



THE CHURCHES  
CONSERVATION TRUST

Historic churches in  
Cambridgeshire

all things  
bright &  
beautiful

[visitchurches.org.uk/daysout](http://visitchurches.org.uk/daysout)

# escape to the past

Whether city centre landmarks or in the heart of the Fens, the historic churches of Cambridgeshire have a tranquility and beauty that can take you to another place.



Some of these churches are treasure troves of art and craftsmanship. Others are ancient and simple in their design, with a quiet beauty born of light, space and harmony. Each has a sense of serenity that is rare to find. Let these churches transport you from the 21st century into a world of enchantment.

All the churches in this leaflet have been saved by The Churches Conservation Trust. The Trust is a charity that cares for more than 340 churches in England. This is one of 18 leaflets that highlight their history and treasures.

For more information on the other guides in this series, as well as interactive maps and downloadable information, see [visitchurches.org.uk](http://visitchurches.org.uk)



## divine inspiration

discover the glorious Arts and Crafts interior of All Saints', one of Cambridge's best kept secrets



## Cambridge, All Saints

Victorian decorative genius

1

- A Gothic Revival masterpiece
- Works by William Morris, Edward Burne-Jones and Ford Madox Brown

All Saints' stands opposite the gates of Jesus College in the heart of Cambridge, its pale stone spire a prominent city landmark. It was built in the 1860s to the plans of the famous 19th-century architect GF Bodley, and is a triumph of Victorian art and design.

The simple wooden door opens into a dramatic blast of colour and pattern. Light gleams through stained glass windows, designed by leading Arts and Crafts artists, including William Morris, Edward Burne-Jones and Ford Madox Brown. What's more, almost every surface has painted, stencilled or gilded decoration. Pomegranates burst with seeds; flowers run riot over the walls. There is a glorious painting of Christ, Mary and St John, with throngs of angels.

Despite all this glory, All Saints' struggled to pay its way for decades – eventually becoming 'redundant' for regular worship in the 1970s. Today, thanks to the care of The Churches Conservation Trust and much local support, All Saints' is rejuvenated, and hosts events and services throughout the year.

Jesus Lane, Cambridge CB5 8BP

→ In city centre, opp. Jesus College

Nearest railway station: Cambridge (1 mile)

🕒 Open daily



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peace  
and serenity

immerse yourself in deeply atmospheric  
St John's, Duxford



2

### Conington, All Saints

Glorious monuments  
in a church full of light

This late Medieval church is a light-filled wonder, its clear glass windows displaying almost lace-like tracery. The estate of Conington belonged to Maud, niece of William the Conqueror, who married David, son of the Scottish King Malcolm, in 1109. Conington remained part of Scotland until 1237 and was eventually passed to the Cotton family, whose gloriously opulent monuments are held in the church today.

Church Lane, Conington, Peterborough PE7 3QA  
→ 10m N of Huntingdon off A1  
Nearest railway station: Peterborough (8 miles)

🕒 *Keyholder nearby*



3

### Cambridge, St Peter

Saxon mermen in the smallest  
church in Cambridge

The tiny, tall-spired St Peter's stands in a tranquil city setting on Castle Hill. It was originally built in the 11th century, and traces of its Saxon past survive in the form of two lovely carved doorways and the stone font, decorated with four mermen grasping their split tails. Mermen may have an ancient link to St Peter, patron saint of fishermen. The church was rebuilt in Georgian times, and is a simple, elegant gem of a building.

Castle Hill, Cambridge CB3 0AJ  
→ In city centre  
Nearest railway station: Cambridge (2 miles)

🕒 *Open weekday mornings; at other times key available from Kettle's Yard Gallery next door*



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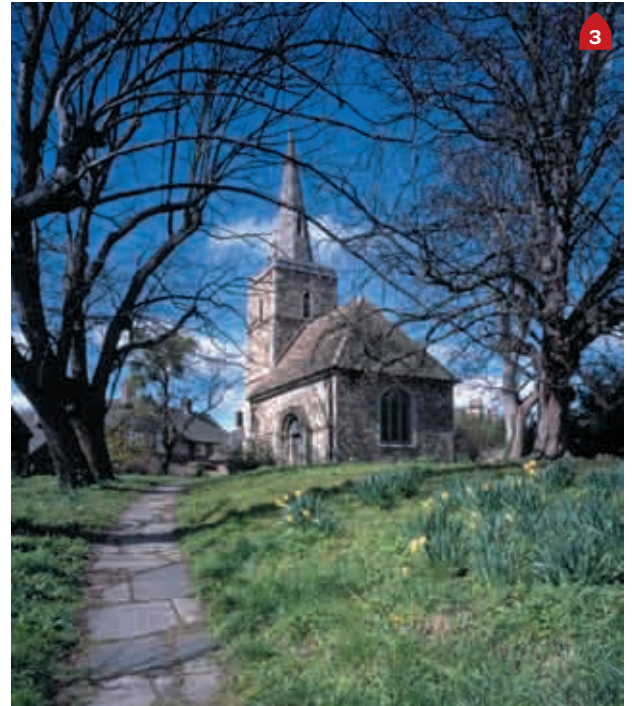
### Duxford, St John

A heavenly church with  
Templar links

The picture-postcard setting of St John's is only part of its charm. The exterior is quirky rather than beautiful, but the sparsely furnished stone interior has a light, airy serenity. Moreover, it is a treasure trove of curiosities. Graffiti, some of it so old it is written in Latin, is scratched into the stonework - look for the Templar cross. Carvings of angels, human faces and otherworldly creatures adorn the north aisle while dramatic Medieval paintings of martyrdom, torture and crucifixion grace the walls.

Green Street, Duxford, Cambridge CB22 4RG  
→ 6m S of Cambridge, 1m SE of M11 at Junction 10  
Nearest railway station: Cambridge (6 miles)

🕒 *Open summer weekends; at other times keyholder nearby*



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visitchurches.org.uk/daysout

Spend a day with us

# More churches to enjoy

Each CCT church has been saved because it is special. We can't do justice to them all in one leaflet, so visit our website for more information on those only briefly described here.

## Abbotsley, St Margaret

5

Part working church, part in the care of the Trust, the bold tower of Medieval St Margaret's bears four royal statues – William the Conqueror, King Harold and Scottish kings Macbeth and Malcolm.

High Street, Abbotsley, St Neots PE19 6UJ  
→ 4m SE of St Neots on B1046

🕒 *Keyholder nearby*

## Long Stanton, St Michael

6

A thatched church in an idyllic village setting with a holy well, used until the 1880s for baptisms, in the churchyard. Inside it is austere and atmospheric with 13th-century painted glass.

Longstanton, Cambridge CB24 3BZ  
→ 7m NW of Cambridge and E of A14 off B1050

🕒 *Open most days; at other times keyholder nearby*

## Offord D'Arcy, St Peter

7

This Norman church overlooks both a beautiful river and a busy railway line. There are carved stone heads, brasses and an alabaster 17th-century sculpture of Richard Nailour, his two wives and many children.

High Street, Offord D'Arcy, St Neots PE19 5RH  
→ 4m S of Huntingdon off B1043

🕒 *Keyholder nearby*

## Parson Drove, St John the Baptist

8

A lovely atmospheric Medieval Fenland church filled with carved faces peering out of the stonework. The churchyard has some intricately detailed gravestones and an obelisk to John Peck, an influential local farmer who died in 1851.

Main Road, Parson Drove, Wisbech PE13 4LF  
→ 6m W of Wisbech on B1169

🕒 *Keyholder nearby*

## Steeple Gidding, St Andrew

9

A beautiful church in a tree-filled churchyard with a 14th-century steeple and a wonderfully carved Norman doorway. Brilliant stained glass lights the austere but lovely interior.

Steeple Gidding, Huntingdon PE28 5RG  
→ 10m NW of Huntingdon off A1 and 3m W of Sawtry

🕒 *Open daily*

## Swaffham Prior, St Cyriac & St Julitta

10

A strange and beautiful church – one of two in the same village churchyard – with an octagonal bell tower and a ring of six bells. The Georgian interior has fantastic acoustics.

High Street, Swaffham Prior, Cambridge CB5 0LD  
→ 7m NE of Cambridge on B1102

🕒 *Open daily*

## Guyhirn Chapel

11

Designed in 1660 for Puritan worship and virtually unchanged, this little chapel is simplicity itself. Built from brick and stone, the chapel has plain glass windows and its original narrow pews. The churchyard is spacious and beautiful.

High Road, Guyhirn, Wisbech PE13 4ED  
→ 4m SW of Wisbech off A47

🕒 *Keyholder nearby*

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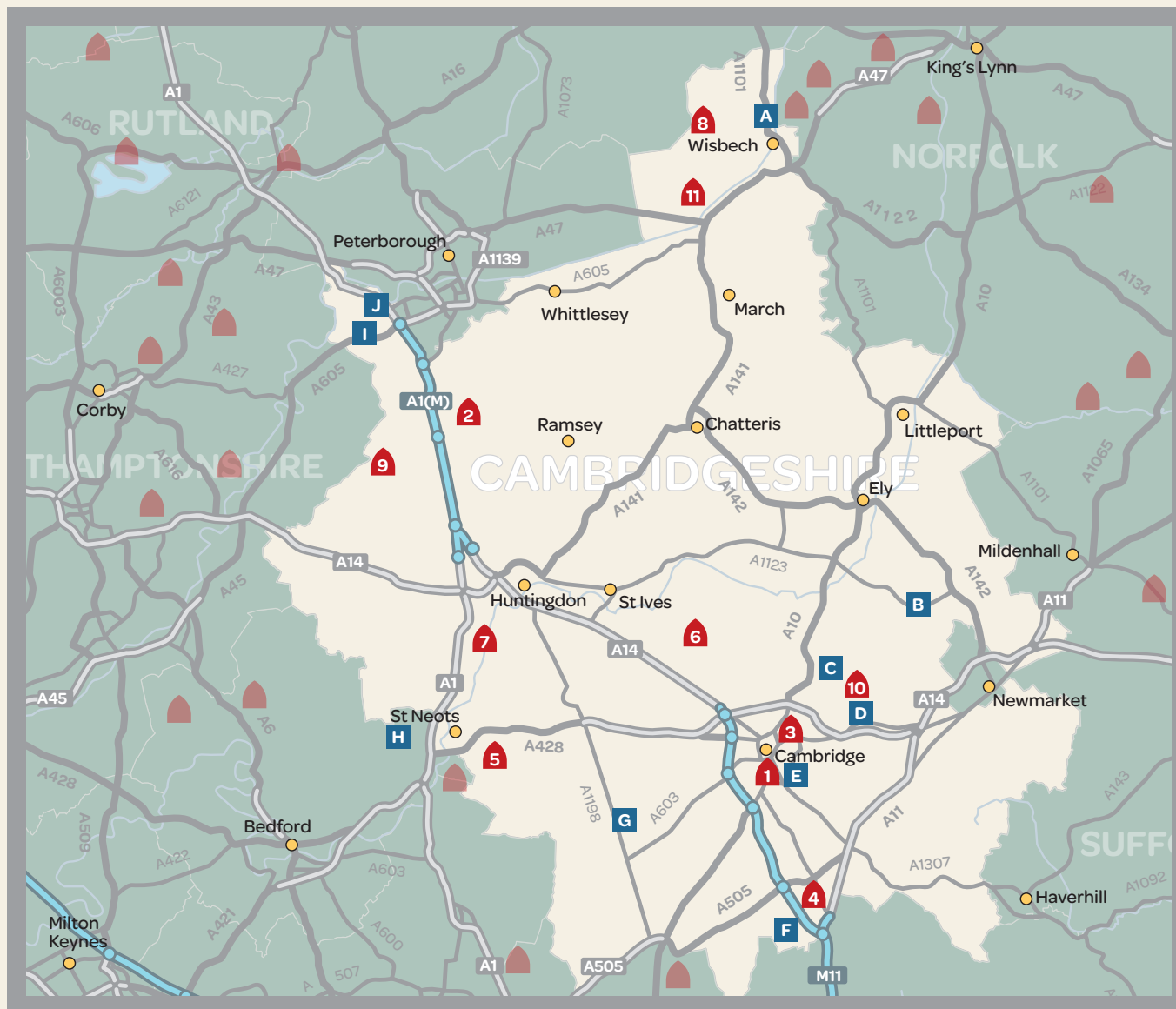
# Finding our churches

The map opposite shows the location of each of our churches in Cambridgeshire, together with other nearby attractions and CCT churches in adjoining counties.

Our website, [visitchurches.org.uk](http://visitchurches.org.uk), has much more detailed information to help you plan your trip.





	Ordnance Survey ref
<b>1</b> Cambridge, All Saints (cover image)	TL 453 587
<b>2</b> Conington, All Saints	TL 179 858
<b>3</b> Cambridge, St Peter	TL 445 592
<b>4</b> Duxford, St John	TL 478 462
<b>5</b> Abbotsley, St Margaret	TL 227 565
<b>6</b> Long Stanton, St Michael	TL 403 658
<b>7</b> Offord D'Arcy, St Peter	TL 216 664
<b>8</b> Parson Drove, St John the Baptist	TF 390 091
<b>9</b> Steeple Gidding, St Andrew	TL 133 813
<b>10</b> Swaffham Prior, St Cyriac & St Julitta	TL 568 639
<b>11</b> Guyhirn Chapel	TF 403 040



 CCT churches in neighbouring counties.  
For details, go to [visitchurches.org.uk](http://visitchurches.org.uk) or see the relevant county guide.



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## Other local heritage attractions

- A** Peckover House – house, gardens 
- B** Wicken Fen Nature Reserve 
- C** Denny Abbey 
- D** Anglesey Abbey – house, gardens 
- E** Cambridge colleges, museums, botanic garden
- F** Imperial War Museum Duxford

- G** Wimpole Hall – house, gardens, home farm 
- H** Bushmead Priory 
- I** Elton Hall – house, gardens
- J** Nene Valley Steam Railway



[www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk)

Telephone 0870 333 1181

## Find out more

Our website has a host of additional information that will help you plan and enjoy your visit, including:

- Interactive maps
- Filterable lists of all our churches
- Up to date opening times
- Visitor comments
- Downloadable guides
- Image galleries
- Event listings

Go to [visitchurches.org.uk](http://visitchurches.org.uk) to access all this and more.



Become a fan

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 [twitter.com/TheCCT](https://twitter.com/TheCCT)

## Welcome to a thousand years of English history

The Churches Conservation Trust is the national charity protecting historic churches at risk.

We've saved over 340 beautiful buildings which attract more than 1.5 million visitors a year. With our help and with your support they are kept open and in use – living once again at the heart of their communities.


### Visiting information


Go to [visitchurches.org.uk](http://visitchurches.org.uk) for detailed directions, local maps, information on disability access and up to date opening times.

For other enquiries, call us on **020 7213 0660** (Monday – Friday, office hours), or email [welcome@tcct.org.uk](mailto:welcome@tcct.org.uk)

! Please take care when visiting our churches. Floors may be uneven/worn or slippery, and interior lighting may be low.


 Assistance dogs are welcome.

 For full disabled access information, see our website.

 Unsure about the 'keyholder nearby' access? You will find details at the church or call us in advance.

**P** Parking is available at most churches – see the website for more details.

 The closest station for each church is shown in the guide.

 For bus routes, see [traveline.org.uk](http://traveline.org.uk)

 Cyclists welcome! For cycle routes, go to [sustrans.org.uk](http://sustrans.org.uk)

### Help us save historic churches

The CCT needs to raise an additional £1.5million every year just to cover essential repairs. If you enjoy your visit please leave a donation at the church, or go to [visitchurches.org.uk/donate](http://visitchurches.org.uk/donate) for details of how you can help.



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[visitchurches.org.uk](http://visitchurches.org.uk)

The Churches Conservation Trust  
1 West Smithfield, London EC1A 9EE  
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