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Northampton
Museum &
Art Gallery

WHAT'S ON

January - April 2025



A

Abington
Park
Museum



West
Northamptonshire
Council

MUSEUM

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WELCOME TO THE JANUARY - APRIL WHAT'S ON

We're excited to bring you a vibrant line-up of changing exhibitions and a dynamic program of events designed to inspire, educate, and entertain visitors of all ages. Our events programme is packed with hands-on workshops, talks, tours, and family-friendly activities that make every visit a unique experience.

We're also delighted to announce our new café is up and running with The Lewis Foundation taking over operations. This well-loved local charity, known for its dedication to delivering gift bags to adult cancer patients, is excited to bring its popular café experience to the museum. The new café will serve up a variety of food and drinks in a relaxed, inviting setting. From cappuccinos and lattes to sandwiches, toasties, and freshly baked cakes, there's something to suit every taste. The menu will also showcase ingredients from local suppliers, including Friars Farm and GF Shoetown Baker. Whether you're stopping by for a coffee break or a full lunch, it's the perfect spot to recharge between gallery visits or catch up with friends.

Come and experience what's on, there's always something new to discover!





SELLING GALLERY

The museum's Selling Gallery provides a vibrant and exciting showcase for new and established Northamptonshire artists and creators to display and sell their work. Browse and buy original and limited-edition paintings, photographs and prints, sculpture and ceramics. The works change frequently as our portfolio of artists and makers grows, so there's always new works to see and buy.

CAFÉ AND TERRACE

Our café serves light meals, snacks and drinks, with a focus on Northamptonshire food producers and the finest fresh local ingredients.



MUSEUM SHOP

The museum shop features many items made by local artisans as well as contemporary gifts from independent suppliers you won't find on the high street. From pocket money toys and games to stationery and cards, homeware to jewellery, as well as products which reflect our collections, exhibitions and Northamptonshire history and many products reflecting our internationally important shoe collection.





SHOE GALLERY

The Shoe Gallery showcases the depth and breadth of the internationally renowned shoe collection. It highlights how we design and make shoes and why we wear the shoes that we do, with an emphasis on all the fascinating stories shoes can tell. Our shoe collection is one of the largest collections of shoes and shoe heritage in the world and is Designated as being of national and international importance by Arts Council England.



HISTORY GALLERIES

The Northampton History Galleries chart Northampton's history from the Stone Age through the Civil War, the Great Fire of Northampton, the rebuilding of the town and the key trades from the 1700s until the present day.

ART GALLERIES

Our two dedicated art galleries host a programme of changing exhibitions featuring works from our collections and touring exhibitions.

TEMPORARY EXHIBITION GALLERY

The Temporary Exhibition Gallery showcases a varied programme of touring and in-house exhibitions.

VENUE HIRE

Our two museums offer truly unique settings for events.

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery offers a central location and a stunning venue with a real 'wow' factor for your corporate or private event. The Central Hall and Link spaces are ideal venues for both corporate and private functions, from drinks receptions, gala dinners, award ceremonies, conferences and exhibitions, to wedding receptions and private parties and the Studio space is ideal for workshops and business meetings.

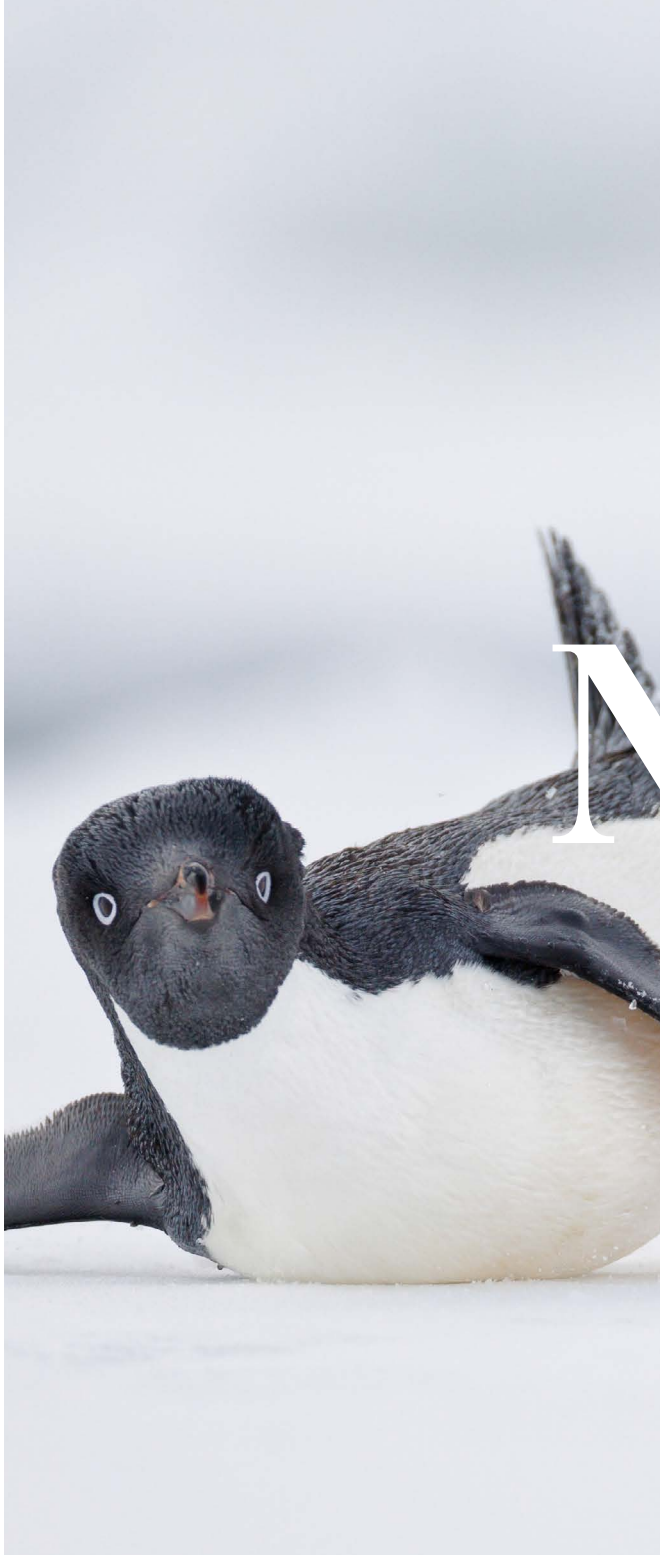


Abington Park Museum in the heart of beautiful Abington Park offers an intimate and elegant venue, all in the setting of a Grade 1 listed, historic building once the home of Shakespeare's granddaughter. The Great Hall and Thursby Room are ideal for smaller corporate or private events and the inner courtyard provides a wonderful private open-air space. The museum is also licensed for wedding ceremonies, civil partnerships and receptions in the Great Hall or Thursby Room.

SCHOOLS AND LEARNING

A full learning offer is available, with a dedicated schools and activity studio space for workshops and visits.





Northampton
Museum &
Art Gallery

TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

Free Admission



NORTHAMPTON TOWN AND COUNTY ART SOCIETY 107TH OPEN ANNUAL EXHIBITION

Until Sunday 23 February

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Northampton Town and County Art Society are delighted to return to Northampton Museum and Art Gallery. Members, Associate Members and Selected Non-Members exhibit their work in the Gallery giving visitors a chance to see the wide variety of styles and subjects that a group show offers.

FROM THE COLLECTION: EVERYDAY

Until Sunday 2 March

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Artists have always sought to depict the everyday from working lives to domestic moments. This exhibition will look at these often-intimate scenes and includes the work of Sir Frank Brangwyn, Charles Spencelayh, Jan Miel and Sir Francis Cook.



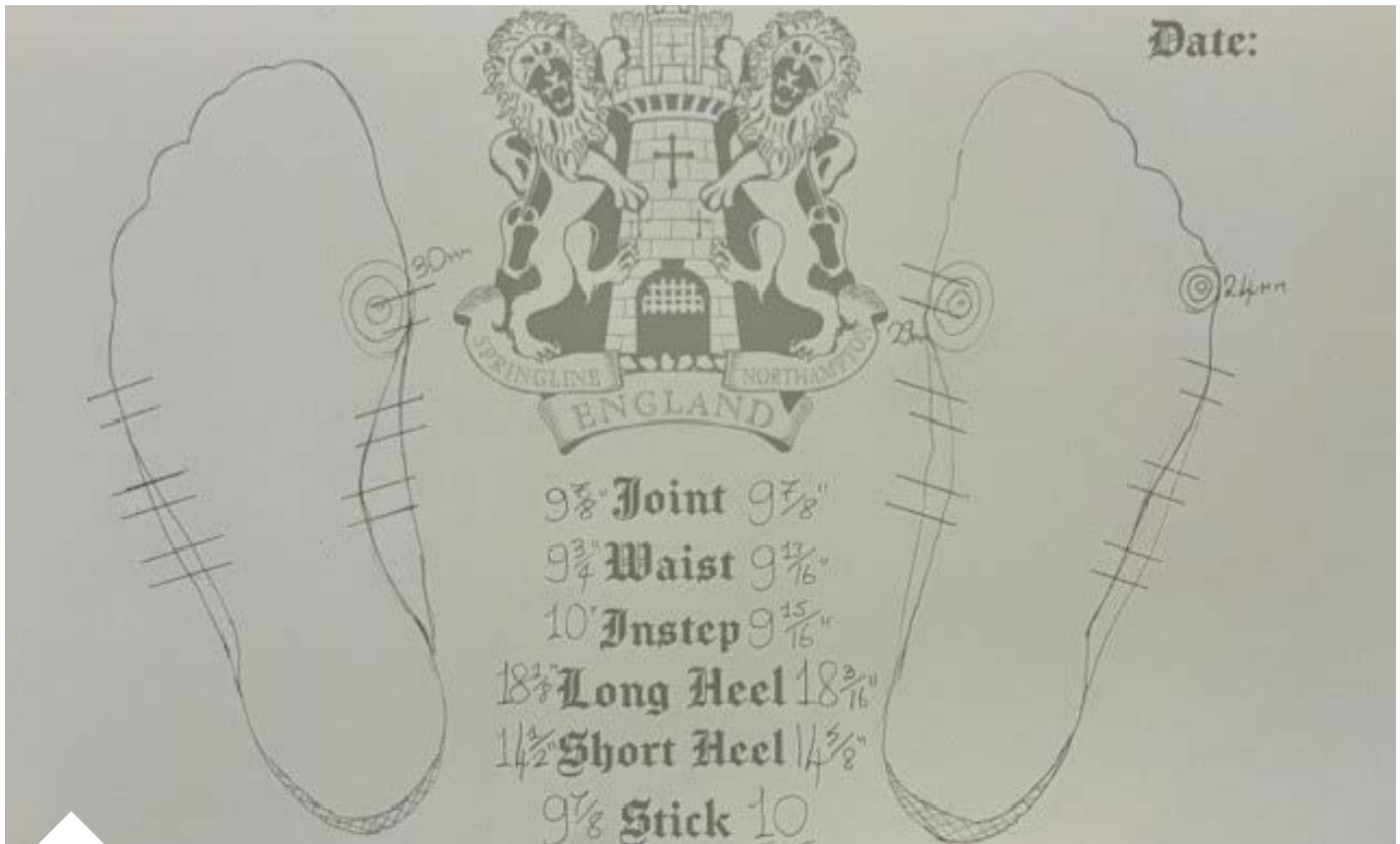


SHAPED BY SHOES: THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SHOE INDUSTRY

Until Sunday 16 March

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

The shoemaking industry has been part of Northamptonshire's history for hundreds of years. This exhibition will look at how the industry has affected the lives of the people of Northamptonshire and beyond, not only through employment but providing hospitals, carnivals, days out and Christmas parties. It will explore the history of the biggest employers in Northamptonshire through personal stories and artefacts.



LASTING LEGACY

Saturday January 11 - Sunday 16 February

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Springline Ltd have been involved with many of Northamptonshire's shoemaking brands, since its inception in 1982 creating shoe lasts for individuals and companies. Measuring and making bespoke lasts and shoes is a very personal process for the maker and the client and Springline Ltd have created lasts for a number of celebrities. Springline contacted a range of people that are from or associated with Northampton, making bespoke lasts which led to a bespoke pair of shoes being made as after all Northampton is famous for shoes. The exhibition includes the lasts and shoes of Idris Elba, Alan Carr, the Reverend Richard Coles, Ellie Robinson, King Charles III and many other celebrities.



**THE CONDUCT MIGHT SEEM INNOCENT.
THE VICTIM MIGHT NOT BE AWARE.**

Saturday 1 March - Sunday 28 March

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

A photographic exhibition about coercive and controlling behaviour, providing evidence of the mundane domestic scenarios that form the crime scene. These constructed scenes of everyday life - produced in collaboration with survivors - reflect the ambiguities and psychological manipulation that enable this crime to flourish.



BIRD PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

Saturday 1 March - Sunday 27 April

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery



Photographers from all over the world entered the Photographer of the Year Awards in 2024. 23,000 images were received resulting in beautiful and thought-provoking photographs of the avian world. The exhibition includes the overall winner and winners of various categories including Conservation, Bird Behaviour, Birds in the Environment and Comedy Bird Photo amongst others.



WILD PLACES

Saturday 29 March - Sunday 11 May 2025

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Wild Places is a stunning photography exhibition featuring beautiful photographs of the landscapes of the UK. From majestic hills to dramatic seas, the exhibition has something for everyone and inspires the visitor to marvel in the richness of the varied habitats of the UK.



EXTINCTION

Saturday 29 March - Sunday 11 May
Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Extinction affects us all and one in ten of our wildlife in the UK is critically endangered. Scientists have identified five periods of mass extinction over the geological record and the question is now being asked: are we in a sixth? This exhibition addresses this fascinating topic and journeys through the demise of the dinosaurs and marine reptiles, death of the ice age mammoths and the impact of humans on the dodo.





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TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

Free Admission


LAND TO SEA ARTWORKS BY SARAH HUTT, MELISSA MCDONALD AND ROSIE JARVIS

Saturday 11 January - Sunday 30 March

Abington Park Museum

Contemporary artists Sarah Hutt, Mellissa McDonald and Rosie Jarvis all take inspiration from the landscape to create atmospheric works. Sarah Hutt is inspired by the sea and coastline creating sublime calming landscapes that speak of escape and refuge. With an expressive brush stroke Mellissa McDonald captures the sense and serenity of the landscape balancing between abstract and representational techniques. Rosie Jarvis takes inspiration from the land, seeing the beauty in the humble patchwork of the fields to create landscapes that are both familiar and mysterious.





A Rugby Icon in the First World War

Edgar Mobbs



Northampton
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TALKS

THURSDAY MORNING TALKS

10.30am-12pm

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Thursday 16 January

Margaret Bondfield: The First Woman Cabinet Member

Speaker: John Buckell

This is the story of a pioneer of women's trade unionism, suffrage and peace campaigning. Bondfield's first parliamentary seat was in Northampton which became a very important part of her life.

Thursday 30 January

Call of the Kingfisher

Speaker: Nick Penny

Nick shares experiences whilst researching his book which he describes as a "love letter to a short stretch of the River Nene". Nick also performs some live music on harp and handpan to accompany birdsong recordings he has made.

Thursday 13 February

Discover the Amazing Story of the Panacea Society

Speaker: Zara Matthews

A unique Christian group formed in 1919 who created their own religious community 'Garden of Eden' in the centre of Bedford. Hear about their healing cure for illness which gained followers across the world and the intriguing story behind the sealed box of prophecies.

Thursday 27 February

Murder and Mayhem

Speaker: Jane Isaac

Join Northampton's own bestselling crime thriller novelist Jane Isaac as she talks about the challenges of writing detective fiction in the modern age.

Thursday 13 March

Hollywood in Irthlingborough - The Battle of Waterloo

Speaker: Roy York/Phil Watts

Many scenes of the 1913 blockbuster, *The Battle of Waterloo*, were filmed in Irthlingborough. After the film's success it was feared that all copies had been lost. Join us to hear about the filming, the parody *Pimple's Battle of Waterloo*, the discovery of and clips of the original film.

£3.50 per talk, £21 for the series
Booking essential

**THURSDAY
MORNING TALKS****10.30am-12pm
Northampton Museum & Art Gallery****Thursday 27 March****My Life Amongst the Bells****Speaker: Alistair Donaldson**

Alistair takes us on his journey from learning to ring as a teenager in Hampshire to President of the Peterborough Guild of Bellringers with examples of Church and Handbell ringing.

Thursday 24 April**Blair Swannell****- From the Gardens to Gallipoli****Speaker: Graham McKechnie**

BBC Radio Northampton sports editor and Northampton Saints club historian tells the extraordinary story of Saints' first British & Irish Lion, Blair Swannell. One of rugby's greatest characters, Swannell was a Victorian adventurer who played rugby, travelled the world and fought in the First World War.



£3.50 per talk, £21 for the series
Refreshments included
Booking essential

ART HISTORY LECTURE SERIES

The Art of the Ordinary - Genre painting and the Lives it reveals

10.15am-12.15pm, Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

In this latest lecture series, we invite you to look beyond the surface of ordinary life through the eyes of artists across centuries. From the bustling households of 17th-century Dutch masters to the gritty reality of Victorian interiors and the intimate domestic spaces of female Impressionists, genre painting is celebrated for capturing daily life in all its variety and complexity. Through these scenes, we'll explore how artists have used familiar settings to convey insights into social class, character, and everyday routines, often with humour or a touch of poignancy. Join us to uncover how the art of the ordinary reflects changing lives, values, and histories across history.

Friday 28 February

Housewives, Boors and Peasants: An Overview of Dutch Genre Painting

Artwork: **Dutch River Scene**
- Pieter Cornelis Dommershuijzen

Speaker: **Miriam Gill**

Friday 7 March

Hogarth and genre: social satire and social realism

Artwork: **Morning (Engraving)** - Hogarth

Speaker: **Miriam Gill**

Friday 14 March

Intimist Interior: Fin de Siecle Art of Domesticity

Artwork: **Great Expectations**
- Eric Forbes-Robertson

Speaker: **Miriam Gill**

Friday 21 March

Novel in a Rectangle: Reading Victorian Interiors

Artwork: **TBC**

Speaker: **Conny Bailey**

Friday 28 March

Whose Home? Men, Women and Domestic Bliss

Artwork: **Mrs Claridge Making
Buckinghamshire Point Lace**

- **E. P. Robinson** (please note that this artwork is on permanent display in History Gallery 2)

Speaker: **Miriam Gill**

Artworks and speakers may be subject to change.



**£6 per talk, £25 for the series,
Includes tea/coffee and biscuits
Booking essential**



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ADULT WORKSHOPS

A

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TWO DAY SHOE MAKING WORKSHOP WITH HETTY ROSE

Saturday 15 March - Sunday 16 March 2025

10.30 am - 4.30pm

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Learn to make your very own pair of shoes in this two-day course alongside designer Hetty Rose, known for her use of vintage Japanese kimono fabrics. You will learn the basics of pattern cutting, choosing leathers and kimono fabric to make your uppers. You will then learn the process of sewing, lasting and heel covering to complete your shoes. There are several shoe styles to choose from including flats and heeled shoes. We can accommodate fitting issues (wide/sensitive feet) and you will be expertly guided by Hetty through every stage, so no experience needed. Day One: Hetty will give an introduction into shoe making and the tools you will be using over the two days. You will tape up your last (shoe mould) and draw on your design from a suggestion of designs by Hetty. You will then create your patterns and use these to cut your upper material and linings. You will also sew your uppers ready to use the next day. You will also learn to cover your insole for the inside of your shoes. Day Two: To begin you will learn how to last your shoes using tacks and glue, to create the shape of your shoes. Next you will learn how to forepart fill your shoes and attach the soles. The next process involves choosing your heel and covering. You will learn how to cover your heels, and they will be attached to the shoes. You'll finish by inserting the padding and sock inside the shoe. The shoes will be ready to take away from the course this day. The course will run at a leisurely pace and there will be time for questions and demonstrations from Hetty. You will also receive a suppliers list and shoe making process sheet. All necessary materials and tools will be provided to participants during the workshop. Participants may bring their own fabric if they wish, subject to suitability checks by Hetty Rose. The use of sewing machines is required and students should bring their own. Tea and coffee provided, please bring a packed lunch or you may source lunch locally in the town centre.

Payments can be made in instalments over the phone or in person, with an initial non-refundable 25% deposit (£156.25). 3 further payments of £156.25 with the final balance payable by 15 February 2025. Contact our booking line 01604 526322 to book.



£625 per person
Over 16s only
Booking essential

AN INTRODUCTION TO PORTRAIT PAINTING IN OILS

Saturday 5 April

10am-4pm

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

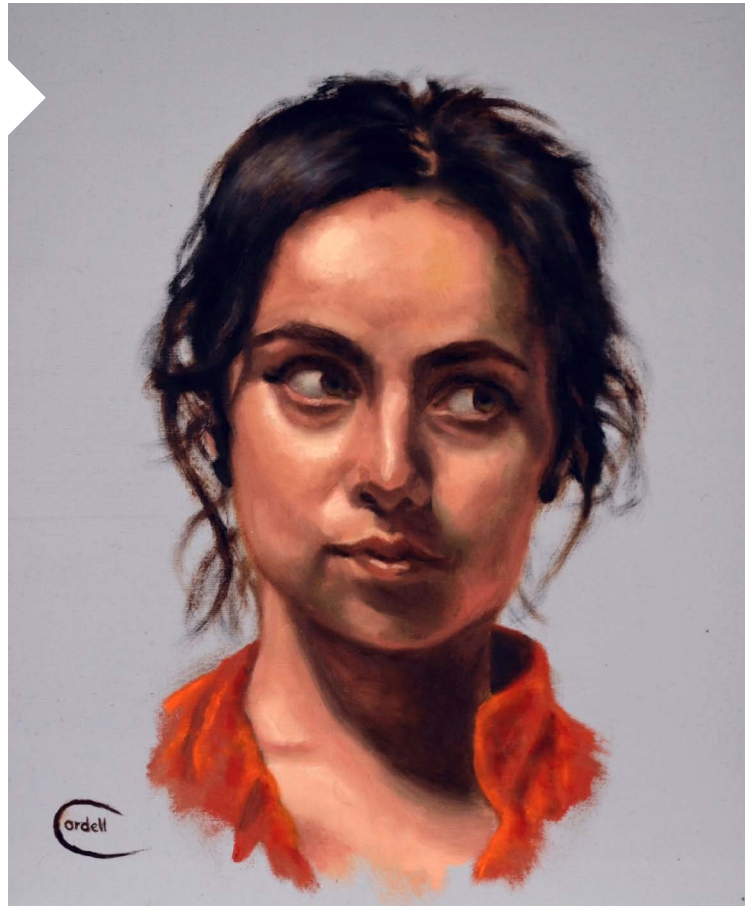
A one-day workshop based on a step-by-step process to create a portrait from a photographic reference.

The process will cover:

- Using oil paints
- The typical proportions of the face
- Measuring and mapping out key features from the photograph
- The use of line, tone, and value to create the portrait

Cordell is an experienced painter who will also provide supporting handouts as part of the workshop to explain and demystify the technical terms and techniques involved. At the end of the workshop, you will have created a portrait that you will be able to take away with you.

Tea and coffee will be provided. Please bring a packed lunch or lunch is available to purchase from the museum café.



£65 per person
Price includes all materials
Over 18s only
Booking essential



Northampton
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THE WELLNESS SERIES

THE WELLNESS SERIES

Looking after our mental wellbeing is increasingly important. We are providing a series of activities to help everyone stay well and happy. The sessions are designed to add some calm or enjoyment to your day, whether it's on your lunchbreak, after work or at the weekend.

IMMERSIVE YOGA

**Tuesdays on 7, 14, 21, 28 January, 4, 11 February
6 - 7pm**

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

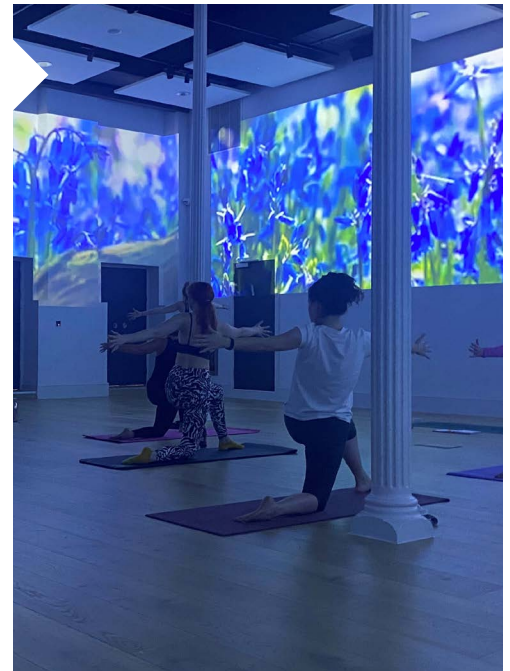
Step into a transformative yoga experience like no other.

Our dynamic flow classes take place in the Central Hall of the museum, where you'll be surrounded by a stunning 270-degree projection of colour, film, and music—designed to heighten your sense of presence and connection as you move through each pose.

Guided by the experienced and intuitive instructor, Maz, this class invites you to explore the natural rhythm of your body while discovering the balance between strength and softness. Whether you're new to yoga or have years of experience, modifications and progressions will be offered to ensure that the session is accessible and beneficial to all levels.

Each week, the class will be centred around a unique spiritual or philosophical theme, giving you a deeper focus for your practice. This allows you to not only stretch and strengthen your body but also to tap into a sense of mindfulness and inner peace.

What to Bring: Yoga mat, towel, water bottle. Join us for a class where movement, sound, and art come together in perfect harmony, nurturing both your body and soul.



£8 per person, £40 for the series
Over 18s only
Booking essential

TAI CHI

Every Wednesday

1-2pm

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Tai Chi and Chi Kung (Qigong) Classes with Sifu Nick

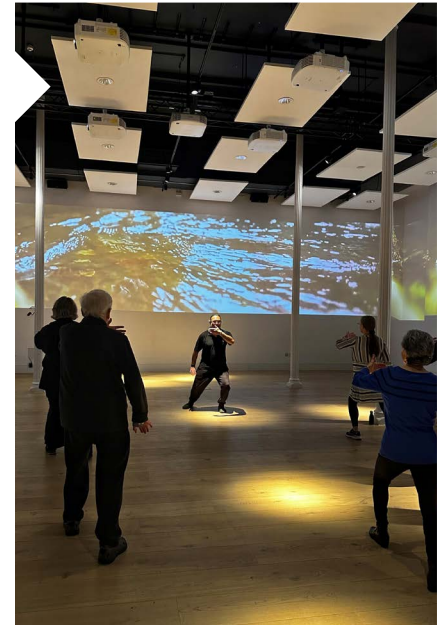
Tai Chi and Chi Kung are ancient practices performed standing, designed to harmonize mind and body through flowing movements and focused breathing. These practices are suitable for all levels of health and fitness, helping to cultivate internal energy (Chi) and promote physical and mental well-being.

Sifu Nick, a regional representative for the Master Ding Academy, teaches traditional Yang Style Tai Chi Chuan, passed down through generations. In this class, you will explore both solo and paired practices that strengthen the body, calm the mind, and awaken the energy within.

In the class, you'll learn the fundamentals of Tai Chi Chuan and Chi Kung, improving flexibility, balance, and strength while cultivating mental clarity, relaxation, and stress relief. These practices help tap into your internal energy (Chi) for better health and vitality.

For attire, it's recommended to wear loose, comfortable clothing that allows for a full range of motion. Most participants opt for gym wear and flexible, flat-soled shoes like trainers or plimsolls. There's no need for special footwear, but flat shoes are ideal for stability. Please bring a bottle of water to stay hydrated during the session.

Although Tai Chi originated as a martial art, today's practitioners primarily use it to enhance physical health, mental clarity, and overall well-being. Whether you're seeking relaxation, stress relief, improved fitness, or a fresh approach to life, Tai Chi and Chi Kung offer a gentle yet powerful way to achieve all of this. Join us to awaken the natural energy (Chi) within you and experience the profound benefits of these ancient practices.



£8 per session
Over 18s only
Booking essential



IMMERSIVE SOUND BATH

Friday 28 February, Friday 28 March, Friday 25 April

6.30 - 8pm

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Join us for an amazing event, where sound healing frequencies and stunning immersive visuals meet to create a powerful experience. Enter a realm of peace, tranquillity, contemplation and wonder. Lay back and melt away any stresses you may be carrying, as the journey unfolds with beautiful visuals and sacred geometry. Ashleigh Louise is a Sound Practitioner and Holistic Therapist who intuitively creates and layers frequencies and vibrations with gongs, chimes, drum, crystal singing bowls and more. Stimulate your senses and clear your mind with this offering of transformative sounds enhanced by beautiful visuals.

Sound Therapy benefits include:

- Improved sleep
- Improved focus and concentration
- Meditation
- Stress relief
- Anxiety relief

£22 per person
Over 18s only
Booking essential

Please note, sound therapy is not recommended for those in the first trimester of pregnancy, those with metal implants in the body, those with severe mental health conditions and those who have sound induced epilepsy. If you wear a hearing aid, it is recommended to switch it off during the session. If you are unsure whether this session is suitable for you, please consult with your doctor.

Wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat to lie on.

BREATH AND SOUND INTEGRATION IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE

Sunday 26 January, Sunday 2 March
2 - 4pm

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

This immersive workshop combines the ancient practices of breathwork and sound healing to guide participants through a deeply relaxing and restorative experience.

By engaging in conscious breath techniques and therapeutic sound frequencies, participants will release built-up tension, clear blocked energy, and reconnect with their inner selves, fostering emotional healing and deep relaxation.

Trauma & Breathwork Coach - Wildflower Ali will guide you through an hour of conscious connected breathwork, providing insights into your emotional and mental health and supporting you in releasing tension.

Following the breathwork, Mita - LOVE YOUR PRESENCE - will use sound frequencies to integrate harmony and balance, creating a deep connection within and inviting peace to flow through every cell. Mita guides people to reconnect with their inner peace on their wellness journey through meditation, Reiki, and holistic practices.

£30 per session
Over 18s only
Booking essential



Main session objectives:

Promote stress reduction and emotional healing through guided breathwork.

Use sound healing to harmonise the body's energy and induce deep relaxation.

Provide a nurturing space for self-reflection and connection with the breath.

Benefits include: Participants will leave feeling rejuvenated, balanced, and equipped with tools for ongoing self-care, including breath techniques they can integrate into daily life.



CRAFT & CHATTER

Fridays

12.30pm - 2pm

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Looking for a way to unwind after a busy week? Join us for a relaxing, informal crafting session every Friday lunchtime at the Northampton Museum & Art Gallery! Whether you're working on a knitting project, sewing, or any craft of your choice, this is a great opportunity to relax, create, and meet other like-minded crafters.

Come along, bring your craft, and enjoy some casual creative time with new friends!

Please purchase a drink or snack from the café to support the venue.

Drop-in, no booking required.



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CHILDREN'S EVENTS

A

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MINI MUSEUM EXPLORERS

Held on Fridays
Friday 10 January - Friday 4 April
(excluding 21 February)
10.15 - 11.45am

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Join Us for Fun, Creative Pre-School Sessions!

Bring your little ones (ages 2.5-5) to our popular, hands-on sessions designed especially for under-fives. Explore the museum through exciting stories, music, and arts & crafts activities—all while making new friends and creating lasting memories in a welcoming and family-friendly environment.

These sessions are for children aged 2.5-5 and their parents/carers and are held every Friday morning during term time. Each week, we offer a new theme filled with fun activities to engage your child’s creativity and imagination. A child’s snack and an adult tea/coffee are included, making it a relaxed, enjoyable experience for everyone.



Friday 10 January Winter (Snow and Ice)

Friday 17 January Toys and Games

Friday 24 January Lines

Friday 31 January Romans

Friday 7 February Food

Friday 14 February Valentines

Friday 28 February Weather

Friday 7 March Animals

Friday 14 March Castles

Friday 21 March Bugs

Friday 28 March Transport

Friday 4 April Easter

Booking is essential, as places are limited. Don’t miss out on this fantastic opportunity to bond with your child and enjoy a creative, memorable morning together!

£5 per child per session
Refreshments included
Booking essential as places are limited.



POP IN WEDNESDAYS

**Wednesday 19 February, 9 & 16 April
12 - 4pm**

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Pop into the museum on Wednesday afternoons during the school holidays for fun, hands on activities for families to enjoy.

These activities are free of charge, donations welcome.

**Drop in
No need to book**



EASTER TRAIL

Tuesday 8 - Sunday 20 April

Abington Park Museum

Join us for a special Easter trail around Abington Park Museum with a chocolate egg as a prize for every child.

£2.50 per trail
Drop in during opening hours



N

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EVENTS

A

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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT AND YEOMANRY IDENTIFICATION DAY

Saturday 1 March

12 - 4pm

Abington Park Museum

Do you have a military ancestor that you would be interested in finding out more about? Do you have a question about the Northamptonshire Yeomanry or Regiment? Do you have a treasured military object that you would like to know more about? Come along and ask our military experts.

**Free
Drop in**

PASTA AND PROSECCO WITH CARMELA'S KITCHEN

Friday 21 March

6pm

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Join us for a delightful evening of Italian cuisine!

Welcome to our inaugural Pasta and Prosecco evening! Get ready to roll up your sleeves and create your very own pasta while indulging in delicious Italian fare.

Evening Highlights:

We'll kick off the night with complimentary chilled prosecco to set the mood.

Under the expert guidance of Carmela, you'll learn to make semola pasta from scratch. You'll have the chance to shape your dough into various pasta styles, including cavatelli, gnocchetti sardi, and spizzulus, which you can take home to enjoy later. Carmela will also demonstrate how to prepare a delightful ricotta and basil pesto using the traditional pestle and mortar method, alongside a roasted pepper pesto. Both pestos will be served with crunchy breadsticks.

Casual Italian Antipasti Feast:

After the pasta-making fun, we'll gather for a relaxed antipasti evening featuring an array of delicious dishes:

Cured meats - cured cheeses - Pugliese bread - melon with Parma ham - Filippo Berio extra virgin olive oil and aged balsamic - olives with lemon - artichokes in oil - sundried tomatoes - tomato and mozzarella salad - stuffed baby peppers - traditional tiramisu served in individual glasses.

£30 per person
Over 18s only
Booking essential



The museum will provide a paid bar for your enjoyment.

Join us with your friends and family for an evening filled with culinary creativity and Italian flavours!

What's included: two glasses of prosecco per person, all pasta making ingredients, equipment and food.

What to bring: a container to take home your pasta, an apron.





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FAIRS

VINTAGE AND CRAFT FAIR

Saturday 15 March

11am - 4pm

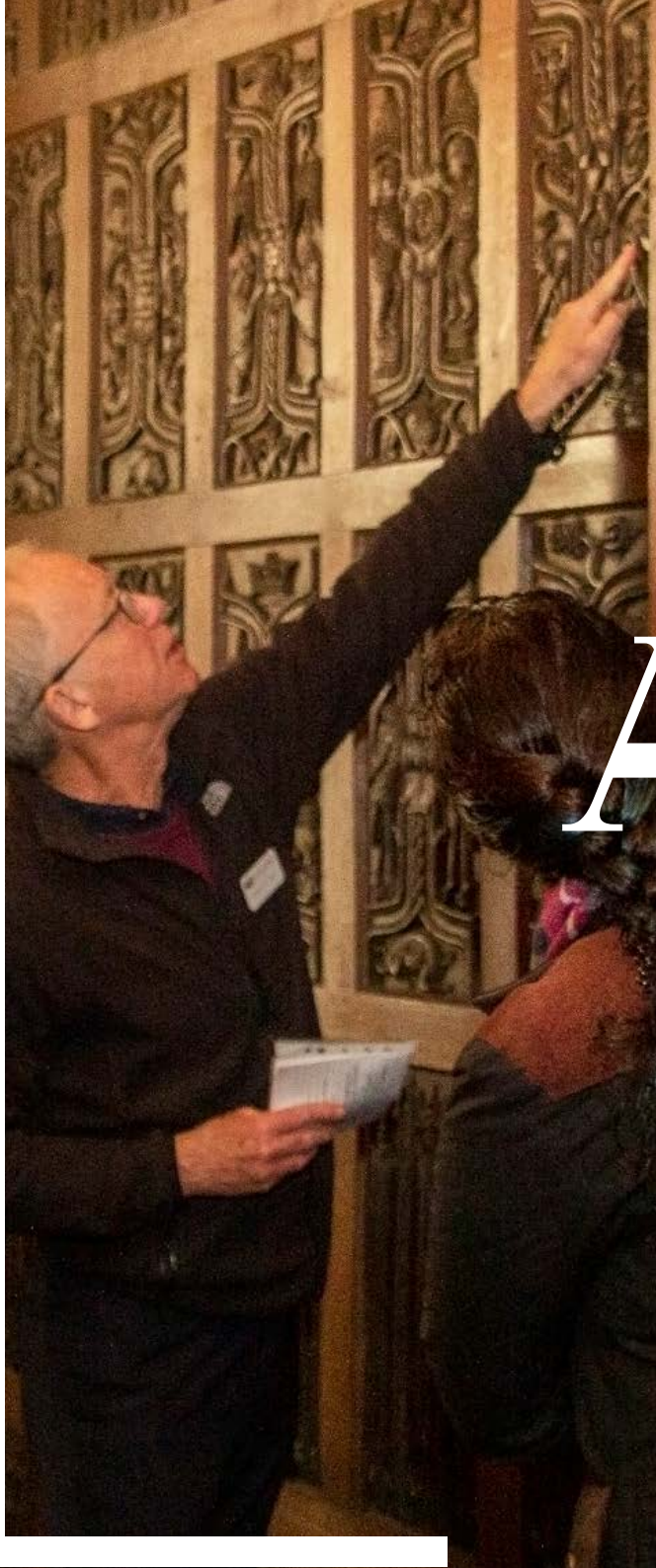
Abington Park Museum

A selection of vintage reworked and handmade stalls selling fashion, accessories, jewellery, collectibles, homeware and more. Enjoy the delicious hot food and drinks in the courtyard from local food and drink producers. Free admission.

Stallholders - stall prices start at £29, email museums@westnorthants.gov.uk for an application form.



Free entry



Abington
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A **TOURS**



TOURS OF ABINGTON PARK MUSEUM

Sunday 19 January

Sunday 23 February

Sunday 23 March

Sunday 27 April

2pm

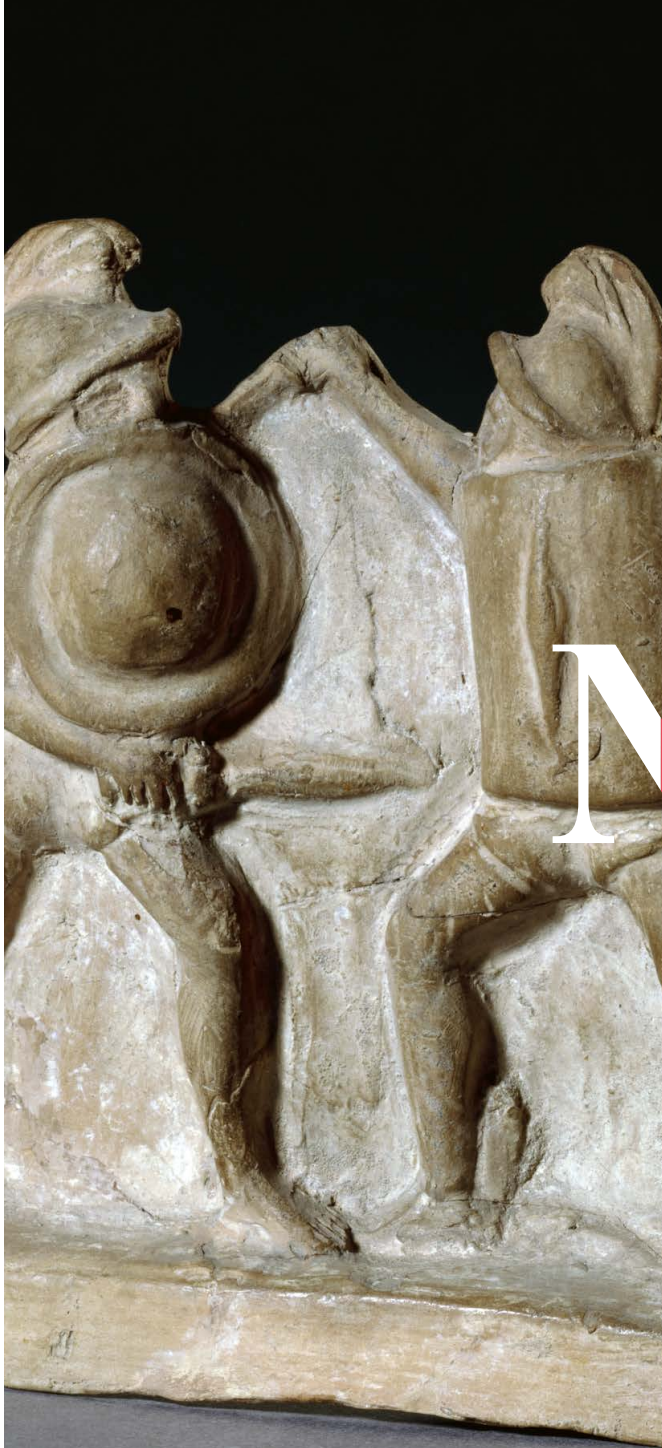
Abington Park Museum

Volunteer led guided tours of the historic Abington Park Museum. Discover the history of the building and the stories of the people who have lived there. Includes a chance to view objects not normally on display.

Recommended for adults. Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.

Please note there is no lift, and the tours will involve stairs and uneven surfaces. The tour will last approximately 45 minutes.

£3.50 per person
Over 18s only
Booking essential



Northampton
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**COMING
SOON**

GLADIATORS OF BRITAIN

A British Museum Touring Exhibition

Saturday 24 May - Sunday 7 September 2025

Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Explore the history of gladiatorial fights in Britain.

The events of the amphitheatre – its wild beasts and enslaved fighters – are one of the most enduring aspects of Roman culture that still capture the public imagination today.

This touring exhibition brings together some of the country's most important objects to tell the story of Britain's entertainment venues and the people who died to the roar of the crowd. It will reveal the violence of the arena, and the importance of spectacle within Roman culture.

Highlights include the Colchester Vase loaned by Colchester Museums, which records an actual battle between two real gladiators, and the Hawkedon Helmet, the only confirmed piece of gladiatorial armour from Roman Britain. These iconic loans will be supported by a selection of other items that reveal the popularity of gladiators throughout Roman society.

This tour is in partnership with Colchester and Ipswich Museums and is inspired by the recent exhibition at Colchester Castle, *Gladiators: A Day at the Roman Games* which featured British Museum loans. It will explore Roman spectacle in the local region of each venue, following in the footsteps of the gladiators who fought in the amphitheatres of Britain.

Supported by the Dorset Foundation in memory of Harry M Weinrebe.





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Northampton
Museum &
Art Gallery

DIARY

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Abington
Park
Museum

Ongoing Exhibitions

Date	Event	Page
Until Sun 23 Feb	Northampton Town and County Art Society Annual Exhibition Exhibition Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	8 N
Until Sun 2 Mar	From the Collection: Everyday Exhibition Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	9 N
Until Sun 16 Mar	Shaped by Shoes: The Northamptonshire Shoe Industry Exhibition Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	10 N

Upcoming Exhibitions

Date	Event	Page
Sat Jan 11 – Sun 16 Feb	Lasting Legacy Exhibition Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	11 N
Sat 1 Mar – Sun 28 Mar	The conduct might seem innocent. The victim might not be aware Exhibition Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	12 N
Sun 1 Mar – Sun 27 Apr	Bird Photographer of the Year Exhibition Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	13 N
Sat 22 Mar – Sun 11 May	Wild Places Exhibition Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	14 N
Sat 29 Mar – Sun 11 May	Extinction Exhibition Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	15 N



Upcoming Exhibitions

Date	Event	Page
Sun 11 Jan – Sun 30 Mar	Land to Sea Artworks by Sarah Hutt, Melissa McDonald and Rosie Jarvis Exhibition Abington Park Museum	18 A
January		
Date	Event	Page
Tue 7 Jan	Immersive Yoga The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	26 N
Wed 8 Jan	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N
Fri 10 Jan	Mini Museum Explorers - Winter Children's Events Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	32 N
Fri 10 Jan	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Tue 14 Jan	Immersive Yoga The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	26 N
Wed 15 Jan	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N
Thu 16 Jan	Margaret Bondfield: The First Woman Cabinet Member Talk Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	19 N



January

Date	Event	Page
Fri 17 Jan	Mini Museum Explorers - Toys and Games Children's Events Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	32 N
Fri 17 Jan	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Sun 19 Jan	Tour of Abington Park Museum Tours Abington Park Museum	41 A
Tue 21 Jan	Immersive Yoga The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	26 N
Wed 22 Jan	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N
Fri 24 Jan	Mini Museum Explorers - Lines Children's Events Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	32 N
Fri 24 Jan	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Sun 26 Jan	Breath and Sound Integration Immersive Experience Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	29 N
Tue 28 Jan	Immersive Yoga The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	26 N



January / February

Date	Event	Page
Wed 29 Jan	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N
Thu 30 Jan	Call of the Kingfisher Talk Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	19 N
Fri 31 Jan	Mini Museum Explorers - Romans Children's Events Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	32 N
Fri 31 Jan	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Tue 4 Feb	Immersive Yoga The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	26 N
Wed 5 Feb	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N
Fri 7 Feb	Mini Museum Explorers - Food Children's Events Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	32 N
Fri 7 Feb	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Tue 11 Feb	Immersive Yoga The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	26 N
Wed 12 Feb	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N



February

Date	Event	Page
Thu 13 Feb	Discover the Amazing Story of the Panacea Society Talk Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	19 N
Fri 14 Feb	Mini Museum Explorers - Valentines Children's Events Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	32 N
Fri 14 Feb	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Wed 19 Feb	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N
Wed 19 Feb	Pop in Wednesday Children's event Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	33 N
Fri 21 Feb	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Sun 23 Feb	Tour of Abington Park Museum Tours Abington Park Museum	41 A
Wed 26 Feb	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N
Thu 27 Feb	Murder and Mayhem Talk Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	19 N



February / March

Date	Event	Page
Fri 28 Feb	Mini Museum Explorers - Weather Children's Events Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	32 N
Fri 28 Feb	Housewives, Boors and Peasants: An Overview of Dutch Genre Painting Talk Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	21 N
Fri 28 Feb	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Fri 28 Feb	Immersive Soundbath The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	28 N
Sat 1 Mar	Northamptonshire Regiment and Yeomanry Identification Day Event Abington Park Museum	36 A
Sun 2 Mar	Breath and Sound Integration Immersive Experience The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	29 N
Wed 5 Mar	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N
Fri 7 Mar	Mini Museum Explorers - Animals Children's Events Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	32 N
Fri 7 Mar	Hogarth and Genre: Social Satire and Realism Talk Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	21 N



March

Date	Event	Page
Fri 7 Mar	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Wed 12 Mar	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N
Thu 13 Mar	Hollywood in Irthlingborough - The Battle of Waterloo Talk Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	19 N
Fri 14 Mar	Mini Museum Explorers - Castles Children's Events Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	32 N
Fri 14 Mar	Intimist Interior: Fin de Siècle Art of Domesticity Talk Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	21 N
Fri 14 Mar	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Sat 15 Mar	Vintage and Craft Fair Fair Abington Park Museum	39 A
Sat 15 & Sun 16 Mar	Two-day Shoe Making Workshop with Hetty Rose Adult workshop Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	23 N
Wed 19 Mar	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N



March

Date	Event	Page
Fri 21 Mar	Mini Museum Explorers - Bugs Children's Events Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	32 N
Fri 21 Mar	Novel in a Rectangle: Reading Victorian Interiors Talk Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	21 N
Fri 21 Mar	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Fri 21 Mar	Pasta and Prosecco with Carmela's Kitchen Event Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	37 N
Sun 23 Mar	Tour of Abington Park Museum Tours Abington Park Museum	41 A
Wed 26 Mar	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N
Thu 27 Mar	My Life Amongst the Bells Talk Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	20 N
Fri 28 Mar	Mini Museum Explorers - Transport Children's Events Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	32 N
Fi 28 Mar	Whose Home? Men, Women and Domestic Bliss Talk Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	21 N



March / April

Date	Event	Page
Fri 28 Mar	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Fri 28 Mar	Immersive Soundbath The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	28 N
Wed 2 Apr	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N
Fri 4 Apr	Mini Museum Explorers - Easter Children's Events Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	32 N
Fri 4 Apr	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Sat 5 Apr	An Introduction to Portrait Painting in Oils Adult workshop Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	24 N
Wed 9 Apr	Pop in Wednesday Children's event Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	33 N
Wed 9 Apr	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N
Fri 11 Apr	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N



April

Date	Event	Page
Wed 16 Apr	Pop in Wednesday Children's event Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	33 N
Wed 16 Apr	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N
Fri 18 Apr	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Wed 23 Apr	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N
Thu 24 Apr	Blair Swannell - From the Gardens to Gallipoli Talk Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	20 N
Fri 25 Apr	Craft and Chatter The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	30 N
Fri 25 Apr	Immersive Soundbath The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	28 N
Sun 27 Apr	Tour of Abington Park Museum Tours Abington Park Museum	41 A
Wed 30 Apr	Tai Chi The Wellness Series Northampton Museum & Art Gallery	27 N



HOW TO BOOK

Tickets for events at both of our museums and online events can be booked in the following ways:

Online 24/7 at [Northampton Museums & Art Gallery Events | Eventbrite](#)

In person at Northampton Museum & Art Gallery & Abington Park Museum during opening hours (see page 59).

By phone on 01604 526322 during Northampton Museum & Art Gallery opening hours (see page 66).

By phone on 01604 526321 during Abington Park Museum opening hours (see page 66).

REFUND AND EXCHANGES

No refunds or exchanges once tickets have been purchased unless a performance is cancelled or postponed.

BOOKING FEES

- There are no booking fees for ticket bookings made over the phone or in person at Northampton Museum & Art Gallery or Abington Park Museum.
- Online ticket bookings are made using Eventbrite. Booking fees apply on each event and vary according to the price of each event. The booking fee is clearly displayed on each event at the time of booking.

CARERS TICKETS

We offer one free carers ticket when accompanying a visitor that requires extra help to participate in any event. This permits access to the event for the sole purpose of assisting with the full paying ticket holder to facilitate them during the event. When booking the full paying ticket, you should notify the museum that you require a carers ticket to facilitate them during the event.

On arrival at the event please show the relevant paperwork at the admissions desk when you collect your tickets/register for the event. One of the following will be accepted:

- Disability Living Allowance or Attendance Allowance award letter (dated within the last 12 months)
- Personal Independence Payment letter (dated within the last 12 months)
- A current and valid Blue Badge – or image of
- Letter from a GP or consultant (dated within the last 12 months) confirming the need for a full-time carer. This does not need to be a letter of diagnosis

Unfortunately, if the above documentation is not provided at the event, a carers ticket cannot be issued, and a full price ticket will need to be purchased before entry to the event can be granted.

TICKET COLLECTIONS

- If a ticket is booked online, you will receive an e-ticket by email.
- If a ticket is booked in person, you will receive a ticket receipt.
- If a ticket is booked over the phone, you will be able to collect your ticket receipt on the day of the event from the reception of the museum where the event is taking place. Alternatively, you are welcome to collect the ticket in advance, during opening hours, from the museum where the event is set to take place

CHILDREN

All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult to our events, unless the event specifically states that children can be left unaccompanied.



Northampton
Museum &
Art Gallery

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NORTHAMPTON MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

Open Tuesday-Saturday 10am-5pm

Open Sunday 12-5pm

Also open spring and summer bank holidays 10am-5pm

FREE ENTRY

4-6 Guildhall Road, Northampton, NN1 1DP

Telephone: 01604 526322

Email: museums@westnorthants.gov.uk



ABINGTON PARK MUSEUM

Open Saturday and Sunday 12-4pm

Open spring and summer bank holidays 12-4pm

Also open Tuesday-Sunday during Northamptonshire school holidays

FREE ENTRY

Park Avenue South, Northampton, NN1 5LW

Telephone: 01604 526321

Email: museums@westnorthants.gov.uk



Abington
Park
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Find us online at:

www.northamptonmuseums.com

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All details correct at the time of publishing and are subject to change