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# **GOING PLACES UK**

FABULOUS FAMILY DAYS OUT IN THE EAST & WEST MIDLANDS • SUMMER 2024



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FREE

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# **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.







#### West Midlands SAFARI SA

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There is more to a needle museum than meets the eye...



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  Events
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For more information visit www.forgemill.org.uk

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# Tamworth Castle a stand

Open Tuesday - Sunday, February - December Check our website for special events and exhibitions A STATE OF STATE

#### Explore 1,000 years of history

Tamworth Castle is both a museum and a stunning example of anintact Norman motte and bailey castle. We have hands on exhibitions for young and old alike so come inside and explore our history. Plus we're surrounded by beautiful riverside grounds which include flowerbeds, bandstand and new playground.

#### See the Staffordshire Hoard

Our newest exhibition brings our fascinating Anglo-Saxon history to life, including a mead hall where you can see items from the famous Staffordshire Hoard. Discover more about the ancient capital of Mercia!

TO BOOK OR FOR MORE INFORMATION TEL: 01827 709618 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.TAMWORTHCASTLE.CO.UK TAMWORTH CASTLE, HOLLOWAY, TAMWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE. B79 7NA

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# Explore a thousand years of history

Nestled in the heart of the picturesque town of Tamworth, England, Tamworth Castle stands proudly as a testament to centuries of history and heritage. With roots dating back to the 11th century, this formidable fortress has witnessed the ebbs and flows of time, evolving from a strategic Saxon stronghold to a stately medieval residence.

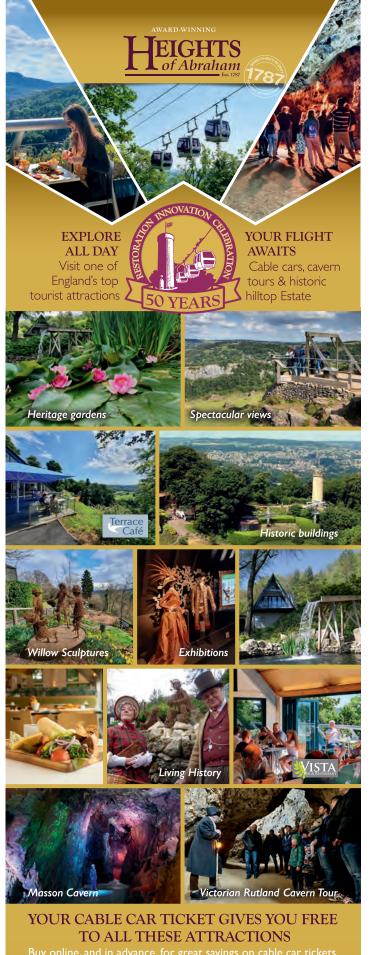
Visitors to Tamworth Castle are transported back in time as they explore its imposing walls and atmospheric interiors. The castle's architecture, a blend of Norman and Tudor styles, offers a fascinating glimpse into England's architectural evolution. From the imposing gatehouse to the intricately decorated chambers within, each corner of the castle tells a story of bygone eras and noble inhabitants.

One of the highlights of a visit to Tamworth Castle is the opportunity to ascend its ancient towers, where panoramic views of the surrounding countryside await. From this vantage point, visitors can envision the castle's former role as a strategic stronghold, guarding the town against potential invaders. Throughout the year, Tamworth Castle plays host to a variety of events and activities, ranging from medieval reenactments to educational workshops. Whether you're a history enthusiast, a family seeking adventure, or simply a curious traveler, Tamworth Castle promises a memorable journey through time and a deeper understanding of England's rich cultural tapestry.

#### 2004 Events

- Lace Wars Re-enactment
  Sunday 5th & Monday 6th May
- D-Day Anniversary Celebrations Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th June
- Athelstan Ascension Celebrations Saturday 20th to Sunday 28th July Athelstan 1100: Tamworth's festival of celebration for the first king of England.
- Here there be dragons! Tuesday 30th July – Sunday 3rd September

For more information visit www.tamworthcastle.co.uk



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www.heightsofabraham.com





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# A captivating journey through time

Nestled in the picturesque Derbyshire countryside, Crich Tramway Village offers visitors a captivating journey through time, showcasing the rich history of Britain's tramways. This living museum is a testament to the enduring legacy of trams, which once dominated urban transportation across the nation.

Visitors to Crich Tramway Village are transported back to the heyday of tram travel, as they wander through a meticulously recreated Victorian village complete with period buildings and authentic street furniture. The focal point of the village is its impressive collection of lovingly restored trams, spanning over a century of design and engineering innovation. From sleek Edwardian models to iconic double-deckers, each tram tells a story of a bygone era.

One of the highlights of a visit to Crich Tramway Village is the opportunity to take a ride on one of these beautifully restored trams, trundling along a scenic mile-long track that winds its way through the rolling hills of the Derbyshire countryside. As the bells chime and the wheels clatter along the tracks, visitors are transported not just in space, but also in time, experiencing the sights, sounds, and sensations of a bygone era.

But Crich Tramway Village is more than just a museum - it's a living, breathing tribute to the ingenuity and craftsmanship of generations past. With interactive exhibits, hands-on activities, and engaging demonstrations, visitors of all ages are invited to immerse themselves in the fascinating world of tramway history. Whether you're a seasoned tram enthusiast or simply curious about the past, Crich Tramway Village is sure to leave a lasting impression.

CRICH

For more information visit www.tramway.co.uk

www.tramway.co.uk

TRAMWAY

### A great day out for all the family

A fabulous day out packed with excitement, adventure, unlimited electric tram rides and a little learning along the way.

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- Shops
- New café from Summer 2024
- **SPECIAL EVENTS PROGRAMME SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS** \* Excludes 1940s and Shine a Light events. Please see w







# TOURISM **AWARDS**

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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

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Jane Austen's Sense and Sensibility

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# Go straight to jail, do not collect £200

'Truly inspirational' is how HRH King Charles III described The Judge's Lodging on a visit to this stunningly restored Victorian courthouse, when Prince of Wales.

Historic Royal Palaces Curator & historian, Lucy Worsley exclaimed 'WHAT a stunning place!' after filming for the BBC in the building. The Hudson's Heritage Awards hailed it as 'Britain's Best Hidden Gem'...the list goes on of accolades accrued by this unusual historic building.

A visitor recently summed their impression up in the Visitor Book as 'breath-taking in its authenticity'. You really do need to see for yourself what all the fuss is over this exceptional courthouse in the tiny Welsh border town of Presteigne.

The Judge's Lodging has long had a reputation for liking the quirkier side of history, so a visit to the museum will treat you to all sorts of fascinating insights into Victorian living, from jelly-making and napkin folding to toilet habits and household maintenance hints. This award-winning historic judge's accommodation and court offers a most unusual journey back in time, as you wander freely through their private apartments, exploring rooms once the secret domain of these men of law and their households.

Below stairs there is the full range of servants' rooms to explore, with kitchens, sleeping quarters and workrooms; a whole gaslit world to discover. Yes - gaslit! The whole house is lit completely by period lighting - once you enter the realms of the Judge's rooms, there is not an electric light in sight! The tour is finished by a trip to the grim holding cells and vast courtroom, where you are haunted by the echoes of trials long since concluded. You are guided through this Victorian world by the voices of its past inhabitants, on an audiotour featuring the late actor Robert Hardy.



WWW.JUDGESLODGING.ORG.UK

New for 2024! A lively new audiotour for Welsh-speaking visitors, featuring comedian and presenter Tudur Owen, who filmed in the building, with much hilarity, a few years ago.

School holidays always have exciting trails to entertain the young. 'Interesting Stuff, Gross Facts, and a Bit about the Building' is the guidebook designed especially for younger visitors too... oh, who are we kidding? Everyone wants to read about toilets, pants and prisoners! There are lots of opportunities for selfies, if you want to imagine yourself living like a judge or one of his felonious guests, including a selection of hilarious masks.

A glance out at the street from the Judge's rooms, shows you just what those of old saw. The town of Presteigne itself is a gorgeous mix of old buildings, quirky shops and events. The Judge's Lodging runs the local tourist information service too, so will help you with a trail of the town, ideas for walks, picnic areas or other things to do in the surrounding countryside.

When Lord Chief Justice Campbell was staying in the building whilst visiting the court in 1855, he claimed that it was "the most commodious and elegant apartments in all England and Wales". We are pleased to say that little has changed since his time, although there are now flushing toilets and everyone is allowed to sit in the Judge's chair! You can be assured of a relaxed visit, escaping the modern world.

If you want more information on any of the museum's work or activities, visit the website or just call the staff who are always happy to chat.

#### **Opening dates:**

23rd March – 30th June Wednesday - Saturday, and Bank Holiday Sundays/Mondays

1st July - 30th September Tuesday - Sunday and Band Holiday Monday

1st October - 3rd November Wednesday - Saturday Check website to find extended opening days in school holidays at www.judgeslodging.org.uk



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Wye Valley Butterfly Zoo, nestled in the picturesque Wye Valley, is a captivating haven for nature enthusiasts. Home to a diverse array of fluttering wonders, the zoo offers an immersive experience where visitors can witness the life cycle of butterflies in a lush tropical environment. An enchanting blend of education and beauty awaits.



Open daily from 10am • Symonds Yat West HR9 6DA Tel: 01600 890360 • See website for opening times and prices. **www.butterflyzoo.co.uk** 



#### SO MUCH MORE THAN A FLOWER SHOW FRIDAY 9TH & SATURDAY 10TH AUGUST 2024



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

# A traditional family day out

Despite the best efforts of the weather to rain on the parade, the volunteers and visitors pulled out all the stops and Burwarton Show enjoyed a mostly sunny day in 2023. Work is well underway to deliver another excellent show in 2024.

Burwarton Show is a traditional agricultural show and a fantastic day out in the wonderful Shropshire countryside. Entertainment caters for all ages and all tastes. There is literally plenty to taste with a mouth-watering selection catering around the showground.

This year, the Main Ring entertainment welcomes The Shetland Pony Grand National. During the scheduled races, you will be compelled to cheer on the little ponies with their brave riders who are just 8-14 years old; the points gained from races at events throughout the year qualify the riders and ponies to a grand final at the London International Horse Show in December. The other main attraction will be Twit Twoo Falconry, demonstrating the flight of falcons and owls, with an opportunity to see these birds close up.

Outside the arena, we are delighted to host the splendid display of Aldabra Giant Tortoises that has captivated visitors in previous years. Children are allowed to enter the enclosure to fully experience the size of these huge but graceful prehistoric creatures that date back to the Ice Age.

All the usual attractions will be present with a sharp focus on local crafts in the WI marquee with the handicraft and horticulture competitions. You can admire the craft, floral and vegetable creations, as well as the new attraction of Calamity Corner, from 12noon. The trade stands, shopping arcade, craft demonstration area and the Food Hall all provide a full day experience and temptations to spend your money. The sheep shearing competition is a magnet for shearers and spectators alike, attracting competitors from as far away as New Zealand!

Competition is fierce in the livestock and horse fields, with classes for heavy horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, horses, carriage driving, dressage and show jumping, plus the ever popular mounted Fancy Dress competition. There was a record entry in the pig section last year that will be built on for 2024. There are many qualifiers for breed championships later in the year. Do seek out the pig show ring, where you will be enchanted by the efforts of the owners to curtail the independent antics of the pigs that should be putting on a good show!

The Grand Parade of champion livestock is always a sight to behold, presenting a magnificent selection of animals to the public. New this year will be a Champion of Champions award. This will be judged in the Main Ring by the Show President, Lord Boyne. He will choose the best from the inter-breed champion beasts in the beef, dairy, sheep and pig sections.

To keep the youngsters entertained, the Panic Circus team brings a modern non-animal social circus with hands-on family fun activities in the Children's Play Area.

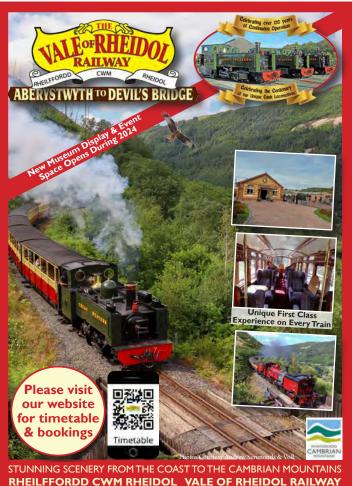
The Showground is at Cleobury North WV16 6RP, on the B4364 between Bridgnorth and Ludlow. Parking is free.

For tivckets and more information go to **www.burwartonshow.co.uk** 



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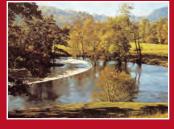
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#### Tea Room

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

# 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

West Midlands

### 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

GOING PLACES UK · SUMMER 2024



# Elvington 44/45 The Fight For Liberty

The museums' theme for the next year covers not just the 80th anniversary of D-Day but much more besides, including the arrival of two French Squadrons at RAF Elvington just weeks before the Normandy landings anniversary.

As with the Falklands and Cold War themes in recent years, they are focussing on telling stories through the prism of aircraft in thecollections and, in this instance, also through the site itself.

There will be new displays, videos and information boards around a Halifax Mk III and a Douglas Dakota, with the latter having been painted with invasion stripes.

Displays will drop into place over the next few weeks, and then museum aims to add more material across the year, in the run up to the anniversary of VE Day in 2025.





Westons Cider - see advert on page 10

# **GOING PLACES UK**

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