

KENDAL



Culture guide

Whatever you love about culture, we know you'll find it in Kendal.

Read this leaflet to get a feel for the arts, festivals, attractions and taste sensations that make our town's cultural landscape so special and memorable.

visit-kendal.co.uk/culture

Ready to explore?

Welcome to Kendal's cultural scene. Our town is home to renowned art galleries, exhibitions and events, international festivals and a year-round calendar of live music, comedy and outstanding entertainment.



Our streets hide all manner of hidden gems - unique shopping, great food and creative communities.



There's so much to explore in our unique market town - small enough to explore at your own pace, vibrant enough to rival a city break.

Whether you're dropping by for a day of discovery, dreaming up a whole holiday of eclectic experiences or looking to delve deep into our town's history, heritage and vibrant culture - we can't wait to welcome you.



In this leaflet:

Kendal's Key Attractions

Kendal's Hidden Gems

Kendal's Festivals and Events



Top tips for embracing our culture

Soak it up on foot – even in just one day you can explore our unique shopping streets, taste great local food, take in some fabulous art and immerse yourself in our Kendal life.

Plan your trip around a festival or event – Kendal's famous for its festivals and we love to welcome visitors to celebrate with us.

Look out for child-friendly activities – our key attractions have plenty and all our festivals cater for families.

Take your time – Kendal is a place where you can slow down and stroll around, you'll be surprised at what you find.

Images:

Left: Screen Printing at the Factory, Lakes Alive Festival, Kendal Museum, Right: Abbot Hall Art Gallery, Quaker Tapestry and Kendal Mint Cake

Kendal's key cultural attractions

Kendal's key attractions are renowned far and wide. From Abbot Hall Art Gallery's inspiring exhibitions, to The Factory's amazing creative spaces.

Every one has something for the whole family to enjoy.



Brewery Arts Centre 122A Highgate, LA9 4HE

Set in beautiful gardens and internationally known as a world-class arts and events centre, The Brewery brings theatre, comedy, concerts, cinema, free exhibitions and workshops to Kendal.

Excellent food and drink can be enjoyed at The Warehouse Café or VATS Bar and Restaurant.

The Brewery creates the ultimate hub for Kendal's fantastic festivals and is bound to have something for you to enjoy whilst visiting Kendal.

Images:
Left: Lakes Alive Festival, Brewery Arts Centre.
Right: Abbot Hall Art Gallery, Museum of Lakeland Life and Industry



Key Attractions

[Brewery Arts Centre](#)

[Abbot Hall Gallery](#)

[Museum of Lakeland Life and Industry](#)

[K Shoes Heritage Centre](#)

[Quaker Tapestry Museum](#)

[Kendal Museum](#)

[The Factory](#)

Abbot Hall Art Gallery Kirkland, LA9 5AL

Abbot Hall, Kendal's finest historic house, has a national reputation for displaying great art.

Exhibitions and displays in 2016 include works by European masters, Canaletto and Rembrandt, great British artists, JMW Turner, John Ruskin and David Hockney, and artists with strong local associations, Winifred Nicholson, George Romney and Kurt Schwitters.

On permanent display in the Georgian rooms downstairs is a selection of works by George Romney, one of the greatest of all eighteenth-century portrait painters. There is no better setting than the red silk-lined walls of Abbot Hall's Saloon in which to view some of the paintings that helped establish Romney's name.



Museum of Lakeland Life and Industry Kirkland, LA9 5AL

Immerse yourself in local History at the Museum of Lakeland Life and Industry, a must see for those interested in the history of this beautiful area. With changing displays there is always something new about Lakeland life to discover.

Explore a typical Victorian farmer's home from the food in the kitchen, to the elegance of the parlour and stroll down the Victorian high street to see the toys, food, and even medicines of the past.

Learn the story of the Arts and Crafts movement, and the history of industrial Lakeland, discovering the farming, mining and tanning that created livelihoods amongst the fells.



Kendal's key cultural attractions

K Shoes Heritage Centre

1 Riverside Place,
LA9 7FH

Famously, for over 160 years high quality shoes and boots were manufactured at Kendal's 'K' Shoe Factory.

This unique heritage is displayed at K Village Heritage Centre, telling the story of shoe making in Kendal. A fabulous picture is painted of what it was like to live, work and play within a stones throw of the factory gates.



Quaker Tapestry Museum Stramongate, LA9 4BH

350 years of social history and fascinating human stories are brought to life in over 40 vibrant embroidered panels at the award-winning Quaker Tapestry Museum in Kendal.

Journey through the Quaker influence on the modern world: explore the industrial revolution, developments in science and medicine, astronomy, the abolition of slavery, social reform, and ecology; delight in the detail of the stunning needlework and the craftsmanship involved in its creation; and admire the historic 200 year old Georgian Meeting House.

With interactive displays, films, audio guides and children's activities there's something for visitors of all ages.

Images:
K Shoes Heritage Centre,
Quaker Tapestry Museum



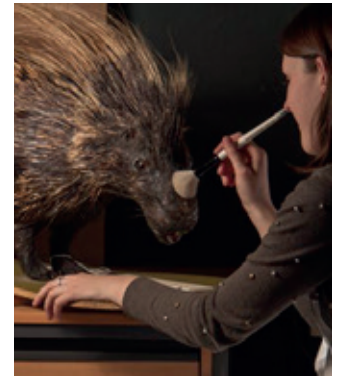
The Factory

Aynam Rd, LA9 7DE

Breathing life into one of Kendal's most impressive post-industrial sites, The Factory Kendal is a dynamic collection of creative workspaces.

The Factory is a home for some of the North West's most exciting artists and creative businesses. Expect the unexpected, be inspired, diverted and delighted – and even head home with some unique artwork of your own.

The professional artists welcome you to their open studios to feast your eyes on a huge range of creative activity from fine art, screen printing, textiles, sculpture, ceramics, furniture, glass design, weaving and much, much more.



Kendal Museum Station Rd, LA9 6BT

Founded in 1796, Kendal Museum is one of the oldest in the UK. This accredited museum has permanent collections of Natural History, Archaeology and Social History and has one of the largest taxidermy collections in Europe.

The collections are of national and international significance and are used by researchers worldwide.

There are three public galleries and an exhibition gallery, which houses various temporary exhibitions throughout the year.

Images:
The Factory,
Kendal Museum

Kendal's hidden gems

You can't beat a day of leisurely browsing with great food and inspiring company - and with so many special areas to explore, what better way to delve into Kendal's unique and quirky culture?

You'll be surprised what you find when you explore our town - unique independent shopping, vintage treats, creative communities open to enjoy, unforgettable food and so much more.



Independent Shopping

New Shambles Finkle Street, LA9 4AB

Linking the shopping streets of Market Street and Finkle Street this ancient path was once home to 12 butcher shops and known locally as 'Stinking Lane' due to the lack of drainage (which has since been improved!).

Vintage Quarter Dockray Hall Industrial Estate, LA9 4RU

Also enjoy a river stroll towards Dockray Hall, Kendal's emerging Vintage Quarter home to a fantastic selection of independent antique and upcycling stalls across three shops.



In addition to Kendal's famous Abbot Hall Art Gallery, we recommend exploring some of our smaller galleries including Youdells Art Gallery, this constantly changing gallery features some of the best local and Lake District artists.

It's also worth visiting Wildman Street for Castle Diary's small gallery and Kendal College's Wildman Street Studio's which is often open to the public during various exhibitions.

There are several galleries on Highgate. Explore them on your way to The Brewery Arts Centre, home to regular exhibitions at the Sugar Store Gallery and in both cafes.

Images:

Left: Branthwaite Brow, New Shambles.

Right: Youdells Art Gallery, Kendal Town Hall, Thuline Gallery

To discover more hidden gems in Kendal's Yards and from our beautiful scenic spots follow Kendal's Cultural Trail. Pick up a Trails leaflet or head to:

visit-kendal.co.uk/culture



Kendal's festivals and events

Food & Drink

Monthly farmers markets
Last Friday of each month.

Kendal Food Festival
Spring/Summer.
kendalfestivaloffood.co.uk

**Westmorland Beer
& Cider Festival**
October/November.
camrawestmorland.org



Performance

**Monthly Comedy Club
at The Brewery**
breweryarts.co.uk

**Theatre performances
at The Brewery & The Box**
breweryarts.co.uk

**Freerange
Comedy Festival**
May.
breweryarts.co.uk

Lakes Alive Festival
A family friendly festival of
spectacular happenings.
September.
lakesalive.co.uk



Music

Midday Concert Club
Classical performances
every 2nd Wednesday.
Kendal Town Hall.
kendalmiddayconcertclub.org

Gigs at the Brewery
The Brewery Kendal
boasts an impressive
monthly line up.

**Mary Wakefield
Westmorland Festival**
Biannual event.
March 2017.
mwwf.org.uk

**Lake District Summer
Music Festival**
Series of classical concerts
held in Kendal across
fabulous venues including
Kendal Town Hall,
St Thomas' Church and
Kendal Parish Church.
August.
ldsm.org.uk

Rural / Agriculture Shows / Festivals

Country Fest
June.
westmorlandshow.co.uk

**Westmorland
County Show**
September.
westmorlandshow.co.uk

Kendal Wool Gathering
October.
kendalwoolgathering.co.uk



Local Festivals

Kendal Torchlight
September.
kendaltorchlightcarnival.co.uk

**Kendal Christmas
Lights Switch on**
November.



International Festivals hosted in Kendal

**The Lakes International
Comic Art Festival**
October.
comicartfestival.com

Kendal Mountain Festival
November.
mountainfest.co.uk



Images:
Left: Lakes Alive, LDSM Festival
Right: Kendal Torchlight, The Lakes
International Comic Art Festival,
Westmorland County Show

KENDAL



Welcome to Kendal!

We're more than a market town on the edge of the Lakes.

There's always something to do - whatever the weather.

Come and enjoy our national culture, arts and ambitious events along with quality shopping and spectacular surroundings that make our town unforgettable.

We hope you enjoy your time in Kendal.

Pick up our other leaflets:

Welcome to our town

Have a read of this leaflet to get a sense of Kendal.

Walking Trails

Experience the best of Kendal on foot.

visit-kendal.co.uk

