

Entertainment

Warwick hosts a lively events programme every year, celebrating the town's rich heritage and animating its unique venues. Annual highlights include:

April	St George's Day
June	Warwick Carnival
July	Open Gardens Weekend, Beer Festival Warwick Castle Summer Concerts Thai Festival, Folk Festival
August	Classic Car Show Warwick Horticultural Society Annual Show
October	Warwick Words Literary Festival Warwick Mop Fairs
November	Bonfire & Fireworks Display Victorian Evening
December	Carols at the Castle



Regular plays at the Bridge House (www.bridgehousetheatre.co.uk) and Playbox (www.playboxtheatre.com) Theatres and classical concerts at St Mary's Church (www.stmaryswarwick.org.uk) enhance the town's cultural offering.

Warwick Castle (www.warwick-castle.com) and Hill Close Gardens (www.hillclosegardens.com) host special events throughout the year and there are over 20 race days at Warwick Racecourse (www.warwickracecourse.co.uk).

How to Get Here

At the heart of the country, Warwick is easily accessible and provides the perfect base to explore Warwickshire and the Midlands.

By Train Use Warwick Town Station for visiting Warwick Castle and the town centre. Warwick Parkway is approximately 2 miles from the town centre. Direct trains are available from Birmingham, Leamington Spa, Stratford-upon-Avon, Banbury and London Marylebone. Visitors from Coventry and Oxford will need to change at Leamington Spa.

By Car Leave the M40 at junction 15 and take the A429 to Warwick. Town centre and castle car parks are highlighted on the map overleaf.

By Coach There are coach drop-off points at the bus station (stand E) and St Nicholas Park. Coach parking is available at St Mary's Lands Area 1 car park past the racecourse on the A4189 Hampton Road. Coaches can also drop off and park at Warwick Castle, subject to availability.

By Bus Warwick's new bus station is conveniently located in the town centre. Stagecoach operate regular services throughout Warwickshire www.stagecoachbus.com 01788 535555.



Warwick Tourist Information Centre
The Court House, Jury Street, Warwick, CV34 4EW
01926 492212 info@visitwarwick.co.uk
www.visitwarwick.co.uk



WARWICK

Visitor Guide



Welcome to WARWICK

Warwickshire's county town is world-famous for its magnificent castle and historic charm.

There are many attractions to visit, beautiful parks and gardens and buildings of outstanding quality from every period of the last thousand years.

Warwick's mainly independent businesses offer an enticing blend of the old and the new – from gift shops, antique centres and traditional tea rooms to trendy boutiques, art galleries and fine restaurants.

This guide presents just some of the highlights to visit during your stay in the relaxed and picturesque town of Warwick.



We look forward to welcoming you to Warwick soon

Shopping & Eating Out

You will find a wealth of quality independent shops and fine restaurants nestled amongst Warwick's stunning historic buildings.

Market Place is the heart of the town hosting a thriving Saturday market and a variety of shops, pubs and restaurants.

Swan Street is the town's main shopping street and always a hive of activity.



Smith Street, between the castle and St John's Museum, is bursting with character.

There are attractive parades of shops on the West Street and Coten End approaches to the town centre and a cluster of more familiar high street names can be found around Market Street.



Parks & Gardens

Warwick is blessed with beautiful parks and gardens, all within easy walking distance of the town centre.



A dedicated Parks and Gardens leaflet is available from the Tourist Information Centre or to download from www.visitwarwick.co.uk

Accommodation

Warwick has a good selection of quality independent hotels and guest houses in the town centre, a few larger chain hotels on the edge of town and some beautiful properties in the surrounding countryside.



Visit the Tourist Information Centre or go to www.visitwarwick.co.uk for details of the town's accommodation. The Tourist Information Centre offers a free booking service.

1 Market Place

Market Place is the heart of the town hosting a thriving Saturday market and a variety of shops, pubs, restaurants and events.

Built in 1670, the imposing Market Hall now houses the **County Museum** containing geology, archaeology and natural history collections including a plesiosaur skeleton, the famous Sheldon Tapestry Map and the huge Warwickshire bear.



Open Tuesdays - Saturdays and Bank Holiday Mondays, 10am - 5pm (all year round). Sundays, 11.30am - 5pm (April - September). Free admission.

01926 412500 www.warwickshire.gov.uk

2 Collegiate Church of St Mary

St Mary's is a beautiful church that dominates Warwick's skyline.

Marvel at the magnificent 15th century Beauchamp Chapel and climb the 134 foot tower for stunning views of the town, the castle and beyond.

The church is open to visitors every day except Christmas Day, 10am - 6pm (April - October) and 10am - 4.30pm (November - March).

01926 400771 www.stmaryswarwick.org.uk



3 Smith Street

Untouched by Warwick's Great Fire of 1694, many of Smith Street's medieval buildings still survive.

The street is bursting with character and a range of quality restaurants maintain activity into the evening.

Head down Jury Street and through the historic Eastgate to discover Smith Street's unique mix of independent shops and restaurants.

www.warwick-smithstreet.co.uk



4 St John's House

Two fascinating museums set in a fine 17th century Jacobean house with a peaceful garden. The social history collection at **St John's Museum** reflects the lives of Warwickshire people over the last 300 years. The **Royal Regiment of Fusiliers Museum** tells the story of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment from 1674 through to the Fusiliers of today.

Open Tuesday - Saturday and Bank Holiday Mondays, 10am - 5pm (all year round). Sundays, 2.30 - 5pm (April - September). Free admission.

St John's Museum: 01926 412132 www.warwickshire.gov.uk

Royal Regiment of Fusiliers Museum: 01926 491653 www.warwickfusiliers.com



12 Saltisford Canal Centre

The Saltisford Arm of the Grand Union Canal has been transformed by volunteers from a site of dereliction into peaceful moorings set in a series of gardens and orchards.

Originally constructed in the 1790s as the terminus of the Warwick and Birmingham Canal, today the Saltisford Canal Arm offers a tranquil green oasis just a mile from the town centre.

Light refreshments and day boat hire are available at the shop in the converted canal side warehouse.



The centre is open every day although the shop is closed at weekends from November - February.

01926 490006 www.saltisfordcanal.co.uk

11 Warwick Racecourse

Racing has been part of Warwick life since 1707 and the course still hosts a full programme of jumps and flat racing throughout the year.

Visit the website for dates and details of each race day.

The racecourse encircles the Lammas Field Common on St Mary's Lands where there are large expanses of grassland rich in wildlife.



0844 579 3013 www.warwickracecourse.co.uk



5 St Nicholas Park

Popular park offering broad swathes of grass, floral displays, riverside walks, boating, amusements, children's play areas, a cafe and a leisure centre.



www.warwickdc.gov.uk

6 Mill Street and Garden

Clinging to the banks of the River Avon and with stunning views of the castle, the **Mill Garden** is renowned for the quality of its planting and breathtaking position.



Open daily from April - October, 9am - 6pm. Access the garden from **Mill Street**, one of the most picturesque medieval streets in England.

01926 492877

7 Warwick Castle

Immerse yourself in a thousand years of electrifying history at Britain's Ultimate Castle.

Home to the world's largest medieval siege machine - the mighty Trebuchet, along with dramatic towers and ramparts, birds of prey and 'Capability' Brown landscaped grounds and gardens. The Castle Dungeon, Kingmaker, Secrets and Scandals, The Great Hall and State Rooms, Princess Tower and Merlin the Dragon Tower attractions all vividly bring history to life and set the imagination alight. Open every day except Christmas Day.



0870 442 2000 www.warwick-castle.com

10 Hill Close Gardens

The hidden hedged gardens at Hill Close were used by Victorians living above their business to escape from the crowded town. Discover how owners went there after work and on Sundays to tend their plots or just to relax. The gardens, including a handful of attractive summerhouses, have been restored to their Victorian splendour.



Open Easter - October. Saturdays and Bank Holidays, 11am - 5pm, Fridays and Sundays, 2pm - 5pm.

01926 493339 www.hillclosegardens.com

9 Lord Leycester Hospital

Beautiful 14th and 15th century timber-framed buildings clustered around the Norman gateway into Warwick. For nearly 200 years the buildings were the base for Warwick's medieval guilds before they became a rest home for retired servicemen which they remain today. Hidden behind the ancient buildings is the delightful **Master's Garden**.



The **Queen's Own Hussars Museum** tells the story of the West Midlands' cavalry regiment.

Open Tuesday - Saturday, Summer 10am - 5pm, Winter 10am - 4pm.

01926 491422 www.lordleycester.co.uk

8 The Court House

Designed and built by Francis Smith in 1725, the Court House is a fine example of the elegant Georgian buildings that replaced those devastated by Warwick's Great Fire of 1694.

The **Tourist Information Centre** provides information and a booking service for attractions, accommodation and events. Open seven days a week.

The **Warwickshire Yeomanry Museum** displays uniforms, swords, arms and a field gun taken in the charge at Huj. Open Good Friday - Remembrance Sunday. Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays, 10am - 1pm and 2 - 4pm. Free admission.



01926 492212 www.visitwarwick.co.uk