

Free Scheduled Daily Tours

On most days of the year (Monday to Saturday), regular, scheduled tours are available with one of our excellent guides. They are provided free of charge and last approximately one hour.

Wells Cathedral for Families

Free Explorer trails are available to help your family discover fun facts and information about the Cathedral. Holiday Activity workshops give opportunities for adults and children to 'Have a Go' or get behind the scenes. See our website for details.

Group Visits

For more information about our tours for Groups please visit our website or contact us via email at visits@wellscathedral.uk.net or by phone on 01749 674483.

Concerts and Events

The Cathedral hosts a full programme of concerts and free music recitals throughout the year as well as regular talks, lectures and education events. Check our website for details or call our Box Office on 01749 672773 for ticket details.

Make a Day of It

Our two Cathedral shops stock 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. All profits from the café and our shops go to supporting the work of the Cathedral.

Daily Services

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

Monday to Saturday

8.00am Morning Liturgy
5.15pm Choral Evensong*

Holy Communion

12.25pm Tuesday
9.30am Wednesday

Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion
9.45am Cathedral Eucharist*
11.30am Choral Matins*
3.00pm Choral Evensong*

* The Cathedral Choir sings at these services except during Cathedral School Holidays

Visiting us

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t 01749 674483

e reception@wellscathedral.uk.net

w www.wellscathedral.org.uk

Entry by Donation

English Cathedrals receive no regular funding from the Government or the Church of England towards maintenance, restoration and development work. Here at Wells that means we have to raise **£4,500 per day** for the upkeep and running costs of this magnificent working Cathedral.

If you are visiting us then please consider making a donation; not only does this support the ongoing maintenance of this historic building but it helps us to avoid admission charges. You can do this at our Donation Desk on entry or via our donation boxes.

Wells Cathedral Annual Pass

If you would like to make a donation while enjoying fast track access to the Cathedral for 12 months, please enquire about purchasing our new Annual Pass. Purchasing an Annual Pass means you will also be helping to secure the future of this important and historic building. Call 01749 674483 for more details.

Directions

Situated a short distance from Bath, Bristol and Bristol International Airport, the medieval city of Wells is the perfect location from which to explore the county of Somerset.

With an attractive shopping centre full of independent retailers and high street names, if you visit on a Wednesday or Saturday our Somerset Farmers Market is also a real treat right in the heart of the city.

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 (Nos 173/174), Bristol (No 376) and Shepton Mallet (Nos 174/175).

Please check the Wells Cathedral website for latest travel information. Follow the link on **Plan Your Visit – Travelling to Wells** for advice.

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

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Wells Cathedral



“Without doubt one of Britain’s most imposing Cathedrals”

“Possibly my favourite Cathedral! You must visit this stunning building”

“A wonderful Cathedral in a beautiful town”

Visitor comments from TripAdvisor



www.wellscathedral.org.uk

Set on the western slopes of the Mendip Hills in the medieval city of Wells in Somerset, there has been a sacred site beside springs of fresh water for over 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 never ceases to inspire believers and non-believers alike.

Opening times
 Apr to Sep: 7am – 7pm
 Oct to Mar: 7am – 6pm

Some areas are restricted during worship and there are occasional closures. Please check for more information in the 'Plan Your Visit' section on our website before you visit.



Highlights



1 West Front

The magnificent West Front (c1230) contains one of the largest galleries of medieval 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 medieval solution (1338-48) to sinking tower foundations.



3 Clock

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



- 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 Cathedral Entrance
 - 16 Café and Shop Entrance
 - ☕ Café
 - 🛍️ Shops
 - 👤 Donation Desk
 - 🚻 Toilets
 - ♿ Disabled Toilets
 - 🪜 Stairs
 - 👉 Ramp Access
 - ♿ Accessible Lift
- * ONLY accessible by stairs



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 on formal occasions.



6 Jesse Window

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



9 Quire

The western end of the Quire forms the oldest part of the present Cathedral. Flash photography is prohibited here because of the delicate embroideries.



14 Vicars' Close

Discover Vicars' Close, designed as lodgings for the men of the choir. Completed by 1363, despite later modernisations, it is the only completely medieval street left in England.