

Head south for Trentham Gardens (open daily, ticket prices vary, car park on site); occupy the hour-long bus ride or 20 minute car journey there by downloading and listening to Wedgwood and the War (available on www.appetitestoke.co.uk), an audio artwork drawn from the Wedgwood Museum's archive of letters sent by family members during World War One. Trentham Gardens itself boasts Italian Gardens revived by a Chelsea Flower Show Gold Medallist, a mile-long, Capability Brown-designed lake - complete with eco-friendly catamaran Miss Elizabeth (every hour, five days a week in summer, £2) - a meadow with giant dandelion sculptures, atmospheric woodland trails and much more. The Italian Garden Tearoom serves traditional Staffordshire oatcakes and just outside the gardens is Trentham Shopping Village, a complex of timber lodges housing 77 shops and 18 cafés. All in all, Trentham Gardens present an unforgettable end to a day in The Potteries.

If you're staying over, options for the evening include food at Trentham Shopping Village or journeying on to Barlaston for local-born actor Neil Morrissey's excellent pub Plume of Feathers. Alternatively, take a trip back towards Stoke: The White Star pub here has been commended for its local beers. Bar, cafe and music venue the QUARTER can be found in the centre of neighbouring town Hanley, offering home-style bistro food, award-winning tea and coffee and a varied drinks menu.

For a journey across the city to commemorate the fallen heroes of World War I as part of Stoke-on-Trent Remembers visit...

www.stoke.gov.uk/stokeremembers

For more ideas, attractions, seasonal events and recommendations across all six towns and parks explore...

www.visitstoke.co.uk/summer

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Complete your trip with a visit to **World of Wedgwood** in Barlaston (open daily, car park on site, free entry to museum, see website for more details and prices): this award-winning visitor attraction is home to the UNESCO recognised V&A museum collection, one of the most important in the world, spanning from 1759 to the present day. You can also book a guided Museum tour to discover even more (guided tours 45 mins, bookable on arrival, £5). From 1 August to 23 November is a special World War I exhibition Etruria at War: The Impact of the First World War on Wedgwood and its Employees (10am-5pm, free). Here too you can take a Factory Tour (Monday - Friday, guided tours 45 mins, bookable on arrival, last entry 3pm. £10 adults, £8 concessions, under 12s free). See the production process and artisan skills up close, get creative in the Decorating Studio and Master Craft Studio where you can create your own design, and have a go at pot throwing. Indulge with afternoon tea in the Wedgwood Tea Room and some retail therapy in the Flagship Store and Factory Outlet.



World of Wedgwood



Middleport Pottery

SUMMER STOKE-ON-TRENT

ATTRACTIONS

EVENTS

FESTIVALS

EXHIBITIONS

AND ACTIVITIES
HAPPENING ACROSS
THE CITY IN **2018**



Appetite, Museum of the Moon • Photograph by Carolyn Eaton

SUMMER IN STOKE-ON-TRENT HIGHLIGHTS ITINERARY

Spend a day or more exploring Stoke-on-Trent, and you'll discover award-winning museums, exceptional gardens, world-renowned collections and the largest ever find of Anglo-Saxon treasure. Made up of six distinct towns, Stoke-on-Trent is a place united by a unique history, unrivalled modern industry and an ambitious future: known affectionately as 'The Potteries', the city grew from humble origins to become home to world-leading manufacturing techniques, champion of revolutionary ideas such as the Trent and Mersey Canal and producer of quality wares that continue to be exported globally. Designated the World Capital of Ceramics, Stoke-on-Trent has a proud legacy of making art from the earth. There's so much to do and see, we've suggested a whole host of options; pick and choose your own route, or make a plan to stay for longer...

www.visitstoke.co.uk/summer



Emma Bridgewater Factory



Appetite Big Feast Festival 2018



Middleport Pottery Factory Shop

MUST-SEES

MIDDLEPORT POTTERY

ST6 3PE

Built in 1888, Middleport Pottery still practices pottery techniques used nowhere else in the world, as well as boasting a Grade II listed Bottle Kiln and Steam Engine on its award-winning site. Open daily, £5.50 adults/£4 conc., under 5s and carers free.

www.middleportpottery.org

EMMA BRIDGEWATER FACTORY

ST1 3EJ

Discover the traditional skills and craftsmanship that goes into making 1.3m pieces of Emma Bridgewater pottery every year in an atmospheric Victorian factory. Open daily, factory tour £2.50 adults/under 16s free.

www.emmabridgewaterfactory.co.uk

THE POTTERIES MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

ST1 3DW

Visit the world's most significant collection of Staffordshire ceramics (including nearly 300 frog mugs) and the £3m Staffordshire Hoard, the largest ever find of Anglo-Saxon treasure. Open daily, free entry.

www.stokemuseums.org.uk/pmag

TRENTHAM GARDENS

ST4 8JG

Find real poppies in vast contemporary meadows, follow the famous fairy sculpture trail at Trentham Gardens. Indulge yourself at Trentham Shopping Village, with 77 timber lodges housing shops, 19 individual eateries and a hotel. Open every day.

www.trentham.co.uk

WORLD OF WEDGWOOD

ST12 9ER

Uncover over 250 years of British craftsmanship and the UNESCO recognised V&A collection as well as taking the award winning Factory Tour (Monday - Friday), indulging in the centre's creative studios, the Wedgwood Tea Room and Flagship Store. Open daily, free entry to museum.

www.worldofwedgwood.com

GLADSTONE POTTERY MUSEUM

ST3 1PQ

Explore the original workshops and giant bottle kilns of the last complete Victorian pottery factory in the country - and craft your own unique souvenir to take away. Open Tuesdays - Saturdays, ticket prices vary.

www.stokemuseums.org.uk/gpm



Emma Bridgewater Factory



The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery



Trentham Gardens



World of Wedgwood



Gladstone Pottery Museum

THE ITINERARY

Stoke is your starting point for the day.

Home to the main railway station, the town also plays host to an extraordinary installation by artist Luke Jerram called the **Museum of the Moon** at King's Hall (21-29 August, free entry, special events will be ticketed): measuring seven metres in diameter, a moon featuring detailed NASA imagery of the lunar surface is accompanied by a surround sound composition by BAFTA and Ivor Novello award-winning composer Dan Jones. Evoking lunar inspiration and cultural myths, the installation is paired with a series of special moon-inspired events - see www.appetitiestoke.co.uk/whatson for details and opening times. Just round the corner is the newly opened, Alice in Wonderland-inspired **The Rabbit Hole Tea Room**; serving up afternoon tea in a storybook setting, it's well worth a visit.

Next stop is Hanley, a short bus ride from the station, where you'll find **The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery** (open daily, free entry, pay on arrival at car park opposite), home to the most significant collection of Staffordshire ceramics in the world - including 667 cow creamer jugs - galleries covering natural science, archeology and fine art, as well as the superlative Staffordshire Hoard. Discovered by a metal detectorist in 2009, the largest hoard of Anglo-Saxon treasure ever found was once the possession of kings; it amounts to over five kilos of gold and one and a half of silver, features over 3,500 garnets from as far away as Sri Lanka, and includes pieces over 1,300 years old. The museum is also holding a special display "Made by the Girls of Staffordshire...": Ceramics from World War I (27 July - 22 August) featuring objects from its collection "Made by the Girls of Staffordshire during the Winter of 1917 when the Boys were in the Trenches fighting for Liberty & Civilisation", as well as CSI - Scientific WW1 (15 September, 11am-4pm, free), a one-off interactive event showcasing the science behind the First World War, including trench archeology and the chemistry behind explosives. There will be a replica underground tunnel, a medical display and an Ask an Expert panel primed to give insights into any wartime photographs and medals visitors bring.

A five to ten minute walk from The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery is the **Emma Bridgewater Factory** (open daily, car park on site) - where you can take part in the decorating studio (advance booking, 1hr 30min slots 9.30am-2.45pm, £2.95 fee plus price of piece) or follow a factory tour (advance booking, 1hr, 10am, 11am and 1.30pm except Fridays, adults £2.50/under 16s free) to discover the traditional skills of the jiggers, jolliers, fettlers, casters and decorators who work here; each of the 1.3m pieces of pottery produced annually by the factory still passes through 30 hands before being sold. Stop for a home cooked lunch in the café, where the recipes are often inspired by Emma Bridgewater herself, or take tea and cakes in the factory's secret walled garden.

Fans of BBC Two's *The Great Pottery Throw Down* will recognise the next destination: **a short bus ride or short car journey away is Middleport Pottery** (open daily, £5.50 adults/£4 conc., no on-site parking - follow signs for temporary car parking, Aug-Sept), an award-winning, Grade II* listed site that was originally built in 1888, and has recently undergone a £9 million restoration by The Prince's Regeneration Trust. The factory tour here (advance booking, 1hr, 11am and 1.45pm Monday - Thursday, 10.30am Friday, £9.50 adults/£8 conc.) reveals every stage of production, showcasing handcraft methods used since the 1880s and the steam engine that once powered the entire factory - while the shop offers up the world's largest collection of local Burleigh pottery. When visiting Middleport, look out for special activities in nearby Burslem such as the **Burslem Summer of Art** (28 July - 16 September) festivities: there will be a poetry trail on public transport, arts trail WHAT IS NOW featuring artists and curators working in six pop-up locations, Burslem in Bloom and Bunting, an Artists' Open Weekend, music festival weekends, a WW1 themed real ale trail and Staffordshire Filmshow, as well as three major exhibitions showcasing local artists (see visitstoke.co.uk/summer for more details).