

Welcome to Boston

Welcome to Boston; a lively, historic port and market town located on the River Witham, joining the North Sea at a part of the coast known as The Wash.

Boston and its magnificent church are named after St Botolph, an Anglo Saxon monk, who according to tradition visited the area in the 7th Century.

In the early medieval period, only London was richer and more important than Boston as a port. Boston's wealth was based on wool and trade with Hanseatic League countries. St Botolph's Church (The Stump), Boston Guildhall and the town's stunning Market Place are just three examples of its medieval splendour. The large weekly markets each Wednesday and Saturday and its annual May Fair, also date from this period.

Boston today is a diverse and vibrant town to explore and discover, with a range of quality national and independent shops, wonderful dining experiences and a unique history and heritage.

This visitor guide map is available online at www.visitbostonuk.com



Country Parks and Pilgrim Fathers Memorial

Boston has two riverside country parks. Witham Way Country Park can be found just north of Grand Sluice and the Marina. It is the start of the Water Rail Way cycle and walking route to Lincoln and has woodland, meadows and picnic areas to enjoy. Havenside Country Park is to the south of the town and expected to form part of the new England Coast Path route. The park leads to the Pilgrim Fathers' Memorial, which marks the site where that group's first attempt to escape to freedom, initially to Holland, was thwarted. Leading to their arrest and subsequent trial and detention in Boston Guildhall.

Marina, maritime cruises and Grand Sluice

Grand Sluice can be seen up river from St Botolph's footbridge. It is more than 250 years old and a structure to control waters in the River Witham, separating the tidal Haven from the non-tidal river from Lincoln and beyond. Boston Gateway Marina is found above the Grand Sluice and ideally situated for access to the sea, and river with visitor moorings available.

The Boston Belle, operated by Maritime Leisure Cruises Ltd, offers exploration by river and sea with bird watching, seal spotting and lunch cruises available. The boat departs from Sluice Bridge, Witham Bank East (April- September).

t. 01205 820108 w. bostonbelle.co.uk



Market Place and markets

Boston's sweeping market place is the heart of the town – and has been so for centuries. From the fine market place you will notice the frontage of the buildings and the narrow lanes reflecting the medieval layout of the town. Once one of the wealthiest trading ports, second only to London, Boston's commercial centre still holds regular markets today. Wednesday and Saturday are the main market days, where you'll find traders selling local produce, fashion, household items and much more. There are also more stalls alongside an auction of a wide variety of items on Bargate Green each Wednesday and fortnightly craft markets throughout the summer. Market days are really vibrant and a great day to plan your visit to the town – the largest open air markets in Lincolnshire.



Medieval lanes and shopping

A thriving market town, Boston has the perfect combination of independent shops and high street names throughout the town and around the Market Place.

Medieval lanes branch off from the Market Place and are lined with small boutiques, places to eat and specialist stores.

Pescod Square, named after the medieval Pescod Hall, has many other well-known shops and places to eat.

On route to Boston retail park, where there are further national retailers, you pass through Wide Bargate with established shops and along Pen Street you'll find quirky and high-end boutiques. In the West Street area you'll find a fabulous mix of Eastern European restaurants and shops.



St Botolph's Church (The Stump)

The magnificent and awe-inspiring St Botolph's Church (known affectionately as "The Stump") dates from 1309. It is one of the largest parish churches in England and its tower is one of the highest of any in the country.

The building is as impressive inside as it is outside, you can climb 209 steps for the Tower Experience. Visit the coffee shop and gift shop, or reflect in the sacred space. There is also a children's treasure trail and play den. The church is open daily and is free to enter, although charges do apply to the Tower Experience.

t. 01205 354670 w. parish-of-boston.org.uk

Boston Guildhall Museum

Built in the 1390s this wonderfully-preserved building, with a wealth of original features, has survived the centuries and is to be enjoyed as one of Boston's finest visitor attractions.

A wealth of stories are told and shared throughout the building; including the history of the Guild of St Mary, international trade with the Hanseatic League, the foundation of the Corporation of Boston and the very famous trial and imprisonment of the Pilgrim Fathers. There are exhibitions and displays as well as events and activities for children. The building is also available for wedding and function hire. Also Tourist Information Centre.



t. 01205 365954 w. bostonguildhall.co.uk



Fydell House and garden

Fine Georgian house and garden that was owned by the Fydell family from 1726. Thomas Fydell was a close friend of one of Lincolnshire's most famous

sons, explorer and naturalist Sir Joseph Banks. An armillary sphere and engraved poem dedicated to him can be found in the garden.

Joseph Kennedy opened the American room in 1938 as ambassador of the USA. Free entry.

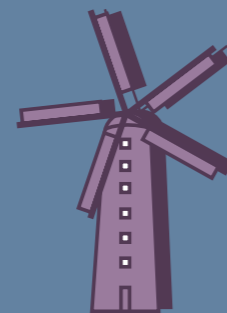
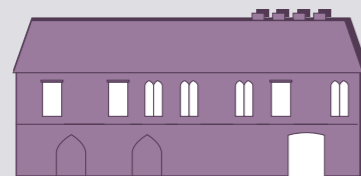
t. 01205 351520 w. fydellhouse.org

Blackfriars Theatre and Arts Centre

Built in the 13th century as a Dominican Friary and then converted to a theatre in 1966. The centre hosts a vibrant programme of professional productions and also productions by local groups. The range of performances includes theatre, opera, music and many more throughout the year.

The superbly restored building contains a 224 seat theatre, an 80 seat Cabaret Revue Bar, a Foyer Gallery, which houses regular visual arts exhibitions, an art studio and a number of multi-purpose rooms.

T. 01205 363108 w. blackfriarsartscentre.co.uk



Maud Foster Windmill

Built in 1819 for the brothers Isaac and Thomas Reckitt by the Hull millwrights Norman and Smithson, this working mill is one of the finest and tallest in the British Isles.

You can climb the seven floors of this five-sailed windmill and see flour being made the traditional way by wind power. A mill shop with a wide range of flours and gifts as well as a self-catering holiday let are available at the site.

t. 01205 352188 w. maudfoster.co.uk

Hussey Tower

The house was built in around 1450 by a wealthy Boston man called Richard Benyngton. But the tower, which is all that remains, takes its name from Sir John Hussey who owned the house after Richard Benyngton died.

Sir John Hussey was an important member of the court of Henry VIII, but he fell out of favour with the king at the time of the Reformation. The king accused him of treason after he failed to act quickly enough to put down the Lincolnshire Rising. He was tried, found guilty and executed in 1537.

t. 01529 461499 w. heritagelincolnshire.org/sites/hussey-tower



Nearby attractions

- RSPB Frampton Marsh PE20 1AY Frampton Marsh is a coastal wetland reserve bringing the wildlife of the Wash closer to you. Visitor centre, toilets & refreshments. Events and activities. t. 01205 724678 w. [rspb.org.uk /Frampton_Marsh](http://rspb.org.uk/Frampton_Marsh)

- The Bubble Car Museum PE22 7AW Over 50 microcars from the 50s, 60s and beyond, with extensive collections of memorabilia. t. 01205 280037 w. bubblecarmuseum.co.uk

- Sibsey Trader Mill One of the last windmills to be built in Lincolnshire. Explore the mill tower, visit the coffee shop. t. 01205 750036 w. sibseytraderwindmill.co.uk

- Westgate Wood and Jenny's Wood, Wyberton

Contact information

Boston Tourist Information
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t. 01205 365954
w. visitbostonuk.com
























EXPLORE & DISCOVER



VISITOR GUIDE MAP



GETTING AROUND BOSTON TOWN

-  Bus Station
-  Coach Park
-  Railway Station
-  Car Park
-  Cycle Parking
-  Tourist Information Centre
-  Museum
-  Cinema
-  Theatre
-  Library
-  Public Toilets
-  Leisure Boats
-  Aviary
-  Tennis Court
-  Play Area
-  Leisure Complex
-  Hotel
-  Shopping Area
-  Market Area
-  Attractions
-  Other Destination
-  Pedestrian Routes
-  Explore Boston Route



↓ Hussey Tower