Discover Dudley Visit the heart of the Black Country





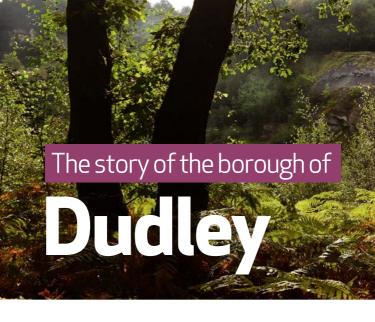
Visit discoverdudley.org.uk

(f) @discoverdudley 🕺 @discoverdudley









Dudley has a fascinating history dating back 900 years. Dudley and the surrounding borough have a rich and varied history to explore from it's Saxon beginnings as 'Dodd's Ley'.

The town grew around the foot of the castle and the broad medieval market-place was at the heart of the medieval planned town laid out by Gervase Paganel in the 12th century. Further development of the medieval market town came through the growth of coal mining and ironworking in the Black Country's heyday.



The 17th century, however, saw a steady expansion with the growth of coal mining and ironworking, but through the Black Country's industrial heyday in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Today's town centre possesses a number of attractive buildings well worth a second glance.

Some examples of these buildings make up Dudley's Architectural Heritage Trail whose details can be found via https://discover.dudley.gov.uk/walking-trails

Enjoy your visit. Expect the unexpected.



Dudley Archives & Local History Centre

Want to discover more about yourself and your area? This is the place to start.

This fabulous centre allows you to explore the wonderful heritage of the Dudley borough. The fantastic collections that are preserved here span over three miles and include the Papal Bull (over 800 years old!); parish records; school records; historic photographs; plans; glass recipe and pattern books and wonderful maps!

Find out what the inspiring collections can reveal; book on to a free family history research slot; explore one of the illuminating exhibitions; join one of the Friends of Dudley Archives local history talks; or book a fascinating behind the scenes tour. Pop in to reveal more than just your history; discover more about your area, your family and ultimately yourself. The centre is also home to Dudley Museum at the Archives and the headquarters of the Black Country UNESCO Global Geopark

Location	Tipton Road, Dudley, West Midlands DY1 4SQ
Telephone	01384812770
Email	dudley.archives@gll.org
Web	www.better.org.uk/library/dudley/archives- and-local-history-centre
Admission	Free entry
Visitor parking	Free parking to side and rear of building
Opening hours	Check their website for opening hours



Black Country UNESCO Global Geopark

Geoparks are globally important landscapes around the world, recognised for their exceptional geology, wonderful wildlife and unique cultures.

The Black Country is a place where coral seas, steamy swamps, scorching deserts, icy wastelands, mines and furnaces created unique and wonderful landscapes over 430 million years of geological time.

Between 1600 and the 1960s intensive heavy industry covered most of the area and earned this region international recognition as 'The Workshop of the World', where anything could be designed and made.

This industrialisation saw much of the landscape 'black by day and red by night': due to the coal mining wastes, furnace slag heaps and glow of the furnaces at night.

Today, there are over 40 geosites to explore that together tell the story of the Black Country. It is an amazing place to explore with many 'hidden' gems.

If you are looking for information, or wish to become an ambassador to support the work, visit https://blackcountrygeopark.dudley.gov.uk/bcg/





Black Country UNESCO Global Geopark

Dudley has loads of geosites famous for their geology, wildlife and industrial revolution importance.

Sites located within Dudley Borough:

- Barrow Hill & Tansey Green
- Buckpool & Fens Pools Local Nature Reserve
- Bumble Hole Local Nature Reserve
- Coombswood Valley
- Coseley Canal Cutting & Tunnel
- Cotwall End Valley
- Dudley Archives & Local History Centre
- Dudley Canal & Caverns
- Dudley Zoo & Castle
- Norton Covert
- Red House Glass Cone
- Saltwells National Nature Reserve
- Sedgley Beacon & Beacon Hill Quarry
- The Leasowes
- Wren's Nest National Nature Reserve

To find out more, and check accessibility, visit https://blackcountrygeopark.dudley.gov.uk/bcg/





Black Country Living Museum

Experience sights, sounds, smells, and tastes of the Black Country as you explore shops, houses and industrial workshops rebuilt in the Museum's canalside villages and high streets.

From the Industrial Revolution to post-war prosperity in the 1940s-1960s, discover the history of a small region that made a big impact on the people, culture and industry of the world.

Say 'ow am ya' to the people that made this place home, from metalworkers and miners to nurses and schoolteachers - and even a pub landlord or two.

As you delve into the past, try the Museum's famously bostin' fish and chips or pick up a paper bag of traditional sweets.

All of this included in one price for general admission and what's more, when you pay for just one day, your ticket gives you free daytime returns for a whole year!

Location	Discovery Way, Dudley DY1 4AL
Telephone	0121 557 9643
Web	bclm.com
Admission	Charges apply
Opening hours	Please visit the website for opening times and prices



Dudley Borough Halls (DB Halls)

Great live entertainment at three historic venues - Dudley Town Hall, Stourbridge Town Hall and Halesowen Town Hall.

These unique venues present top-quality performances throughout the year featuring a variety of comedy, music, theatre, cinema screenings and other live entertainment attracting household names such as Jimmy Carr, Robert Plant, Professor Brian Cox, Katherine Ryan, Jason Manford, Frank Skinner, John Bishop and Sir Lenny Henry in recent times. They are also home to a diverse range of community events. DB Halls are available for hire, offering wellequipped and comfortable facilities at extremely competitive prices. Each venue has a range of different rooms to suit any occasion, including wedding receptions, parties, meetings, conferences, and concerts. All of the DB Halls buildings have good disabled access and friendly staff will be happy to discuss your requirements.

Please visit dbhalls.co.uk for further information. Twitter: @BoroughHalls Facebook: Dudley Borough Halls



Dudley Borough Leisure (DBL)

Get active and have fun at our DBL centres - Duncan Edwards Leisure Centre in Dudley, Halesowen Leisure Centre, Crystal Leisure Centre in Stourbridge, and the Dell Stadium in Brierley Hill.

There's something for everyone at DBL! You will find state-of-the-art facilities and a wide range of activities and services, which include:

- DBL gyms
- Swimming pools, leisure pool and changing villages
- Studios hosting fitness classes including Les Mills
- Spin Studio (Immersive Spin at Duncan Edwards Leisure Centre only)
- Sports courts
- Soft play
- Wellness Suite with power assisted equipment (Duncan Edwards and Halesowen Leisure Centres)
- Sauna (Duncan Edwards Leisure Centre)
- Athletics track and football pitches (Dell Stadium)
- Meeting/function rooms
- Refreshments
- Accessible facilities

A range of membership options are available or users can pay as they go.

Visit **www.dbleisure.co.uk** or call **01384 812800** for more information.



Dudley Canal & Caverns

Jump on board and discover a magical underground world, which dates back 428 million years!

Enjoy a family-friendly boat trip into the heart of the geologically significant limestone caverns under Dudley. Discover the history of our region's mining and canal heritage on a 45-minute trip, complete with sound and light shows, re-enactments and a skipper commentary. Enjoy drinks, snacks and meals in the Gongoozler Café Restaurant, which overlooks the boats arriving and departing below. Explore free-entry exhibition galleries. Special events are held throughout the year including school holiday activities, Easter Halloween, and Christmas.

Location	Birmingham New Road, Dudley DY1 4SB
Telephone	0121 557 6265
Web	dudleycanaltrust.org.uk
Admission	Charges apply
Opening hours	Boat trips run Wednesday to Sunday from 10.30am to 3pm, November to March and daily from 10.30am to 4pm, April to October
	Please call for Christmas and New Year closing times



Dudley Museum at The Archives

Follow Dudley's story from pre-history to the present day.

As well as the fantastic selection of fossils and geology displays, collections include Dudley Castle Finds and a Dudley Local Heroes gallery with a small collection of Duncan Edwards memorabilia. Art work from our collection includes Dudley landscapes.

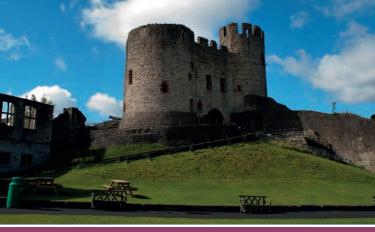
Family friendly events including trails, fossil ID sessions and activities take place throughout the year. Please check Ticket Source for upcoming events.

We are also the headquarters of the Black Country UNESCO Global Geopark.

Free parking and free entry to the Museum.

Why not sign up for the museum's e-newsletter www.dudley.gov.uk to stay in contact with us?

Location Telephone	Tipton Road, Dudley, West Midlands DY1 4SQ 01384 812750
Web	dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums
Admission	Free entry (please note that there may be a charge for some events)
Opening hours	Thursday to Saturday 10am to 4pm. Exclusive use for schools or groups Tuesday and Wednesday, 10am to 3pm. Pre-booking is required.



Dudley Zoo & Castle

Fancy a wild day out discovering some of the world's rarest animals at Dudley Zoo and Castle? Come face-to-face with Sumatran tigers, walk through Lemur Wood; make some new furry friends Down on the Farm; feed nectar to our colourful rainbow lorikeets and even look out for ghosts in the 11th Century castle!

Enjoy daily talks and feeds where you can get to know all about your favourite animals and discover the important conservation projects carried out.

Bring a picnic or dine in our licensed restaurant. Land train, vintage chairlift, adventure playground, fair rides, face painting, world famous Tecton structures, gifts and souvenirs plus much more.

Location	Castle Hill, Dudley DY1 4SQ (SATNAV DY1 4AL)
Telephone	01384 215313
Web	dudleyzoo.org.uk
Admission	Charges apply
Opening hours	Every day at 10am (except Christmas Day) Last admission in Winter 2pm Easter to September 3pm



Himley Hall & Park - a great family day out

Himley Hall is an 18th Century Grade ll* listed building set in 180 acres of 'Capability Brown' landscaped parkland.

The park is host to a variety of exhibitions and events as well as a free activities, trails and children's play area.

Located in the woodland of the park, the play area is the perfect place for your little ones to explore, make new friends, get outdoors and experience the natural leafy surroundings of Himley Park.

The hall famously hosts its traditional afternoon tea. The classic combination of ribbon sandwiches, scones with fruit conserve and cream, and delightful cake bites in the superb settings of Himley Hall is an afternoon that cannot be missed.

Himley Hall's South Wing Coffee Lounge and Art Galleries are open every day, serving a range of hot & cold drinks, light lunches and sweet treats.

Location Telephone	Himley Park, Dudley DY3 4DF 01384 817817
Web	www.himleyhallandpark.co.uk
Admission	The play area and galleries are free to visit but carparking charges apply.
Opening hours	Please see our website for our seasonal opening times



Libraries

Services available from Dudley Libraries include the loan of books, free wifi and computer use, ebooks and emagazines, CD and DVD hire and a wide range of community information.

Dudley libraries are places where you can learn new skills, make new friends, find and book your dream holiday, delve into your family history or just pick up your emails! They've got books, information on places to go and things to see, activities including Rattle & Rhyme sessions for babies, toddlers and their parents and carers, reading groups, craft sessions, Lego clubs as well as local history talks. There's something for everyone.

Libraries also have rooms for hire ranging from small interview rooms to a library theatre seating over 100 - all at competitive rates.

With convenient opening hours, including weekends, and a programme of events throughout the year, libraries provide a single access point for many services and also offer 24/7 information and library services via www.better.org.uk/library/dudley

Telephone 01384 815557







Museum Service

The Museum Service celebrates Dudley's art, heritage and culture and invites you to have fun, learn new skills, meet new people and experience events that will stay with you forever.

Our programme includes:

- Kids in Museums 'Make and Take' Family friendly activities
- Adults in Museums 'Let's do this' Relaxed and informal sessions
- Glass fusing
- Arts and craft workshops
- Trails and seasonal events
- Book clubs
- Chat & Craft
- Fossil ID and Geological talks
- Guided tours and walks

We host school trips and also offer an extensive Outreach programme of talks and activities - find out more at https:// www.dudley.gov.uk/things-to-do/museums/learning/ outreach/

Keep up to date with what's on: http://www.ticketsource.co.uk www.facebook.com/redhousecone www.facebook.com/dudleymuseum Visit http://www.discoverdudley.org.uk



Stourbridge Glass Quarter

Home to glassmaking for over 400 years, Stourbridge Glass Quarter not only enjoys a wealth of glassmaking heritage but is also home to a vibrant community of glass companies and innovative studio glass artists.

The Red House Glass Cone, Stourbridge Glass Museum, and Ruskin Glass Centre are at the heart of the Stourbridge Glass Quarter.

Each venue brings a different dimension to the visitors' exploration of glass, past and present.

Visitors can watch on-site glass makers at work across the Quarter, subject to availability. All sites offer a special shopping experience, for that unique gift. Visit glassquarter.org.uk for more information on everything the Glass Quarter has to offer.



Ruskin Glass Centre

The Glasshouse is home to Ruskin Glass Centre and the Glasshouse Heritage & Arts Centre.

Ruskin Glass Centre is home to 23 craft businesses with retail units to browse and an organic café.

The Glasshouse Heritage Centre celebrates 100 years of glassmaking with a Glass Heritage Officer on site to bring artefacts and exhibitions to life through guided tours.

The Glasshouse Arts Centre boasts a 400 capacity auditorium, studio theatre and meeting rooms. It hosts a range of activities from theatre and music performance to meetings, conferences and seminars.

An events programme includes demonstrations and workshops for all ages and interests.

Location	Wollaston Road, Amblecote, Stourbridge DY8 4HF
Telephone	01384 399419
Web	ruskinglasscentre.co.uk
Admission	Free entry to glass and visitor centres
Opening hours	Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4pm & Saturday 9am to 3pm
Café	Monday - coffee and cake served 9am to 4pm. Tuesday to Friday 9am to 4pm hot food served until 2.30pm. Saturday 9am to 3pm hot food served until 2pm
Glasshouse	Open Wednesday to Friday 10am to 3pm and one
Heritage	Saturday per month (details on the website).
Centre	Facility run by volunteers, so check before visiting.



The Lace Guild

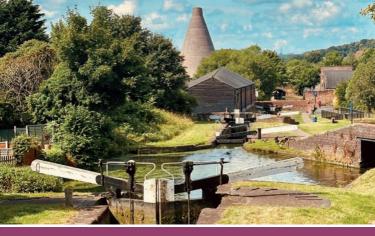
Situated in the heart of the Glass Quarter, this modest Edwardian building houses a large collection of lace items and artefacts depicting the fascinating history of this heritage craft.

The Exhibition Room boasts a changing display of antique and contemporary lace. In addition there is a comprehensive library of lace and allied textile books, for Lace Guild members to borrow and for textile students to research on site.

There is the opportunity to purchase second hand bobbins, equipment and vintage lace; items donated for sale to benefit the Guild.

Please note - we are situated on the main road between the Glasshouse Heritage Centre, Ruskin Glass Centre, Red House Glass Cone and Stourbridge Glass Museum. They are all within easy walking distance.

Location	The Hollies, 53 Audnam, Stourbridge DY8 4AE
Telephone	01384 390739
Email	hollies@laceguild.org
Web	www.laceguild.org
Admission	Free entry, donations gratefully received
Opening hours	On the website, select 'Collections' tab, then 'The Museum' on dropdown list.



Red House Glass Cone

Reaching 100ft into the sky, this glass heritage visitor attraction is an impressive site on the Stourbridge landscape and an integral part of the historic Glass Quarter.

Although the inside of the Cone is currently closed for essential maintenance (due for completion by September 2024), there is still plenty to see:

- Family friendly events including trails, glass fusing and activities take place throughout the year. Please check Ticket Source for upcoming events
- Visitor centre, gift shop and artisan craft studios
- Guided tours are available for groups of 12 to 40, fees apply and pre-booking is required
- Education room available for hire
- Car parking and admission to the site is free
- We are currently redeveloping our hot glass studio and plan to have live glass blowing demonstrations running very soon.
- Our on site café is temporarily closed Please check website or social media for up to date information
- Why not sign up for the museum's e-newsletter at www.dudley.gov.uk to stay in contact with us?

Location	High Street, Wordsley DY8 4AZ
Telephone	01384 812750
Web	www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/museums
Admission	Free entry
Opening hours	Monday to Friday 10am to 3pm
	Saturday and Sunday 11am to 4pm



Stourbridge Glass Museum

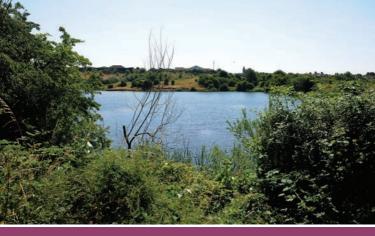
Stourbridge Glass Museum is home to the globally significant Stourbridge Glass Collection. Complemented by engaging digital interactive displays exploring the area's 400-year history of glass making.

A registered charity, the Museum also features a live Hot Shop, run by glass artist Allister Malcolm and his team, enthralling visitors with regular demonstrations of the craft.

Within the museum gallery, multi-sensory interactives enable museum goers to experience the sights and sounds of a busy glass works 200 years ago. Additionally, the create-your-own glass interactives allow visitors to design cameo glass masterpieces and send them to their email address.

The Museum also runs a lively events programme for all age groups, featuring children's activities, talks, artist workshops and exhibitions.

Location Telephone	High Street, Wordsley DY8 4AZ 01384 900447
Web	stourbridgeglassmuseum.org.uk
Admission	Charges apply
Opening hours	April - October, Tuesday - Sunday, 10.30am - 4.30pm. November - March Thursday - Saturday, 10.30am - 4.30pm.



The countryside in Dudley

The borough of Dudley has local and national nature reserves. They provide you with the opportunity to explore the countryside.

The wardens offer a wide range of education, interpretative and instructive walks, talks and organised events for all ages, the majority of which are free across the nature reserves.

For more information visit dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/parks-open-spaces	
Barrow Hill LNR 01384 812780	DY54JH
Buckpool & Fens Pools LNR 01384 812780	DY54NE
Bumble Hole & Warrens Hall LNR 01384 814100	DY29HS
Cotwall End Valley LNR 07799 070125	DY32UL
The Leasowes 01384 814642	B628DH
Saltwells NNR 01384 812795	DY51AX
Wren's Nest NNR 01384 812785	DY13SB
LNR - Local Nature Reserve	

NNR - National Nature Reserve



Shopping

Town centres

The four town centres of Dudley, Stourbridge, Halesowen and Brierley Hill offer a wealth of fascinating history and a variety of shops for you to visit. Architectural trail guides are available.

In Dudley town centre the landmark building Plaza Mall has been brought back to its former glory, built in 1935 and originally Woolworths, restoration of the 1930s Art Deco style shop front has been completed. Medieval passageways have been conserved, the beautiful Victorian fountain has been restored, statues renovated, and a history trail introduced.

In Brierley Hill town centre, improvements to enhance the historic high street have taken place including: new public toilets, new pavements, improved crossing points and new bus shelters.

Further details can be found at www.dudley.gov.uk

Merry Hill

The largest shopping centre in the West Midlands, Merry Hill has a superb mix of over 200 major retailers and 50 eateries in Eat Central food court along with an Odeon Cinema nearby.

Location	Merry Hill, Brierley Hill DY51QX
Telephone	01384 487960
Web	https://mymerryhill.co.uk
Opening hours	Monday to Friday 9am to 9pm. Saturday 9am to 7pm. Sunday 11am to 5pm. Check website for Christmas and Bank Holiday opening hours.



Waterfront

Waterfront in Brierley Hill is a welcoming canalside destination offering a range of places to eat, drink and socialise. Here you can try award winning coffee, locally produced spirits and 'Black Country Tapas' as well as digital mini golf, a therapeutic salt spa, bottomless brunch and more.

Waterfront is also home to regular events including street food pop-ups from Digbeth Dining Club and the much loved Black Country Duck Race.

For more information visit www.yourwaterfront.co.uk



Leisure in Dudley borough

Castlegate Leisure Park

Why not spend some time at Castlegate Leisure Park in Dudley? It's home to Tenpin Dudley, Showcase Cinema and includes numerous eateries such as Pizza Hut, Nando's and Frankie & Benny's.

Castle Hill, comprising Dudley Zoo & Castle, Black Country Living Museum, Dudley Archives & Local History Service and Dudley Canal & Caverns is Dudley town's tourism hotspot. There is plenty to entertain locals and visitors alike.

Parks

There are five staffed parks and many other parks within the borough. Further details are available at https://www.dudley.gov.uk/things-to-do/parks-and-open-spaces/

Healthy Dudley

The Healthy Dudley website promotes weekly short walks, lap walking, longer walks and walks that take in local history and visitor attractions, as well as Nordic walking in the dark and running for health and fitness.

To find out more visit www.healthydudley.co.uk



Accommodation

If you are looking for somewhere to stay while visiting, then Dudley borough has a wide variety of B&Bs, guest houses, hotels and pubs as well as camping and caravan sites, all within a 30 minute drive of Dudley.

Further details of accommodation including bed and breakfasts can be found at discoverdudley.org.uk or call Dudley Council Plus on 0300 555 2345.



The Copthorne Hotel Merry Hill

The Copthorne Hotel Merry Hill, Dudley, is a stunning waterfront hotel overlooking the Dudley canal marina and just a short walk from the Merry Hill shopping centre.

Facilities include:

- 138 guest rooms, including 9 suites and 42 Family bedrooms
- Free Wifi access throughout the hotel
- Motion Heath & Leisure Club incorporating the Spa @ Copthorne Merry Hill
- Faraday's Restaurant & Bar
- Meetings and events facilities for up to 570 guests

Location	The Waterfront, Level Street, Brierley Hill DY51UR
Telephone	01384 482882
Web	www.millenniumhotels.com/en/dudley





Village Hotel Dudley

Say goodnight to sleepy hotels. Welcome to Village Hotel Dudley - with a cool Pub & Grill showing big-screen live sport, Starbucks Coffee Shop and huge Health and Wellness Club.

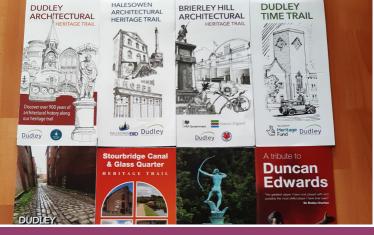
Check-in and check-out our stylish choice of double, twin and family rooms with mega comfy beds, big TVs, power showers and the latest in-room tech, plus free Wifi when you join our Booking Revolution!

Work out, chill out and play squash in our huge Health & Wellness Club, filled with the latest cardio kit, state-of-theart spin, 25m pool, plus sauna, steam and whirlpool.

Welcome to the hotel with everything under one roof!

Location	Castlegate Drive, Dudley DY1 4TB
Telephone	01384888830
Web	village-hotels.co.uk





Walking trails

There are several interesting walking trails that you can undertake consisting of different themes across the borough.

We have a Duncan Edwards visitor trail enabling you to explore many places of interest including his statue which is a tribute to the famous Dudley-born footballer who played for Manchester United and sadly died in the Munich Air Disaster in 1958.

There is a Time Trail leaflet that enables you to learn about the history and heritage of Dudley town centre, an insightful Architectural trail of the historical buildings also within the town centre, a Geological trail leaflet full of incredible facts surrounding the geology associated with Dudley and an amazing Public Art trail highlighting the landmarks around the borough. Finally, a Stourbridge Canal & Glass Quarter Heritage trail guide provides you with a fascinating insight into the 400 year old glass making history of the Stourbridge Glass Quarter.

Further details and downloads of these leaflets can be found at https://discover.dudley.gov.uk/downloads/

Visitor information in the Black Country

Places to visit? Where to eat? What's on? Where to stay? Travel information?

Dudley Library Service www.better.org.uk/library/dudley

NX Buses

0121 254 7272 Customer relations nxbus.co.uk/west-midlands/ Why not download the NX bus app?

Walsall Central Reference Library 01922 653121 • go.walsall.gov.uk

West Bromwich Central Library 0121 569 4904 • sandwell.gov.uk

Wolverhampton Art Gallery 01902 552055 • wolverhampton.gov.uk

Visitors with disabilities

Information on access to attractions mentioned within this guide is available by emailing tourism@dudley.gov.uk

Disclaimer

Every effort has been made to check the accuracy of details included in this guide.

Dudley Council and the attractions featured cannot guarantee the accuracy of the details included and accept no responsibility for this. Visitors should check details with attractions before travelling. Further details available at discoverdudley.org.uk

Should you have any comments about this guide, email tourism@dudley.gov.uk

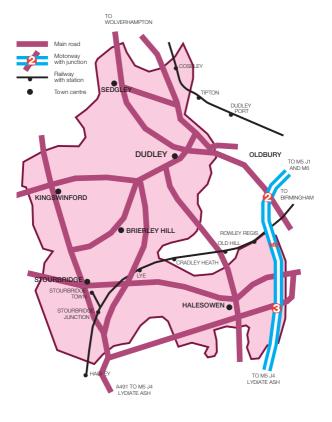
Buses

Bus numbers across the borough

Dudley to Brierley Hill - 6 Dudley to Halesowen - 14, 19 Dudley to Kingswinford - 5 Dudley to Oldbury - 87 Dudley to Sedgley - 1 Dudley to Stourbridge - 6, 17, 17A

Bus numbers to visitor attractions

Barrow Hill National Nature Reserve - 5, 6 Blackcountry Man boat trips - 6, 8 Black Country Living Museum - 11, 11A Buckpool & Fens Pools Local Nature Reserve - 6 Castlegate - 11, 11A, 74, 87 Cotwall End Valley Local Nature Reserve - 1, 27, 27A Dudley Archives & Local History Service - 11, 11A Dudley Canal & Caverns - 11, 11A Dudley Zoo & Castle - 11, 87, 126 Merry Hill - 7, 8 Lace Guild - 16, 17, 17A Leasowes - 19 Red House Glass Cone - 16, 17, 17A Ruskin Glass Centre & Glasshouse - 16, 17, 17A Heritage Centre Saltwells National Nature Reserve - 7 Stourbridge Glass Museum - 16, 17, 17A Village Hotel - 74, 87, 126 Waterfront - 7.8 Wren's Nest National Nature Reserve - 8.82



SAY 'I DO'



PRIORY HALL, Dudley



Fabulous photographic opportunities are available at the Priory Ruins



THOMAS ROBINSON BUILDING, Stourbridge







www.dudley.gov.uk/weddings www.facebook.com/dudleyregisteroffice www.instagram/dudleyregisteroffice



August 2024