



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Student Handbook 2016

British Cultural Heritage

BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL



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Useful Telephone Numbers

Emergencies (police, ambulance, fire) – 999

University telephone numbers

University of Birmingham

Edgbaston

Birmingham

B15 2TT

University Switchboard – 0121 414 3344

University Security Services – 0121 414 3000

Accommodation

Victoria Hall

17 Grange Road

Birmingham

B29 6BL

Telephone number: **0121 256 7000** (24 hours)

Taxi

TOA Taxis: 0121 427 8888

Castle cars: 0121 472 2222

A Warm Welcome

I am delighted that you have chosen the Birmingham International Summer School (BISS) programme. At the University of Birmingham we offer an elite education and an inspiring learning experience. You will study at the UK's most beautiful campus, taught by outstanding academics, and have the opportunity to immerse yourselves into the rich British cultural experience.



The British Cultural Heritage programme allows you to explore aspects of British art, architecture, literature, music, design and popular culture that form the basis of Britain's most noteworthy heritage. From Shakespeare's Birthplace in Stratford upon Avon, to the cradle of the industrial revolution at the World Heritage Site of Ironbridge, and from experiencing the traditional English Pub night, to the music of the Beatles, the programme will give you an insight into how great heritage sites were created and a 'behind-the-scenes' look at how they are managed, as well as an introduction to some of the fun aspects of British life and popular culture.

This Student Handbook will give you all the information you need about the programme, the lecturers, the social events and practical information to find your way around the University and the City. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact our BISS team members or the College designated coordinator.

I hope you will have an enjoyable and inspirational experience while you are with us at Birmingham.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Jon Green', followed by a horizontal line.

Professor Jon Green

Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education)

Meet the Team

We look forward to welcoming you to the University of Birmingham family of staff, students and alumni, and hope that Birmingham will become your 'home away from home'. At BISS we pride ourselves on the personal touch so throughout your stay our core team of staff will be available to answer your questions and help you get the most out of your time here in Birmingham.



Julie Kaul, BISS Officer

I am an International Development Project Officer based in the University's International Relations team. As the Birmingham International Summer School Officer I organise and manage the non-academic component of the programme. I look forward to spending time with you and helping you to immerse yourself into British Culture through the exciting social programme that we have planned. I will also be providing you with any general support throughout the programme.

BISS Student Ambassadors

Meet our student ambassadors who are here to provide you with support throughout the summer school and to ensure that you have an unforgettable experience!

Olivia Mitchell, Student Ambassador

I am a current student on MSci Psychology and Psychological Research. I am an active member of a number of societies: Birmingham university dance society, 'Brumsurf' (surf society), Psychosoc (Psychology society) and Salsa and Latino society. I have been a student ambassador, as well as taking part in University activities including a psychology prize bursary and international work experience bursary, which funded a psychology counselling placement in Ghana and a mental health placement in Sri Lanka. I've worked in psychiatric hospitals and undertaken voluntary work with children with special and complex needs at Midland Mencap. I thoroughly enjoyed working for last year's international summer school, and the experience really enriched my summer break. I look forward to meeting you!



Shantel Edwards, Student Ambassador

My name is Shantel Edwards and I am first year PhD student in the Department of English Literature, researching the marketing of contemporary Black British and British-Asian authors. I am currently a Project Assistant for a College of Arts and Law online resource that supports students when embarking, and returning, from a year abroad. I have undertaken all my four years of study at the University of Birmingham, have worked at the University and have lived in Birmingham for most of my life, so hopefully I know the campus and the city well by now and look forward to introducing you to it!



Ebunoluwa Ajewole, Student Ambassador

I am a 3rd year Dentistry student at the University of Birmingham (UoB). Being in a multicultural environment was something that was key in choosing a place to study and UoB provides exactly that! I have been able to enrich my interests in various cultures through the dynamic social life the University and City has to offer. During my time so far I have been able to get involved with various community projects that I am very passionate about. This includes feeding the homeless through voluntary work for the United Nations Millennium Development Goals committee and the Islamic Medical Society. I have been able to take advantage of the many opportunities that this research intensive institution has to offer which includes representing UoB at the very first INSPIRE dental conference. I am really enjoying my time at UoB and hope to continue making fond memories here!



Judit Pelikan, Student Ambassador

I am in my final year of my Master study, which is River Environments and their Management MSc. My undergraduate degree is Environmental Engineering, which I did in Hungary. I am involved into the Enactus Birmingham as Head of Finance, I am part of the University of Birmingham's International Students Association (ISA), Postgraduate & Mature Student Association (PGMSA) and I run with the Cool Runnings Athletic Club. I work at the Guild of Students as a Reception Assistant and I am a Postgraduate Ambassador. I was a Volunteer in Czech Republic and I participated at a short international course, 'Life cycle of an oil field', at University of Belgrade.

**Michelle Mumbi Gathigi, Student Ambassador**

I joined the University of Birmingham in September 2015 courtesy of the highly esteemed Chevening UK government scholarship. My time at the university has been wonderful, mostly because of the people I have met- individuals of diverse cultures, with great personalities and skills. The environment around the campus is vibrant and friendly, and one of the things I love most is the academic support that students receive, every step of the way during their course. When I'm not in class or studying, I participate in activities organized by the Postgraduate & Mature Student Association (PGMSA) and the Guild of Students. I am a member of the Salsa dance club, one of the best societies on campus! When I joined the university I received a warm welcome from fellow student ambassadors who made the transition process easy for me. In a similar fashion, I would love to share my experiences with other students, to help them fit in and show them how great this institution is.

**Judah Chandra, Student Ambassador**

My name's Judah and I am a fourth year Social Policy student. Last year I became the very first person to go on a year abroad in my department. I was in Copenhagen and it was such a fantastic experience. Now in my final year, I enjoy going to kickboxing twice a week and I find the exercise helps me to concentrate better in my studies. In the past, I was involved in really cool societies such as the acapella society (where I was a beatboxer), the social policy society (which I led for one year!), and various martial arts societies. At the moment, one of my current hobbies is doing KeyBoxing (Playing keyboard and beatboxing at the same time) and I've performed at a few events this semester. I've also been to India and China on study trips and am grateful for the University who helped me fund these fantastic experiences. University has a range of opportunities in which you can develop yourself and have fun. So get stuck in and I hope you enjoy Birmingham as much as I have!

**Hannah Cooper, Student Ambassador**

My name is Hannah and I have just completed my fourth year studying at the University of Birmingham. I study Psychology and hope to complete a doctorate in Clinical Psychology in the future, having spent the past year on placement in mental health services for older adults. During my time at university I have been a part of the gymnastic and pole fitness society, as well as the surfing society, and visited Morocco on a surfing trip in third year. Last summer I was on a mental health placement in Sri Lanka which gave me the opportunity to experience and work in an exciting and different culture.

**Dominic Morgan, Student Ambassador**

My name is Dominic and I'm in my second year studying a BEng in Mechanical Engineering. Throughout my time at university, I have taken part in many extracurricular activities including UBRacing, rugby and badminton. I also represent my school as a student representative and have worked for the guild as a student mentor. I have really enjoyed my time at university so far and hope to give you the same great experience.



The University of Birmingham

The University of Birmingham was established by Queen Victoria by Royal Charter in 1900 and was the UK's first civic or 'redbrick' university. It is a member of the prestigious Russell Group of research universities and a founding member of Universitas 21.

The University grew out of the radical vision of our first Chancellor, Joseph Chamberlain, and represented a new model for higher education, where students from all religions and backgrounds were accepted on an equal basis.

Since the mid-19th century to the Millennium, the University has made world-changing breakthroughs in medicine, science and engineering; it has championed excellence in the arts, impacted on government policy and made significant investments in campus facilities. Birmingham's global profile expanded greatly during this era, launching it into the arena of the top-100 universities in the world.

Birmingham has continued to be a university unafraid to do things a little differently, and in response to the challenges of the day. It was a founder member of the National Union of Students and the first university in the country to:

- be built on a campus model
- establish a faculty of commerce
- incorporate a medical school
- offer degrees in dentistry
- create a women's hall of residence
- have a purpose-built students' union building

The student population now includes circa 19,000 undergraduate and 9,000 postgraduate students, making it the largest university in the West Midlands region, and the 11th largest in the UK.

The University is home to the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, housing works by Van Gogh, Picasso and Monet, the Lapworth Museum of Geology, and the Joseph Chamberlain Memorial Clock Tower, which is a prominent landmark visible from many parts of the city, and the tallest free-standing clock tower in the world. Alumni include former British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and eight Nobel laureates.



Campus Facilities

The Library

The Library at the University of Birmingham provides more than 2 million printed books and manuscripts, over 50,000 electronic journals, 500,000 electronic books, and several hundred databases. Group, quiet and silent study areas are available in the Main Library in a modern, inspirational setting; subject specific site libraries provide support for medicine, dentistry and other subjects. PCs and group study facilities are bookable online. Instant help is available online across a range of platforms, as well as in person at the point of need.



As well as providing an excellent collection, specialist advisors are available to help students develop, improve and consolidate essential skills as they learn to succeed academically. Library Services provides a wide range of online and face-to-face opportunities for students to develop their research and study skills, as well as expertise in maths, academic writing, digital literacy and use of information technology.

Students can access training and support via the student portal (<http://www.my.bham.ac.uk/>) We are committed to providing excellent services and facilities and we always try to learn from student feedback.

Students can tell us what they think by:

- speaking to a member of staff at any library service desk.
- completing the form at <http://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/library/feedback>

More information about library services is available on the Student Portal at <http://www.my.bham.ac.uk/>

Key links:

www.findit.bham.ac.uk

www.resourcelists.bham.ac.uk

facebook [facebook.com/UniBirminghamLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/UniBirminghamLibrary)

twitter [@UoBLibServices](https://twitter.com/UoBLibServices)



University Centre

University Centre is home to a wide range of facilities that you can use during your stay.

The food court is open between 8.30am and 4.30pm serving a variety of hot and cold dishes throughout the day. There is a 'Spar' convenience store next to the food court. Other amenities situated in University Centre include banks with cash machine facilities, a card shop with post office, a

bookshop (John Smith's student store), a hairdresser and opticians.

Starbucks & Costa Coffee

There are coffee outlets in the Muirhead Tower, Bramall Music Building, University Centre and the Guild of Students. There is also a coffee outlet in the Munrow Sports Centre.

Outlets are open between 8am and 5pm and you can enjoy a wide selection of the highest quality coffees as well as a wide range of food options.



Food and drink; shops and services on campus:

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/community/university-campus/retail/index.aspx>

Sports Centre

University of Birmingham Sport (UBSport) enjoys some of the best sports facilities of any redbrick University in the country. The Munrow Sports Centre is the hub of UBSport, where many facilities are based.



The gym has a comprehensive range of cardiovascular equipment and resistance machines, as well as a dedicated free-weights area with Olympic plates and bars.

The 25m swimming pool is equipped to accommodate swimming galas with 6 lanes, starting blocks, turning boards and anti-wave lane ropes. It also has a hoist to assist disabled swimmers.

UBSport have a variety of courts and pitches, including; two water based synthetic pitches, 50 acres of grass pitches, seven squash courts and three tennis courts.

University Sport: <http://www.sport.bham.ac.uk>

Wi-Fi

Wi-fi facilities are available across the whole campus. During your induction you will be given individual log in details and passwords which will enable you to make use of this throughout your stay.



Overview of the Birmingham International Summer School

The Birmingham International Summer School has been designed to offer you an opportunity to immerse yourself in the culture of another country and to study in one of the most diverse cities in the UK. Our Summer School has been specifically designed for students based overseas who would like to experience studying abroad for a short period, whilst gaining a valuable insight into the fascinating culture and heritage of Britain.

The Cultural Heritage course immerses you in the art, architecture, literature, music, design and popular culture that forms the basis of Britain's culture and heritage and continues to shape its identity.

As well as the academic side of the course, you will also experience a varied and exciting social programme. A traditional pub night and afternoon tea in the beautiful setting of the Winterbourne Botanical Garden are just some examples of the social activities you will have the chance to experience.

The three week programme is equivalent to an accredited undergraduate course (20 UK credits, 4 US Credits, or 10 ECTS), and students on this programme can work towards obtaining credit. All students attending our courses will receive a certificate of attendance from the University of Birmingham on successful completion of their course.

The Cultural Heritage course is delivered by University faculty who are experts in their field. There are 'hands-on' demonstrations, tours and field visits, together with lectures.

When you have completed the BISS programme you will have an understanding of British heritage and culture through the lectures, field visits and social activities that you have experienced. You will have gained an insight into aspects of the British way of life and will have had the opportunity to engage with many traditional aspects of British heritage and culture which continue to influence us today. We hope that your experience on the Summer School will stay with you and that you will feel inspired to come back to visit the UK and Birmingham in the future.



BISS Week 1 Programme

Arrivals Sunday 17th July

	Monday 18 July	Tuesday 19 July	Wednesday 20 July	Thursday 21 July	Friday 22 July	Saturday 23 July	Sunday 24 July
Week 1							
08:30 - 09:00	BISS Induction			Lecture: A Song of Stone: Visiting English Castles	Coach to Middleport Pottery	BISS Social Day Cambridge/ London	
09:00 - 09:30							
09:30 - 10:00				Coach to Kenilworth Castle			
10:00 - 10:30			Lecture: British Creative Industries and the Jewellery Quarter				
10:30 - 11:00		Lecture: British Cultural Policy	Train to New Street and walk to Jewellery Quarter		Visit: Middleport Pottery		
11:00 - 11:30							
11:30 - 12:00							
12:00 - 12:30		Lunch	Lunch	Visit: Kenilworth Castle	Lunch		
12:30 - 13:00	BISS Welcome Lunch						
13:00 - 13:30							
13:30 - 14:00							
14:00 - 14:30	Module Introduction and assignment talk	Lecture: Developing a Heritage Resource	Visit: Museum of the Jewellery Quarter	Coach to Compton Verney	Coach to Biddulph Gardens		
14:30 - 15:00		Visit: Winterbourne House					
15:00 - 15:30	Introduction to Birmingham University International Summer School		Walk to New Street Station, train to UoB Campus	Visit: Compton Verney	Visit: Biddulph Gardens		
15:30 - 16:00							
16:00 - 16:30		Activity: Afternoon Tea				Coach to UoB campus	
16:30 - 17:00				Coach to UoB campus			
18:00 - 21:00			BISS Social Quiz Night				

Academic lectures / workshops/self study

Free time

International Relations leading/staffing

(This schedule is correct at time of print but may be subject to change. A detailed timetable will be provided on arrival)

BISS Week 2 Programme

Week 2	Monday 25 July	Tuesday 26 July	Wednesday 27 July	Thursday 28 July	Friday 29 July	Saturday 30 July	Sunday 31 July
09:00 - 10:00							
10:00 - 10:30		Coach to Coalbrookdale					
10:30 - 11:00	Coach to Ironbridge	Lecture: Introduction to Ironbridge Gorge Museums Trust	Workshop: Cultural Collections at the University of Birmingham	Lecture: The Role of the Museum	Coach to Liverpool		
11:00 - 11:30		Visit: Old Furnace		Train to Birmingham			
11:30 - 12:00							
12:00 - 12:30	Visit: Blists Hill Victorian Town	Visit: Ingenuity and the Museum of Iron	Break / Lunch	Lunch in Birmingham	Visit: Liverpool UNESCO World Heritage Site		
12:30 - 13:00							
13:00 - 13:30		Coach to Ironbridge	Lecture: Digital Technologies		Lunch		
13:30 - 14:00	Lunch at Bliss Hill			Visit: Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery			
14:00 - 14:30		Lunch and time to explore Ironbridge					
14:30 - 15:00	Coach to Coalport China Museum		Lapworth Museum Tour		Visit: The Beatles Story & Albert Dock		
15:00 - 15:30	Visit: Coalport China Museum	Coach to Jackfield					
15:30 - 16:00		Visit: Jackfield Tile Museum	Study Time	Visit: IKON Gallery			
16:00 - 16:30	Check in to YHA Coalport				Time to explore Liverpool		
16:30 - 17:00		Coach to UoB campus					
17:30 - 17:30							
18:00 - 21:00	Dinner at Traditional British pub	BISS Social: Pub Night/ Cinema			Coach to UoB campus		

	Academic lectures / workshops / self study
	Free time
	International Relations leading/staffing

(This schedule is correct at time of print but may be subject to change. A detailed timetable will be provided on arrival)

BISS Week 3 Programme

Week 3	Monday 01 Aug	Tuesday 02 Aug	Wednesday 03 Aug	Thursday 04 Aug	Friday 05 Aug	Saturday 06 Aug	Sunday 07 Aug
09:00 - 09:30			Coach to Oxford	Postgraduate study at UoB	Student Presentations	BISS Departure	
09:30 - 10:00	Lecture: British Literary Heritage	Lecture: British Cultural Heritage and the Media	Pitt Rivers Museum	Student Presentations	Lunch		
10:00 - 10:30		Train to Birmingham			Seating for leaving ceremony		
10:30 - 11:00		Walk from station into town, lunch in Birmingham			BISS Presentation ceremony 14:00 - 17:00		
11:00 - 11:30	Coach to Stratford-Upon-Avon		Lunch and time to explore	Lunch			
11:30 - 12:00							
12:00 - 12:30	Lunch						
12:30 - 13:00							
13:00 - 13:30	Visit: Shakespeare's Birthplace	Visit: BBC Studios Tour					
13:30 - 14:00			Ashmolean Museum				
14:00 - 14:30							
14:30 - 15:00	Visit: Holy Trinity Church	Mailbox to Brindley Place	Oxford Walking Tour				
15:00 - 15:30			Coach to UoB Campus				
15:30 - 16:00	Time to explore						
16:00 - 16:30							
16:30 - 17:00	Coach to UoB campus						
17:00 - 17:30							
18:30 - 21:00			BISS Social: Balti				

	Academic lectures / workshops/self study
	Free time
	International Relations leading/staffing

(This schedule is correct at time of print but may be subject to change. A detailed timetable will be provided on arrival)

Social Events

(all of these events are free to attend)

The inclusive social programme is a great opportunity to get to know each other, with lots of fun activities designed to complement your experience of living and studying in Birmingham. Starting with the Welcome Lunch, the varied programme includes locally based activities such as a traditional pub night to activities further afield such as the opportunity to explore the historical city of Cambridge or the exciting capital city London. At the end of the programme there is a farewell event to celebrate your time and achievements at BISS.

Week 1

Monday 18th July BISS Welcome Lunch

We will be hosting a Welcome Lunch for Summer School students and staff on the first day of the course. The event will be a great opportunity to meet and network with your tutors and fellow course mates in an informal setting.



Wednesday 20th July On campus Quiz Night

Join in on a fun night of testing your arts and craft skills and finding your way around campus through the 'University quiz'. This ice breaker session is a great way to get to know your peers and the University better.

Saturday 23rd July Day trip to Cambridge

We have organised a coach to take you to Cambridge for a day of sightseeing.

The iconic city boasts spectacular architecture in the form of its colleges and churches, with culture abounding in the shape of museums, galleries, art centres and theatres, combined with beautiful scenery of green parks, wide open spaces and the River Cam, which winds through its heart.



Or choose.....

Saturday 23rd July London City Day Trip

Visit England's capital City! There is so much to discover in London. Whether you are interested in history, culture, entertainment, food or shopping this exciting city offers something for everyone!



Week 2



event**

Or choose....

Tuesday 26th July Traditional English Pub Night

Experience an important part of British culture – and evening visiting some of Birmingham's pubs while you socialise with friends and meet local people.

**please ensure that you bring your passport or driver's license to this



Tuesday 26th July Electric Cinema

Enjoy a summer blockbuster movie at the oldest working cinema in the UK. With its original 1930's Art deco look you will truly be transported back in time!

Week 3

Wednesday 3rd August A taste of Birmingham: The Balti

We are taking you to a local restaurant to enjoy a Balti, a dish invented in Birmingham.

The Balti became famous when it first appeared in restaurants in the 'Balti' Triangle area of South East Birmingham around 1975. Balti restaurants are often known in Birmingham as 'balti houses.'



The Birmingham Balti is a style of cooking where every chef uses a different combination of spices cooked in a thin pressed steel 'wok' which heats up quickly. Either onions or tomatoes are used as a base with freshly cooked chicken breast or lamb used in most meat baltis. For those who prefer not to eat meat, vegetarian options are also available. During the fast cooking process over a high flame, ginger and garlic puree are added with a selection of spices including fenugreek, turmeric, cumin and a garam masala mix. Enjoy!



Friday 5th August Farewell and presentation ceremony

As our summer school programme draws to a close, the certificate presentation ceremony will be taking place on the final Friday afternoon.

This is a chance to say your goodbyes to the staff and your fellow classmates before departing on Saturday.

The social event schedule is correct at time of print but may be subject to change

PRACTICAL ADVICE

Living in Britain

Living and studying in a different culture can be very exciting and enjoyable, and is certainly one of the best ways to develop independence and a different perspective on life. Even though you are only here for a few weeks, life in the UK will be different to what you are used to. International perceptions of the British broadly revolve around their politeness and reserved nature. However, the UK has a diverse, multicultural population with residents from all over the world. There are strong regional accents and identities and, as in many countries, differences between lifestyles in rural and urban areas. This means that there is no single 'British' way of life and you will encounter a variety of attitudes and outlooks. This is all part of what makes the UK an interesting and dynamic country to live in. The following pages offer an introduction to some of the social attitudes and cultural norms that you might encounter and some handy practical information for your stay in the UK.

The British Council also has advice on living and studying in the UK that can be found at www.educationuk.org under the 'Living in the UK' tab.

Cultural adjustment

Everyone who lives in another country, even for a short time, may find that they have days when they miss their own food, their families, their friends or their weather, and just generally do not feel so happy. This is normal and is sometimes called 'culture shock'. You may go through stages when you will feel excited about the UK and the University and times when you will not. Here are a few tips that may help you to cope with cultural adjustment:

- Keep in touch with home, e.g. Skype, telephone, writing a letter, email
- Keep familiar things in your room such as photographs (or use as your screensaver)
- Make friends with other students – learn about other cultures
- Talk to a member of staff about how you are feeling
- For some students their faith community will be very important – check with the Chaplaincy for more information

For more useful information visit: <http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Preparation-and-Arrival/Facing-culture-shock>

Weather

The weather is one of the most frequently talked about subjects, and is an easy way to begin a discussion with a stranger! This is because in the UK the weather can change very quickly, even during a single day, and knowing what the weather forecast is means that people can plan appropriately what to wear and whether or not to take an umbrella with them. If you are going out for the day you may want to check the forecasts. A good website is <http://news.bbc.co.uk/weather/>

Drinking in pubs

Anyone aged 18 or over can buy and drink alcohol. Pub culture is part of British social life, but you do not have to drink alcohol to experience pub culture – all pubs and bars offer a good variety of non-alcoholic drinks and many of them serve food. If you are going to a pub or bar you should take photo ID showing your date of birth as you may be asked to prove that you are 18 or over. It is illegal to buy alcohol for someone who is under the age of 18.

Smoking

Smoking is banned in all public spaces, i.e. in buildings and at train stations and bus stops. Smoking is not allowed in any academic buildings on campus or in halls of residence. Some public buildings, e.g. restaurants, have a special outdoor area for smokers. If there is no special area you can smoke anywhere outdoors, but it is not considered acceptable to smoke in doorways or next to open windows. On campus you are not allowed to smoke within 10 metres of any building.

Out and About

- Queuing is common in public places. When you join a queue, make sure you join it at the back and wait your turn. The British public do not like it when people 'jump' the queue and will react in a number of different ways (from tutting and shaking their heads, to manoeuvring you out of the queue)
- Do ask people for directions if you are lost – most people are happy to help
- When waiting in line for an ATM, stand at least 1 metre (3ft) away from someone using the ATM to afford them privacy. If you need to ask where the nearest ATM is you should use the term 'cashpoint' as the term ATM is not widely used in the UK

Money

For your short visit to the UK it is not worth opening a bank account. You can use your ATM card to withdraw cash once you get here, your credit or debit (checking account) card to withdraw cash or for purchases, or travellers' cheques. All the major credit and debit cards e.g. Visa, Mastercard, etc are widely accepted in the UK.

British currency has coins to the value of 1p, 2p, 5p, 10p, 20p, 50p, £1 and £2, with notes to the value of £5, £10, £20 and £50. If you have £50 notes it is advisable to change them for smaller denominations as many small shops and cafés are reluctant to accept them.



Tipping

Tipping is not expected in the UK in the way that it is in some countries, such as the United States. There are no fixed rules for how much and when you should tip. If you do tip the amount you give should reflect how you feel about the service you have received. However, it is customary to tip 10% in restaurants (where service is not included in the bill – be sure to check this) and to leave a small tip in cafés where you are served at the table. It is not customary to tip in cafés, coffee shops, bars or informal restaurants where you order your food or drinks at a counter. It is not a requirement to tip in taxis, but it is customary to round up to the nearest pound on metered taxi journeys.

In addition to the British Council website there are many other sources of information about etiquette and culture in the UK such as: <http://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Travel-g186216-s606/United-Kingdom:Tipping.And.Etiquette.html>

Students and the law

Overseas students are subject to the same laws as British citizens – with the exception of immigration, voting and citizenship. This means you are guaranteed the same protection of the law and the same civil rights. If you break the law, you are also liable for the same consequences as British citizens.

Health and Welfare

Medical care

As you will be in the UK for a period of less than six months, you will not be covered by the National Health Service (NHS) unless you are from the EEA or a country with a reciprocal arrangement (in which case you will be eligible for some, limited, free NHS treatment). You can check whether your country has a reciprocal arrangement on the NHS website.

<http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/AboutNHSservices/uk-visitors/Pages/accessing-nhs-services.aspx>

All overseas students are advised to carry appropriate insurance to cover any treatment required. If you are not covered by the NHS you must ensure that you have adequate and appropriate insurance for your stay in the UK. In the UK, doctors, who are your main point of contact for medical issues, are referred to as GPs (general practitioners) and they are based in medical practices. If you require the services of a GP you may choose to visit the University Medical Practice which is located on Pritchatts Road. For more information visit www.theump.co.uk. Alternatively, there is a walk-in medical centre on Katie Road in Selly Oak which is open from 8am to 8pm every day and you do not need to book an appointment in advance.

Pharmacies (Chemists)

There are a number of pharmacies in Selly Oak close to Victoria Hall. If you have a minor ailment you can ask a pharmacist for advice as they have been trained to give advice for minor conditions. If they cannot help you or believe you should see a doctor they will direct you to see a GP. Many medicines which can be bought in some countries without seeing a doctor first can only be dispensed in the UK if you have a prescription from a GP. The pharmacist will be able to advise you about this.

Medical emergencies

If you or someone you are with needs urgent medical assistance you must telephone **999**. This number is free to call from all phones including mobiles. You will need to request an ambulance and be prepared to give details of where you are and what has happened. If you require emergency treatment but feel you are well enough to travel you can visit Accident and Emergency (A&E) at a hospital. The closest A&E to the University is located at Queen Elizabeth Hospital. You may feel that it is better to take a taxi. Emergency medical treatment is free even if you do not qualify for general NHS treatment. Directions to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital can be found on the hospital's website at www.uhb.nhs.uk

Faith - University multi-faith chaplaincy

The University Chaplaincy is a vibrant, warm, friendly, and exciting place where everyone is welcome. Students can meet in a number of different faith societies for prayer, meditation, worship and social gatherings. Throughout the day, a large lounge and kitchen facilities are available for study, chat, or the cheapest cup of tea or coffee on campus. The Chaplaincy has a quiet room as a space for personal reflection or just a moment's peace. You do not have to be 'religious' – the Chaplaincy is open to all and the chaplains are happy to meet with people on an informal and relaxed basis, in complete confidence, for conversation and support. Visit the Chaplaincy Website: www.chaplaincy.bham.ac.uk or email: chaplaincy@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Keeping Safe

Birmingham (and most of the UK) is generally safe but, just as in your home country, it is important that you use common sense to protect yourself and your property. Here are some tips to help keep you safe, and contact numbers to use in emergencies.

The University provides further information on safety online:
www.birmingham.ac.uk/welcome/international/safetyandsecurity.aspx

Emergencies

Off campus you can contact the police, fire, ambulance or coastguard services by dialling **999**. (You will then be asked which service you require e.g. police, ambulance or fire brigade). This call is free from any telephone.

On campus

You can contact University of Birmingham Security 24 hours a day if you need help. For routine enquiries the number is 0121 414 3000. In emergencies please ring 0121 414 4444. You should save these numbers to your phone for reference.

Fire alarm system

There is a fire escape plan in each room which explains the fire procedures and where the assembly point is. If the alarm goes off you must leave the building immediately and go to the assembly point. Do not stop to collect any personal belongings. You will not be allowed back into the building (even if it is a false alarm) until Security has reset the alarm. Never wedge open fire doors or block fire exits.

Electrical equipment

The British electricity supply works on 230 volts/50 cycles and most buildings have sockets which take a 13-amp square, three-pin plug. Please check that any electrical equipment you bring from home can be used on this voltage or can be converted. You should be able to purchase an adapter in the UK but please note that it is dangerous to overload sockets or circuits with too many adapters and you should never put a two-pin plug in a three-pin socket.

In your hall of residence

When you are not in your student accommodation keep your windows and doors closed and locked, even if you will only be out for a short time

Out and about

- Do not carry lots of unnecessary cash on you.
- Keep your money and valuables secure and out of sight.
- Keep your bank cards safe and separate from any note of your PIN numbers.
- Keep a copy of essential telephone numbers on you for emergencies.
- When you are travelling never leave your bags unattended. Do not ask strangers to look after them while you go for a coffee or into a shop. Bags left unattended in any public place in Britain will be rapidly removed by security, and are often destroyed.
- It is advisable to have some photo ID showing your date of birth out with you at all times, as you could be asked to produce ID when out for the evening or going shopping. Accepted forms of ID are your driver's licence or passport. If you are taking your passport with you, keep it in a secure pocket that can be fastened. You should leave a photocopy of your important documents in your room as a backup in case your ID is lost or stolen.

Having a safe night out

- Never walk home alone late at night – stay with a group of friends or order a taxi.
- If for any reason you do go out alone, tell someone where you are going and when you plan to be back.
- Always have a spare £15 and taxi number on you in case you need to take a taxi back to your accommodation.

Alcohol and safety

If you consume alcohol you need to take extra care. Note that most health insurance will not cover you if you injure yourself due to intoxication. Drink spiking (where drugs are added to your drink without your knowledge) is becoming an increasing problem in the UK and the rest of the world. A spiked drink may taste normal, but possible affects you should be vigilant for are dizziness, faintness, feeling unwell, feeling less inhibited, being unsteady, and feeling confused.

Never accept drinks from strangers or leave drinks unattended. If someone offers you a drink, go to the bar with them so you can watch the drink being poured or opened. If a friend is drunk, feeling sick, stumbling, confused, or faint, their drink may have been spiked. Stay with them and take them to a safe place, tell a friend or bar/security staff. If they collapse ring an ambulance on 999 immediately.

Keeping in touch

Finding the best way of staying in contact with friends and family back home can be confusing – especially if it's your first time in the UK. To help, here's some useful information about keeping in touch for your time at the University of Birmingham – and keeping the costs down while you do.

Online

The internet provides many low-cost ways of catching up with the people that are important to you.

Free software packages like Skype or Vonage enable you to make voice and video calls to others using your broadband connection at no cost – as long as the person you are calling has it installed on their computer too. If you need to contact someone without a computer, you can also make calls to overseas numbers via Skype and Vonage by buying international minute bundles, with calls starting at 1.4p per minute.

To use Skype or Vonage, you will need a good quality internet connection, available on campus and in your halls of residence.

Texting apps on smart phones, such as 'what's app' also allow you to text internationally free of charge, as long as you have an internet connection.

Mobile phones

Mobile phones (cell phones) are widely used in the UK for phone calls, text messages and the internet.

Buy a UK SIM

Many students choose to buy a mobile phone while in the UK. The pay-as-you-go option is favoured by most students, especially those here for a short time. If you have brought a handset with you, you may want to consider buying a pay-as-you-go UK SIM card. This will allow you to text and call your friends in the UK without it being as expensive as using your mobile phone that you have brought with you.

There are many different networks available in the UK including Orange, Vodafone, O2 and Three. You may want to visit a specialist website to find a package best suited to your needs during your time here. The carphone warehouse is one such company that can advise on different products. (www.carphonewarehouse.com)

Buy an international SIM

If you've brought a cell phone with you to the UK, using your existing SIM could be expensive – particularly if you're planning to use it to call home. Instead, consider buying a dedicated international SIM card while you're here. Although you won't always be able to keep your existing number, such SIM cards allow you to make international calls for as little as 1p per minute – often far cheaper than using your own SIM in the UK.

International calling cards

Once you've decided which tariff you're going to use, an international calling card could help you reduce the costs further. You simply dial an access number, followed by the number you're attempting to call to get reduced rate minutes to overseas landlines and selected mobiles. Like a pay-as-you-go SIM, the cost of the call is taken from the credit on your card, but you'll also be charged a connection fee.

Before you purchase an international calling card, however, check with your provider: not all networks allow you to use them.

Postal Services

Your family are welcome to send letters and parcels to you during your time at the University of Birmingham. The postal address for Victoria Hall is:

Name
Block/ Room Number
Victoria Hall Student Accommodation
17 Grange Road
Birmingham
B29 6BL
United Kingdom



Please note that air mail can take several weeks to arrive so ensure that your family checks the estimated delivery time before sending anything to you.

You can send letters home by visiting a post office. There is a post office located in the University Centre and staff will help you to send letters or parcels overseas.

Any local letters or parcels that have already been stamped can be put in a post box. These are painted red and you will see them on the streets out and about. There is a post box located near the Guild of Students at the East Gate of the campus. No postal collections take place on Sundays.

Travel Information

Although we will be organising a number of events and activities for you during your stay, we also encourage you to travel independently.

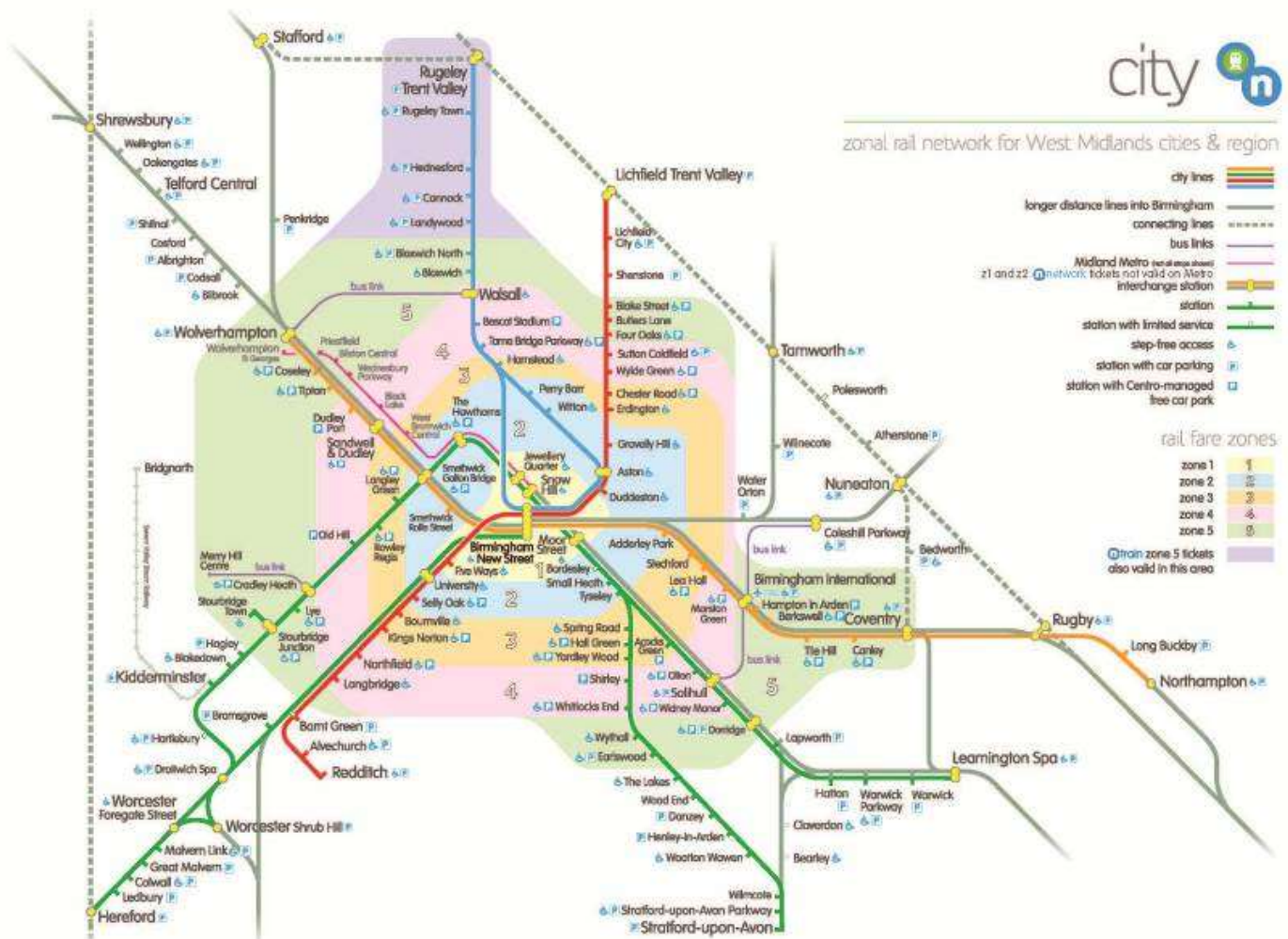
Getting to the University of Birmingham

The University of Birmingham is located approximately 3 miles (5 kilometers) away from the city centre.

By rail

Most cross-country services to Birmingham arrive at New Street station. The University has a train station on campus called 'University'. Up to six trains per hour depart for 'University' on the cross-city line (ten minutes to University station, final destination Longbridge or Redditch). The centre of the main campus is a five-minute walk from University station.

Map of the Birmingham Rail Network



By bus

Numbers 61, X62 and 63 travel to the University campus, while the 636 serves the Medical School and Queen Elizabeth Hospital. The services all run frequently from the city centre. There is a travel information office outside New Street station, where you can obtain bus timetables and departure point information. Maps can be found throughout the city centre indicating bus stop locations. The cost of a single fare from the University to the city centre is £2.30. **Please note that you will need the exact money when paying for your bus fare.**

getting to uni is easy by bus

Getting to the University of Birmingham is easy by bus with our extensive network serving the campus from locations across the city.

Wherever you're going at whatever time of day our buses can take you there with fantastic value tickets and travelcards. We recommend the Student Regional Travelcard. Find out more on the back cover.



By taxi

There are taxi ranks at New Street station and throughout the city centre. The journey to the University takes about ten minutes.

Local travel information

Network West Midlands (www.networkwestmidlands.com) provides information on all bus, rail and metro services running in the region. Local transport is frequent and affordable.

The Network West Midlands logo is clearly displayed on all bus stops, rail stations, bus stations and Metro stops. Wherever you see it, you'll find information to make using buses, trains and Metro easier. You will find timetable information at bus stops and maps and journey information at all places where services meet, helping you switch easily from bus to train or bus to Metro.

National travel information

Coach travel

National Express www.nationalexpress.com, T 08717 818181 is a popular service for coach travel throughout England and services all of the airports, including Heathrow. The main National Express bus stop in Birmingham is the Digbeth coach station, near the Bull Ring shopping centre.

Megabus www.megabus.com is great for travelling on a tight budget, providing connections between major UK cities.

Train travel

National Rail Enquiries www.nationalrail.co.uk, T: 08457 484950.

For journey times, route details, and ticket prices visit the National Rail Enquiries website. Be aware that engineering works are often scheduled for weekends, particularly Sundays.

Another good website for checking on the best train prices is The Trainline www.thetrainline.com.

In and Around the City of Birmingham

Your Free Time - Things to do in and around Birmingham

The official visitor website for Birmingham is www.visitbirmingham.com

Here you will find details of What's On in the City, travel information, festival & events and downloadable maps and guides to the City.

About Birmingham

One of Europe's most exciting destinations, Birmingham is brimming with life and culture, making it a wonderful place to live, study and work. The city offers culture and diversity, and most of the students studying in Birmingham fall in love with the city. Approximately 40% of our graduates stay on to live in the city after graduation.

The city boasts a variety of art galleries, museums and live performances, all of which are easily accessible from campus. The thriving cultural scene also includes concerts, student theatre, dance and exhibitions, as well as events such as Birmingham Book Festival and Artsfest. The new Library of Birmingham located in Centenary Square is the largest civic library in Europe.

Home to the iconic Bullring shopping centre and Selfridges, as well as smaller shopping complexes The Mailbox, The Pallasades and Pavilions, Birmingham is a haven for shoppers, with everything from famous brands to independent labels to choose from.

The Visitor Information Centre is located in the new Birmingham Library in Centenary Square. You can contact the tourist information office on 0844 888 3883 or email at enquiries@libraryofbirmingham.com.



This web page provides you with a list of live events taking place in Birmingham that are free of charge www.livebrum.co.uk/free.

Thinktank

Thinktank redefines the concept of a science museum. Think of it more as a way to discover the world around you and the life you lead. From steam engines to intestines, this exciting museum has over 200 hands-on displays on science and technology including a state-of-the-art Planetarium and Giant Screen Cinema.

The UK's first purpose-built digital planetarium and one of the top 10 busiest small planetariums in the world.

www.thinktank.ac

Birmingham's Back to Backs

Carefully restored, atmospheric 19th-century courtyard of working people's houses. An atmospheric glimpse into the lives of the ordinary people who helped make Birmingham an extraordinary city.

On a fascinating guided tour, step back in time at Birmingham's last surviving court of back to backs; houses built literally back-to-back around a communal courtyard.

Moving from the 1840s through to the 1970s, discover the lives of some of the former residents who crammed into these small houses to live and work. With fires alight in the grates, and sounds and smells from the past, experience an evocative and intimate insight into life at the Back to Backs.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/birmingham-back-to-backs

Aston Hall

Aston Hall is one of Birmingham's most treasured buildings. Rediscovered as part of the development project, Aston Hall boasts sumptuous interiors from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, including the magnificent Long Gallery.

Display rooms illustrate the part Aston Hall and its residents played in key moments in history, including the English Civil War, and how it prepared to receive royalty on more than one occasion.

www.bmag.org.uk/aston-hall

Gas Street Basin / Canals

Birmingham is said to have more canals than Venice.

Certainly, in the middle of the 18th Century, there were 174 miles of canal in the area. Now only 114 miles of them remain as navigable water, most of the rest have completely disappeared.

Walking the towpath gives you a chance to see the city and its surrounding towns in a new light. In the centre of the city, over 15 miles of canal have been improved to make safe and enjoyable walking - you don't need a boat!

Birmingham and the Black Country developed, at least in part, because of the canals. When walking or boating you can see some of the reasons why the history of the canals is part of the development of the city and its industries.

Once a thriving port, the Gas Street basin is where several canals meet offering colourful canal boats, bars, cafes and restaurants.

www.birminghamuk.com/gasbasin.htm

Ikon Gallery

From its beginnings in a small kiosk in Birmingham's Bullring, Ikon's reputation for innovation, internationalism and excellence has developed over 40 years.

Now housed in the neo-gothic Oozells Street School, Ikon has an artistic programme consisting of four interdependent strands.

The gallery features temporary exhibitions over two floors. A variety of media is represented, including sound, film, mixed media, photography, painting, sculpture and installation.

www.ikon-gallery.co.uk

Lickey Hills

The Lickey Hills are a range of hills in Worcestershire, England near the villages of Lickey, Cofton Hackett and Barnt Green. The hills are a popular country park area and they afford panoramic views over much of the surrounding countryside.

It is considered to be one of the most picturesque public spaces of its type in the West Midlands and is Green Flag recognised.

<http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/lickeyhills>

Moseley

Moseley is a suburb of Birmingham, England, south of the city centre. The area is a popular cosmopolitan residential location and leisure destination, with a number of bars and restaurants. The area also has a number of boutiques and other independent retailers.

<http://moseleyvillage.co.uk/>

The National Sea Life Centre

The National SEA LIFE centre takes visitors on a magical voyage beneath the waves. Spectacular displays including a walkthrough underwater tunnel provide close encounters with everything from starfish to seahorses sharks rays and otters. Regular talks and feeding demonstrations provide an even deeper insight into the magical mysteries of the seas. New: The Turtle Sanctuary helps these fascinating creatures who otherwise face extinction.

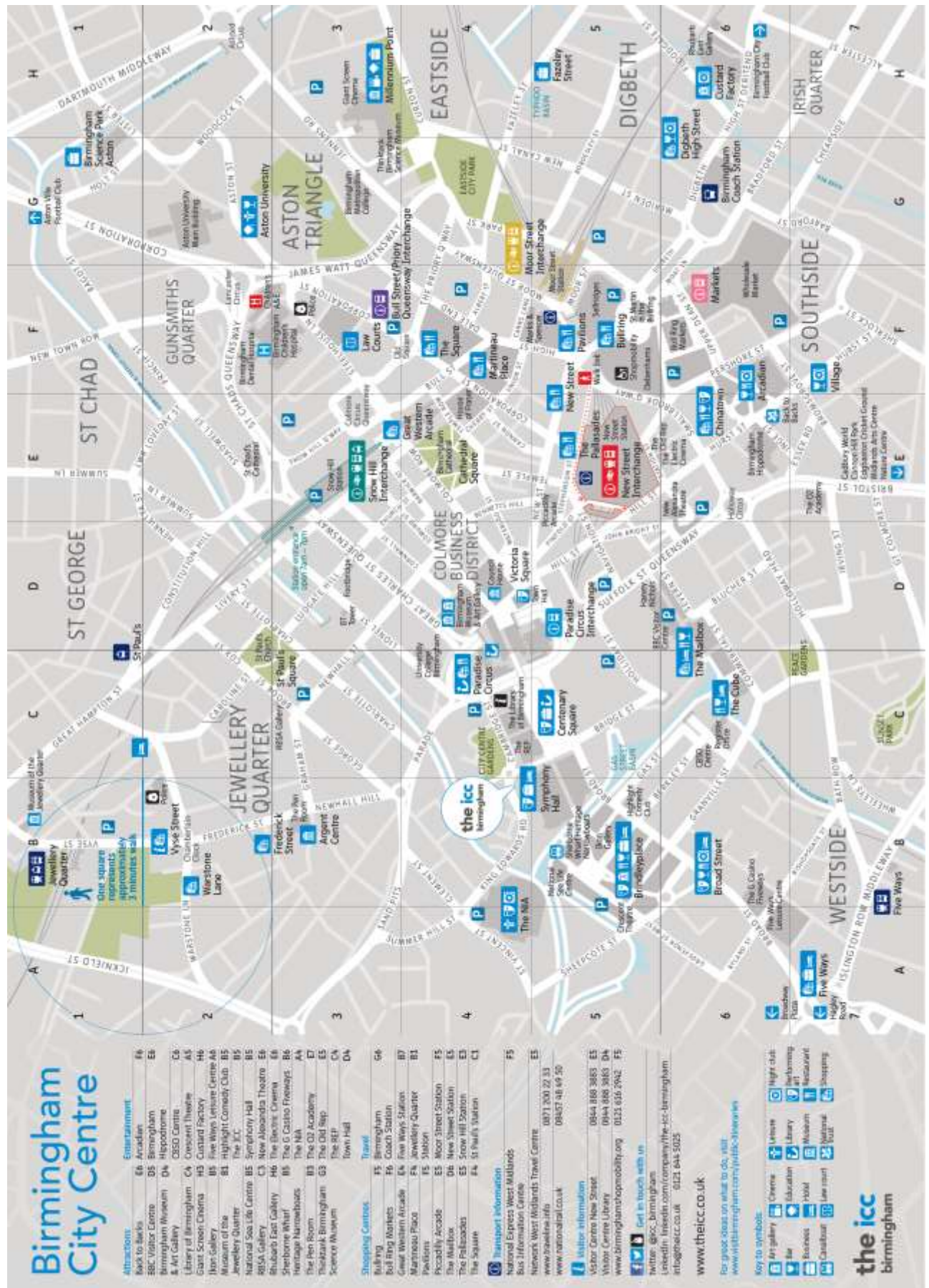
<http://www.visitsealife.com/birmingham/>

Black Country Museum

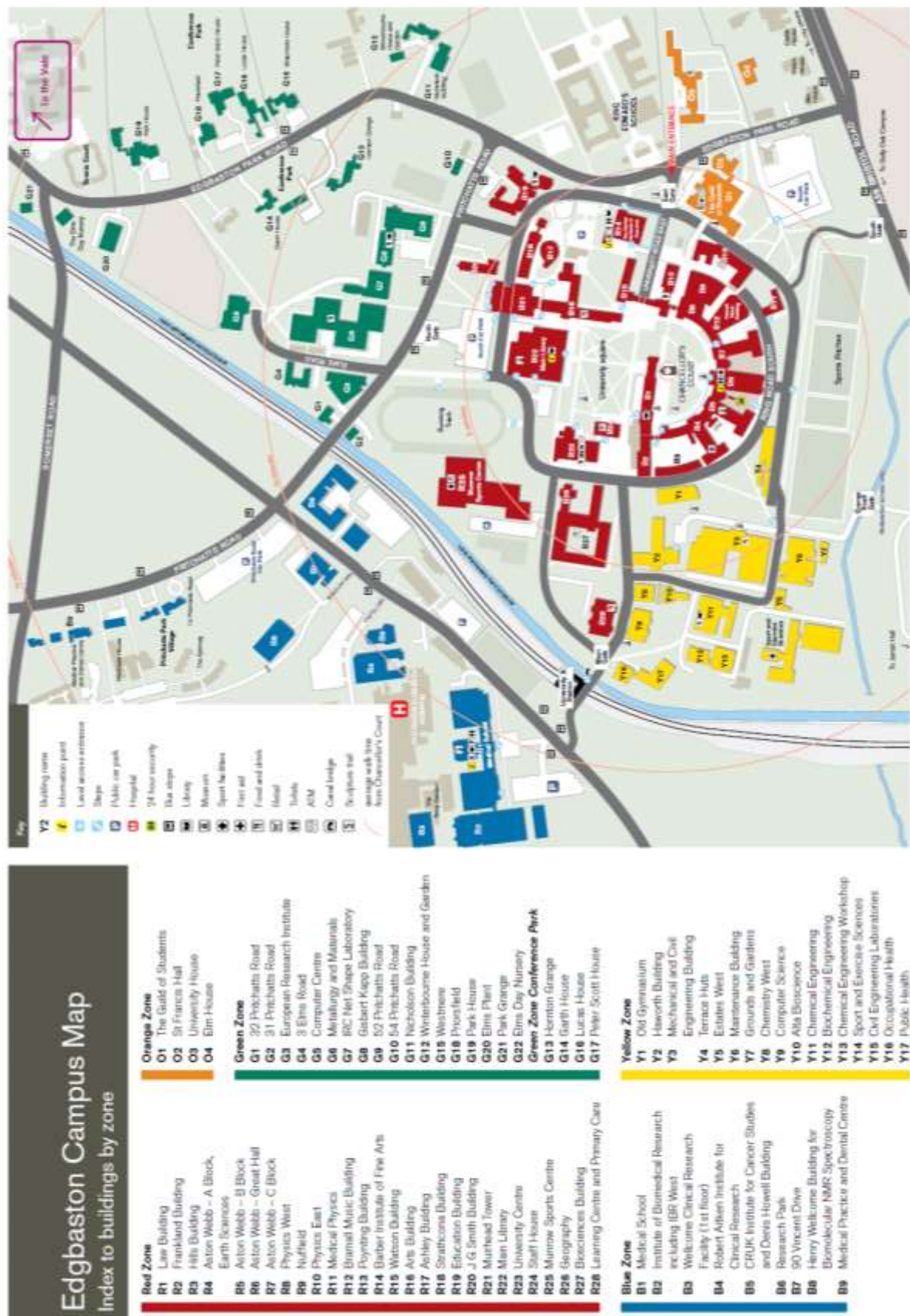
Discover a fascinating world when you visit this urban heritage park in the shadow of Dudley Castle at the heart of the Black Country. Historic buildings from all around the Black Country have been moved and authentically rebuilt at the Museum to create a tribute to the traditional skills and enterprise of the people that once lived in the heart of industrial Britain. <http://www.bclm.co.uk/>



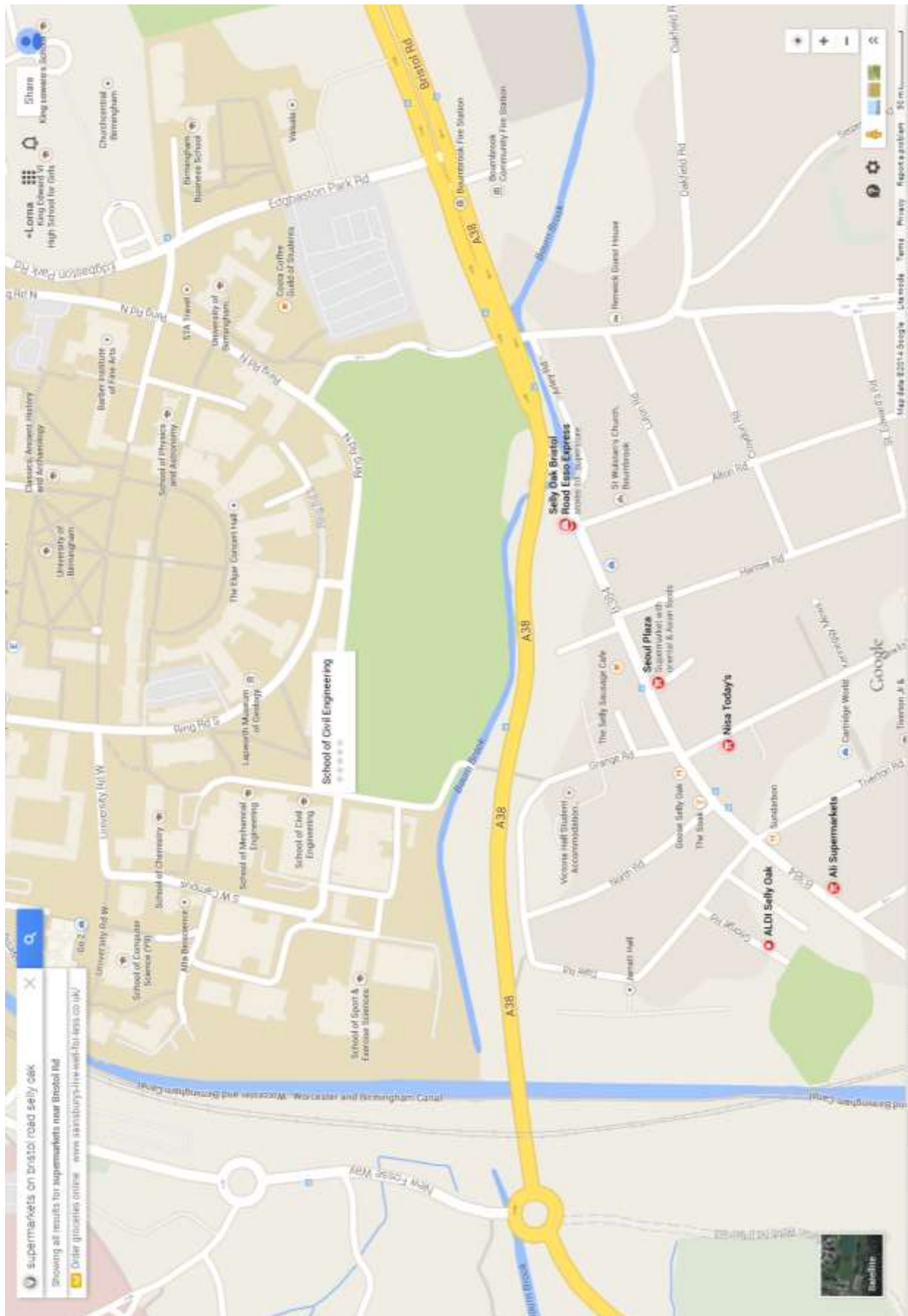
Map of Birmingham City Centre



Map of Campus



Map of the local area



ACADEMIC PROGRAMME INFORMATION

About Birmingham

The history of Birmingham in England spans 1400 years of growth, during which time it has evolved from a small 7th century Anglo Saxon hamlet on the edge of the Forest of Arden at the fringe of early Mercia to become a major city through a combination of immigration, innovation and civic pride that helped to bring about major social and economic reforms and to create the Industrial Revolution, inspiring the growth of similar cities across the world.

The last 200 years have seen Birmingham rise from market town into the fastest-growing city of the 19th century, spurred on by a combination of civic investment, scientific achievement, and commercial innovation and by a steady influx of migrant workers into its suburbs. By the 20th century Birmingham had become the metropolitan hub of the United Kingdom's manufacturing and automotive industries, having earned itself a reputation first as a city of canals, then of cars, and most recently as a major European convention and shopping destination.



By the beginning of the 21st century, Birmingham lay at the heart of a major post-industrial metropolis surrounded by significant educational, manufacturing, shopping, and sporting and conferencing facilities.

The city centre contains many tourist destinations as well as landmarks. Brindleyplace consists of three public squares, offices, retail units and the Sea Life Centre and Ikon Gallery. On the opposite side of Broad Street Tunnel on the canal network is Gas Street Basin. Nearby is also the International Convention Centre and Birmingham Symphony Hall, which is considered one of the best performance venues in the world. This overlooks Centenary Square and is adjacent to the Birmingham Repertory Theatre and the Library of Birmingham. Centenary Square was redeveloped in 1989 and given its current name in that year. Within Centenary Square are the Hall of Memory and Baskerville House.

Other public squares in the city centre include Victoria Square, Chamberlain Square and Old Square. There are two public squares within the Bull Ring shopping complex and another in the Custard Factory.

Retail is mainly focussed on the Bullring Shopping Centre, The Mailbox, Corporation Street, New Street and High Street. Great Western Arcade is one of several arcades in the city centre. Digbeth is the focus for many independent retailers. Broad Street and Digbeth is the main centre for Birmingham's nightlife.

The City's science museum is 'Thinktank' in the Millennium Point complex in Eastside. The history of the Jewellery Quarter is documented in the Museum of the Jewellery Quarter. Also in the Jewellery Quarter are the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists and St. Paul's Gallery. A group of back-to-back houses on Hurst Street are the last surviving court of back to back houses in the city.

Colmore Row is the centre of the Colmore Row and Environs Conservation Area which consists of St. Philip's Cathedral. The Jewellery Quarter is also covered by a conservation area. Other quarters in the city centre are the Chinese Quarter, Irish Quarter and Learning and Technology Quarter.

www.visitbirmingham.com



Birmingham Activities

We are very lucky in Birmingham to have access to a plethora of attractions relating to the city's vibrant cultural and creative industries. Over the next few pages is an outline of some of the attractions that you will visit during your time with us.

Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery (BMAG)

BMAG opened on 28 November 1885. Birmingham's citizens had campaigned for a Corporation Art Gallery for over 40 years. The generosity of manufacturers such as Thomas Clarkson Osler, Richard and George Tangye, and mayors Joseph and Richard Chamberlain, secured the art gallery for the town.



Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery's collections were formed from the late 1860s onwards, with the intention of providing models of excellence to educate and inspire Birmingham's craftspeople and industrialists.

John Feeney (1839-1905), proprietor of the Birmingham Daily Post, generosity made possible the extension of Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery in 1912. This increased the number of galleries from four to 40, providing new spaces for the museum's growing collection.

Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery is housed in a Grade II* listed city center landmark building. The museum shows its collections of art, applied art, social history, archaeology and ethnography. The collections have been designated as outstanding by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport and have local, regional, national and international importance.

Today the museums service continues to be supported by the Friends of Birmingham Museums & Art Gallery, the Public Picture Gallery Fund and many other grant-giving agencies. Their financial assistance is essential to the development of the collections, exhibitions, community engagement projects, education and research.

Staffordshire Hoard Galleries

The Staffordshire Hoard is the largest collection of Anglo-Saxon gold and silver metalwork ever found, anywhere in the world. Discovered in a field near the village of Hammerwich, near Lichfield, in Staffordshire, England on 5 July 2009, it consists of more than 3,500 items, that are nearly all martial or warlike in character.

The Staffordshire Hoard totals 5.094 kilos of gold, 1.442 kilos of silver and 3,500 cloisonné garnets. There is nothing comparable in terms of content and quantity in the UK or mainland Europe.

It is remarkable for being almost exclusively war-gear, with an extraordinary quantity of weapon hilt fittings, that is, decorative items from the handles of swords and knives. Many feature beautiful garnet inlays or animals in elaborate filigree.

The artefacts have tentatively been dated to the 7th or 8th centuries, placing the origin of the items in the time of the Kingdom of Mercia. Since the find, a research and conservation programme, headed by leading and notable experts in the field, has been launched and will be underway for many years.

www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/bmag

BBC Studios

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) is the UK's public-service broadcaster. It is the world's oldest national broadcasting organisation and the largest broadcaster in the world by number of employees, with over 20,000 staff in total, of which 16,672 are in public sector broadcasting.

The BBC is established under a Royal Charter and operates under its Agreement with the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. Its work is funded principally by an annual television licence fee which is charged to all British households, companies, and organisations using any type of equipment to receive or record live television broadcasts. The fee is set by the British Government, agreed by Parliament, and used to fund the BBC's extensive radio, TV, and online services covering the nations and regions of the UK. From 1 April 2014 it also funds the BBC World Service, launched in 1932, which provides comprehensive TV, radio, and online services in Arabic, and Persian, and broadcasts in 28 languages.

BBC Birmingham is one of the oldest regional arms of the BBC, located in Birmingham. It was the first region outside of London to start broadcasting both the corporation's radio (in 1922) and television (in 1949) transmissions, the latter from the Sutton Coldfield television transmitter. For many years, BBC Birmingham was based at the Pebble Mill Studios, but in 2004 moved to the brand-new Mailbox facility in the city centre.

The BBC Studio Tour allows a peek behind the scenes of Midlands Today, BBC WM, the Asian Network, and if you're lucky, the famous and intriguing Archers studio (if production schedules permit).

The entertaining and informative tour guides bring the fantastic TV, radio and online productions created at BBC Birmingham to life in a variety of creative ways! Your tour guides will surprise and amaze you as they explain how we get ideas from script to screen and how production teams work right up to the wire to deliver what you see on your TV or hear on your radio.

Our tour guides are as happy answering your burning questions on our broadcasting wizardry as they are explaining the ins and outs of the centre's mind-blowing technology. Between revealing our incredible Broadcast Support Centre and telling tales of the famous faces who've visited BBC Birmingham.

We'll show you the inner workings of how BBC Radio Drama is made and you'll be able to have a go at making your very own radio play complete with music and sound effects.

www.bbc.co.uk/showsandtours/tours/birmingham



Jewellery Quarter

The Jewellery Quarter is Europe's largest concentration of businesses involved in the jewellery trade, which produce 40% of all the jewellery made in the UK. Historically the Jewellery Quarter has been the birthplace of many pioneering advancements in industrial technology. At its peak in the early 1900s the Jewellery Quarter employed over 30,000 people. However due to foreign competition and lack of demand, the industry declined throughout the 20th century. The area is now being transformed into an urban village and hub for creative businesses, whilst maintaining its urban fabric. Its historical importance has led to numerous conservation schemes and it is an Anchor Point of the European Route of Industrial Heritage.

The Jewellery Quarter is well defined and historically referred to as the Hockley area. However, the Jewellery Quarter Business Improvement District (JQ BID) extends far beyond this. In fact it covers 300 acres, making it the largest BID area in Birmingham. The JQ BID area is bounded by the JQ side of Great Charles Street, Livery Street, Great Hampton Street, Hockley Hill, Key Hill Drive, Icknield Street, Sandpits and Summer Row. The area includes St Paul's, the main Jewellery Quarter shopping and manufacturing areas, and all the strategically important areas that connect the Quarter to the city centre and Hockley.



With such a large area and a diverse mix of business uses, this area rightly deserves its affectionate nickname 'Birmingham's Gem'. Its future depends on the community working together to preserve its heritage as well as adding to its history.

Jewellery Quarter Museum

The Jewellery Quarter Museum tells the story of jewellery production in Birmingham over the last 200 years as well as exploring the Jewellery Quarter as it is today. The museum is based in the Smith and Pepper jewellery factory, founded in 1899, with little having changed since the early part of the last century. Visitors are able to see a demonstration of jewellery making techniques at the jeweller's bench.

The 'Earth's Riches' gallery showcases jewellery made from material found in the natural world, from whale tooth and coral to diamond and platinum. A wide range of original jewellery by local designer makers is sold through the museum shop, as well as a wide variety of gifts and books.

www.jewelleryquarter.net/visit/museums/museum-of-the-jewellery-quarter

Ikon Gallery

Ikon is an internationally acclaimed art gallery situated in central Birmingham. Housed in a magnificent neo-gothic school building, it is an educational charity and works to encourage public engagement with contemporary art through exhibiting new work in a context of debate and participation. The gallery programme features artists from around the world. A variety of media is represented, including sound, film, mixed media, photography, painting, sculpture and installation.

Ikon's off-site programme develops dynamic relationships between art, artists and audiences outside the gallery. Projects vary enormously in scale, duration and location, challenging expectations of where art can be seen and by whom.

Education is at the heart of Ikon's activities, stimulating public interest in and understanding of contemporary visual art. Through a variety of talks, tours, workshops and seminars, our Learning team aims to build a meaningful relationship with Ikon's audience that enables visitors to engage with, discuss and reflect on contemporary art.

www.ikongallery.org



At the University of Birmingham

The University of Birmingham is lucky enough to have a number of cultural heritage attractions right on campus. Below is some information about the sites you will be visiting during your stay.

The Barber Institute of Fine Arts

The Barber Institute of Fine Arts is housed in one of Birmingham's finest Art Deco buildings, purpose built and opened by Queen Mary in 1939.

The Barber Institute was designed by Robert Atkinson (1883-1952), one of Britain's leading architects of the 1920s and '30s. When it opened The Times described the building as 'the purest example of his work' and it continues to be regarded as one of his greatest achievements.

In 1946 the building received a bronze medal from the Royal Institute of British Architects and in 1981 was listed Grade II by the Department of the Environment.

The design of the building came as a result of a close collaboration between Atkinson and the Barber's first Director, Professor Thomas Bodkin, and was influenced by new galleries built at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, the Boijmans Museum, Rotterdam and the Gemeentemuseum at The Hague.

The building is laid out around the central music auditorium, surrounded by corridors. On the Ground floor these form offices, lecture halls and libraries for the Departments of Music and History of Art. The galleries occupy the same space on the first floor, approached by a magnificent travertine staircase directly opposite the entrance.

Atkinson had originally planned for the addition of a courtyard and a substantial extension, but in 1965, the building of the Music Library changed these designs. In 1974 the Reserve Gallery was built on top of the Music Library to house works of art not currently on display, and finally between 1986-89, the metal and glass roof was added, along with a top-lit picture gallery.



The Barber Collection

The Barber Institute contains one of the finest small collections of European art in the UK. The works have been purchased to fit Lady Barber's criteria that everything should be of 'that standard of quality required by the National Gallery or Wallace Collection'. Careful consideration has also been given to making sure that the works provide a comprehensive coverage of the great national schools and the different genres and styles. The outcome is a collection which includes prime examples of the work of many of the greatest artists including Botticelli, Giovanni Bellini, Veronese, Rubens, Van Dyck, Poussin, Claude, Gainsborough, Turner, Ingres, Manet, Monet, Degas, Van Gogh, Gauguin and Magritte.



The Barber Institute is perhaps best known for its fine collection of French 19th-century paintings, with a series of masterpieces by the Impressionists including Edouard Manet's *Portrait of Carolus-Duran* and Degas' fascinating image of *Jockeys Before the Race*. The Post-Impressionists are also well represented with works by Gauguin — *Bathers at Tahiti* and Toulouse-Lautrec — *A Woman Seated in a Garden*. Earlier landscapes by Gustave Courbet — *The Sea-Arch at Etretat*, and others by the Barbizon school, complete the coverage of the French school.

The Barber is also the home of an important group of late medieval and Renaissance panel paintings, the most significant of which is perhaps Simone Martini's moving portrayal of Saint John the Baptist. Outstanding too is Sandro Botticelli's *Madonna and Child with the Infant Saint John the Baptist*, as well as a very fine group of Venetian paintings beginning with Giovanni Bellini's *Saint Jerome in the Wilderness*. Bassano's *Adoration of the Magi* marks the next generation of Venetian artist followed by Veronese, represented by his monumental *Visitation*.

The later Old Master painters are represented by a series of key works. From the 17th century there are masterpieces by Claude — *A Pastoral Landscape*, Van Dyck's *Ecce Homo* and Frans Hals' *A Portrait of a Man Holding a Skull*. The Barber has also purchased a series of outstanding works by lesser-known artists who, in some cases, are not otherwise represented in British collections. Evaristo Baschenis's *Still Life with Musical Instruments*, for example, is an astonishing tour de force. Works by Matthias Stom and Johan Christian Dahl illustrate how an eye for quality can lead to the purchase of significant works which can expand our horizons.

www.barber.org.uk

Winterbourne House and Garden

Restored to its Edwardian Arts and Craft splendour, Winterbourne House is a unique heritage attraction set within seven acres of beautiful botanic gardens. Winterbourne is a hidden gem and home to beautiful antiques and over 6,000 plant species from around the world. During your visit you will be able take the woodland walk, stroll through the hazelnut tunnel, cross the 1930's Japanese Bridge or simply soak up the tranquillity of this perfectly English Edwardian home.



History of Winterbourne House

Winterbourne is a rare surviving example of an early 20th century suburban villa and garden. The house was built in 1903 for John and Margaret Nettlefold, of Guest, Keen & Nettlefold, as a small country estate with rustic outbuildings and large gardens.

Both the house and garden follow the style of the Arts and Crafts movement with examples of local craftsmanship throughout. The house has large airy corridors and south facing rooms designed to make maximum use of the sunlight.

Nettlefold was a pioneer of town planning who carried the ideas seen in his own home to the less wealthy areas of the city.

Margaret Nettlefold designed the garden, inspired by the books and garden designs of Gertrude Jekyll. After a period of restoration the garden was Grade II listed by English Heritage in 2008.

John MacDonald Nicolson was the last private owner of the house and a keen gardener. He developed many new areas, including a scree garden and small alpine features around the garden.

Nicolson died in 1944 and bequeathed the house and garden to the University of Birmingham. The garden became the University's Botanic Garden and new areas for teaching and plant conservation were developed within the historic layout.

Inside Winterbourne

The house is laid out in the Edwardian era. On the ground floor, see how the decor would have appeared when the Nettlefolds occupied the house over 100 years ago, with the Study and Drawing Room boasting beautiful Arts & Crafts furniture and antiques.

An Exhibition Room highlights the importance of Winterbourne within the community via interactive exhibits which tell the stories of the house and its occupants through the people who lived and worked here over the years.

In the Study, you will learn more about John Nettlefold's work in the family firm GKN - the largest screw, nut and bolt manufacturer in the world – together with his pioneering work as the chair of the first housing committee in Birmingham.

Hands-on exhibits in the Drawing Room reveal who influenced Margaret Nettlefold to design Winterbourne's Grade II listed garden, with its sandstone rock garden, unusual nut walk and beautiful colour-themed borders.



www.winterbourne.org.uk

Lapworth Museum of Geology

The Lapworth Museum of Geology has the finest and most extensive collections of fossils, minerals and rocks in the Midlands. The Museum dates back to 1880, and is one of the oldest specialist geological museums in the UK.

Throughout its long history the Lapworth Museum has provided a valuable resource for students, schools and colleges, research workers, enthusiasts and anyone with an interest in, or desire to learn, about geology. The museum supports teaching and research in the Earth Sciences and natural history within the University and the West Midlands region.

The Museum is named after Charles Lapworth, the first Professor of Geology at Mason College, the forerunner of the University of Birmingham. Lapworth was one of the most important and influential geologists in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries. Located in the University's Grade II listed, Aston Webb Building, the museum retains its original Edwardian setting and interior.



The collections contain in excess of 250,000 specimens. In addition to rocks, fossils and minerals, there are large collections of early geological maps, equipment, models, photographic material, and also zoological specimens and stone axes. The Lapworth Archive contains one of the most complete records of the work of a scientist of that period.

The fossil collections are important both scientifically and historically, with exceptionally well-preserved specimens from the Midlands and many other famous fossil localities in the UK, and throughout the world.

The museum has some of the finest collections from the Wenlock Limestone of Dudley, famous for its fossils that lived 420 million years ago when the area was covered by a shallow, warm, tropical sea that enabled a highly diverse ecosystem to develop. From the rocks of the old Midlands Coalfields are important collections of fossil plants, fish, insects, arachnids, fossil footprints and animal tracks. There are beautifully preserved fish, dragonflies, crabs, lobsters and pterosaurs from the Solnhofen Limestone in Germany; outstanding fish collections from Brazil, Italy, Lebanon and USA; 510 million year old animals unique to the world famous Burgess Shale of British Columbia.

The mineral collection contains around 15,000 specimens, many of them rare, and displaying stunning colours and crystal shapes. The specimens come from all over the world, but particularly from the old mining areas of the UK.

Of historical interest is the mineral collection of William Murdoch, engineer and inventor, who worked with James Watt and Matthew Boulton at Soho House in Birmingham.

A visit to the Lapworth Museum provides an insight into how the Earth formed and changed through time, and how life on earth developed and evolved.

A major redevelopment is currently underway at the Lapworth Museum. The Museum has been shut since December 2014 and will re-open in March 2016. When we re-open the Museum will have new galleries and innovative exhibitions to showcase exceptional objects that have not previously been displayed. The new displays will be based around four key themes: evolution of life, active Earth, mineral wealth, and learning and discovery. We will also have a dedicated learning space for school and community groups.



Field Visit Information

Kenilworth Castle and Compton Verney: Thursday 21 July

From medieval fortress to Elizabethan palace, Kenilworth Castle has been at the centre of England's affairs for much of its 900 year history. Today, you can scale the heights of the tower built to woo Queen Elizabeth I and marvel at the mighty Norman keep. Explore the exhibition in the Gatehouse, and imagine the majesty of the Great Hall playing host to medieval monarchs and early Tudor kings.

The castle is located in the town of the same name in Warwickshire, England. Constructed from Norman through to Tudor times, the castle has been described by architectural historian Anthony Emery as "the finest surviving example of a semi-royal palace of the later middle ages, significant for its scale, form and quality of workmanship". Kenilworth has also played an important historical role. The castle was the subject of the six-month-long Siege of Kenilworth in 1266, believed to be the longest siege in English history, and formed a base for Lancastrian operations in the Wars of the Roses.



Compton Verney is an art gallery and a restored Grade I listed 18th century mansion surrounded by 120 acres of parkland which was landscaped by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown. The Art Gallery is home to six permanent collections including Neapolitan art from 1600 to 1800; Northern European medieval art from 1450–1650; British portraits including paintings of Henry VIII, Elizabeth I and Edward VI and works by Joshua Reynolds; Chinese bronzes including objects from the Neolithic and Shang periods; British folk

art; and the Enid Marx / Margaret Lambert Collection of folk art from around the world which inspired the textile designs of 20th century artist Enid Marx.

Middleport Pottery and Biddulph Gardens: Friday 22 July



Nestled in the heart of Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, the world-renowned centre of ceramics, Middleport Pottery's historic site was built in 1888 for well-known local ceramics company, Burgess & Leigh Limited. The Grade II* listed site is a red-brick maze, containing historic machinery, archives and collections in every corner.

Middleport Pottery is now an exciting and award-winning visitor destination following a stunning £9million restoration by The Prince's Regeneration Trust.

Learn all about Middleport Pottery, find out how Burleigh is produced using traditional craftsmanship, see how pottery was produced over the years, and step into the iconic bottle kiln in our visitor centre. Afterwards, relax in our café which overlooks the Trent and Mersey Canal.



Delightful high Victorian garden - an extraordinary survival from the 19th century. Biddulph Grange was developed by James Bateman (1811–1897), the accomplished horticulturist and landowner; he inherited money from his father, who had become rich from coal and steel businesses. He moved to Biddulph Grange around 1840, from nearby Knypersley Hall. He created the gardens with the aid of his friend and painter of seascapes Edward William Cooke. The gardens were meant to display specimens from Bateman's extensive and wide-ranging collection of plants and are survival of the interim period between the Capability Brown landscape garden and the High Victorian style.

Ironbridge World Heritage Site: Monday 25 June and Tuesday 26 June

In 1986, the Ironbridge Gorge became one of the first group of seven UK sites to be awarded World Heritage status by UNESCO. The designation of the Ironbridge Gorge as a World Heritage Site recognised the area's unique contribution to the birth of the Industrial Revolution in the 18th century, the impact of which was felt across the world. It was the achievements of pioneering industrialists including Abraham Darby, William Reynolds and John Wilkinson that led to the Ironbridge Gorge becoming by the close of the 18th century the most technologically advanced area in the world. The surviving built and natural environment with its museums, monuments and artefacts, including the world famous Iron Bridge of 1779, serve to remind us of this area's unique contribution to the history and development of industrialised society.

For over 30 years, UNESCO has been working with countries across the world to identify World Heritage Sites and ensure their safe keeping and protection for future generations. World Heritage Sites are selected because of their "Outstanding Universal Value" as natural or cultural sites. They enrich our lives and illustrate the diversity of the planet and its inhabitants. They are ours to share, cherish and respect, and their disappearance would be an irreparable loss to humanity. Further information about World Heritage Sites is available on the website of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

Once a Site is inscribed on the World Heritage List, a responsibility is placed upon the community and country within which it is located to care for and protect the Site on behalf of the wider global community and future generations. In practice, this means that National and Local Government, site owners, local and national organisations, residents and visitors all have a part to play in helping to protect these unique and irreplaceable sites. There is also a responsibility to interpret and inform visitors and the local community about the significance of the Site and the principles of World Heritage. However, in addition to these responsibilities that accompany World Heritage status, there are also benefits. For the Ironbridge Gorge, these include an enhanced national and international profile which helps to strengthen the area's tourism industry and access to funds to ensure the long-term protection of the area.



Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust

The Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust was established in 1967 to preserve and interpret the remains of the Industrial Revolution in the six square miles of the Ironbridge Gorge. It is an independent educational charity, which by its entrepreneurial flair encourages visitors to be involved in and support its conservation work through admission charges, trading and associated commercial activities. Development costs are sought through grants and donations.

Responsible to a Board of Trustees, the Museum staff manages 35 historic sites within the World Heritage Site of the Ironbridge Gorge, ten of which are museums. The Trust's innovative methods and pioneering approach to managing museums have been widely copied and are now common practice in museums, whether public or privately funded. As well as ten museums, the sites also include a research library, a tourist information centre, two youth hostels, archaeological sites, historic woodlands, housing, two chapels, and two Quaker burial grounds.

www.ironbridge.org.uk

Blists Hill Victorian Town

At Blists Hill Victorian Town you can experience life as it was over 100 years ago through the sights, sounds, smells and tastes of a recreated Victorian Town.

The town is set in the year 1900 when Queen Victoria had been on the throne for 63 years and the national average wage is around £42 a year.

In 1900 the Ironbridge Gorge was still known as an industrial area, but it no longer dominated the industrial world as it once had. Whilst a town never existed on this site, the area was once a deeply industrial landscape dominated by blast furnaces, foundries, mines, factories and canals. Having fallen into disuse by the 1950s, the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust subsequently re-created a small industrial town here, typical of the many that were once found on the East Shropshire Coalfield.

Some of the monuments are original to the site, such as the Canal and Blast Furnaces; others have been re-located here brick by brick from the local area. In more recent times local buildings have been copied and erected here using traditional building materials.

As you travel through the village you will get the chance to meet the Victorians in their shops, cottages and workplaces, see all the animals, enjoy a horse and cart ride or a cone of traditional Fish and Chips. There is a bank on site where you can change your modern money for token Victorian coins to spend in the shops.



Blists Hill Visitor Map



Jackfield Tile Museum

The Jackfield Tile Museum is housed in the decorative tile factory building, the former works of Craven Dunnill and Company. It presents the history of the British decorative tile industry between 1840 and 1960, the period in which this factory and that of Maw & Co nearby played an important part in this industry.

Jackfield is one of the oldest known ceramic production centres in Shropshire, a tradition dating back to the 16th century. The Thursfield family settled in Jackfield during the early 18th century; Jackfield wares are attributed to the family.

Craven Dunnill gave up its Jackfield works in the early 1950s, moving to Bridgnorth, and the buildings were used by a firm making iron and bronze castings. In 1983, the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust purchased the works with the aid of an Architectural Heritage Fund grant. In 1989, tile manufacture restarted on the site and in 2001 Craven Dunnill took over this business again.

Today Galleries show exquisite examples of individual tiles and period room settings depict various locations that would have been decorated with tiles. You can walk through an Edwardian Tube Station, the bar of a Hotel, a children's hospital ward and a 1930s 'front room'. Huge panels depicting mediaeval stories and nursery rhyme scenes have been rescued from buildings and now grace the walls of the galleries.

The John Scott Gallery

The John Scott Gallery is a brand new collection of world-class British decorative tiles donated from a private collector. The 1,300 individual tiles and 310 tile panels feature a roll call of prestigious design names including Pugin, Dresser, Morris, De Morgan and Bawden.

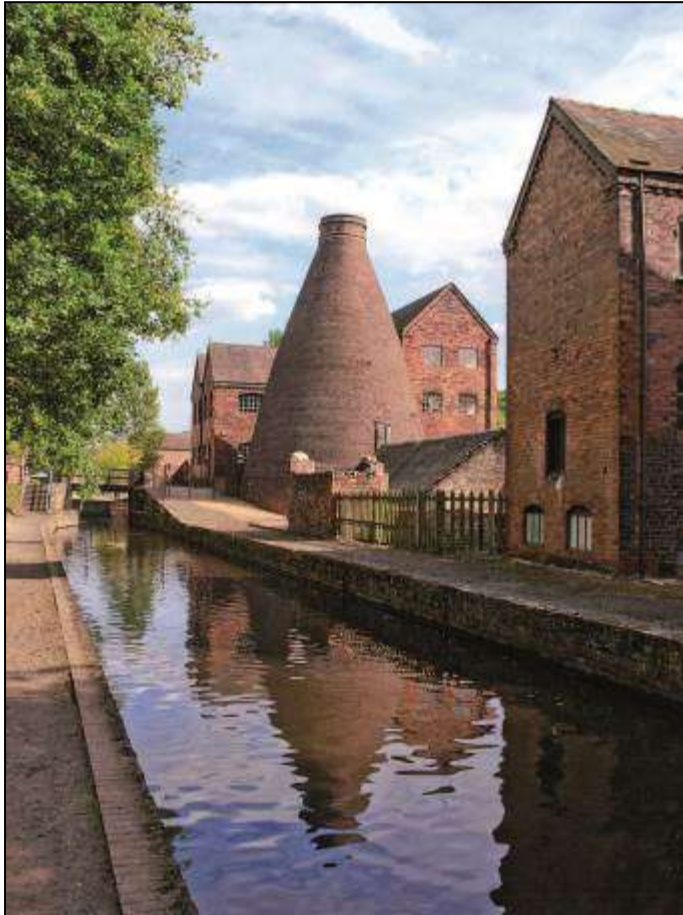
The tiles have been donated by Mr John Scott, whose extensive collection had been privately displayed at his London home before its move to the museum.

Pieces originate from the mid-19th century through to the mid-20th century and offer a fascinating insight into the design aesthetics of the past, ranging from one-off pieces from private homes to ornate panels from hospitals and other public buildings.



Coalport China Museum

Coalport once made some of the finest china in the world. The museum presents the history of Coalport China, a manufacturer of fine English chinaware which was based on the site between 1795 and 1926. As well as original examples of historic china, there are also demonstrations of traditional ceramic techniques and original industrial buildings including kilns to fire the pottery. The Museum houses the collections of the National Collections of Coalport and Caughley China in the now listed buildings.



The Tar Tunnel

The Tar Tunnel is located on the north bank of the River Severn in the Ironbridge Gorge at Coalport.

Miners struck a gushing spring of natural bitumen, a black treacle-like substance, when digging a canal tunnel for the Coalport Canal in 1787. The plan was to connect the canal alongside the River Severn to the lower galleries of the mines below the Blists Hill area. After digging some 3,000ft into the hill the canal project was abandoned in favour of bitumen extraction.

The tunnel was a great curiosity in the eighteenth century and bitumen still oozes gently from the brick walls today. Bitumen's chief commercial use at the time was to treat and weatherproof ropes and caulk wooden ships, but small amounts were processed and bottled as 'british oil', a remedy for rheumatism.

After the canal project was abandoned the Hay Inclined Plane was built instead, its base being alongside the canal basin. After a few years of mining the bitumen supply was depleted and the tunnel was used for its original purpose, to move product from the mine systems of the area onto the canal ways.

Coalbrookdale Museum of Iron

At the Coalbrookdale Museum of Iron explores the revolutionary techniques that made Coalbrookdale the most famous ironworks in the world, and demonstrates the great skill of the Coalbrookdale craftsmen in a fabulous display of domestic and decorative ironwork and works of art that bring the Industrial Revolution to life.

Exhibits include 'Admire the Boy' and 'Swan Fountain' cast by the Coalbrookdale Company in 1851 for the Great Exhibition, and the magnificent Deerhound Table designed by John Bell for the Paris International Exhibition of 1855. The Museum also holds a collection of the cast iron Coalbrookdale Cooking Pots that launched Abraham Darby I into the iron trade.

The Old Furnace

The Old Furnace is the remains of the water powered blast furnace where Abraham Darby I perfected the smelting of iron with coke instead of charcoal. It was the secret that helped make iron the essential material of the Industrial Revolution.



Darby Houses

The Darby Houses comprise the adjacent properties of Dale House and Rosehill, both of which were built for members of the Darby family in Darby Road, Coalbrookdale.

Dale House

Dale House was originally built in 1717 for Abraham Darby I and looks out over the Upper Furnace Pool whose outflow powered the blast furnace. It was enlarged by subsequent generations: in 1776 Abraham Darby II converted the attic into a third floor. During the 20th century it was converted into flats, which undermined the true character of the house, but has since been restored as much as possible to its 18th century appearance. It is a Grade II listed building.

Rosehill

Rosehill was built in about 1738 for Richard Ford, who married Abraham Darby I's eldest daughter, Mary. Richard was Clerk to the Coalbrookdale Company under Abraham I and later Manager of the Coalbrookdale Ironworks. In the mid 19th century the house was occupied by Abraham Darby III's youngest son Richard and his wife Maria and after his death by his daughter Rebecca until 1908. The house has been restored from an uninhabitable condition by architect Graham Winteringham and refurnished to recreate its 1850 appearance. Rosehill is also a Grade II listed building.



Enginuity and the Costume Project

Enginuity is an interactive design and technology centre in Coalbrookdale, Shropshire, England. It is the newest of the ten museums operated by the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust and was opened in 2002. The museum's exhibition floor is divided into four zones: Materials & Structures, Systems & Control, Energy and Design.

Liverpool

The history of Liverpool can be traced back to 1190 when the place was known as 'Liuerpul', possibly meaning a pool or creek with muddy water, though other origins of the name have been suggested. The borough was founded by royal charter in 1207, but Liverpool remained a small settlement until its trade with Ireland and coastal parts of England and Wales was overtaken by trade with Africa and the West Indies, which included the slave trade. The town's first wet dock was opened in 1715 and Liverpool's expansion to become a major city continued over the next two centuries.

By the start of the nineteenth century, a large volume of trade was passing through Liverpool. In 1830, the Liverpool and Manchester Railway was opened. The population grew rapidly, especially with Irish migrants; by 1851, one quarter of the city's population was Irish-born. As growth continued, the city became known as "the second city of the Empire", and was also called "the New York of Europe". During the Second World War, the city was the centre for planning the crucial Battle of the Atlantic, and suffered a blitz second only to London's.

From the mid-twentieth century, Liverpool's docks and traditional manufacturing industries went into sharp decline, with the advent of containerisation making the city's docks obsolete. The unemployment rate in Liverpool rose to one of the highest in the UK. Over the same period, starting in the early 1960s, the city became internationally renowned for its culture, particularly as the centre of the "Merseybeat" sound which became synonymous with The Beatles. In recent years, Liverpool's economy has recovered, partly due to tourism as well as substantial investment in regeneration schemes. The city was a European Capital of Culture in 2008.



Liverpool UNESCO World Heritage Site: Friday 29 July

Liverpool's World Heritage Site consists of six distinctive historic areas, which reflect its functional and visual variety. It stretches along the waterfront from Albert Dock through The Pier Head and up to Stanley Dock, and up through the historic commercial districts and the Rope Walks area to the historic cultural quarter around William Brown Street.

The principle reasons why Liverpool is of outstanding universal value are:

- Liverpool played a leading role in the development of dock construction, port management and international trading systems in the 18th and 19th centuries
- The buildings and structures of the port and the city are an exceptional testimony to mercantile culture
- Liverpool played a major role in influencing globally significant demographic changes in the 18th and 19th centuries, through a) its involvement in the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and b) its involvement as the leading port of mass European emigration to the New World



The Beatles Story

The award-winning Beatles Story is the world's largest permanent exhibition purely devoted to the lives and times of The Beatles. Located in the Fab Four's hometown of Liverpool on the stunning UNESCO World heritage site at the Albert Dock, the Beatles Story takes visitors on an atmospheric journey through the lives, times, culture and music of The Beatles.

Join the magical history tour and see how four young lads from Liverpool were propelled to the dizzy heights of worldwide fame and fortune to become the greatest band of all time – from their Liverpool childhood, through the early days of the band, to world domination and on to their solo careers. Find out how the Fab Four met, go behind the scenes at the famous Abbey Road Studios and take an underwater trip on the Yellow Submarine! You can even go right back to the place where it started and hang out at the Casbah Coffee Club or explore the stunning replica of the Cavern Club. Listen to The Beatles story unfold through their 'Living History' audio guides available in ten different languages and beautifully narrated by John Lennon's sister, Julia.



www.beatlesstory.com

Stratford-upon-Avon: Monday 1 August

Stratford-upon-Avon is a market town and civil parish in south Warwickshire. It lies on the River Avon, 22 miles south east of Birmingham. The town is a popular tourist destination owing to its status as birthplace of the playwright and poet William Shakespeare, receiving about three million visitors a year from all over the world. The Royal Shakespeare Company resides in Stratford's Royal Shakespeare Theatre, one of Britain's most important cultural venues.

History

Stratford has Anglo-Saxon origins, and grew up as a market town in medieval times. The original charters of the town were granted in 1196, making Stratford officially over 800 years old. The name is a fusion of the Old English *stræt*, meaning "street", and *ford*, meaning that a Roman road forded the River Avon at the site of the town.

In 1769 the actor David Garrick staged a major Shakespeare Jubilee which saw the construction of a large rotunda and the influx of many visitors for the three day event. This contributed to the growing phenomenon of Bardolatry which made Stratford a tourist destination.

Economy

Apart from tourism, which is a major employer locally, especially in the hotel, hospitality industry and catering sectors, other industries in the town are boat building and maintenance, bicycles, mechanical and electrical engineering, food manufacture, Information Technology, call center and service sector activities, a large motor sales sector, industrial plant hire, building suppliers, market gardening, farming, storage and transport logistics, finance and insurance, and a large retail sector.

www.visitstratforduponavon.co.uk



Shakespeare Institute

The Shakespeare Institute has enjoyed an illustrious past as a beacon for international Shakespeare scholarship. Former Directors include major Shakespearians such as Philip Brockbank, Stanley Wells, Peter Holland and Kate McLuskie. Now, under its new Director, Professor Michael Dobson, the Institute is on the brink of a new era.

Whether you're interested in Shakespeare and medicine, Asia or religion; textual editing; the wider corpus of Renaissance drama; or early modern literature in history, the Shakespeare Institute is the place for you. As Michael Dobson says, the Institute is simply 'the best place on earth in which to explore the impact Shakespeare's work has had across four centuries of world culture'.

It is also becoming a more creative place. Several staff are involved in major creative projects and are incorporating exciting new creative elements into their teaching. We want to bring the directors, actors, writers, arts administrators and teachers as well as the academics of the future to Stratford.



The Shakespeare Institute enjoys close and developing relations with the Royal Shakespeare Company and the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust. It has its own purpose-built world-class research library, run by a priceless team of expert librarians. It plays host to the most prestigious international Shakespeare conference in the world, as well as to the biggest postgraduate conference in Shakespeare studies. A host of major Shakespearean projects are based in whole or in part in the building. These include the most influential Shakespeare imprint, the Oxford Shakespeare, the most important Shakespeare annual, *Shakespeare Survey*, the high-profile Shakespeare Now! and Palgrave Shakespeare Studies series, and the first catalogue of all Renaissance drama.

The Malone Society is administered at the Institute and the Shakespeare Club - the oldest Shakespeare society in existence - meets here. Institute personnel are leading lights in many of the most important international Shakespeare organisations, with places on the boards of, for example, the British Shakespeare Association, the European Shakespeare Research Association and the foremost American journal, *Shakespeare Quarterly*.

There is no research culture more vibrant than the Shakespeare Institute's. It is home to the Shakespeare Institute Players and every week its historic rooms and gardens buzz with rarely-played play readings, theatrical experiments and all sorts of other Shakespeare-inspired activity.

www.birmingham.ac.uk/shakespeare
Shakespeare Birthplace Trust

The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust (SBT) is an independent registered educational charity based in **Stratford-upon-Avon**, which came into existence in 1847 following the purchase of **William Shakespeare's** birthplace for preservation as a national memorial. It can also lay claim to be the oldest conservation society in Britain. Receiving no government funding or public subsidies, it is totally dependent upon the public for support, and relies on donations and the income generated from visitors.



The SBT is considered the most significant Shakespeare charity in the world, and endeavors to internationally promote the appreciation and study of the plays and other works of William Shakespeare, and general advancements of Shakespearian knowledge. The Trust maintains and preserves the Shakespeare Birthplace properties, a museum, a library of books, manuscripts, records of historic interest, pictures, photographs and objects of antiquity with particular reference to the life and times of William Shakespeare, and is also home to the headquarters of the International Shakespeare Association.

For more than 200 years after the Bard's death, his birthplace was occupied by the descendants of his recently-widowed sister, **Joan Hart**. Under the terms of Shakespeare's will, the ownership of the whole property (the inn and Joan Hart's cottage) passed to his elder daughter, **Susanna**; and then on her death in 1649, to her only child, **Elizabeth**. Elizabeth died in 1670, bequeathing it to Thomas Hart, the descendant of Shakespeare's sister, Joan, whose family had continued as tenants of the cottage after her death in 1646. The Harts remained owners of the whole property until 1806, when it was sold to a butcher, Thomas Court. When it was again put up for sale in 1846 on the death of Court's widow, the American showman **P. T. Barnum** proposed to buy the home and ship it "brick-by-brick" to the US. To purchase the property for the Nation, the Shakespeare Birthday Committee was formed, and such luminaries as **Charles Dickens** helped the Committee raise £3,000 and bought it the following year. Incorporated by a private Act of Parliament, the Birthday Committee became the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust.

www.shakespeare.org.uk

Holy Trinity Church

Holy Trinity is a medieval church where William Shakespeare and several members of his family are buried and where Shakespeare was baptised.

There has been a church on this site since at least 713 when a Saxon monastery was built here. The present building dates from 1210, with the oldest sections being the tower and transepts and nave pillars. The North and South aisles were added in the 1300s and the Chancel in the late 1400s.

Shakespeare was buried here in 1616 because he was a 'lay rector'. In the church you will see a bust erected in 1623 by his widow and friends, alongside register entries for his baptism and burial and the original font where he was baptised.



www.stratford-upon-avon.org

Oxford: Wednesday 3 August

Oxford is a city in the South East region of England and the county town of Oxfordshire. With a population of 159,994 it is the 52nd largest city in the United Kingdom. Oxford has a broad economic base. Its industries include motor manufacturing, education, publishing and a large number of information technology and science-based businesses, some being academic offshoots. The city is known worldwide as the home of the University of Oxford, the oldest university in the English-speaking world. Buildings in Oxford demonstrate notable examples of every English architectural period since the late Saxon period. Oxford is known as the "city of dreaming spires", a term coined by poet Matthew Arnold.

Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford

The Pitt Rivers Museum is the University of Oxford's museum of anthropology and world archaeology. Founded in 1884 following a gift to the university from general Pitt Rivers, it retains its unique atmosphere with dense displays of artefacts, many in the original wooden display cabinets. The original donation consisted of approximately 22,000 items; this has now grown to 500,000 items, many of which have been donated by travellers, scholars and missionaries.

The museum's collection is arranged thematically, according to how the objects were used, rather than according to their age or origin. This layout owes a lot to the theories of Pitt Rivers himself, who intended for his collection to show progression in design and evolution in human culture from the simple to the complex. Whilst this evolutionary approach to material culture is no longer fashionable in archaeology and anthropology, the museum has retained the original organisation of the displays. The display of many examples of a particular type of tool or artefact, showing historical and regional variations, is an unusual and distinct feature of this museum.

www.prm.ox.ac.uk



Ashmolean Museum

The Ashmolean is Britain's first public museum and the greatest university museum of art and archaeology in the world.

Founded in 1683, what started as a single room of paintings and curiosities grew into an institution of superlatives. It is home to the biggest collection of Raphael drawings; the most significant collection of Anglo-Saxon artefacts apart from the British Museum; and the greatest Chinese collection in the West.

In 2009, the museum's interior was entirely redesigned in a £61 million project that not only doubled the gallery space but fundamentally rethought the way in which the collections were displayed.

Permanent collections

With fine art from the medieval period to the present day and internationally significant archaeological collections from all the major ancient civilisations, the Ashmolean offers all the heft of a major museum within a fairly compact framework.

Highlights of the Western art collection include Uccello's glorious *The Hunt in the Forest*, paintings by Botticelli and Piero di Cosimo, and drawings by Rembrandt, Raphael, Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci. The museum's strong gallery of British art is dominated by landscapes from Constable, Turner and Samuel Palmer, and the 20th century is represented in works from Cézanne, Picasso and Monet, as well as a large collection of Sickert. Of interest also is John Ruskin's teaching collection, *The Elements of Drawing*, comprising drawings, etchings and texts that elaborate his philosophy and approach to art.

Among the antiquities, the museum houses the finest pre-dynastic Egyptian collection in Europe, featuring alongside jewellery and domestic objects a charming hippopotamus in red pottery with jaws gaping wide. The Arthur Evans Minoan collection is the most significant in Britain, and the museum's collection of papyri include manuscript copies of the Old and New Testaments.

Applied arts are also well represented in the new-look Ashmolean, with a fine new display of textiles not previously available to public view, as well as collections of musical instruments, ceramics and coins.

Curiosities abound through the various museum collections, with notable objects including an Arab ceremonial dress belonging to Lawrence of Arabia, the lantern carried by Guy Fawkes during the 1605 Gunpowder Plot (part of the Ashmolean's original collection) and the death mask of Oliver Cromwell.

www.ashmolean.org



Ironbridge International Institute for Cultural Heritage

About Us

Ironbridge International Institute for Cultural Heritage (IIICH) is a focal point for cross-disciplinary research, postgraduate teaching and policy engagement based at the University of Birmingham. The IIICH is a unique partnership formed over thirty years ago between the University of Birmingham and the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust (IGMT) which manages the World Heritage Site and ten museums.

Our aims are:

- To provide a welcoming intellectual home and a creative environment for the critical study of cultural heritage which offers new and challenging perspectives on the ways in which cultural heritage is understood, represented, managed and mobilised in different cultures and societies
- To pursue research excellence, policy relevance and to engage with academic and policy communities and the heritage/ heritage-related sectors
- To deliver research informed high quality postgraduate education linking theoretical understanding with practice and relevance.

ironbridge@contacts.bham.ac.uk

www.heritageculture.com



Cultural Heritage Lecturers

Professor Mike Robinson

I am Director of the Ironbridge International Institute for Cultural Heritage - a major inter-disciplinary research and graduate Institute working with the World Heritage Site and associated museums of Ironbridge.

My interests lie in how we produce and consume categories of heritage within changing cultural and cross-cultural contexts. I am particularly interested in how tourists experience the past and how tourism works with heritage to shape identities at the individual and collective level.



For nearly twenty five years my work has focused upon the inter-relationships between tourism, heritage and culture. Understanding tourism, and ourselves and others as tourists, provides us with an important conceptual lens through which we can interrogate heritage and other dimensions and expressions of culture.

My work is international and interdisciplinary. I work at the boundaries of social anthropology, cultural studies, geography and history. I am the founder of the Centre for Tourism and Cultural Change, the founder and editor of the Routledge published Journal of Tourism and Cultural Change and the Channel View book series on Tourism and Cultural Change now with over thirty titles. I am on the Editorial Boards of several journals including: Mobilities, Levant and the Scandinavian Journal of Tourism. I was pleased to be invited to edit the SAGE Handbook of Tourism Studies (with Tazim Jamal). I have worked with UNESCO to produce a major report on Tourism, Culture and Sustainable Development and was commissioned to write on tourism and representation for the 2009 UNESCO World Diversity Report.

I have worked on research and projects in over 30 countries. I was a Visiting Research Fellow at the Department of Literature at the University of Kwazulu Natal, South Africa; Visiting Professor in the Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia, Università degli Studi di Trento, Italy and; most recently, Visiting Professor at National Central University in Taiwan.

I have been fortunate to have been invited to give keynote speeches at a number of international conferences in the UK, Taiwan, China, India, Jordan, Lebanon, Portugal, France, Germany, Austria, Sweden, Lithuania, Spain, Czech Republic, Canada, and the USA. I have initiated and directed over 20 international conferences as a way of setting new agendas in research and as a way of developing productive partnerships with academics working in interesting fields and engaging with a wide range of international heritage and cultural institutions. I seek to work with researchers from a wide variety of disciplines and cultural backgrounds in order to produce innovative and imaginative ways to understand and to translate the inter-relationships between heritage, tourism and culture.

Dr Tamara West

I am interested in how people share, negotiate or contest spaces of memory, heritage and identity and how these activities impact upon wider issues of policy and practice. My academic background is in Cultural Geography and in Visual Studies. My PhD and publications so far have explored the practices and interactive spaces of memory and identity, focusing upon how memories of displacement are shared and negotiated through images, stories, and cultural practices. My emergent publications and recent research roles on large AHRC and EU collaborative projects have explored the role of new technologies in cultural participation and engagement, digital storytelling and community co-creation, as well as the role of quadruple helix innovation models and wider cross sector collaborative practices and technology spill overs in relation to regional development and cultural economies.

Dr John Carman

I am an archaeologist with a longstanding involvement in developing the field of Heritage Studies, and my PhD on the role of law in archaeology can lay claim to being the first on the topic of Archaeological Heritage Management anywhere in the world.

My overall interest is in the role in the present of material remains from the past. This involves a concern with the ideological aspects of what we call 'heritage' and the institutions – organisational, legal, structural – that we set up to manage it.



I am interested in what kinds of object we allocate to the category 'heritage' and how we do it, and how aspects of heritage management relate to the theory and practice of archaeology as a research discipline into the past. I have a particular interest in how issues of ownership impinge upon and condition our attitudes towards and expectations of the material heritage. All of this derives from an interest in understanding the various types of value we give to our material heritage – what those values are, and from where they derive. The category of heritage is a universal one – everybody can claim to have a heritage – but the specifics of what constitutes that heritage and how it is treated vary from place to place: so I am also interested in comparing heritage practices internationally, the subject of a book to be published later this year.

A particularly interesting category of heritage is that of 'landscape' and especially those landscapes which carry special meanings for us in the present. One such landscape type which has become the concern of archaeologists and heritage professionals is the 'historic battlefield'. These are the subject of research by the Bloody Meadows Project – a joint enterprise with Patricia Carman – which studies such places as landscapes. Our aim is to understand the attitudes to place brought by warriors in the past to the places where they carried out their violent activities, and to compare those places so sought in one period with those sought in other periods; this leads us to apply a broadly 'phenomenological' approach to their investigation. A related concern – and one linked with the interest in heritage value – is with the way such places are remembered or memorialised.

Helle Jørgensen

I am a lecturer in cultural heritage studies at the Ironbridge International Institute for Cultural Heritage. An anthropologist by education, I enjoy doing interdisciplinary research.



While I have done research focusing on national or more local contexts, notably concerning heritage and museology in Denmark, I have a particular interest in investigating the production of heritage in cross-cultural and transnational contexts, especially within the framework of post/colonial relations, with the particular tensions which these relations often imply. My earliest work in this field focused on the repatriation of human remains from ethnographic museums to indigenous people in New Zealand. I also have fieldwork experience from India, where I have investigated the development of the former trading colony Tranquebar as a heritage town and a destination of heritage tourism, both as seen against decades of development plans and in the particular context of responses to the disastrous tsunami which struck the Indian Ocean in 2004.

My research interests are oriented towards identity politics, social memory and perceptions of historicity, and not least towards the encounters and clashes between different concepts and practices related to understandings of heritage and its meaning in the present. This includes negotiations between different agents and their interests in producing and using heritage, for instance in the context of economic development. I am interested in a wide range of practices and the interplays between them, from professional heritage management and research to tourism and everyday uses of sites, objects and phenomena claimed as heritage.



Hannah Stretton

I am Development and Events Officer for the Ironbridge International Institute for Cultural Heritage. I am interested in heritage events, and look after the organisation of our annual programme of international conferences which regularly attract delegates from over 40 different countries. In addition, my role within the institute is to develop networks and contacts within the heritage sector to raise the profile of our research and post graduate courses internationally. My background is in arts and cultural events management, having worked for various cultural organisations in the not-for-profit sector, I have been involved with the development and delivery of programmes of exhibitions, outdoor arts festivals and community arts projects in and around the Midlands and London.

Dr Roger White

I have been Academic Director at Ironbridge Institute for 15 years and, amongst other initiatives was responsible for developing the programmes in Distance Learning for heritage there. Ironbridge has been innovative first in developing new programmes in industrial archaeology and then in heritage management, a programme that has been in operation for over 25 years. As a specialist in postgraduate studies, offered in conjunction with the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, the programmes at Ironbridge International Institute for Cultural Heritage offer a unique perspective on the heritage industry and how it operates today.

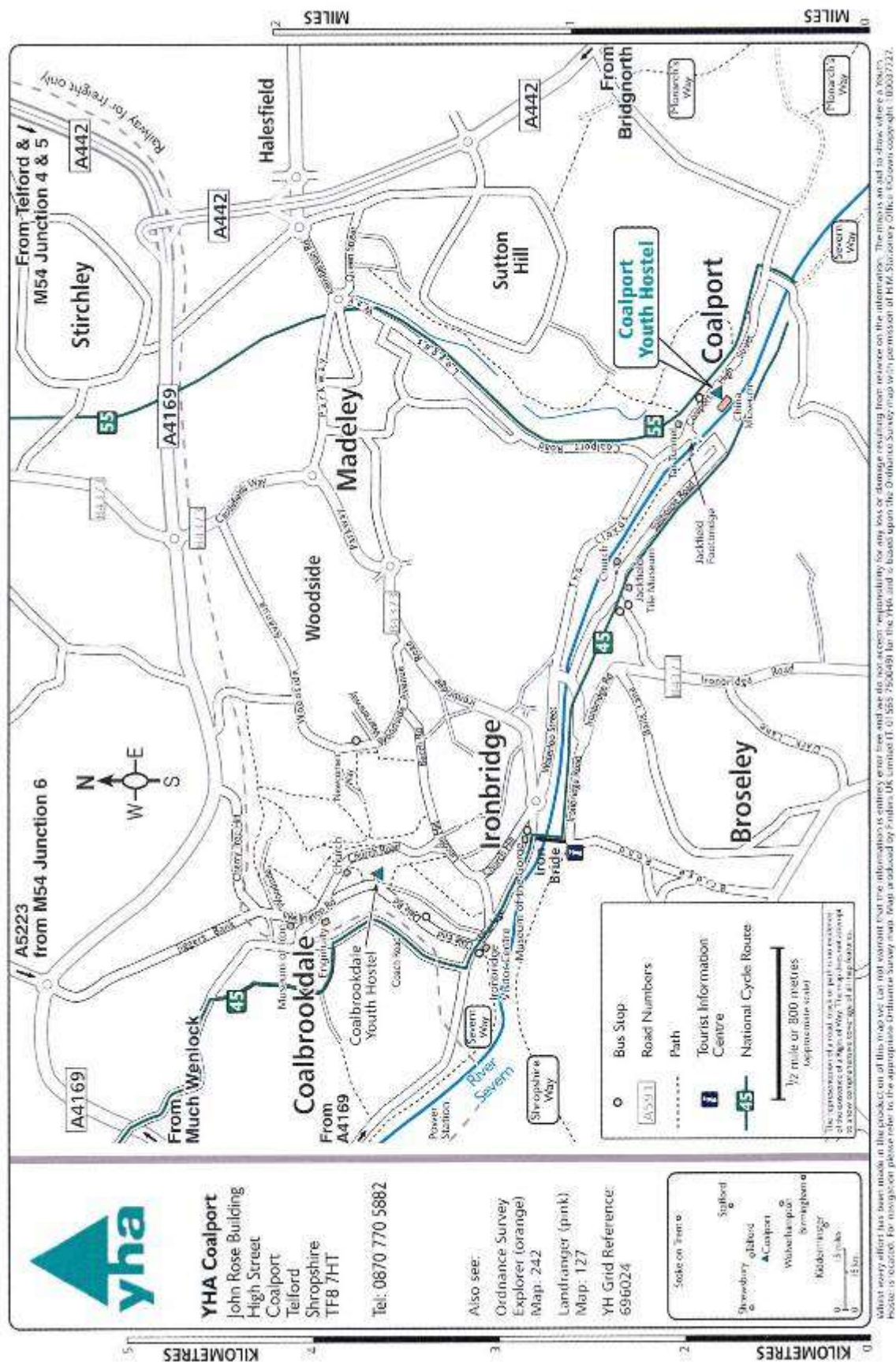


In working with heritage studies, I bring a focus on interpretation, on industrial heritage and on the presentation of archaeological sites. I have broad interests in the technology of the industrial age and how this is interpreted our post-industrial society. My training as a practical archaeologist offers insights into what we can learn of sites of all periods, and how this information can be presented to the public. I have been involved in heritage advisory missions to Libya, Georgia, Russia, Jordan and Brazil and am seeking to develop a research programme in Brazil on railway heritage there.

I currently serve on the Historic England Advisory Committee and am editor of the journal *The Historic Environment*, published by Maney. Both of these activities reflect my broad interests in how society deals with heritage issues and how the historic assets are increasingly seen in a holistic manner rather than as individual components. I am also a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, a Trustee of JTrails (a Jewish heritage foundation) and a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

My research has historically been focused largely in the late Roman period in Britain and especially in the archaeology of the Roman town of Wroxeter in Shropshire. My active archaeological work there is now being superseded by presentation of the research outcomes to the public through museums and on site interpretation.

Map of the YHA Coalport Local Area



Notes