

# *Lancaster*

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# *Guide for Groups*



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# Welcome

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With its mix of great places to eat & drink, castles & museums, impressive theatre and some fantastic events, Lancaster is a city which is well worth exploring for a group visit.

Lancaster's history can be traced back thousands of years and that is no better discovered than by having a guided tour of **Lancaster Castle**, which dominates the Lancaster skyline.

Whenever you choose to visit, you'll be delighted with the evening entertainment available to group organisers with plays, musicals and shows at the **The Dukes** and the **Grand Theatre**. The Dukes' annual Play in the Park is a large-scale walkabout performance and is a must-see during the summer months. **Lancaster Arts at Lancaster University** also offers theatre and dance, concerts and music events and a public art gallery.

For views across the city, head up to the **Ashton Memorial**, one of the grandest of English follies. The memorial is set within the beautiful parkland of **Williamson Park** which provides some great panoramic views across **Morecambe Bay** to the Lakeland Fells.

Muse over fine exhibitions and collections at the city's museums, including the **City Museum** in the city centre and the **Maritime Museum** on the historic quayside, telling

tales of Lancaster's past. Other historic places of interest include **Lancaster Cathedral** with its tower standing over 240ft tall and **Lancaster Priory**, built on the site of a 4th Century Roman fort.

Lancaster offers a rewarding **Shopping Experience** with two well-established shopping centres, many big high street names and lots of individual retailers in a network of pedestrianised streets. Lancaster's **Charter Market** is on Wednesdays and Saturdays, with a range of food, books, gifts and clothing for sale. Also hidden away down charming narrow lanes are even more unique shops and eating-places housed in historic buildings. There is also a huge selection of **independent Cafés and Restaurants**, many catering for groups and serving specialist foods.

There is a good value **Coach Park** in the heart of the city and you'll find great value **Hotels** in Lancaster and nearby Morecambe that cater for parties, offering competitively priced group rates and incentives to drivers/group organisers. The large hotels on offer include the Royal Kings' Arms and the Holiday Inn, a Travelodge and a Premier Inn, plus Lancaster House Hotel (near Lancaster University).

**Suggested itineraries** are provided opposite and you can download some **Free Images** from [www.flickr.com/photos/visitlancasteruk/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/visitlancasteruk/) for your own promotions.

**For further enquiries call (01524) 582394 (Lancaster Visitor Information Centre) or visit [www.visitlancaster.org.uk](http://www.visitlancaster.org.uk).**



# Itinerary Suggestions

## Morning

Explore the magnificent Lancaster Castle and Lancaster Priory.

Discover Lancaster's heritage at Lancaster City Museum, Maritime Museum or Judges' Lodgings.

Browse the Outdoor Charter Market  
(open Saturdays and Wednesdays)  
or the Assembly Rooms Emporium  
(open Tuesdays - Saturdays).

## Lunch

Dine at The Kitchen Café inside the castle or head up to The Pavilion Café at Williamson Park.

Enjoy dining at a city centre Café, Restaurant or Pub situated in the historical city centre.

## Afternoon

See the magnificent views across Morecambe Bay and enjoy the Butterfly House, Mini-Beast Centre and other attractions of Williamson Park.

Travel just outside the city centre to Lancaster Leisure Park to visit the GB Antiques Centre, Lancaster Brewery (tours available), Factory Outlet Shop and Countrystyle Meats Farm Shop and Restaurant.

Jump on board the ever popular 'Kingfisher' Canal Boat for a themed cruise along the Lancaster canal.

## Evening

Take in a drama, comedy or concert at The Dukes or Grand Theatre.

Enjoy a meal in one of Lancaster's many pubs and restaurants - look out for those which offer good value cinema or theatre ticket + meal deals.

Please note: These itineraries are only a guide. For more details in planning your visit, please call Lancaster Visitor Information Centre on 01524 582394. Details correct at time of print.



## Events or Activities suitable for Groups

Wray Scarecrow Festival and Fair (May)

Lancaster Food Festival (May)  
[www.lfdf.co.uk](http://www.lfdf.co.uk)

The Dukes Plays in the Park (July - Aug)  
and Christmas Show (Nov - Jan)

Lancaster Music Festival (October)

Light Up Lancaster (November) – Includes  
Lancaster's Fireworks Spectacular

Christmas Lights Switch-On (end of November) and  
themed events in the City Centre throughout the  
year - [www.lancasterbid.org](http://www.lancasterbid.org)

City Centre Guided Walks and Tours

Various themed public tours (Easter - October).  
Private tours by arrangement.  
[www.lancasterwalkstalksandtours.co.uk](http://www.lancasterwalkstalksandtours.co.uk)





**Lancaster Visitor Information Centre**  
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CITY COUNCIL**  
Promoting City, Coast and Countryside

**LANCASTER**

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