

# Bury St Edmunds

*Ideal for groups*



Bury St Edmunds has long been a popular destination for groups visiting Suffolk. For five centuries it was visited by pilgrims from all over the world, coming to worship at the shrine of St Edmund – the martyred King of East Anglia. Today we invite you to follow in the pilgrims' footsteps and enjoy our Suffolk hospitality. The streets still follow the grid pattern devised by the abbots, making it easy to explore the town by foot.

A stroll around the centre of Bury St Edmunds is an interesting experience. Fine facades reveal a wide range of unusual, independent shops offering traditional service and endless inspiration. The twice-weekly provisions market in the Buttermarket is a social event as well as a shopper's delight, and the dozens of cafes, restaurants and pubs offer the visitor endless choice of refreshment.

2009 sees the opening of our new shopping development 'arc', the largest retail development to be delivered to Bury St Edmunds, arc provides a new shopping destination that will extend Bury St Edmunds' appeal. The retail mix will include: Debenhams, H&M, Top Shop/Topman, Next, Wallis, Waterstones, Vodafone and more.



*St Edmundsbury*  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

# Guided Tours of the Town

The secrets, the stories and scandals of Bury St Edmunds are yours for the asking. Groups of visitors are frequently to be found around the town, indulging themselves with a guided tour. These happy explorers are led by Registered Tour Guides with a love of history and a sense of humour. As well as regular tours of the Abbey Ruins and town, the guides offer speciality tours for pre-booked groups. Speciality tours include: Crime & Punishment, Who Lived Here? Written in Stone, Inns and Alehouses, Literary Bury, Georgian Bury and Ladies or Gentlemen of the Town.

*Guided tours are available daily at 2pm from May – end September. Meet at the Tourist Information Centre. Tours cost £4 per person (£3 for concessions) accompanying children are free.*

*Tours are available all year round for pre-booked groups.*

*Group prices: £3 per person with a minimum charge of £40  
£1.50 per person for school parties*

**Contact Gill Rogers at the Tourist Information Centre  
01284 764667 or email [tic@stedsbc.gov.uk](mailto:tic@stedsbc.gov.uk) for further details.**



A variety of attractions await you in Bury St Edmunds whether it's historic buildings, beautiful gardens or modern shopping centres, we have something to suit every taste!

## Abbey Gardens

This peaceful haven, just a short walk from the hustle and bustle of the town centre has had a special place in the hearts of local people for generations. The glorious floral bedding displays have been a deciding factor in the town collecting numerous national and international awards.

The gardens are ideal for having a picnic or taking a well earned rest after visiting the market.

*Botanical tours given by the head or senior gardener are available all year round for pre-booked groups.*

*£3 per person – minimum charge of £45*

**Contact Gill Rogers at the  
Tourist Information Centre  
01284 764667 [tic@stedsbc.gov.uk](mailto:tic@stedsbc.gov.uk)  
for further details.**





## Theatre Royal

Designed in 1819 by the eminent architect William Wilkins, the grade-1 listed Theatre Royal is one of the country's most significant theatres. It features not only a unique building but brings the world of Georgian theatre to life through performances, live interpretation, talks and family events.

We offer exciting themed packages for groups who would like to make the most of their day out. To find out more about our group offers please call 01284 829957 or email [groupstours@theatreroyal.org](mailto:groupstours@theatreroyal.org).

**To book guided tours for individuals (£6/£5 National Trust members and concessions) and groups under 10 please call the Box Office on 01284 769505. Children under 10 are free.**

## Bury St Edmunds Art Gallery

Designed by Robert Adams, the Art Gallery is popular with lovers of art and architecture alike. The gallery runs a programme of nationally important contemporary visual art and craft exhibitions and off-site projects, together with The Craft Shop and many special talks and workshops.

Open Tuesday – Saturday 10.30am – 5pm.  
Admission is free.

**Guided tours by arrangement contact 01284 762081 or email [enquiries@burystedmundsartgallery.org](mailto:enquiries@burystedmundsartgallery.org)**

## Moyse's Hall Museum

Moyse's Hall Museum is one of England's few surviving Norman houses, and is believed to be the oldest town house in East Anglia. Since 1899 it has been the town's local history museum. Inside is a fine selection of unsavoury items such as man-traps, gibbet cages and mummified cats. Most of all, relics of the Murder in the Red Barn, celebrated in Victorian melodrama, including the guilty William Corder's scalp and a book bound in his skin! Also featuring collections and history from the town and Abbey, the Suffolk Regiment, clocks and time pieces, fine art and social history. New exhibition for 2009 - Women by Women - an exhibition looking at works by local female artists.

*Tours for individuals are available on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays at 2pm. Price for tour included in admission. Pre-booked group tours are available all year round (minimum 10 people).  
Tour and admission £2.50 per person, £1 extra for refreshments.  
Evening tours are available by request*

**Contact 01284 706183 or email [moyses.hall@stedsb.gov.uk](mailto:moyses.hall@stedsb.gov.uk)**

## St Edmundsbury Cathedral

Built by Abbot Anselm in the 12th century and with later building work carried out by John Wastell in the 16th century and Stephen Dykes Bower in the early 1960s, it had been the last incomplete cathedral in Britain. However, work has recently finished to crown the cathedral with a 140 foot Gothic-style tower that will be a feature on the town's skyline for future generations.

*Daily tours are available from Easter Monday to end September at 11.30am.*

*Tours are available all year round for pre-booked groups.*

*£3.50 per person or £5 per person including refreshments.*

**Contact the Visitor Officer for further details. 01284 748726  
[Visitor.officer@stedscathedral.co.uk](mailto:Visitor.officer@stedscathedral.co.uk)**



## Greene King Visitor Centre

Greene King has been brewing in Bury St Edmunds since 1799. The museum's storyboards, illustrations and artefacts provide a great insight into the history of brewing. Take a tour around the historic brewhouse and see how real ale is produced using natural ingredients and traditional brewing methods. The tour includes one of the best views of Bury St Edmunds (weather permitting). Finish the tour in the Brewery Tap, where you get to sample some of the fantastic beers.

*The visitor centre is open Monday - Saturday 10.30am - 4.30pm and entrance to the visitor centre and shop is free.*

*Daily tours are suitable for individuals and groups and are available on: Monday 11am, Tuesday 2pm, Wednesday - Friday 11am and 2pm, Saturday 11am, 12.30pm and 2pm and Sunday 11.30am.*

*Price £8 per person, discounts are available for groups.*

*Evening tours are available Monday - Fridays at 7pm (booking essential)  
Price £10 per person, discounts are available for groups.*

*Children under 12 are not permitted on tours, 12 - 18 years olds must be accompanied by an adult. Tours are not suitable for people with limited mobility.*

**Contact 01284 714297 or email [brewerymuseum@greeneking.co.uk](mailto:brewerymuseum@greeneking.co.uk)**



## The Malthouse Project

Visit the last remaining Old Maltings in Bury St Edmunds, which is of great historical significance to this important brewing town. The Malthouse Project, a former 17th century maltings once owned by Greene King, is now a unique facility that provides a café and heritage centre. Tours of the project offer an insight into the building's history and the maltings process with a replica 'mini' model, a museum of original artefacts and architectural finds dating back to the 1600s.

*Open every Saturday 9am – 3pm for self-led tours and Wednesday 12 – 4pm for guided tours booked in advance.*

**Contact 01284 732550**



## The Suffolk Regiment Museum

The Keep houses the Regimental Headquarters of the Royal Anglian Regiment, the local Army Recruiting Office and the Suffolk Regiment Museum.

The Museum was opened in 1935 and owed its existence to the enthusiasm of Lieut-Col H B Monier-Williams. The displays tell the story of the regiment from its foundations in 1685 to amalgamation with the Royal Norfolk Regiment in 1959. The history covers the regular, militia, volunteer and war-time battalions as well as the experience of individual soldiers and is told through medals, uniforms, photographs, weapons, equipment and personal memorabilia.

*Open 1st and 3rd Wednesday and 1st Sunday of every month between 9.30am – 3.30pm. Entry is free.*

**Pre-booked groups by appointment contact Gill Rogers at the Tourist Information Centre 01284 764667 [tic@stedsbc.gov.uk](mailto:tic@stedsbc.gov.uk)**

These are just some of the wonderful attractions in Bury St Edmunds whilst you are here don't forget to visit St Mary's Church which is the third largest Parish Church in the country and has the second largest aisle or The Nutshell Pub which is recorded in the Guinness Book of Records as the smallest pub in Britain, or finally our historic Abbey Ruins where it is said that in 1214 AD the barons responsible for the Magna Carta met and swore an oath that they would force King John to accept the Charter of Liberties. This would be known as the Magna Carta.

## Events

Bury St Edmunds Festival is one of East Anglia's premier arts events, bringing top international performers to the town for three weeks each May.

**Contact Michelle Newbury on 01284 757062 or visit [www.buryfestival.co.uk](http://www.buryfestival.co.uk) for further details.**

Bury St Edmunds Christmas Fayre is a three day event in November and has over 170 craft and gift stalls, a continental market, on-stage and street entertainment and a funfair all set in the historic setting of Angel Hill. Special offers for pre-booked groups include free coach parking, a meal voucher for organiser, meet and greet service and free taxi service for coach driver.

**Contact Sharon Fairweather on 01284 757093 or visit [www.burystedmundschristmasfayre.co.uk](http://www.burystedmundschristmasfayre.co.uk)**

## Information for organisers

Coaches are able to drop their passengers on Angel Hill, IP33 1UZ which is central for both the historic core and the shopping areas of town. Fully accessible toilets are located within the Abbey Ruins and are open between 7.30am – 7.30pm in the summer and 7.30am - 6pm in the winter. We are also able to offer a free 'meet and greet' service for pre-booked coaches.

Alternatively you can use the bus and coach station to drop off and pick up passengers. The bus station is open

between 8am – 6pm. Facilities include accessible toilets and a waiting room. All excursion coaches must be pre-booked. Contact 01284 702020 or email [bus.station@stedsbc.gov.uk](mailto:bus.station@stedsbc.gov.uk)

Our free coach park is located about 1 mile from the town at Rougham Hill IP33 2RN. On site facilities include toilets and a café (open Monday – Friday) On Wednesdays we provide a free taxi for coach drivers into town and the Tourist Information Centre offers free internet access and a free tea or coffee for coach drivers.

Contact the Tourist Information Centre 01284 764667 for further details.

We can plan your day for you, whether you want to stay in Bury St Edmunds or travel further afield we can provide a tailor-made programme for your group.

**For further information on any of the above or information on where to stay or where to eat contact Gill Rogers, our dedicated group travel advisor on 01284 764667 email [tic@stedsbc.gov.uk](mailto:tic@stedsbc.gov.uk)**