



Coventry's Top 12 Experiences – The very best things to see and do...

- 1). **Coventry Cathedral** – Set your senses soaring by climbing the 180 steps of the cathedral spire to take in the breath-taking panoramic views of Coventry. Then explore the world famous **Cathedral of St Michael**, the site of Coventry's 'new' cathedral and see examples of world-class works of art, including: Graham Sutherland's tapestry, John Piper's baptistry window and Epstein's bronze statue of St Michael defeating the devil. In sharp contrast, the medieval ruins of its predecessor stand proudly alongside.
- 2). **Coventry Transport Museum and Thrust SSC** - Come face to face with Royal cars, military vehicles and the current land speed record holding vehicle Thrust SSC. Be amazed by this spectacular piece of engineering, then experience for yourself what it's like to travel through the sound barrier at over 760mph in the Thrust SSC simulator.
- 3). **The Doom Painting, Holy Trinity Church**- Holy Trinity Church's story goes back nearly 1000 years! This extraordinary building has survived fire, reformation and the Blitz. Marvel at the many rare artefacts that the church houses, perhaps the most exceptional being the famous medieval wall painting of the Last Judgement.
- 4). **Herbert Art Gallery & Museum** – Coventry's award winning museum, art gallery, records archive, learning centre and creative arts facility located in Jordan Well, Coventry city centre. It is named after Sir Alfred Herbert, a Coventry industrialist and philanthropist whose benefactions enabled the original building to be opened in 1960. Building began in 1939, with an interruption by the Second World War, and The Herbert opened in 1960. In 2008 it reopened after a £20 million refurbishment..
- 5). **St Mary's Guild Hall** - Discover more than six hundred year's worth of history in one of Coventry's most remarkable survivors of the medieval age. Arguably the finest medieval guildhall in the country, with original artworks and décor; the Great Hall dates from the late 14th and early 15th century and houses a fine tapestry dating from 1500. The Mary Queen of Scots Room is so named because of the imprisonment of the Scottish Queen here in 1569.
- 6). **Priory Visitor Centre** - Discover Coventry's first Cathedral ... Join us beneath the 21st Century city to discover the amazing ruins preserved beneath the rubble of this once magnificent religious centre. The Priory Undercroft offers a fascinating glimpse into the best preserved remains of Coventry's original Benedictine monastery.
- 7). **Garden Organic Ryton** - the home of Garden Organic, in a delightful setting in the Heart of England. Ten acres of beautifully landscaped grounds highlight the delights of organic gardening and with an award winning restaurant on site serving fresh, organic produce; it's both a healthy and enjoyable day out for all.
- 8). **Off Road Fun at the Heart of England Centre** - Enjoy an exhilarating "off road" experience in 160 acres of fields and woodlands. Driving Quad Bikes, Rage Carts and Land Rovers you will face many challenges as you're taken through rough terrain, up and down steep slopes and more!

9). **Pleasure flight Coventry Airport** – Take in the glorious sights of Coventry's skyline and surrounding countryside as you experience a scenic tour of Coventry & Warwickshire by helicopter with Patriot Aerospace. Gain a fantastic birds-eye view of the local area, offering a superb way to view some traditional English heritage from a different vantage point!

10). **Medieval Banquet at Coombe Abbey** – Step back in time and join the Lords and Ladies of Coombe Abbey in a medieval celebration of food, wine and mead. The night is filled with bawdy fun, fine food and wines, colour and music. Miss it at your peril!

11). **Midland Air Museum** -Situated just outside the village of Baginton in Warwickshire, and adjacent to Coventry Airport, this exciting museum includes the *Sir Frank Whittle Jet Heritage Centre* (named after the local aviation pioneer and inventor of the jet engine), where many exhibits are on display in a large hangar. It also has a smaller hangar, and a fenced-off outdoor area where many military, commercial and trainer aircraft are on display.

12). **Ricoh Arena (City of Coventry Stadium)** - Set within a site covering more than 40 acres, the Ricoh Arena is unlike any other development of its kind in the UK. With its state-of-the-art conference, banqueting, exhibition, hotel and sports facilities, the multi-purpose complex has already won countless awards for its design. With hundreds of events and exhibitions taking place all year round as well as hosting several key Olympic Football matches in 2012, this unique development truly is world class. During the 2012 London Olympics, the arena will be re-named the City of Coventry Stadium.