

Chester

around the clock

Chester has been welcoming visitors since the Romans came here 2,000 years ago and it's easy to see why it's so popular today!

Here you can enjoy great treasures from the past including the unique world-famous **Rufus galleries** and the most complete **City Walls** in Britain!

Chester has many other claims to fame including the **Eastgate Clock** - probably the most photographed in the world after Big Ben - and the largest stone-built **Roman Amphitheatre** in the country.

Chester is one of the most compact and walkable cities in Britain. Join one of the many guided walking tours that leave the **Chester Visitor Centre (CVC)** or **Town Hall Tourist Information Centre (TIC)** daily or follow the waymarked **Millennium Festival Trail** that links the City's best-loved historic buildings. Trail guides are on sale at the CVC or TIC.

In summertime head for the city centre Cross where the **Town Crier** welcomes visitors from across the world at 12 noon, Tuesday to Saturday, May to August. It's a tradition dating back over 600 years. (Telephone the Town Crier Service on 01244 311736).

Chester entertains with a **fiesta of festivals** all year including **Summer Music, Jazz & Blues, Literature, Folk and Fringe** as well as a host of street processions including the **Midsummer & Midwinter Watch** (spectacular recreations of a medieval entertainment), the **Lord Mayor's Show** and **Christmas Lantern Parades**. Pick up your free **What's On** guide available at the CVC or TIC for details.

The City also hosts **Chester Races** (the oldest in Britain) and **Chester Regatta** - the oldest rowing competition in the world. And if that seems too much like hard work, relax on a river trip or enjoy a leisurely canal cruise.

The City is the most complete shopping centre in Britain thanks to the Rows, two-tier medieval galleries of shops. Here you'll find well-known high street names and a host of specialist shops. The City is also a Mecca for antique lovers and collectors. **The Three Old Arches** is said to be the oldest shop front in England. **The Grosvenor Shopping Centre** and **Forum Shopping Centre** with indoor market provide great undercover shopping all year.

Shopping will give you a great appetite for the City's magical menu of mouthwatering restaurants and a host of cosy tearooms, chic café bars and traditional half-timbered inns. Here you can savour delicious dishes from across the world including Japanese, Thai and Caribbean as well as French, Italian and Spanish. Simply scrumptious! You can pick up a free **Chester Food and Drink** guide from Chester Visitor Centre.



Chester is also the ideal base to stay and explore the canals, coast and countryside of **North Wales**; the canals, country houses and gardens of **Cheshire** including **Chester Zoo**, the largest garden zoo in Britain, and **Lyme Park** (the location for BBC TV's *Pride and Prejudice*); and the **Wirral Peninsula**, home to the magnificent **Lady Lever Art Gallery**, a treasure-house of great paintings, furniture and ceramics.

Just outside Chester is **Cheshire Oaks Designer Outlet Centre**, the largest in Europe. Nearby is the **Blue Planet**, Britain's biggest aquarium, and a gigantic **Iwerks 3-D Cinema** - the first in Britain.

Chester is not just a magnificent heritage city, it's also the gateway to some of the finest countryside in England dotted with picturesque villages like **Malpas, Tattenhall** and **Farnham**. Free **Rural Treasures** and **Rural Chester** guides are available at the Town Hall TIC and Chester Visitor Centre.

There's so much to see and do in Chester and the surrounding area that you may want to stay longer and explore more. Chester offers a great choice of accommodation ranging from de-luxe hotels and warm and friendly B&Bs to superb self-catering and budget houses.

You can book accommodation at Chester Visitor Centre or Town Hall Tourist Information Centre or click on our website at www.chestertourism.com where the latest vacancy information is displayed. You can book online or use our Easybook room reservation service by telephoning 01244 402556.

Enjoy your visit and come back again soon!

For further information contact:

Chester Visitor Centre, Vicars Lane, Chester CH1 1DQ.
Tel: 01244 351000
Email: tourism@chestertourism.gov.uk
Web: www.chestertourism.com

Alexander's



Situated in a picturesque courtyard, we are open all day serving food, drinks and coffees in a mellow ambience to suit all moods with newspapers to read and staff with a welcoming smile.

In the evening the doors open for Alexander's famous shows of **Jazz, Blues and Comedy**. You can reserve a table with a meal or turn up at the door. Regular nights include:

- Saturdays: **Comedy Cabaret**
- Fridays: dance to **Soul, Latin and Funk**
- Thursdays: mainly **Blues**
- Wednesdays: **Jazz**
- Tuesdays: **Unplugged, Acoustic and Singers** night
- Sundays & Mondays: "big name" acts

Ring for one of our diaries to check out the current acts on offer. Tickets for major events can be bought in advance.

Throughout July Alexander's hosts **Chester Jazz & Blues Festival**. Telephone 01244 400414 for brochure.

Our renowned "Jazz Banquet" is available from £9.95 per person. Book to ensure your reserved table.

Alexander's, Rufus Court, off Northgate Street, Chester.

01244 340005
www.alexandersjazz.com

Rufus Court



Rufus Court won a Civic Award for its architecture and its setting in the heart of the city.

It was designed to provide a unique environment to retail unique objects.

But it's hidden treasure, you'll need to explore a little bit to find it.

It's worth it! You'll find lots of unique art, sculpture, jewellery, specialist collector's shops such as stamps, postcards, antique books, vinyls, CDs and tapes; you can have your nails sculpted, your hair highlighted and your body massaged.

You can surf the internet, eat Mediterranean food on a garden terrace, drink wine in a jazz bar or tea in a tea shop.

If you don't want to leave, you can rent a flat.

Find us on the Civic Trust Millennium Trail.

RUFUS COURT

It's not a mass-produced experience.

Rufus Court,
on the City Wall,
off Northgate Street.

Bithell Boats



No visit to Chester is complete without a cruise on the Dee - the best way to appreciate the beauty and character of this great city. Bithell Boats offer cruises of half hour duration every 15 minutes during the season and craft are available for private charter, day time and evenings.

A particularly attractive two-hour cruise to the Ironbridge, through Eaton Estate, home of the Duke of Westminster, leaves The Groves at 11am daily throughout the season. Regular two-hour evening cruises in July and August. Please phone our office for more details.

Big savings for pre-booked day trips, schools, coach parties or OAPs. Tea, coffee and full bar facility available on board our heated boats.

Themed BBQ Cruises every Sunday evening on board our Showboats, 7.30pm to 11pm, May-September.

Opening times: April to October 10am to 5.30pm daily. October to April weekends only 11am to 4pm (weather dependent). Evening Cruises available all year round. Private charters available.

Bithell Boats Ltd. Boating Station: Souters Lane, Chester (just off city walls). Office: Eccleston Ferry, Huntington, Nr Chester CH3 6EA. Tel: 01244 325394. Fax: 01244 403000. Web: www.showboats@chestertourism.com

Also available - combined River Cruise with Guide Friday open-top bus tour of Chester. Great savings by purchasing a combined ticket.

Chester Market



Visit the heart of Chester, steeped in history and heritage. The town has been a bustling shopping centre for over a thousand years.

Chester is a historic old city, is of ancient institution. At the heart of the town is a lively open market and fairs for the people. The gathering together of goods for sale and Chester is one of the oldest time honoured towns.

Chester Market provides undercover shopping in the heart of Chester.

Up to 100 stalls offering a wide choice of finest quality produce.

Opening times: six days a week Monday to Saturday 8am to 5.30pm. Pick up facility available within the loading bay for large orders.

Directions: Access to the market can be gained via Princess Street opposite the Bus Station or through the Forum Shopping Centre.

Chester Market, 6 Princess Street, Chester, CH1 2BB. Tel: 01244 402340.

Also: Sunday Outdoor Market on Town Hall Square/Market Square. Each Sunday throughout the year 9.30am to 4.30pm.

Cheshire Military Museum



Visit the Soldiers of Cheshire on display after a £1/2 million refurbishment.

- much to do - much to see
- interactive for all the family
- visit the trenches at Ypres
- see Private Edward Glenn at Mesen
- hear what the veterans say, and what their wives think

A quick browse or an in-depth study, it's there just for you in a welcoming atmosphere.

Redeveloped - Rejuvenated - Remarkable

Opening times: daily 10am to 5pm (last entry 4.30pm). Adults £2, concessions £1. Schools welcome. Closed 22nd December to 2nd January.



Cheshire Military Museum, The Castle, Chester CH1 2DN. Tel: 01244 327617.

special offer
One free child for every paying adult.

The Chester Tour



One of the best ways to appreciate Chester's 2,000 years of history is to take one of our fully guided open-top sightseeing tours. Tours last 55 minutes but your ticket is valid all day so you may get on and off the tour as you please.

Frequent departures every day between March and October from various stops around the city including the station. The Groves for the River Dee, Town Hall, Chester Visitor Centre and Lower Bridge Street.

Buy your ticket on the bus; from Town Hall Tourist Information Centre; Chester Visitor Centre or Bithell's Boats.

Bithell's Boats

Why not combine a Bithell's River Cruise with a Guide Friday open-top bus tour. Great savings with a combined ticket.



For further information and details of group rates, please contact:

Guide Friday, 22 Old Bank Buildings, Foregate Street, Chester CH1 1JY. Tel: 01244 347457 • www.guidetofriday.com
email: chester@guidetofriday.com
Tours run in conjunction with Chester City Transport

free competition
win a fabulous weekend in

Chester

- 2 nights stay in one of Chester's fine Hotels or B&Bs for 2 people or family of up to 4.
- FREE Chester Attractions Pass for attractions in this leaflet.
- £50.00 Shopping Vouchers for Grosvenor Shopping Centre.
- FREE Tickets for Chester Gateway Theatre production (subject to availability).

To enter the competition complete the questions below fully and return the post.

Please tick the attractions visited on this trip to Chester

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Alexander's | ☐ Chester Grosvenor Museum |
| ☐ Bithell's Boats | ☐ Grosvenor Shopping Centre |
| ☐ Cheshire Military Museum | ☐ Chester Visitor Centre |
| ☐ Chester Cathedral | ☐ Guided Walks |
| ☐ Chester Market | ☐ Mill Restaurant |
| ☐ Chester Open Top Bus Tours | ☐ Rufus Court |
| ☐ Deira Roman Experience | ☐ Chester Gateway Theatre |
| ☐ Chester Gateway Theatre | ☐ Laser Quest |

Where did you pick up this leaflet?

questions

1. Whose does the Town Crier make a proclamation at noon during the summer months? _____
2. What is the Roman Name for Eastgate Street? _____
3. What is the colour scheme in the Rows Cafe in the Chester Visitor Centre? _____

Name _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

Daytime Telephone Number _____

Chester getting around



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|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Alexander's | 9. Grosvenor Museum |
| 2. Bithell's Boats | 10. Grosvenor Shopping Centre |
| 3. Cheshire Military Museum | 11. Chester Visitor Centre |
| 4. Rufus Court | 12. Guided Walks |
| 5. Chester Market | 13. Mill Restaurant |
| 6. The Chester Tour | 14. Chester Cathedral |
| 7. Deira Roman Experience | 15. Laser Quest |
| 8. Chester Gateway Theatre | |

Chester City Centre Attractions Consortium cannot accept responsibility in respect of an error or omission which may have occurred.

Designed by White Fox 01352 840998
Printed by Graphprint 01244 833700

win a free weekend



attractions

chester visitor centre



The ideal starting point for your visit to Chester!

- History of Chester exhibition featuring new Rows displays and reconstruction
- Video show
- Rows Café
- Guided walking tours
- Brass rubbing
- Candle-making
- World of Names - trace the origins of your family surname and first name
- Fully accessible toilets and baby change
- Tourist Information Service including accommodation booking service
- Coach pick up/drop off point
- Open daily (except Christmas, Boxing and New Year's Day)
- Admission free

Chester Visitor Centre, Vickers Lane, Chester CH1 1QX.
Tel: 01244 351609. Fax: 01244 403188.
Email: ts@chestercc.gov.uk Web: www.chestertourism.com

special offer

10% off full price purchases over £5 with this brochure in the World of Names/ Candle Workshop and 25% off full price purchases over £4 in the Café.

dewa roman experience



Dewa is the Roman fortress built almost 2,000 years ago which now lies buried beneath the hustle and bustle of modern day Chester. Now you too can visit the Roman fortress of Deva - pronounced 'Dewa' in Roman times.

Your first experience of Deva is on leaving the Roman Gallery. Here you stroll along a reconstructed street, experiencing some of the sights, sounds and smells of life inside the Roman fortress.

Next, you return to the present day on an extensive archaeological dig. This is a unique opportunity to discover the substantial Roman, Saxon and Medieval remains beneath Chester. A superb collection of artefacts from Chester and elsewhere in the Roman Empire are on display in the on-site museum.

Touch the past yourself in our 'hands-on' studio. This area has activities for everyone, which range from trying on a replica suit of Roman armour, to handling Roman pottery and animal bones. Finally, you can browse around the souvenir shop, where a selection of authentic antiques and other historically themed souvenirs are available.

Opening Times: 9am-5pm daily (except Christmas Day & Boxing Day).

Dewa Roman Experience, Pierpoint Lane, off Bridge Street, Chester. Tel: 01244 343407

special offer

10% discount on shop purchases

chester gateway theatre



Dedicated to First Class, World Class Theatre.

Tucked away behind the Town Hall Square and close to all the major hotels, discover Chester's award winning theatre.

"... The Gateway should be proud of doing work of such quality at such a high level of excellence" The Sunday Times.

The Gateway is Cheshire's only professional producing theatre and its exciting programme is made up of a whole world of drama, music, dance, comedy, workshops and children's theatre.

A private hospitality suite with its own bar and cloakroom facilities is available to party bookers on request.

The theatre is accessible to disabled people.

For details of our current programme pick up a copy of our brochure at the theatre or at any Tourist Information Centre or phone the Box Office on 01244 340392.

Opening Times: Mon-Sat 10am to start of performance. Closes 5pm on days of no performance. Phones remain open until 7pm.

Chester Gateway Theatre, Hamilton Place, Chester CH1 2BH. www.gateway-theatre.org

special offer

£1 off 6 or more tickets. £2 off groups of 10 or more. Booking in advance is advisable.

grosvenor museum



Something for everyone at this award-winning Museum:

- Visit the Chester Timeline Gallery for the best introduction to the City's past
- enjoy video tours of the Galleries with a Keeper as your guide and explore the Museum's collections in the Computer Gallery
- from fossils to a Victorian naturalist, discover the past and present wildlife of Chester and the surrounding area
- match back in time with the Twentieth Legion to the military Fortress of Deva, and use today's technology to uncover the lives of yesterday's people
- see history through the eyes of artists and silversmiths, and take a trip through the centuries in the Period Rooms
- fascinating temporary exhibitions and fun for all the family
- pause for refreshment in the paneled splendour of the Kings Arms Kitchen and before you leave, visit the Conservatory Shop, packed with must-have souvenirs
- independent access to the ground floor galleries; stairs to first floors

Admission free - donations welcome.

Opening times: Monday to Saturday 10.30am to 5pm. Sunday 2pm to 5pm. Closed Christmas, New Year's Day, Good Friday.

The Grosvenor Museum, 27 Grosvenor Street, Chester CH1 2DS. Tel: 01244 402908

special offer

10% discount in Museum Shop on production of this leaflet.

grosvenor shopping centre



The Grosvenor Shopping Centre is well worth a visit. You won't have seen a more tempting mix of shops under one roof, where the best national stores rub shoulders with specialist shops.

You can browse for everything from boutique to baby bouncers, sportswear to skincare and hi-fi to haircare... or simply watch the world go by over a leisurely cappuccino.

The Newgate Street car park is attached to the shopping centre, allowing easy wheelchair access into the one-level centre. Don't forget that we're open seven days a week, so take a look at the Grosvenor Shopping Centre and we're sure you'll like what you see.

Opening times: Monday to Saturday 9am to 5.30pm. Sunday 11am to 5pm.

For more information telephone 01244 329801.

welcome to chester



This guide features a host of great attractions all within easy walking distance of the city centre ranging from great treasure houses of history like the Grosvenor Museum to the 21st century excitement of Lanesville.

The publication also features exclusive offers available at most city centre attractions... and don't forget to complete and return the competition entry form, enclosed, to win a short break in Chester! All the attractions are numbered individually and their locations are identified by numbers on the map.

You can find full details about access to attractions, accommodation, and many other facilities in the Chester area for people with disabilities by clicking on the www.chestertourism.com website or telephoning 01244 351609 for a printed version of the information.

Across the Chester District you can explore many other places of interest including:

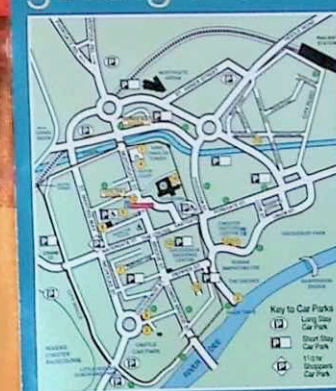
- Freedom Castle perched on a rocky outcrop overlooking the Chester Plain
- the 17th century white-powdered Station Mill at Fawcett, that has been grinding corn for over 200 years
- the most taste of Chester at Telford's sculptural Chester Ice-Cream Dairy
- the Golden Age of Motoring at the Mountbatten Motor Museum

Just pick up a full Chester Treasures guide from Chester Visitor Centre.

Have fun!

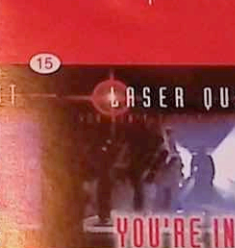
look out for the special offers

Chester getting around



- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Alexander's | 8 Chester Grosvenor Museum |
| 2 Bathells Boats | 10 Grosvenor Shopping Centre |
| 3 Cheshire Military Museum | 11 Chester Visitor Centre |
| 4 Rukus Court | 12 Guided Walks |
| 5 Chester Market | 13 Mill Restaurant/Cruiser |
| 6 The Chester Tour | 14 Chester Cathedral |
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laser quest



Play the ultimate sci-fi Action adventure game for all ages. If you like "Star Wars" you'll love the laser zapping, adrenaline-charged excitement as you battle for victory in the sci-fi battle zone of the future. This is no video game - this is for real!

Each game session lasts for 20 minutes, with up to 20 players in each game. Every player wears a pack and laser gun. You score points by shooting your opponent's body pack. The score of the most points is the winner! When hit your pack is de-activated for a few seconds and points are deducted.

Before playing you will be fitted up and briefed by a Laser Quest crew member in the arena stock. On game completion scores and rankings are immediately displayed on the video monitor in reception. Your own personal scorecard is printed out minutes later, for you to take away with you.

Ideal for groups or singles, Laser Quest is the ultimate adventure for mere mortals.

Laser Quest, 4 Volunteer Street (behind Habitat and Pepper St. NCP), Chester. Tel: 01244 400800. Web: www.laneleisure.co.uk

FREE GAME FREE GAME FREE GAME

The ultimate offer for the ultimate laser adventure. Pay for one game and play a second game absolutely FREE, on production of this voucher. Valid for up to 4 people.

Subject to local terms and conditions. Please for details.

guided walks



One of the best ways to discover Chester's 2,000 years of history is to join one of the many walking tours from the Chester Visitor Centre (CVC), Vickers Lane (opposite the Roman Amphitheatre). You may also join any tour at the Tourist Information Centre (TIC), Town Hall Square. Tickets for all walking tours are available from both locations.

Pastfinder Tours
Every day of the year.
10.30am from Chester Visitor Centre.
10.45am from Tourist Information Centre.

May to October and weekends November to April.
2.15pm from Chester Visitor Centre.
2.30pm from Tourist Information Centre.

Ghosthunter Tours
A night-time journey around the eerie haunts of Chester's mysterious and murky past. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, June to end of October. 7.30pm from TIC, Town Hall only.

Roman Soldier Wall Patrol
Come on a route march around the Fortress of Deva with a Legionary in full battle-gear. Thursday, Friday, Saturday June to August. 1.45pm from CVC; 2.00pm from TIC, Town Hall.

To book group tours, foreign language guides and special theme walks (Norman, Tudor, Civil Wars, Stuart, Kings, Victorian), talks with slides, coach tours in your own coach, please ring number below.

Tel: 01244 402445. Fax: 01244 315789.
Email: tours@chestercc.gov.uk

mill restaurant cruiser



Mill Restaurant Cruiser - L'eau-T Cuisine

Canal Cruise Adventure. Going through and up a Lock, and returning down a Lock. With a four-course meal.

The Mill brings a touch of Paris and Amsterdam to Chester. New at the Mill, specially built broad-beam restaurant boat. Lunch, dinner and weekend brunch.

Imagine dining in a Restaurant. Watching the world go by. Reaching the parts of Chester other transport cannot reach.

A unique concept of serving food. All the food served direct from the hotel's kitchen. The starter course is served. You sail away then return for the main course.

Fully Licensed Bar. Draught beers and lager. Seating up to 50, 40 with dancing. Ideal for a romantic meal. Private parties, Anniversaries. Corporate entertaining.

Lunches from £16.
Evenings from £20.95.

Reservations, Mill Hotel, Milton Street, Chester CH1 3NF.
Tel: 01244 350035. Fax: 01244 346635.
Web: www.millhotel.com

chester cathedral



There has been a church on this site for over 1,000 years. Originally a Saxon Minster, then rebuilt as a Benedictine Abbey, this magnificent building has been the Cathedral of the Chester Diocese since 1541.

- the Cloisters and Church form the most complete medieval monastic complex in the country
- intricately carved Quire stalls are the finest in the UK, almost 800 years old
- 200 year old Cotswold painting
- medieval shrine of St Werburgh
- licensed Refectory Restaurant
- Cathedral Shop for gifts and souvenirs, many unique to the Cathedral
- disabled access and facilities including toilets, induction loop, tactile model
- visitors entrance open every day from 8am to 6pm
- admission free, donations requested

Chester Cathedral, St Werburgh Street, Chester. Tel: 01244 324756

For other information and on-line shop visit: www.chestercathedral.com