

VISIT BATH'S GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON AND WHAT'S NEW IN 2025

March 2025 - Press Release





Images I-r: Portrait of David Hockney in a Hollywood Spanish Interior 1965, copyright Peter Blake (Holburne exhibition), Jane Austen Festival, Robbie Williams at The Royal Crescent

From celebrating the 250th birthday of one of the world's best-selling authors, to an iconic performance from Robbie Williams on the lawn of the Royal Crescent and a brand-new event to spotlight the city's restaurant scene, 2025 is gearing up to be an exciting year!

Events and Festivals

Austen 250

In 2025, Bath celebrates Austen 250 – the 250th anniversary of the famous former resident novelist's birthday - with a packed programme of events, exhibitions, talks, tours, trails, themed hotel packages and the Jane Austen Festival who present 4 themed balls: three in the summer and a special Yuletide birthday ball at Christmas.

*Events, experiences and celebrations will take place throughout 2025, and further information and updates will be added to www.austen250.co.uk

New! Bath Movies at the Museums

March 2025

Venture into a new film setting with **Movie at the Museum**, an exciting new addition to **Curious Minds:** A **festival to ignite ideas**. Taking place throughout the month of March, **FilmBath** and **Archaeo-Heritage Film** will be hosting unique screenings in historic buildings throughout the city. With every film tailored to each museum's collection and heritage, this is an exciting chance to engage with Bath's history in an entirely new way. From architecture and bottle factories to cowboys and Japanese tea ceremonies, there's something for everybody in this exploration of local historic sites. Films include Strange Way of Life (2023), The Personal History of David Copperfield (2019) and Architecton (2024).

Movie at the Museum - Visit Bath

New! Bath Restaurant Week

3-11 May 2025

Celebrating the city's food and drink scene with a week of special experiences, food and drink offers and new menus. Launching on the 7 April with a special Waiters Race along the iconic Royal Crescent.

Bath Restaurant Week | 3rd to 11th May 2025

Royal Crescent Concert 13 & 14 June 2025

Excitement is mounting as Bath looks forward to welcoming Robbie Williams to perform two open-air gigs in front of the iconic Royal Crescent.

Robbie Williams Live at the Royal Crescent - Visit Bath

Ralph Fiennes at the Theatre Royal Bath

This summer, Harry Potter and James Bond star Ralph Fiennes will take over the Theatre Royal for his own season of shows during the summer of 2025. The programme will include a blend of new and old, including original play Grace Pervades, and a production of Shakespeare's classic As You Like It.

As You Like It - Ralph Fiennes Season at Theatre Royal Bath - Visit Bath

Bath Music Festival and Bath Literature Festival

17 – 25 May 2025

The Bath Festival, the city's biggest and oldest arts festival, returns this May! This year, the event will consist of two individual festivals: the Bath Music Festival and Bath Literature Festival, running alongside each other from Saturday 17 to Sunday 25 May 2025. The festival will open with the traditional 'Party in the City' on Friday 16 May, featuring live music from bands, choirs, and solo musicians at dozens of venues, all for free.

The Bath Music Festival - Visit Bath

Exhibitions

Mirror & Mirth: Rowlandson & Nixon Satirise at Victoria Art Gallery

24 Jan – 24 April 2025

This exhibition will include the finest satirical works in the Victoria Art Gallery collection, including Rowlandson's celebrated 'Comforts of Bath' series, a boisterous survey of the activities offered in the city. There will also be an opportunity to see the teasing observational sketches of Nixon, the gentler alternative to Rowlandson's scathing send-ups. Mirror of Mirth: Rowlandson & Nixon Satirise Bath at Victoria Art Gallery - Visit Bath

Iconic: Portraiture from Francis Bacon to Andy Warhol at the Holburne Museum 24 Jan – 5 May 2025

Featuring major names of 20th century art including Francis Bacon, Peter Blake, Pauline Boty, Richard Hamilton, Gerhard Richter and Andy Warhol, *Iconic: Portraiture from Francis Bacon to Andy Warhol* brings rarely seen works together to explore the ways artists are inspired by photography. The exhibition focuses on the period in the mid-20th century, particularly the 1960s, when many artists began to use photographs as sources for paintings. Iconic: Portraiture from Francis Bacon to Andy Warhol - The Holburne Museum

New Tours

New! Dining Tour with In and Beyond Bath

Running until April 2025 but bespoke tours can be organised Our 'Dining Tours' combine delectable dining experiences around the Bath region, with stories, drinks and laughter at some of the areas most evocative historic inns & eateries. Escape the city for an adventure into the culture, and cuisine of characterful England.

Dining Tour from Bath - Foodie Experiences | In & Beyond Bath

New! Afternoon Tea Tour with Savouring Bath

On this brand-new afternoon tea experience, you'll enjoy a guided tour of the city, followed by your choice of a 'Georgian' or 'Luxury' themed afternoon tea in one of Bath's gorgeous eateries. The tour itself can be tailored for your tastes, whether you're interested in Jane Austen's links to the city, Bath's starring role in film and TV, the city during the 18th century, or a more general overview.

Savouring Bath - Visit Bath

New! Women's SUP Packing Weekends with Wild Swim Bike Run July and August 2025

Wild Swim Bike Run offers a unique paddleboarding adventure along the breathtaking southern Cotswold waterways. Beginning in Bath this social and immersive experience includes a stay at a campsite near Bradford on Avon. On day 2, the journey continues along the River Avon and culminates with a spectacular finale as participants paddle back into Bath Along the route, paddlers will navigate portages, weirs, and exciting water races, guided by a qualified white-water coach. With planned stops at cafés and pubs, the weekend feels like a refreshing getaway.

Women's SUP Packing Weekends - Bath & Cotswolds - Visit Bath

Bath 2025 Hotel News

Parade Park Hotel is set to reopen as a luxury hotel under Providence Hotels in the summer, while The Francis Hotel, Bath Priory and No. 15 by Guesthouse all have refurbishments taking place in 2025. The Francis Hotel will also see the addition of a new luxury spa.

Seen on Screen - Starring Bath!

An adaption of Agatha Christie's The Seven Dials Mystery, filmed in Bath and starring Martin Freeman will land on Netflix in 2025.

More 2025/26 Events and Festivals

<u>Silent discos</u> will run at the Roman Baths in February, followed by the Curious Minds festival in March, Bath Comedy Festival in April, <u>The Bath Festival</u>, and **new** <u>Bath Restaurant Week</u> in May, <u>Iford Manor Jazz Festival</u> in June, <u>Festival of Nature in June</u>, <u>Bath Carnival</u> in July, The <u>Foodies Festival</u> in August, <u>The Jane Austen Festival</u> and <u>Children's Literature Festival</u> in September, Film Bath and Bath Mozart Festival in October and <u>Bath Christmas Market</u> in November and December. Bath's wellness festival <u>ReBalance Bath</u> will return for its 4th year at the end of January 2026.

For further images, information and press trip enquiries contact: <u>emma.frayling@visitwest.co.uk</u>

Notes to editors:

About Visit West: The VisitEngland accredited official Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP) for Bristol, Bath & North East Somerset, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset. It supports the visitor economy of the region which is worth £2.13billion and supports 41,000 jobs. Visit West operates the Meet Bristol & Bath Convention Bureau and the Visit Bath and Visit Bristol consumer websites. https://www.visitwest.co.uk/