

YORK CHRISTMAS 2025



Visit York

Make It York

visityork.org/christmas

A World of Festive Wonder at York's Chocolate Story!

Whether you want to meet Santa, get hands-on with chocolate-making, or enjoy an exclusive adults-only experience, we have something for everyone this holiday season.

Santa's Christmas Tour
Join Santa's elf on a magical festive guided tour! Discover the secrets of chocolate making, sample delicious treats, and meet Santa himself. Each child can share their Christmas wishes, take home a festive gift, and even create their very own chocolate lolly!



Tour & Christmas Truffle Rolling
Take a Guided Tour exploring York's chocolate heritage, decorate a chocolate lolly, then roll, dip, and personalise your own festive truffles.

Christmas Family Masterclass
The ultimate hands-on festive experience. Pipe and personalise a chocolate bar, decorate a lolly, roll and decorate truffles, and enjoy a warming hot chocolate.

Adults Christmas Masterclass (18+)
Treat yourself to a grown-up festive indulgence. Pipe a chocolate bar, roll and decorate truffles, and enjoy a luxurious Baileys hot chocolate.

Book online at yorkchocolatetory.com



Magical Christmas Experience at Mother Shipton's Cave

A personal visit with Father Christmas!



Get ready, for Santa is flying through the starry skies to meet you! From the moment Santa's cheerful elves greet you, excitement sparkles in the air as families begin an enchanting journey.

Every child with a Santa Experience Ticket receives a festive activity pack, unlocking the adventures that await. Wander through the Christmas Village, where twinkling displays bring the season to life, and meet Chief Elf Chestnut, the embodiment of festive cheer. The highlight of your visit is a personal meeting with Santa in his cosy grotto, where children receive a luxurious soft toy gift. Capture the magic with photo souvenirs from the Memorable Moments photographers, the perfect keepsake of a treasured day.



The adventure continues as little ones fill their own bag of reindeer food to sprinkle on Christmas Eve, send a heartfelt letter to Santa in the Snowy Owl Sorting Office, and listen to enchanting festive stories with Holly Berry in her twinkling tip. Warm up with hot chocolate, toasted marshmallows, gingerbread biscuits, and mince pies before browsing the Christmas Shop for unique gifts.

Recognised as one of the best Christmas grottos in the UK, Mother Shipton's promises festive joy and magical memories for the whole family.

mothershipton.co.uk

Step into the festivities at Treasurer's House

Where history and Christmas beautifully intertwine

From 15 November to 21 December the house is transformed with decorations inspired by the lives of its past residents. Each room tells a story, with bespoke designs and surprises around every corner, offering a unique seasonal experience in a historic setting.



Families can enjoy the stained glass spotter trail, featuring stars made by a local artist. And those seeking a gentler visit can explore during the lighter and quieter hours on Wednesdays from 2pm when lights are on, shutters open, and music turned off.

Extend your visit with a stop at the National Trust shop, just around the corner, for festive gifts, decorations, and artisan treats. Then relax in the café downstairs, where seasonal flavours await.

No booking is required, explore at your own pace. Whether you're soaking in the grandeur of an 18th tree or discovering stories from centuries past, Christmas at Treasurer's House promises a magical escape in the heart of York.

Open Saturday - Wednesday, 11am - 4pm. Free entry to National Trust members / adults £12, children £6.

nationaltrust.org.uk/treasurershouse

The Snowman Film with Live Orchestra at York Barbican

Monday 22 December, 3pm & 4pm



Make this Christmas truly unforgettable with a special screening of the beloved festive classic The Snowman, brought to life by a live performance from a professional orchestra.

Presented by Carrot Productions - the world's leading performers of The Snowman with live orchestra - this award winning show features some of the UK's finest musicians.

As an extra bonus, performances include Prokofiev's classic symphonic fairy tale, Peter and the Wolf, played live by the musicians and accompanied by a brand new animated film.

With a fun, festive medley created by CBeebies Musical Storyland composer, Daniel Whibley, to open the show - and a special visit from the Snowman himself - this magical show is perfect for the whole family to enjoy together, creating memories to treasure.

Don't miss out! Book now!

"Top family things to do at Christmas"

The Guardian, The Sunday Express and The Telegraph

"Sheer brilliance... a truly enchanting Christmas experience..."

"Magical! The best family event we've ever been to..."

yorkbarbican.co.uk

© Deborah Edwards Limited



Yorkshire's Winter Wonderland Celebrates 20 Years!

York's favourite festive event is celebrating its 20th anniversary! Yorkshire's Winter Wonderland, with its glistering outdoor ice rink, thrilling fairs, magical Santa's Grotto and cosy alone cafe, opens at York Designer Outlet on Friday 14th November 2025, offering a fun-filled winter experience for all ages until Sunday 16th January 2026.

With a 30ft high sparkling Christmas tree as its centrepiece, the ice rink is the largest in the North of England, and is surrounded by illuminated trees, the rink-side cafe and a viewing platform, creating the perfect festive setting.



The fair has something for everyone - a Waltzer and Twister for the thrill-seekers, vintage games for all the family, as well as children's rides and dog stalls offering a prize every time.

The Chalet cafe offers winter-warming food and a licensed bar, while the terrace is an ideal spot to enjoy a hot chocolate and witness all the thrills and spills of skating up close. And the outdoor German Grill is sure to tickle the taste buds.

Follow the snowy woodland walk and glittering light tunnel to Santa's Grotto where a warm welcome and special gift awaits.

And of course York Designer Outlet is the perfect place to tackle your Christmas shopping!

Book at yorkshireswinterwonderland.com



Explore, Shop and Indulge

As well as the magic of the Christmas Market, head to the nearby, award-winning **Shambles Market and Food Court**. Explore the rows of local traders offering unique gifts and stocking fillers, or a treat for yourself, then follow the mouthwatering aromas to the **Shambles Food Court** to have a well-deserved sit down and the choice of all things street food! From Yorkshire favourites to global dishes, there is something for everyone.

Alongside this, York has hundreds of cosy cafes, a mix of different cuisine restaurants and unique bars all in the city centre! There are so many places to explore across the city within York's world of food and drink.



Fancy some more Christmas shopping? With local independent businesses you won't find anywhere else, classic favourites and everything in-between, York's retail scene has it all! From high street heaven on **Conary Street** to award-winning independent businesses on **Foss Gate**, each district of York has its own unique shopping experience. For more information on our independent retail scene, head to our **Visitor Information Centre** to pick up a shopping map (EOTI)

York's shopping appeal stretches beyond the city with the **York Designer Outlet**, where you will find a range of designer shops as well as the **Winter Wonderland**, and **Monks Cross** and **Vanguard** shopping parks, where you will find even more of your high street favourites.

See what's on around the city and beyond at visityork.org/christmas



York City Sightseeing

See York in all its festive glory this Christmas from the top deck of a CitySightseeing York bus. Wrapped in twinkling lights and seasonal charm, the city transforms into a winter wonderland. From your seat, enjoy panoramic views of York's historic streets, ancient walls, and iconic landmarks - all beautifully dressed for the holidays.



With the flexibility of hop-on hop-off travel, you can explore York at your own pace. Step off to wander through charming alleys, visit museums, or take in the atmosphere of the city's Christmas events. Then hop back on to continue your journey, with our live guides guiding you through York's rich heritage and festive highlights.



Whether you're visiting with family, friends, or solo, this open-top tour offers a unique way to experience the magic of York during the most wonderful time of the year. Book your tickets now at yorkcitysightseeing.com and make your Christmas visit truly unforgettable.

yorkcitysightseeing.com

Christmas in North Yorkshire



This Christmas, find your perfect winter escape in North Yorkshire, where twinkling lights, charming market towns, and heartwarming traditions come together to create magical memories. Whether you're planning a relaxing break, a family adventure, or a festive shopping spree, North Yorkshire is the perfect place to celebrate the season.



Across North Yorkshire, from the Yorkshire Coast to the North York Moors to the Yorkshire Dales, towns and villages come alive with festive cheer. Enjoy Christmas Fayres and artisan markets, enchanting light trails & illuminations, festive concerts, stunning Christmas decorations and festive themed events in grand stately homes. From carol services to magical (and quirky) events on the coast, there's something to delight every visitor and bring the spirit of the season to life.

"It's the season to indulge, and you are invited to taste the flavours of Christmas in North Yorkshire with seasonal menus, festive afternoon teas & hearty winter fare. From cafes serving spiced drinks and sweet treats to pubs and restaurants offering comforting roasts and local delicacies, North Yorkshire's food scene is a celebration in itself. Whether you're dining out or picking goodies for your own festive table, you'll find plenty to savour."

Unwrap the magic of Christmas in North Yorkshire this year, where you can make magical memories and enjoy Christmas adventures.

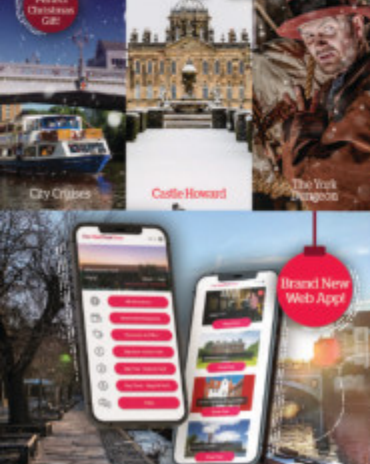
Plan your festive break at visitnorthyorkshire.com/christmas

#ChristmasInNorthYorkshire

@visitnorthyorkshire



The Visit York Pass



Brand New Web App!

Explore York for less - 35+ attractions with the city's official sightseeing pass

Buy now at yorkpass.com

Welcome to Christmas in York!



10% discount for York Residents at all the Christmas Market Stalls!



Step into the magic of York this Christmas, where medieval charm meets festive sparkle! Twinkling lights, the scent of sweet treats and tipples, and the warmth of the season transform York into the perfect festive escape.

Explore the award-winning **York Christmas Market**, a wonderland of chalets filled with Yorkshire's finest gifts, food, and drinks. From handmade crafts to mid-winter festive delights, it's a treasure trove of seasonal charm. Sustainability and local pride are at the heart of the market as we aim to promote a more responsible and conscious market for everyone.

York's Christmas Market is designed to be inclusive and accessible. A **Quiet Time** runs daily from 10:30am-12pm for a more sensory-friendly experience. St Sampson's Centre offers a **Quiet Oasis**, providing an accessible space for visitors a few meters away from the main market.

Visitors can plan their visit using the online accessibility-friendly **Trader Map**, while the **Virtual Christmas Market** brings festive shopping to wherever you are.

For maps and guides, attraction tickets, Visit York Passes, and unique York souvenirs and gifts, head to the **Visit York Visitor Information Centre & Gift Shop** on Parliament Street, right next to the Christmas Markets. It's your gateway to the very best of Christmas in York.



YORK CHRISTMAS WALKING TOUR

Festive 90-minute daily walking tour through the twinkling streets of York

21st November - 24th December 4pm
01904 630000
www.yorkchristmaswalkingtour.co.uk

"...a fun and lovely insight into the history of York and Christmas."

YORKSHIRE'S WINTER WONDERLAND

14 November - 4 January
York Designer Outlet

www.yorkshireswinterwonderland.com

The YORKSHIRE RULERSHIP VILLAGE

2nd-19th December
The Guildhall, York

Come and discover a magical festive shopping experience for unique locally made gifts!

FREE ADMISSION www.madeforyork.org.uk

Fairytale

AT YORK MINSTER
WEDNESDAY 17th DECEMBER

Christmas hits with Alastair Griffin & Ebor String Quartet

Fabrication Crafts

The Largest Handmade Gift Shop in York

Over 70 makers Artwork, Clothing, Jewellery and Homecrafts

Locally made items from the makers

22 Stonegate York, YO1 1BA
www.fabricationcrafts.co.uk

A Christmas Mousequerade

Fairfax Family's Winter Ball

15 November - 4 January

www.fairfaxhouse.co.uk

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Sat 29 Nov - Mon 5 Jan
Free with general admission

YORK MINSTER

York Christmas Market
13 Nov - 21 Dec
10:30am-7pm

Find out What's On, view the Trader Map, shop at the Virtual Market and more
visityork.org/christmas

Follow Visit York on social media @visityork #YorkChristmas

YORK CHRISTMAS

Visit York Visitor Information Centre & Gift Shop

TOILET MAP
Locate the nearest facilities. (Some may charge for use)
visityork.org/christmas/toilets

more buses for Christmas
9 November - 21 December
yorkcandride.co.uk

VILLAINS RUM SHOP & EXPERIENCE

DATE TO MAKE THE FUGGERS AT VILLAINS RUM OF YORK - WHERE IT RUMS
POET DRINKER. LEARN THE FINE HISTORY OF YORKE'S VILLAINS ON AN
EXCLUSIVE RUM TASTING. MEET AT A VILLAINS RUM TASTING IN YORK
14 LITTLE STONEGATE YORK, YO1 1BA
WWW.VILLAINSRUM.COM

TICKETS FROM £15

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Sleeping Beauty

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YORK THEATRE ROYAL
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You, Shall Go to the Ball!

LISA GEORGE TOBIAS TURLEY

RACHEL LUKE BRANDON JIMMY
GRUNDY ATTWOOD NICHOLSON BRYANT

Cinderella

SAT 6 DEC 2025 TO SUN 4 JAN 2026
BOOK NOW AT ATGTICKETS.COM/york

WHEN ROBINS APPEAR

Over 20 in your city & ready to sing
TICKETS £3.50

www.madeforyork.org.uk

FATHER CHRISTMAS & LADY WINTER
at the magical Dreamery Gardens

Escape, relax and enjoy the magic!

For more information
dreamerygardens.co.uk/father-christmas-and-lady-winter

drive. park. ride.
right into York's festive fun

free parking early & late buses

3.90 RETURN
WITH 1 FREE ADD

YORK PARK & RIDE

HAVE YOURSELF A
PROPER LITTLE CHRISTMAS PARTY

FROM £53.50 PER PERSON

YORK RACECOURSE

Stonegate

The Street That Tells York's Story

Visit us Online
www.stonegate.co.uk