

**MAKE A DATE  
WITH LEICESTER**

## Retail Guide

**Leicester**  
visitleicester.info





John Lewis

# Introduction

Situated in the heart of the Midlands, Leicester city centre and its surrounding neighbourhoods offer a great mix of high street giants and independent makers and creators, making it the shopping destination of choice for many people

Discover over 80 of the most imaginative and desirable shops in Highcross, catering for all your fashion and lifestyle needs — including the likes of Zara, Next, Pandora, Ted Baker, Apple, Jo Malone and one of the biggest John Lewis stores outside of London. Its stunning glass exterior is covered in a white filigree pattern, paying homage to Leicester's close historical ties to the textile industry.

If you want to discover new brands or find something a little different, head to The Old Town to meander through The Lanes, St Martins Square, the Arcades and Leicester Market. Or explore the various neighbourhood areas surrounding the city centre and discover independent retailers, jewellery shops, international food markets, gorgeous interior stores and fabulous fashion boutiques.

Whether you're searching for the perfect gift, the finishing touch to your home, an outfit for a special occasion, the latest in technology, sportswear and sports equipment or simply want to indulge in a spot of shopping for yourself, Make a Date with Leicester for some retail therapy.

To find out more about Leicester, what to see and do, and where to stay, go to [visitleicester.info](https://www.visitleicester.info)





# City Centre Shopping

Generations of local people have met at Leicester's Clock Tower. It's one of the city's best known and most iconic landmarks, situated at the heart of the city centre retail area

Leading away from the Clock Tower, you'll find High Street, Gallowtree Gate and Church Gate. Filled with a variety of retailers, from big names like **M&S**, **Sports Direct**, **Blacks**, **hmv** and **Flannels**, to a fantastic selection of independent shops.

Looking for a stylish new outfit? Head to **Pilot**. Open since 1984, the large iconic corner store has become a meeting point for the well dressed in the area and stocks selected designer men's and women's wear. **Maze** is another long-standing independent fashion boutique, having been in the city for almost 20 years, selling some of the world's leading brands. For stylish little ones, there's **Jellyrolls**, which stocks designer childrenswear, footwear and accessories, and **Wellgosh** has a great range of top-end streetwear and footwear.

Speaking of the little ones, be sure to make a pitstop at **Toytown** when you're in the city, who pride themselves on having one of the widest ranges of toys available – from action figures, playsets and games, to arts & crafts, Lego and pocket money treats, there's something for every child to enjoy. On Church Gate there is **Source** where you'll find officially licenced merchandise, giftware and collectibles from Harry Potter, Assassins Creed and

Alchemy (to name a few.) Interiors enthusiasts will want to pay a visit to **Langtons** renowned for their great customer service and luxury, quality furniture and accessories – perfect for sprucing up your home.

Looking for something a little more special? Visit one of the independent jewellers in this part of the city to discover dazzling diamonds, stunning timepieces and beautiful keepsakes. **Lumbers** has been at the heart of Leicester for over 140 years, offering a huge variety of timepieces, jewellery, lifestyle accessories and gifts. **Pragnell** is another family-owned jewellers situated on Market Street, offering a selection of contemporary and antique fine jewellery – they also specialise in creating bespoke jewels for anyone looking for a one-of-a-kind gift or memento. **Churchgate Jewellers** specialise in wedding, engagement and eternity rings, as well as offering valuations, repairs and a commissions service.





# Old Town

## Life in The Lanes

Get lost in Leicester's Lanes, where narrow streets bristle with fantastic independent stores. Selling everything from classic styles to one-off pieces to make a statement in your home or wardrobe, The Lanes has something to suit all tastes



If you're looking for an outfit for a special event, **Divine Boutique** has two floors of glamorous gowns and is also home to the largest collection of bridesmaid designs in Leicestershire. **Impeys Occasionwear** showcases a great selection of womenswear, with personal styling available for anyone who needs help picking the perfect mother-of-the-bride outfit. **Lanes Fine Jewellery** – the official jeweller to Leicester City Football Club – stocks beautiful pieces, whilst offering the most personal customer service.

If you're after a fusion of classic, contemporary and rustic interiors, be sure to stop by **Pomponette** for quality products, hand selected from the UK and around the world. **Instinct** specialises in stunning handmade jewellery pieces, while **Harlequin** has been designing fabulous homes for 45 years and stocks everything from soft furnishings, to furniture and accessories.

Bring nature into your home with a stunning, handpicked bouquet from **Flowerworks** or bring the outdoors in by choosing something from their large and unusual plant selection.

Need a gift, or want to treat yourself? Head to **Niche**, where you'll find cards, books, prints, jewellery, home accessories and so much more. Full to the brim with stylish and inspiring products from all over the world, it's the place to come when searching for something that's one-of-a-kind. Art enthusiasts will want to pay a visit to **Wingates Art Gallery**, a family-run business with a great selection of original and limited edition art and sculptures. Feeling sporty? Head to **Withers Sports**. Established almost 80 years ago, the team are on-hand to offer expert advice and competitively priced sports equipment – from rackets, balls and shuttles, to shoes, clothing and protective wear.

No visit to Leicester's shopping core is complete without taking some time out to explore the historic Victorian streets and arcades in Old Town. We're sure you'll love these independents, owned by knowledgeable people who have a real passion for what they do.





## Stylish St Martins

St Martin's Square is a delightful spot to while away a few hours. The pretty courtyard is surrounded by unique independent shops, making this tranquil area a fantastic place to pick up an unusual gift or experiment with a new look





Vintage clothes lovers and those looking for one-off pieces should head to **The Vintage Scene**, where you will find both in abundance. **Gini Fiorini** has a fantastic selection of imported women's fashions from Italy and Paris that cannot be found elsewhere in the UK. Brides-to-be can search for their perfect dress at **Brides of Bond Street** and add some sparkle from diamond and jewellery specialist, **Alrodia**.

If you're looking to give your existing wardrobe a bit of TLC, then seek out the **Clothing Alterations Co**, Leicester's oldest alterations business who also offers same day dry cleaning services.

**Harriman & Co** state that they offer "beautiful, practical, honest and pure household items and furniture for the considered home" — and it's hard to argue with them! **Just Fairtrade** is a social enterprise promoting fair trade,

ethical and sustainable living selling a wide range of products to help people in the world's poorest countries to work their way out of poverty. Bookworms will love **Fox Books** — Leicester's independent bookshop, stocking a wide range of fiction, non-fiction and children's titles.



## The Arcades

Mini shopping centres in their own right, Leicester's Arcades — Silver, Odeon, Malcolm and Royal — offer a treasure trove of quirky shops, perfect for taking you off the beaten track whilst shopping in the city

Image: © Ranjit Singh Chaggar



Starting off in Royal Arcade, literary enthusiasts will adore **Maynard & Bradley**. Get lost in the pages of their second-hand books, find maps, prints and posters to add character to your walls, or sift through the myriad of sports autographs and memorabilia.

Fashion lovers will enjoy hunting for vintage treasures in Leicester's longest-running vintage clothing shop, **The Wardrobe**. From cute Moomin toys to Levi denim jackets, 60's dresses and USA college sweatshirts, you're guaranteed to find something you love. Head to **Tinfish Shoes** to complete your outfit. Offering stylish and design-led footwear in the city for just over 30 years, here you can find brands such as Loake, Fly London, Birkenstock, Camper and Irregular Choice.

Grade II listed Silver Arcade was built by Amos Hall in 1889 and is the only four storey Victorian arcade of its type in Britain. Today, it's home to a handful of delicious eateries and independent retailers. Feeling creative?

Head to **Jennie B Handmade Knitting** to stock up on everything you could possibly need to make the perfect gift for a loved one — from wool and knitting patterns, to buttons and haberdashery items, it's a one stop shop. Prefer playing games to knitting? Then **Super Game Shack** is for you. Filled to the rafters with retro boardgames, video games and memorabilia, it's the perfect place for gamers to while away a Saturday afternoon.

If you love your vinyl, head to Malcolm Arcade, where you'll find **Rockaboom** and **Out of Joint Records** - both stock a huge variety of records covering every genre. With 45 years of experience, the team at **Button Boutique** are perfectly placed to help with all your crafting needs — from buttons and lace, to crochet hooks and tapestry wools, it's a treasure trove for any crafting enthusiast.



Tucked away in Odeon Arcade is **Pommygranit**, an independent alternative clothing and accessories store specialising in gothic, steampunk and alternative wear at affordable prices. If you prefer making your own clothes, **Roy's Material World** stocks a huge variety of fabrics from vintage and designer prints, to tweed, cotton and linen, in all the colours of the rainbow.



## Highcross

Situated in the centre of Leicester, Highcross is the ultimate shopping destination, perfect for those wanting to indulge in a spot of retail therapy and well-behaved dogs are always welcome

Discover a huge variety of shops, catering for all your fashion and lifestyle needs — including **John Lewis & Partners**, **Zara**, **Jo Malone**, **Hugo Boss** and **Apple**.

All shopped out? There's cafes, bars, restaurants, a 12-screen **Showcase Cinema de Lux**, **Clarins Spa** (inside John Lewis) and **Treetop Adventure Golf**, too. Getting here is easy, with 24-hour parking available for over 3,000 vehicles; bus stops and the train station withing walking distance and plenty of space for anyone cycling into the city to store their bikes.

From retail giants to independent gift shops, we've picked out some key places for you to make a pit-stop on your Highcross shopping spree.

## John Lewis & Partners

With an extensive range of products on offer — from fashion and beauty, to home furnishings and technology — you can easily while away a couple of hours in this impressive store. Visit the Clarins Spa or book a Personal Styling appointment on the ground floor, speak to a Home Design Stylist to help bring your interior design ideas to life, or try out the latest gadgets before grabbing a coffee and some cake at the Place to Eat on Floor 3, which offers fantastic views across the city.

## Apple Store

If you love all things Apple, this is the best place to try all their latest products and find a great range of accessories. Once you've selected your gadget of

choice, the Apple Specialists can get you set up and answer any questions before you leave. There's regular, free workshops if you want to learn something new and a Genius Bar offering hands-on technical support.

## Jo Malone

Internationally synonymous with all that is most coveted in British style, the Jo Malone London Studio offers a world of bespoke luxury that is inspired by, and immersed in, modern British culture. In working with the most forward-thinking style mavens, Jo Malone London is enduringly at the forefront of perfumery. Head to this beautiful store for a special treat and find your perfect scent.





## Zara

Fashion fanatics won't want to miss the opportunity to browse the rails here. Offering women's, men's and children's fashion styled for today's world. From casual wear to classic ranges, Zara's style is dynamic and evolving — with collections updated twice a week.

## Reiss

Delivering modern clothes with a timeless appeal across both womenswear and menswear, the brand is a favourite of royalty and celebrities worldwide. Signature pieces include tailored jackets, coats, cashmere knits and evening dresses.

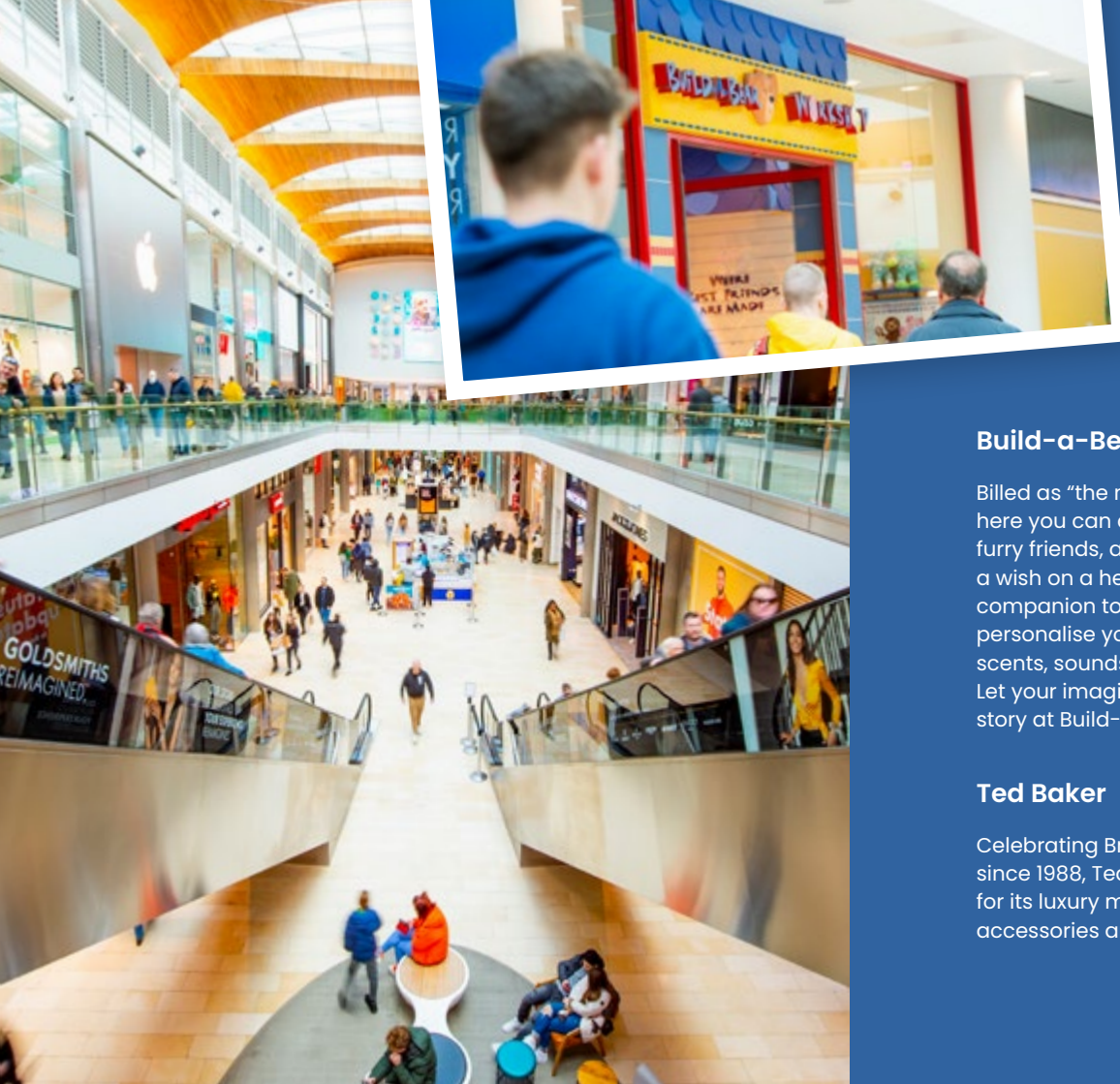
## Goldsmiths

Offering a relaxed and inclusive store experience, you'll find a selection of luxury watch and jewellery brands including Rolex, Tudor, Gucci and Jenny Packham. The showroom also features a hospitality area, where customers can unwind and enjoy complimentary food and drink whilst considering their purchases.

## Set

A much-loved independent business that has been in the city for almost 20 years, Set stocks a huge variety of greetings cards, jewellery, watches and gifts to suit every pocket. With familiar brands such as Ted Baker, CK, Orla Kiely, Sass & Belle, Tutti & Co and Alessi to name a few, Set is your gift solution.





## Build-a-Bear Workshop

Billed as “the most fun you’ll ever make”, here you can choose from all kinds of furry friends, add lots of stuffing and make a wish on a heart to create a special companion to keep FURever! You can personalise your new friend by adding scents, sounds, outfits and accessories. Let your imagination soar and create your story at Build-a-Bear Workshop.

## Ted Baker

Celebrating British fashion and heritage since 1988, Ted Baker is globally recognised for its luxury menswear, womenswear, accessories and lifestyle collections.



# Haymarket

With over 60 stores — including big brand names, exciting independents, and a number of food outlets — Haymarket Shopping Centre is perfectly situated in the heart of Leicester

Getting here is easy, with onsite 24-hour parking and it's just a stone's throw from Haymarket Bus Station. With free Wi-Fi throughout the centre, baby changing facilities, disabled access and its own Hubert Dalwood Sculpture architectural landmark. There's plenty of things on offer to ensure you enjoy your shopping experience.



Whether you're looking for a wardrobe refresh, something for the cycling enthusiast in your life, or simply wanting to support one of the city's independent retailers, we've picked out some of the must-visit retailers in Haymarket.

### Primark

Offering high quality fashion basics at value for money prices, Primark is a great place to start your shopping trip. Stock up on essentials, browse the latest fashion items, treat the kids to a new outfit, or pick up a new accessory for your home.

### TK Maxx

A treasure trove of designer labels, famous brands and gorgeous homeware, always up to 60% less. Discover men's, women's and children's clothing, shoes and accessories alongside pots, pans, crockery, bedding and even a selection of items for your furry friend.

### B&M

One of the leading variety retailers in the UK, this is the perfect pitstop for stocking up on everything from cleaning products to your favourite snacks. Selling top branded products at sensational prices, you'll find everything you could possibly need here (and more!)





## Evans Cycles

With over 11,500 sq ft of space, stocking over 300 bikes for customers to see in person, as well as a myriad of the latest products and accessories from brands like Trek, Specialised and GORE, cycling enthusiasts will be in their element here. The store also features a fully equipped workshop, Shimano Service Centre and Evans Cycles' Ride to Work Scheme.

## Matalan

A store with a mission that has stayed the same from the day it started; to provide outstanding quality and value for modern families. With clothing for women, men and children, featuring a selection of trend-led pieces sitting alongside essential items and accessories, you'll find something for everyone.



If you're looking for something a little different – or simply just want to support one of the many independent businesses in the city – Haymarket Shopping Centre has a selection of great independent retailers to choose from

If you're searching for the perfect pair of men's jeans, look no further than **Jeans & Jeans**, where there's a fantastic range for men, all at affordable prices.

Head to "the home of alternative fashion" at **Blue Banana**, where you can choose from the latest new clothes and accessories.

Looking to treat a loved one to a special gift? **RockC Jewellers** craft their products with detail and precision, creating timeless pieces that will be treasured forever.

# Golden Mile

Steeped in history, the Golden Mile holds a story of resilience and enterprise

Where large companies such as Wolsey and the British United Shoe Machinery (BUSM) stood, small businesses now fill the space with colour and vibrancy, creating the Golden Mile we know and love today.

Belgrave Road is now a huge marketplace for Indian food, spectacular saris and spices, as well as what is claimed to be the highest concentration of Indian jewellery shops in the UK. The annual Diwali celebrations in October are often said to be the largest outside of India and have an international reputation.



## Narborough Road Road

Situated in the West End of Leicester, Narborough Road has earned itself the title of the most multi-cultural street in the country

With its array of retail outlets run by residents from all corners of the world, it's here that Leicester proudly shows off its cosmopolitan credentials.

Known as 'the world in one street', you'll find international food markets and independent grocery stores that stock food from around the globe. There are second-hand stores, DIY, homeware, hardware, stationers, mobile phone, music and fashion shops.





## Clarendon Park & Queens Road

Situated in the south of the city Clarendon Park and Queens Road are distinctive shopping areas where you can spend time exploring the independent retailers, stopping off to refuel at one of the many cafes, bars and restaurants on the way

Pick up a bunch of beautiful flowers to brighten up your home from **Bloom Project**, an artisan florist and plant store. Head to **Shakup Records** to choose from a great range of vinyl — you can even give the record a spin in their listening room downstairs before deciding whether or not to buy it.

Looking for the perfect gift? **Michael Grundy Jewellers** make and stock handcrafted, contemporary and traditional jewellery in silver, gold and platinum. **Karma Corner Gifts** offers a treasure trove of items, from crockery and toys, to candles and wind chimes — look out for the stunning mural outside the shop too. No gift is complete without a card to go with it, and **Art of Cards** has a great selection, including ones from local artists.

**The Offie** is a must-visit for beer enthusiasts which stocks over 500 different bottles of beer, so you'll definitely be spoilt for choice. Fitness fanatics can invest in the latest running gear at **Leicester Running Shop** or pick up a new bike at **Julie's Cycles** — ideal for exploring the area.





## Stoneygate — Allendale Road

The Stoneygate Shops offer a tranquil retail experience within one of the most beautiful areas of Leicester

A leafy shopper's delight on the outskirts of the city, the cosmopolitan mix of boutique gift shops, eateries, designer stores and even a small (but perfectly formed) garden centre, offers visitors the chance to spend a day away from the hustle and bustle of the city centre.

Sift through the rails and pick up a brand-new outfit at designer boutiques such as **Polly's**, **Abiti Ladieswear** and **Condotti**. Choose from a gorgeous selection of cards, gifts and homeware at **Nest**, **Artifact**, **Lily & Gray**, **Housekeeping** and **Dutton's Fine Furnishings** — don't forget to visit **Outerspace Home & Garden** too!

# Leicester Market

Situated in the heart of the city centre, Leicester Market has a proud history of over 700 years and is the perfect place to stock up on local produce and essentials. Adjacent to the Market is Green Dragon Square, a large, open public space used to stage special events throughout the year





The Food Hall butchers offer a large selection of quality meat and poultry. Deli traders have a fantastic variety of artisan cheeses, cooked sliced meats, bacon and local pork pies — ideal for creating a lovely deli-style buffet spread. Two quality fishmongers display a wide selection of seafood, from king prawns, lobster and scallops, to salmon, seabass, cod, tuna and even swordfish.

The outdoor market is the best place to get fruit and vegetables in Leicester at very competitive prices. Stock up to make sure you get your five (or ten!) a day. There's also a huge variety of exotic produce on offer from a range of speciality traders selling African, Caribbean and Indian vegetables. Here, you'll also find household goods to add an extra flourish to your home — from carpets and bedding, to curtains, plants and more.





## Thrift & Vintage

If your shopping style is more wallet and eco-friendly than high street and designer, then look no further than the fantastic array of vintage and thrift stores peppered throughout the city. Whatever you're searching for, you'll find it all and so much more behind the doors of these treasure troves

**The Wardrobe** is Leicester's longest running vintage clothing shop based in Royal Arcade. They offer a selection of vintage, new and retro items ranging from vintage Adidas trainers, to Levi's shorts.

You'll find a great selection of branded vintage items at **The Vintage Scene** on Silver Street. **Dollymix Vintage** in Malcolm Arcade sits across two floors and stocks men's and women's specialist vintage clothing. At **Sue Ryder Vintage & Retro** on Loseby Lane there's a range of vintage and second-hand books, records and homeware alongside a fantastic collection of clothing.

The beauty of shopping at vintage and thrift stores is the fact that the stock is constantly changing every time you go in – everyone has managed to find a hidden gem at some point, which quickly becomes a wardrobe staple and brings great joy when someone comments on it and you're able to declare that it's one of a kind.

Another huge pull when shopping at thrift and charity shops is that you're giving back to a worthy cause – it's the best kind of retail therapy! There are numerous charity shops throughout the city that would love your support, from **LOROS, British Heart Foundation, Mind, DAPP, ExtraCare** and **Barnardo's**, to **Cancer Research UK, Oxfam, Samaritans, Life, Islamic Relief** and **Age UK**.



# Independent Leicester & Loyal Free

## Independent Leicester

**Independent Leicester  
is a place where  
you can discover the  
best of Leicester's  
independent culture**

A creative collaboration between BID Leicester and a host of local independent businesses, it's designed to help you shop local and discover what the city's thriving independent scene has to offer.

At the heart of the initiative is the desire to celebrate the wonderful businesses in the city and help more people discover Leicester's hidden gems and best-kept secrets. Working with business owners, an online directory has been created to pull together the best of the city's independents – all the little places that bring joy.

Businesses are proudly displaying the "We're in" logo in their windows, so it's easy to know you are supporting an independent when you drop in.

**[independentleicester.co.uk](http://independentleicester.co.uk)**







## Loyal Free

With the **Loyal Free** app, you can find local deals, events, information and trails throughout Leicester with just one touch of a button

Buy local and save money daily with over 100 offers across the city. Explore with the interactive 'Tours and Trails', find out what's on in your local area and try your luck with the various competitions.

**Loyal Free** is available to download via the App Store and Google Play.



Featuring photography by © Beth Walsh & © Nick Osborne



Out and about in the city centre? Visit [thisisleicestermap.co.uk](http://thisisleicestermap.co.uk) to find an interactive map of the city's cafes, restaurants, shops, activities and more.



Find a directory of city centre independents at [independentleicester.co.uk](http://independentleicester.co.uk) or look out for the Independent Leicester yellow sticker when you're out and about.



Save money when you shop local with the **Loyal Free** app. Discover exclusive deals, fun events and interactive trails. Download free from your app store.



Give the gift of choice with The Leicester Gift Card — redeemable at over 150 businesses in the city centre. Buy at Visit Leicester or online at [theleicestergiftcard.com](http://theleicestergiftcard.com)



## Visit Leicester Information Centre

**Our friendly staff are on-hand to ensure you make the most of your time in the city. Stop by for a chat and get information on:**

- Attractions
- Accommodation
- Events and day trips
- Maps
- Travel
- Souvenirs
- Venue finding service for conferences and events

Find out what to see and do at [visitleicester.info](http://visitleicester.info), where you can also sign up to the Visit Leicester e-newsletter.



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The Visit Leicester Information Centre is located inside the King Richard III Visitor Centre at 4A St Martins, Leicester, LE1 5DB

### Opening hours:


Monday–Friday 10:00–16:00  
Saturday 10:00–17:00  
Sunday 10:00–16:00

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