

W
ENGLAND'S
WATERWAYS



DISCOVER THE HEART OF ENGLAND IN BIRMINGHAM

Experience the diverse culture and landscapes of Birmingham, the city at the heart of the canal network. Enjoy a wonderful food scene, the buzz of the city at night and round off your visit with a spot of shopping.

Journey to the heart of England
englandswaterways.com

3-4 DAY GROUP TOUR SAMPLE PROGRAMME FOR EXPLORING BIRMINGHAM

Based at Clayton Hotel, Park Regis or Bloc Hotel

Day 1

Unload bags at your hotel – [Park Regis](#), [Clayton Hotel](#) or [Bloc Hotel](#)

Start your visit at the heart of England's canal network and understand the city from the water on a Sherborne Wharf narrowboat. Marvel at the transformation and regeneration of this post-industrial city with refreshments.

Departs ICC, [Brindleyplace](#) Public Tour Adults £8, family £22. Or charter your own group tour **0121 455 6163 / 0121 454 5367** www.sherbornewharf.co.uk or email@sherbornewharf.com

Up to 42 people from £6 pp for 1 hour.



Walking into the city centre past the international convention centre and world renowned [Symphony Hall](#), you will cross the newly designed Centenary Square, and the biggest public library in Europe – [The Library of Birmingham](#). Take the lift up to the top to see the Shakespeare's archive room, and visit the [Secret Garden](#) for panoramic views of the city.

Lunch at the [Edwardian Tea Rooms](#), [Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery](#)

Housed in a Grade II* listed building, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery is one of the most important centres for art and history in the UK, with collections spanning thousands of years. The Museum's unique breadth brings together Saxon gold, Egyptian mummies and masterpieces by British and European painters.

Group size 15 to 50 people / £10.00 per person

Duration: 2 hours

Your experience will include:

- A guided tour of either the Treasures of the Museum or Highlights of the Pre-Raphaelites
- A Treasures of the Museum guide book
- Tea in the Edwardian Tearoom

To make a booking or for more details, please call the bookings team on **0121 348 8001** or email groups@birminghammuseums.org.uk

Group tours must be pre-booked, terms and conditions apply.

A coach drop-off point is available and they offer a free place on the tour to the organiser and the coach driver (if applicable)

SAMPLE PROGRAMME FOR EXPLORING BIRMINGHAM

Dinner at the residence of 18th Century canal icon James Brindley, which has been transformed into [The Canal House](#) where the old meets new, with great tasting food, drinks and live music! They're famous for their delicious hanging kebabs.



Day 2

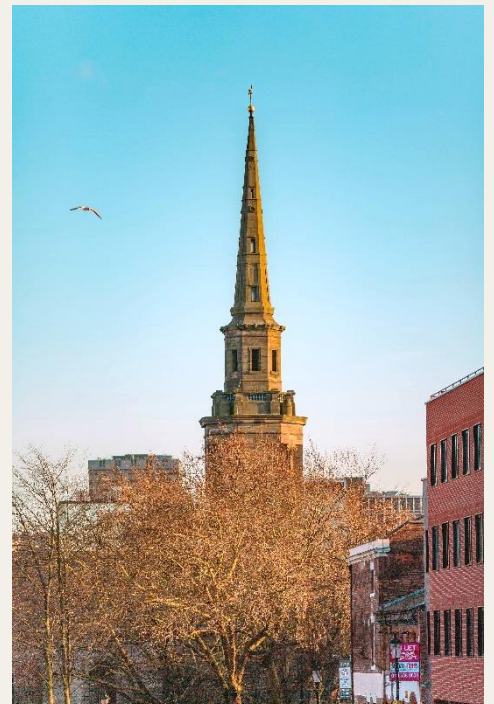
A jewel in Birmingham's crown – an estimated 40% of Britain's jewellery is manufactured here in the [Jewellery Quarter](#) by professional jewellers. There are over 100 independent specialist retailers and craftspeople here, many with their own workshops, making it a wonderful place to explore and buy a special gift.

The Jewellery Quarter dates back over 200 years and is a Conservation Area with over 200 listed buildings. [St Paul's Church](#) at the centre of a beautiful Georgian Square, houses pre-Raphaelite stained glass windows, and at the centre of the Jewellery Quarter shopping area stands the Quarter's Chamberlain clock. A short walk from this landmark takes you to the Jewellery Quarter's historic, [Key Hill](#) and [Warstone Lane](#) Cemeteries.

Take a stroll past some of the many windows displaying handmade jewellery on your way to the [Museum of the Jewellery Quarter](#), to understand how this part of the old city began and thrived. Enjoy a demonstration of skills that are still in use today. Enjoy refreshments at the museum and then browse the gift shop which has on display a range of contemporary Birmingham-made jewellery and craft pieces; a unique souvenir from your holiday, or gift for a friend.

- A guided tour of the [Smith & Pepper factory](#)
- A Museum of the Jewellery Quarter Guide book
- Tea and biscuits in the tea room
- £10.00 pp available from Tuesday to Saturday
- Groups size 10-50 people

Call **0121 348 8001**, or
email groups@birminghammuseums.org.uk



SAMPLE PROGRAMME FOR EXPLORING BIRMINGHAM

Lunch at [The Hive](#) - New Standard Works, Vittoria Street, Birmingham, B1 3PE
They are an organic café & bakery that makes 100% food fresh. Nothing is bought in and every dish is made by hand. Some of their produce is even supplied from their very own rooftop garden & micro-farm.

Open Monday – Friday. Please book your group with the Café Manager:
email: dominic.lawson@lantern.rmt.org or call 0121 233 9145.

Why not go on a walking Tour of the city? Or explore some alternative visit options below:

Take a tour with a someone who has known the area for years, and wants to show off their favourite places for food and drink, the secret little alleyways and the tales of the inventions, the hard graft and the characters who have made the city and its neighbouring city villages what they are today.



[Positively Birmingham](#) offer a great ranges of tours throughout the city. Choose from one of four to get an insight into this wonderful place. For more information and to book visit their website or email info@positivelybirmingham.co.uk

Freshen up back in your room and then head to live music at The Jam House for an evening of fun and food right on [St Paul's Square](#). Visit www.thejamhouse.com, email birmingham@thejamhouse.com or call 0121 200 3030.

Day 3

[Birmingham Botanical Gardens](#)

Explore the four stunning glasshouses, ranging from the exotic [Tropical House](#) to the [Subtropical](#), [Mediterranean](#) and [Arid Houses](#). There is a large lawn in front of the glasshouses with a range of beds and shrubberies around its perimeter, and woodland walkways with hidden natural sculptures. Overall, the character is that of a Victorian public park with a bandstand set in 6.1 hectares of landscaped greenery. They also have a tearoom where you can enjoy a spot of lunch and garden gift shop all surrounded by these most beautiful gardens.

For group bookings call 0121 454 1860 or email: groupvisits@birminghambotanicalgardens.org.uk



SAMPLE PROGRAMME FOR EXPLORING BIRMINGHAM

Journey to the beautiful campus of the [University of Birmingham](#), established by Queen Victoria by Royal Charter in 1900 and the UK's first civic or 'redbrick' university. The first phase of building work on the campus was completed in 1909 under the auspices of the esteemed architect Sir Aston Webb.

Next, head for the [Barber Institute of Fine Arts](#) of which the Independent newspaper says 'visit this It's a jewel.' They offer guided tours for groups to discover collections and exhibitions, the building and the Barbers themselves, from their friendly tour guides. You'll be treated to a wealth of insider knowledge and interesting anecdotes and have the chance to ask questions.

Duration; 1 hour

- 25 people per tour – up to 2 tours at one time
- £6 per person
- Refreshments £2.95 per head.

To book your visit call **0121 414 2261** or email learning@barber.org.uk

Just a walk or 2 minute coach ride from here is [Winterbourne House and Gardens](#), an Edwardian Arts and Crafts House with a 7 acre designed garden, home to over 6000 different plant species. Here you can enjoy a classic afternoon tea on the terrace, admiring the beautiful gardens.

Dinner at [Asha's](#) gives you the chance to experience some of our famous Balti flavours.



Day 4

Start your day at the quirky [Newman Bros Coffin Works](#) with a tour. Consistently at the top of the Trip Advisor ratings your guided tour will show you the original stock and tools of the trade, and how the workers made some of the world's finest coffin furniture including the fittings for the funerals of Winston Churchill and The Queen Mother.

Call **0121 233 4790**, or email josie@coffinworks.org (group and trade contact) to book.

Finally, enjoy some free time for shopping at [Grand Central](#) and the [Bullring](#), the independent shops in the [Victorian Piccadilly](#) & [Great Western Arcades](#) and the full range of the pedestrianised high street stores.

For more information visit <https://visitbirmingham.com>