

ARCHITECTURE RELIGION ART & LITERATURE

A W A R M W E L C O M E



Canterbury Cathedral has a tradition of visitor welcome that reaches back to the days of medieval pilgrimage. To all visitors we extend a warm welcome and hope that they will enjoy

sharing with us the beauty of one of the great holy places of Christendom.

The Cathedral and its history

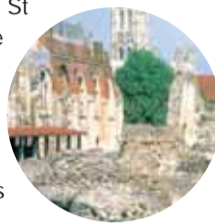
St Augustine, sent by Pope Gregory the Great, arrived in 597 AD as a missionary and became the first Archbishop, establishing his seat (or 'Cathedra') in Canterbury. In 1170 Archbishop Thomas Becket was murdered in the Cathedral and ever since, the Cathedral has attracted thousands of pilgrims, as told most famously in Geoffrey Chaucer's Canterbury Tales.



Today the Cathedral is still very much a working, living church and community, where Services, sung by our world-renowned choir, take place every day and where stonemasons and stained glass conservators continue the tradition of restoring old and adding new. For many millions of Anglicans all over the world the Cathedral is their Mother Church and the place where the Archbishop of Canterbury celebrates and presides over ceremonial Services.

World Heritage Site

Canterbury Cathedral, St Augustine's Abbey and St Martin's Church make up Canterbury's World Heritage Site. St Martin's Church, the building in which Augustine and his followers first worshipped, is the oldest working church in England. The ruins of St Augustine's Abbey include the remains of the monastery where his monks lived and worshipped and where Kentish Kings and the first Archbishops were buried.



The Precincts

The Cathedral is set within its own walled Precincts and surrounded by medieval buildings and ruins. Each building has its own story to tell - from the Water Tower, a Romanesque gem once the centre of the monastic water supply, to the monastery's Granary, Bakery and Brewery now part of King's School. The Chapter House, the largest of its kind in England, with its lofty oak roof and noble seat for the Prior, still stands as a tribute to the monks who assembled here daily to discuss the Cathedral's business and who made the Cathedral into one of the most important churches in the world.

The Nave

One of the most magnificent surviving examples of English Perpendicular Gothic the present Nave was built in the 14th century, taking 28 years to complete and replacing a much smaller Romanesque Nave. Its tall columns rise up to meet in delicate vaulted arches and gilt roof bosses.

The Quire and Trinity Chapel

The Quire was re-built and extended in the 12th century after a disastrous fire destroyed the earlier structure. It housed Thomas Becket's shrine until it was demolished and removed during the Reformation by order of Henry VIII. Beautiful stained glass windows illustrate miracles and stories associated with St Thomas.

The Crypt

The Crypt is the oldest part of the Cathedral and the largest of its period in the country. It dates back to the 11th century and is Romanesque in style. Many of its details survive intact, including traces of contemporary wall painting in St Gabriel's Chapel and an array of carved capitals and decorated columns.

The Martyrdom

Canterbury's role as one of the world's most important pilgrimage centres is inextricably linked with the martyrdom of its most famous Archbishop, Thomas Becket, in 1170. When, after a long lasting dispute, King Henry II is said to have exclaimed 'Who will rid me of this turbulent priest?' four knights set off for Canterbury and murdered Thomas in his own Cathedral. A sword stroke was so violent that it sliced the crown off his skull and shattered the blade's tip on the pavement. The murder took place in what is now known as The Martyrdom. Two years later Thomas was made a saint.



For more information visit: www.canterbury-cathedral.org

Een warm welkom



Al sinds de middeleeuwen biedt de kathedraal van Canterbury een warm welkom aan haar bezoekers. Wij hopen ook u te mogen verwelkomen en wensen u een aangenaam bezoek.

De kathedraal en haar geschiedenis

De kathedraal van Canterbury is de moederkerk van de Anglikaanse Gemeenschap sinds de komst van Augustinus in 597 AD. Augustinus werd gezonden door Paus Gregorius de Grote om hier zijn zetel ('cathedra') te vestigen en de eerste Aartsbisschop te worden. In 1170 werd Aartsbisschop Thomas Becket in de kathedraal vermoord en sindsdien heeft de kathedraal duizenden pelgrims aangetrokken.

De kathedraal staat bekend om haar prachtige glas-in-lood ramen die dateren uit de 12e en 13e eeuw en die wonderen, koninklijke connecties en bijbel verhalen beschrijven. De Crypte, romaans van stijl, dateert uit de 11e eeuw, het Koor uit de 12e eeuw en het Schip uit de 14e eeuw.

Herzlich Willkommen!



Seit den Tagen der mittelalterlichen Pilgerfahrten ist es Tradition der Kathedrale von Canterbury, ihre Besucher willkommen zu heißen. Alle unsere Besucher begrüßen wir herzlich, und hoffen, dass sie ihren Besuch genießen.

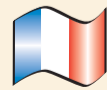
Die Kathedrale und ihre Geschichte

Die Kathedrale von Canterbury ist die Mutterkirche der Anglikanischen Kirche, seit Augustin, der von Papst Gregor dem Großen gesandt wurde, hier im Jahre 597 seinen Sitz (oder "Cathedra") etablierte, und der erste Erzbischof wurde.

Im Jahre 1170 wurde Erzbischof Thomas Becket in der Kathedrale ermordet. Seit dieser Zeit hat die Kathedrale tausende von Pilgern angezogen.

Besonders beachtenswert sind die schönen Farbglasfenster, die größtenteils aus dem 12. und 13. Jahrhundert stammen. Sie stellen Wunderheilungen und Bibelgeschichten dar, und illustrieren Verbindungen zum Königshaus. Die romanische Krypta stammt aus dem 11. Jahrhundert, der Chor aus dem 12. und das Kirchenschiff aus dem 14. Jahrhundert.

Un accueil chaleureux



La Cathédrale de Canterbury a pour tradition d'accueillir chaleureusement tous les visiteurs et ce depuis le temps des pèlerinages médiévaux. Nous vous souhaitons à tous la bienvenue ainsi qu'une bonne visite.

La Cathédrale et son histoire

La Cathédrale de Canterbury est la Mère Eglise de la religion anglicane depuis qu'Augustin, envoyé par le Pape Grégoire le Grand, est arrivé en 597 pour y établir son Siège ('Cathedra') et devenir le premier archevêque de Canterbury.

En 1170, l'archevêque Thomas Becket fut assassiné dans la Cathédrale et depuis ce jour, celle-ci attire des milliers des pèlerins.

La Cathédrale est réputée pour ses magnifiques vitraux datant du 12ème et 13ème siècle qui représentent des miracles, des événements royaux et bibliques. La Crypte romane remonte au 11ème siècle, le Chœur est du 12ème et la Nef du 14ème.

Photographs: Cathedral Enterprises Ltd, D Level, Canterbury City Council

How to get to Canterbury Cathedral

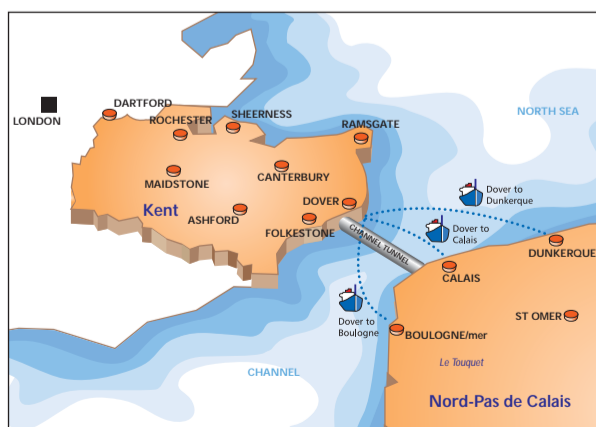
Canterbury is within easy reach of London, the Channel ports and Ashford International/Ebbsfleet stations (Eurostar).

By road Canterbury is easily accessible from both the M2 and M20 motorways. Follow signs to the A2 or Canterbury. Once in the city, follow the tourist information signs for car parks or Cathedral.

Why not take the hassle out of travelling, and visit by train or coach?

By rail Southeastern run regular services direct from London Victoria, London Bridge, Charing Cross, Waterloo East and Dover Priory to Canterbury East or West Stations. Ask for the great value Canterbury Passport which includes rail travel and entrance to four Canterbury attractions. The Cathedral is within easy walking distance from both stations.

By coach National Express run coach services throughout the day between London Victoria and Canterbury. Several tour operators operate a daily service to Canterbury with collection from many London hotels.



Source: © Locate in Kent



Cathedral Offices (open Mon-Fri 09.00-17.00 hrs):
Cathedral House, 11 The Precincts, Canterbury CT1 2EH
Tel: +44 (0) 1227 762862 Fax: +44 (0) 1227 865222/250
Website: www.canterbury-cathedral.org
E-mail: enquiries@canterbury-cathedral.org



EXPLORE DISCOVER CHERISH



VISITOR WELCOME

"HUMANITY WAS NEVER SO HAPPILY INSPIRED
AS WHEN IT MADE A CATHEDRAL"

Robert Louis Stevenson,
1850-1894

WORSHIP PILGRIMAGE LIVING HISTORY

Stained Glass

There can be no doubt that one of the greatest glories of Canterbury Cathedral is its stained glass, and visitors from all over the world wonder at the craftsmanship that dates back to the days of the murder of Thomas Becket. Indeed the collection of 12th and 13th century glass - depicting miracles, royal connections and Bible stories - is the finest in the country.

Tombs

Canterbury Cathedral is rich in monuments and tombs of all periods, including those of Edward the Black Prince and King Henry IV and his wife Joan of Navarre. Other important tombs and effigies include those of several Deans and Archbishops such as the colourful and extravagant tomb of Archbishop Henry Chichele.

Facilities available

Arrangements for advance bookings by groups are made with the Visits Office (adults) and Schools Office (school parties). Bookings for conference facilities, hospitality or accommodation are made with the Cathedral Lodge and Study Centre.

Joint tickets

Save money and combine a visit to the Cathedral with other Canterbury attractions such as The Canterbury Tales Visitor Attraction, St Augustine's Abbey and any of the four Canterbury Museums. Visit the Canterbury Visitor Information Centre to buy your 'Canterbury Passport' or ask the Visits Office for special group rates for joint tickets.

Guided tours

Our guides are experts at making the Cathedral and its rich history come to life and we strongly recommend that you book a tour for your group or join one of the general tours that take place throughout the day (Monday-Saturday).

Guided tours in several languages as well as special tours of an extended or specialised character can be arranged, starting any time between 09.00 and 15.30 hrs (Monday-Friday) and 09.00 and 13.30 hrs (Saturday). There are no guided tours on Sunday.

Only accredited Cathedral guides are permitted to conduct tours in the Cathedral.

Behind-the-scenes tours

Many visitors do not realise that behind-the-scenes some 250 people still go about their daily business, preparing Services, creating beautiful music, restoring the stained glass or conserving unique and rare books and documents, much as the monks did so many years ago.

Groups visiting the Cathedral can now experience these fascinating aspects of Cathedral life. Special tailor-made packages can be arranged to visit the Cathedral's priceless archives and rare books library, learn more about stained glass conservation, view the beautiful church vestments, visit the organ-loft or observe the skills of stone masons. Please note that these facilities are very popular and limited to a certain number.

Alternatively you may like to book special tours or lectures on topics such as stained glass, architecture, music, heraldry or monastic buildings.

Audiovisual

A short film in several languages, lasting 15 minutes, provides an introduction to a visit (pre-booked groups only).

Audiotours

Audiotours, available in 7 languages, lasting 40 minutes are available inside the main entrance.

Pilgrimages

We welcome many church and pilgrimage groups to the Cathedral and would be pleased to discuss special requirements for Services or guided tours.

School Parties

The Schools Department, working within the National Curriculum, provides high calibre resources and support to visiting school groups and teachers from infant to secondary, enabling them to interpret the building and enhance the quality of their visit. Facilities range from guided tours, themed trails and project work to a wide selection of specialised educational publications.

Facilities for the disabled

These include toilets, ramps, wheelchairs, a touch and hearing system and a lift. Download our Access Statement or Facilities for Disabled leaflet from our website www.canterbury-cathedral.org or ask staff. Assistance and/or full information is available on arrival from the Welcome Centre.

Clergy availability

Chaplains are on duty in the Cathedral at certain times. Otherwise a priest is always available and any Cathedral official will help to locate him/her.

The Cathedral Shop

A large range of guidebooks, publications, souvenirs and gifts to suit every pocket is available. The main shop is situated at the exit from the Precincts and there are several sale points in the Cathedral. A mail order service and catalogue are available. www.cathedral-enterprises.co.uk

Concerts

Various orchestral and choral concerts as well as occasional dramatic productions are held in the Cathedral throughout the year. For information on using the Cathedral as a venue, contact the Events Co-ordinator.

Tickets for concerts are normally available from Canterbury Bookings Ltd, tel. +44 (0) 1227 378188.

Photography and Filming

Photography is permitted (except in the Crypt) - but for your personal use only. Any commercial/stock library photography must be agreed in advance and is subject to a fee. Arrangements must be made in advance through the Events Co-ordinator.

Archives/Library

The Archives and Library are open to the public for research by appointment, Monday-Thursday 09.00-17.00 hrs and on the first and third Saturdays of the month 09.00-13.00 hrs.

Parking

Parking is not possible within the Precincts except for a very limited provision for disabled drivers, by prior arrangement.



Canterbury Cathedral Lodge and Study Centre

This modern conference centre offers some of the best conference facilities in the South East. Exclusive, private, secure and flexible, with a dedicated professional team that can tailor arrangements to suit your specific requirements. From a 250 delegate meeting in the auditorium to an exclusive banquet for 200 in the



Chapter House (600 years old), from a director's meeting in the library to a 5 day residential conference, we can deliver. All meeting rooms overlook lawns or gardens and most have views of the Cathedral, lending themselves to motivational and inspirational team building. Perfect for conferences, business meetings and team building events, we have flexible packages that can help you achieve the best from all your delegates.

www.canterburycathedrallodge.org

Accommodation

There is so much to see in Canterbury, you will need days to explore it all, so why not stay overnight in the grounds of the Cathedral itself?

Canterbury Cathedral Lodge offers first-class, modern accommodation in the precincts with stunning Cathedral views, only 2 minutes from the city centre, shops, restaurants, bars and cafés.

www.canterburycathedrallodge.org

For information on conference centre facilities, hospitality or accommodation, telephone +44 (0) 1227 865350 or email stay@canterbury-cathedral.org.

Booking procedure

- Telephone the Schools or Visits Office to check availability and opening times. The Cathedral is a working church and access is restricted at times for Services and special events.
- Complete and return the booking form together with a 10% deposit (UK groups only).
- If you have booked a guided tour and numbers vary, confirm final numbers nearer the time.
- Please telephone (Mon-Fri +44 (0)1227 762862, Sat/Sun +44 (0)1227 865279) if the group is delayed. Guides are booked for specific tours and will wait for 15 minutes unless they know the group is delayed.
- If we do not receive one full day's notice of cancellation a charge will be made.
- Please aim to arrive at Christ Church Gate at least 10 minutes before the scheduled start of activities.

General Visiting Times

Weekdays	Summer	09.00-17.30* hrs
	Winter	09.00-17.00* hrs
	The Crypt	10.00-17.00*/17.30* hrs

Sundays	Throughout the year, including the Crypt
	12.30-14.30* hrs

*Except for Services, there is a charge to enter the precincts. Details of exemptions from the Visits Office. *Last entry 1/2 hr prior to closing time*

Service Times

Sundays	
Holy Communion	08.00 hrs
Matins said (or sung by the King's School)	09.30 hrs
Sung Eucharist	11.00 hrs
Choral Evensong	15.15 hrs
Evening Service	18.30 hrs
Weekdays	
Matins	07.30 hrs (09.30 hrs Sat)
Holy Communion	
Daily	08.00 hrs
Wednesday	11.15 hrs
Thursday	18.15 hrs
Major Saints' Days (sung)	11.15 hrs
Choral Evensong	17.30 hrs (15.15 hrs Sat)

Arrangements at the Cathedral may vary at times without prior notice.

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The Cathedral is the essence of Canterbury, but the city is multi-faceted, containing all the elements of a modern and vibrant cultural centre.

Restaurants, pubs, nightclubs and live music venues underpin the city's endless appeal. Theatregoers have the choice of the city centre's renowned Marlowe Theatre or the Gulbenkian Theatre at the University of Kent at Canterbury, while every October, the Canterbury Festival invigorates the city with music and arts rarely seen out of London.

The city is best explored on foot, and visitors who take the time to walk the maze of intriguing side streets will find a rich variety of specialist shops, welcoming cafés and pubs in which to relax. Alternatively take a stroll along the banks of the River Stour as it passes through the city.

You will fall in love with this beautiful city where the present keeps in step with the past... After all, Canterbury is simply inspirational.

For more information on Canterbury and its countryside, contact the Canterbury Information Centre, +44 (0) 1227 378100, visit the Canterbury website, www.canterbury.co.uk or the Kent website, www.visitkent.co.uk