

Crowned with captivating castles, sweeping moorland, friendly market towns and impressive art galleries, this part of the northeast makes for a fascinating destination. An ancient past is reflected in the architecture and historic sites and delightful landscaped gardens, complemented by a stunning windswept coast. Explore the key castles that have stood their ground through the thick and thin of the country's development, as well as dipping into some of the foremost museums and galleries of the region. Add in a the spirited city of Newcastle to make for an authentic, artistic experience of this eclectic region.





Alnwick Castle



The Bowes Museum



Laing Art Gallery © NewcastleGateshead Initiative

The Hepworth Wakefield

This modern purpose-built gallery is home to an impressive collection of modern British art including works by Barbara Hepworth, LS Lowry and Henry Moore to name but a few. Major exhibitions are presented showcasing the best international modern and contemporary art, whilst outside, the garden designed by Tom Stuart-Smith is not to be missed. Guided tour included

Baltic Centre for Contemporary Arts

The large former Baltic Flour Mills have been converted into vast space for showcasing and hosting specialist collections of contemporary art, each with their own unique theme and flavour, including live and interactive installations depending on time of your visit. As well as shops and fairs, the site on the quayside adds another dimension to the experience as a whole. Visit with the local guide

Laing Art Gallery

Set in a grade II listed building, the gallery focuses on British art, from oil and watercolour to ceramics and glassware, with regularly changing exhibitions and pieces, encompassing modern and contemporary art as well as those of historic and international importance such as Gaugin, Henry Moore and William Holman-Hunt. Visit with the local quide.

The Bowes Museum

Home to internationally significant collections of fine and decorative arts, the Bowes Museum dates back to the 19th century. The diverse collections span three floors of this magnificent French-style chateau. Free flow visit.

Auckland Castle

Auckland Castle has recently reopened to the public following an extensive refurbishment and conservation project. Once home to the Prince Bishops of Durham, the lavish medieval castle demonstrated the power and wealth of these men. Georgian Gothic state rooms were added in the 18th century, and have been restored to their original glory. The castle has also housed a series of stunning artworks by Francisco de Zubarán for 250 yeárs, and in due course this collection will be expanded to form the Spanish Gallery – a permanent exhibition

of masterpieces from the Spanish Golden Age. Free flow visit.

Bamburgh Castle

This imposing fortress gazes out across the North Sea, and is a symbol of Northumbria's proud history. The site of Bamburgh has witnessed brutal history dating back to pre-historic times, and the castle was a casualty of the War of the Roses. It was rescued from ruin during the Victorian era by the industrialist Lord Armstrong, who also built Cragside. Guided visit.

Alnwick Castle

This illustrious 14th century castle is the Duke of Northumberland's ancestral home. The mighty fortress is as impressive inside as out, with lavish state rooms and a splendid display of Italian artworks. Alnwick is set amongst 'Capability' Brown-designed landscapes with lovely woodland trails. Free flow visit

The Georgian Theatre Royal

Founded in 1788, today it houses an exhibition area which details the history of the theatre, whilst a behind the scenes opportunity brings to life the playhouse feel. There is also a fully restored Woodland Scene, which is the oldest surviving stage scenery in Britain. Guided visit.

Located next to the River Tyne in the riverside area of Newcastle, the contemporary Copthorne Hotel Newcastle is proud of its warm welcome to coach groups. It's a 20 minute walk to the city centre and has easy access to all road links. All ensuite bedrooms boast river views from the large bay windows and are comfortable and well decorated. The large, modern restaurant overlooks the river and is contemporary in style, whilst the bar has comfortable seating. There is also an outside terrace that makes the most of the riverside location.

Please complete a booking form and send to Success Tours with your deposit of £100 per person



