

# Shakespeare's ENGLAND

## Family

For the perfect family day out, look no further than Shakespeare's England.

Visit Britain's Ultimate Castle, Warwick Castle or go mad with the kids at the MAD Museum. Learn about the unique history of the region and the greatest playwright of all time William Shakespeare at Shakespeare's Birthplace or one of the other historic houses associated with Shakespeare. Experience a truly unique museum in Stratford Armouries or the UK's largest tropical butterfly paradise, Stratford Butterfly Farm.

### Warwick Castle

#### Warwick

Experience an award winning day out at Britain's Ultimate Castle. Have an epic adventure with all the family surrounded by jaw-dropping history, magic, myth and adventure! Stunning scenery, inside and out, Shows, battles and live entertainment



Immerse yourselves in over 1000 years of jaw-dropping history, come rain or shine. Ancient myths and spell binding tales will set your imagination alight and your hair on end. Experience castle life for yourself from mediaeval battles to the splendour of the Georgian State Rooms, meet Henry VIII and his wives, witness a State Banquet with the Queen and re-live the preparations for battle. Prepare to be amazed at the daily jousting tournaments and the incredible Trebuchet Fireball Show.

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[www.shakespeares-england.co.uk](http://www.shakespeares-england.co.uk)

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With stunning scenery, inside and out, shows, battles and live entertainment, Warwick Castle guarantees a great day out for all the family!

[www.warwick-castle.com](http://www.warwick-castle.com)

## MAD Museum

Stratford-upon-Avon

Come and step into an eccentric world of moving art; The MAD Museum is a wonderful place to experience and interact with an extraordinary assortment of both modern and old fashioned, yet highly innovative, machines.

The MAD Museum (Mechanical Art & Design) holds an exciting assortment of weird and wonderful Kinetic Art, Automata and Steampunk.

It's perfect for the whole family, not only does it provide loads of interactive fun, it will interest those who are fascinated by physics, design and clever intricate moving contraptions. If your kids have an interest in science, art and engineering, you won't want them to miss out on this truly unique experience.



[www.themadmuseum.co.uk](http://www.themadmuseum.co.uk)

## Kenilworth Castle

Kenilworth

Kenilworth is one of England's most magnificent castles and is one of the largest historic attractions in the West Midlands. Once standing at the heart of a 1,600-ha (4,000-acre) hunting ground, and surrounded by a vast man-made lake, it represented a rich prize to the generations of royal and almost-royal great men who owned and embellished it: among them Geoffrey de Clinton, John of Gaunt, Henry V, and Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester.

The ruins are best known as the home of Robert Dudley, the great love of Queen Elizabeth I. Dudley created an ornate palace here to impress his Queen in 1575. You can follow in the footsteps of Queen Elizabeth I in the authentically recreated Elizabethan Garden. Lost to the world for over 400 years, it is now open to visitors. Wander through carved arbours and marvel at the bejewelled aviary and marble fountain.

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[www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/kenilworth-castle](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/kenilworth-castle)

## **Shakespeare's Birthplace**

Stratford-upon-Avon

This timber framed town house, where William Shakespeare was born, contains both original and replica artefacts depicting the house as Shakespeare would have known it.



Period Guides, dressed in replica Tudor clothing, welcome you to explore what life was like here in Tudor times. Stroll round the traditional English garden which features many plants and herbs mentioned in Shakespeare's plays and visit the gift shop where every purchase supports and preserves the Shakespeare Houses and Gardens for future generations.

Visitors to the Shakespeare Houses can see and hear his most intriguing characters come alive in the very surroundings which may have inspired them. There are performances throughout the day at Shakespeare's Birthplace.

[www.shakespeare.org.uk](http://www.shakespeare.org.uk)

## **Stratford Armouries**

Stratford-upon-Avon

Stratford Armouries is a truly unique museum and visitor centre set in 86 acres of rolling Warwickshire countryside. The museum houses world-class collection of arms and armour from throughout the centuries and across the globe.

Leonardo Da Vinci's Giant Crossbow, A Life-Size Armoured Horse, German Heinkel III crash relic, Lawrence of Arabia's Rock Crystal Hilted Dagger, Beautiful Artefacts from Shakespeare Birthplace, The National Collection from the British Model Solider Society, The Wellington Aviation Collection, Indian and Persian Talwars.

The museum also hosts a designated outdoor children's playground and an indoor a soft-play area for younger visitors.

[www.stratfordarmouries.com](http://www.stratfordarmouries.com)

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## **Butterfly Farm**

Stratford-upon-Avon

Stratford-upon-Avon's Butterfly Farm is the UK's largest tropical butterfly paradise. Rain or shine, discover many of the world's most beautiful butterflies in an exotic environment of tropical blossom with splashing waterfalls and fish-filled pools. Watch in awe as hundreds of spectacular and vibrantly coloured butterflies fly and feed around you.



See the amazing lifecycle of a butterfly in action in the Caterpillar Room. Some of the world's largest and most camouflaged caterpillars are on show with cocoons, giant silk moths and shining pupae hanging on the plants.

The Butterfly Farm has the largest live insect display in Europe. Observe the fascinating and strange in Insect City where stick insects, beetles and praying mantids. Marvel at the size of giant millipedes, snails and crabs in the mini-beast section. Get close to the deadly and dangerous behind the safety of glass in Arachnoland, home to the world's largest spider and a rainforest scorpion colony.

[www.butterflyfarm.co.uk](http://www.butterflyfarm.co.uk)

## **Hatton Country World**

Nr. Warwick

A fun filled family day out, Hatton adventure farm has farmyard animals, adventure play, children's shows, fun fair rides, and seasonal events throughout the year.

Hatton Adventure Farm has a seasonally changing programme so there is always something new to see and do; from new born lambs at our February Frolics event, Easter Egg and Bunny Hunts, an A-maize-ing Maze in the summer, free pumpkins during our Pumpkin Week and Santa's Grotto at Christmas.



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[www.hattonworld.com](http://www.hattonworld.com)

## **Big Meadow**

Bidford-on-Avon

Take the family for a day of outdoor fun and games at the Big Meadow. Featuring a vast adventure playground and a range of outdoor activities the kids will be spoiled for choice.

The meadow is in a simply stunning setting in rural Warwickshire overlooking the River Avon, with picnic tables and designated seating for outdoor eating,

This huge outdoor space will allow the kids to let off some steam while parents relax and take in the gorgeous scenery knowing the family will be entertained.

The Big Meadow is the perfect place to bring the family for fun filled day out.

[www.bidfordonavon-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bidfordonavon-pc.gov.uk)

## **Suggested Accommodation**

There are a number of accommodation options in Shakespeare's England for families to suit all budgets:-

**Holiday Inn** – Great riverside location in the heart of Stratford upon Avon -  
[www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/gb/en/stratford-upon-avon/sfdua/hoteldetail](http://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/gb/en/stratford-upon-avon/sfdua/hoteldetail)

**Ardencote Manor** – Wonderful manor hotel with sporting and other excellent facilities ideal for families -  
[www.ardencote.com](http://www.ardencote.com)

**Stratford Manor** - A prestigious 4 star hotel in Stratford-upon-Avon, perfect for spa breaks and families  
[www.ghotels.co.uk/Stratford\\_Manor](http://www.ghotels.co.uk/Stratford_Manor)

**Menzies Welcombe** – just outside Stratford-upon-Avon – with on site golf course plus excellent spa and swimming facilities -  
[www.menzieshotels.co.uk/hotels/midlands/stratford-upon-avon-welcombe-hotel-spa-and-golf-club](http://www.menzieshotels.co.uk/hotels/midlands/stratford-upon-avon-welcombe-hotel-spa-and-golf-club)

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**Legacy Falcon Hotel** – in the heart of Stratford-upon-Avon  
[www.legacy-hotels.co.uk/legacy-thefalcon](http://www.legacy-hotels.co.uk/legacy-thefalcon)

**Quilt and Croissants** – a family run guest house in Stratford-upon-Avon -  
[www.quiltcroissants.co.uk](http://www.quiltcroissants.co.uk)

**Courtland** - Courtland is centrally situated at the rear of Shakespeare's birthplace in Stratford-upon-Avon in the heart of Warwickshire. This elegant Georgian town house is ideal for families, tourists, business travellers, horse racing enthusiasts and theatre-goers.  
[www.courtlandhotel.co.uk/](http://www.courtlandhotel.co.uk/)

**For more accommodation ideas visit**  
[www.shakespeares-england.co.uk](http://www.shakespeares-england.co.uk)

**For more information on the details on this itinerary please email**  
[gemma@shakespeares-england.co.uk](mailto:gemma@shakespeares-england.co.uk)

\*Shakespeare's England has endeavoured to provide the correct information about the places contained within this itinerary. All information was correct at the time of print but may be subject to change

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