

Major annual events

[Chester Races](#): Wednesday 10 May - Saturday 30 September 2017

Chester Racecourse, Chester

Looking for glamour, excitement, drama, and tradition? Then look no further, horse racing has been staged in the city since 1539. The racing season at Chester gets underway with Boodles May Festival on May 11th, which is then followed by a further 12 additional days, including Roman Day, Family Fun Day, and Ladies' Day.

[The Tour Series](#): 12th May 2017

Northwich Town Centre

Britain's leading cycle race series, the Tour Series, comes to Northwich. The Women's Matrix Fitness Grand Prix Series will run alongside the Men's Tour Series giving spectators in Northwich the chance to see Britain's top male and female cyclists in action. The event, organised by the Northwich BID and Town Council, will include fairground rides, and stalls selling everything from food to homeware.

[Viking Invasion Weekend at Anderton Boat Lift](#): 13th-14th May 2017

Anderton Boat Lift, Northwich

One of the 'Seven Wonders of the Waterways' will be hosting another free, family-friendly, Viking Invasion weekend. The grounds of the Anderton Boat Lift will be transformed into a Viking settlement with displays and demonstrations, ending each day with a 'live battle'.

[The Tatton Park Country Show](#): 13th May 2017

Tatton Park, Knutsford

Featured events this year include Jez Avery's Stunt Bikes and Buggies, Birds of Prey Flying Displays, The Tallest Magic Show in the World, children's petting pens, and much more. Arts, crafts and gift marquees, food hall and outside trade stands will also be at the event. On Sunday, they will also play host to the Companion Dog Show so bring along a canine friend and have a go (proceeds from Dog Show go to Marie Curie).

[Reaseheath Family Festival](#): 14th May 2017

Reaseheath College, Nantwich

Enjoy a fantastic day out at the annual Family Festival which has been held at the college for almost 40 years! All of the campus will be open and there will be an exciting range of fun activities for the whole family to enjoy. New attractions for 2017 include a walking, talking, giant robot and a display team of the UK's top BMXers and skateboarders.

[Simply Cheshire Spring Shopping Fair](#): 20th-21st May 2017

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 2017](#)

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: 27th May 2017](#)

Arley Hall and Gardens, Northwich

The magical family festival which has been billed as 'Glastonbury for Kids' by the Daily Mirror, will play host to a huge array of TV stars who will take centre stage throughout the day. Attractions include a Digital Zone, which plays host to the UK's favourite YouTubers and gamers, 2 full circuses, a theatre tent, and a showground arena, as well as a Bear Grylls assault course and climbing walls for the active kids.

[Amazed by Science Festival: 27th May – 4th June 2017](#)

Cheshire-wide

The fantastic festival returns for another year, focusing on science, technology, engineering and maths, in one of the most science rich areas of the UK. The week will be full of science shows for all the family in one of the most science rich counties so 6-11 year olds can get involved with bugs, animals, nuclear science, meeting the experts and more!

[Ashley Hall Traction Engine Rally: 27th -29th May 2017](#)

Ashley Hall Showground, Altrincham

For the 3rd year running, the extremely successful steam spectaculars take space at the ideal venue, providing all you need for a weekend packed with family entertainment. There will be live performances on stage along with trade stands, non-stop arena entertainment, a full programme of top steam funfair attractions, and craft and fine food marquees.

[Chester Town Crier – Public Proclamations: 1st June – 31st August 2017](#)

The High Cross, Chester City Centre

Chester is the only place in Britain to have retained the historic tradition of regular midday proclamations from a fixed point. It's free, fun and totally unforgettable. Proclamations take place Tuesday to Saturday at 12noon (11am on Chester race days) May to August.

[Burton Village Festival: 10th June 2017](#)

Gladstone Village Hall, Burton

With the WWII Lancaster Flypast confirmed, this year's festival is set to be a real showstopper, as the pilot will fly low along the festival site length twice. It's owned by the RAF Battle of Britain Memorial Flight and is one of only two Lancasters in the world – the other is in Canada!

[CSI **** Bolesworth International: 14th-18th June 2017](#)

Bolesworth Castle, Tattenhall

The CSI 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. New for 2017, watersports will feature as a headline attraction, along with the famous dog shows.

[Middlewich FAB Festival: 16th-18th June 2017](#)

Market Fields and the Canals, Middlewich

Celebrating its 27th 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.

[Dogfest at Arley Hall: 17th June 2017](#)

Arley Hall and Gardens, Northwich

This year there are even more have-a-go activities for your dog to take part in, plus highlights including training workshops, the Great Dog Walk, and the Eukanuba Supervet Live Tour. Of course, there is entertainment for the owners too, with agility and dancing displays, advice from Royal Canin, and a delicious variety of food and drink, live music, and shopping!

[The Royal Cheshire County Show: 20th-21st June 2017](#)

County Showground, Knutsford

For more than 175 years, the Cheshire show has been the premier summertime agricultural event in the North West. In 2016, they reached an exciting milestone when the Cabinet Office bestowed the 'Royal' status on the show. The 2017 show will again hold many competition classes for animals and livestock, with the feature main ring attraction 'The Four Seasons of Farming'.

[Moonlight Flicks: 4th July – 26th August 2017](#)

Chester Roman Gardens

Sit back and relax in truly idyllic surroundings for a magical night of movies under the stars. This year's flicks include the famous [Pretty Woman](#), [La La Land](#), [Moana](#), [Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them](#), and more!

[Bluedot Festival: 7th-9th July 2017](#)

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 2017](#)

Daresbury, Warrington

Performing in the arenas include the Adrenaline Tour display, Ridgeside Lurchers Racing Team and Falconry. A full programme of top steam fair attractions and trade stands, along with entertainment, and catering and licensed bars.

[Live in the Park at Arley Hall: 15th July 2017](#)

Arley Hall and Gardens, Northwich

Live in the Park features the John Colino Band, and Neil Diamond and Diana Ross tributes. Arley also plays host to the Picnic Concert, with a fantastic fireworks finale. All proceeds go to the NeuroMuscular Centre in Winsford.

[Grosvenor Park Open Air Theatre: 15th July – 27th August 2017](#)

Grosvenor Park, Chester

Now run by Storyhouse, Grosvenor Park Open Air Theatre is the finest open air theatre experience outside London. This year's productions showcase [A Midsummer Night's Dream](#), [Julius Caesar](#) and [Alice In Wonderland](#). Past productions include many of Shakespeare's most acclaimed plays, as well as specially adapted productions of Hercules and The Secret Garden.

[RHS Flower Show Tatton Park](#): 19th-23rd July 2017

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](#): 22nd-23rd July 2017

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](#): Wednesday 26th July 2017

Dorfold Park, Nantwich

A day not to be missed! Celebrity chefs, James Martin, Will Holland and Sean Wilson 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](#): 12th-13th August 2017

Astle Park, Macclesfield

Performing in the main arena will be the Stannage International Stunt Show. This will feature the Flaming High Fall Show, Exploding Coffin, Motorbike Stunts, Car Jumps, and Trick Riding to name a few. There will also be trade stands, non-stop arena entertainment, a full programme of top steam funfair attractions, and craft and fine food marquees.

[Just So Festival](#): 18th-20th August 2017

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](#): 24th-27th August 2017

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 such as Deadmau5, Stormzy and Oliver Heldens perform live in the Cheshire countryside.

[Classic Ibiza at Bolesworth Castle](#): 1st September 2017

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 DJ Goldierocks 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.

[Nantwich Food & Drink Festival: 1st-3rd September 2017](#)

Nantwich

The Nantwich Food and Drink Festival takes place over the first weekend in September each year in the historic market town of Nantwich, Cheshire. It is one of the few UK food festivals based in a town centre and makes the most of this lovely Cheshire town, which is full of independent shops, cafes, restaurants, and bars.

During the festival, Nantwich is transformed into a food lovers' paradise, with two huge marquee food halls filled to the brim with delicious treats, wines, beers, cheeses, pies, preserves and more, as well as a wide variety of street food stalls. This year more than 150 visiting traders will attend.

[The Great British Prom: 2nd September 2017](#)

Bolesworth Castle, Tattenhall

The National Symphony Orchestra make their debut at Bolesworth's open-air concert to celebrate music from across the home nations. They will be joined by Classical Brit Award-winning Welsh male vocal group Only Men Aloud, Soprano Annette Wardell and traditional piped band.

[MBNA Chester Marathon: 8th October 2017](#)

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: 16th November – 20th December 2017](#)

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.