



KING RICHARD III
VISITOR CENTRE

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Group Organisers Guide 2021

Discover the
incredible story
of the last English
king to die in battle
and the first to be
DNA tested.

Book your visit now: 0116 229 4132

Introduction

Housed in a former Victorian grammar school building, the Visitor Centre stands on the site of the medieval friary of the Grey Friars, where King Richard III was buried over 500 years ago after his defeat by Henry Tudor at the Battle of Bosworth.

The exhibition – Dynasty, Death and Discovery – gives visitors the chance to learn more about the king's life and reveals one of the greatest archaeological detective stories ever told, including the first ever genome sequencing of ancient DNA.

Visitors can also see the very place where King Richard III was hastily buried, now transformed and preserved under a glass floor.

The Centre is adjacent to Leicester Cathedral, where Richard III's remains were reinterred in March 2015.

The King Richard III Visitor Centre is an ideal destination for groups, offering:

- **Preferential rates for groups of 15+ people and dedicated booking office**
- **Catering options, talks and tour packages**
- **Free entry for tour leader and coach driver**
- **Free familiarisation visit**
- **Meet and greet service for every group**
- **Booking service for city centre coach parking**



What makes the Visitor Centre a great place to visit?

- Our exhibition reveals one of the greatest archaeological detective stories ever told – perfect for anyone interested in history, archaeology or science!
- It is a state-of-the-art visitor centre where beautiful design and 21st century technology brings this incredible story to life
- We have an enthusiastic and knowledgeable team who will ensure your day runs smoothly
- Easy access throughout
- Tasty food in the White Boar Café, ideally situated on the ground floor to make a pit stop at the half way point of your visit
- An excellent gift shop which has something for everyone



Admission prices

Exhibition: £7.25 per person

Group talk: £60 per group (maximum of 50 people)

Guided tour: £35 per group (maximum of 50 people; group may be split into two tours, depending on overall group size)

What does admission include?

- Dedicated group booking co-ordinator
- Tailor-made itinerary specifically for your group
- Personal welcome at your coach by a member of our Customer Services team
- Free entry for tour leader and coach driver
- Free familiarisation visit for group leaders, on confirmation of booking

Opening times

Monday to Friday and Sunday: 10am until 4pm

Saturday and Bank Holidays: 10am until 5pm

Last admission is 90 minutes before closing.

Tips for visiting

How long will our visit last?

To fully experience this incredible story, we suggest that you allow one and a half hours for your visit to us and longer if you would like to book refreshments or one of our talks. If you have less time than this, let us know and we'll ensure that you get the most out of your visit.

Suggested itineraries

Here are a few ideas on how you might like to spend your time at the King Richard III Visitor Centre. There are lots of things to do whilst you are in Leicester and Leicestershire, so if you are planning a longer stay, we can advise you on other places you can visit.

Half day

11:15 Arrival
11:30 Refreshments in the King's Suite
12:00 Visit the exhibition
13:50 Short tour of Leicester Cathedral
14:30 Depart

All day

10:00 Arrival
10:15 Group talk in the King's Suite
11:15 Visit the exhibition
12:45 Lunch in the King's Suite
14:00 Guided tour of Leicester Cathedral
15:30 Depart

The Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre is a 40-minute coach journey away and a visit to both can be combined for a full day experience.

Leicester Cathedral

Leicester Cathedral sits opposite the Visitor Centre. Set in the tranquil surroundings of Cathedral Gardens, the Cathedral is home to the final resting place of Richard III. Leicester Cathedral provide tours for groups, you can enquire about tour prices and book tours directly with the Visitor Centre if you prefer one point of contact when booking. For more information, please visit the Cathedral's website at www.leicestercathedral.org

Talks and tours

To enhance your visit why not choose one of our talks or tours for your group:

Group talks

The Wars of the Roses

This talk explores the conflict between the houses of York and Lancaster and the causes of the War of the Roses or – as it was more commonly known at the time – the Cousins War.

The King Under The Car Park

The focus of this talk is the “Looking for Richard” project, how Philippa Langley became involved in the Greyfriars dig of August 2012 and what the archaeologists found under the car park. Bone analysis, DNA and genealogy, injury analysis and carbon dating also feature in this fascinating talk, concluding with an insight to the re-burial of Richard, in March 2015.

The Princes In The Tower

Our new talk examines the events that led to the disappearance of the Two Princes; the main suspects, their motives and opportunity and what the likelihood was of any of them being responsible for the death of the princes. We also explore the other option, that one or more of the Princes escaped to live in secrecy.

All three talks last 30 minutes, with a Q&A session afterwards.

Group tour

If you are a smaller group in search of a more structured visit, you can book one of our enthusiastic and knowledgeable guides. Your guide will highlight the key points of the story throughout our exhibition, and will have further interesting facts to add.

Gift shop

No visit would be complete without time in the gift shop. From postcards and cards to gifts and mementos, our extensive array of books to our collection of handcrafted jewellery by a local artist, we guarantee that there is something for everyone.



Food and drink

We have a range of options for group leaders to select from:

Morning Coffee and Afternoon Tea

Tea, coffee and biscuits **£2.75**

Tea, coffee and a cake **£3.95**

Traditional cream tea **£4.50**

Tea, coffee and a scone with cream and jam

Soup and sandwich lunch

Soup and sandwich lunch **£6.75**

Soup and a selection of homemade sandwiches and bowls of fresh fruit.

Jacket potato lunch

Jacket potato lunch **£4.75**

Served with beans, cheese or tuna and a salad and coleslaw garnish.

Two course lunch **£11.95**

A choice of: Baked salmon fillet with Hollandaise sauce; beef and mushroom pie or brie and courgette crumble – all served with baby thyme roasted potatoes, buttered baton carrots and salad. Followed by apple crumble with custard.

Cold fork buffet lunch **£12.45**

Sliced gammon and turkey crown; broccoli and stilton flan and feta and courgette pasta – all served with fresh coleslaw, mixed green salad and tomato and red onion salad, warm, buttered new potatoes and crusty bread. Followed by fresh fruit platter, strawberry gateau and apple pie with custard.

Add a tea or coffee to any lunch option for £1.00 per person

Refreshments for groups of 15 – 20 people are served in the Café.

For groups of 20 – 55 people, refreshments are served in the King's Suite.

Advantages of booking

- Group are guaranteed to dine together
- Private dining in the King's Suite*
- Controls the cost for your group
- Everything is already ordered so there is no fuss on the day
- Efficient and friendly service that fits into your itinerary

**subject to availability and group numbers*

How to book

Please contact our Group Bookings Co-ordinator on:

☎ 0116 229 4132

@ groups@kriii.com

✉ Group Bookings, King Richard III Visitor Centre, 4a St Martins, Leicester, LE1 5DB

You can book your visit by using the following ways:

- Call us on 0116 229 4132
- Email your booking details to: groups@kriii.com

We would suggest contacting us to check availability and we advise that bookings should be made as far in advance as possible to avoid disappointment.

You will receive a booking confirmation, which will need to be signed, completed and returned to us.

Booking terms and conditions

Admission

- Group bookings must be made in advance
- Prices are discounted concessionary rates and no further reductions are available
- A single payment is required to qualify for group rates
- Cancellations made with 24 hours or less notice will be charged 50% of their total visit cost
- Final details must be confirmed, and an update on numbers must be provided, one week before your visit
- Cheques must be made payable to Leicester City Council

Catering

- Orders, dietary requirements and final numbers must be confirmed 7 days in advance
- Payment will be for numbers confirmed 7 days in advance. Increases in group size can be accommodated (up to 55 people in total) and additional people will be charged for.
- Payment must be made in a single transaction
- Payment must be made on arrival or by invoice
- No refunds are applicable

How to get here

By road:

The Visitor Centre is situated in Leicester city centre.

From the south: Leicester is located just off the M1; exit the M1 at Junction 21, signposted M69 and Leicester. Follow signs for the city centre.

From the North: Leicester is located just off the M1; exit the M1 at Junction 22 and join the A50. Follow signs for the city centre.

By train:

Leicester railway station is serviced by East Midlands Trains and CrossCountry with good rail links from major cities such as Birmingham, Sheffield and London. We are a 10 to 15-minute walk from Leicester railway station.

Approximate driving times:

Birmingham	60 mins	Milton Keynes	1 hr 10 mins
Coventry	45 mins	Nottingham	45 mins
Derby	50 mins	Northampton	1 hr
Lincoln	1 hr 20 mins	Oxford	1 hr 30 mins
London	2 hrs 30 mins	Peterborough	55 mins
Manchester	2 hrs 30 mins	Sheffield	1 hr 20 mins

Visitor information

Coach drop off

We recommend using Southgates (postcode for adjacent building is LE1 5NS) as your coach drop-off point, Southgates is no more than a five-minute walk away from the Visitor Centre and is just off the inner ring road (A594).

We will arrange for one of our Customer Services team to meet your group on arrival.

Parking

Limited on-street parking for coaches is available in the city centre and we can book those spaces in advance for you. Please ask when making your booking with us.

If your group is arriving in individual cars, our nearest car park is St Nicholas Circle, which is a five-minute walk away. Alternatively, Highcross is approximately 10 minutes away. The nearest parking spaces for blue badge holders is on Applegate, which is a five-minute walk from the Visitor Centre.

A manual wheelchair is available to hire, free of charge and can be reserved in advance. The building is fully accessible throughout with a lift to get to the first floor. Disabled toilets are situated on the ground floor. Several enhancements have been implemented to improve access for visitors with hearing or visual impairments. Guests are able to bring carers to assist. Assistance dogs are welcome.