

# Coventry's Hidden Gems

Coventry is a treasure trove of hidden delights, from an eclectic shopping quarter; to a vintage aircraft restaurant; you can also discover one of the finest examples of a medieval guildhall in England and an abbey founded in 1150 AD; Coventry has a secret for everyone to uncover.

# St Mary's Guildhall

Discover St Mary's Guildhall, an unexpected treasure from 1342 in the narrow, winding lanes of the city's historic Cathedral Quarter. The Guildhall hosted kings and queens, acted as a prison for Mary Queen of Scots, and even as a theatre where Shakespeare may have trod the boards. In the magnificent Great Hall, you can try on replica armour, marvel at medieval stained glass, a ceiling of carved angels and one of the rarest and most important tapestries in the country. The Guildhall also has an onsite Undercroft café.

**Website:** www.stmarysguildhall.co.uk

**Telephone:** +44 (0)24 7683 3328

**Address:** Bayley Lane, Coventry CV1 5RN

## FarGo Village

FarGo is located on Far Gosford Street, a regenerated area with a rich heritage and a wealth of beautifully restored historic buildings. FarGo has quickly established itself as Coventry's independent Creative Quarter, home to coffee shops and restaurants, and to artists, crafters and designers. FarGo also hosts unique events and a creative arts programme.

**Website:** www.fargovillage.co.uk **Telephone:** +44 (0)24 7625 2434

Address: Far Gosford Street, Coventry CV1 5ED



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## **Coventry Music Museum**

Coventry gave 2-Tone music to the world, with bands like The Specials and Selecter, but this is only a small reflection of the musical talents of Coventry. The Coventry Music Museum, tells the story of Coventry's musical heritage, with treasures to be found, including the Lennon Bench and Dave Willetts' original Phantom Mask from the Phantom of the Opera.

**Website:** www.covmm.co.uk **Telephone:** +44 (0)7971 171441

Address: 80 Walsgrave Road, Coventry CV2 4ED

#### The Weaver's House

On historic Spon Street, one of the cottages has been restored to show how a Coventry narrow-loom weaver would have lived and worked in 1540. At the back of the house is a medieval garden showing plants that would have been grown for food, flavouring, medicine and household use. Entry is free and you can see the Weaver's House on one of the many open days.

**Website:** www.theweavershouse.org

**Telephone:** +44 (0)24 7625 7117

Address: 121 Upper Spon St, Coventry CV1 3BQ

#### **Police Museum**

The Coventry Police Force was abolished in 1969 when it became part of the Warwickshire and Coventry Force. The museum is split into different areas, each dealing with aspects of policing in Coventry. Included in the museum is Mary Ball's death mask; the last woman to be hanged in Coventry in 1849. Please note that one area of the museum is for over 15s only.

**Telephone:** +44 (0)345 113 5000

**Address:** Little Park Street, Coventry City Centre

CV1 2JX

#### The Charterhouse

The Charterhouse is a grade I listed 14th century Carthusian monastery, one of only nine ever built in Britain. It suffered at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries, however, the Priory House and the remains of the inner precinct wall still stand today and offer a beautiful glimpse into the past.

**Website:** www.charterhousepriory.org.uk **Location:** London Road, Coventry CV1 2JR

### **Lady Godiva Clock**

This iconic clock can be seen in Coventry city centre. The clock tells the story of one of the Godiva legend's most infamous characters – Peeping Tom. On the hour a set of doors open and Lady Godiva rides out. Above, the tailor – Peeping Tom – appears, before covering his eyes and returning to the depths of the clock tower. It is a sight to tick off your list.

Address: Broadgate, Coventry CV1 1FS

#### Midland Air Museum

A unique aeronautical collection, complete with some of the most iconic aircraft and memorabilia ever created. The museum is the proud home of the Sir Frank Whittle Jet Heritage Centre. While you are there, why not visit the DC-6 Diner? The vintage aircraft, as featured in Casino Royale, is a one-of-a-kind restaurant and bar, alongside unique views of a variety of world famous aircraft.

Website: www.midlandairmuseum.co.uk

**Telephone:** +44 (0)24 7630 1033

**Address:** Coventry Airport, Rowley Rd, Baginton

CV3 4FR

## **Coombe Abbey and Country Park**

Founded in 1150, this 4-star hotel with opulent bedrooms is home to a fascinating history, with ties to royalty and the infamous Gunpowder Plot. Discover Capability Brown-designed landscape gardens and 500 acres of beautiful parkland. Why not try one of the medieval banquets that the Abbey is well known for?

**Website:** www.coombeabbey.com **Telephone:** +44 (0)24 7645 0450

**Address:** Brinklow Road, Binley, Warwickshire

CV3 2AB

# **Holy Trinity Church**

Holy Trinity's story goes back nearly 1,000 years! This extraordinary church has survived fire, reformation and the Blitz. Marvel at the many rare artefacts that the church houses, perhaps the most exceptional being the famous medieval wall painting of the Last Judgement.

**Website:** www.holytrinitycoventry.org.uk

**Telephone:** +44 (0)24 7622 0418

**Address:** 5a Priory Row, Coventry CV1 5EX



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