

## Scheduled Daily Tours

On most days of the year (Monday to Saturday), regular, scheduled tours are available with one of our guides. They are free of charge, last approximately 1 hour and can add significantly to your appreciation of the Cathedral. Simply gather by our 'Tour' sign in the nave of the Cathedral before the tour is scheduled to begin.

## Special Interest & Group Tours

Special interest tours and tours for groups are also available including the fascinating High Parts tour, our unique Tower tour, our Stained Glass tour and much more. General tours of the Cathedral can also be booked in advance and can be tailored to suit the needs of each group. (eg, historical, architectural or religious). For more information about tours, availability and prices please visit our website or contact our Visits Officer via email at [visits@wellscathedral.uk.net](mailto:visits@wellscathedral.uk.net).

## Support us

Wells Cathedral is lovingly maintained and the cost of care is around £4000 per day. The Cathedral receives no government funding and therefore relies upon voluntary support. We don't charge an admission fee but ask you to consider making a donation to support the Cathedral. Donations can be made by cash, cheque, text message, online or by credit/debit card (please see signage for further details). If you are a UK taxpayer please use a gift aid envelope when making a donation.

## Events & Concerts

Music is a major part of the life here and the Cathedral hosts a full programme of concerts as well as family events and talks throughout the year. Check our website for details.

## Make a day of it

A warm welcome awaits you at our Cathedral Shop which stocks a wide range of unique mementoes and gifts. Our Café is also open for coffee, delicious lunches and afternoon teas including our famous home-baked cakes and pastries as well as children's meal deals.

## Visit us

Wells Cathedral, Chain Gate,  
Cathedral Green, Wells BA5 2UE

t 01749 674483

e [reception@wellscathedral.uk.net](mailto:reception@wellscathedral.uk.net)

## Opening times

April to September: **7am - 7pm**

October to March: **7am - 6pm**

*Some areas are restricted during worship and there are occasional closures. Please check our website for more information before you visit.*

## Daily Services

The Cathedral has a number of acts of worship every day which you are welcome to attend.

### Monday to Saturday

Choral Evensong: 5.15pm\*

Holy Communion: Tuesday 12.25pm and Wednesday 9.30am

### Sunday

Holy Communion: 8am, Cathedral Eucharist: 9.45am, Choral Matins: 11.30am, Choral Evensong: 3pm

*\* Said Evening Prayer on Fridays at 5.15pm*

## Directions

Situated approximately 20 miles from Bristol, Bath and Bristol International Airport, Wells is the perfect location from which to explore the county of Somerset.

### By Car

From M5 North – take M4, M32, A37, A39

From M5 South – leave at Junction 23 and take A39

From South East – take A303, A36, A361, A371

### By Train

The nearest train station to Wells is Castle Cary, located approximately 13 miles away. Taxis are available.

### By Bus

Regular bus services to and from Wells operate from Bath (No 173), Bristol (No 376) and Shepton Mallet (Nos 161/162).



## Welcome to Wells Cathedral



“Absolutely stunning.  
A must for all visitors.  
Leave plenty of time.”

“A joy, both outside and inside.”

“Absolutely breathtaking.”

Visitor comments from TripAdvisor

[@WellsCathedral1](https://twitter.com/WellsCathedral1) [f WellsCathedral](https://www.facebook.com/WellsCathedral)

Set amidst the gentle countryside of the Somerset levels on the western slopes of the Mendip hills, there has been a sacred site beside the springs of fresh water at Wells for over a 1000 years.

The 12th century building that is Wells Cathedral is a masterpiece. It is both beautiful and historic and is a centre of Christianity that has attracted pilgrims and tourists alike over the centuries. Its calm and light atmosphere restores busy souls and minds and never ceases to inspire believers and non-believers alike.

## Highlights



### 1 West Front

The magnificent West Front contains one of the largest galleries of mediaeval sculpture in the world. Starting in the lower niches with biblical scenes, it rises through kings, bishops and orders of angels to the twelve apostles with Christ over all.



### 2 Scissor Arches

In the Nave the eye is drawn to the unique 'scissor arches'. The simple yet stunning design, often mistaken as modern, was a mediaeval solution (1338-48) to sinking tower foundations.



### 3 Clock

The Wells clock was installed circa 1390 and is one of the oldest mediaeval clock faces in the world. On the quarter hour, pause and watch jousting knights go round in tournament.



### 4 Chapter House

Well-worn steps curve up to the impressive Chapter House, completed in 1306. This octagonal Chamber was where Cathedral clergy met to transact Cathedral business. It is still used for this purpose on formal occasions.



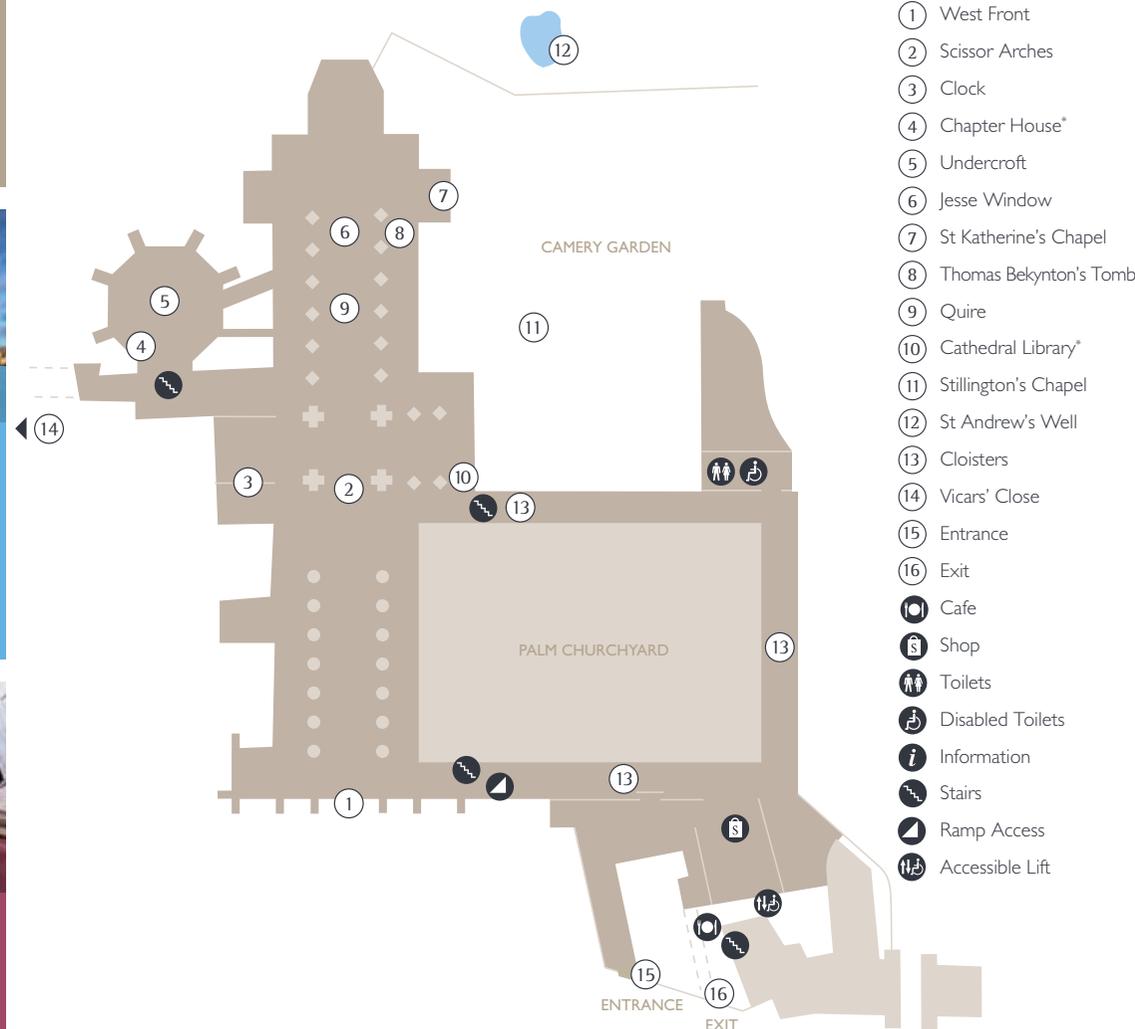
### 6 Jesse Window

Wells Cathedral has one of the most substantial collections of mediaeval stained glass in England, the crowning glory being the Jesse window which narrowly escaped destruction during the English Civil War.



### 9 Vicars' Close

Discover Vicars' Close, completed by 1363 and built to house the men of the choir it is the oldest continuously inhabited street in Europe.



- 1 West Front
- 2 Scissor Arches
- 3 Clock
- 4 Chapter House\*
- 5 Undercroft
- 6 Jesse Window
- 7 St Katherine's Chapel
- 8 Thomas Bekynton's Tomb
- 9 Quire
- 10 Cathedral Library\*
- 11 Stillington's Chapel
- 12 St Andrew's Well
- 13 Cloisters
- 14 Vicars' Close
- 15 Entrance
- 16 Exit
- Cafe
- Shop
- Toilets
- Disabled Toilets
- Information
- Stairs
- Ramp Access
- Accessible Lift

\* ONLY accessible by stairs