



THE CHURCHES
CONSERVATION TRUST

Historic churches in
Cheshire
Lancashire
Greater Manchester
Merseyside

bathe in
northern
lights

visitchurches.org.uk/daysout

amazing churches, incredible people

Visit the historic churches of Cheshire, Lancashire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside and you will see the past – and its people – in a whole new light.



The historic churches of the north-west are remarkable. Each church has its own character – bold, ingenious or unusual, just like their patrons and preachers in times past. Discover their fascinating stories, and soak up their beauty and atmosphere, in a day out to these very special places.

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



city style

step inside Lancaster's St John the Evangelist
for a taste of bygone urban elegance



1

Macclesfield, Christ Church Cheshire

Striking red-brick church from the Industrial Revolution

Christ Church is an engineering marvel. Built in 1775 by local industrialist Charles Roe, it was constructed using innovative cast-iron columns to support the galleries. It attracted men of passion, including the founder of Methodism John Wesley and the outspoken preacher David Simpson, a radical socialist who championed the cause of the poor.

Bridge Street, Macclesfield SK11 6EG

→ Macclesfield town centre

Nearest railway station: Macclesfield (0.5 miles)

🕒 *Open Apr to Sep: Mon, Tue and Fri 10am-3pm; Oct to Mar: Mon 10am-3pm; every second and fourth Sat, 10am-1.30pm*



2

Warburton, St Werburgh Old Church Cheshire

A timber-framed haven near the ship canal

This 1,000-year-old church is one of only 27 timber-framed churches in England. Inside, rough-hewn timber uprights support the roof beams, gnarled and twisted like the trees they once were. Fixtures and furnishings show St Werburgh's journey through time, from a 12th-century stone sarcophagus to the patch of 19th-century Minton tiles on the floor. Ideal to combine with a visit to the nearby St George's at Carrington.

Church Green, Warburton, Warrington WA13 9SS

→ 6m E of Warrington, off B5159 and

Wigsey Lane/Church Green

Nearest railway station: Glazebrook (1.8 miles)

🕒 *Keyholder nearby*



3

Lancaster, St John the Evangelist Lancashire

A boom-time church for a rich city parish

St John's is a product of industry and prosperity, built in 1754-55 when the congregation of the nearby Priory church became too large. Lancaster's port on the river Lune was thriving, the population was growing, and in 1784 a classic Georgian tower was added to St John's. Everything about this urban church is smart. Two Victorian stained glass windows are both sumptuous and subtle.

North Road, Lancaster LA1 1PA

→ Junction of North Road and Chapel Street

Nearest railway station: Lancaster (0.5 miles)

🕒 *Open Thu 1pm-4pm, Fri 12pm-4pm, Sat 1pm-4pm. At other times access is by appointment: 07792 953 147*



4

Pilling, St John the Baptist Old Church Lancashire

A Georgian gem with an untouched interior

This remote coastal church might look simple and unassuming from the outside, but it has a stunning unspoiled Georgian 'preaching box' interior. Large windows illuminate the wonderful wood furnishings with the cool, watery light of the surrounding marshland. Outside is the grave of Reverend G Potter. He was a prizefighter, and was said to have fought thrice and preached twice one Sunday. The new St John the Baptist church, built in 1887, stands 100 metres away.

School Lane, Pilling, Lancaster PR3 6HD

→ 10m SW of Lancaster and 7m NW of Garstang off A588

Nearest railway station: Poulton-le-Fylde (6.4 miles)

🕒 *Keyholder nearby*

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.

Cheshire

Thornton-Le-Moors, St Mary

5

St Mary's dates from the 14th century onwards, and is believed to be on the site of a pre-Conquest church. It sits in a village setting, close to the Mersey estuary, near a small nature reserve.

Thornton Green Lane, Thornton-Le-Moors, Chester CH2 4HU
→ 1.5m N of M56 Junction 14, off A5117

📍 *Keyholder nearby*

Greater Manchester

Carrington, St George

6

An oasis of calm among modern buildings; built in 1757 with a contemporary schoolroom and vicarage (not open to the public) in a pretty churchyard setting.

Manchester Road, Carrington, Greater Manchester M31 4AG
→ 9m E of Warrington on A6144

📍 *Keyholder nearby*

Lancashire

Beconsall, All Saints Old Church

7

A lovely brick-built riverside church near a boatyard on the river Douglas, restored to life after dereliction. The simply furnished interior is flooded with light from its large Georgian windows.

Beconsall Lane, Hesketh Bank, Preston PR4 6RR
→ 10m S of Preston off the A59 at Tarleton

📍 *Keyholder nearby*

Blackburn, Holy Trinity

8

This tall, handsome Victorian city church is known for its austere beauty and unusual ceiling featuring 80 painted heraldic panels, commemorating local families who contributed to the church's construction.

Mount Pleasant, Blackburn BB1 5DQ
→ N of city centre near Larkhill Health Centre

📍 *Access by appointment: 01254 53866*

4



windows
on the past

experience the elegance of
a Georgian gem in light-filled
St John the Baptist Old Church, Pilling

Bolton, All Souls

9

A local mill-owner paid for this Victorian brick masterpiece with a bold west tower – now a vibrant community centre. The lofty interior has all its original oak fittings.

Astley Street, Bolton BL1 8EH

→ Off Blackburn Road (A666), 1m N of town centre

Nearest railway station: Bolton (2 miles)

🕒 *Access by appointment: 07786 856171*

Friarmere, St Thomas Old Church

10

This austere Georgian church on a hillside overlooking Delph was built by the local community who named it Heights Chapel. Inside, it is sparse yet atmospheric.

Heights Lane, Friarmere, Delph, Oldham OL3 5TU

→ 6m NE of Oldham, Dark Lane/Broad Lane off A6052 between Delph and Denshaw

🗝️ *Keyholder nearby*

Heaton Norris, Christ Church Tower

11

This fearsomely imposing landmark is all that remains of a Victorian church built in 1846. The church was gutted by fire in 1977 and only the tower and spire remain.

Heaton Norris, Stockport SK4 2LJ

→ Off A6 Wellington Road North, 1m N of Stockport town centre

🕒 *Tower only, no visitor access to interior*

Old Langho, St Leonard

12

A rare church built in the reign of Mary I (1516–1558). It is made of stone that almost certainly came from nearby Whalley Abbey. The 17th-century bench ends are spectacular.

Old Langho Road, Old Langho, Blackburn BB6 8AW

→ 6m NE of Blackburn and N of A59, near junction with A666 (follow signs to Old Langho)

🗝️ *The key to the church is available in the Black Bull Inn public house, adjacent to the church*

Tarleton, St Mary

13

A picturesque early Georgian chapel with a lovely unspoiled interior, St Mary's stands in a pretty churchyard surrounded by handsome 18th- and 19th-century headstones.

Tarleton, Preston PR4 6HJ

→ 8m S of Preston on A59

🕒 *Often open but please call 01772 813 663 in advance of your visit*

Merseyside

Waterloo, Christ Church Old Church

14

A sailors' landmark with a striking interior and dazzling stained glass, Christ Church is a hauntingly romantic city monument built in glorious pink stone. Local volunteers now run this church as a community events venue.

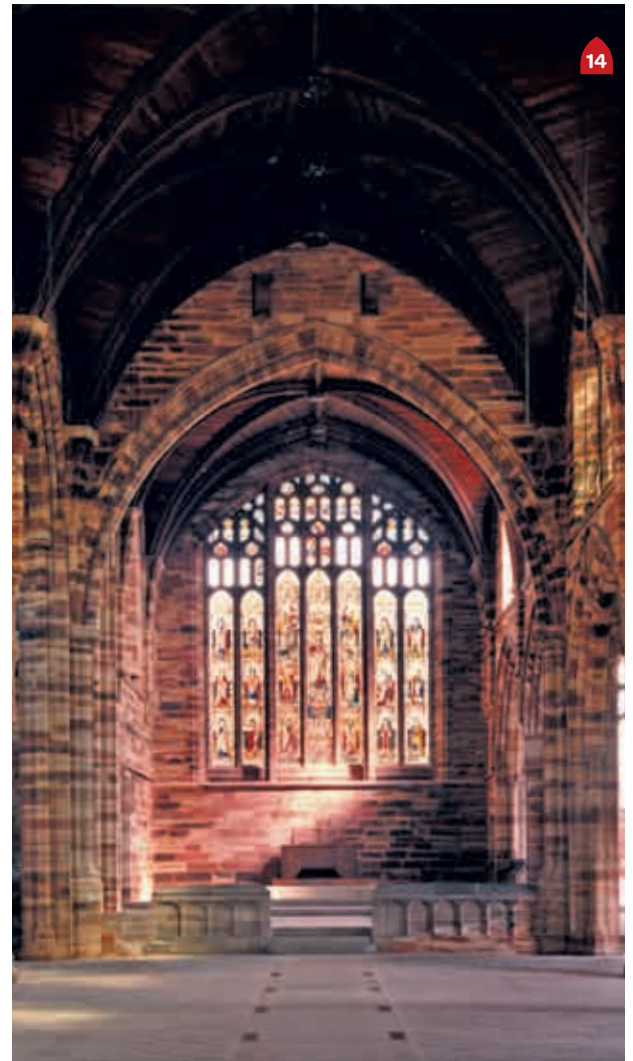
Waterloo Road, Liverpool L22 1RF

→ 4m N of Liverpool city centre, junction of Alexandra, Victoria and Waterloo Roads, off Crosby Road South (A565)
Nearest railway station: Waterloo, Merseyside (0.25 miles)

🕒 *Access by appointment: 0151 924 5738*

visitchurches.org.uk/joinus

Become a supporter




Finding our churches

The map opposite shows the location of each of our churches in Cheshire, Lancashire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside, together with other nearby attractions and CCT churches in adjoining counties.

Our website, visitchurches.org.uk, has much more detailed information to help you plan your trip.





		Ordnance Survey ref
1	Macclesfield , Christ Church	SJ 914 736
2	Warburton , St Werburgh Old Church (cover image)	SJ 697 896
3	Lancaster , St John the Evangelist	SD 478 619
4	Pilling , St John the Baptist Old Church	SD 403 485
5	Thornton-Le-Moors , St Mary	SJ 441 746
6	Carrington , St George	SJ 728 926
7	Beaconsall , All Saints Old Church	SD 452 231
8	Blackburn , Holy Trinity	SD 688 284
9	Bolton , All Souls	SD 714 108
10	Friarmere , St Thomas Old Church	SD 982 091
11	Heaton Norris , Christ Church Tower	SJ 889 908
12	Old Langho , St Leonard	SD 701 359
13	Tarleton , St Mary	SD 457 201
14	Waterloo , Christ Church Old Church	SJ 321 976


 CCT churches in neighbouring counties.
For details, go to visitchurches.org.uk or see the relevant county guide.



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Other local heritage attractions

- A** Quarry Bank Mill and Styal Estate 
- B** Jodrell Bank Visitor Centre and Arboretum
- C** Tatton Park – house, gardens, deer park 
- D** Dunham Masey – house, gardens, deer park 
- E** National Waterways Museum
- F** Rufford Old Hall – Tudor house, gardens 

- G** Beacon Fell – country park
- H** Gresgarth Hall Garden
- I** Gawthorpe Hall – house, grounds
- J** Lyme Park – house, garden 



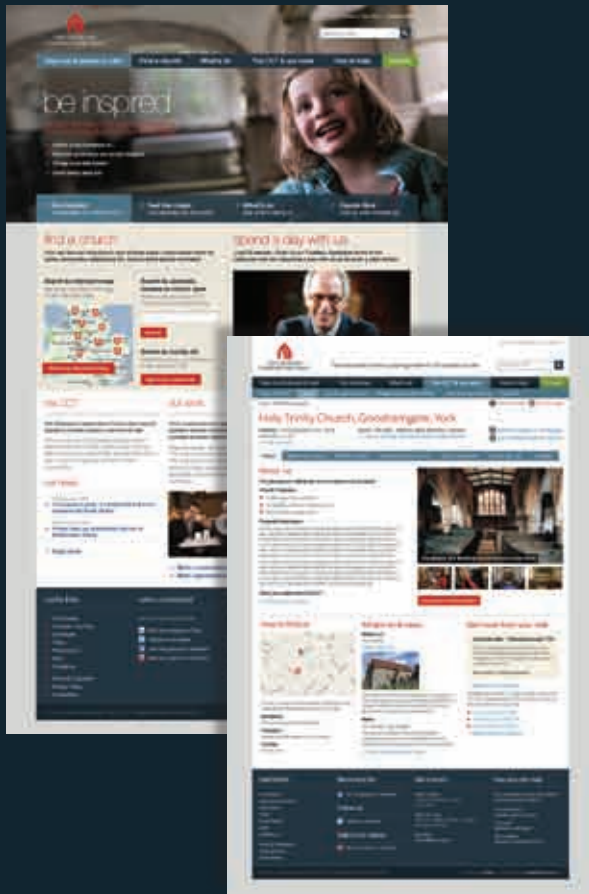
www.english-heritage.org.uk
Telephone 0870 333 1181

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 to access all this and more.



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Follow us

 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 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


! 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

 Cyclists welcome! For cycle routes, go to 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 for details of how you can help.



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The Churches Conservation Trust
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