

10 Great Things to do in Cheshire

1. Visit Cheshire's Peak District

Brimming with breath-taking scenery, dramatic landscapes and world-class events, Cheshire's Peak District has something for everyone. Ranging from Lyme Park and the hills above Buxton in the north to Biddulph's moorlands in the south, Cheshire's Peak District covers nearly 100 square miles of truly natural beauty.

Explore wild moorlands and rocky ridges, stride out along the Gritstone Tail, visit a stately estate, enjoy delicious food and drink, discover a Garden of Distinction, cruise along a canal or stroll around a pretty town or village.

2. Visit a Garden of Distinction

Cheshire is home to some of England's finest gardens; from stately homes and secret gardens to the quintessentially English and exotic oriental; whatever time of year you visit Cheshire's gardens are sure to delight.

Cheshire's Gardens of Distinction include; Arley Hall and Gardens, Bluebell Cottage Garden, Lyme, Norton Priory Museum and Gardens, Ness Botanic Gardens, Tatton Park and many more. To find out more go to www.cheshiresgardens.com.

3. Relax in a spa

Cheshire is home to a wonderful selection of luxurious spas which are perfect for relaxing and relieving the stresses and strains of modern day life. The Mere Golf Resort & Spa, The Chester Grosvenor, Carden Park Hotel, Golf Resort & Spa, Doubletree by Hilton and the Grosvenor Pulford Hotel and Spa all offer fabulous spas with relaxing spaces and tranquil treatment rooms.

Whether you fancy a treatment to invigorate or relax you'll be spoilt for choice at Cheshire's spas.

4. Enjoy a round of golf

Cheshire is blessed with an impressive variety of golf courses in some spectacular locations.

The Mere Golf Resort and Spa boasts a course designed by James Braid, which is surrounded by breathtaking Cheshire parkland, whilst Mottram Hall's Championship golf course is set in 270 acres of parkland. Carden Park Hotel, Golf Resort and Spa offers two stunning Championship courses, the Nicklaus and Cheshire are challenging, beautiful and fun to play.

Most courses have experts on hand to give guidance if needed so whether you're a complete novice or seasoned pro you'll find golf in Cheshire an enjoyable experience.

5. Visit a museum

Cheshire is home to a great mix of museums bringing history to life. Covering everything from textiles to the Egyptians Cheshire's museums provide a wonderful experience for all ages.

Discover all about Cheshire's Silk Industry in Macclesfield with a visit to Macclesfield Museums; whilst at Hack Green Secret Nuclear Bunker you can step back in time to the Cold War era. Explore the Cabinet of Curiosities at Warrington Museum and Art Gallery or be amazed by science at Jodrell Bank Discovery Centre and Catalyst Science Discovery Centre. Find out more about Cheshire's Museums at www.discovercheshire.com.

6. Go shopping

Cheshire's historic market towns offer a warm welcome with bustling streets filled with high street brands, independent gems and on market days you'll find an exciting range of stalls selling a wonderful mix of products.

For boutique shopping visit Knutsford, Wilmslow or Alderley Edge, famous for being home to the rich and famous they offer chic boutiques and adorable attire which are perfect for the fashion conscious.

If you love a designer discount then don't miss Cheshire Oaks Designer Outlet off your itinerary. The largest Designer Outlet in the UK is home to over 145 boutiques, restaurants and cafés and has something to suit all tastes.

7. Explore the waterways

Waterways are an important part of Cheshire's landscape and have a prominent role in the history of the county. Whether you want to cruise down a canal; set sail on a river or enjoy a walk along the peaceful towpaths and riverbanks, Cheshire's waterways are sure to delight.

As well as exploring the waterways you can find out about the fascinating history of the waterways by visiting the National Waterways Museum or Anderton Boat Lift, where boat trips and hands on displays help to bring history to life.

8. Enjoy live performances

Experience live performances at great venues around Cheshire throughout the year; not only can you enjoy traditional theatre at Crewe Lyceum, during the summer months there are plenty of stunning outdoor performances to entertain all tastes.

For one weekend each year, Delamere Forest hosts world-class musicians performing live outdoor gigs whilst the grounds of Gawsorth Hall provide a stunning setting for their annual open air theatre. Grosvenor Park is also home to Grosvenor Park Open Air Theatre, the finest open air theatre experience outside of London. Clonter Opera is also not to be missed, with performances taking place all year round in the heart of the Cheshire countryside.

9. Visit a top attraction

Cheshire's array of attractions means that whether you're a culture vulture who likes to visit historical gems such as Little Moreton Hall or Beeston Castle, or an adrenaline junkie wanting fun and excitement at attractions like Go Ape and Cheshire Segway, there's plenty to do year round.

Cheshire is home to a wonderful mix of gardens that make up Cheshire's Gardens of Distinction and offer everything from carefully manicured lawns and flowerbeds to wildflower meadows and children's play parks.

Cheshire is also home to Tatton Park and Chester Zoo, two of the most popular attractions outside of London.

10. Visit Chester

Originally built by the Romans it's home to the most complete city walls in the UK, the ruins of a Roman Amphitheatre, the oldest racecourse in Britain dating back to 1539, a magnificent cathedral and the Eastgate Clock, built to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. The city centre is charming with distinctive shopping on two levels known as the Rows, whose distinctive black and white half-timbered architecture is home to lots of interesting independent shops. Explore the city and then take a boat ride on the River Dee for a different perspective. Chester is beautiful and relaxing with excellent restaurants, gastro pubs and stylish hotels – some traditional, others with a cool, modern vibe. There are many events and festivals – the city proclaims itself “alive with culture”.