

MALVERN ESSENTIALS

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



Introduction

Malvern is the gateway to the Malvern Hills, an **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty** which attracts thousands of walkers and tourists each year. Often seen as a place for the elderly, it can be difficult to know where to go if you are more into rock bands than rocking chairs, but this guide is here to put that right. Co-designed with students from **Dyson Perrins CoE**, we have compiled a list of suggestions to keep you entertained and fed throughout the year.

HANDY CODE

Want to know whether a place is right for you in a few seconds? Then study our key below to help you make quick and informed decisions:

- good to do with friends £ costs less than £5
- good to do with family ££ costs under £15
- free wifi £££ is over £15

Along Church Street and around Belle Vue Terrace you can benefit from 2 hours free wifi supplied from the Tourist Information Centre. Simply enter some details and away you go!

WHEN TO GO

Malvern gives you amazing views all year round. Whilst traditionally it is livelier in the summer as the (mythical) British sun makes long hikes on the hills more appealing, the town itself has much to offer throughout the year, and the views of the surroundings on a clear crisp autumnal day are second to none. If you are lucky enough to live here, then we encourage you to go out and explore what is on your doorstep throughout the year;

SPRING: The **Water Festival and Well Dressing Weekend** is usually on the first Bank Holiday weekend in May. Full of rubber inflatables, beautifully decorated wells and a person getting doused in water as part of the **Water Cure Re-enactment**, this is a must on your to do list!

SUMMER: The outdoor cinema screenings in local parks are always a huge hit, and there are lots of local events to keep you entertained such as **Civic Week** in June.

AUTUMN: The **Autumn Festival** in Malvern is perfect for culture lovers, and the **Festival of Innovation** has a whole host of free activities which can excite your inner **Einstein**.

WINTER: The beautiful Christmas decorations are well worth a look, and the official Christmas festival has everything needed to make you feel festive and celebrate this happy time of year.



GREAT MALVERN

1 PRIORY PARK Free
This historic park is a great place to stroll around and see nature at its most beautiful. Linking back to **Great Malvern Priory**, when it used to be part of their grounds, this park is full of beautiful birds and flowers, especially in summer. Why not bring some friends and have a picnic?

HINT

On some Saturdays in the summer there are alternate bands playing for free in the park. With everything from rock bands to jazz, be sure to check out the schedule on Malvern Town Council's website.

2 MALVERN SPLASH £
On the site of a former open air pool, Malvern Splash is a great place to hang out with your friends whilst getting fit. With a beach, flume and wave machine this pool is a great place to have fun at the weekend or during half term, and its super spirally slide adds just the right level of excitement. Why not have a well earned hot drink at the indoor Costa Coffee afterwards?

3 MALVERN THEATRES ££
Famous throughout the Midlands this is one of Malvern's cultural gems where you can see some of the best theatre shows in the country. Originally the site opened in 1885 as part of the **Assembly Rooms**, with many 'greats' visiting it during its famous Malvern Drama Festivals between 1929 and 1939. Follow in the footsteps of **Jenny Lind**, **Edward Elgar**, **Sir Barry Jackson** and **Sir Bernard Shaw** all of whom have

4 PARSONS £
All great towns have a trusty bakery, and Malvern is no different! Parsons is a firm favourite amongst local youngsters, with their tasty pies and good value meal deals making it perfect for a quick lunch on the go.
Local Hint: Cakes and sweet treats are often reduced after 2pm – keep your eyes peeled for great deals!

5 MALVERN MUSEUM £
Got some local history homework? Looking for a uniquely Malvern gift? Or looking for something to do to entertain you during the long summer holidays? Then if so, we recommend you visit Malvern Museum and its shop. Situated in the Priory Gatehouse this historic landmark has not only survived Henry VIII, but also the collision with an ice-cream truck...

6 GREAT MALVERN PRIORY Free
This beautiful and historic church is a must for all art lovers. From some of the finest stained glass windows in the country, to stunning architecture, it is a great place to find peace when life gets chaotic. We also love the misericord seats... what's the cheekiest one you can find?

frequented this site, and who knows, maybe some of their artistic talent will rub off on you!

HINT

The theatres is home to Malvern's only cinema. In 1923 **The Malvern Picture House** was added, and the site has been playing the best films for nearly 100 years. It also has plenty of classes (singing, dance, drama) which you may want to book onto!

7 CRUSTY COB £
Another popular choice amongst the town's younger audiences, this small shop offers a wide range of tasty and cheap baguettes. With friendly service and a convenient location, it is the perfect pit stop during a busy Saturday morning! P.S. The **Spicy Cheese** was a particular favourite amongst our young co-writers.

8 ROSE BANK GARDEN Free
This is one of the best places to go in Malvern for selfies with a view. Based at the top of the town, these gardens used to belong to the house of **Charles Dyson Perrins** (the grandson of the **Lea and Perrins Worcestershire Sauce** inventor). With spectacular views of Malvern and plenty of bird sculptures for artistic photographs, snap away with your friends and capture some great scenery to impress your Instagram followers. The 99 steps also lead up to the hills if you fancy getting even higher for some better views.

9 MALVERN LIBRARY £
Is it a rainy day? Fancy grabbing some resources for homework or a film night? Then head to **Malvern Library** to hire thrilling books and comics, DVDs and CD's. Why not stop a bit longer and use one of their 38 public computers, or use their free wifi to chat to your friends.

TOP HINT

Visit their café downstairs for the cheapest organic teas/coffees and sweet treats you'll find in Malvern. They also have an exhibition space here which has some really cool art work!

10 MALVERN CUBE £-££
Originally a youth centre, **Malvern Cube** has become a dynamic part of local life. With artistic clubs and courses for people of all ages, regular film nights, a lively music and drama programme, as well as a volunteer run café, it is the perfect place to hang out with friends over a hot drink and some cake. Why not choose one of their vinyls to play or have a look at enrolling on one of their courses? Also, pick up a copy of **Slap Magazine**, which lists all the local arts events and gigs happening in the area.

5 MINUTES OF HISTORY

Below is a whistle stop tour of Malvern's unique history. Take a minute to appreciate its mightiness, and try and remember a fact or two to impress any non local visitors you may have. (Or your history teacher. You may need to get in their good books at some point).

650 MILLION YEARS AGO: The Malvern Hills formed from molten rock or lava which was

thrust to the surface from deep within the earth's crust.

300 MILLION YEARS AGO: Huge forces raised the rocks to their present height. Softer, sedimentary deposits were eroded away, leaving the harder rock and giving the hills their current profile. Pure spring water flowed from over 100 wells around the hills.

1860 AD: The railway arrives in Great Malvern joining the town to the national railway network and attracting wealthy patients to the Water Cure, helping with Malvern's development.

11 PIZZA FIESTA

Having friends round? Need a cheap deal to feed their hungry mouths? Then look no further! Pizza Fiesta offers a range of delicious pizzas and takeaway deals. It does have limited seating, so we recommend using it as a takeaway, especially during lunchtime when lunch deals are in great demand.

12 MCKENZIES

For all the meat lovers this is a must when visiting Malvern (as well as for vegetarians—their veggie burgers are also something to brag about). Open over lunch and in the evening their food is a treat for the tastebuds, and if you fancy a hearty challenge we recommend **The Three Little Pigs!**

13 CHOCOLATE AVENUE

For the days when things are just not going your way, this is the ultimate 'make yourself feel better' shop. With some of the most delicious chocolates available, there is something for every budget and every chocolate lover. If you are feeling generous why not buy one of their customised boxes as a gift for someone special?

14 SWEET STREET

With over 350 traditional pick 'n' mix sweets, imported European liquorice and a fabulous range of American goodies, this is a hidden gem right in the heart of Great Malvern. It has every flavour of Fanta you can think of (as well as some you won't know) and it has a sugar free range for those of you who have maxed out their sugar limit for the week.

15 CARNIVAL RECORDS

This is one of Malvern's best kept secrets. Tucked down an alley off the main street this is a 'vinyl junkies' dream with hundreds of records for you to browse and select. Described as a 'physical shop in a digital world' it is the optimum place to buy tracks for your dj sets. Its courtyard often hosts free gigs and other events, usually in aid of charity.

16 MALVINHA

It's hard work walking around Great Malvern... who'd have thought it would be so hilly! If you need a nice refreshing drink that won't break your budget, why not try water from this stylish fountain? Coming straight from the hills and out of this Celtic princesses' jug you can taste the water that is famous for containing absolutely nothing at all!

800 BC: Iron Age forts are built on the hills.

1085 (ish) AD: Great Malvern Priory was founded by Benedictine Monks under the rule of Westminster Abbey.

1842 AD: The Water Cure is established in Great Malvern by Dr James Wilson and Dr James Gully.

1860 AD: The railway arrives in Great Malvern joining the town to the national railway network and attracting wealthy patients to the Water Cure, helping with Malvern's development.

1887-89 AD: Santler of Malvern Link produces the first motor car in Britain.

1905 AD: The Water Cure declines in popularity as a treatment in Malvern.

1929 AD: The Malvern Drama Festival launches focussing on many of George Bernard Shaw's plays. It runs until 1939.

1942 AD: At the outbreak of the Second World War several thousand scientists are brought to Malvern to work in safety and secrecy on RADAR and other major defence projects.

MALVERN LINK

17 VICTORIA PARK

This is the place to go to meet people your own age at weekends or during school holidays. Chill on the grass, test your skills in the skate park or challenge your friends to a game of tennis on the free courts. If it's good weather why not head to **Sixty Coffee** house in the park for a tasty icecream or slushy!

18 MALVERN TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Formed in 1946, and originally known as **Barnard's Green Football Club**, there is a lot of history behind this team. After facing near bankruptcy in 2014, the club was saved by two young businessmen who made great improvements to the facilities since then. Why not grab a few mates and enjoy watching one of their home matches?

19 ICE QUEST MALVERN

With **Room Escapes**, **Ice Skating** and **Laser Quest**, this is the perfect place to compete with your friends and find out who deserves the title of **Champion**. Located on the outskirts of Malvern, this centre offers many fun past times for friends and family, although it fills up quickly so booking is advised.

Check website for up to date details: www.icequest.co.uk

20 MORCAN MOTOR COMPANY

For the petrolheads this site is well worth a visit. You can take a tour around the working factory of the site which built the first motorcar in Britain, and which produces some of the most iconic cars to date. Tours must be booked in advance, and they are usually in the daytime, so you may have to wait for a school holidays to get onto one, but it is worth the wait!

21 MALVERN RETAIL PARK

New Look, **McDonalds**, **Poundland**, **Halfords** and **Next** are just some of the iconic shops to be found at this retail park. Open until 8pm most days, all your favourite shops are conveniently housed in one place for you to browse and spend your money in. Whilst we encourage you to explore places which are more unique to Malvern, we understand that there are some things you just have to have (such as that little black dress) so this more commercially known area has made the list!

22 THE INDIAN HERON

This delicious Indian is a little pricey but has been recommended by several of our young contributors as a place to go for a special occasion. With plenty of traditional favourites and unique sounding Indian and Bangladeshi dishes, there is something here for everyone. But be warned, the menu changes frequently, so if you see a dish you like, try it quick!

23 TIGER LOU'S NAIL BAR

If you fancy a pampering why not try this nail salon? Pimp up your nails in a range of colours and glitter or get a wonderful glow with their professional spray tan. This is the ultimate place to go to feel like a goddess or prepare for a party!

Florence Nightingale



The lady of the lamp took the waters in Malvern several times and is said to have credited her recovery after the Crimean War to these practices.

Edward Elgar



The famous composer of music wrote some of his most important works whilst living in Malvern. He gave music lessons in local schools, to make ends meet, before he became well known.

Jenny Lind



The greatest Soprano singer of the 19th century (The Swedish Nightingale) regularly visited Malvern and eventually moved to Malvern to enjoy the final years of her life.

Unique Art

There is plenty of unique public art and sculpture around Malvern. Find on your map to spot some of the more unique graffiti or paintings in the area.

- Banksy Styled Paintings
- Cube Artwork
- Malvern Link Mural
- Bird Sculpture
- Priory Windows

GEO-CACHING

Did you know Malvern is an excellent place to go geocaching? A national trend, this outdoor treasure hunt combines real outdoor locations with your phone's GPS to create a fun and challenging activity for friends and families to do together. With over 75 caches to find within a 2 mile radius of the town, this is the perfect activity to keep you entertained for many weekends. Simply sign up, grab your phones and begin navigating!

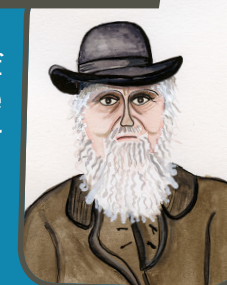
To sign up and for more details visit: www.Geocaching.com

ALL MAPS FROM OPEN STREET MAP

HALL OF FAME

Many famous people have visited and lived in this quirky town. Below are just a few of them.

Charles Darwin



This famous scientist was another fan of 'taking the waters' in Malvern. His favourite daughter Anne died in Malvern. The water was not able to cure her illness.

Queen Elizabeth



Her Majesty visited Malvern twice; the first time in 1944 to say thank you to the scientists of TRE for their contribution to the war, and the second time in 1976, where she became the first monarch to send an email.

Franklin Roosevelt



In 1889 this future President of America visited Malvern as part of a family trip when he was 7 years old.

WYCHE CUTTING & THE HILLS

24 MALVERN HILLS GEO CENTRE

Free

This unique site situated outside of Great Malvern in **Upper Wyche** provides an ideal stop to learn about the Malverns before heading out on a walk. With maps of the area, ipads and large scale panoramas, it is the perfect place to figure out where you want to explore and what scenery you want to see. It also has free wifi and small displays of rocks and fossils, so you can learn about this **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**.

25 CAFÉ H2O

£

Want some food with a view? Then this is the place for you. With amazing views over Herefordshire towards Wales, this café serves a wide range of light and locally sourced lunches and refreshments. Furthermore this café offers opportunities to the community, meaning you can tuck in and help a good cause! See www.wyche-innovation.com/cafe-h2o for more details.

26 MALVERN HILLS SPY MISSION TREASURE TRAIL

££

For cycling enthusiasts this is a downloadable cycle road and walking trail which takes approximately 2.5 hours to complete. Work together in small groups to solve clues in five separate locations that starts and ends at **British Camp Car Park**. For more details please visit: www.treasuretrails.co.uk

27 SALLY'S PLACE

£

This extremely popular café is the perfect place to refuel before or after visiting **British Camp**. With lots of freshly made treats and light bites, its value for money food will keep you going throughout the day. We recommend that you try a scoop (or two) of their icecream which has everything from butterscotch to damson & sloe gin flavours!

28 BRITISH CAMP

This **Iron Age** fort, also called the **Herefordshire Beacon**, was first built around 2000 years ago. A short climb over the ancient earthworks to the top and you will have spectacular views across Worcestershire and Herefordshire, another perfect spot for a selfie. Be at one with nature and enjoy this unique setting for a lazy (or brisk) stroll in the great outdoors.

29 WORCESTERSHIRE BEACON

If you're looking for a challenge and want to see views all the way to **Wales**, **Birmingham** and beyond then climb Malvern's highest hill. A toposcope on the very top shows you all you can see - if the weather's good!

A quick note...

The Malvern Hills are looked after by a charity called the **Malvern Hills Trust**. It is their job to look after the wildlife and vegetation here, as many of the plants and animals are special and rare. You can look after the Hills too by leaving things as you find them, take your litter home, and pick up any foul smelling presents your dog may leave! You may find sheep on the Hills so take your dog lead with you if you're out with your four-legged friend.

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