# **GOING PLACES UK**

FABULOUS FAMILY DAYS OUT IN THE NORTH WEST & NORTH & MID WALES • SUMMER 2024



Full steam ahead at Welshpool & Llanfair Page 2



**A wild day out at Martin Mere** Page 10

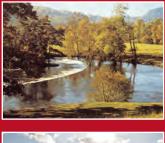


The sweet smell of success in Wem Page 11

FREE



## LLANGOLLEN HORSEDRAWN BOAT CENTRE







#### Boat trips along the beautiful Dee Valley World Heritage Site

#### **Aqueduct Cruise**

Join us for our 2 hour Motor Boat Cruises across the mighty Pontcysyllte Aqueduct. There is a full commentary as we cruise gently along the Dee Valley. The boat is centrally heated and has a full bar and toilet facilities. We also operate 4 hour special trips including food.

#### Horse Drawn Boat Trips

Our purpose built Horse Drawn Boats operate 45 minute trips at regular intervals throughout the day. We also run 2 hour trips to the Horseshoe Falls at weekends and in school holidays. Pulled by our gorgeous heavy horses this is the ideal way to experience the beauty and tranquility of the upper reaches of the Llangollen Canal. All our trips can be booked online at **www.horsedrawnboats.co.uk** 

#### Tea Room

Our Tea Room is in an ideal location alongside the canal looking over the lovely market town of Llangollen. In addition to a full range of teas and coffees we offer an extensive menu of homemade food. All our cakes are baked on the premises. The Tea Room is open 7 days a week in the season and at weekends in the winter.

Llangollen Wharf • Wharf Hill • Llangollen LL20 8TA • Telephone: 01978 860702 www.horsedrawnboats.co.uk f

## **TOURISM AWARDS**

Every year Going Places awards attractions and businesses special recognition for those who have provided an excellent experience, whether it be for quality of attraction, an overall experience, friendliness of welcome, cleanliness, attention to detail, children's facilities etc.

If you would like to nominate an attraction or business you have visited from the advertisers in this paper please send your nomination and your name and address to:

Going Places, 28 Hastings Road, Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 6GL

All entries will be entered into a free prize draw

# goingplacesuk.com

Welshpool & Llanfair Light Railway



Regular Steam Trains March -November. Catering Trains, Special Events and lots more. wllr.org.uk info@wllr.org.uk 01938 810441

Llanfair Caereinion Station SY21 OSF Welshpool Raven Square Station SY21 7LT

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## CORE EISTEDDFOD WEEK SHOWS

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GERDDOROL RYNGWLADOL

INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL

1



TUESDAY 2ND JULY 2024



WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2024 WALES WELCOMES THE WORLD: CALAN, ALIS HUWS & JOHNS' BOYS MALE CHORUS



THURSDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2024 DIRECT FROM THE WEST END: KERRY ELLIS & JOHN OWEN-JONES



GREGORY PORTER



SATURDAY 6TH JULY 2024 CHOIR OF THE WORLD



SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2024

## LLANGOLLEN.NET | TICKETMASTER.CO.UK

# WALES EVENTS 2024



BODAFON FIELDS Llandudno, North Wales, LL30 IBW Mayday Bank Holiday Weekend 4th, 5th & 6th May 2024 Gates open 9am

Info at: www.llantransfest.co.uk



#### 22nd-23rd June 2024

LARGEST TRUCK DISPLAY IN THE COUNTRY VINTAGE, CLASSIC & MODERN GATES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AT 9.30AM

Churches View Farm Nr. Chester CH3 8BH More info at: www.kelsallsteamrally.co.uk



15th August 2024 The Green, Denbigh,



MAIN RING ATTRACTION

The Geoff Osbourne Refrigeration Scurry Team -Livestock - Light horse & Show Jumping - Vintage Machinery - 100s of Trade Stands - New Horticultural classes - Fur & Feather Tent - Dog Show

Free for under 5's Free parking on site or shuttle bus from Denbigh Further information or tickets from info@denbighandflintshow.com 01352 712 131









Entry: Adults £.50 • Under 16s free • Public camping £40 (weekend) Saturday 6 - Sunday 7 July 2024 Ty Ucha Farm, Pen Y Cefn, Caerwys, Flintshire CH7 5BQ Info: valevintagemachineryclub/ggmail.com • 07921 719 084





CLASSES FOR: Livestock • Horses • Homecraft Horticulture • Fur and Feather SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS INCLUDE: Tug of War • Gwynedd Axemen • Craft Fair Fun Fair • Pet Dog Show • Pig Racing Showground open to the public at 9am

The Meadows, Station Road, Llanrwst, Conwy, LL26 0DS



at Park Hall Showground, Oswestry



www.oswestryshow.co.uk

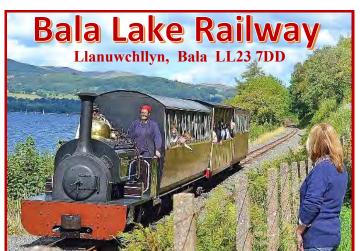
goingplacesuk.com



The Denbigh Show is an outdoor traditional family event held in the beautiful historic market town of Denbigh within the picturesque Vale of Clwyd.

TOP ARENA DISPLAYS • WORKSHOPS • SIDESHOWS • EXHIBITIONS DOG SHOW • CLASSIC CARS • FOOD HALL • FLOWER SHOW & MUCH MORE

www.thedenbighshow.co.uk



Our delightful little steam trains offer a 9-mile return journey through the beautiful lake and mountain scenery of Southern Snowdonia

- gift shop and café
- award winning heritage centre
- special events throughout the year Great for kids! Dog friendly too!



Trains daily July, August & school hols and most other days 23<sup>rd</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> November See our website for dates & times For best prices book online www.bala-lake-railway.co.uk

One of the Great Little Trains of Wales

## A little railway with big scenery

Nestled amongst the mountains of southern Snowdonia in the upper reaches of the Dee Valley lies the glistening waters of Llyn Tegid or Bala lake, the largest natural lake in Wales. Pause a while and you may hear a whistle piercing the tranquillity and soon after the chuffing of a little steam engine as it comes into sight. This will be one of the little Quarry Hunslet engines that once worked in Snowdonia's vast slate quarries, and now lovingly restored by enthusiasts.

The narrow-gauge trains of the Bala Lake Railway run alongside the full length of the lake and beyond, often passing right by the water's edge. The line was built on part of the old railway that ran from Ruabon to Barmouth which was closed as part of the Beeching cuts, and last year the Bala Lake Railway celebrated its 50th anniversary. The nine mile return journey between Llanuwchllyn and Bala offers stunning views across the lake to the nearby mountains.

Look out for the Welsh dragon that sits motionless on the end of the platform at Llanuwchllyn, just waiting patiently and silently for its next victim to come along By all means take a photo, but don't get too close to those bristling sharp teeth!

The railway runs a series of events throughout the year, including a steam Gala over the August bank holiday weekend.

For more information and to plan your visit go to www.bala-lake-railway.co.uk



## The Fun Centre - Yr Hwylfan

North Wales' biggest adventure play centre, 14,000 sq ft of family fun, Giant Drop Slides, Massive Adventure Play Area, separate under 5's Area, Laser Quest, Electric Go Karts, Café and Museum.

Christchurch, Bangor Street, Caernarfon, Gwynedd LL55 1AR Tel: 01286 671911 Email: gog@thefuncentre.co.uk www.thefuncentre.co.uk



#### **MODERN WELSH ART**

Admission Free visit www.moma.cymru for current opening times

> Y TABERNACL Heol Penrallt Machynlleth Powys SY20 8AJ Tel 01654 703355 www.moma.cymru

Gwyl Machynlleth Festival August 18 - 24 Awst 2024

www.machynllethfestival.co.uk





## • TWO GREAT RAILWAYS •

An ideal way to relax and enjoy the beauty of North Wales Steam trains run daily - from March 23<sup>rd</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> Wide range of journey options for you to choose from

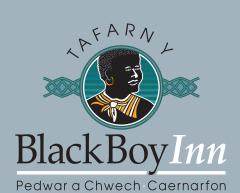
• ONLINE BOOKING - VISIT WITH CONFIDENCE • You can book in advance, check-in on arrival, choose your seats on the train - then sit back, relax and enjoy your day.

#### FFESTINIOG & WELSH HIGHLAND RAILWAYS

Harbour Station, Porthmadog, LL49 9ND
St. Helen's Road, Caernarfon, LL55 2PF



More information @ www.festrail.co.uk/trains



### HOTEL STYLE CAERNARFON B&B, CLOSE TO SNOWDONIA

Since the early 16th Century The Black Boy Inn hotel in Caernarfon has been welcoming weary travellers and visitors to the Town of Caernarfon and region of Snowdonia.

Whether you want to drink, dine or unwind, you will find The Black Boy Inn offers a warm welcome to those in search of a relaxed and craditionally welsh experience.

With thirty nine comfortable guest rooms, all with private bathrooms and all individually styled and furnished, The Black Boy Inn is the perfect base to explore the beautiful Snowdonia Mountains of North Wales and Anglesey.



Stryd Pedwar a Chwech, Caernarfon LL55 1RW Telephone 01286 673604 • www.black-boy-inn.com

## f 9 0 0



www.borthzoo.co.uk

## Where families make lasting memories

Borth Animalarium is open every day except Christmas Day, providing a safe and welcoming home for both domestic and farm animals. You can come and meet these animals, pet them and even feed many of them!

There's a cosy café where you can grab a bite to eat, a gift shop to buy souvenirs and play parks for the children. It's dog friendly and wheelchair accessible and strives to create a safe, enriching, and educational environment for all of the animals, as well as for the visitors that come to see them. The wide range of animals includes pigs, goats, chickens, ducks, turkeys, rabbits, guinea pigs and more! They also offer daily wolf dog feeding experiences and animal adoptions.

There is also an exotic animal sanctuary that is open six days a year on VIP Days. On these days you will have the opportunity to see animals like reptiles, wallabies, emu and coatis, as well as enjoy a reptile show and have the chance to have experiences with some of the more exotic residents. This year the VIP days are on 30th March, 31st July, 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th August.

For more information and for bookings visit www.borthzoo.co.uk



The Aberystwyth Cliff Railway

The longest electric cliff railway in Britain www.aberystwythcliffrailway.co.uk

We are fully accessible with wheelchair access. Dog Friendly. ...and featuring the largest camera obscura in the world!

01970 617 642 Cliff Terrace, Aberystwyth, 2 SY23 2DN

'Y CONSTI' is a breathtaking setting for visitors to enjoy a range of refreshments. Bowling Alley, Crazy Golf on top of the cliff Exhibitions, Shops ... and much more.

## **Make Memories at West Cheshire Museums**



Get up close to amazing objects and art in our 15 galleries and temporary exhibition spaces. Find out about life and death during the Roman occupation and visit the museum's Period House to see homes and costume from the 17th Century to the 1920's.



Discover how salt was made in the original buildings of the UK's last remaining open-pan salt production site. Reflect on the impact of the salt on Cheshire's communities as you wander through the butterfly garden or along the canal.



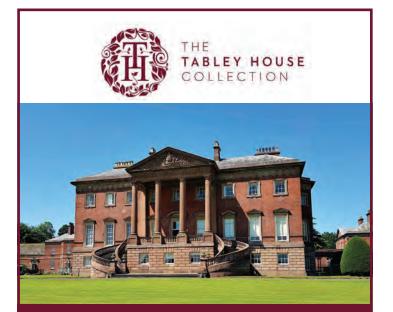
Situated in an idyllic rural setting, take a break at one of the country's best preserved waterpowered corn mills. Take a tour of the mill with one of our millers and see ancient water wheels in action.



Receive a warm welcome at this former Victorian Workhouse. Discover fascinating stories about Northwich's past told through exciting combinations of archive film, models, costume and historic objects.



Family Fun, Tours, Exhibitions, Events and Activities www.westcheshiremuseums.co.uk



#### TABLEY HOUSE STATE ROOMS

Discover a unique collection of paintings, furniture and memorabilia **Open:** 28th March to 27th October Thursday - Sunday, plus Bank Holiday Mondays 1pm - 5pm **Admission:** Adults £9, Children and Students £4.50

#### TEA ROOM

enquiries@tableyhouse.co.uk • Tel: 01565 750151 www.tableyhouse.co.uk

## Nantwich Museum

Come and discover the history of Nantwich, a vibrant market town. Find out about its people, trades and local industries. A changing programme of exhibitions means there is always something new to see.

It's a great place to visit and best of all it's FREE!



Pillory Street, Nantwich CW5 5BQ • Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 4pm Tel: 01270 627104 • www.nantwichmuseum.org.uk



## **f y** goingplacesuk.com

## **Discover the village built on soap!**

Explore Port Sunlight, one of the finest industrial worker villages in the world. Built in 1888 by William Lever to house the factory workers at his Sunlight Soap factory, Port Sunlight was a radical vision to provide a healthy and beautiful place for working class people to live and work.

Today, Port Sunlight is home to over 900 Arts and Crafts-inspired houses, acres of stunning gardens and parkland, a fascinating museum, a world-class art gallery and a thriving community. No visit to the village is complete without discovering its unique story at Port Sunlight Museum, stepping inside the time capsule Edwardian Worker's Cottage or joining a fascinating guided walking tour.

Located in Wirral, less than half an hour away from both Chester and Liverpool by train and car, Port Sunlight offers the perfect day out.

To plan your visit go to www.portsunlightvillage.com





#### Be inspired by Port Sunlight, a unique village with an extraordinary story.

Visit to explore beautiful architecture, picturesque parks and gardens, a fascinating museum, a world-class art gallery, and a thriving community, all located less than 30 minutes from Liverpool and Chester by car or train

portsunlightvillage.com

Step into St Helen's past and see life in a Victorian town. Marvel at the beauty of some of the world's rarest glass pieces in our internationally renowned collection.



#### **Group Special Deals**

We offer great group packages for 20 people or more which includes a guided tour around our galleries and tank house areas as well as a glass blowing demonstration and lunch and efreshements. Free coach parking is included

#### Conference Rooms

We have 4 hireable spaces at The World of Glass. Reflections suite is our largest holding up to 200 guests. Our other rooms hold up to

WORLD OF



Chalon Way E, St Helens, Saint Helens WA10 1BX

Live Glass Blowing Demonstrations We offer live glass-blowing demonstrations to the public, run by our In-house glass-blowing team. Come and experience the art of glass-blowing. What else we offer! Whilst you are here enjoying our galleries and glass-blowing experiences you can

stop off at our cafe, you can buy some authentic glass to remember you visit in our gift shop. Or if the weather is nice, soend some time in our canal-side garden!

Find out more:

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## A wildlife-filled day out for all the family

Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust Martin Mere Wetland Centre is a fantastic day out for all ages. Situated in Lancashire and with over 600 acres of wildlife, the centre boasts an impressive range of wildlife. Walk around and meet bird species from around the world, including flamingos, geese, cranes, swans and many ducks. Meet the adorable Asian Short-Clawed Otters, Penny and Kenai, and attend their feeds to learn more about the species. Explore the waters by boat or canoe each day or find exciting wildlife in the pond zone each weekend and half term. Then, take a break in the Mere Side Café, where you can find a selection of drinks and delicious meals.

With so many events throughout the year, keep going back for something new and exciting with a family membership. For as little as £6.50 a month, enjoy unlimited visits to all WWT wetland centres and take advantage of what nature has to offer as many times as you want.

Visit www.wwt.org.uk to find out more.



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### Your new favourite place



### NORTON PRIORY MUSEUM & GARDENS

Medieval ruins
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Woodlands
Seasonal events
Dog friendly
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www.nortonpriory.org 01928 569895 Located in Manor Park, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 1SX Registered Charity No.: 504870 **Open 7 Days a week, 10am - 5pm.** Closed Xmas day, Boxing day and New Years day. Open all Bank holidays. School parties and birthday parties welcome all year round.



Smithills Dean Road, Bolton BL1 7NR **T:** 01204 595765 **E:** info@smithillsopenfarm.co.uk **www.smithillsopenfarm.co.uk** 

Over

Animals

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## The sweet smell of success

## Wem Sweet Pea

nnual Show at Wem Town Hall Beautiful displays of Sweet Peas



including Floral Art and Special Classes Plants, Crafts, Gifts and Food WEM TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, WEM, SY4 5DG For information on how to enter, emoil sweetpas@wembmhall.co.uk or tel: 01939 232299

Sat 20th July, 10am - 5pm & Sun 21st July, 10am - 3pm

Wem, the home of the Sweet Pea once again presents an annual show in homage to the most wonderful and perfumed of all annuals - the Sweet Pea.

Taking place on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st July the show presents vase classes, special displays and floral art featuring old fashioned and spencer varieties. There are opportunities to see specialist displays from 12 times Chelsea Gold medal Winner Eagle Sweet Peas, buy seed, and gain top tips for growing. Delightful cream teas and craft, gift and food stalls complement a great day out.

For more information visit **www.wemtownhall.co.uk** 



For further information call 01743 234050 www.shrewsburyflowershow.org.uk

# Gearing up for a new era at West Midlands Safari Park?

West Midlands Safari Park is gearing up for an exhilarating year, filled with exciting additions and events. For seasoned visitors or those planning their first trip, the Park promises that 2024 will offer an array of exhilarating, memorable experiences, including a new ride, exciting events and even a new look!

The award-winning tourist attraction celebrated its 50th anniversary last year, so the Park felt like it was the right time to embark on a rebrand and truly mark the start of a new era. The Park's logo has had a complete revamp, with a new, fun font, vibrant colours and the addition of a giraffe icon, which reflects the attraction's exciting offering of up-close animal experiences.

Alongside the rebrand, the Park has announced there will be a number of new attractions this year, including a new family ride called Jungle Jeeps, extensions to the pedestrianised areas, allowing guests to see cheetahs and African wild dogs on foot for the first time and the play park area has been revamped and is now home to new mascot characters, Eddie and Eliza the explorers.

Additionally, the Park has announced some exciting events for the school holidays, including meeting kids' favourite TV characters during May half term and Roar & Explore: Dino Edition for summer - a month-long dino-tastic event for budding palaeontologists.

There is also the chance to see the latest arrivals - a troop of pygmy marmosets, baby rhino Malaika and Sumatran tiger cub, Lestari.

More information visit www.wmsp.co.uk





Open water & underground narrowboat trips | Onsite cafe restaurant | Well-stocked gift shop Free coach parking | Refreshment voucher for coach drivers | The perfect day out for all ages!

Dudley, DY1 4SB In the heart of England WE BELIEVE THAT EVERYBODY DESERVES TO EXPERIENCE THE DUDLEY TUNNEL AND ITS STORIES

# **Discover Dudley**

## Visitors to the borough of Dudley will be delighted by the variety of things to see and do.

**The Red House Glass Cone** stands 100ft tall in the Stourbridge Glass Quarter, home to glassmaking for over 400 years. Bespoke artisan craft studios, exhibitions, coffee house and a retail shop with free admission and free car parking. Although the inside of the Cone is currently closed for essential maintenance, there is still plenty to see. We are currently redeveloping our hot glass studio and plan to have live glass blowing demonstrations running very soon. Please check our website or social media for up-to-date information.

**Ruskin Glass Centre** is home to past greats of the glass industry. Learn about the history of glass making in the area. Artisans operate independent craft studios and there is an organic café.

**Stourbridge Glass Museum** home to the globally significant Stourbridge Glass Collection, complemented by engaging interactive digital displays. The Museum runs a busy events programme, featuring talks and exhibitions on the topic of glassmaking and much more.

**The Lace Guild** situated in the heart of the Glass Quarter, houses a large collection of lace items and artefacts depicting the fascinating history of this heritage craft.

Himley Hall & Park offers an 'Indulgent Afternoon Tea'. Host to events, activities and walks throughout the year.

At **Dudley Museum at the Archives** follow Dudley's story from pre-history to the present day. As well as the fantastic selection of fossils and geology displays collections include Dudley Castle Finds and a Dudley Local Heroes gallery with a small collection of Duncan Edwards memorabilia. Artwork from the collection includes Dudley landscapes. The Museum is also the headquarters of the Black Country Global Geopark. Events and activities throughout the year are available. Admission is free and there is free car parking.

**Dudley Zoo and Castle** is home to hundreds of exotic and endangered animals. You will find the 11th century motte and bailey castle.

Experience sights, sounds, smells, and tastes of the Black Country as you explore shops, houses and industrial workshops rebuilt in the canal side villages at the **Black Country Living Museum**.

Discover the art of legging inside the fantastic **Dudley Canal & Limestone Mines** Experience an underground 45-minute skipper guided tour.

Our 16 miles of navigable canals are ideal for walking, cycling and fishing. Or perhaps you'll take in a show at one of our borough halls.

Visit www.discoverdudley.org.uk to find out more







WWW.THEBEACON-WHITEHAVEN.CO.UK



Council

## Take the leap at



Underground Mine Tours • Cafe • Retail Shop • Adrenaline Adventures • All Weather

Cumbria Experience Tourism of the Year

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## Family Tickets for West Midlands Safari Park

We have several family tickets to give away in the West Midlands Safari Park competition. To win one of these tickets simply answer the following questions...

What is the post code of the Safari Park and what is the name of the new family ride.

Winners will be drawn mid July and tickets sent to you direct from the park itself.

Email your answer and contact details, including the name of town you are from, and include the words West Midlands Safari Park in the subject line to:

goingplaces.studio@gmail.com





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#### ...for premier times

Pick up a leaflet from your local Tourist Information Centre and you'l be off to a great family day out.





Smithills Open Farm - see advert on page 10

# **GOING PLACES UK**

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