

Welcome to DUDLEY TOWN CENTRE

The historic capital of the Black Country

Discover Dudley

Enjoy a range of events and activities, diverse architecture, historic buildings, beautiful nature reserves and parks. There is something for everyone and plenty to keep the whole family entertained.

Explore the Historic Core of Dudley's Town Centre with its thriving Market Place that dates back to medieval times. Walk to the High Street for a spot of shopping or take a break for some food and drink in one of the many beloved cafes and pubs throughout the Town Centre.

Experience some of Dudley's best viewpoints of the historic castle, as well as amazing views stretching for miles across the region from the heart of the Black Country.

Walking in Dudley

The best way to experience Dudley Town Centre is on foot. If you have more time, experience one of Dudley's self-guided tours:

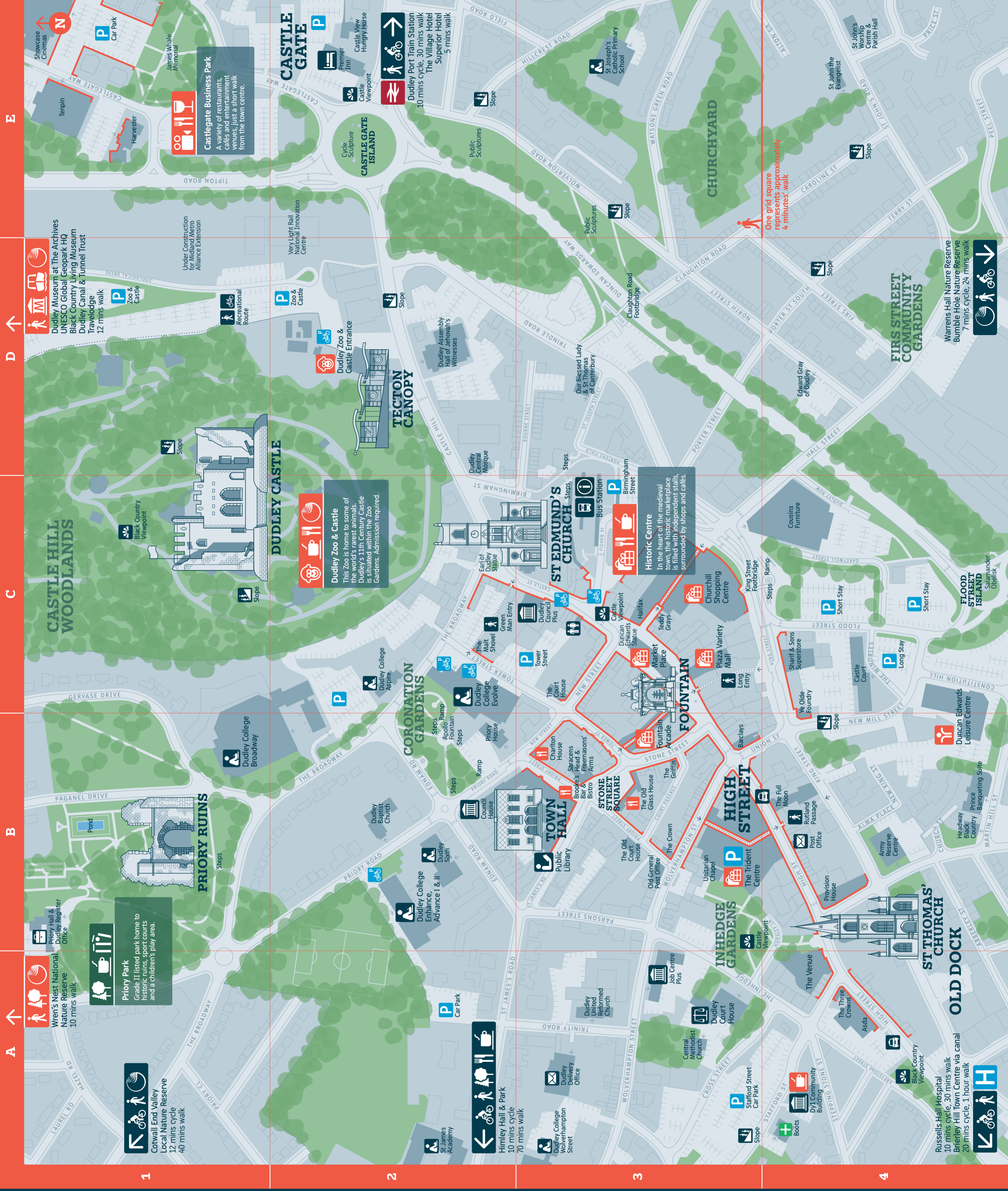
- 🚶 Architectural Heritage Trail
- 🚶 Dudley Time Trail
- 🚶 Geology Heritage Trail
- 🚶 Public Art Trail
- 🚶 Tecton Trail (in Dudley Zoo)

Find out more at

discover.dudley.gov.uk/walking-trails

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Eat & Drink	See
B3	Brooke's Bar & Bistro
B3	Castle View Hungry Horse
B3	Chaddesley House
E1	Harvester
B3	The Crown
B4	The Full Moon
B2	The Griffin
C2	The Malt Shovel
B3	The Old Court House
B3	The Old Glass House
A4	The Three Crowns
A4	The Venue
C4	Ye Old Foundry
A4	Asda
C3	Churchill Shopping Centre
B3	Fountain Arcade
C3	Market Place
B4	Provision House
B4	The Trident Centre
B4	St Thomas' Church
B4	St Thomas' Church
D4	Warren's Hall Nature Reserve
D1	Travelodge (off map)
E2	The Village Hotel (off map)
E2	Premier Inn
E2	Superior Hotel (off map)



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2

3

4

Cotwall End Valley Local Nature Reserve
12 mins cycle
40 mins walk

Wren's Nest National Nature Reserve
10 mins walk

Priory Park
Grade II listed park home to historic ruins, sport courts and a children's play area.

Priory Ruins

Dudley Zoo & Castle
This Zoo is home to some of the world's rarest animals. Dudley's 11th Century Castle is situated within the Zoo Gardens. Admission required.

Historic Centre
In the heart of the medieval town, the historic marketplace is filled with independent stalls, surrounded by shops and cafes.

One grid square represents approximately 4 minutes' walk

Russells Hall Hospital
10 mins cycle, 30 mins walk

Brierley Hill Town Centre via canal
20 mins cycle, 1 hour walk

Warren's Hall Nature Reserve
7 mins cycle, 24 mins walk

Discover

DUDLEY'S HISTORY

Dudley Castle & Market Place

A market has been held regularly at the foot of the 11th century Dudley Castle, in the heart of the medieval planned town, laid out by Gervase Paganell in the 12th century. It was flanked by burghage plots formed of shop frontages with long strips of land to the rear. In the 17th century, the Town Hall and some small shops occupied the central space and excavations in 2014 revealed that the buildings were composed of limestone, a material which was commonly used in Dudley from the 17th century onwards.

Earl of Dudley

Erected in 1888, the Grade II listed statue of the first hereditary Earl of Dudley was designed by C. B. Birch. The statue is sculpted from marble standing on a granite pedestal, itself on a stone base.

St Edmund's Church

Also known as 'Bottom Church' is dedicated to the Anglo-Saxon martyr King Edmund of East Anglia. The early dedication and the fact that St Edmund's was the parish church suggests that this area was Anglo-Saxon Dudley's focal point. The present church arose from the ruins of the Civil War and is dated to 1724 and is a Grade II* listed building.

Green Man Entry

Running from the Malt Shovel Public House on Tower Street to Castle Street, this ancient thoroughfare runs the length of a burghage plot. It is paved with the dark grey Rowley Rag setts, a traditional material for the Black Country. Within the arched passageway, limestone walling suggests there were stone structures here prior to the construction of the Grade II listed Georgian brick buildings.

Long Entry

This passage runs from Market Place to King Street, the length of a medieval burghage plot, curving in an 'S' shape typical of the curve created when ploughing with teams of oxen in medieval fields.

Drinking Fountain

In 1860, the 17th century Town Hall was demolished and replaced by the Grade II* fountain whose purpose, apart from being decorative, was to provide fresh drinking water to both people and animals: note the horse troughs and dog bowls. The fountain was designed and sculpted in flamboyant Italian Renaissance style by James Forsyth who sculpted the Perseus Fountain at Witley Court.

Fountain Arcade

In direct contrast to its Georgian neighbour, the Fountain Arcade built in 1925 exhibits the English free style of architecture, in stone and red brick, and incorporates a pair of curved Flemish gables with pairs of oriel windows on the upper floors that frame the entrance.

St Thomas' Church

St Thomas' Church (Top Church) is remarkable in its extensive use of cast iron for details normally carved in stone, such as the window tracery, and for its roof structure where cast iron pillars and spans were used to augment the more usual wooden beams. Such an early use of structural cast iron makes St Thomas' of great national importance, as is reflected in its status as a Grade II* listed building.

Provision House

Formerly 'The Cooperative Emporium', on the opposite corner to St Thomas' Church, and standing in complete contrast to it, is the tiled, three storey former 'Cooperative Emporium'. Designed by Webb and Gray and built in the 1930s, Modernist style with metal windows and a circular roof turret, this building is a major landmark.

Dudley and the surrounding borough have a rich and varied history to explore, from its Saxon beginnings as 'Dodd's Ley', development as a medieval market town, through to the growth of coal mining and ironworking in the Black Country's heyday. Dudley has kept its image of a bustling market town and today possesses a number of attractive buildings.



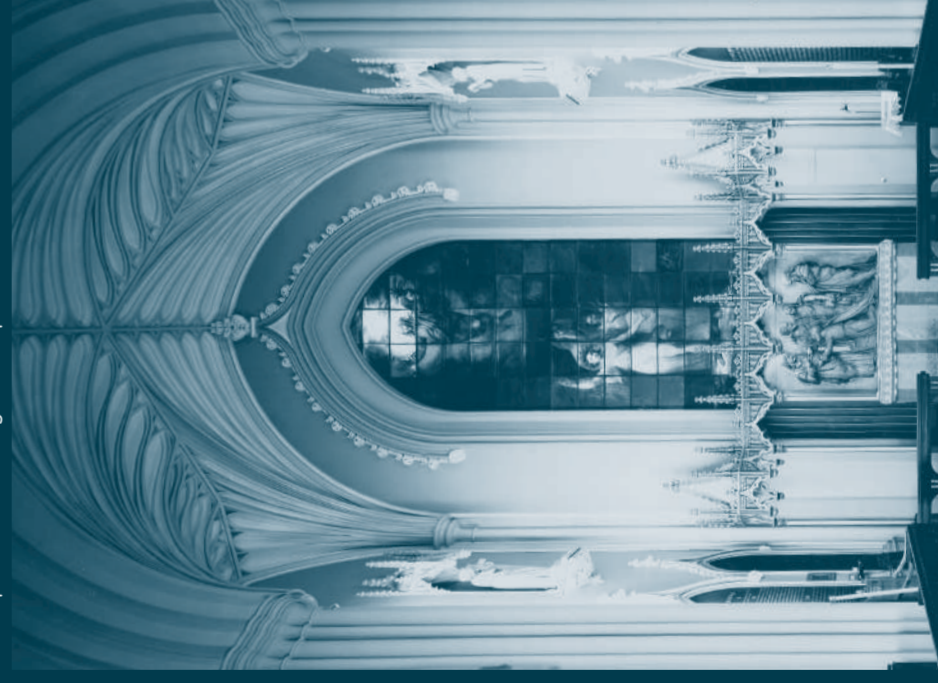
Artist's impression of Medieval Dudley by Neil Ludlow



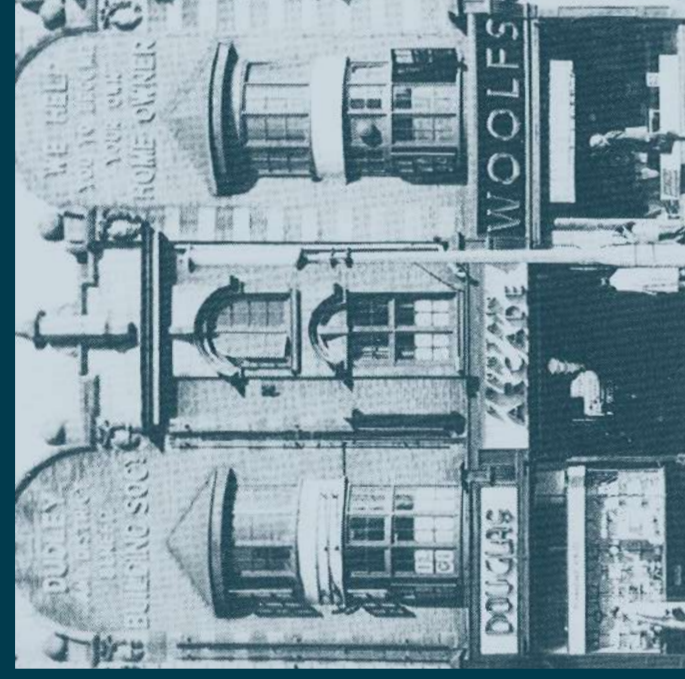
Green Man Entry public art signage for Thoroughfare



Historic photo of the Drinking Fountain pre-1900



Inside of St Thomas' Church, also known as 'Top Church', c.1993



Fountain Arcade from Market Square entrance, 1925



Inside of St Thomas' Church, also known as 'Top Church', c.1993

Find out more

Discover Dudley	discoverdudley.gov.uk
Visitor Information	@discoverdudley 0300 555 2345 tourism@dudley.gov.uk
Dudley Council Plus	dudley.gov.uk
NX Dudley Travel Card & Information Centre	nxbus.co.uk/west-midlands 0121 254 7272 @nxwestmidlands
Access Guides	0300 555 2345
Further information	tourism@dudley.gov.uk

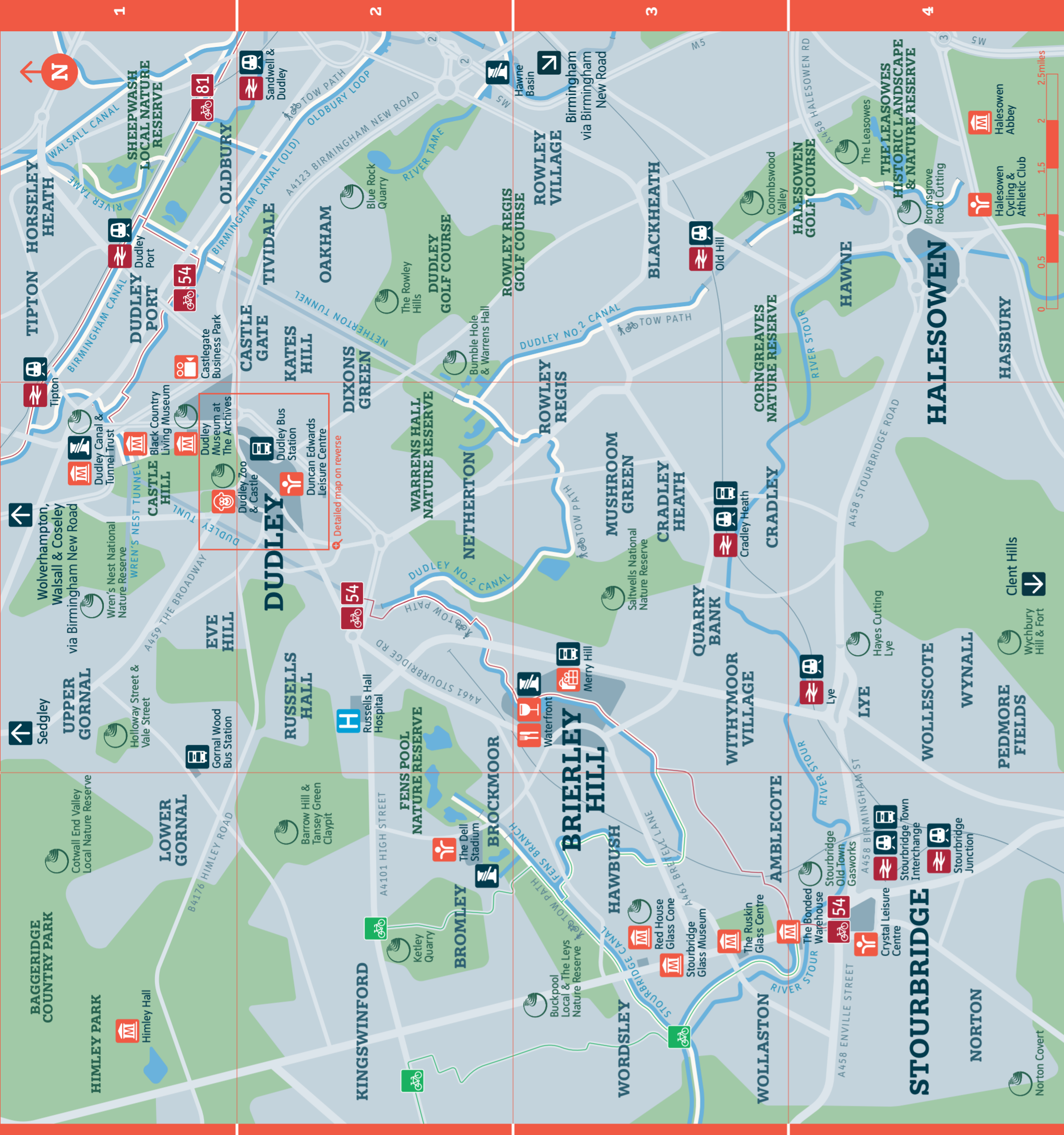


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Explore the heart of the BLACK COUNTRY

At the geological and industrial heart of England, the Black Country is a unique place. It is made up of four distinct areas: Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and the City of Wolverhampton. Each have a wide range of attractions to explore, from art to culture; history to countryside; nature to sport; and canals to shops and entertainment.

UNESCO Global Geopark

The Black Country is a rich and varied landscape with many special natural and historic features scattered across its terrain. The minerals on our doorstep and the geology beneath our feet helped shape the industrial revolution and further afield the world.

These sites have often been referred to as 'Hidden Gems' of UK heritage. In July 2020, the Black Country was awarded UNESCO Global Geopark status. The map above shows 20 Geosites out of the 45 of international geological significance that make up the Black Country Global Geopark.

For further information visit:
blackcountrygeopark.dudley.gov.uk

Canal Network

Dudley borough has three main canals with a number of smaller arms and extensions. The canals were fundamental to the industrial revolution and the creation of the manufacturing heartland of the Black Country. Providing a stunning natural corridor through the predominantly urban landscape, the canal network today attracts boat users, walkers, cyclists, anglers, wildlife enthusiasts and lovers of beautiful countryside.

For further information visit:
discover.dudley.gov.uk

Getting Around

If you are travelling by train the two main stations are Wolverhampton and Birmingham New Street. You can pick up connecting trains to local stations in Stourbridge, Dudley Port, Tipton and Sandwell and Dudley.

Alternatively, take one of the frequent bus services that run throughout the borough and also link with nearby Birmingham and Wolverhampton.

Geosites

A2	Holloway Street & Vale Street	B1
A2	Blue Rock Quarry	A2
C2	Norton Covert	A4
C4	Bromsgrove Road Cutting	A3
A3	Red House Glass Cone	B3
A3	Buckpool Local & The Leys Nature Reserve	A4
C2	Saltwells National Nature Reserve	C4
C2	Stourbridge Old Warrens Hall	C2
C3	Coombwood Valley	B1
A1	The Rowley Hills Local Nature Reserve	B1
B1	Dudley Museum at The Archives	B1
B1	Dudley Canal & Tunnel Trust	B4
B1	Dudley Zoo & Castle	B1
B4	Hayes Cutting Lye	B4

*Accessibility & facilities vary, visit blackcountrygeopark.dudley.gov.uk for further information on each site

Design and cartography by City ID
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