



heritage open days

GREAT YARMOUTH HERITAGE OPEN DAYS



Free events from 11-20 September 2026

See Great Yarmouth in a different light during Heritage Open Days and explore the borough's fascinating past with the unique opportunity to visit some amazing buildings and places.

 @EverythingGreatYarmouth

 @everythinggreatyarmouth

heritageopendays.org.uk

WELCOME TO HERITAGE OPEN DAYS IN THE BOROUGH OF GREAT YARMOUTH.

We have a great selection of events happening in Great Yarmouth this year. Choose from activities, tours and heritage building openings. This year's National theme is 'Everyday Histories' – what can you find out about past work lives and routines.

This year's programme has been separated into tours and events that must be pre-booked and drop-in events for which there is no need to book. View more details on every event taking place – www.heritageopendays.org.uk

Please note that not all properties have designated parking on site. Booking for all events opens on **26 August at 10am**.

If the property is in Great Yarmouth, please see the map on the back cover for the nearest car park.

SYMBOLS KEY

	Disabled Parking		Not Normally Open
	Disabled Toilets		Kids Activities
	Themed		Dogs Welcome
	Usually Pay		Wheelchair Accessible
	Baby Changing		Partial Wheelchair Accessible
	Hearing Loop		Parking
	Assistance Dogs		Toilets
	Pushchair Friendly		Refreshments

PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING EVENTS

GREAT YARMOUTH TOWN HALL TOURS

*Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth,
NR30 2QF*

Great Yarmouth Town Hall is a Grade II listed building. Steeped in history with stunning architecture throughout. Join in on a tour to discover the beautiful rooms for yourself.

Approx. 1 hour.

Open:

Tues 15 September:
10am, 12pm and 2pm

Thurs 17 September:
10am, 12pm and 2pm



Book: town-hall.great-yarmouth.co.uk/events/hods

YARE BEAT

King Street, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2PG

A lively talk celebrating Great Yarmouth's pop and rock legacy. Discover the bands, venues and stories that shaped the town's music scene, with rare photos and local memories.



Open:

Weds 16 September:
7.30pm



Book: stgeorgestheatre.com/whats-on

THE FINEST QUAY GUIDED WALK

Stone Sofa Statue, Row 111, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2RG

Learn about Great Yarmouth's Historic South Quay. The quay was described several times by Robinson Crusoe author, Daniel Defoe as 'The Finest Quay in England if not in Europe'.

Approx. 90 mins.

Open:

Weds 16 September:
10.30am



Book: heritage-walks.co.uk



THE LAST TRAIN TO BELTON GUIDED WALK

Belton Village Sign, nr Bell Lane car park, Great Yarmouth, NR31 9LD

Belton may look like a quintessential sleepy Norfolk village now, but back in 1858 the mainline London train pulled in at the penultimate stop before Great Yarmouth. Find out what impact the railway had on the village. *Approx. 90 mins.*

Open:

Sun 20 September:
2pm



Book: heritage-walks.co.uk



GROWING UP IN SOUTHTOWN TALK

Great Yarmouth Minster, Church Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 1NE

Reminisce with us as we talk about what it was like to grow up in Southtown in the 50s and 60s. Find out about the history and development of the area, what the houses were like, the school, the floods and everyday life. *Approx. 1 hour.*

Open:

Sat 19 September:
2pm



Book: heritage-walks.co.uk



GREAT YARMOUTH WITCH TRIAL

Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2QF

In 1645, the town council sent for Matthew Hopkins, the infamous Witchfinder General. Two men and nine women were accused of allegedly being involved in witchcraft. They were brought before a court to find their fates. Come along, join in and find out how a witch trial may have unfolded. Find out about those accused and what happened to them.

Please note - this is not a real-life witch trial and is for the purpose of learning the history of those accused of witchcraft in the 1600s. Recommended age 12+

Open:

Fri 18 September:
7pm



Book: town-hall.great-yarmouth.co.uk/events/hods2



EXPLORE BLACKFRIARS TOURS

Blackfriars' Road, Great Yarmouth, NR30 3BX

Starting at Ernie's mural, come along as the tour explores the Town Wall and the area surrounding Blackfriars. *Approx. 1 hour.*

Open:



F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th
11 11am	12 11am	13	14 11am	15 11am	16 11am	17 11am
18 11am	19 11am	20 11am				

Book: norfolkhods.ticketsolve.com

THE FISHERMEN'S HOSPITAL, GREAT YARMOUTH

Great Yarmouth, NR30 1ND

The Fishermen's Hospital was built in 1702 for Decayed Fishermen. It provided a home for 20 poor fishermen and their wives.

Tours will take place at 11am and 2pm each day we are open.

Open:



F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th
11 10am	12 10am	13 10am	14	15	16	17
18 10am	19 10am	20 10am				

Book: fishermenshospital.org.uk

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS THEATRE TOUR

*PAVILION THEATRE, PIER GARDENS,
GORLESTON, NR31 6PP*

The guided backstage tour will last around 1 hour and as we walk around the building your tour guide will give you a brief history of the building, how it has evolved and changed over the years as well as giving you an insight into future restoration plans.



There are steps and stairs as part of the backstage area and we will be heading upstairs, so the tour is not fully accessible. However there will be information leaflets on all parts of the tour and we do our best to accommodate all guests as best as we can.

Open:

F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th
11	12	13	14 2pm	15 12pm	16 1pm	17
18 11am	19	20				



Book: pavtheatre.com/hods

Always Open!

Discover Great Yarmouth's spectacular art trail today

NO NEED TO BOOK FOR THE FOLLOWING EVENTS

ANNA SEWELL HOUSE

26 Church Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 1NE

Anna Sewell House in Great Yarmouth is the birthplace of the Black Beauty author, Anna Sewell. Redwings Horse Sanctuary took on guardianship of this special building in 2022.



Open:

Fri 11 September: 10am – 2pm

Mon 14 September: 10am – 2pm

Weds 16 September: 10am – 2pm

Fri 18 September: 10am – 2pm

ST ANDREWS CHURCH

Church Road, Gorleston, NR31 6LR

Discover the large Gorleston Parish church of St Andrews, a Grade II listed building. It is steeped in history and architectural delights.

There are many beautiful stained-glass windows with very vibrant colours. You can see the famous Bacon Brass, a very old Saxon chest and a Seven Sacrament Font.



Open:

F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th
11 2pm	12 9am	13 2pm	14 10am	15 10am	16 10am	17 1pm
18 3pm	19 10am	20 2pm				

TIME AND TIDE MUSEUM

16 Blackfriars Road, Great Yarmouth, NR30 3BX

Housed in a beautifully converted Victorian herring curing works, Time and Tide Museum of Great Yarmouth Life offers an immersive experience where history lingers in the air - along with the unmistakable aroma of the smokehouse. Time and Tide is an unforgettable adventure that will leave you with a deeper appreciation of Great Yarmouth's unique place in history.



Open:

Sat 12 September: 10am – 4.30pm

Sun 13 September: 10am – 4.30pm



ELIZABETHAN HOUSE

4 South Quay, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2QH

Elizabethan House Museum is a National Trust property managed by Norfolk Museums. Built around 1596 by merchant Benjamin Cowper, this charming quayside house has been home to wealthy families and prominent Great Yarmouth figures through the centuries. With its immersive, hands-on experiences, Elizabethan House Museum is a must-visit for all ages exploring Great Yarmouth.



There is no lift in the building, so unfortunately access for wheelchairs and pushchairs is limited to the ground floor rooms.

Open:

Thurs 17 September: 10am – 4pm

Fri 18 September: 10am – 4pm

Sat 19 September: 10am – 4pm

Sun 20 September: 10am – 4pm



HISTORY FAIR

*Great Yarmouth Minster, Church Plain,
Great Yarmouth, NR30 1NE*

Organised by the Great Yarmouth Local History and Archaeological Society, the fair brings together groups and societies from the region to celebrate the history of the area. Local history publishers and book sellers, museums, and enthusiastic young archaeologists will be presenting projects throughout the day.



Open:

Sat 19 September: 10am – 3pm



QUAKER MEETING HOUSE

*Howard Street South, Great Yarmouth,
NR30 1LN*

An early 19th Century Quaker Meeting House, in a walled garden which was once the burial ground. Beneath the building are the remains of a 14th Century cell occupied by Augustinian Friars, connected to Gorleston Priory, until c.1536.



Open:

Sat 12 September: 10am – 4pm



ST GEORGE'S THEATRE SELF-GUIDED TOUR

King Street, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2PG

Discover the stories, secrets, and surprising history of one of Great Yarmouth's most iconic buildings.



Open:

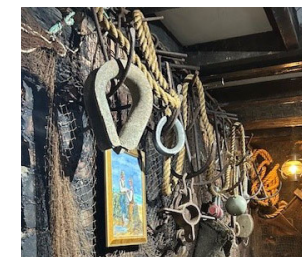
Sat 12 September: 10am – 2pm



HERRING SMOKEHOUSE MUSEUM ART EXHIBITION

18 Trinity Place, Great Yarmouth, NR30 3HA

Welcome to the oldest surviving herring smokehouse in Great Yarmouth, currently in the care of On-Your-Side Norfolk Ltd, a not-for-profit organisation. To commemorate Great Yarmouth's seafaring heritage there will be an exhibition curated by local artists, including Ernie Child's Memorial Art Group. Children can take part in a fun trail as they explore the building, with a sweet treat reward at the end.



Open:

F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th
11 11am	12 11am	13	14 11am	15 11am	16 11am	17
18 11am	19 11am	20 11am				



ROYAL NAVAL HOSPITAL GREAT YARMOUTH

Queens Road, Great Yarmouth, NR30 3JU

The Royal Naval Hospital was built for the Navy in 1811 at a cost of £120,000.

It was handed over to the army in 1815 to accommodate 600 injured soldiers from the Battle of Waterloo. Over the years, it has been in the care of both the Army and the Navy.

In World War II it was a naval base (HMS Watchful). It was transferred to the NHS in 1958, closed in 1993, and converted to private dwellings in 1997.

Open:

Sat 12 Sept: 10.30am – 3.30pm

Sun 13 Sept: 10.30am – 3.30pm



MEET THE MASONS EXPERIENCE

The Royal Assembly Rooms, Marine Parade, Great Yarmouth, NR30 3JH

Step foot into The Royal Assembly Rooms on Great Yarmouth's Golden Mile. Learn about past and present members as you are invited into the temple. You'll be given a persona, someone who played an active role for the Masons throughout their time in Great Yarmouth. Together, you'll get a glimpse of the everyday histories of the Masons. Taking place four times a day, on a first come first served basis.

Open:

Fri 11 September:

10-11.30am, 11.30am – 1pm, 1-2.30pm, 2.30 – 4pm

Sun 13 September:

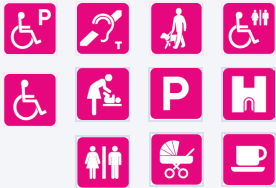
10-11.30am, 11.30am – 1pm, 1-2.30pm, 2.30 – 4pm

Fri 18 September:

10-11.30am, 11.30am – 1pm, 1-2.30pm, 2.30 – 4pm

Sun 20 September:

10-11.30am, 11.30am – 1pm, 1-2.30pm, 2.30 – 4pm



GREAT YARMOUTH MINSTER BELL TOWER

Church Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 1NE

We are opening our bell tower for people to visit the ringing chamber. This involves a climb and needs a head for heights so recommend that this is only undertaken by reasonably fit individuals. The set of twelve bells in the Minster is considered to be one of the finest in East Anglia.

Wheelchair access to church but not bell tower.

Open:

Sat 19 September: 10am – 3pm

Sun 20 September: 10am – 3pm



THE MIDDLEGATE HISTORY PROJECT EXHIBITION

The Salvation Army, Tolhouse Street, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2SQ

Delivered in partnership between Great Yarmouth Shoebox and the Salvation Army, this community exhibition will explore the lives, memories and contributions of the ordinary people who helped shape Middlegate and the wider town through the years.

Open:

Sat 12 September: 10am – 1pm



LYDIA EVA YH89 STEAM DRIFTER

20-21 South Quay, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2RG

The Lydia Eva is Great Yarmouth's last steam drifter. Built in 1930 she acts as a floating museum of the town's herring fishing industry and is still capable of going to sea. Come aboard and discover how the fishermen lived and worked. Explore her wheelhouse, fish hold, crew quarters, galley and engine room with its original working steam engine. In 2023, she featured in the film Wonka.



Open:

F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th
11 10am	12 10am	13 10am	14 10am	15 10am	16 10am	17 10am
18 10am	19 10am	20 10am				



NORFOLK WHERRY TRUST

Horsefen Road, Ludham, Great Yarmouth, NR29 5QG

Experienced volunteers will show you around Wherry Albion and Forsythe's Boatyard, sharing the history and personal stories of this 128-year-old trading vessel. Albion was once one of over 300 vessels ferrying goods and services from the port of Lowestoft as far upriver as Norwich. It remains only one of two trading wherries still sailing today and welcoming visitors for day trips and charters from May to September.



Open:

Sat 12 Sept: 10am – 3pm
Sun 13 Sep: 10am – 3pm



HOW HILL OPEN DAY

How Hill House, How Hill Road, Ludham, Great Yarmouth, NR29 5PG

Experience a captivating Heritage Day at the How Hill Trust, a stunning Edwardian estate nestled in the Norfolk Broads.



Explore the majestic, thatched house with periodic house tours throughout the day, experience the house gardens and wander through the woodland to our secret garden. Discover traditional marshman tools alongside live thatching displays, celebrating the rich culture of the Broads.

Open:

Sun 20 Sept: 10am – 3pm



HORSEY WINDPUMP OPEN DAY

Horsey, Great Yarmouth, NR29 4EE

Explore iconic Horsey Windpump and learn more about its fascinating history. Though the youngest windpump in the Broads, it has withstood floods, lightning strikes and gale force winds. Climb to the top for spectacular views across the landscape.



Whilst the ground floor of the windpump is accessible, the upper floors are not. There are 61 steep steps to the top of the windpump. There is a film on the ground floor, showing the upper levels and views from the top. There is also information in large print format. Assistance dogs are permitted on the ground floor but not the upper levels.

Open:

Sat 12 Sept: 10am – 4pm
Sat 19 Sep: 10am – 4pm



Caister Road,
Great Yarmouth,
Norfolk, NR30 4AS,
01493 742200



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 @greatyarmouthcouncil
 @greatyarmouthboroughcouncil/

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**GREAT YARMOUTH
MARKET PLACE**

BOOKING
REQUIRED



NO BOOKING
REQUIRED



EVENTS CALENDAR

PAGE

FRI
11

SAT
12

SUN
13

MON
14

TUES
15

WED
16

THU
17

FRI
18

SAT
19

SUN
20

GREAT YARMOUTH TOWN HALL TOURS

3



YARE BEAT

3



FINEST QUAY GUIDED WALK

4



LAST TRAIN TO BELTON GUIDED WALK

4



GROWING UP IN SOUTHTOWN TALK

5



GREAT YARMOUTH WITCH TRIAL

5



EXPLORE BLACKFRIARS' TOURS

6



FISHERMEN'S HOSPITAL

6



PAVILION THEATRE TOUR

7



ANNA SEWELL HOUSE

8



ST ANDREWS CHURCH

8



TIME AND TIDE MUSEUM

9



ELIZABETHAN HOUSE

9



HISTORY FAIR

10



QUAKER MEETING HOUSE

10



ST GEORGES THEATRE SELF GUIDED TOUR

10



HERRING SMOKEHOUSE MUSEUM ART EXHIBITION

11



ROYAL NAVAL HOSPITAL

11



MEET THE MASONS EXPERIENCE

12



GREAT YARMOUTH MINSTER BELL TOWER

12



MIDDLEGATE HISTORY PROJECT EXHIBITION

13



LYDIA EVA YH89 STEAM DRIFTER

13



NORFOLK WHERRY TRUST

14



HOW HILL OPEN DAY

14



HORSEY WINDPUMP

15





heritage open days

Find out more on heritageopendays.org.uk

All details correct at time of printing.

