

kendal

group travel guide



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**Planning Your Visit
and Coach Parking**

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History and Heritage

Visitor Information

Welcome to Kendal



The bustling market town of Kendal, built in distinctive limestone, is a popular hub for shopping and culture in South Lakeland. Home to exciting festivals, a vibrant arts centre, fine museums and world renowned art gallery.

Historically, 'The Auld Grey Town' was one of the most important woollen textile centres in the country, producing 'Kendal Green' and other 'Kendal cottons' – its numerous yards were once filled with workshops processing cloth, leather and foodstuffs.

Kendal was also a centre for shoe making, carpet and snuff manufacture, and synonymous with the production of the famous Kendal Mint Cake.

This guide is designed to help you plan your next group visit to Kendal, and includes information about coach parking and ways to help your group make the most of their visit.

We look forward to welcoming you to Kendal.

Planning Your Group Visit

Many of Kendal's visitor attractions offer special offers, rates and incentives for groups and their organisers. Please ask the individual attractions for details when booking your visit.

Travelling to Kendal

Kendal has excellent transport links and is easily accessible by road and rail networks. It's ideal for a stand alone group visit or use Kendal as a base for visiting the nearby Lake District, Yorkshire Dales or the North West.

The Lake District National Park boundary is under a mile away from Kendal it's just a short distance to:

Bowness-on-Windermere	10 miles
Ambleside	13 miles
Hawkshead	17 miles
Grasmere	19 miles

Kendal by Road

Kendal is just 8 miles from Junction 36 of the M6, with the A6 passing through the town centre.

Kendal by Rail

Oxenholme – The Lake District railway station is on the West Coast mainline (2 miles south east of Kendal). The 'Lakes Line' offers a short connection to Kendal and on to Windermere and the Lake District.



Coach Parking

Abbot Hall Art Gallery

Peppercorn Lane, Kendal LA9 5AL
Pre-booking preferred, call 01539 722464

4 hours £8.00 Full day £15.00
FREE if visiting Abbot Hall or Museum of Lakeland Life

Kendal Town Football Club

Parkside Road, Kendal LA9 7BL
Pre-booking preferred, call 07980 660 428

or by email:
craig_campbell@kendaltownfootballclub.co.uk

4 hours £8.00 Full day £15.00

Kendal College

Milnthorpe Road, Kendal LA9 5AY
Parking available at weekends, public holidays and all week during college holiday periods.
Pay and display machine in operation.

Full day £15.00

Kendal Leisure Centre

Burton Road, Kendal LA9 7HX
Parking available for coaches visiting K Village – the Lakes Outlet.

Parking for coaches is FREE, however pre-booking essential on 01539 732 363.

Coach Set-Down Points

Behind Blackhall Road Car Park

near Majestic Wine Warehouse (LA9 4BT)

Highgate (Kendal Town Centre)

by the Shakespeare Inn (LA9 4HE)

K Village – The Lakes Outlet

Meet and greet outside main Lound Road entrance on A65 (Sat Nav LA9 7DZ).

Shopping & Retail

Kendal offers a relaxing and enjoyable shopping experience where famous high street names and brands sit alongside a fabulous collection of speciality craft, food and designer shops and markets.

The town centre is also easily explored on foot.

Highgate and Stricklandgate are the main shopping routes through the town, and off them you'll find the shopping centres and pedestrian-friendly Finkle Street and Market Place.

Make sure you explore the many cobbled yards and ginnels which house some interesting and unusual shops.

Several streets support mainly specialist, independent retailers as well as some interesting architecture.

Remember to look up when shopping in Kendal and take the time to visit Kirkland Old Town, Stramongate and Wildman Street.

A pleasant walk at the southern end of the town takes you to K Village – the Lakes Outlet.

Kendal Markets

With a market charter dating from 1189, Kendal still boasts a number of popular and vibrant markets.

The indoor market is open from Monday to Saturday and outdoor markets are held every Wednesday and Saturday in the town centre marketplace and along into Stramongate.

The town also hosts a farmer's market on the last Friday of each month.



Café at the Quaker Tapestry Exhibition © Mark Carr

The Elephant Yard Shopping Centre

Stricklandgate, Kendal LA9 4QQ

Telephone: 01539 720 170

Hosting a blend of national and independent shops and offering the latest ranges in designer fashion, shoes, cosmetics and gifts.

www.elephantyard.com

Wainwright's Yard

Stricklandgate, Kendal LA9 4DP

An award-winning, custom-designed shopping area in the heart of Kendal, named in memory of the famous fell walker and author Alfred Wainwright.

www.wainwrightsyard.com

Westmorland Shopping Centre & Blackhall Yard

Stricklandgate, Kendal LA9 4LR

Telephone: 01593 740 060

Discover a unique blend of Victorian heritage alongside the vibrancy of a modern, indoor shopping environment.

www.westmorlandshopping.com

K Village – The Lakes Outlet

Lound Road, Kendal LA9 7DZ

Telephone: 01539 732 363

Boasting a picturesque riverside location, K Village is recognised as 'Shoe Heaven' with the largest Clarks in the North West alongside top quality brands at impressive discounts. Open 7 days a week with full disabled access.

www.kvillage.co.uk

Shopping & Retail



K Village – The Lakes Outlet



Kendal Mint Cake © Martin Campbell

Photograph © Dave Willis / Cumbria Tourism

For eating out there's a choice of cosy tearooms, pavement cafes, traditional pubs or stylish restaurants, serving some fantastic Cumbrian produce.

Don't forget to take home some of the famous - *and still locally made* - Kendal Mint Cake.



Kendal Railway Station
for Oxenholme & Windermere

Kendal Museum

Goose Holme

Fletcher Park

Kendal Town Football Club

Kendal Leisure Centre (100m)

Quaker Tapestry

Tourist Info

Abbot Hall Art Gallery
Museum of Lakeland Life

K Village

XIII Century Parish Church

Kendal College

County Offices

Town Hall

Brewery Arts Centre

Maude's Meadow

Castle Howe & Bowling Fell

Serpentine Woods

Coach Parking	Coach Drop-Off Points
Toilet Locations	Tourist Information
Roads	Kendal Bus Station
Pedestrian Area	Shop Mobility
Yards and Footpaths	View Point
Green Space	Picnic Area
Walking Routes	Play Area
Cycle Routes	Kendal Castle
Railway Station	Town Hall County Offices
Post Office	Place of Worship
Library	Greenside Lime Kiln Castle Howe
Car Park	

Thanks to The Knack for reproduction of this map.

Festivals & Events

Country Fest (May)

A real taste of the countryside, celebrating the quality and diversity of local food, drink and country pursuits.

www.westmorlandshow.co.uk

Bunka-sai Festival (July)

Celebrate popular Japanese culture with an exhibition of Manga artwork, a programme of Japanese cinema and a noodle bar.

www.breweryarts.co.uk

Lake District Summer Music (August)

One of the UK's biggest music festivals, featuring an inspirational programme of events and classical concerts.

www.ldsm.org.uk

Mintfest: Kendal International Street Arts Festival (September)

Companies and artists from across the globe take over Kendal for a packed weekend of exciting performance fun.

www.lakesalive.org

Kendal Torchlight Carnival (September)

From street entertainment to moonlight mazes, this spectacular carnival can be enjoyed by all the family.

www.kendaltorchlightcarnival.co.uk

Westmorland County Show (September)

One of Britain's oldest and largest livestock shows with events, marquees, over 350 trade stands, exhibitions and England's largest local produce food hall.

www.westmorlandshow.co.uk

Westmorland Beer & Cider Festival (October)

A long established annual event showcasing 55 real ales, plus ciders, perries and continental beers.

www.camrawestmorland.org

Kendal Festival of Food (October)

Showcasing the very best in local produce through events, demonstrations and special food offers.

www.kendalfestivaloffood.co.uk

Kendal Mountain Festival (November)

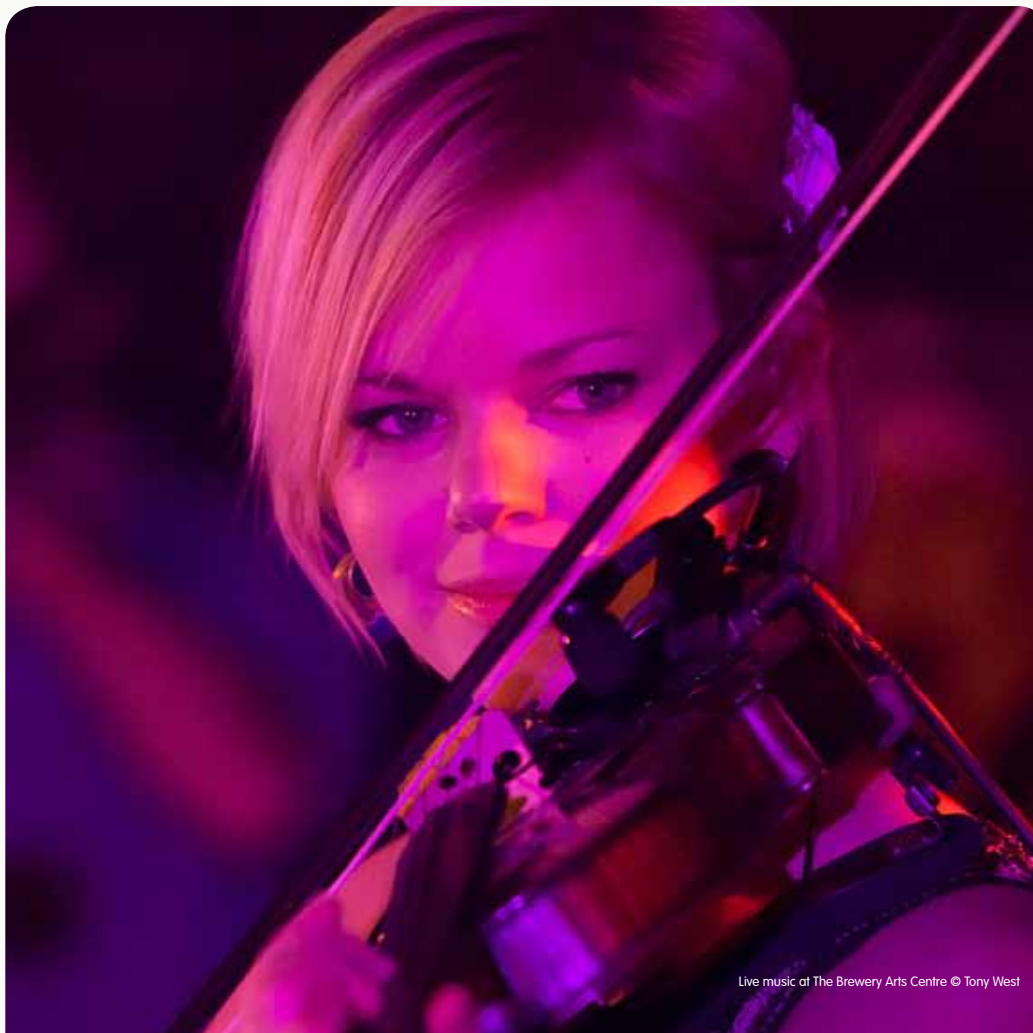
The unmissable event of the year, featuring films, debates, presentations, photography, entertainment and drama.

www.mountainfest.co.uk



Mintfest © Steven Barber

Abbot Hall © Lakeland Arts Trust / Tony West



Live music at The Brewery Arts Centre © Tony West

Arts & Culture

Explore the rich culture of Kendal and its surrounding area by visiting the fabulous collections of galleries, museums, historic houses and arts centres.

Opening times vary, please check with individual attractions.

Kendal Museum

Station Road, Kendal LA9 6BT. Tel: 01539 815 597
One of the oldest museums in the UK with fascinating displays on the natural history, geology and archaeology of the Kendal area.

www.kendalmuseum.org.uk

Museum of Lakeland Life

Abbot Hall, Kendal LA9 5AL. Tel: 01539 722 464
This award-winning museum uncovers the unique customs and traditions of the Lake District with re-created Victorian street scenes and Lakeland farmhouse rooms.

www.lakelandmuseum.org.uk

Abbot Hall Art Gallery

Kirkland, Kendal LA9 5AL. Tel: 01539 722 464
One of Britain's finest independent galleries, housed in an elegant Georgian mansion. Works by Romney, Ruskin and Turner hang in magnificent period rooms, alongside modern artists such as Ben Nicholson and Lucian Freud.

www.abbothall.org.uk

Brewery Arts Centre

Highgate, Kendal LA9 4HE. Tel: 01539 725 133
There's always something going on at this lively arts venue. Enjoy touring theatre, music, dance, film, comedy acts, restaurants, cafes and bars.

www.breweryarts.co.uk

Quaker Tapestry Exhibition

Sramongate, Kendal LA9 4BH. Tel: 01539 722 975
A captivating, international embroidery of social history made by 4,000 people from 15 countries between 1981 and 1996 in 77 hand-embroidered panels. There's also a delightful café.

www.quaker-tapestry.co.uk

Today's Kendal can be traced back to the 8th century, when the settlement of Kirkland was established near a crossing point over the River Kent. Here a church was built and Kirkland became a monastic estate.

Kendal's first castle was erected at Castle Howe but later replaced by stone-built Kendal Castle on the opposite side of the river. This 13th century castle was the seat of power and administration for the barons of Kendal for over 200 years.

Built around 1200, the castle was home to the Parr family who held the barony in the mid-15th century; famously, Katherine Parr was the sixth wife of Henry VIII. After 1483 it slowly fell into ruins and today, only parts of the castle wall and tower remain.

During the medieval period, the market town of Kendal developed to the north of Kirkland (separated by the ancient boundary of the Black Beck) and the barons laid out the town with long burgage plots behind the street frontages. Over time, these became 'yards' housing numerous workshops for weaving, dyeing, shearing, dry-salting and tanning.

It was the woollen industry that brought fame and wealth to the town and sustained its economy for over 600 years - Kendal's motto of Pannus mihi panis which translates as 'Cloth (or wool) is my bread'.



Abbot Hall © Lakeland Arts Trust / Tony West

Kendal Parish Church

Kirkland, Kendal LA9 5AF
Telephone: 01539 721 248

This five-aisled church (said to be the third widest in the UK) dates from the 13th century and is now considered one of England's Great Churches.
www.kendalparishchurch.co.uk

Castle Dairy

Wildman Street, Kendal LA9 5AF
Telephone: 01539 733 946

A beautifully restored Grade 1 Listed medieval building which is now a restaurant and art gallery, run by Kendal College.
www.castledairy.co.uk

1657 Chocolate House

Branthwaite Brow, Kendal LA8 4TX
Telephone: 01539 740 702

Step into this Aladdin's cave of chocolates and be tantalised by the sight and smell of chocolate in all its delightful forms.
www.chocolatehouse1657.co.uk

Farrer's of Kendal

13 Stricklandgate, Kendal LA9 4LY
Telephone: 01539 731 707

One of the oldest coffee roasting and blending establishments in the country, serving customers since 1819, and still has most of its original fittings intact.
www.farrers.net

K Shoes Heritage Centre

K Village, Lound Road, Kendal LA9 7DZ
Telephone: 01539 732 363

K Shoes started making shoes here in the 19th century (the 'K' standing for Kendal). The museum explores the history of the original factory, the lives of its employees and its effect on Kendal's community.
www.kvillage.co.uk

Discover Kendal Walks 1 and 2 available from Kendal Tourist Information Centre

These two walking tours, published by Kendal Civic Society, guide you around the historic areas of Kendal and each can be completed in less than 2 hours. Kendal Civic Society also organise guided walking tours around the town.

Telephone 01539 724 302 or visit www.kendalcivicsociety.org.uk for details.

Town Trails

Discover Kendal's unique heritage by following a town trail. Start at the sign outside the Town Hall, one of 17 around the town, and swap between trails en route.

The Riverside Walk

A pleasant path along the river Kent between Nether Bridge and Miller Bridge, avoiding the busy town centre. Look out for the interpretation boards which tell you a bit more about the wildlife that can be found here today.

Kendal Castle and Castle Hill

Public footpaths link the town to the castle and its surrounding parkland which first opened as a public park to mark Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee. Glorious views can be enjoyed in all directions with a panoramic panel identifying the circling fells.

Serpentine Woods

A myriad of paths and an intriguing Alphabet Trail lead through this steep-sided wood, culminating at The Heights for panoramic views over the Lake District fells. The wood contains remnants of Victorian landscaping including a summerhouse, 'fairy glen' and wishing well.

Kendal's Green Spaces

For peaceful grassed areas ideal for picnics and quiet relaxation discover Abbot Hall Park with bowling green and children's play area. Nobles Rest and Maude's Meadow is a peaceful grassed area with a woodland backdrop and Goose Holme, a grassed area next to the river with an 18-hole putting green (open in the summer).



Quaker Tapestry Exhibition © Mark Carr



Wainwright's Yard Footprints © Dave Willis

Additional Visitor Information

Toilets

Kendal operates a Courtesy Toilet Scheme which enables members of the public to use the facilities in participating businesses without the need to make a purchase.

Leaflets are available from the Tourist Information Centre and other key locations in the town centre.

Kendal Tourist Information Centre

Made in Cumbria, Stramongate LA9 4BH
Tel: 01539 735891 Email: info@kendaltic.co.uk
For advice on events, where to eat, where to stay and what to do in Kendal and surrounding area.

Where to Stay

Kendal has a wide range of accommodation to suit all budgets, including a hostel, B&Bs and some larger 3 star hotels.

More accommodation information can be found by visiting www.golakes.co.uk

More Useful Websites

www.golakes.co.uk/kendal
www.exploresouthlakeland.co.uk
www.kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk
www.kendalcivicsociety.org.uk

the lake district
Cumbria

This booklet has been supported by:
Kendal Futures
Kendal Town Council
Kendal Local Area Partnership
South Lakeland District Council



K Village - The Lakes Outlet



Booths & Wainwright's Yard © Dave Willis