

PORTERS GUIDE TO CAMBRIDGE

Welcome to Cambridge

Start your Cambridge adventure today and explore what this charming city has to offer.



10 BEST PLACES FOR DINNER IN CAMBRIDGE

Close to Magdalene College, **Riverbank Steakhouse and Grill** serves up delicious wine and steak in a modern, chic setting. The building is a former warehouse and sits right on the banks of the River Cam, so the views are always spectacular.

The **Ivy Cambridge Brasserie** on Trinity Street offers elegant British dining in a stylish, art-deco setting. From brunch to dinner, its menu features classics like shepherd's pie and fresh seafood, all served with impeccable hospitality.

Located in the conservatory of a Victorian cottage, **Midsummer House** is a five AA-Rosette and two-Michelin-star restaurant specialising in French fine dining. With outstanding food and gorgeous views over the River Cam, it's easy to splash out and luxuriate here!

Quirky and unique, the **Old Bicycle Shop** is the former home of Britain's oldest bike shop, Howes Cycles, with its walls adorned in cycling memorabilia, a charming nod to its two-wheeled past.

The menu offers deliciously tempting options for veggies, vegans and carnivores, and it's a great spot for a laid-back dinner.

Nanna Mexico offers up cheap and cheerful street food in a lively, comfortable setting. For a quick and tasty meal, you can't go wrong with a visit here, they cater for all diets and their ingredients are fresh and local, so grab a beer and a burrito!

Rustic and authentic North African cuisine make **Bedouin** a popular spot with both students and locals for relaxed meals. Get together with friends, order some tangines and grill dishes, and enjoy the atmosphere! (98 - 100 Mill Rd).

Korean restaurant **Bibimbap House** is a firm favourite for huge portions of flavoursome classics such as bibimbap rice dishes, served in an unfussy, cosy setting. It's also BYOB so is perfect for those wanting something special but on a budget! (60 Mill Rd).

Another independent Cambridge food purveyor with multiple locations throughout the city, **SmokeWorks** specialises in fast food cooked slow. Think - American BBQ-style meats, including ribs, wings, brisket and pulled pork, and even vegan options like BBQ jackfruit. Droolworthy!



King's College, Cambridge

At the edge of Cambridge city centre sits the **Rupert Brooke**, in picturesque Grantchester. This chic pub delights with its stylish interior, and its modern brasserie dining. Its Sunday dinner comes highly recommended.

For an epic curry feast, **Taj Tandoori** is the one most locals will recommend. Friendly service, BYOB and funky decor, plus over 30 years of excellent reviews. It has an extensive menu of mouthwatering dishes, so you'll need a good chunk of time to choose! (64 Cherry Hinton Rd)



4 BEST COFFEE SHOPS IN CAMBRIDGE

For some of the yummiest pastries, breads and savoury snacks in the city to nibble on alongside your tea or coffee, head to **Norfolk Street Bakery** - locals recommend practically everything here!

Independent roasters **Hot Numbers Coffee** place their focus on ethical and sustainable coffee, and their Gwydir Street location is a relaxing space with frequent live jazz performances. (5/6 Gwydir Street and 4 Trumpington Street).

Urban Larder is a lovely country-chic cafe which specialises in good-quality coffee and tea. It also has a deli and shop full of farm-fresh local produce, so it's great for a bite to eat, too. (9 The Broadway).

Founded by two siblings passionate about good coffee and customer service, **Bould Brothers** is another top-notch hip and trendy addition to the Cambridge specialty coffee scene. (16 Round Church Street and 88 Regent Street).

7 BEST BRUNCH AND LUNCH SPOTS IN CAMBRIDGE

Bread and Meat does what it says on the tin - this modern eatery specialises in upscale, gourmet sandwiches, with portion sizes that are technically enough to feed a small army (but you won't want to share). Don't plan anything too strenuous for afterwards! (4 Benet Street).

Foodie haven **Aromi** serves up classic Sicilian food made with simple, flavourful ingredients from three locations. It's perfect for a lunchtime bite to eat with friends, as you can get lots of little things to try, including some of the best pizza, gelato and cannoli in the city! (1 Bene't Street, 3 Pea's Hill and 30 Fitzroy Street).

The Locker Cafe is a family-run arts cafe a popular both as a place to get some lunch or a coffee and cake, and as a spot to soak up local culture, from art exhibits to book launches to live music. (54 King Street).

For a unique lunch, it's worth visiting **Michaelhouse Cafe** in the beautiful St Michael's Church. Enjoy fresh, local homemade food whilst admiring the stunning 14th century architecture. (Trinity Street).

Fitzbillies has been making its famous sticky Chelsea buns since 1920, and also offers breakfast, brunch, lunch and afternoon tea in its beautiful original Art Nouveau cafe. This is a Cambridge institution you don't want to miss. (Trumpington Street (original) and Bridge Street (new)).

For one of the most picturesque afternoon teas of your life, head to **The Orchard Tea Garden** in Grantchester. Established in 1897, taking tea in the Orchard has become a quintessential Cambridge tradition. Its history of famous visitors alone is enough to make anyone curious to visit! (47 Mill Way).

Rustic, hearty dishes are on the menu at the **Garden Kitchen**, run by the same team behind the Garden Cafe at the Botanic Gardens. Options range from healthy, light fare from their salad bar, to indulgent, delicious main courses. (82 Mill Road).



QUAYSIDE, CAMBRIDGE

9 BEST BAR AND PUBS IN CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge and its surrounding area is filled with excellent pubs and bars - ranging from real ale old-school haunts, to craft beer specialist spots, to wine bars, and cocktail bars. Here are some of our favourites:

The Eagle is the oldest pub in Cambridge, dating back to the 16th Century, and has a great selection of cask ales. It's also where Crick and Watson announced to their peers that they had discovered the 'secret of life' - ie. the DNA double-helix! There is also a new Blue Plaque which recognises the contribution of Rosalind Franklin to the DNA breakthrough.

With its own on-site microbrewery, **The Cambridge Brew House** is a great spot for craft beer and sharing platters.

Fan of good wine? Stop in for a glass at one of the three fabulous **Cambridge Wine Merchants** wine bars across the city.

The Punter is a gorgeous pub occupying an old coaching inn. Pop in for a cold glass of beer, white wine, or G&T and enjoy the characterful atmosphere.

Located in a Grade 2-listed former office building, **The Pint Shop** has an impressive selection of keg and cask beer from all over the UK, as well as great spirits and wines.

Nestled in the centre of the city, the **Calverley's Brewery Taproom** is open Thursday to Saturday for small-batch craft beers, street food and general merriment.

Located on Chesterton Road **Thirsty Cambridge** is perfect for stocking up on wine, beer and spirits, and there's always a good selection of those pouring to enjoy sitting in, too.

For an excellent selection of modern craft beers, head to **BrewDog Cambridge** to sample a range from the Scottish brewery and other guest breweries from all over the world.

Head to the stunning **Hidden Rooms** and settle in to one of their curtained booths or find a spot in the sunken garden, then while away the evening sipping delicious cocktails.



BRIDGE STREET, CAMBRIDGE

G R E A T N I G H T L I F E S P O T S I N C A M B R I D G E

If you're looking to party the night away, Cambridge has its share of fun late-night bars and clubs! Some of the most popular are:

La Raza is a go-to spot for tapas and cocktails in the daytime and early evening, which at night turns into a hub for great DJs and live performances.

Kiki is a Tiki-themed club which hosts themed parties most nights and is well-liked for its cocktails and tropical decor.

Novi is a popular spot for coffee and food during the day, but at night it is a late-night bar serving premium cocktails and craft beers in a stylish multi-level venue.

MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

Since Cambridge is such a hub for academia, it's jam-packed with cool and interesting museums to visit, many of which are tied to the prestigious university.

Here are our picks:

Kettle's Yard, a contemporary and modern art gallery located in a beautiful cottage, which has both a permanent and rotating collection.

The Fitzwilliam Museum, a fascinating art and antiquities museum, which is widely considered to be one of the finest of its kind in the country.

The Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, which features exhibitions about life all over the world, ranging from ancient times to modern day.

The Museum of Cambridge, or the Cambridge & County Folk Museum, gives a fascinating look into life in and around Cambridge from 1700 onwards.

The Polar Museum, or the Scott Polar Research Institute, researches and showcases polar exploration, history and science.

The Centre for Computing History, is the country's largest computer and video games museum, and features vintage computers and gaming consoles with hands-on exhibits.



FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM, CAMBRIDGE

The Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences is a geology museum which houses over two million fossils, minerals, rocks and preserved creatures from throughout history.

The Museum of Zoology in Cambridge showcases a fascinating collection of animal specimens, from towering whale skeletons to intricate insect displays. Located in the heart of the city, it offers a glimpse into the wonders of the natural world, with exhibits spanning millions of years of evolution.

The **Imperial War Museum Duxford**, Britain's largest aviation museum, which displays a huge collection of almost 200 historic aircraft, military vehicles and artillery.



CHRIST'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

10 MUST-VISIT COLLEGES

To almost everyone, the city of Cambridge is synonymous with the University of Cambridge. However, with over 30 beautiful Colleges, it's difficult to know which ones to visit if you have a limited amount of time.

Here are 10 of the most awe-inspiring Colleges to start you off:

Trinity - the largest College at the university, built around a large courtyard. It's Great Gate features Henry VII, originally holding an orb which has now been replaced by a chair leg!

Kings - one of the most beautiful Colleges, famed for its chapel and choir.

St John's - one of the most prestigious and grand Colleges, spanning across the River Cam.

Jesus - it has beautiful grounds and buildings, plus an impressive collection of sculptures.

Christ's - famous for being where Charles Darwin studied, with a garden in his honour.

Pembroke - has a pretty chapel and gardens, and is the third-oldest College of the university. The Chapel is the first building of Christopher Wren

St Catharine's - small and friendly, with two impressive libraries and mixed architecture, including an Open Court rather than closed.

Peterhouse - the oldest and the smallest college, famous for its innovative alumni and its resident ghosts!

Selwyn - one of the smaller colleges, adored locally for its magnificent gardens.

Emmanuel - quiet and peaceful, with lovely architecture as well as gardens with ponds.



R I V E R C A M , C A M B R I D G E

C A M B R I D G E A N D B E Y O N D D A Y T R I P S

Steeped in history, and known for its rustic charms, there is plenty to see and do in Cambridge. Whether its walking around the beautiful city, or taking a trip further out, here are few ideas for the best way to spend the day:

Take a stroll along the River Cam and see some historic architecture - the Bridge of Sighs, which you'll no doubt have seen in photographs, and the Mathematical bridge, which is a quirky wooden bridge, are popular photo spots! There are several pubs to break up the walk, too.

Punting in Cambridge is a quintessential experience, offering a serene and scenic journey along the River Cam. Gliding past historic colleges, charming bridges, and lush greenery, visitors can soak in the beauty of the city from the water. Whether opting for a guided tour or trying a hand at punting themselves, it's a relaxing way to explore Cambridge's rich history and iconic architecture.

Punt, cycle or walk to Granchester, a sleepy village just outside the city centre - it'll delight with its pretty thatched cottages and Riverside Walks.

There are several National Trust sites near Cambridge, and some of our top picks for an active and enjoyable day out include:

Wimpole Estate (mansion, park & gardens, and farm);

Houghton Mill and Waterclose Meadows (18th Century water mill and river walk)

Wicken Fen National Nature Reserve; and **Anglesey Abbey** (Jacobean house with impressive gardens and water mill).

10 C A M B R I D G E P A R K S

With plenty of huge outdoor green spaces to choose from, you'll be spoilt for choice.

Firstly, The Backs along Queen's Road are beautiful particularly in Spring.

Jesus Green is home to a Lido, public grass tennis courts, as well as a children's play area, a skate park, and free table tennis.

Cherry Hinton Hall Park, a short bus ride out of town. This is a luscious park with a paddling pool (open in summer) and playgrounds.

Midsummer Common is a popular place in central town for picnics and events.

Lammas Land is popular park in southwest Cambridge, about half a mile from the city centre. The park has a pool and a large play area for children of all ages.

Parker's Piece, famous for events and as being the birthplace of football association rules.

Wandlebury Country Park, on the Gog Magog Hills near Cambridge, spans 110 acres of woodlands and meadows. With scenic trails, rich wildlife, and ancient history, it's a perfect spot for walking and enjoying nature.

Milton Country Park, just north of Cambridge, is a 95-acre green space with woodlands, lakes, and trails. It's great for walking, cycling, kayaking, and picnicking, making it a great spot for families and nature lovers.

Stourbridge Common is a large open space in northeast Cambridge. It has a play area for children of all ages and part of the common has been classified as a nature reserve. In medieval times the site was home to an annual fair one of the biggest in Europe.

Last but not least, no trip to Cambridge would be complete without a visit to the famous **University Botanic Garden**, with its 40 acres of gardens, plant life and glasshouses.

THINGS TO DO WITH CHILDREN IN CAMBRIDGE

If you're visiting Cambridge with children, you might be looking for a different set of activities than usual - don't worry, we've got you covered!

Treasure Trails

Treasure Trails have a handful of fun and interactive self-guided treasure trails covering different parts of Cambridge. They're a great way to see the city, either for the first time or in a different light.

The Cambridge University Botanic

Garden is a beautiful 40-acre oasis featuring a diverse collection of over 8,000 plant species from around the world. A haven for nature lovers and researchers alike, it offers scenic walking trails, glasshouses with exotic plants, and tranquil water features.

Throughout the year, the garden hosts seasonal events, workshops, and family-friendly activities, making it an ideal spot to explore and unwind in the heart of the city.



C A M B R I D G E D I N K Y D O O R S

Go door-hunting! Yes, you read that correctly. If you look closely, you'll find tiny little doors dotted all around the centre of Cambridge. These mysterious sculptures have been installed anonymously, and there's new ones popping up on a regular basis. Try and spot them all yourself, or download a map on the Dinky Door website - www.dinkydoors.co.uk

The Grand Arcade in Cambridge offers a premier shopping experience and hosts festive activities during the holidays, including, live entertainment, and family-friendly events. Past events have included a dinosaur trail and a lego safari trail.

ALTERNATIVE CAMBRIDGE ACTIVITIES

Once you've had your fill of all the tourist activities in Cambridge, you might be looking for recommendations based on what locals get up to for a day out.

Shop!

Cambridge Market takes place Monday-Saturday from 10:00 until 16:00 and has a huge variety of stalls selling everything from clothes, books, CDs, fruit & veg, second hand and antique goodies, plants, and bric-a-brac.

On Sundays, there's the food, arts and crafts market (also 10:00 until 16:00), selling wares from local farmers and talented artists, craftsmen, potters, sculptors and photographers.

The Cambridge All Saints Craft Market showcases a vibrant selection of handmade goods, from artisan jewellery to unique homeware, offering a perfect spot to find locally crafted treasures. This market takes place every Saturday opposite Trinity College.

View Cambridge from above!

For a decadent, relaxing afternoon, book a table at the Roof Terrace at the Varsity Hotel, which offers the best and most impressive views over the city.

Treat yourself to a spot of lunch, or just a few cocktails or glasses of wine, and watch the sun set.

Swim!

Jesus Green Lido is one of the few remaining open-air 1920s-era lidos in the country, and is the longest pool of its kind. Grab a towel and sunbathe in the decked area, eat a packed lunch in the grassy picnic area, or just spend time floating in the pool.



C A M B R I D G E M A R K E T

4 C U L T U R A L E V E N T S I N C A M B R I D G E

Kings College Chapel

Cambridge is a beautiful and iconic landmark that hosts a variety of amazing events throughout the year including the famous Christmas Carol Service. From captivating concerts to thought-provoking seminars and public lectures, the chapel provides a perfect space for the most amazing occasions.



CHRIST'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge Festival

One of the largest festivals of its kind in the country, the annual Cambridge Festival, which features over 360 mostly free events, runs from Friday 17th March until Sunday 2nd April.

Coordinated by the University of Cambridge, the Festival aims to tackle some of the big questions of our age and seeks to find possible solutions and includes an extensive series of events for children and families to enjoy.

Cambridge Arts Cinema

A stylish cinema with three screens and relaxed café-bar in Cambridge. It plays host to the annual Cambridge Film Festival which takes place every Autumn.

Cambridge Shakespeare Festival

The Festival has become a huge cultural event in the region over the eight weeks it takes place. It has acquired an international and national dimension with many visitors returning to Cambridge.

S T A Y W I T H U S

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