, Durham City DH1 3ET

Tel: 0191 384 5589/ 0191 386 8719 [www.durhamheritagecentre.org](http://www.durhamheritagecentre.org)

## Durham World Heritage Site Visitor Centre



Housed in a refurbished 19th Century almshouse, Durham's World Heritage Site Visitor Centre, is a free facility open 7 days a week. Providing visitors with an overview of the World Heritage Site, including information about what it means to be a World Heritage Site, what makes Durham significant, and what there is to see and do in Durham.

Opening times: Daily from 9.30am, except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. Closing times vary seasonally, please check our website for details.

7 Owengate, Durham City DH1 3HB

Tel: 0191 334 3805 [www.durhamworldheritagesite.com](http://www.durhamworldheritagesite.com)

Facebook: DurhamWHS Twitter: @Durhamwhs



A Durham University venue

## Gala Theatre and Cinema



A Durham County Council venue

A fabulous arts complex in the heart of Durham City which houses a 500-capacity state-of-the-art theatre, two cinema screens, a friendly and spacious café-bar and private hire facilities. Enjoy captivating theatre and world-renowned comedy and music, or catch the latest blockbusters including 3D screenings. And don't miss Gala's annual pantomime – a highlight in County Durham's festive calendar.

Millennium Place, Durham City DH1 1WA

Tel: 03000 266600 [www.galadurham.co.uk](http://www.galadurham.co.uk)

Facebook: GALADURHAM Twitter: @GALADURHAM

## Hotlist Bags



An independent family owned boutique, specialising in individually handpicked handbags, scarves, jewellery and more. Affordable luxury is our mantra, we are the treasure trove destination for perfect presents or a treat for yourself. There's always something new to see.

Opening times: Monday to Saturday 9am–5.30am, Sunday 10am–4.30pm.

33 Saddler Street, Durham City DH1 3NU

Tel: 0191 340 1330 [www.hotlistbags.com](http://www.hotlistbags.com)

Facebook: hotlistbags

## Oriental Museum



Child Goes Free\*

Show advert to redeem - See page 60 for terms and conditions

The Oriental Museum is the only museum of its kind in northern England. Our world class collections extend over a huge area from North Africa to Southeast Asia and range in age from prehistoric to modern day. See Ancient Egyptian mummies, Chinese porcelain from the Imperial Court, Japanese woodblock prints and head-hunting swords from Borneo.

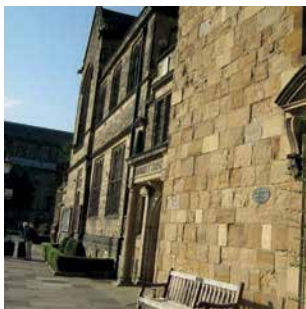
**Opening times:** Monday to Friday 10am–5pm, weekends and bank holidays 12pm–5pm. Closed Christmas and New Year.

Durham University, Elvet Hill, Durham City DH1 3TH  
Tel: 0191 334 5694 [www.durham.ac.uk/oriental.museum](http://www.durham.ac.uk/oriental.museum)  
Facebook: [visitor.attractions](#)



A Durham University venue

## Palace Green Library Exhibitions and Museum of Archaeology



Palace Green Library is home to the Durham Light Infantry Gallery (opens mid-March 2017) as well as hosting a series of exciting special exhibitions.

Living on the Hills is a permanent exhibition that uses archaeological objects to explore the last 10,000 years of Durham.

Opening times: See website for details of opening times.

Palace Green, Durham City DH1 3RN

Tel: 0191 334 2932

[www.durham.ac.uk/palace.green](http://www.durham.ac.uk/palace.green) or [/archaeology.museum](http://archaeology.museum)

Facebook: [PalaceGreenLib](#) Twitter: [@PalaceGreenLib](#)

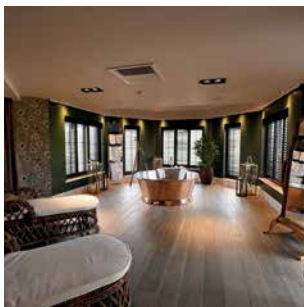


A Durham University venue

# Ramside Hall Hotel Golf and Spa



See & Do



Durham's only silver awarded AA rated and 4 star hotel. Set in a unique location, surrounded by 350 acres of private grounds with two 18 hole Championship golf courses, a purpose built luxury on-site spa complex, four bars and award winning restaurants.

The hotel is set in mature parkland estate on the doorstep of historic Durham City. The jewel in the crown however is The Spa at Ramside, which offers a range of lavish facilities including five pools, a gym, thermal suite, restaurant and hairdressers.

Opening times: Daily, check website for full details.

Carrville, Durham DH1 1TD

Tel: 0191 386 5282 [www.ramsidehallhotel.co.uk](http://www.ramsidehallhotel.co.uk)

Facebook: RamsideHallHotel Twitter: @Ramside\_Hall

## Public Lectures and Seminars



Lectures and seminars take place throughout the year showcasing the world leading research taking place across Durham University.

Lecture series include: Inaugural Lectures from newly appointed academics; Durham Castle Lecture Series; and from our Institute of Advanced Study and Institute of Medieval and Early Modern Studies. These lectures are open to the public to attend.

**Opening times:** Visit the website for full lecture listings and further details.

**Various Durham University venues**  
[www.durham.ac.uk/whatson](http://www.durham.ac.uk/whatson)



A Durham University venue

## Seasons Gallery and Framing



Original artwork, limited edition prints, ceramics and glassware can all be found at Seasons which is only a few minutes walk from Durham's historic Cathedral. Now in our 16th year, we also offer a high quality specialist framing service. Find us on Church Street (3G on City map).

**Opening times:** Tuesday to Saturday, see website for times.

**14 Church Street, Durham City DH1 3DQ**

**Tel: 0191 386 0222** [www.csons.co.uk](http://www.csons.co.uk)

**Facebook: [seasonsgalleryandframing](https://www.facebook.com/seasonsgalleryandframing)**

**Twitter: @SeasonsGallery**

## Wharton Park



Newly restored Wharton Park commands spectacular views across Durham City. The historic park now offers a brand new heritage centre and café, play areas for all ages, an amphitheatre and miniature car track, multi-use games area, outdoor gym and putting green. **Opening times:** Daily, with events held throughout the year.

**Framwellgate Peth, Durham City DH1 4FJ**

**Tel: 03000 262555**

[www.durham.gov.uk/whartonpark](http://www.durham.gov.uk/whartonpark)

**Facebook: [WhartonParkDurham](https://www.facebook.com/WhartonParkDurham)**



A Durham County Council venue



# *This is* **durham** *place of light*



Durham is an inspiring place, where light connects our county on so many levels – from science, art and technology to business, tourism and the beauty of our breathtaking landscapes. Whilst shining on and shaping our heritage, light inspires our here and now and illuminates our future.

**See Durham shine at:**  
[DurhamPlaceofLight.com](http://DurhamPlaceofLight.com)

# In Durham

Whether you're looking for a bite to eat, down time with friends and family, or a spot of retail therapy, Durham city has all you need right on your doorstep.



**GO SHOPPING** Wanting a party outfit, new homeware, or craft supplies? Durham's cobbled streets, markets and shopping centres offer high-street stores and independent boutiques so you're bound to find everything you need.



**EAT OUT** From your favourite national chains to independent restaurants and eateries, Durham City will satisfy your hunger pangs whether you're searching for a three course meal or a snack on the go.



**ENJOY SHOWS & ENTERTAINMENT** Whatever your scene, really enjoy yourself in Durham City with comedy acts, operas, children's shows, traditional theatre, musical talents, a chance to catch the latest blockbuster, and much more.

**Find out more about eating, shopping and enjoying Durham at**



# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 2017

There are even more reasons to visit Durham in 2017 with exciting events planned across the whole year. Plus on the third weekend of every month, there are four days of promotions and special events. For more information about what's on in Durham City visit [www.durhambid.co.uk](http://www.durhambid.co.uk)



With a different theme each month, there's something for everyone as retailers across the city offer promotions, pop-up shops and in-store events.



Dine InDurham is back for 2017 so why dine anywhere else? Enjoy eating out more often with set price menus to suit any tastes or budget.



Watch the streets of Durham City come to life with a whole host of live entertainment. From music and dancing, to poetry and performances.



**Get your InDurham Loyalty Card now...**

Take advantage of exclusive discounts and special offers across Durham City.

[www.durhambid.co.uk](http://www.durhambid.co.uk)

*This is* durham

# Vale of Durham

Home to award-winning attractions that  
shine a light on the county's fascinating past.



## Auckland Castle



Auckland Castle is now closed until May 2018 to allow for restoration and redevelopment work. Throughout 2017 we still have a great events programme for you to enjoy. For more information on future plans and to see our events programme go to [aucklandcastle.org](http://aucklandcastle.org)

Market Place, Bishop Auckland,  
County Durham DL14 7NR  
Tel: 01388 743750 [www.aucklandcastle.org](http://www.aucklandcastle.org)  
Facebook: Auckland-Castle  
Twitter: @aucklandcastle

## Beamish Wild



Two hours of treetop adventure set in the grounds of the stunning Beamish Hall Hotel. Zip-wires, rope bridges and the hanging vines are guaranteed to get your adrenaline pumping. Finish it all off with the awesome 45ft Powerfan free-fall experience.

If heights are not for you, then why not try our public archery sessions. Opening times: Open all year. Advance booking required.

Beamish Hall Hotel, County Durham DH9 0YB  
Tel: 01207 233733 [www.beamishwild.co.uk](http://www.beamishwild.co.uk)  
Facebook: /BeamishWild/ Twitter: @BeamishWild1

## Bishop Auckland Town Hall



Bishop Auckland Town Hall is a multi-purpose cultural venue situated in Bishop Auckland market place. It offers regular art exhibitions, live music, theatre and films as well as tourist information, a café, and a library with free internet access and local history information.

Opening times: Monday and Thursday 10am–6pm,  
Tuesday and Friday 10am–5pm, Wednesday 10am–  
1pm, Saturday 9.30am–12.30pm.

Market Place, Bishop Auckland DL14 7NP  
Tel: 03000 269524  
[www.bishopaucklandtownhall.co.uk](http://www.bishopaucklandtownhall.co.uk)  
Facebook: BishopTownHall



A Durham County Council venue



## Beamish Museum



Experience amazing sights, sounds and delicious tastes as the past comes to life at Beamish. This is a museum like no other – objects aren't locked away in glass cases, you're stepping back into living history. Explore the 350 acre site to discover life in the early 1800s, early 1900s and 1940s and meet costumed folk from the times.

Taste traditional food, hop aboard a tram and steam train, go underground in the mine, pop into the Co-op shops and much more besides. Visitors of all ages come back time and time again – make your history at Beamish.

Opening times: Open all year. April to October 10am–5pm, November to March 10am–4pm. For full opening times and admission charges visit the website.

Beamish, County Durham DH9 0RG

Tel: 0191 370 4000 [www.beamish.org.uk](http://www.beamish.org.uk)

Facebook: BeamishLivingMuseum Twitter: @Beamish\_Museum

## Binchester Roman Fort



See the impressive remains of the Commandant's house with its own bathing suite, containing one of the best preserved examples of a hypocaust (underfloor heating system) in the whole of Britain. Find out why taking a bath in Roman times was about more than getting clean! See the stupendously well-preserved remains of part of the regimental bath building uncovered by recent excavations. Binchester was voted The Best Roman Fort to Visit in Britain, in a recent online poll conducted by HeritageDaily.com

Opening times: Daily, 15 April to 30 September 11am–4.30pm, daily, 1 July to 31 August 10am–4.30pm.

1 mile north of Bishop Auckland, County Durham DL14 8DJ

Tel: 01388 663089/ 03000 267013

[www.durham.gov.uk/binchester](http://www.durham.gov.uk/binchester)



A Durham County Council venue

## Diggerland



15% Discount\*

Show advert to redeem - See page 60 for terms and conditions

Diggerland is the ultimate construction-themed adventure park where guests can ride, drive and operate earth-moving construction machinery in a safe, family-friendly environment.

Opening times: Selected dates between February and November 2017. See website for details.

Office use: 45114 – (Expires: 29/10/2017).

Riverside Industrial Estate, Langley Park, County Durham DH7 9TT

Tel: 0871 227 7007 [www.diggerland.com](http://www.diggerland.com)

Facebook: /Diggerland Twitter: @Diggerland\_UK

## The DLI Research and Study Centre



The Durham Light Infantry Collection has moved to Sevenhills at Spennymoor. Items from the collection are available to view preferably by prior appointment; there is also a dedicated research and study area. The DLI medal collection is available to view at Palace Green Library in Durham City where a new permanent exhibition will open in 2017. Opening times: Visit Sevenhills on a Tuesday and Thursday 10am–3pm.

Sevenhills, Greenhills Business Park, Spennymoor, County Durham DL16 6JB  
E: [DliCollectionEnquiries@durham.gov.uk](mailto:DliCollectionEnquiries@durham.gov.uk)



A Durham County Council venue

## Down at the Farm



Award winning farm Adventure Park for the whole family! Lots of farm and zoo animals to pet, play area and rides. Brand new mega play zone for all ages. New born lambs and newly hatched chicks, farmyard activities – wash pigs, groom donkeys, bottle feeding, cuddle a bunny. Real quad bikes for the over 7s, barrel train, tractor rides, adventure playground, jumping pillow plus much more!

Opening times: Weekends and school holidays from February half-term to October half-term 2017.

Stoneygate Lane, Houghton-le-Spring DH5 8JG  
Tel: 0191 584 1873 [www.downatthefarm.co.uk](http://www.downatthefarm.co.uk)

## Goldstitch



Unique fabric shop and sewing studio stocking Liberty fabrics, quality dressmaking fabrics, craft cottons and haberdashery. Our embroidery machine is always busy personalising gifts from handkerchiefs to Jellycat soft toys. Need some sewing inspiration? – book into a sewing group or workshop at [www.sewcafe.co.uk](http://www.sewcafe.co.uk)  
Opening times: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 11.30am–5.30pm. Wednesday 2.30pm–9pm. Holiday closures please see website.

**10% off Liberty Fabrics\***

Show advert to redeem – See page 60 for terms and conditions

Goldstitch Embroidery and Sew Cafe, Mowbray House, Tanhills, Nettleworth, County Durham DH2 3PA  
Tel: 0191 371 1444 [www.goldstitch.co.uk](http://www.goldstitch.co.uk)  
Facebook: Goldstitch Twitter: @Goldstitch\_emb

## Hall Hill Farm



At the award winning Hall Hill Farm, you can enjoy a fun family day out with lots of animals, including fluffy chicks, cuddly rabbits, pigs, and magnificent Highland Cattle. Take a free tractor and trailer ride, bottle feed the lambs, donkey rides and barrel train. Large indoor soft play barn, crazy golf. Special events throughout the year. March and April is Lambing time.

Opening times: Daily until 30 September 2017. Weekends in September and October, plus October half term. Santa weekends in December. All 10.30am–5pm.

Lanchester, County Durham DH7 0TA  
Tel: 01388 731333 [www.hallhillfarm.co.uk](http://www.hallhillfarm.co.uk)  
Facebook: hall hill farm Twitter: @hallhillfarm

North East Tourism Awards Small Visitor Attraction Bronze 2013; Best Tourism Experience Silver 2013 and 2015.

## Hardwick Park



© Chris Hope



A Durham County Council venue

This VisitEngland accredited attraction is an 18th century parkland featuring beautiful views, rich heritage, archaeological remains and ecological diversity – a remarkable place to visit. The park is open daily with events held throughout the year. Come and see the swans, walk your dog, have a picnic, visit our children's play area or relax with a coffee.

**Opening times:** Check our website.

**Sedgefield, County Durham TS21 2DN**

**Tel:** 01740 621505 [www.durham.gov.uk/hardwickpark](http://www.durham.gov.uk/hardwickpark)

**Facebook:** Hardwick-Park

## Riverside Park



A Durham County Council venue

Created in the 1930s and redeveloped in more recent years to include artist-designed ornamental gardens, events arena, play area with splash pad, café and toilets. Grassed areas and riverside walks for quiet relaxation, picnics and kite flying or more vigorous pursuits such as running and cycling. **Opening times:** Daily. For opening times please check the website.

**Riverside South, Chester-le-Street,**

**County Durham DH3 3SJ**

**Tel:** 03000 266447

[www.durham.gov.uk/riversidepark](http://www.durham.gov.uk/riversidepark)

## Rockliffe Hall Hotel Golf and Spa



Rockliffe Hall is Durham's flagship luxury resort, just 20 minutes by train from the city centre, boasting a luxury spa, championship golf course and three restaurants. The perfect place for a day, or night, away from the city. **Opening times:** Always open 24/7.

**Hurworth on Tees, Darlington,**

**County Durham DL2 2DU**

**Tel:** 01325 729999 [www.rockliffehall.com](http://www.rockliffehall.com)

**Facebook:** Rockliffe Hall **Twitter:** @RockliffeHall

Scan me:



## E-Newsletter

Sign up to receive the monthly e-newsletter for all the latest Durham news, events, offers and competitions – direct to your inbox.

**[thisisdurham.com/newsletter](http://thisisdurham.com/newsletter)**

## Locomotion



Locomotion: The National Railway Museum at Shildon is always a great day out! Over 70 heritage rail vehicles from the National Collection on display, including the original Sans Pareil, British Rail's Advanced Passenger Train Experimental, and carriages from the Royal Train of Queen Alexandra (wife of Edward VII). In addition to the permanent collection Locomotion offers a changing display of railway vehicles. An ideal destination for all ages with café and gift shop, play area and indoor and outdoor picnic tables. Admission and parking is free.

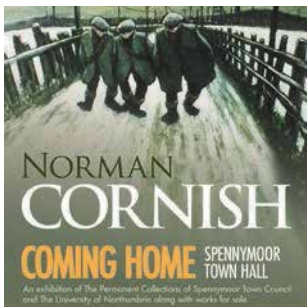
Opening times: Daily, October to March 10am–4pm, April to September 10am–5pm. Call for opening times over the Christmas and New Year period.

Shildon, County Durham DL4 2RE  
Tel: 01388 777999 [www.nrm.org.uk/locomotion](http://www.nrm.org.uk/locomotion)

Locomotion is a joint venture between NRM and Durham County Council



## Spennymoor Town Hall: Art Gallery



**Norman Cornish Exhibition:** a superb exhibition of work by the renowned artist Norman Cornish, including paintings from the Spennymoor Town Council and Northumbria University collections, as well as previously unseen work.

**Opening times:** All year Monday to Friday 12noon–4pm, Saturday 10am–2pm. Sunday closed. Closed over the Christmas period.

Town Hall, High Street, Spennymoor, County Durham DL16 6DG

## Spennymoor Mining Museum



Take a trip back in time to when coal was King. Visit our 'underground' mock coalface with model pit pony. Browse through our books and photos, watch DVDs of years gone by and be enlightened by our knowledgeable staff.

**Opening times:** All year Monday to Thursday 12noon–4pm, Friday to Saturday 10am–2pm. Sunday closed. Closed over Christmas period.

Town Hall, High Street, Spennymoor,  
County Durham DL16 6DG

## Spennymoor Town Hall



For all your functions and conferencing needs. Bar and catering facilities available, all at extremely reasonable prices; please visit our website for details.

Town Hall, High Street, Spennymoor,  
County Durham DL16 6DG

Tel: 01388 815276

[www.parishes.durham.gov.uk/Spennymoor](http://www.parishes.durham.gov.uk/Spennymoor)

## Tanfield Railway



Take a nostalgic journey on the world's oldest railway, a great day out for all the family. See the steam and smell the smoke as your train of Victorian-style wooden carriages takes you on a scenic journey through the countryside.

Discover the real history of railways with a visit to Causey Arch, an engineering marvel that pre-dates the Stockton & Darlington Railway by almost a century. See the gritty reality of working steam by visiting Europe's oldest working locomotive shed at Marley Hill. Or enjoy a cosy cuppa in our period-style tea rooms at Andrews House, a wonderfully recreated countryside station.

Opening times: Daily. Trains every Sunday and bank holiday throughout the year from 10.30am, plus Saturday and Thursday in school summer holidays.

Marley Hill Engine Shed, Old Marley Hill, Gateshead NE16 5ET  
Tel: 07508 092365 [www.tanfield-railway.co.uk](http://www.tanfield-railway.co.uk)



Situated just 10 minutes from Durham City centre and with ample free parking, Ushaw really is a true hidden gem. Stunning Georgian and Victorian gothic architecture now open for all to see. History, heritage and hospitality for the whole family with guided tours, café and exhibitions accompanied by an exciting programme of events. Opening times: From March to December, check website for up-to-date information.

Ushaw, Durham DH7 9RH

Tel: 0191 373 8500 [www.ushaw.org](http://www.ushaw.org)

Facebook: Ushaw College Twitter: @ushawcollege

Follow in Ben Fogle's footsteps...



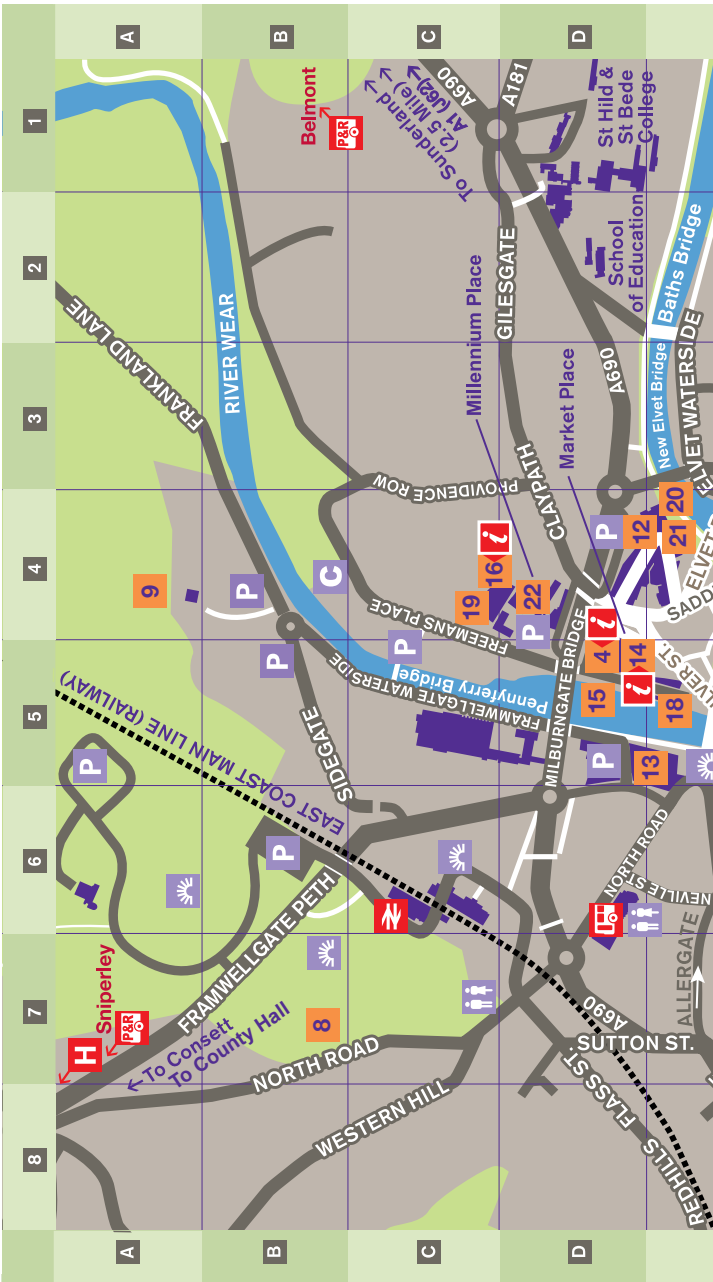
Scan me:



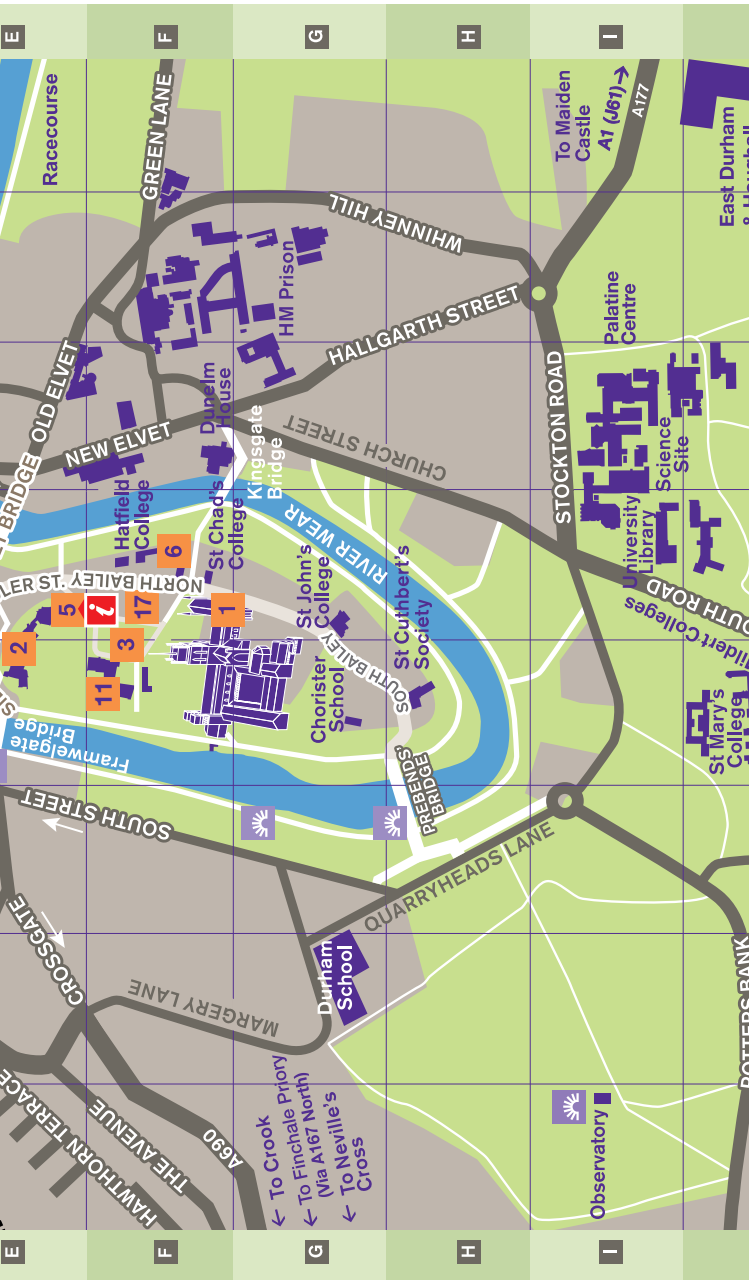
TV presenter and adventurer Ben Fogle has been exploring Durham's great outdoors, watch the video to see what he got up to!

[thisisdurham.com/outdoors](http://thisisdurham.com/outdoors)

# City Map

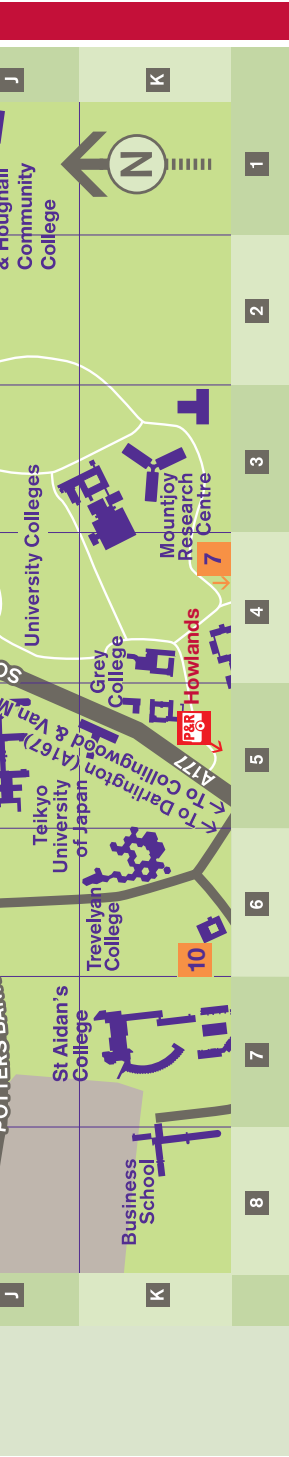


Contains OS data © Crown copyright [and database right] (2017). Please note that not a



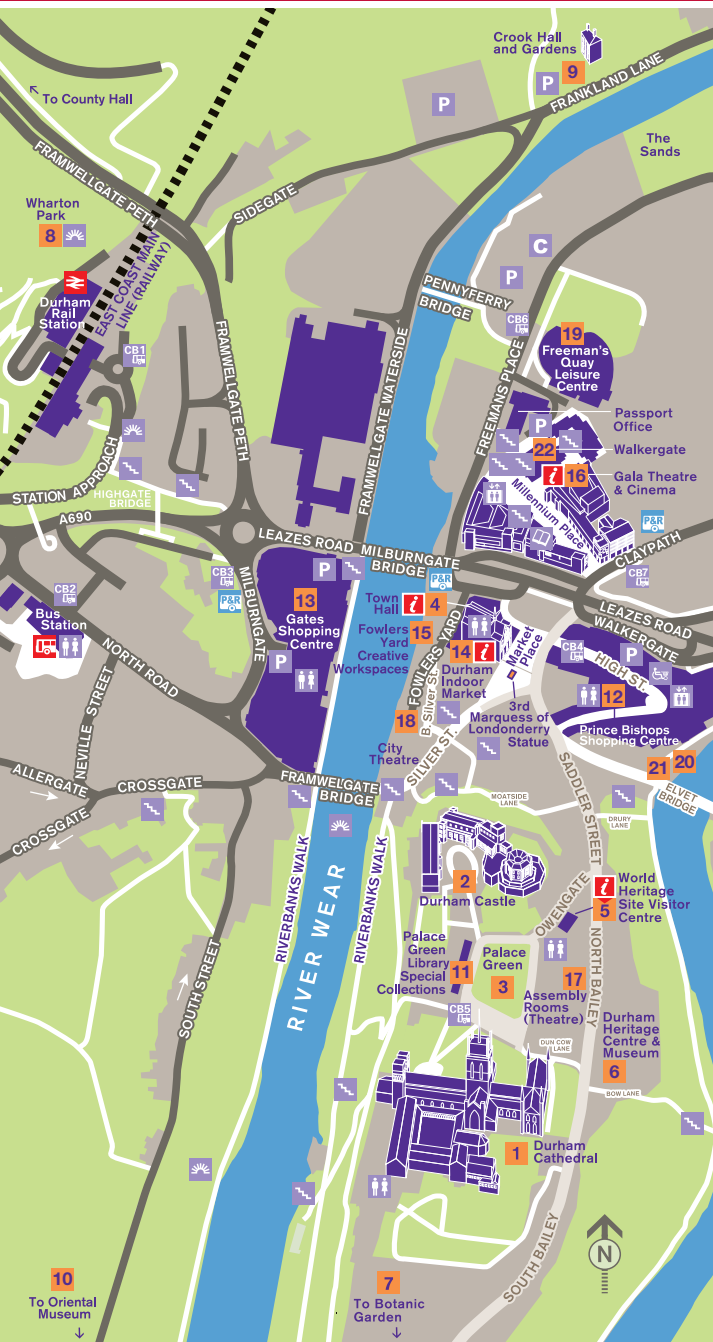
All roads and settlements are included on the map.





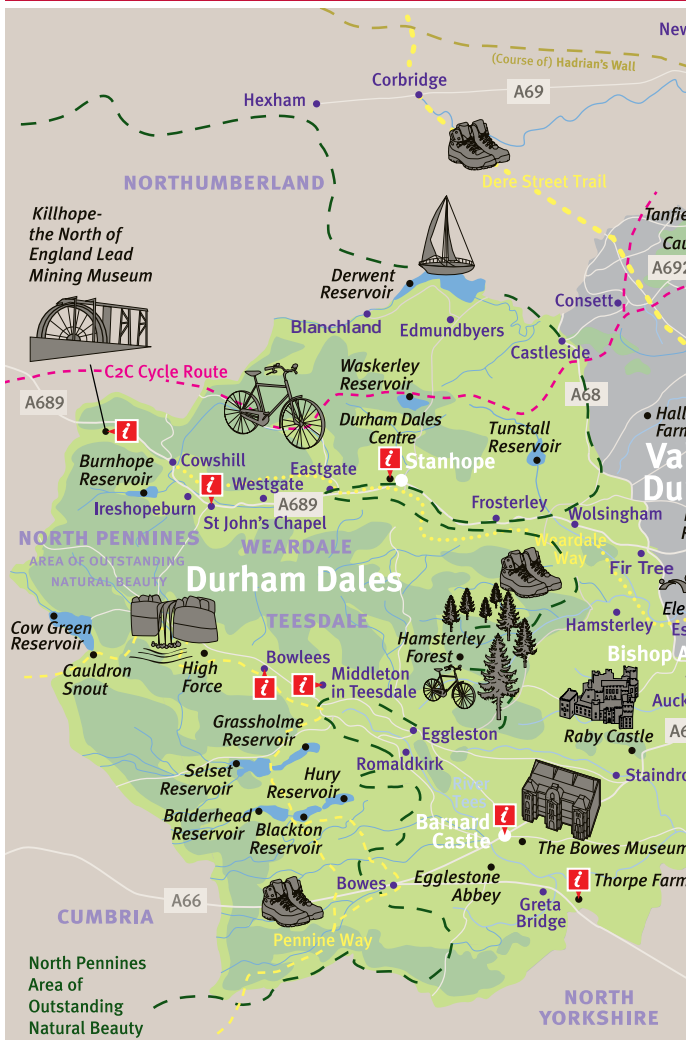
City Centre Map Symbols		City Centre Map Symbols	
	University Hospital		Park & Ride Bus Stops
	Durham Rail Station		Cathedral Bus Stops
	North Road Bus Station		Rail Station
	Car Park		Bus Station
	Coach Park		Millburngate
	Shopmobility		Market Place
	Library		Cathedral & Castle
	Toilets		Car & Coach Park
	Lifts		Claypath
	Stairs		
	View Point		
Park & Ride Car Parks		Sport and Leisure	
	Sniperley		Freeman's Quay Leisure Centre
	Belmont		Prince Bishop River Cruises (Summer)
	Howlands		Rowing Boat Hire (April - October)
Heritage			Walkergate
	Durham Cathedral	Visitor Information Points	
	Durham Castle		Visitor Information Points. For more information see p58/59.
	Palace Green		
	Town Hall		
	World Heritage Site Visitor Centre		
Museums & Gardens		Shopping	
	Durham Heritage Centre & Museum		Prince Bishops Shopping Centre
	Botanic Garden		The Gates Shopping Centre
	Wharfton Park		Durham Indoor Market
	Crook Hall & Gardens		Fowlers Yard Creative Workspaces
	Oriental Museum	Culture	
	Palace Green Library, Special Collections		Gala Theatre & Cinema
Park & Ride Bus Stops			Assembly Rms (Theatre)
	Sniperley		City Theatre
	Belmont		
	Howlands		

# City Centre Map



Contains OS data © Crown copyright [and database right] (2017).  
Please note that not all roads and settlements are included on the map.

# County Map



- Boundary of North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- C2C (Sea to Sea) Cycle Route
- Durham Heritage Coast
- Roads
- Pennine Way
- Rivers
- Weardale Way
- Coastal Footpath
- Dere Street Trail
- Places of interest
- Place Names/Place Names
- Visitor Information Points. For more information refer to page 58/59.



#### Durham Dales



#### Vale of Durham



#### Durham City



#### Durham Coast



#### Approximate Distances in Miles

##### Durham City

25 Barnard Castle

12 15 Bishop Auckland

8 32 19 Chester-le-Street

15 40 27 12 Seaham

21 18 17 30 36 Stanhope

Contains OS data © Crown copyright [and database right] (2017).

Please note that not all roads and settlements are included on the map.

Distances approximate, based on most direct route provided by an online route planner.

*This is* **durham**

# Durham Dales

A stunning landscape of moors and hills, valleys and meandering rivers, dotted with cultural treasures.





## Alpaca Trekking



Come for a relaxing walk with our lovely alpacas in the beautiful Teesdale countryside. Small groups or customised visits by appointment only. We also have a great range of British made alpaca products for sale – woven scarves, shawls and throws, hats and caps, pillows and duvets, alpaca ‘tweed’ cloths and more...

Teesdale Alpacas, Boldron, Barnard Castle, County Durham DL12 9SP

Tel: 07976 423258 [www.teesdale-alpacas.co.uk](http://www.teesdale-alpacas.co.uk)

Facebook: Teesdale Alpacas

Twitter: @TeesdaleAlpacas

## Durham Dales Centre



10% off\*

Show advert to redeem - See page 60 for terms and conditions



A Durham County Council venue

Unique venue with specialist craft and gift shops, information point, gardens and courtyard. Large tearoom offers homebaking, extensive menu of homemade hot and cold meals, daily specials and Sunday lunch. Gift shop for cards, clothing, jewellery, books and maps.

Opening times: April to October 9am–5pm, November to March 9am–4pm, except Christmas.

Castle Gardens, Stanhope, County Durham DL13 2FJ

Tel: 01388 527650 [www.durhamdalescentre.co.uk](http://www.durhamdalescentre.co.uk)

Facebook: DurhamDalesCentre

Twitter: @durhamdalescentre

## Hamsterley Forest



© Visit County Durham



Hamsterley Forest is one of Durham's best kept secrets. Hamsterley is a delightful oasis of mixed woodland and recreational facilities including family forest play trail with adventure. Stunning views are found higher up in the forest across the Durham Dales. There are many pursuits to be followed from leisure walking and horse riding through to adrenaline mountain biking.

Opening times: All year round.

Forestry Commission, Hamsterley Forest, Redford, Hamsterley, Bishop Auckland, County Durham DL13 3NL

Tel: 01388 488312 [www.forestry.gov.uk](http://www.forestry.gov.uk)

Facebook: HamsterleyForest

## The Bowes Museum



This year sees The Bowes Museum celebrate its 125th anniversary, offering one of Britain's most fascinating museum experiences and home to one of the most important collections of European fine and decorative arts in the North of England. Paintings by Old Masters can be found alongside iconic objects such as the Silver Swan musical automaton, textiles, fashion, silver and metals, ceramics and furniture. The permanent collections are complemented by an acclaimed exhibition programme which in 2017 includes: Only in England; The Clockwork Garden and Turkish Tulips.

Situated in beautiful gardens and parkland, the Museum offers excellent dining and a gift shop.

Opening times: Daily, 10am–5pm. Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

Barnard Castle, County Durham DL12 8NP

Tel: 01833 690606 [www.thebowesmuseum.org.uk](http://www.thebowesmuseum.org.uk)

Facebook: [The-Bowes-Museum/8814259979](https://www.facebook.com/TheBowesMuseum/)

Twitter: @TheBowesMuseum



Bowlees Visitor Centre was reopened in 2013 by the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership. Set in attractive woodland, and surrounded by some of the best hay meadows in England, we have all you need to make your visit a memorable one.

Visitor Information – Events – Children’s Activities – Bird Hide – Walking and Nature Trails – Stargazing Hammock – Educational Packages – Gift Shop – Gallery – Café

Car parking (voluntary charge), and accessible parking at the front of the centre.

Opening hours: Daily, 18 February – 29 October. For more details please visit the website.

Newbiggin, Barnard Castle, County Durham DL12 0XF

Tel: 01833 622145 [www.visitbowlees.org.uk](http://www.visitbowlees.org.uk)

Tel: 01388 528801 [www.northpennines.org.uk](http://www.northpennines.org.uk)

Facebook: VisitBowlees Twitter: @VisitBowlees

North East Tourism Awards Small Visitor Attraction Gold 2016.

# Discover WEARDALE



Stanhope Common

© Visit County Durham

## The Great Escape

High moorland expanses, tranquil dales, tumbling rivers and waterfalls, exciting wildlife, dramatic history, vibrant communities, outstanding geology and scenery; this is Weardale, one of the Durham Dales and part of the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Discover Weardale, the perfect place for walking, cycling, fishing, horse riding, wildlife watching, geological exploration, star-gazing or simply chilling out and recharging your batteries.

For a wide range of walking, cycling and other outdoor opportunities visit :

[www.explorenorthpennines.org.uk](http://www.explorenorthpennines.org.uk)

For attractions, events, activities, places to eat and accommodation visit :



[www.discoverweardale.com](http://www.discoverweardale.com)





# Explore TEESDALE

See & Do



In Teesdale you will find the perfect mix of peaceful open spaces, majestic waterfalls, heritage, history, culture, shopping and local food.

- Visit one of England's most impressive waterfalls at **High Force**.
- Stop off at **Bowlees Visitor Centre** before exploring the breathtaking beauty of the upper dales.
- Explore **Raby Castle**, a medieval hidden-gem.
- Find one of the greatest collections of fine and decorative arts at **The Bowes Museum**.
- Enjoy the great outdoors at **Hamsterley Forest** from a gentle walk to a challenging mountain bike ride.
- At **The Hub** why not try fishing, water sports, high ropes and indoor family activities.
- Visit **The Witham**, Barnard Castle's vibrant Arts Centre to enjoy a wealth of arts events, delicious food and drink from The Dispensary Café, wonderful gifts from the Box Office Shop and exciting exhibitions in the Art Gallery.
- Discover the Fortress of Teesdale, **Barnard Castle** stands proudly over its market town namesake with spectacular river views.

Find out all you need to know about your next visit to Teesdale at:  
**[www.exploreteesdale.uk](http://www.exploreteesdale.uk)**

Visitor Information: **03000 26 26 26** | 43



## High Force Waterfall



High Force, in Forest in Teesdale, is one of England's most impressive waterfalls. The River Tees suddenly and spectacularly drops 21 metres over the Whin Sill rock into a plunge pool below. Surrounded by stunning countryside, the well maintained woodland walk twists and turns leading you to this spectacular sight. Picnic area and parking available – charges apply.

**Opening times:** Throughout the year. During the winter parts of the falls may not be accessible. Please telephone first before making a journey.

Forest in Teesdale, County Durham DL12 0XH

Tel: 01833 622209 [www.highforcewaterfall.com](http://www.highforcewaterfall.com)

Facebook: HighForceWaterfall Twitter: @HighForceWater

## Killhope



Killhope is a multi award-winning Victorian lead mining museum, offering a great day out for all the family. Guided mine tours, original working water wheels and mining machinery, exhibitions, stunning scenery, walks, shop and café. Yurts available for hire, more information on website.

**Opening times:** Daily, 25 March to 30 October 10.30am–5pm (last Admission 4.15pm).

Near Cowshill, Weardale, County Durham DL13 1AR

Tel: 01388 537505 [www.killhope.org.uk](http://www.killhope.org.uk)

Facebook: KILLHOPE



A Durham County Council venue

Scan me:



## Special Offers

Get value from your visit...  
take advantage of fantastic  
money-saving offers.

**[thisisdurham.com/offers](http://thisisdurham.com/offers)**



Located on The Bank in the heart of Barnard Castle's conservation area and ideally placed for specialist shopping. Over 40 dealers selling everything from Worcester, Early Blue and White, Royal Doulton, Moorcroft and Beleek to 20th Century ceramics, jewellery and collectables, books, kitchenalia, glass, militaria, silver, antique fishing tackle, furniture and vintage clothing.

Visit our other shop Robson's Antiques – across the road from Mission Hall (at 36 The Bank) which specialises in glass and silverware.

Opening times: Mission Hall: Monday to Saturday 10am–5pm, Sunday 1.30pm–5pm. Robson's: Monday to Saturday 10am–5pm.

51 The Bank, Barnard Castle, County Durham DL12 8PL  
Tel: 01833 631101 [www.missionhallantiquescentre.co.uk](http://www.missionhallantiquescentre.co.uk)

**NORTHUMBRIAN**  
**WATER** *living water*

# ANGLING FOR EVERYONE IN BEAUTIFUL SURROUNDINGS

Season opens Saturday 11 March 2017.  
Open week days from 8:00am and from  
7:00am at weekends.

Any method and fly fishing for rainbow and brown trout.  
Stocked weekly throughout the season with quality trout.

Day, family and couple permits available as well as  
beginner's lessons.

With seven premier waterside parks across  
Northumberland, Durham and North Yorkshire,  
pick your favourite for a great day out.

For more information call 0845 155 0236 or  
Visit [www.nwwatersideparks.co.uk](http://www.nwwatersideparks.co.uk).

**FREE** fishing for two  
children under 18  
with a parent  
or guardian

Fish **FREE** on your  
eighth visit with our  
free loyalty card

 [/nwfishing](https://www.facebook.com/nwfishing)  
[www.nwwatersideparks.co.uk](http://www.nwwatersideparks.co.uk)

## Raby Castle



Child Goes Free\*

Show advert to redeem - See page 60 for terms and conditions

Set within a 250-acre deer park with beautiful walled gardens, Raby is one of the finest medieval castles in England and has been home to the Vane family since 1626. Behind its dramatic exterior and elaborate architecture, discover stunning interiors, fine artwork and furniture. Gift shop, tearooms, carriage collection and woodland adventure play area.

Opening times: 15 April to 1 October 2017. May, June and September: Wednesday to Sunday. July and August: Tuesday to Sunday. Open bank holidays. Castle open 12.30pm–4.30pm, Park and Gardens 11am–5pm.

Staindrop, Near Darlington, County Durham DL2 3AH

Tel: 01833 660202 [www.rabycastle.com](http://www.rabycastle.com)

Facebook: /RabyCastle Twitter: @RabyCastle

## The Witham



A Durham County Council venue

The Witham is a vibrant arts centre in Barnard Castle. Visit the Art Gallery; shop for local crafts; enjoy homemade cake in the café and choose from an exciting programme of events including contemporary and classical music, theatre, film, live screenings, family and comedy events.

Opening times: Tuesday to Saturday, 10am–4pm and an hour before evening events.

3 Horsemarket, Barnard Castle,  
County Durham DL12 8LY

Tel: 01833 631107 [www.thewitham.org.uk](http://www.thewitham.org.uk)

Twitter: @BarneyWitham

## Weardale Pool



Stanhope Open Air Pool is the only full sized heated outdoor pool in County Durham. Situated in the glorious setting of the North Pennines in Weardale. Complete with a slide and diving board and separate toddler pool. Café provides hot and cold drinks, cake and sweets.

Opening times: Daily, May bank holiday to the end of August. See website for details.

Waterside Court, Stanhope, Weardale DL13 2LU

Tel: 01388 528673 [www.stanhopepool.co.uk](http://www.stanhopepool.co.uk)

Facebook: Weardale Outdoor Swimming Pool

Twitter: @Stanhopepool

*This is* **durham**

# Durham Coast

Explore the dramatic coastline with its stunning views, beaches, rugged cliffs and imposing headlands.







Exploring the dramatic and historic landscape of Durham's Heritage Coast is a great way to blow away the cobwebs. Internationally recognised for its rare plants and wildlife, a coastal path runs along much of its length offering spectacular views across the North Sea, and leading visitors along beautiful beaches, rugged cliffs and imposing headlands. Hidden gems include picturesque Castle Eden Dene, a national nature reserve with 550 acres of natural woodland and 12 miles of footpaths, while the lively harbour town of Seaham is home to one of the oldest churches in the country and an award-winning spa hotel. **Heritage Coast Festival: Reach for the Beach, 27 May to 6 June 2017.** There are lots of activities and events from kayaking to rockpooling, guided walks to a half marathon.

Tel: 03000 268131

[www.durhamheritagecoast.org](http://www.durhamheritagecoast.org)

Facebook: Find us on Facebook Twitter: Follow us on Twitter

## Seaham Hall Hotel Serenity Spa



Seaham Hall is an award winning hotel and spa, perfectly located just a stone's throw away from the Durham Heritage Coast, the ideal venue for a relaxing spa day or indulgent overnight stay.

Dating back to 1791, this boutique 5 star hotel is steeped in history and charm. Set within 37 acres of delightful gardens and located just a short drive from Durham City centre it is the perfect location for a retreat.

Seaham Hall also boasts two renowned restaurants – Byron's Restaurant and The Ozone.

Opening times: See website for details.

Lord Byron's Walk, Seaham, County Durham SR7 7AG

Tel: 0191 516 1400 [www.seaham-hall.com](http://www.seaham-hall.com)

Facebook: [SeahamHall](#) Twitter: [@SeahamHallhotel](#)

## Seaham Marina



See & Do



The multi award winning Seaham Marina – County Durham’s one and only marina, offers significant opportunities for watersports and leisure-based activities. The marina provides facilities for 96 boats, slipway and accommodation for overnight visiting boats. New for 2017 is the Water Sports Activity Centre which will offer a range of watersports activities including kayaking, canoeing and stand-up paddle boarding.

A secluded sandy beach provides an excellent safe haven for family visits. The Waterside building hosts a number of retail outlets including cafés, restaurants, ice cream parlour, hair and beauty salon, gift shop, sweet shop and travel agent.

The marina is home to the historic George Elmy Lifeboat, which is located in the East Durham Heritage and Visitor Centre.

Free parking available.

Opening times: Daily, 7 days a week. See website for full details.

Seaham Marina, The Waterside, Seaham, County Durham SR7 7EE  
Tel: 0191 581 8998 [www.seahammarina.com](http://www.seahammarina.com)

## Dalton Park



With over 60 outlet shops offering up to 50% off every day, great places to eat, a 7 screen Cineworld and free parking, a trip to Dalton Park is a perfect day out!

See our main advert on the back cover.

Opening times: Monday to Friday 10am–7pm, Saturdays 9am–7pm, Sundays 11am–5pm, bank holidays 10am–6pm. Restaurants and cinema open 'till late.

Murton, County Durham SR7 9HU

Tel: 0191 526 6500 [www.dalton-park.co.uk](http://www.dalton-park.co.uk)

Facebook: DaltonParkOutlet Twitter: dalton\_park

## Skydive Academy Limited



**£30 Off per person\***

Show advert to redeem - See page 60 for terms and conditions

Parachuting and skydiving. Check Tripadvisor. Courses and continuation, 4 and 16 place aircraft, former site Shotton Colliery 760x60m grass 550x7m tarmac runways. Hangarage, Avgas/JetA1 fuel, training rooms, canteen bar, bunk rooms, showers, toilets (disabled/baby change), spectator area and car parking.

Opening times: February to November Friday, Saturday, Sunday. April to October Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday plus bank holidays.

Shotton Airfield, County Durham DH6 2NH

Tel: 0191 517 1234 [www.skydiveacademy.org.uk](http://www.skydiveacademy.org.uk)

Facebook: SkydiveAcademyPeterleeDZ

Twitter: @PeterleeParaCen

## Tweddle Children's Animal Farm



A children's farm and petting centre with lots of friendly animals and lots of hands-on opportunities such as bottle feeding and bunny cuddling. There are also lots of other activities such as play areas, pedal go-kart tracks and crazy golf.

Opening times: Weekends only, November to January 10am–5pm. Daily, February 10am–4pm. Daily, March to October 10am–5pm.

Fillpoke Lane, Blackhall Colliery,

County Durham TS27 4BT

Tel: 0191 586 3311 [www.tweddlefarm.co.uk](http://www.tweddlefarm.co.uk)

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## E-Newsletter

Sign up to receive the monthly e-newsletter for all the latest Durham news, events, offers and competitions – direct to your inbox.

**[thisisdurham.com/newsletter](http://thisisdurham.com/newsletter)**

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# a Durham VIP pass



Tell us your views – we need your help to continually improve the Durham Pocket Guide. Complete the online survey for your chance to win 1 of 10 Durham VIP passes.

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**Complete the short online survey for your chance to win:**  
[thisisdurham.com/survey](https://thisisdurham.com/survey)



All responses will be held in the strictest of confidence, will only be used for market research purposes and will not be passed onto a third party. The survey should take no more than 5 minutes to complete..





# Events

There is always something happening, whichever time of year you visit

In spring it's all aboard for transport extravaganza, the **Great North Festival of Transport**, at **Beamish Museum**. Whilst food lovers are also in for a treat with the return of the **Bishop Auckland Food Festival**.

A busy summer sees rowing crews nationwide descend for the **Durham Regatta**. Stay tuned too for **Brass: Durham International Festival**. And for culture lovers, the summer exhibition at **Palace Green Library** is not to be missed, as is the opportunity to explore hidden architectural treasures during **Heritage Open Days**. The **Gala Theatre**, meanwhile, offers the best in live entertainment all-year-round.

For sporting fans, the **Pearl Izumi Tour Series** returns to the historic streets of Durham City. And the county's calendar of international cricket continues as England take on the West Indies.

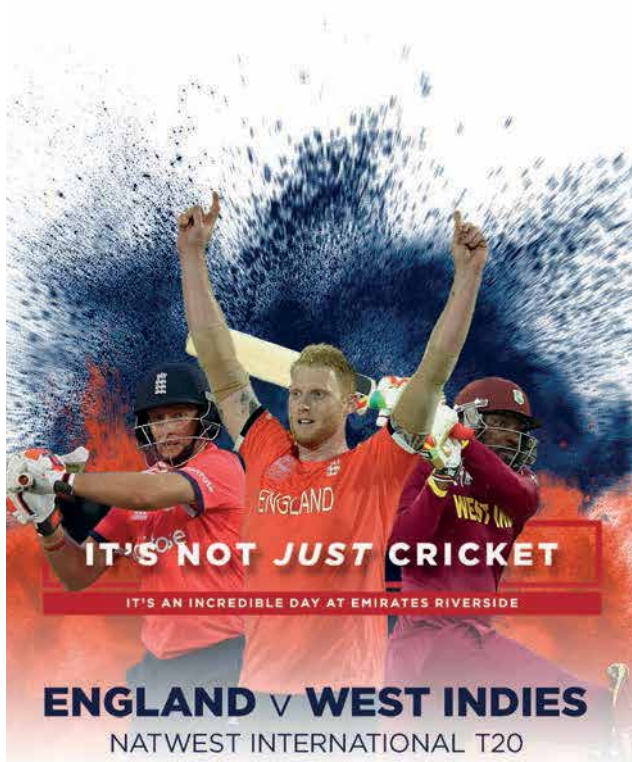
For fun family events, head to the **Bowlees Visitor Centre**, or get a breath of fresh air at **Hamsterley Forest**. Pay a visit also to one of the county's agricultural shows.

**Lumiere**, the UK's largest light festival, returns in November to weave its nocturnal art trail through Durham City. And for festive fun, round off the year with a visit to **Durham City's Traditional Christmas Festival**.

Find out what's on across Durham, visit: [thisisdurham.com/events](http://thisisdurham.com/events)

## Main Events 2017

Beamish Museum: Great North Festival of Transport	<b>29 March–23 April</b>
Bishop Auckland Food Festival	<b>1–2 April</b>
Heritage Coast Festival: Reach for the Beach	<b>27 May–4 June</b>
Magna Carta and the Forest Charters, Durham Cathedral	<b>19 June–9 Sep</b>
Kynren – an epic tale of England	<b>1 July–16 Sep</b>
Brass: Durham International Festival	<b>7–16 July</b>
The Bowes Museum: Turkish Tulips	<b>29 July–5 November</b>
NatWest International T20 Cricket: England v West Indies	<b>16 Sep</b>
Locomotion: Autumn Steam Gala	<b>16–17 Sep</b>
Durham Book Festival	<b>October</b>
Lumiere Durham	<b>16–19 November</b>
Durham City's Traditional Christmas Festival	<b>1–3 December</b>



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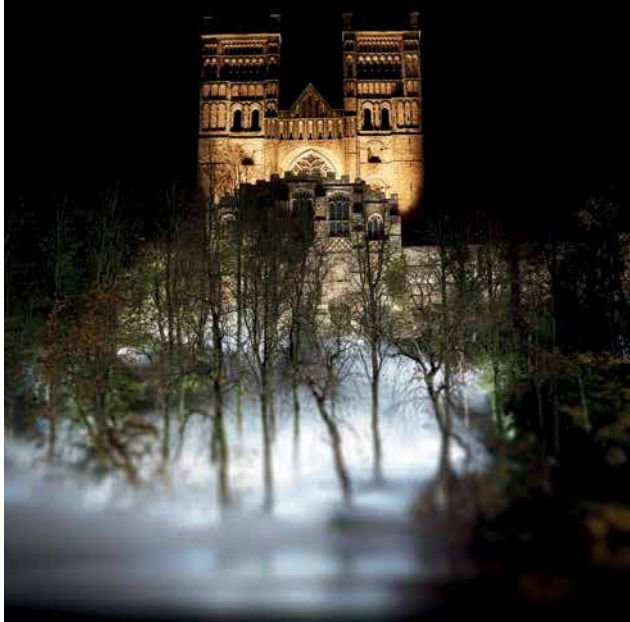
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**Kynren.co.uk**

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artichoketrust

Fogscape #03238, Fujiko Nakaya, Simon Corder, Lumiere Durham 2015, Produced by Artichoke. Photo by Matthew Andrews. Artichoke Trust is a registered charity No. 1112716

# Visitor Information

Local knowledge to make the most of your visit

## Visitor Contact Centre

With excellent knowledge of the area, the experienced, professional staff in Durham's official Visitor Contact Centre are on hand to help before and during your visit.

- Information and bookings for places to stay
- Information on places to visit, eat, shop and events
- Ticket sales for events
- Practical information including opening times and accessibility

**Call:** 03000 26 26 26

**Email:** [visitor@thisisdurham.com](mailto:visitor@thisisdurham.com)

**Text:** 'Visit' and your enquiry to 80011

**Twitter:** @moreDurham

Calls – cost of a local call, calls from mobiles may vary.

Texts – standard network charges apply.

**Monday to Saturday 9.30am–5.30pm**

**Sunday 11am–4pm**

**Bank Holidays 11am–4pm**

Please note: the Visitor Contact Centre is not open to the public for face-to-face enquiries.

## Visitor Information Points

During your stay, call into one of the Visitor Information Points at 18 locations across the county. They offer the latest information via face-to-face, electronic tourist information kiosks or telephone points, plus access to a wide selection of leaflets and guides.

### DURHAM CITY

**Durham Indoor Market** Market Place, Durham City DH1 3NJ

**Gala Theatre & Cinema** Millennium Place, Durham City DH1 1WA

**The Town Hall** Market Place, Durham City DH1 3NJ

**Durham Pointers (seasonal)** Market Place, Durham City DH1 3NJ

**World Heritage Site Visitor Centre**

7 Owengate, Durham City DH1 3HB



## VALE OF DURHAM

### **Bishop Auckland Railway Station**

Bob Hardisty Drive, Bishop Auckland, County Durham DL14 7EJ

**Hardwick Park Visitor Centre** Sedgefield, County Durham TS21 2DN

**Holiday Inn Darlington North** Newton Park, County Durham, DL1 3NL

**Locomotion NRM Shildon** Shildon, County Durham DL4 1PQ

## DURHAM DALES

### **Chatterbox Café**

11 Market Place, St Johns Chapel, County Durham DL13 1QF

### **Bowlees Visitor Centre**

Middleton in Teesdale, County Durham DL12 OXE

### **Durham Dales Centre**

Castle Gardens, Stanhope, County Durham DL13 2FJ

### **Killhope – the North of England Lead Mining Museum**

Near Cowshill, Upper Weardale, County Durham DL13 1AR

**The Witham** 3 Horse Market, Barnard Castle, County Durham DL12 8LY

**Thorpe Farm Centre** Thorpe Farm, Greta Bridge, Barnard Castle, County Durham DL12 9TY

**Visitor Information Centre (Middleton Plus)** 10 Market Place, Middleton in Teesdale, County Durham DL12 0QG

## DURHAM COAST

**Dalton Park** Murton, County Durham SR7 9HU

**Tonia's Café** Seaham Hall Car Park, The Promenade, North Road, Seaham, County Durham SR7 7AG

## Durham City Park & Ride

Secure CCTV-controlled sites at Belmont, Sniperley and Howlands. Park & Ride users park free and travel into the city centre for £2.00. Open Monday to Saturday 7am–7pm.

- Belmont Route on the junction of the A1(M)/A690: Milburngate Bridge east side, Milburngate, County Hall, University Hospital
- Sniperley Route on the A691: University Hospital, County Hall, Milburngate, Claypath
- Howlands Park Route on the A177: New Elvet, Milburngate Bridge east side, Milburngate, Leazes Road underpass, New Elvet

Simply turn up and park your car for free, then buy your ticket at one of the easy-to-use payment machines with coins, notes or a credit card by following the on-screen instructions.

## Durham Cathedral Bus

The Cathedral Bus is a dedicated service covering three routes linking the rail station, principal city centre bus stops, coach park and the Market Place with the World Heritage Site of Durham Cathedral and Durham Castle.

## Public Transport

Once you arrive in Durham you'll find a good network of regular public transport services. For further details of routes and times of services visit the Interactive Transport Map at [www.durham.gov.uk/busmap](http://www.durham.gov.uk/busmap). A printed copy of the transport map can be obtained by calling 03000 268667 or emailing [sustainabletransport@durham.gov.uk](mailto:sustainabletransport@durham.gov.uk)

## Traveline

For more information about the Cathedral Bus and public transport services across Durham and surrounding areas, contact Traveline direct by calling 0871 200 2233, or visit their website at [www.traveline.info](http://www.traveline.info)

### Special Offer Terms & Conditions

For further information about the deals offered within this guide, or to check terms and conditions please contact the venue direct. To redeem the offer present the advert at the venue. Offers are subject to availability, restrictions may apply. Offers can be removed or amended at the discretion of the venue at any time. Vouchers are issued in good faith but the Promoter is not responsible for the operator refusing to accept the voucher. The offer details were correct as of December 2016 and Visit County Durham cannot accept any responsibility in respect of changes, errors or omissions which may have occurred. Not valid in conjunction with any other offer.

#### \* Deal specific terms & conditions:

Diggerland: Present advert to save 15% Discount off entry for up to 6 people. Other offers/ discounts do not apply. Expires: 29/10/2017. Office: 45114.

Durham Dales Centre: 10% Discount in the Tearoom and Durham Dales gift shop, specific T+C may apply - please see individual retailer.

Skydive Academy: £30 Off per person - discount applies to list price, any scheduled date 10,000ft Tandem Skydive - may not be combined with any other discount or agency rate.

Botanic Garden, Oriental Museum, Raby Castle: Child Goes Free - one child goes free, with a full paying adult.

## Around Durham City Tours



**10% Discount\***

Show advert to redeem - See page 60 for terms and conditions

Experience the highlights of Durham City in a guided Walking Tour.

Our friendly local guides will share with you fascinating historical and cultural information. Enjoy the impressive sights of iconic Durham by booking a lively and fun Group Walking Tour. Opening times: Walking Tours operate daily in all weathers. See website for further details.

**Tel: 07484 160177**

**[www.arounddurhamcitytours.co.uk](http://www.arounddurhamcitytours.co.uk)**

**Facebook: Around Durham City Tours**

## Guided Walks in Durham City



Enjoy a Guided Walk around the beautiful City of Durham led by Blue Badge Guide - Graeme Logan. Tours available for individuals, couples, small or large groups. Graeme will bring your tour alive with a sense of humour, and an insight into the way of life, heritage and special features of North East England. He may also treat you to his own rendering of "The Blydon Races" and is not unknown to illustrate his tours with a verse or two of poetry!

**Departs from various locations in Durham City**

**Tel: 01207 506772 or 07712 117044**

**E: [gra\\_logan@hotmail.com](mailto:gra_logan@hotmail.com)**



# Further Afield

There's much to discover on Durham's doorstep

**After experiencing all that Durham has to offer, use the county as a base to discover the rest of the North East.**

For fun family days out, head to NewcastleGateshead for the **Life Science Centre**, **Seven Stories – The National Centre for Children's Books** and **Great North Museum: Hancock**. Get back to nature at the **WWT Washington Wetland Centre** or soak up the atmosphere in the lively seaside towns of **South Shields** and **Whitley Bay**.

Those in search of culture should make a beeline for the **National Glass Centre** in Sunderland, the **BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art** in Gateshead, or **mima, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art**.

Heritage lovers will savour the atmosphere at the **Holy Island of Lindisfarne**, **Bamburgh Castle**, **Alnwick Castle** and **Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site** in Northumberland. And at the **Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens** you can discover more about the city's history.

Enjoy a breath of fresh air at the **Northumberland National Park** or **Kielder Water & Forest Park**. Stride out along the vibrant **NewcastleGateshead Quayside** and take in the iconic views of the seven bridges across the River Tyne. And in Tees Valley visit the award-winning **RSPB Saltholme Nature Reserve and Discovery Park** or splash out at **Tees Barrage International White Water Centre**.

At **Head of Steam, Darlington Railway Museum** you can learn about the first steam-powered passenger carrying public railway, or uncover the area's seafaring past at the reconstructed 18th Century seaport at **Hartlepool's Maritime Experience**.

To find out more visit: [thisisdurham.com/further-afield](http://thisisdurham.com/further-afield)

## Main Events 2017

Hadrian's Cavalry exhibition, Hadrian's Wall	8 April-10 September
Rugby League Magic Weekend, St James' Park, Newcastle	20-21 May
South Tyneside Festival Summer Parade & Sunday Concerts	July
Mouth of the Tyne Festival, Tynemouth Priory	6-9 July
Sunderland International Airshow	21-23 July

## Sunderland Empire



Just 30 minutes from Durham City centre, the Sunderland Empire is the biggest theatre in the North East and stages season after season of dazzling entertainment featuring West End musicals, classical ballet and spectacular dance productions, cutting edge comedy and drama, plus concerts and family shows including the annual star-studded pantomime. Wheelchair access to Stalls and Dress Circle. Opening times: Check website for full details.

4-5 High Street West, Sunderland SR1 3EX

Tel: 0844 871 3022\* [www.atgtickets.com/sunderland](http://www.atgtickets.com/sunderland)

Facebook: SunderlandEmpire Twitter: SundEmpire

\*Calls cost up to 7ppm plus your phone company's standard network charge

## National Glass Centre



Discover the history of glass making in Sunderland, enjoy our intriguing world class exhibitions and play on our iconic glass roof. You will love our glass blowing demonstrations, hands-on creative activities and tours. Browse our shop for hand-crafted artworks by local artists and glass makers, contemporary jewellery and quirky gifts and souvenirs. Complete your day with tea and freshly made scones in The Glass Yard.

Opening times: Daily, 10am–5pm.

Liberty Way, Sunderland SR6 0GL

Tel: 0191 515 5555 [www.nationalglasscentre.com](http://www.nationalglasscentre.com)

Facebook: nationalglasscentresunderland Twitter: NGC\_glasscentre

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## Special Offers

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**[thisisdurham.com/offers](http://thisisdurham.com/offers)**

# see it do it

## Sunderland

There's always something to see and do in Sunderland. Whether you're after relaxation, invigoration or both, Sunderland's mix of city, coast and countryside will be a breath of fresh air.



For more information on these attractions and to find out what other things you can see and do In Sunderland visit

[www.seeitdoitsunderland.co.uk](http://www.seeitdoitsunderland.co.uk)



/seeitdoitsunderland



@SeeitDoitSund





Created by award winning designers, The Gardens at Wynyard Hall are a showcase of delicate artistry, with vivid flowerbeds and over 3,000 stunning roses, from floribundas and climbing roses to the statement English rose.

Explore the Farm Shop and new Victorian-inspired Glasshouse and you'll find a large selection of luxury gifts, homeware, books, stationery and locally sourced food produce. The café also serves a delicious seasonally changing menu.

Events at The Gardens include floristry and cookery workshops, plus seasonal family-friendly days out.

**For opening times, directions & admission prices visit [www.wynyardhall.co.uk](http://www.wynyardhall.co.uk)**

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