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Major annual events

[Chester Races](#): **Wednesday 9 May - Saturday 29 September 2018**

Chester Racecourse, Chester

Looking for glamour, excitement, drama, and tradition? Then look no further, horse racing has been staged in the city since 1539. Chester's season begins with the inaugural May Festival (over three days) on Wednesday 9th May. Attracting crowds of enthusiastic racing fans and those looking to up the style stakes, racegoers flock from around the country to witness history unfold before their eyes across this three-day event, which is then followed by a further 12 additional days, including Roman Day, Family Fun Day, and Ladies' Day.

[Reaseheath Family Festival](#): **13th May 2018**

Reaseheath College, Nantwich

Enjoy a fantastic day out at our annual Family Festival which has been held at the college for almost 40 years! All of the campus will be open and you'll find an exciting range of fun activities for the whole family to enjoy.

[Simply Cheshire Spring Shopping Fair](#): **20th-21st May 2018**

Arley Hall, Northwich

With over 80 talented, carefully selected exhibitors showcasing the county's best makers, designers and producers, it's the perfect way to spend a day out. You will be surrounded by delicious artisan food, gorgeous gifts, accessories for the home and garden, jewellery, demonstrations, workshops, live music, and the opportunity to explore the stunning gardens of Arley Hall.

[Anderton Boat Lift Beer & Cider Festival](#): **26th-28th May 2018**

Anderton Boat Lift, Northwich

Featuring a selection of 12 of the country's traditional top ales and ciders, visitors to the iconic 'Cathedral of the Canals' in Anderton near Northwich, will also be treated to a series of live acts each evening.

[Geronimo Family Festival](#): **25th – 28th May 2018**

Arley Hall and Gardens, Northwich

Geronimo has a kids' field like no other festival, catering solely to children and allowing families to connect for a fairytale weekend of madness. New for 2018 are the Tigers Motorcycle Display Team, a full-scale Highland Games takeover in the main arena, and the Sock Wrestling Federation's daily tournaments.

The Equerry Bolesworth International Horse Show: **13th – 17th June 2018**

Bolesworth Castle, Tattenhall

The Bolesworth International plays host to world-class, 4-star equestrian sporting action; and plenty of family friendly attractions and activities, guaranteeing a fabulous day out for the whole family to enjoy. The newly-added watersports element will feature as a headline attraction, along with the famous dog shows.

Middlewich FAB Festival: **15th – 17th June 2018**

Market Fields and the Canals, Middlewich

Celebrating its 28th year, the Middlewich FAB Festival offers a narrowboat rally as well as music and street theatre, with juggling, parades through the town, stalls, music at various venues, and Morris dancing.

The Royal Cheshire County Show: **19th - 20th June 2018**

County Showground, Knutsford

For more than 175 years, the Cheshire show has been the premier summertime agricultural event in the North West. This prestigious event enables all to experience and celebrate all that is great and good about the countryside.

[Bluedot Festival](#): **20th – 22nd July 2018**

Jodrell Bank Observatory, Macclesfield

Set against a backdrop of the iconic Lovell Telescope at Jodrell Bank, Bluedot combines a truly stellar line-up of music with a ground-breaking programme of live science experiments, expert talks and immersive artworks.

[Cheshire Steam Fair](#) **8th – 9th July 2018**

Daresbury, Warrington

This event showcases products like Steam Engines, Classic Cars, Vintage Tractors, Classic Motorcycles, Fairground Organs, Miniature Steam Engines, Stationary Engines and Vintage Commercials etc. in the Industrial Products industry.

[RHS Flower Show Tatton Park](#): **18th – 22nd July 2018**

Tatton Park, Knutsford

Set in magnificent parklands, the RHS Flower Show at Tatton Park is a celebration of the best in gardening with a vibrant carnival atmosphere. A spectacular day out, not just for plant lovers, but for friends and family too.

[Blakemere Countryside Fair](#): **21st July 2018**

Blakemere Village, Northwich

Everything the countryside has to offer is celebrated, along with local businesses showcasing their products and services. With demonstrations and shows taking place in the arena throughout the day along with a small fun fair, donkey rides, fun dog show, The Dog and Duck Show, Falconry Displays, trade stalls and much more it really is a great day out for all the family.

Nantwich Show & International Cheese Awards: **25th July 2018**

Dorfold Park, Nantwich

A day not to be missed! Celebrity chefs will be undertaking live cookery demonstrations, and massive marquees will house the International Cheese Awards. The Countryside Pursuits Area will be packed all day with displays of cattle, horses, sheep, poultry, pigeons, and dogs, whilst other exhibits will include over 450 trade stands, with something for everyone, whether it be clothes, tractors, or produce for the garden and home.

[Astle Park Traction Engine Rally: 11th – 12th August 2018](#)

Astle Park, Macclesfield

Since the 1960s the Astle Park Traction Engine Rally has been one of the leading outdoor shows in South Cheshire. Set in magnificent parkland and centrally located this iconic event attracts a large annual following. The spectacular Saturday night firework display is one of the highlights over the weekend.

[Just So Festival: 17th- 19th August 2018](#)

Rode Hall Estate, Scholar Green

The annual, boutique, intimate, weekend-long festival is an imaginative outdoor adventure like no other, as the only arts camping festival in the UK dedicated solely to children and their families. Step into a magical wonderland of world class literature, arts, theatre, dance, music, comedy, and creativity.

Creamfields: 23rd – 26th August 2018

Daresbury

The world's leading dance music festivals returns to Cheshire for August bank holiday weekend. See some of the hottest dance acts and DJs perform live in the Cheshire countryside.

Classic Ibiza at Bolesworth Castle: 4th August 2018

Bolesworth Castle, Tattenhall

The Urban Soul Orchestra will perform classic Ibiza anthems under the stars, with DJs performing a chill-out set in the first half, followed by a half-hour interval with DJs playing the latest Ibiza tunes. As dusk falls, the lasers will hit the Bolesworth skyline as the best of the White Island's dance tunes are brought back to orchestral life.

MBNA Chester Marathon: 7th October 2018

Chester City Centre

Participants will run past all of Chester's iconic landmarks before heading into the Cheshire and North Wales countryside. The race starts and finishes at Chester Racecourse.

[Halloween Ghost Tours: 31st October](#)

Chester City Centre

Join one of Chester's famous ghost tours on the most haunted night of the year. Your guide will take you on a night time journey around the eerie haunts of Chester's mysterious and murky past, where you will hear spine-chilling tales of ghosts, ghouls and things that go bump in the night! If you can't make a tour on Halloween then join one of the Ghost tours that run throughout the year.

Christmas Market: 15th November – 21st December 2018

Chester City Centre

Chester Christmas Market is one of the many highlights in the city's festive calendar. Taking place in the heart of the city the market has over 70 wooden chalets selling a variety of local and regional produce.