Useful Information

This guide provides visitors with highlights of a number of themed trails in Loughborough and Charnwood. We have provided some suggestions of additional places to visit, restaurants and tea rooms in the area. However, this is just a small selection of what the area has to offer. For full details on each of the trails, in downloadable formats, additional ideas and accommodation offers please visit www.leicestershire.gov.uk/railwayheritage

A copy of this guide is available online. Large print format is also available, please call 0344 888 5181.

Leicestershire Shire Promotions is a partnership between Leicestershire County Council, Leicester City Council and the private sector.

All information was believed to be correct at the time of going to press. Leicestershire Shire Promotions cannot accept liability for inaccuracies, omissions or subsequent alterations, or cancellation of events in the information supplied. You are advised to check opening times, prices etc, with establishments before you visit.

Medieval Trail

Loughborough

Loughborough is the administrative centre of Loughborough. The Old Rectory is an outstanding classic example of Gothic Revival architecture. Probably the most famous building in Loughborough is the Abbey, which stands in its own grounds in Stanley Place on the edge of the modern town. The Abbey was founded in 1143, and is now the home of the Archdeacon of the Diocese of Leicester. Abbey Park just north of the city is the home of the sections of the Saint Paul Church for most of its life, and probably represents one of the oldest rectories in the country.

On Church Gate at the junction with Spaunton Hill stands the Manor House whose structure dates from 1677. It is thought to have been the home of a wealthy Loughborough merchant. The Manor House, which was probably built between 1780 and 1792, is in the hands of the National Trust and is open to the public.

Queen's Park Café at Charnwood Museum

Rothley

1921. The station at Rothley has been restored as it would have appeared in 1912, two years before the outbreak of the First World War. The signals have been restored to working order and the station is now open to the public.

Mountsorrel

Charles was killed at Gallipoli on 13th September 1915 whilst serving with the Territorial Force. The village has a war memorial located in Queen's Park were founded at Taylor's too.

In the Market Place you can see the ‘Sock Man’, a sculpture of the life-size statue by Shona Kinloch. The design on the sock is inspired by the traditional pattern used on the bunting which adorned the Market Place in the 19th century.

TO EAT AND DRINK

- Bulls Head, Woodhouse
- The Bulls Head
- The Holly Inn
- The King’s Arms
- The Old Deans’ Arms
- Queen’s Park Café
- Rutland Arms
- The Trafalgar

Industrial Heritage Trail

Exploring Loughborough

Loughborough was once the home of the Auster aircraft company, and the Auster aeroplane is a prominent feature on the town sign. At Charnwood Museum see the locally made Auster aeroplane and the plaque in the church gives details of how they were produced.

Memorial located in Queen’s Park were founded at Taylor’s too.

Station to see artefacts which tell the story of the last great coal mining on the part of the county.

Famous People

A number of famous people have lived in Loughborough and Charnwood.


RAILWAY

www.goleicestershire.com/railwayheritage

There are numerous guided walks available around Leicestershire. To find out more visit www.goleicestershire.com or call the Loughborough Visitor Information Centre, Loughborough College, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 2JS. Tel: 01509 264 164.

Famous People

The town is home to a number of people who have lived in Loughborough and Charnwood.

- Monty Python
- Charles Darwin
- Quentin Blake
- The Beatles
- The Beatles

More Trails...

Exploring Loughborough

Loughborough

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Heritage in Loughborough and Charnwood

This guide provides a number of themed trails which combine museums, historic sites and heritage centres where staff and volunteers will be happy to provide you with more information.

Enjoy exploring the suggested trails and museums and, whilst planning your visit, make some time for refreshments and exploring the area. We have included just a taste of what the area has to offer, there are lots of village pubs, tea shops and restaurants to provide you with a well-earned break. For more details of places to eat and drink, trails, events and overnight accommodation see www.goleicestershire.com/railwayheritage

Here are some suggested attractions and places to visit to help you explore out area.

Loughborough

1. Charnwood Museum
   Granby Street
   Loughborough
   LE11 1SW
   www.charnwoodmuseum.co.uk
   Tel: 01509 664200

   Opened its virtual doors in July 2009 this museum is the largest and has a good collection of old photographs and memorabilia, built up over the last 50 years. Exhibits include farming, foundry past and present, original Belforge & Birstall foundries. Visitors can use a turntable and the Butler and Heathcoat, with his partner Boden, began lace-making on bobbin-lace weaving frames in a room dedicated to the early history of lace-making in England through to classic Vincent, bus, a 1930s period garage, donkeys, chickens, goats, pets, wildlife, picnic spots and the National Space Centre is a national science museum specialising in space. From the moment you step through the entrance, you are taken on a journey through 500 million years of space exploration. Visitor information centre
   Contact: Gloucester Road
   Leicestershire
   LE7 1PD
   Tel: 0116 250 3190
   www.gasmuseum.co.uk
   Email: info@gasmuseum.co.uk

   Gas Museum
   Housed in the Victorian gateway to the former Abbey Pumps Station this museum tells the story of the Leicestershire Gas Board through to 1948. You can see how gas was stored and transported for household use, and the role of the local gas works and gas staff. Regular opening hours. Free admission.

2. Charnwood Water Tower
   Station Road
   Loughborough
   LE11 1SW
   www.charnwoodmuseum.co.uk
   Tel: 01509 664200

   This water tower is open to the public during the summer months. Visitors can see inside the tower and learn about the history of water towers.