

THE ORIGINS OF FAITH

Discover the people and stories that connect faith and religion, from England to the USA.

THE STORY OF METHODISM

CATHEDRALS

CHURCHES – CENTURIES OF STORIES

REFORMATION

PILGRIM CHURCHES

FIT AND GROUP TOURS



ORIGINS OF FAITH

INTRODUCTION TO THE

Britain and America share deep historical and cultural connections - including the birth of religion and faith that shaped our nations. The tours suggested here highlight many of the most influential places, faces and stories. Giving life to a unique history that binds us all across the generations.

With its world-famous cathedrals - and churches in every town and village - steeples and towers pepper the English landscape. There are so many stories of faith and religion to share: from the majestic spires of Canterbury and Lincoln cathedrals, to the world's oldest wooden church (St Andrew's, Greensted, Essex) or Great St Mary's, Cambridge, which played a leading role in the Reformation, with Erasmus and Bucer preaching here.

Methodism began here. Epworth (Lincolnshire) was the childhood home of the Wesley Brothers. John began preaching from houses, barns and open fields in the early 17th Century and many soon followed. John and brother Charles, along with George Whitefield had an impact throughout England. Visit St John's Northgate Church (Gloucester) today to see the world's oldest continually used site of Methodist worship. John Wesley also preached at nearby Hanham Mount (Bristol).

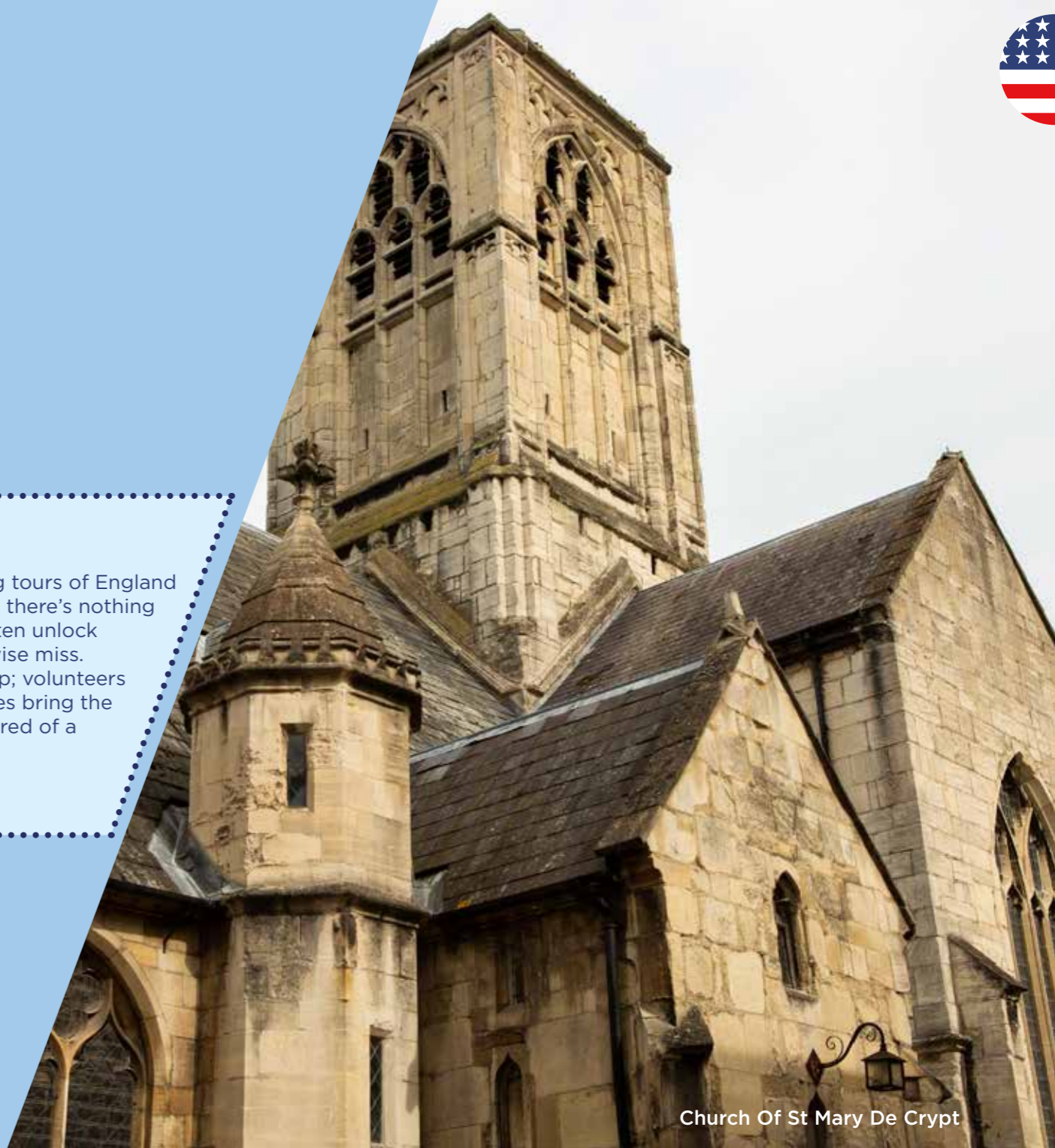
Travel further back, to the 1600s, a time of royal might and rebellion. The church was all-powerful, England's Puritans tried to soften this control - but

Elements from this itinerary can be added to existing tours of England - or you may choose to create a full tour. Remember, there's nothing more memorable than hearing from a local - they often unlock places, stories and insights your group might otherwise miss. Specialist tour guides ensure you of a memorable trip; volunteers - in their own village or church - and costumed guides bring the experience to life. Whatever your choice, you're assured of a warm welcome - and a glimpse of the real England.

the Separatists wanted more. Explore Nottinghamshire's ancient villages of Scrooby, Babworth and Gainsborough - where the Mayflower Pilgrim's faith would carry them from Plymouth, England to the distant shores of Massachusetts.

Learn of religious radical William Booth - founder of the worldwide Salvation Army. And, how from Boston in the neighboring county of Lincolnshire, Rev. John Cotton's preaching inspired mass migration to America.

Begin your English pilgrimage and discover the birthplace of faith.



Church Of St Mary De Crypt



Gloucester Cathedral

GLOUCESTER



GETTING HERE

Direct rail services from London Paddington to Gloucester take 2¼ hours. By road Gloucester is 100 miles from London.

For more destination information visit: thecityofgloucester.co.uk



A city surrounded by peaceful spa towns, magnificent stately homes, and the lush Cotswold countryside. Gloucester Cathedral - home to John Stafford Smith, composer of the music of The Star Spangled Banner - is a must see. George Whitefield was a Gloucester native and leading light in the Methodist movement. The city was the first to host a Sunday School - thanks to founder Robert Raikes.

ST MARY DE CRYPT

An impressive 15th Century chapel. Visit the adjoining school room where evangelist George Whitefield (lifelong friend of Benjamin Franklin) was taught; and the pulpit where he first preached. Learn about Robert Raikes - founder of the 1780s Sunday School movement.

The church and schoolroom are closed for renovation until Spring 2019.

discoverdecrypt.org.uk

THE BELL INN

George Whitefield, one of the leaders of the Methodist movement, was born at The Bell Inn.

ST JOHN'S NORTHGATE CHURCH

This Methodist church has the distinction of being the oldest continually used site for Methodist worship in the world - Wesley & Whitefield preached from the pulpit.

gloucestershiremethodist.org.uk

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL

One of the most beautiful buildings in England, Gloucester Cathedral has been an important centre of Christian worship since 678-9 AD.

Marvel at the stunning craftsmanship, from the 14th Century choir stalls to the Great East Window, and learn more about the building's fascinating heritage. This ancient church has witnessed some of the most important events in British history: the commissioning of the Domesday Book, the burial of Edward II, and the coronation of Henry III all took place here.

gloucestercathedral.org.uk

TOURS AND TOUR GUIDES

Civic Trust guided tours

Specialist walking tours include the Medieval Churches tour, the Robert Raikes tour, and the Christian Heritage tour. Pre-booking required.

gloucestercivictrust.org

LLANTHONY SECUNDA PRIORY

This ruined Augustinian priory was founded in 1136, by Miles de Gloucester, first Earl of Hereford, as a retreat for the monks of nearby Llanthony Priory fleeing attack from the local Welsh population. By the 16th Century it was England's largest Augustinian property, controlling 97 churches and 51 manor estates. The site played an important part in Gloucester's history for over 900 years. Visitors can step inside the newly restored medieval buildings on open days, or take a guided tour.

llanthysecunda.org

ROBERT RAIKES HOUSE

A historic 16th Century timber-framed town house (now a pub) on Southgate Street Gloucester, that was home to Robert Raikes - pioneer of the Sunday School movement.

There is a statue to Raikes in Gloucester Park.

ACCOMMODATION

Hatton Court Hotel

Independent boutique hotel bordering the Cotswold way. 4 miles from the city.

hatton-court.co.uk

Hallmark Gloucester

On the fringes of historic Gloucester, 95 rooms. Suitable for groups.

hallmarkhotels.co.uk/hotels/hallmark-hotel-gloucester/



Gloucester Cathedral



St Mary de Crypt



Gloucester Cathedral

DID YOU KNOW?

Button Gwynnett's autograph is highly prized by collectors eager to acquire all 56 signatures from the U.S. Declaration of Independence. Gwynnett died during the war and only 51 examples of his are known - ten in private hands.

BRISTOL



GETTING HERE

Direct rail services from London Paddington to Bristol take 1¼ hours. By road Bristol is 130 miles from London. Bristol Airport provides connections to US flights via Dublin.

For more destination information visit: VisitBristol.co.uk



The ultimate destination for anyone seeking a lively city with a rich faith-based history. There are many American connections to discover in Bristol - 'The Cradle of Methodism'. John Wesley gave his first open air sermon here, and the world's first Methodist chapel - the New Room - is a must visit.

LORD MAYOR'S CHAPEL

This unique chapel is the only remaining building from the 13th Century hospital of Saint Mark. It's also home to a special coat of arms: those of Richard Amerike, funder of John Cabot's voyage to North America.

lordmayorschapel.org



THE NEW ROOM

This simple building, standing quietly on Bristol's busiest shopping street, is the world's oldest Methodist chapel.

Created in 1739 as a 'new room' in which Bristol's religious societies could meet. The chapel was presided over by Methodist founders John and Charles Wesley and remains a meeting place for groups from across the world - including the United States. It also houses an excellent museum on the history of Methodism and life in Georgian Bristol.

newroombristol.org.uk

ST MARY'S REDCLIFFE

Discover a piece of home in Bristol by visiting St John's Chapel (known as the 'American' Chapel).

Nestled within the beautiful gothic church of St Mary Redcliffe, the American Chapel is the final resting place of Sir William Penn, father to Pennsylvania's founder. John Cabot's presence looms large here, too: the chapel's beautiful stained glass windows depict Cabot's discovery of North America, and visitors can examine the unusual souvenir he brought back with him - a giant whale bone.

stmaryredcliffe.co.uk



St Mary's Redcliffe

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL

The beautiful and ancient cathedral of Bristol is now a vibrant center of community and culture. Don't miss the eastern end of the cathedral: its unique architecture positions Bristol as one of the world's finest 'hall churches'.

bristol-cathedral.co.uk

HANHAM MOUNT

This landscaped site commemorates the persecution of the Baptist community in the 1600s and marks the spot where Methodist leader George Whitefield began his open air preaching in the 1730s.

methodistheritage.org.uk/hanhammount

TOURS AND TOUR GUIDES

Wesley Heritage Tours

Take an immersive tour of the New Room and John Wesley's Chapel.

wesleysheritage.org.uk

Bristol Packet Boat Trips

Harbor tours and river trips. Scheduled and group tours.

bristolpacket.co.uk

ANCESTRAL SERVICES

Bristol Records Office

familytreeresources.co.uk/bristol-record-office.html

Brunel Institute at Brunel's SS Great Britain

ssgreatbritain.org/brunel-institute/visit

ACCOMMODATION

The Bristol

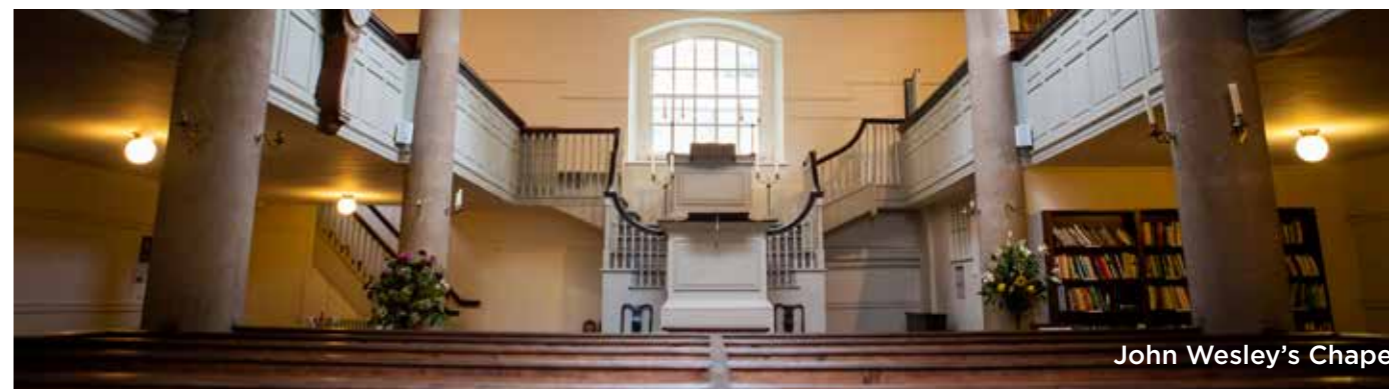
A slice of boutique city style, with a waterfront location.

doylecollection.com/hotels/the-bristol-hotel

Brooks Guesthouse

Award-winning chic boutique B&B, with rooftop airstream caravans - for a room with a difference!

brooksguesthousebristol.com



John Wesley's Chapel

GETTING HERE

The main High Speed One train from London St Pancras International station reaches Kent in less than 30 minutes. Dover is 80 miles by road, Canterbury 66 miles.

For more destination information visit: visitkent.co.uk



The garden of England, Kent has much to offer visitors. Top of the list for any faith and religion tour is Canterbury cathedral - seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury, head of the Church of England and symbolic leader of the worldwide Anglican Communion. Stand where Saint Thomas Becket was murdered. View the altar 'kneelers' embroidered by the Washington Needlepoint Committee with flowers representing every US state. Or visit nearby Rochester Cathedral, England's second oldest cathedral.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL

Located in the center of medieval Canterbury is a UNESCO World Heritage site - Canterbury Cathedral.

Founded in 597 AD on the remains of a previous Saxon church, the site has over 1,400 years of history. Enjoy a tour packed with stories, such as the argument between Thomas Beckett and King Henry II - which is said to have resulted in the then Archbishop's murder.

Don't miss the four stained glass windows which were redefined after WWII to evoke a spirit of unity.

canterbury-cathedral.org

THE CANTERBURY TALES

Meet costumed guides, walk with Chaucer's Pilgrims and experience this re-creation of medieval England.

canterburytales.org.uk

CANTERBURY WORLD HERITAGE SITE

In addition to the cathedral, St Augustine's Abbey (situated outside the city walls) marking the re-birth of Christianity in the south of England and St Martin's Church (the first church founded in England) are part of the Canterbury World Heritage Site.

worldheritagesite.org/list/canterbury

ST. GEORGES CHURCH, GRAVESEND

Pocahontas was buried in the chancel of St George's Church, Gravesend. Wife of early English settler John Rolfe, her statue, can be seen in the beautiful Princess Pocahontas gardens. The memorial glass windows were a gift from the Colonial Dames of Virginia.

stgeorgesgravesend.org

ACCOMMODATION

ABode Canterbury

A 12th Century building; luxury city center hotel.

abodecanterbury.co.uk

TOURS AND TOUR GUIDES

Canterbury Historic River Tours

Discover this historic city by boat.

canterburyrivertours.co.uk

Kent Local Greeters

Explore Kent with a local expert on a free walking tour. Booking essential.

visitkent.co.uk/stay-and-eat/getting-here/kent-greeters

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL

Explore England's second oldest cathedral founded in 604 AD, with one of the finest Romanesque facades in Christendom.

rochestercathedral.org

Canterbury Cathedral Lodge

A unique, contemporary hotel in the grounds of Canterbury Cathedral.

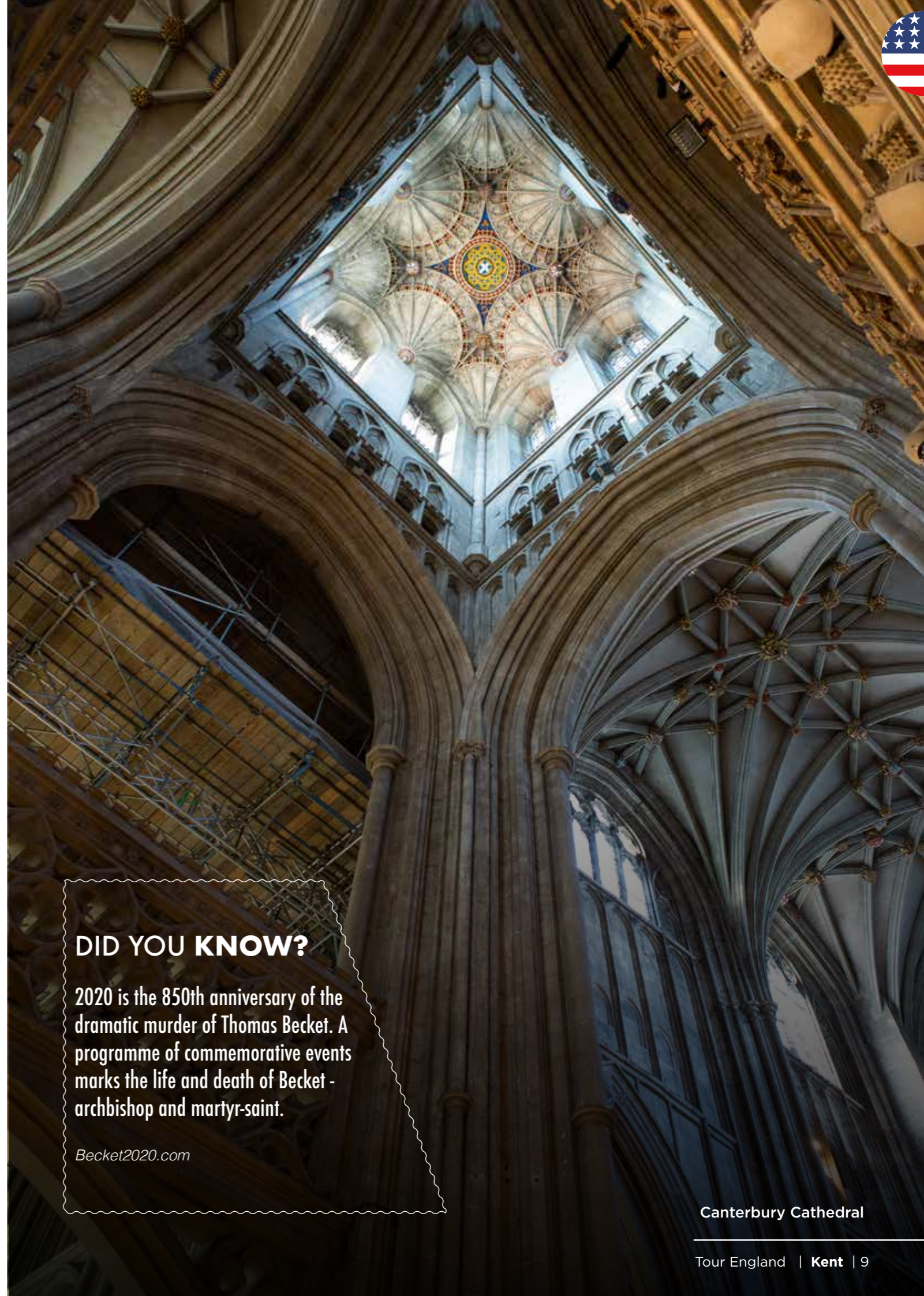
canterburycathedralodge.org

DID YOU KNOW?

2020 is the 850th anniversary of the dramatic murder of Thomas Becket. A programme of commemorative events marks the life and death of Becket - archbishop and martyr-saint.

Becket2020.com

Canterbury Cathedral





LINCOLNSHIRE



GETTING HERE

Two hours by rail from London King's Cross station direct to Lincoln or 1 hour and 10 minutes via Newark Northgate. London is just 140 miles away from Lincoln by road.

For more destination information visit: VisitLincolnshire.com and VisitLincoln.com



Rich in religious history, the city of Lincoln and surrounding countryside is dominated by the vast presence of its ancient cathedral. In 1215, Lincolnshire man Stephen Langton was the guiding force behind Magna Carta, which can be seen at Lincoln Castle in its protective vault. The region was the childhood home to Methodist leaders John and Charles Wesley. Rev. John Cotton founder of the Congregational tradition preached at St Botolph's, Boston.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL

One of the finest Gothic cathedrals in Europe, Lincoln's towers dominate the surrounding county. Explore Lincoln's highly decorated chapels, hear the grand organ and see a copy of the original Magna Carta. Visit the inspirational Wren Library - including its 120 "incunabula". Take a floor, roof or tower tour. Combine with a visit to Lincoln Castle.

lincolncathedral.com

ST BOTOLPH'S CHURCH

Founded over 700 years ago when Boston was a powerhouse of trade and ideas, the 'Boston Stump' - named after its 272-foot tower - is one of the largest parish churches in England. Puritan clergyman John Cotton preached here - his words inspiring hundreds to leave England and establish Boston, Massachusetts. Today you can still feel his presence as you stand amid its ancient wooden carvings, tombs and stained glass, and visit a chapel named in his honour.

parish-of-boston.org.uk

GAINSBOROUGH OLD HALL

This 15th Century manor house is one of England's finest timber-framed buildings. Its fascinating exhibits and restored wall paintings tell stories of its wealthy owners and guests from Richard III and Henry VIII to the founder of Methodism John Wesley - who preached here.

Most influential were the sermons of John Smyth, whose Separatist gatherings inspired thousands to seek a new life in America.

gainsborougholdhall.com

EPWORTH

The childhood home of John and Charles Wesley is in this North Lincolnshire village. The Wesley's founded the Methodist movement. Visit the Old Rectory and learn about influences on their early life.

epwortholdrectory.org.uk

MAYFLOWER PILGRIMS

The Mayflower Pilgrims came from the villages of Lincolnshire and North Nottinghamshire. They worshipped in secret at Gainsborough Old Hall; and were confined and tried at Boston's Guildhall following their failed attempt to escape.

Mayflower400UK.org



Gainsborough Old Hall

ACCOMMODATION

The White Hart Hotel

Overlooking the Cathedral in the center of historic Lincoln.

whitehart-lincoln.co.uk

Stubton Hall

Privately owned stately home, open for exclusive use by groups.

stubtonHall.co.uk

DID YOU KNOW?

Over 100 churches open their doors to visitors every year for the Lincolnshire Churches festival.

churchesfestival.info



St Botolphs Church



Lincoln Cathedral



Lincoln Cathedral

TOURS AND TOUR GUIDES

Pilgrims & Prophets

Specialist and customized guided tours with Christian Heritage experts across Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire.

pilgrimsandprophets.co.uk

Green Badge Guides

Walking tours of Lincoln city center and Boston for FITs and groups.

britainsbestguides.org/

CAMBRIDGE



GETTING HERE

Cambridge is a 50-minute train journey from London King's Cross. Cambridge is 64 miles north of London along the M11 – a journey which can take up to 90 minutes by road.

For more destination information visit: VisitCambridge.org



Known for its world famous university, stunning architecture and punting on the River Cam. Scholars, global icons and religious leaders have lived and studied here. Home to the English Reformation, a walking tour of the city, with an official guide, provides awe inspiring access to the city's religious history - including the medieval Matthew Parker library and the Gospels brought to England by St Augustine.

KING'S COLLEGE

World famous and a masterpiece of medieval craftsmanship, the chapel of King's College was founded by Henry VI. Chapel visitors are drawn to its elaborate, fan-vaulted roof, once the largest self-supporting structure in the world; magnificent stained glass windows and the Ruben's masterpiece Adoration of the Magi.

Groups should be accompanied by an official Cambridge Blue Badge Guide.

kings.cam.ac.uk

EMMANUEL COLLEGE

Emmanuel College was founded in 1584 to educate Protestant preachers.

Emma's most famous graduate - clergyman John Harvard - was a co-founder of America's Harvard University, which bears his name to this day. Another student, Puritan minister Thomas Sheppard, helped establish the nearby town of Cambridge Massachusetts in the 17th Century.

emma.cam.ac.uk

GREAT ST MARY'S CHURCH

The University Church, Great St Mary's was the first home of the University from 1209. It played a leading part in the reformation, with Erasmus, Bucer and others preaching here. Unusually for a parish church, it has two organs. A climb to the top of the tower is rewarded with the best views across the city of Cambridge. Guided tours available.

gsm.cam.ac.uk

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE

Known as the Round Church it is one of only four round churches in England. Cambridge's second oldest building and a great place to start when exploring the city.

roundchurchcambridge.org

ST EDWARD KING AND MARTYR

This church held a unique role in the English Reformation as a meeting place for a group of influential evangelicals. It was here that Robert Barnes preached the first openly evangelical sermon.

stedwardscambridge.co.uk



River Cam

THE PARKER LIBRARY

The historic library of Corpus Christi College houses some of the rarest and oldest books in England. This includes the Gospels used by St Augustine to convert the English to Christianity.

corpus.cam.ac.uk

ELY CATHEDRAL

Known as the 'Ship of the Fens' because it juts up above the pancake-flat sweeps of land that surround it - Ely Cathedral is one of the most striking buildings in England.

elycathedral.org

ACCOMMODATION

The University Arms Hotel

The newly refurbished University Arms is a touch of class in the city center. Elegant art deco rooms, stunning city views.

universityarms.com

Hotel Du Vin, Cambridge

A former University building with luxury rooms in a beautiful and cultural location.

hotelduvin.com/cambridge



King's College Chapel



Great St Mary's Church

TOURS AND TOUR GUIDES

Official Tours of Cambridge

Walking tours of the city with official Blue Badge Guides, include access to King's College.

visitcambridge.org/official-tours



The Parker Library



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



GETTING HERE

Regular direct rail services from London St Pancras to Newark, Nottingham and Retford take from 1½ to 2 hours. By road Nottingham is 130 miles from London.



For more destination information visit: visit-nottinghamshire.co.uk

Home of legendary outlaw Robin Hood, Nottinghamshire has long nurtured rebellious and spiritual souls. Mayflower Pilgrims Brewster and Bradford shaped their Separatist beliefs among its ancient churches and villages. Methodist preacher William Booth founded the global Salvation Army here.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH, HUCKNALL

The final resting place of romantic poet Lord Byron and his mathematician daughter Ada Lovelace, this ancient church holds a wealth of history. Its artistic treasures include opus sectile mosaics and 20 Kempe stained-glass windows.

hucknallparishchurch.org.uk

SOUTHWELL MINSTER

Nottinghamshire's cathedral has an impressive 1,000 years of history and is known for its intricate medieval stone leaf carvings. The ruined palace next door is where King Charles I was held captive before his death.

southwellminster.org

NEWSTEAD ABBEY

This 12th Century priory was disbanded by Henry VIII and turned into a private country home. Walk in the footsteps of past owners such as Lord Byron amid its grand rooms and 300 acres of glorious parkland.

newsteadabbey.org.uk

MAYFLOWER PILGRIMS

The early Mayflower Pilgrims preached in churches in Nottinghamshire. Bradford and Brewster lived in this region where they began to form their Separatist beliefs.

mayflower400UK.org

WILLIAM BOOTH BIRTHPLACE MUSEUM

William Booth was an English Methodist preacher who founded the Salvation Army. The museum tells the story of his life. Open by appointment.

salvationarmy.org.uk/william-booth-birthplace-museum

NATIONAL HOLOCAUST CENTER AND MUSEUM

A memorial and a place of learning; explains the Holocaust through the eyes of a German-Jewish boy.

holocaust.org.uk

TOURS AND TOUR GUIDES

Mayflower Maid

Take a costume-guided tour of the Pilgrim villages and churches with historian Sue Allan.

mayflowermaid.com

ACCOMMODATION

Ye Olde Bell

Close to Retford, in the heart of North Nottinghamshire, ideally situated for groups and FITs visiting the Pilgrim region.

yeoldebelle-hotel.co.uk

The Lace Market Hotel

City center boutique hotel 42 rooms.

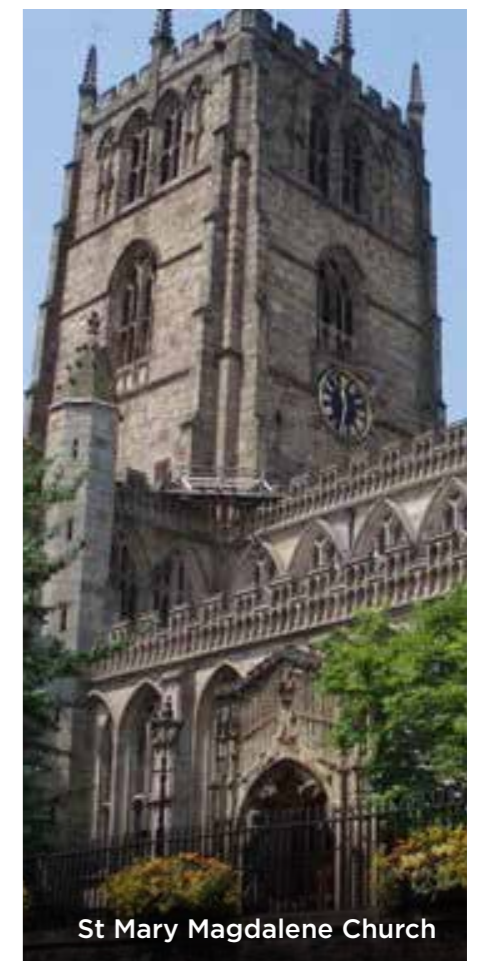
lacemarkethotel.co.uk



Southwell Minster



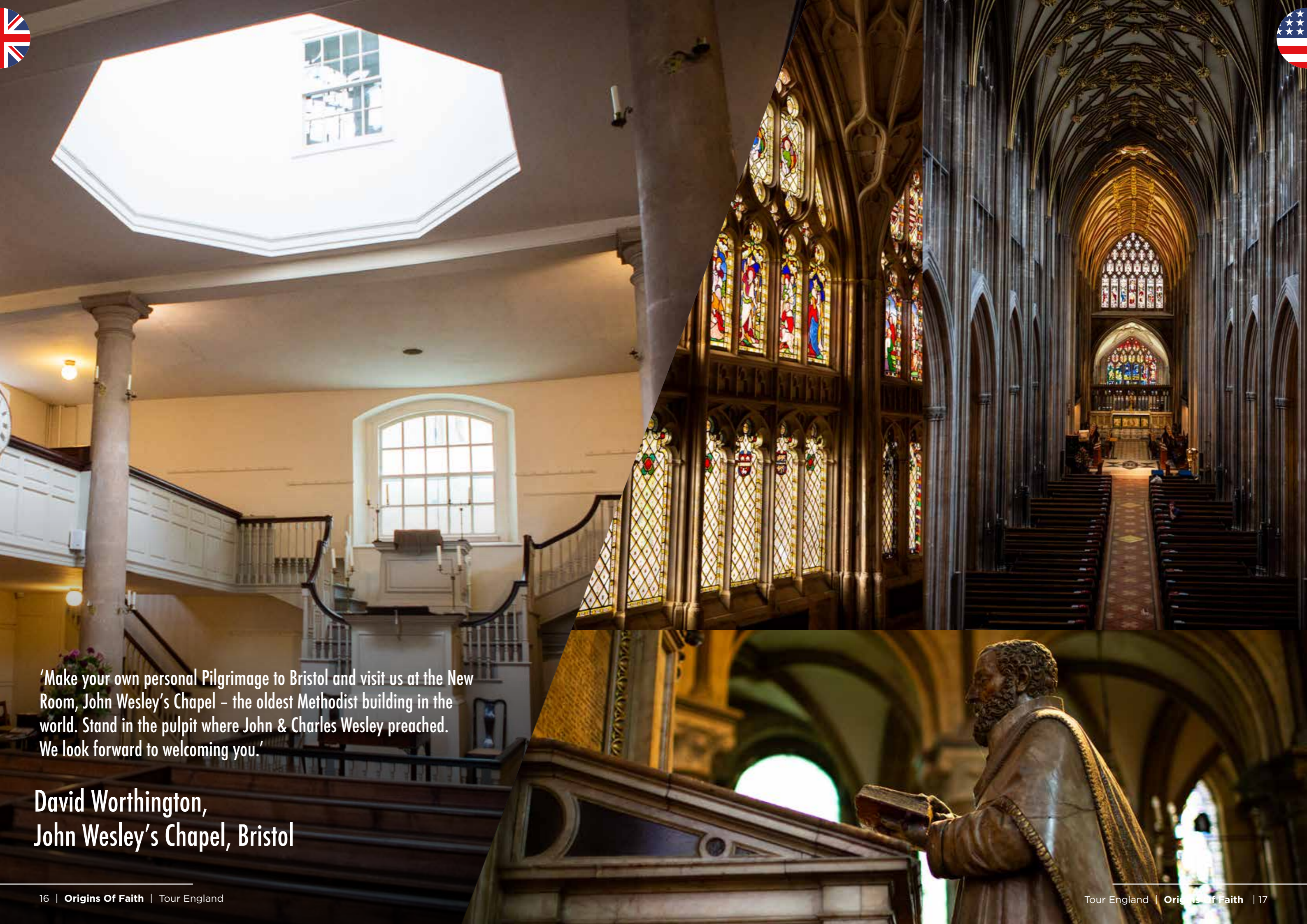
Scrooby Church



St Mary Magdalene Church



Newstead Abbey



'Make your own personal Pilgrimage to Bristol and visit us at the New Room, John Wesley's Chapel - the oldest Methodist building in the world. Stand in the pulpit where John & Charles Wesley preached. We look forward to welcoming you.'

**David Worthington,
John Wesley's Chapel, Bristol**

WORCESTERSHIRE

GETTING HERE

Rail services from London Paddington to Worcester take 2½ hours. Worcester is 140 miles from London by road.

For more destination information visit: VisitWorcestershire.org



The county of Worcestershire has a long history of religious influence and independence. Never more than during the English Civil War (1642-51), when Royalist forces, loyal to Charles I, occupied this rebellious county. Worcester Cathedral is a must-see attraction. As is Gadfield Elm - the oldest Mormon church in the world. The county is also birthplace of Mayflower Pilgrim Edward Winslow - three times governor of Plymouth, Mass.

WORCESTER CATHEDRAL

A place of worship and pilgrimage for 14 centuries, Worcester Cathedral is the final resting place of King John, Prince Arthur and St Wulfstan. Having weathered the religious upheavals of the Reformation and Civil War, it was also where Mayflower colonist Edward Winslow attended school and composer Sir Edward Elgar conducted his orchestral works. The extensive library houses many rare books, and is ideal for visitors exploring their ancestry and the lives of America's early settlers.

worcestercathedral.co.uk

HARVINGTON HALL

Surrounded by a medieval moat, this Elizabethan manor house hides England's largest number of 'priest holes'. These ingenious spaces saved catholic families and priests from religious persecution. Many were designed by Saint Nicholas Owen.

harvingtonhall.com

ST PETER'S CHURCH

With its Norman chancel arch and 16th Century belltower, St Peter's is a fascinating building to explore. The vestry is dedicated to Edward Winslow, who was born in the parish in 1595 and baptised here.

droitwichparish.org.uk/stpeterschurchbuilding

SACRED HEART CHURCH

Covered in colourful Venetian glass mosaics, this Catholic church was established in the early 20th Century and once formed part of a boys' college. Its grand architecture was based on the basilicas of Ravenna, Italy.

sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk

GREAT WITLEY CHURCH

Britain's finest Baroque Church. 10 miles north of Worcester. Groups welcome.

greatwitleychurch.org.uk

GADFIELD ELM

The oldest chapel in the world of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Gadfield Elm was founded in 1836 by a breakaway religious group called the United Brethren. It was here that Mormon missionary Wilford Woodruff baptized hundreds of followers before they sold the building and fulfilled their dream of setting up a new life in the United States. The combination of a careful restoration and rural setting transports visitors

gadfieldelm.org

ACCOMMODATION

Elms Hotel and Spa

A country house retreat and spa hotel in the Worcestershire countryside.

theelmshotel.co.uk

Stanbrook Abbey Hotel

Originally built for Benedictine Monks, now a hotel with 55 rooms.

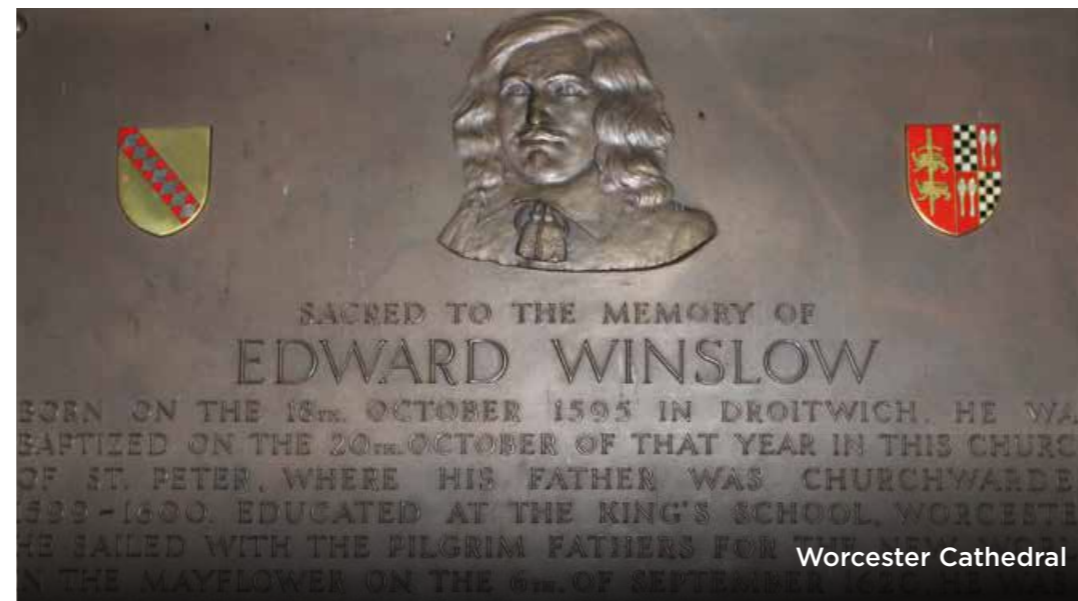
handpickedhotels.co.uk/stanbrookabbey



Worcester High St



Worcester Cathedral



Worcester Cathedral



Worcester Cathedral

PLYMOUTH



GETTING HERE

Plymouth is 238 miles by road from London. Direct trains (operated by GWR) depart hourly from London Paddington, with an average journey time of 3½ hours.



For more destination information visit: visitplymouth.co.uk

Britain's ocean city is steeped in seafaring and spiritual history, serving as the point of call and departure for many across the centuries- including the Mayflower Pilgrims. Plymouth is home to the world's oldest active Ashkenazi synagogue and witnessed the first Brethren assembly in 1831.

PLYMOUTH AND THE MAYFLOWER PILGRIMS

The Mayflower and Speedwell were 300 miles clear of Land's End when the Speedwell began leaking badly and couldn't risk continuing. They turned about for Plymouth.

By this time, the cramped, damp and miserable passengers had already spent up to six weeks at sea basically getting nowhere, with a fair wind and good fortune they would have hoped to be closing on their destination by then. The Speedwell was finally declared unfit for the journey. Some of the Pilgrims dropped out; the remainder crowded onto the Mayflower, which required re-provisioning, despite funds running low. The Pilgrims were offered a warm welcome in Plymouth, with local people having sympathy with their Separatist beliefs and were provided shelter and provisions until they could get their journey underway once again.

She left on 16 September with up to 30 crew and 102 passengers on board. Just under half of them were Separatists, the rest were 'economic migrants' - skilled tradespeople sent by the investors to help build the new colony.

BUCKLAND ABBEY

Founded by Cistercians who led a peaceful life of farming and religious observance for over 250 years, this vast estate would later become the home of New World explorers Sir Richard Grenville and Sir Francis Drake. Explore tranquil trails and breathtaking views over the Tavy Valley, step inside a giant medieval barn, and pass between a Tudor chamber, Georgian dining room and the Great Hall - all fused with arches and pillars from its former life.

nationaltrust.org.uk/buckland-abbey

MINISTER CHURCH OF ST ANDREW

St Andrew's has seen centuries of change, from its origins in the Saxon period to the religious disputes of the Civil War, and a World War II bomb that destroyed its roof. Katherine of Aragon prayed here, and its congregation welcomed home a triumphant Sir Francis Drake in 1573.

Next door the Prysten House, a 15th Century former church, houses a memorial to a pair of American sailors killed in the war of 1812.

standrewschurch.org.uk

THE BOX

Opening in 2020, The Box brings Plymouth's centuries of naval history, archives and stories to life.

plymhearts.org/thebox

MAYFLOWER STEPS

Visit the Mayflower Steps - memorial to the Pilgrims and their ship - located on the historic Barbican. Plus the adjacent Mayflower museum and Tourist Information Center.

visitplymouth.co.uk

PLYMOUTH SYNAGOGUE

Built in 1762, Plymouth has the oldest active Ashkenazi Synagogue in the English-speaking world, and many Jews travelled from here to America.

plymouthsynagogue.com

ACCOMMODATION

The New Continental Hotel

Conveniently located in the city center. Ideal for group tours.

Newcontinental.co.uk

Glazebrook House Hotel

Luxury boutique hotel and restaurant with 9 rooms. Ideal for FITs.

glazebrookhouse.com



View of Mount Edgumbe



Smeaton's Tower, Plymouth Hoe

PLYMOUTH GIN DISTILLERY

The oldest Gin Distillery in the UK, believed to be the place where the Mayflower Pilgrims spent their last night. Distillery tours available. Barbican Kitchen for dining.

plymouthdistillery.com



Buckland Abbey

ESSEX

GETTING HERE

The mainline train from London Liverpool Street to Chelmsford takes just 30 minutes. Colchester takes just over an hour. London is 40 miles by road from Chelmsford.

For more destination information visit: visitessex.com



On the eastern edge of London, Essex has a wealth of stately homes, picturesque villages and a vast coastline to explore. The county has strong links to the United States. Throughout the 17th Century thousands of migrants, fleeing bloody religious persecution, found refuge in America. Thomas Hooker, curate of St Mary's (now Chelmsford Cathedral) founded the state of Connecticut. John Winthrop founder of Boston and governor of Massachusetts married at the Essex church of St Mary and All Saints.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL

A fusion of 15th, 19th and 20th Century design, the cathedral's stained glass window marks Anglo-American friendship. A plaque honors Thomas Hooker (who preached here), before emigrating in 1633 to found the state of Connecticut.

chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, MALDON

Lawrence Washington (great-great grandfather of the first American president, George Washington) and a minister in Essex during the mid-1660s is buried here. The flint tower of the church was repaired through the generosity of US citizens and the commemorative Washington Window was presented by citizens of Malden, Massachusetts.

allsaintsmaldon.com

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, GREENSTED

The oldest wooden church in the world.

greenstedchurch.org.uk

WILLIAM PENN

Born in 1644, William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania, lived at Wanstead then an Essex village. He was educated at Chigwell School, whose original buildings of circa 1629 are still in use. Penn founded Pennsylvania in 1681 as a place where his philosophy of tolerance, equality and understanding of his fellow man could be practised.

visitessex.com/discover

BRAINTREE & BRAINTREE MUSEUM

In 1632, a group of religious dissenters fled to America aboard "The Lyon". They settled at Mount Wollaston, later renamed Braintree in memory of their hometown. John Bridges, a Braintree resident, founded the school that developed into Harvard University. John Adams, whose ancestors sailed with The Lyon, and his son John Quincy Adams both became US presidents.

braintreemuseum.co.uk

DEDHAM

Dedham in Essex has a place in Elizabethan history central to the Puritan Movement; and the village was a recruiting ground for the American colonies. Between 1633 and 1640 a dozen descendants of Henry Sherman emigrated to New England and left a significant mark on the United States. Through their family tree, they can claim a co-founder of Rhode Island, a signatory of the Declaration of Independence, a vice-president of the US and other distinguished luminaries.

A visit to Dedham today showcases the stunning 'Constable' countryside.

visitcolchester.com

ST MARY AND ALL SAINTS CHURCH, STAMBRIDGE

John Winthrop, founder of Boston and Governor of Massachusetts was married here in 1605.

achurchnearyou.com/church/6613

ACCOMMODATION

County Hotel, Chelmsford

All modern facilities, in Chelmsford city center. Easy road and rail access to London. Ideal for groups.

countyhotelchelmsford.co.uk

Milsoms Hotel, Dedham

Luxury Country house hotel in Dedham, Essex. 15 bedrooms.

milsomhotels.com



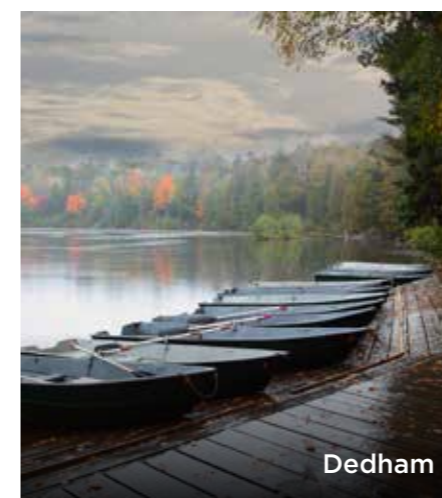
St. Andrew's Church

FOOD & DRINK

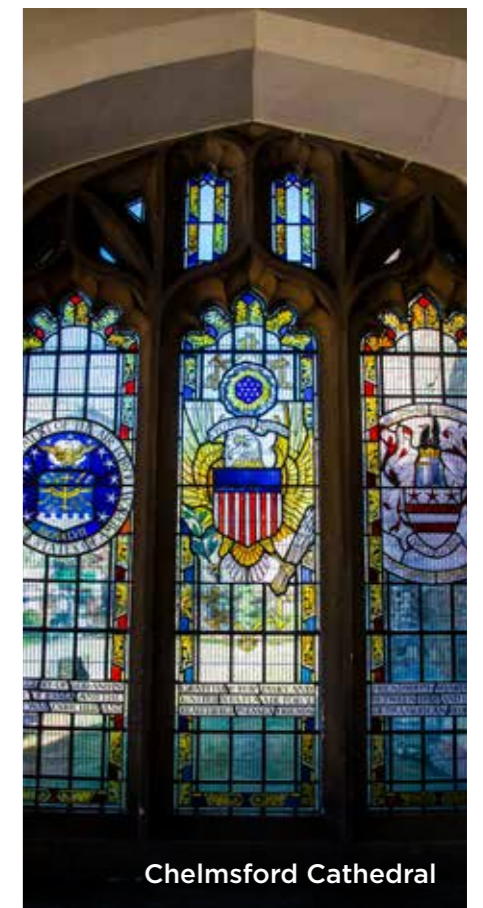
Colchester Oysters, Mersea

Native and rock oysters farmed at Mersea Island, Essex are renowned the world over. Enjoy local Oysters in one of the local oysters 'sheds'.

visitcolchester.com/food-and-drink



Dedham



Chelmsford Cathedral

DID YOU KNOW?

Chelmsford Cathedral celebrates its links with Thomas Hooker, who was Chelmsford Town Lecturer between 1626 and 1629. He fled to the New World because of his Puritan views and founded the town of Hartford, Connecticut and was one of the founders of American democracy.



HERTFORDSHIRE



GETTING HERE

St Albans is 30 minutes by train from London's St Pancras station, with trains every 20 minutes. St Albans is 25 miles north of London by road. The whole county is very accessible.

For more destination information visit: hertford.gov.uk/tourist-information-centre



Hertfordshire borders the north of London. St Albans Cathedral is a place of pilgrimage for Christians the world over. It marks the place where St Alban - a Romano-British soldier - was buried alive for his faith, becoming the first English Christian martyr. Visit Hertford and St Albans and some of England's finest stately homes.

ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL

St Alban - a Romano-English soldier - was England's first Christian martyr, buried alive for his faith. The Cathedral, marking the place he gave his life, was founded as a Benedictine monastery (by King Offa of Mercia) in 793 AD).

Medieval murals on its Romanesque arches - paying tribute to a further seven ecumenical martyrs - are the finest in England. Visitors can also view Alban's tomb and images of Adrian IV - England's only Pope, on the high altar screen.

stalbanscathedral.org



St Albans Cathedral

VISIT HERTFORD

Samuel Stone was a Puritan minister - born in Hertford in 1602. He went on to found the city of Hartford, Connecticut in 1636. A statue of Stone can be seen in the town centre.

hertford.gov.uk/tourist-information-centre



Bluebell Wood

DID YOU KNOW?

Hertfordshire supported over 20 'Alien Houses' - religious communes controlled from overseas (usually France).

ACCOMMODATION

St Albans Hotel, the Clarion Collection

Former headquarters of Samuel Ryder's seed company. Unbeatable location next to the Cathedral.

stalbanshotel.co.uk

The Grove Hotel

The ultimate five-star country retreat.

Just 18 miles from London.

thegrove.co.uk

FOOD & DRINK

Hermitage Road, Hitchin

Award-winning menu and great dining in a converted restaurant, where Eric Clapton first performed.

hermitagerd.co.uk



St Albans Cathedral



HAMPSHIRE



GETTING HERE

Rail journeys from London Waterloo station to Southampton take 1 hour 20 mins; and 1 hour 30 mins to Portsmouth. Southampton is 90 miles from London.



For more destination information visit: visit-hampshire.co.uk

A tranquil blend of countryside and coastline, Hampshire is not to be missed. The county town of Winchester is the ancient capital of England - and houses King Arthur's Round Table. Its cathedral is the resting place of Saints, Kings and Queens, Jane Austen - and the relatives of George Washington.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL & ROOF TOUR

One of the longest medieval naves in Europe - 164m long. A treasured building in all Southern England; Winchester Cathedral was begun in 1070 and completed in 1093.

A gothic façade and carved medieval choir stalls with Jane Austen's grave - The cathedral is home to the bones of St Swithin, 9th-century bishop of Winchester and now the city's patron saint. Visitors are welcomed to experience a Tower and Roof Tour trip, through the interior gallery over the cathedral ceiling and into the largest bell ringing chamber in the UK.

winchester-cathedral.org.uk

FOOD & DRINK

Bombay Sapphire Distillery

The story of the world's most famous Gin is told from a beautiful Laverstoke Mill, just a 40 minute train journey from Winchester.

56m bottles of gin produced every year, 60% sold directly to the United States. Be blown away at seeing the old mill buildings into a modern distillery, two still shaped glasshouses and a masterclass to shape up your gin-based cocktail making skills.

bombaysapphire.com



Southampton Bargate

MAYFLOWER PILGRIMS

The Mayflower arrived in Southampton in July 1620 and was joined by the Speedwell, carrying the Pilgrims from Leiden. Passengers and crew spent time in Southampton preparing for their voyage to the New World. Visit the sites familiar to the Mayflower Pilgrims on a city walking tour.

seesouthampton.co.uk

ACCOMMODATION

Wykeham Arms Hotel

18th Century Inn, located between Winchester college and the Cathedral.

wykehamarmswinchester.co.uk

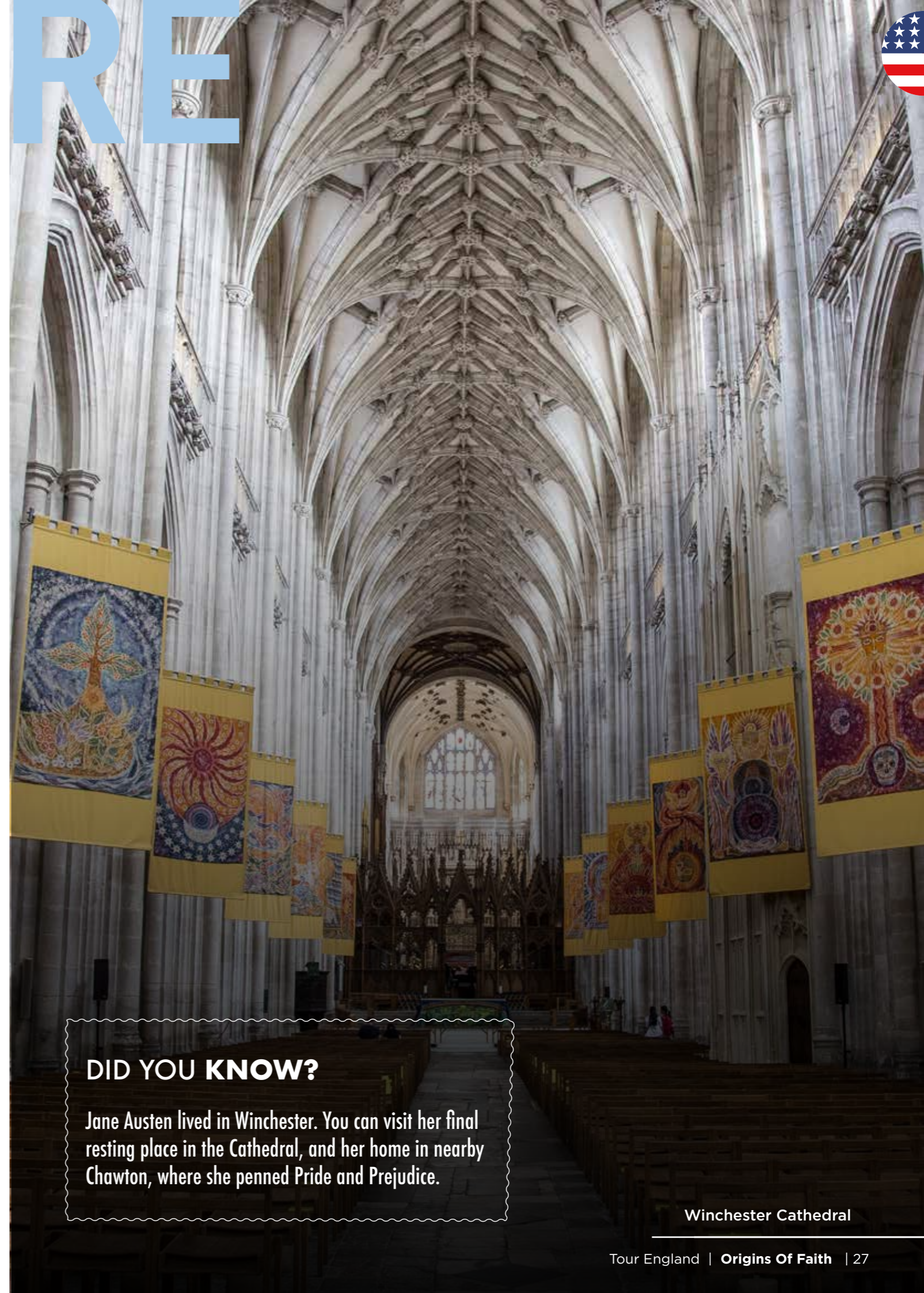
Room 2 Southampton

The world's first 'hometel' with spectacular harbour views.

room2.com/southampton



Winchester Cathedral



DID YOU KNOW?

Jane Austen lived in Winchester. You can visit her final resting place in the Cathedral, and her home in nearby Chawton, where she penned *Pride and Prejudice*.

Winchester Cathedral

ENGLISH RIVIERA

GETTING HERE

The main train line from London Paddington to Penzance (in Cornwall) serves the coast. 216 miles by road, it takes around three hours to reach Torquay and Paignton from London.

For more destination information visit: englishriviera.co.uk



The English Riviera is a 22-mile stretch of sweeping Devon coastline - named for its Mediterranean climate. Summer home of Agatha Christie, the county is loved by many for its charming scenery, and popular with ancestral tourists and visitors seeking a classic English seaside experience. Torquay and nearby Torre Abbey are amongst the must-see attractions.

TORRE ABBEY MUSEUM & GARDENS

This medieval monastery was founded by Premonstratensian monks in 1196 and has an impressive art collection and gardens.

torre-abbey.org.uk

ACCOMMODATION

The Grand

Stunning location, perched on Torquay seafront. 132 rooms.

grandtorquay.co.uk

The Imperial

Prime cliff-top location overlooking Torbay - a favorite of Agatha Christie. 152 rooms.

theimperialtorquay.co.uk



Torquay



Torre Abbey

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TRAVEL INFORMATION

Getting here and getting around.

The product in this document can be built as a touring itinerary, or it can be used as modular content and incorporated into existing England tours.

Many of the destinations and things to do can be accessed in a day from London - but we recommend you linger for longer in these regions outside of London - and uncover the real England.

By Air

England is well connected to the US, with frequent daily flights from 35 US airports. Key gateways include London Heathrow, London Gatwick and Manchester.

Regional gateways provide easy access to some of the destinations outside of London, and many provide connecting routes to the US.

By Rail

Traveling by rail is a scenic and relaxing way to enjoy England. Most main cities and towns have well serviced railway stations and all will connect to London. For some of the more rural destinations, a taxi or a driver guide would be necessary for F.I.T.'s. Train travel tends to be cheaper when booked in advance.

The **BritRail pass** provides ultimate flexibility and value for money for traveling in Britain. The passes must be purchased before visitors leave the US.

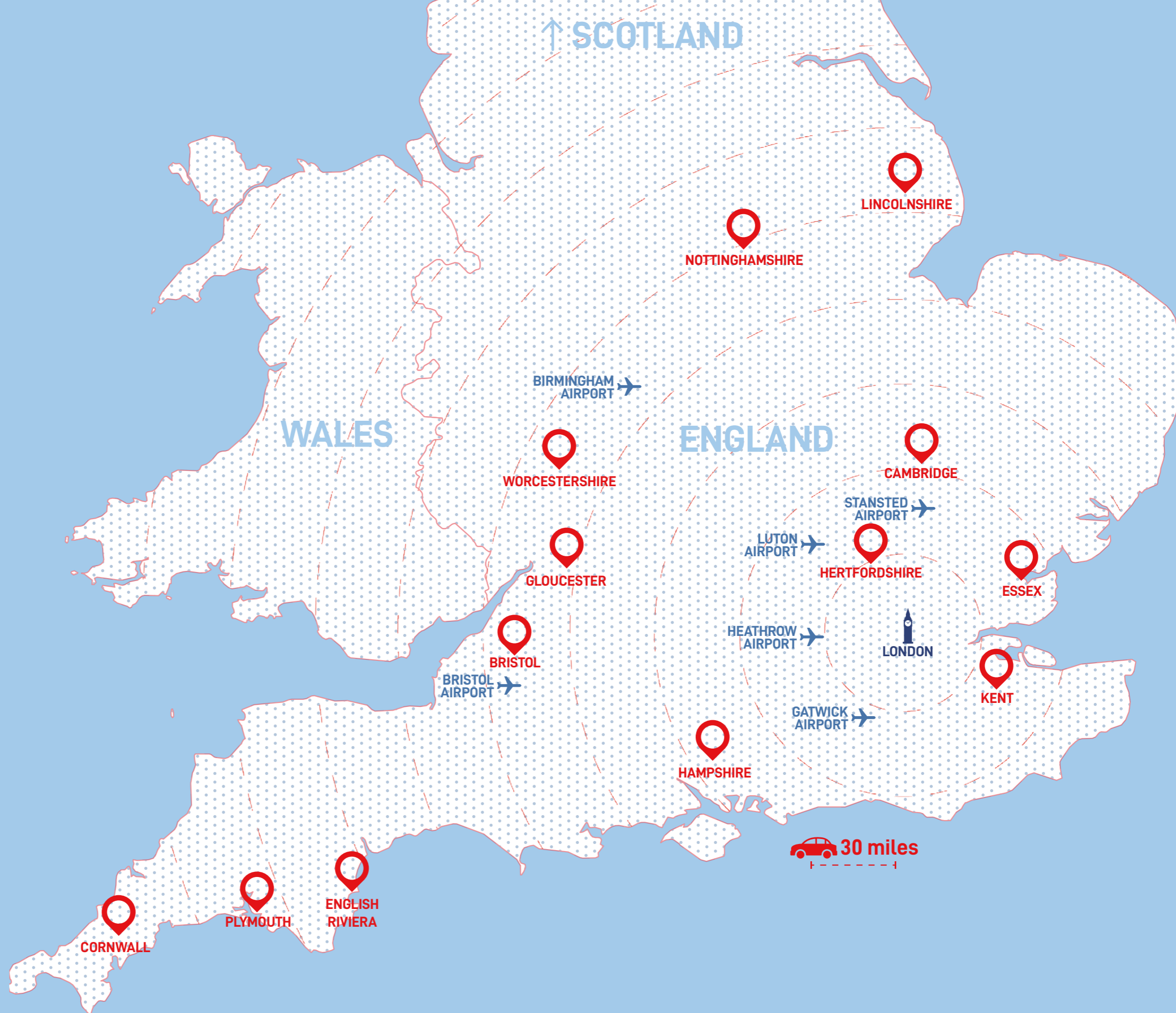
britrail.com

Great Western Railway operate the train network from London across the South West of England and Wales and the overnight sleeper service between London and Penzance. For routes and ticket information and sales:

gwr.com

By Car

For self drive visitors, cars in England are right hand drive and cars drive on the left hand side of the road. Hire cars tend to be manual (stick shift) so be sure to request an automatic on booking.



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Worcestershire
www.visitworcestershire.org

Lincolnshire
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Visit
Cornwall

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HAMPSHIRE**
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Cambridge
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KENT
GARDEN of ENGLAND
kent.gov.uk


ENGLISH RIVIERA
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DESTINATION
PLYMOUTH


VISIT HERTS