



VISIT LEEDS

WHAT'S ON

Autumn 2026 Edition

*love*LEEDS*longer*

Temple Newsam c. Sophie Boswell

LEEDS

Exhibitions

Audrey Hepburn by Cecil Beaton, 1963 © Cecil Beaton Archive. Conde Nast

SAT SUN
22 MAY to 04 OCT

GARTH EVANS: THE ANTI-VIRUS SCULPTURES

Leeds Art Gallery

British sculptor Garth Evans (b. 1934) began the Anti-Virus Sculptures during the first Covid lockdown in his home in Connecticut, USA. Curated by Sam Cornish, this is the first solo exhibition dedicated to these small-scale plaster sculptures.

museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk

SAT SUN
13 JUN to 04 OCT

CECIL BEATON: STAGING ICONS

Harewood House

Step into the glamorous world of Cecil Beaton, the legendary photographer who captured some of the most iconic figures of the 20th century, from Hollywood legends (including Audrey Hepburn, Marilyn Monroe, and Fred Astaire) and stars of the West End to the British royal family. harewood.org

FRI SUN
26 JUN to 01 NOV

GENGHIS KHAN: HOW THE MONGOLS CHANGED THE WORLD

Royal Armouries

Be one of the first to see international blockbuster exhibition Genghis Khan: How the Mongols Changed the World at its UK premiere. Discover the story of how the unstoppable force of Genghis Khan overcame exile, murder and betrayal to unite his people and rule over an empire that stretched from Europe to China, through 250 rare and exciting objects.

royalarmouries.org

WED SUN
30 SEP to 10 JAN

SAGARIKA SUNDARAM

Henry Moore Institute

Discover the striking felt sculptures of artist Sagarika Sundaram, where vibrant colours, rich textures and unexpected forms transform wool and silk into bold works of art. Inspired by both the human body and architecture, these immersive pieces invite visitors to look closer and uncover hidden shapes beneath the surface.

henry-moore.org

FRI SUN
02 OCT to 20 JUN 2027

IT TAKES A COMMUNITY

Leeds City Museum

Celebrate 20 years of community partnership across Leeds Museums and Galleries with a vibrant new exhibition bringing together the many groups, collaborators and creatives who've shaped our museums over the past two decades.

museumsandgalleries

FRI SUN
06 NOV to 25 APR 2027

RESISTANCE – HOW PROTEST SHAPED BRITAIN AND PHOTOGRAPHY SHAPED PROTEST

Leeds Art Gallery museumsandgalleries

Leeds Art Gallery proudly present Steve McQueen: Resistance – How Protest Shaped Britain and Photography Shaped Protest, an exhibition conceived by acclaimed artist and filmmaker Steve McQueen. This thought-provoking exhibition explores how acts of resistance have shaped life in the UK and the powerful role photography has played in both documenting and driving change.

LEEDS

September 2026

Leeds International Beer Festival c. Daniel Johnson

SEP 26 to APR 27 Check website for home fixture dates.

LEEDS KNIGHTS NIHL NATIONAL DIVISION

Planet Ice

Leading UK Ice Hockey team Leeds Knights play at home at Planet Ice in Leeds, to compete in the Planet Ice National Ice Hockey League 2026/2027.

leedsknights.com

TUE WED
01 to 30 SEP

SCALAMARA FESTIVAL

Various Venues

A month-long celebration of independent, alternative and classic cinema, featuring screenings, special events and film-themed experiences across the city. scalaramaleeds.co.uk

TUE SAT
01 to 05 SEP

HEATHERS THE MUSICAL

Leeds Grand Theatre

Following smash hit runs in London, New York and three record-breaking UK & Ireland tours, Heathers the Musical is coming to Leeds. Based on the iconic movie starring Winona Ryder and Christian Slater, Heathers the Musical is wickedly funny, deliciously dark and full of big fun! leedsheritagetheatres.com

THU SUN
03 to 06 SEP

LEEDS INTERNATIONAL BEER FESTIVAL

Kirkstall Abbey

Set against the historic backdrop of Kirkstall Abbey, the Leeds International Beer Festival offers a unique blend of world-class craft beer, delicious street food and live entertainment. It's one of the region's must-visit events for beer lovers and those looking for a memorable day out. leedsbeer.com

MON SAT
07 to 12 SEP

OPERATION MINCEMEAT

Leeds Grand Theatre

Singin' in the Rain meets Strangers on a Train. Operation Mincemeat is the fast-paced, hilarious and unbelievable true story of the twisted secret mission that won us World War II. See the 2024 Olivier Award-winning Best New Musical and London's biggest hit with 113 Five-Star reviews, making it the best-reviewed show in West End history. leedsheritagetheatres.com

SAT SUN
12 to 13 SEP

DOG FEST ON THE FARM

Harewood House

DogFest on the Farm is a high-energy, dog-first celebration. Watch expert sheepdogs in action and give your own dog a chance to take part in fun, welfare-led activities for all abilities.

dogfest.co.uk

FRI SAT
11 to 26 SEP

AUGUST WILSON'S FENCES

Leeds Playhouse

Directed by the award-winning Daniel Bailey (Red Pitch, West End). From one of America's most influential 20th-century writers, this is a story of ambition for our time. leedsplayhouse.org.uk



c. Dog Fest

TUE SAT
15 to 19 SEP

THE BALLAD OF JOHNNY AND JUNE

Leeds Grand Theatre

Johnny Cash. June Carter. Two voices that changed music forever. The Ballad of Johnny and June is a brand-new musical that brings the remarkable true story of country music's most iconic couple to the stage. leedsheritagetheatres.com



Christina Bianco & Christopher Ryan c. Pamela Raith

THU
24 SEP

ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL MEN'S CRICKET: ENGLAND V SRI LANKA

Headingley Stadium

Experience world-class international cricket as England take on Sri Lanka in a One Day International at the iconic Headingley Stadium. With its electric atmosphere, excellent sightlines, easy transport links and renowned matchday buzz, Headingley offers the perfect setting for an unforgettable day of sporting action. yorkshireccc.com

THU
24 SEP

MAISIE ADAM: WHATSHERFACE

Leeds Grand Theatre

Straight off the back of Taskmaster, A League Of Their Own, and Last One Laughing, Maisie Adam is back with her brand-new show Whatsherface. Join the "tall, chaotic one with the weird hair" as she returns with her trademark wit, firecracker gags, and probably a few angry outbursts along the way. leedsheritagetheatres.com



Leeds Grand Theatre c. Chris Coote

SAT
26 SEP

JANE MCDONALD

first direct bank arena

National treasure, singing sensation and local lass Jane McDonald is coming back to her home county of Yorkshire in 2026 on her 'Living The Dream' UK tour, returning to Leeds for the 5th time for her closing show. firstdirectbankarena.com

SAT
26 SEP

SLURPFEST

City-wide

A city-wide celebration of Leeds' independent coffee scene, with over 30 venues bringing tastings, workshops, events and experiences for coffee enthusiasts. Plus the chance to win prizes along the city-wide coffee trail. instagram.com/slurpfestuk



Headingley Stadium c. SWPix Allan McKenzie



c. North Star Coffee Roasters

LEEDS

October 2026

Temple Newsam c. Leeds Museums & Galleries

FRI FRI
02 to 18 OCT (Selected weekend dates between 2nd-18th October)

THE GHOSTS OF TEMPLE NEWSAM TOUR

Temple Newsam

Discover the darker side of Leeds at the Ghosts of Temple Newsam Tour, where chilling tales of haunted hallways, mysterious sightings and historic legends bring one of England's most impressive stately homes to life after dark. This atmospheric guided experience combines history, heritage and a touch of the supernatural for a truly memorable visit.

museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk

TUE
06 OCT

WESTLIFE: THE ANNIVERSARY TOUR

first direct bank arena

Westlife are returning to first direct bank arena, Leeds as part of their 25th-Anniversary celebrations tour. Don't miss out on an evening of fan favourites including 'You Raise Me Up,' 'Uptown Girl,' and 'Flying Without Wings' alongside new single written by Ed Sheeran 'Chariot.'

firstdirectbankarena.com

FRI SAT
09 OCT to 21 NOV

LEEDS OPERA NORTH SEASON

Leeds Grand Theatre

Experience the magic of world-class opera with Opera North, one of the UK's leading opera companies. From timeless classics such as Rigoletto, Don Giovanni and Eugene Onegin to powerful contemporary productions including Dead Man Walking, visitors can enjoy breathtaking performances, stunning sets and exceptional live music in one of Leeds' most beautiful historic theatres.

operanorth.co.uk

SAT
24 OCT

DURAN DURAN

first direct bank arena

Music legends Duran Duran are heading to first direct bank arena, Leeds for a spectacular live show, bringing decades of chart-topping hits, legendary performances and unmistakable style to Leeds.

firstdirectbankarena.com

FRI SUN
09 OCT to 01 NOV

LEEDS SCARE MAZE

Heaton's Court, Lower Briggate

Experience one of Leeds' most thrilling Halloween attractions at Leeds Scare Maze, the city's first immersive scare maze located in the heart of the city centre. Featuring live actors, cinematic sets and unexpected twists around every corner, this adrenaline-fuelled experience transforms a hidden venue on Lower Briggate into a terrifying journey through darkness, suspense and horror.

leedsscaremaze.co.uk



c. Leeds Scare Maze

TUE SUN
06 to 10 OCT

LEEDS INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF IDEAS

Leeds Playhouse

Experience five days of inspiring conversation, big ideas and world-renowned speakers at the Leeds International Festival of Ideas (LIFI). Featuring headline names including Louis Theroux, Tim Minchin, Elizabeth Day, Chris Packham, James O'Brien and Dame Evelyn Glennie, the festival brings together leading voices from across culture, politics, science and society for a thought-provoking programme unlike any other in the UK.

leedsinternationalfestival.com



Leeds International Festival of Ideas c. Tom Martin

FRI
16 OCT

THE UNDERTONES 50TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW + THE BEAT FT RANKING JR

Project House

Enjoy a night of classic British music at Leeds' unique Project House venue as legendary bands The Undertones and The Beat take to the stage. Packed with iconic hits and infectious energy, it's the perfect excuse for a city break combining great live music, food, nightlife and culture. dice.fm

FRI SUN
23 to 25 OCT

OUTDOOR CINEMA AT HAREWOOD HOUSE

Harewood House

Experience the magic of outdoor cinema in the stunning surroundings of Harewood. Bring a blanket, sit back, and enjoy family-friendly films and live performances under the stars. Enjoy cult Halloween classics – The Lost Boys (23 Oct), Hocus Pocus (24 Oct) and Scream (25 Oct). harewood.org

WED THU
28 & 29 OCT

LIGHT NIGHT LEEDS

City-wide

See Leeds in a whole new light at Light Night Leeds, the UK's largest annual arts and light festival. For two magical October evenings, the city centre is transformed with spectacular illuminated artworks, interactive installations and captivating performances, creating an unforgettable experience for visitors of all ages. millsqleeds.com



c. Harewood House Trust



Light Night c. Lizzie Coombes

LEEDS

November 2026

Leeds International Film Festival c. Daniel Johnson

THU SUN
29 OCT to 15 NOV

LEEDS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL *City-wide*

Immerse yourself in the magic of cinema at the 40th Leeds International Film Festival (LIFF), one of the UK's largest and most respected film festivals. Taking place across the city, the festival brings together world premieres, award-winning international films, independent discoveries, documentaries, animation and cult favourites in some of Leeds' most distinctive cinema venues.

leedsfilm.com

SUN
01 NOV

JALEN NGONDA *O2 Academy Leeds*

Discover one of the most exciting new voices in contemporary soul as Jalen Ngonda takes to the stage at Project House. With a sound inspired by classic Motown and soul legends, combined with his own modern style, this intimate live performance promises an unforgettable evening for music lovers.

dice.fm

TUE SUN
03 to 07 NOV

SIX: THE MUSICAL *Leeds Grand Theatre*

The crowning glory of Broadway, the West End and beyond, the international smash-hit musical *SIX* makes its royal return to Leeds following four sell-out visits!

leedsheritagetheatres.com

FRI SAT
06 & 07 NOV

YARD ACT PLUS GUESTS *O2 Academy Leeds*

Since first steering their golden rover into swift public acclaim back in 2020, Leeds quartet Yard Act have become one of the great UK indie success stories of the decade so far. academymusicgroup.com

MON
09 NOV

TEENAGE FAN CLUB *Project House*

Experience an evening with one of Britain's most beloved alt rock bands as Teenage Fanclub bring their signature blend of melodic guitar-pop and acclaimed songwriting to Project House.

dice.fm

TUE SUN
10 to 29 NOV

MRS. DOUBTFIRE *Leeds Grand Theatre*

Mrs. Doubtfire, the West End's hit comedy musical, based on the beloved film, is coming to Leeds. This 'genuinely funny' (Time Out) show features all the iconic moments you love, plus fabulous new songs and dazzling dance numbers! Put it all together, and you've got a 'surefire hit' (Telegraph, Daily Express) that can't be missed.

leedsheritagetheatres.com

SAT
28 NOV

BILL BAILEY *first direct bank arena*

A true original in the world of comedy, Bill is known for blending stand-up with musical inventiveness, sharp observations and brilliantly surreal detours. His unique style has made him one of the UK's most loved performers, with a career spanning TV, film, radio and countless sell-out tours.

firstdirectbankarena.com

LEEDS

December 2026

c. Thors Tipi

TUE
01 DEC

THE POGUES

02 Academy Leeds

Celebrate the music of The Pogues at 02 Academy Leeds on 1 December 2026, as original band members and special guests perform the greatest hits that defined a generation. From rousing folk-punk anthems to timeless singalongs.

academymusicgroup.com

THU
03 DEC

MIRIAM MARGOLYES

Leeds Grand Theatre

Join national treasure Miriam Margolyes at Leeds Grand Theatre for an evening of laughter, stories and unapologetic honesty. Combining sharp humour, fascinating anecdotes and a no-holds-barred conversation with the audience, Miriam's Full English promises an unforgettable night in the heart of Leeds.

leedsheritagetheatres.com

Your LEEDS Christmas starts here...

Leeds Christmas Markets

19 November to 23 December visitleeds.co.uk

Magic at The Mansion at Harewood House

6 November to 3 January harewood.org

Northern Lights Leeds at Temple Newsam

20 November to 31 December northernlightsleeds

Lotherton Christmas Experience

21 November 2026 to 3 January 2027 leedstickethub

With much more to announce soon! Leeds is the most magical place to be this Christmas.

We're a city that loves to entertain, with a jam-packed event programme all year round. Please note that the information contained in this document isn't an exhaustive list of the events in the annual Leeds calendar. To find out more about all the events taking place in Leeds this year, please visit: visitleeds.co.uk/whats-on

VISITLEEDS



Search Visit Leeds



Harewood House c. Sophie Boswell

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