



## Top 12... winning Warwickshire Motoring Connections and attractions

- 1). **Aston Martin** – Officially the UK's coolest brand - Aston Martin Lagonda Limited is a British manufacturer of iconic, luxury sports cars, based in Gaydon, Warwickshire. The company name is derived from the name of one of the company's founders, Lionel Martin, and from the Aston Hill speed hill climb near Aston Clinton in Buckinghamshire.
- 2). **Heritage Motor Centre** - attracts 60,000 visitors every year and is home to the world's largest collection of historic British cars. Visitors can uncover the story of the British motor industry with our fun and interactive exhibitions.
- 3). **Land Rover experience** - Based in the heart of Warwickshire at the Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, the Land Rover engineering headquarters now offers an exciting array of experiences where you can be tackling challenging multiple terrain courses, getting behind the scenes at Land Rover's very own secret test facility, or even entering a virtual reality world of new vehicle development.
- 4). **Coventry Transport Museum** – the birthplace of the British cycle and motor industry. This museum attracts 340,000 visitors a year and houses the largest collection of British road transport in the world, as well as the record-breaking Thrust 2. The Museum's unique collection has been 'designated' as a collection of national importance with over 240 cars, commercial vehicles and buses, 94 motorcycles, 200 cycles, 25,000 models and around 1 million archive and ephemera items.
- 5). **Autosport International Show** - Europe's leading motorsport trade show attracting over 90,000 visitors each year, including over 25,000 business attendees who visit over 850 exhibitors from across the globe. The 2012 event will take place on the 14-15 January at the NEC in Birmingham
- 6). **National Motorcycle Museum** – is recognised as the largest and finest motorcycle museum in the world. Located just outside Coventry, this is a place where 'Legends Live On' and it is a tribute to, and a living record of, this once great British industry that dominated world markets for some sixty years.
- 7). **The International Historic Motorsport Show** is the UK's premier historic racing show held at Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, and attracts over 450 exhibitors and 21,000 visitors. The 2012 event will be held on 24-26<sup>th</sup> February. See rare racing cars and meet the drivers that took them to victory.
- 8). **The Open Road Classic Car Hire** - Treat yourself to an unforgettable day out or a weekend break in the beautiful Heart of England, driving around Shakespeare Country in a vintage classic sports car – choose from 1963 Austin Healey 3000 MkIIa, 1970 Jaguar E-type Roadster (convertible), 1961 Jaguar Mark II saloon, 1965 Ford Mustang Fastback, 1969 MG MGB Roadster, 1974 Triumph Stag, 1967 Triumph TR4A and a 1973 Triumph TR6.
- 9). **Coventry Festival of Motoring** – this major event will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> August 2012 at Stoneleigh Park in Warwickshire. In addition to hundreds of fantastic cars to look at, there will be the

traditional historic vehicle 'run' through delightful Warwickshire countryside, car gymkhanas and auto tests.

**10). Shakespeare Country Driving itineraries** - Ideal for visitors on a short break, these circular routes allow you to discover for yourself the hidden secrets of Shakespeare Country. Explore market towns with their individual character and charm, relax in welcoming pubs with traditional ales and home cooked food, and discover peaceful churches, historic attractions and a range of craft and antique centres. Each tour allows you to explore the countryside, visit attractions and, of course, take refreshment

**11). Jaguar Heritage Trust Museum**– More than 140 historic vehicles from the Jaguar Daimler Heritage Collection. Many are original just as they left the factory and fully operational. Each vehicle on display is a living icon of a bygone era. Each symbolises a significant milestone in the continuing development and growth of Jaguar cars and its associated companies.

**12). Follow in the footsteps of George Eliot** – Take a driving tour – in the steps of George Eliot to places the author knew from growing up in Warwickshire. Highlights include inspirations for her Scenes of Clerical Life: Arbury Hall, model for the 'castellated house of grey-tinted stone' Cheverel Manor, and Astley Church, still recognisable as Knebley Church 'with coats of arms in clusters on the lofty roof'.