



▶ A Weekend in Carlisle

With its great connections by rail to and from places throughout the UK, Carlisle makes for a fantastic place to visit. Home to 2,000 years of history, Cumbria's only city is a vibrant mix of old and new, where history and heritage meets cosmopolitan city living.

Spend a weekend exploring this fascinating city, with more than enough to keep everyone entertained - from attractions and history to independent food and drink venues.

★ Highlights

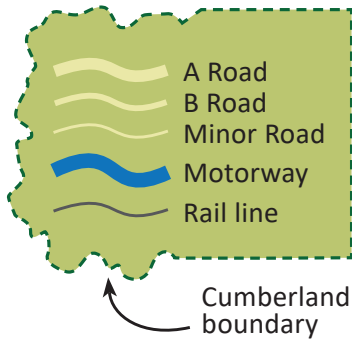
- History and heritage
- Cosmopolitan city living
- A vibrant events calendar



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MAP & KEY



- Points of interest
- Open all year
- On public transport route
- Parking
- Accessible Parking/ Drop off point
- Wheelchair access
- Accessible toilets
- Hearing loop
- Refreshments available
- EV Charger
- Wifi
- Dog Friendly
- ACCOMMODATION ONLY:**
- Star Rating
- Price indicator
- VE/AA** Visit England / AA



Good to know

Train travel to Carlisle is operated by Northern (Cumbrian Coast Line) and Avanti West Coast (West Coast Main Line), with tickets available online and via the Northern / Avanti West Coast apps, as well as through third party operators.

Stagecoach bus tickets are available to purchase online, via the Stagecoach app, and on board the bus.

Start / finish: Carlisle





© Cumbria's Museum of Military Life

© Discover Carlisle

DAY 1

Step Back in Time in Carlisle

Arrive in Carlisle by train and head off to explore. The station is located in the heart of the city, with attractions within walking distance.

1 Carlisle Castle

Castle Way, Carlisle CA3 8UR

Standing proud in the city centre, Carlisle Castle is testament to the city's storied past: it was once the home of an imprisoned Mary Queen of Scots, and endured the last siege suffered by a fortress in England. Indeed, it was the most besieged fortress in Britain! Today, it's managed by English Heritage and is open to the public who can step back in time and explore.



www

TOP TIP: Keep hold of your train ticket - there's a 20% discount for anyone visiting car-free. Simply present your bus / train ticket on arrival.

2 Cumbria's Museum of Military Life

Carlisle Castle, Castle Way, Carlisle CA3 8UR

Don't miss a trip to Cumbria's Museum of Military Life, located inside the castle walls and included in your ticket to the castle. Discover over 300 years of military history, told through stories of remarkable courage, loyalty and service. Joint tickets for the Castle and Museum are available through English Heritage.



www

Where to Eat

Carlisle Cathedral Cafe

Carlisle Cathedral, Carlisle CA3 8TZ

A modern cafe set in the grounds of Carlisle Cathedral.

www

John Watt & Son

11 Bank St, Carlisle CA3 8HG

Cafe serving their own roast coffee alongside cakes, breakfasts and lunches.

www

Casa Romana

44 Warwick Rd, Carlisle CA1 1DN

Italian cuisine, served from lunch to dinner.

www

Coco Mill

47-49 Lowther St, Carlisle CA3 8EQ

Relaxed gastropub serving meat and seafood dishes alongside craft beer and cocktails.

www

Alexandros Greek Restaurant and Deli

68 Warwick Rd, Carlisle CA1 1DR

Acclaimed Greek restaurant serving up authentic, homemade dishes in a relaxed atmosphere.

www

For more, head to discovercarlisle.co.uk



Where to Stay

The Halston Hotel

Stylish, modern apart-hotel in the city centre.

(public) ££

[www](#)

The Crown & Mitre Hotel

City centre hotel with Edwardian grandeur.

££

[www](#)

The Tranquil Otter

Luxury hot tub lodges around a private tarn.

VE 5★ ££-£££ [www](#)

DAY 2

Create Your Own Adventure

Choose from two options for your second day in Carlisle. One takes you into the countryside, while the other takes in art & retail therapy.

1. Take the bus to Brampton

Explore a little further afield by taking the Stagecoach 685 service to the charming town of Brampton. There are lovely shops, interesting architecture in the octagonal Moot Hall, and great walks in the surrounding area.

3 Warwick Bridge Corn Mill Little Corby Rd, Warwick Bridge, Carlisle CA4 8RE

En-route, visit Warwick Bridge Corn Mill: a recently renovated mill which has been brought back to working order. Mill tours are available on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, and most Thursday afternoons. You can even mill your own flour with a Miller Experience. Book ahead for tours and experiences.

[www](#)

4 Talkin Tarn Country Park Tarn Road, Brampton CA8 1HN

If you're up for a short walk, the picturesque Talkin Tarn is around two miles away from Brampton. With its countryside location, it's a lovely place for a picnic; you can also try your hand at watersports on the glacial lake at its centre.

[www](#)

2. Retail therapy & history

Explore the shops and cafes of Carlisle's city centre, with independent stores alongside high street names.

5 Tullie Castle St, Carlisle CA3 8TP

Head to Tullie: a museum, art gallery and community hub showcasing fine and decorative art, human history and natural sciences. Old Tullie House is a classical Grade One Listed Jacobean building; adjacent is a purpose built art gallery, seamlessly fusing new and old. As well as permanent collections, there are also temporary exhibitions to discover, meaning there's always something new to see.

[www](#)





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DAY 3

A Cathedral with a Difference

6 Carlisle Cathedral The Abbey, Carlisle CA3 8TZ

Discover over 900 years of history at Carlisle Cathedral. Built in 1122, it's one of England's smallest ancient cathedrals. Marvel at the architecture, learn more about its rich history, and enjoy a moment of calm in the middle of Cumbria's only city. Be sure to look up: the Cathedral's blue starry ceiling is a key feature, and one which plays a role in events like the popular "Rest Under the Stars" installation.

Keep an eye out for monthly "Angel's View Tours" offering the chance to see the Cathedral from a new perspective, with a guide who will show you into areas not usually open to the public. Dates are usually released a month in advance. There's also a monthly Farmer's Market, which takes place in the Cathedral grounds on the first Saturday of the month.

 [www](#)

TOP TIP: How about Afternoon Tea in the Cathedral? Afternoon Teas are served in the majestic Fraternity Hall, or in the popular Cathedral Cafe. Must be booked 48 hours in advance.

Save The Date

Keep an eye out for events in Carlisle, including:

Carlisle Light District

A series of events throughout the year, which see landmarks across the city light up as part of an impressive light and sound display. Usually held in February, it's one to look out for, alongside additional events across west Cumbria.

City Centre Markets

At various points throughout the year, Carlisle's City Centre plays host to markets featuring local, national and international stallholders. From Easter to Christmas, keep an eye out for what's on during your visit.

Carlisle Races

There are race day events throughout the year at the popular [Carlisle Racecourse](#).

The Old Fire Station

An [award winning destination](#) for music, comedy and plenty more.