



VisitEngland™

What's New 2010 VisitEngland Press Office

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Accommodation

Enzo's Escape
Mockerkin
2009

This new self catering accommodation is a stylish converted barn with wood burning stove, a double ended roll top bath, toasty underfloor heating and a state of the art home cinema system located near Loweswater.
www.enzoescape.co.uk

Stoneview House, Stonetrail Holidays
Cumbria
2009

The latest addition to Stonetrail Holidays is Stoneview House, which offers chic self catering for groups, families and house parties in a barn conversion designed to offer a contemporary interior and a high standard of comfort complete with wood burning stoves, power showers and crisp white linen blend easily within the original architecture. www.stonetrailholidays.com

Lakeland Campers
Cumbria
2009

Lakeland Campers offer a stunning classic 1969 Volkswagen Bay window camper van called Dolly, completely restored and fully equipped with a double bed, hammock and a small child's bunk, central heating, pots, pans, crockery and fridge. www.lakelandcampers.co.uk

Creting House Guest House
Ipswich

2009

This grade II listed former rectory set in 9 acres offers relaxed country house hospitality with modern facilities, free wi-fi, and flexible accommodation. www.creetinghouse.com

Heacham Manor Hotel
Heacham, West Norfolk
2009

This charming boutique hotel is situated in a converted manor house, offering 14 luxurious bedrooms overlooking the Heacham Manor 18 hole golf course. www.heacham-manor.co.uk

Copthorne Hotel
Sheffield
2009

Located next to Sheffield United Football Club's stadium, the new 158 room Copthorne Hotel Sheffield is a 4 Star rated hotel with a Rosette award for dining, and an extensive gym.
www.millenniumhotels.co.uk/copthornesheffield

Novotel
Liverpool
2nd November 09

Enjoy modern decor at the Novotel Liverpool, city centre location, 6 miles from John Lennon Airport.
<http://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-6495-novotel-liverpool-opening-date-2nd-november-2009/index.shtml>

Hilton
Liverpool
17th November 2009

The Hilton Liverpool hotel is a landmark property situated in the heart of the newly remodelled city centre. With spectacular views over the Liver Buildings, Albert Dock and Chavasse Park, the hotel is 20 minutes from Liverpool John Lennon Airport and less than 1 mile from Liverpool Lime Street Station.
<http://www.hilton.co.uk/liverpool>

Sleeperz
Manchester
Late 2009

Sleeperz offers both the business and leisure traveller an affordable city living experience within a hotel environment. With plans to expand throughout the United Kingdom with hotels planned for Manchester, Newcastle, Birmingham and Liverpool.
<http://www.sleeperz.com/sleeperz-expands.php>

Park Inn Rotherham
Rotherham
Late 2009

Complete with bright, airy and modern rooms at an affordable price, the hotel will offer four meeting rooms, 132 colourful guest rooms in Park Inn themed design complete with fitness centre, sauna and steam rooms, spa and a tempting restaurant. www.parkinn.co.uk

Rothay Garden Hotel
Grasmere
2010

The award-winning Rothay Garden Hotel in Grasmere is planning further refurbishment to its recent £2 million redevelopment programme and will be undertaking the creation of luxurious Garden Suites, an extension to the 2-rosette Conservatory Restaurant and the introduction of contemporary outdoor leisure/spa facilities, including hot tub. www.rothaygarden.com

Four Seasons re-opening

**London
2010**

The Four Seasons Hotel London has undergone a major transformation and will welcome its guests to a completely reinvented hotel in 2010. All guestrooms, suites, restaurants and bars have been reconfigured and redesigned, including the addition of an entirely new floor with a rooftop spa with treetop views of Hyde Park. www.fourseasons.com/london

**45 Park Lane
London
2010**

Luxury hotel brand, Dorchester Collection is set to open a new 46 room hotel, to be called 45 Park Lane. Located in Mayfair, the hotel will be the eighth hotel in the Collection, offering guests who are looking for Dorchester quality a more contemporary hotel. For further information contact Anna Glover / aglover@dorchestercollection.com or visit www.dorchestercollection.com.

**100th Birthday: The Goring
London
2010**

The Goring will mark its 100th birthday in 2010 and the interiors are currently being refreshed by some of the country's finest designers. For more information contact Lucinda at Mango PR Lucinda.buxton@mangopr.co.uk or visit www.thegoring.com.

**Wyndham Grand re-opening
London**

6 January 2010

The Wyndham Grand Hotel in London Chelsea Harbour will be re-opening on 6th January 2010 with a brand new lobby, reception, restaurant, bar, Spa and ballroom with a capacity for up to 600 people. www.wyndhamgrandlondon.co.uk

**Abode Chester
Chester
February 2010**

This new 80 bedroom boutique hotel restaurant has been designed with the international traveller and business traveller in mind, and is complete with a restaurant and a champagne bar. www.abodehotels.co.uk/chester

**Park Plaza Westminster Bridge Hotel
London
Early 2010**

The Park Plaza Westminster Bridge Hotel will be London's largest hotel opening in a generation. This 15-storey 1,021-room hotel on the Southbank boasts uninterrupted views of the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben, and will contain over 30 meeting, conference and function rooms, including a pillar less ballroom that seats 1,000 for dinner and 1,400 theatre style. www.parkplazahotels.net

**The Savoy
London
Early 2010**

After a £100million refurbishment, The Savoy is due to reopen in early 2010, combining Edwardian grandeur and Art Deco design www.the-savoy.com

**Park Inn
Southend-on-Sea
Spring 2010**

This new stylish hotel set in a landmark Edwardian building overlooking the River Thames will feature 137 rooms - the majority with sea views. There will also be a spacious all-day dining restaurant, six meeting rooms and

spa/health club.
www.southend-on-sea.parkinn.co.uk

**Beach Hut Resorts
Whitley Bay
Easter 2010**

There has been a development of a number of Beach Huts on the seafront at Whitley Bay recently opened in September 2009. These luxury self-catering huts have yet to go through the Accommodation accreditation process. www.beachhutresorts.com

**Jurys Inn Quayside
Newcastle
October 2010**

The new 200-room hotel will be located on the Baltic Riverside in Gateshead – a ten minute walk from Newcastle city centre and the Quayside entertainment district. The new hotel will be Jurys Inns' second hotel in Newcastle. <http://newcastlehotels.jurysinns.com>

**W Hotel
London
Late 2010**

The W Hotel and Residences London Leicester Square hotel, built on the site of the old Swiss Centre will enjoy a prime location in the heart of London's West End and will feature a signature Spa and fitness facility and nine suites – including two WOW and one Extreme WOW.

**The Grosvenor Pulford Hotel & Spa
Chester
Late 2010**

Winner of the Visit Chester & Cheshire Large Hotel of the Year 2007, this hotel is undergoing renovation to provide spa and beauty training facilities, the first of its kind in the Northwest. www.grosvenorpulfordhotel.co.uk

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Events and Exhibitions

**Legally Blonde – The Musical
The Savoy Theatre, London
January 2010**

The musical version of the hit girlie film comes to the West End following great success on Broadway. Directed by Jeremy Mitchell, starring Sheridan Smith and Duncan James from Blue.

www.legallyblondethemusical.co.uk/

**UK School Games
NewcastleGateshead and Sunderland
2010**

This multi-sport event for the nation's most talented school age athletes is run on behalf of DCMS by the Youth Sport Trust and was launched in 2006, to be held every year until 2012. The event is designed to replicate the feel of events like the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games, with opening and closing ceremonies and athletes' villages, funded with a £6million government investment. Visit www.ukschoolgames.com

**Sunderland International Airshow
Sunderland
2010**

Sunderland International Airshow celebrates its 22nd year in 2010 at the two-day event, which attracts hundreds of thousands of spectators to Sunderland's stunning coastline at Roker and Seaburn and is now the biggest free airshow in Europe. Dates to be announced soon.

Ghost – The Musical

London

2010

A musical version of the hit 1990 film *Ghost* is being planned for a London premiere in 2010, to be directed by Matthew Warchus and to feature a score by Grammy Award winners Dave Stewart and Glen Ballard, and Bruce Joel Rubin is adapting his original screenplay about a murdered man who attempts to communicate with his girlfriend with the help of a phoney psychic. www.ghostthemusical.com

Haxey Hood Game

Haxey, nr Epworth, North Lincolnshire

6 January 2010

Every January, the parish of Haxey goes a little crazy for the day and play a mad game called the Haxey Hood, the oldest local tradition in England dating back to the 14th century. It is a tradition that began as Lady de Mowbray was out riding and her silk riding hood was blown away. Thirteen farm workers in the field rushed to help and chased the hood all over the field. One farm worker caught it but was too shy, so he gave it one of the others to hand it back to her. She thanked the farm worker who had returned the hood and said that he had acted like a Lord, whereas the worker who had actually caught the hood was a Fool and so impressed she donated 13 acres of land for the act to be re-enacted each year. For more information contact Katie King at East Midlands Tourism on katieking@emd.org.uk or visit www.northlincs.gov.uk/NorthLincs/Leisure/tourism/placestovisit/placesofhistoricalinterest/HaxeyHood.htm

Six Degrees of Separation

Old Vic Theatre

7 January – 3 April 2010

David Grindley directs John Guare's adrenalin-fuelled, Olivier Award-winning play – a sharp, vivacious take on two worlds colliding. www.oldvictheatre.com

Every Good Boy deserves Favour

Olivier Theatre

9 January – 17 February 2010

Following a sell-out run earlier this year, Tom Stoppard and André Previn's *Every Good Boy deserves Favour* returns to the Olivier Theatre for a limited run. The play is a co-production with Southbank Sinfonia, Britain's young professional orchestra, conducted by Simon Over. www.nationaltheatre.org.uk

Whittlesey Straw Bear Festival

Whittlesey

15-17 January 2010

Said to be a throwback to Pagan times, this quirky annual festival brings to life a straw bear as part of an elaborate parade around town centre attended by a host of dancers and musicians as part of a tradition on Plough Monday whereby men or boys were clothed in a layer of straw, and these 'straw bears' danced in front of houses and gifts of money or food or beer were given in return. For more information contact Brian Kell on info@strawbear.org.uk or visit www.strawbear.org.uk.

Cambridge Winter Ale Festival

21 -23 January 2010

This winter festival features around 120 beers with the emphasis on seasonal ales and winter warmers with plenty of "session" beers. www.Cambridge-camra.org.uk

Chris Ofili

Tate Britain

27 January – 16 May 2010

Born in Britain, based in Trinidad, Chris Ofili won the Turner Prize in 1998 and represented Great Britain in the Venice Biennale in 2003. This mid-career survey will be Chris Ofili's most substantial presentation to date, and his first solo exhibition in a public institution in this country for more than a decade. www.tate.org.uk

Afro-Modernism: Journeys through the Black Atlantic

Tate Liverpool

29 January - 25 April 2010

This exhibition identifies a hybrid culture, a network of contacts crossing the Atlantic, which connects African, North and South American, Caribbean and European cultures, revealing how black artists and intellectuals have played a central role in the formation of modernism from the early twentieth century to today. For more information contact Tate Liverpool: Stacey Arnold / stacey.arnold@tate.org.uk.

The Real Ministry of Food

Imperial War Museum

February 2010

A new exhibition at the Imperial War Museum will examine the production, distribution and consumption of food in Britain in the Second World War. The topics of growing your own food, eating seasonal fruit and vegetables, reducing imports, recycling and healthy nutrition were as topical in 1940 as they are today. www.iwm.org.uk

Illuminating Hadrian's Wall – A line of light from Coast to Coast

13th March 2010

Visitors can enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime spectacle when the 84-mile route of Hadrian's Wall is lit in March next year, through a breathtaking line of fire braziers linking Bowness-on-Solway to Wallsend. A viewing deck will be erected in the centre of Carlisle. For more information contact Paul Gardner at paul@ospreycommunications.co.uk.

Leicester Comedy Festival

5 - 21 February 2010

Leicester Comedy Festival is planning a bumper line up for the newly expanded 2010 festival. Now taking place over 17 days, the 2010 festival will feature a whole host of big name established acts and the hottest in new talent. A few names will be announced in the autumn with the full line up to come later on in the year. Previous comedians have included Alan Carr, Stephen K Amos and Rhod Gilbert. Tickets will be available in December. www.comedy-festival.co.uk

Darwin Festival

Shrewsbury

12-14 February 2010

The annual celebration of the town's most famous son Charles Darwin. Walks, tours lectures and workshops feature a part of the programme. www.discoverdarwin.co.uk

Arshile Gorky: A Retrospective

Tate Modern

10 February – 3 May 2010

Celebrating one of the most powerful and poetic American artists of his generation, Arshile Gorky: A Retrospective examines the extraordinary contribution of this seminal figure in Abstract Expressionism. www.tate.org.uk

Brit Insurance Designs of the Year 2010

Design Museum

12 Feb – 14 June 2010

Brit Insurance Designs of the Year showcases innovative and forward thinking designs from around the world with a number of internationally respected design experts invited to nominate up to five projects with a shortlist of around 100 designs – the Brit Insurance Designs of the Year - will be on display at the Design Museum from 12

February. For more information contact Ashley Woodfield on 020 7940 8787 / Ashley@designmuseum.org

Michelangelo's 'Dream'

The Courtauld Gallery

18 February – 16 May 2010

This exhibition at The Courtauld Gallery will explore the making and meaning of Michelangelo's Dream of Human Life which is one of the finest of all Italian Renaissance drawings, on display in the context of closely related works, rarely seen letters and poems by Michelangelo and his contemporaries. www.courtauld.ac.uk/gallery

Painting History: Delaroche and Lady Jane Grey

National Gallery, London

24 February – 23 May 2010

Paul Delaroche, one of the most famous French painters of the early 19th century, is today little known in the UK. This exhibit at the National gallery is to return attention to a major painter who fell from favour soon after his death. www.nationalgallery.org.uk

Henry Moore

Tate Britain

24 February – 15 August 2010

Radical, experimental and avant-garde, Henry Moore is one of the greatest sculptors that Britain has ever produced. This major exhibition will reassert his position at the forefront of progressive twentieth-century sculpture, bringing together the most comprehensive selection of his work for a generation. www.tate.org.uk

AV Festival

NewcastleGateshead, Sunderland and Middlesbrough

March 2010

The biennial AV Festival is an international festival of electronic arts, and features visual art, music and moving image. One of the North East England's flagship events and the UK's largest international festival of electronic arts, AV Festival boasts a programme of over 100 events, festival, concerts, performances and workshops. For more information contact Hayley Beattie at One Northeast at hayley.beattie@onenortheast.co.uk.

The BADA Antiques & Fine Art Fair

Duke of York Square, London

17 – 23 March 2010

The BADA Fair brings together the UK's top names in the art and antiques world offering for sale the finest pieces. For more information, contact enq@bada-antiques-fair.co.uk and visit www.bada-antiques-fair.co.uk.

Design Museum

Sustainable Futures,

31 March – 5 September 2010

This exhibition presents key examples of how design can deliver a more sustainable future, examining not only the objects themselves but also the infrastructure in which objects are produced and exist. For more information contact Ashley Woodfield on 020 7940 8787 / Ashley@designmuseum.org

Duchess of Devonshire 90th Birthday

Chatsworth

31 March - 31 October 2010

Chatsworth celebrates the 90th birthday of Deborah, now Dowager Duchess of Devonshire and the last surviving member of the famous Mitford sisters, marking the nine eventful decades of her life and illustrating her many interests and achievements. The exhibition opens on her 90th birthday. www.chatsworth.org

Lions of Bath

Bath

April 2010

A new public art project in Bath, a pride of 100 lions all individually decorated by artists will be placed through the city. www.lionsofbath.com For more information contact Sue Yates-Price, yates-price@talk21.com

Oxford Jazz Festival

1-4 April 2010

The new Oxford Jazz Festival is a four-day event taking place over the Easter Bank Holiday weekend with acclaimed jazz artists performing in some of Oxford's finest and most historic venues. Contact max@oxfordjazzfestival.com for more or visit www.oxfordjazzfestival.com

Brighton Marathon

18 April 2010

This first ever event will be the first full marathon to take place in England out side of London. For more information contact Charlotte Barrow on Charlotte.Barrow@Brighton-Hove.gov.uk or visit <http://brightonmarathon.co.uk>

Robin Hood Film Launch

Nottinghamshire

May 2010

Ridley Scott's Robin Hood is to be released in May 2010. There will also be a number of events happening in Nottinghamshire, to mark the film's release, including a Robin Hood festival at Sherwood Forest.

Elephants parade in London

May – July 2010

200 fibreglass elephants, each decorated by a different artist or celebrity - will stomp into London in the capital's biggest public art exhibition, to be then auctioned off to help a wildlife conservation project. The elephants will be sited from Buckingham Palace to the South Bank, beside Tate Modern and in Parliament Square in May, June and July.

Camden Crawl

London

1-2 May 2010

More than 150 of the best cutting edge and established British and International music talents will take over 40 neighbouring Camden Town venues. www.thecamdencrawl.com

Lang Lang at Royal Albert Hall

London

21 May 2010

In his only London performance in the 2010 season the world-famous 26-year-old pianist Lang Lang returns to the Royal Albert Hall on 21st May 2010. Performing completely unaccompanied this production will encourage a dialogue between Lang Lang and his audience. www.royalalberthall.com

Picasso: Peace and Freedom

Tate Liverpool

21 May – 30 August 2010

This is the first exhibition to reveal Picasso as a tireless political activist and campaigner for peace in the post-War period, bringing together 150 key paintings and drawings as well as posters and documents related to war and peace from 1944-1973. The centrepiece will be the artist's masterpiece, *The Charnel House* (1944-45), last seen in the UK more than 50 years ago. For more information contact the Tate Liverpool press office: Stacey Arnold / stacey.arnold@tate.org.uk

Wolds Walking Festival

22 May– 6 June 2010

Beneath Lincolnshire's 'Big Skies' lies the rolling landscape of the Lincolnshire Wolds. Recognised as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the Wolds are a haven for walkers. This festival offers something for everyone, from leisurely strolls to adventurous hikes; pub walks and town trails.

www.visitlincolnshire.com

Ernesto Neto
The Hayward Gallery
Summer 2010

The Hayward Gallery will open with a summer show devoted to Ernesto Neto, one of the leading artists of Brazil's contemporary art scene. www.haywardgallery.org.uk

London Festival of Architecture
19 June – 4 July 2010

Themed "The Welcoming City", the festival includes a 16-day program of events highlighting how cities can become increasingly amenable, tolerant and engaging. The celebrations across the capital have three focus areas – Nash Ramblas (Portland Place and Regent Street in the west end), High Street 2012 (Whitechapel, Bow and Stratford in the east) and the Bankside Urban Forest (Southbank and Bankside cultural quarter).

www.lfa2010.org

Ludlow Festival
Ludlow

26 June - 11 July 2010

Now in its 51st year, an outdoor production held amongst the backdrop of Ludlow Castle. The two week festival also includes a fringe festival, talks, workshops and musical performances. www.ludlowfestival.co.uk

BRASS: Durham International Festival
Durham

July 2010

This two-week international Brass Music Festival is taking place in Durham offers everything from traditional brass bands to afro-beat, Balkan brass madness to classical ensembles, folk-brass to contemporary jazz. The 2009 event saw over 40 events, many of them free, feature 40 bands and 250 musicians from Mexico, Iceland, Austria, Germany, Macedonia, Finland, France, Ireland, Canada, Cuba, Switzerland, USA, Nigeria, the Netherlands and the UK.

www.brassfestival.co.uk Press enquiries should be directed to news@strictly-press.co.uk.

Battle of Britain Celebrations
Waddington Air Show

July 2010

Lincolnshire was known as the Bomber County in WW2 and the landscape still holds the history of the war. Celebrations will ensue, and other aviation attractions include a taxi ride in one of the last two remaining Lancaster bombers.

British Formula 1 Grand Prix
Derby

11 July 2010

Derby joins an elite club populated by Monte Carlo, Shanghai, Istanbul, Valencia, Singapore and Sao Paulo as the host of the Formula 1 Grand Prix in 2010. Located just 10-miles from Donington race track, Derby is benefiting from an investment of over £2.2 billion to ensure that it will impress visitors from across the globe.

Taste of Birmingham
15 -18 July 2010

This four-day foodie fest includes signature dishes from top chefs, wines, music and special activities planned for each day at Cannon Hill Park. www.visitbirmingham.com/taste

Tall Ships Races 2010
Hartlepool
7 -10 August 2010

The city of Hartlepool will welcome up to 100 tall ships from around the world and up to one million visitors for the

finale of the event, arriving in Hartlepool after sailing from Kristiansand in Norway in the second and final race. The event takes place in Victoria Harbour. For more information contact Heather McWilliam on heather.mcwilliam@hartlepool.gov.uk or visit www.hartlepooltallships2010.com.

National Waterways Festival

West Berkshire

28-30 August 2010

The National Waterways Festival at Beale Park on the Thames festival coincides with the centenary of the birth of one of The Inland Waterways Association's founders - Tom Rolt.

www.waterways.org.uk/Events/NationalFestival2010

Ludlow & The Marches Food and Drink Festival

Ludlow

10 -12 September 2010

Featuring over 130 local producers and showcasing local food and drink. Britain's best food and drink festival featuring the town's popular sausage trail – sample sausages from the town's butchers and vote for the Festival sausage. www.foodfestival.co.uk

Laser World Championships

Hayling Island, Hampshire

11-19 September 2010

In addition to the two regattas which will come to Scotland, the further two regattas which make up the 2010 World Championships will be staged at Hayling Island Sailing Club in Hampshire - the Laser (standard) Senior and Junior World Championships from 27 August - 5 September 2010 and the Laser Masters Worlds from 11 - 19 September 2010. www.hisc.co.uk

Liverpool Biennial

18 September – 28 November 2010

Established in 1999, the Liverpool Biennial is the UK's largest festival of contemporary visual art by leading and emerging international artists presented over multiple sites in Liverpool including Tate Liverpool, FACT, the Bluecoat, Open Eye Gallery and the public realm. For more information contact the Tate Liverpool press office: Stacey Arnold / stacey.arnold@tate.org.uk

Great North Run

NewcastleGateshead

20 September 2010

Celebrating its 30th year in 2010, the world's largest half marathon is an iconic feature of NewcastleGateshead's cultural and sporting programme and welcomes 52,000 runners to the North East from all over the world. The Great North City Games event venue will also host sprints, hurdles, pole vault, high jump and shot put, in addition to talent-spotting, masterclasses and lectures by professional athletes. www.greatrun.org

A Journey out of Darkness - New Walk Museum and Art Gallery

Leicester

31 Oct 2009 - 28 Mar 2010

An exhibition of over 100 artworks, exploring the development of Leicester's German Expressionist Art Collection, goes on display in October until March 2010 at New Walk Museum & Art Gallery, Leicester.

www.leicester.gov.uk/museums

Frankfurt Christmas Market

Birmingham

December 2010

In its tenth year, the 2010 Frankfurt Christmas Market in Birmingham is the largest Christmas market in the UK, a highlight in the city's calendar and can boast upwards of 3 million visitors from England and internationally.

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New Attractions

The Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Doncaster

Opened 2009

African wildlife in the fields of a former farm in Yorkshire – including antelope, ankole cattle, and ostrich, African hunting dogs and lemur. For more information, visit www.comparethemeerkatbabies.com

York Castle Prison

York

Opened 2009

Spend a day where others spent a lifetime... York Castle Prison will plunge visitors back to the time when the building was used to house the county's worst felons and debtors. www.yorkcastleprison.org.uk

Nottingham Contemporary

November 2009

A diverse programme of exhibitions and other art projects, by both local and international artists, will be showcased at Nottingham Contemporary over four galleries. The brand new building, designed by award winning architects Caruso St John, was proposed to reflect and celebrate the Nottingham Lace industry.

www.nottinghamcontemporary.org

Preston Hall Museum and Park

Tees Valley

2010

The Georgian country house set in a park is a museum of social history. Restoration and development of Hall and Park to create a tourist attraction of regional significance.

Grizedale Art Roots

Grizedale Forest

February 2010

Grizedale Art Roots is a sculpture site to Grizedale Forest, with brand new sculptures being added in February 2010 to launch the arts programme. Visit www.forestry.gov.uk/grizedalehome or contact Paul Gardner at paul@ospreycommunications.co.uk.

New Galleries at Museum of London

Spring 2010

Museum of London's new gallery space is to open in Spring 2010 to tell the story of modern London from 1666 to 2012 and includes a fantastic new glass-fronted gallery at street level on London Wall.

www.museumoflondon.org.uk

Mountfitchet Castle

Stansted Mountfitchet

March 2010

The new building 'Ghosts of Past Times' will house a high-tech/interactive experience for the family, with spooky stories and treats as an additional attraction to the existing castle and toy museum. www.mountfitchetcastle.com

Meantime Brewery

Greenwich

March 2010

The Old Brewery will open in Greenwich in March with a bar and restaurant on the site of the original brewery from 1717 which supplied beer to the pensioned sailors of the Royal Hospital over 300 years ago. The beer, a 8.8% Belgian Abbey-Style ale, will spend a year in 350 litre oak Syrah casks before being tapped at Meantime's new brewery. www.meantimebrewing.com

UK's first 'FlowRider'

Bedford

March 2010

Bodyflight, the indoor skydiving wind tunnel in Bedford will open the 'sheet wave attraction' March 2010. The artificially generated wave will give landlocked surfers the chance to practice their skills without having to travel to the coast.

Gallons of water are blasted over a soft wave shaped surface, creating a continuous wave.

www.bodyflight.co.uk

Classic Cruises on Windermere

March 2010

Classic Cruises on Windermere is run by local sailor, Brendan Chapman who lives in Bowness and has linked up with four hotels with jetties on the Lake, to ferry passengers on his water taxi called Ginny, a 30ft Silverette classic boat built in the 1936 and seats up to 10 passengers, specialising in picnic cruises, sightseeing and weddings. www.classic-cruises.co.uk

Lakeland Motor Museum

Newby Bridge

Easter 2010

The Lakeland Motor Museum will leave Holker Hall and relocate to its brand new home based in Backbarrow, near Newby Bridge. The new purpose built, state of the art facility will house the museum's collection of over 30,000 exhibits. Visit www.lakelandmotormuseum.co.uk or contact info@lakelandmotormuseum.co.uk for more information.

Old MacDonald's Farm

Weald Road, Brentwood

Easter 2010

An indoor animal experience, which aims to let children and adults appreciate those smaller creatures that in the past they may have kept as pets. Featuring the 'Mousecow State Circus' the centre will include an enlarged area for tortoises and lizards, an improved aviary and a play and fun area for the mice and rodents.

www.omdfarm.co.uk

LEGOLAND Discovery Centre

The Trafford Centre, Manchester

Easter 2010

Merlin's Entertainment's £7.5m Manchester development will be the first LEGOLAND Discovery Centre in the UK, and the fourth worldwide. It offers a fun, highly interactive and educational indoor experience which is ideal for children 3 -12 years old. Contact Sally Ann Wilkinson at saw@thefirmcomms.com.

Picasso: Peace and Freedom

Tate Liverpool

21 May – 30 August 2010

This major exhibition will bring together over 150 works by Picasso from across the world. This is the first exhibition to explore the post-War period of the artist's life in depth, and will reflect a new Picasso for a new time.

<http://www.tate.org.uk/liverpool/exhibitions/Picasso/default.shtm>

The Royal Shakespeare Theatre

Stratford-upon-Avon

Autumn 2010

The refurbished Royal Shakespeare Theatre will house a new 1000-seat thrust stage auditorium in the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, the largest thrust stage with a tiered auditorium in the world. www.rsc.org.uk

Lee Valley Regional Park

Essex/Hertfordshire

Autumn 2010

A new Heritage Centre and Café will be opened at Myddleton House Gardens in Enfield.

www.leevalleypark.org.uk

Museum of Liverpool

Late 2010

This will be one of the world's leading city history museums, demonstrating the Liverpool's worldwide influence in terms of geography, history and culture. The new museum will give National Museums Liverpool the opportunity to showcase more than 6,000 objects, many of which have never before been on public display.

www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

Center Parcs: Warren Wood

Woburn, Bedfordshire

Late 2010

The fifth Center Parcs village will be constructed at Warren Wood. www.centerparcs.co.uk

New Velodrome

Leicester

2011

Work is soon to begin on Leicester's brand new £4.5 million velodrome complex which will include a motorbike speedway stadium, state-of-the-art 5-a-side football facility, and national standard BMX track.

The Hepworth Wakefield

Wakefield

2011

Designed by internationally acclaimed British architect, David Chipperfield, The Hepworth will be one of the largest galleries outside of London and will show for the first time a unique collection of sculptures by Barbara Hepworth – one of the most important sculptors of the 20th Century, born and raised in Wakefield.

www.hepworthwakefield.com

Butterfly World

St. Albans

Summer 2011

The 27 acre site will incorporate the largest biome in the world filled with over 10,000 tropical butterflies, waterfalls and reproduced Mayan-style ruins. Outside walkways will lead through spectacular gardens and meadows. 'Phase 1' of the project – Future Gardens are now open. www.butterfly-world.org

Nirah

Marston Moretaine, Bedford

Easter 2012

An ambitious new project that aims to promote the understanding of the connection between freshwater and life. Features include a tropical biotope, water adventure park, 4D cinema, hotels, plant/aquatic centre and spa.

www.nirah.org

Natural Vision at Chester Zoo

Chester

2012

Chester Zoo is undergoing a £200m refurbishment to establish itself as a world-class visitor attraction, including the addition of a 9-hole putting course, a new Cheetah exhibit, a new coffee house, and new walk-through aviary and a new high level walkway. www.chesterzoo.org

Chester Regeneration

2015

The Chester Renaissance Area Regeneration will see the Northgate development completed by 2015, to include new retail-led development including public spaces, a new library, market and transport facilities.

www.visitnorthwest.com/chester/regeneration.htm

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Film Releases and Locations

Film - Brighton Rock

Eastbourne

Mid-October 2009

A remake of the 1947 movie Brighton Rock starts filming in mid-October, including shots at the Langham Hotel and Beachy Head, the Bandstand and some hotels and guesthouses. The film will star Sam Riley, and Dame Helen Mirren and Andrea Riseborough will also star. Contact Emma Wilkinson / promotions@eastbourne.gov.uk

Film – Sherlock Holmes

Release – 25 December 2009

Starring Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law and Rachel McAdams and directed by Guy Ritchie, the following film locations were used in the film: Brompton Cemetery, London; Bunsen Street, Manchester; Chatham Docks, Chatham, Kent; Chatham Historic Dockyard, Chatham, Kent; Finsbury, London; Freemason's Hall, Covent Garden, London; Little Lever Street, Manchester; Liverpool docks, Liverpool; Mangle Street, Manchester; St Paul's Cathedral, London.

Film – Nowhere Boy

Release – 25 December 2009

A chronicle of John Lennon's childhood starring Kristin Scott Thomas, Aaron Johnson (Lennon), Thomas Sangster (Paul McCartney) was filmed in the following locations: Blackpool; Liverpool; Ealing Studios.

Film – The Wolf Man

Release – 10 February 2010

Starring Anthony Hopkins, Emily Blunt and Benicio del Toro, The Wolf Man was filmed in Doncaster, Barnsley, Haworth, Sheffield, Black Park, Bourne Woods, Castle Combe, Chatsworth House, Lacock, Old Royal Nay College, and Richmond Theatre.

Film – Men at the Pru

Release date: 7 April 2010

Produced by Ricky Gervais and starring Felicity Jones, Freddie Taylor, Tom Hughes, Emily Watson and Ricky Gervais, this film will include various locations in England.

Film – Robin Hood

Release – 14 May 2010

Starring Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett, Vanessa Redgrave, William Hurt and Kevin Durrant, the locations in this film include Bourne Woods in Farnham; Virginia Water, Surrey, and Sherwood Forest in Nottinghamshire.

Film – Untitled Woody Allen London Project

Release – tbd 2010

This film is rumoured to be starring Josh Brolin, Naomi Watts, Frieda Pinto, Antonio Banderas and Anthony Hopkins and is currently in production in London.

Film – Wuthering Heights

Release – tbd 2010

Directed by Peter Webber, starring Ed Westwick and Gemma Arterton, there will be locations throughout England included in the production.

Film – Untitled (Bridget Jones)

Release – 2011

This film is currently in production, will star Renee Zellweger, and will include various London locations.

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New Developments

K Village Factory Outlet Centre

Kendal

2010

After a £100m redevelopment programme, The K Village Factory Outlet Centre in Kendal has become a unique state of the art destination shopping and leisure complex complete with a premium factory outlet centre, 5 restaurants and cafes, over 500 underground car-parking spaces, tourist facilities, including coach-parking and coach facilities for over 25 coaches, a 5,000 sq ft Heritage Centre, offices and 90 apartments.

www.kvillageoutletcentre.co.uk

Holkham Hall

Nr. Wells-next-the-Sea

2010

The 18th C. Walled Gardens at Holkham will be re-opened following restoration. The vinery has been renovated and the last of the glasshouses has been saved with the help of English Heritage. www.holkham.co.uk

Riverlights

Early 2010

Part of the Riverside Vision development of the city centre This £100million development will include two new hotels - a Holiday Inn and a Hilton Hampton - along with a new bus station, shops, bars, restaurants and a casino. The project will be completed by early 2010 in time for the British Grand Prix.

Brighton O

Brighton Sea Front

Early 2010

Thought still subject to final confirmation, the Brighton O will be a uniquely designed spokeless observation wheel along the seafront. www.brightono.com

Colchester Zoo

Stanway (nr. Colchester)

Early 2010

A nature trail is being developed to the south of the site, enabling visitors to see a range of native wildlife species. The boardwalk will run through riverside marshland, with close up views of the Roman River, bird hides and pond dipping areas. www.colchester-zoo.co.uk

Sea-Life Adventure

Southend-on-Sea

February 2010

Redevelopment will include new exhibitions and the creation of a tropical shark tank, a new home to Black Tio Reef sharks and an array of fish swimming amongst coral. Visitors will be able to walk along an 8 metre long perspex tunnel beneath the tank. www.sealifeadventure.co.uk

Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle

County Durham

Spring 2010

The Bowes Museum will see a series of projects including a complete transformation of visitor amenities and the creation of new galleries. The Museum's Silver and Precious Metals collection will have a permanent home, to include many items previously unseen. www.thebowesmuseum.org.uk

London Cycle Hire Launch

Summer 2010

The Mayor of London and Transport for London will launch the London Cycle Hire scheme for London, with bicycles available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The scheme will launch with 6,000 hire bicycles based in the nine London boroughs and several Royal Parks in Zone 1 travel area, and are expected to generate around 40,000 extra cycle trips a day in central London.

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Anniversaries

2010

250th Anniversary of the world's most famous toy shop, Hamleys was opened in 1760 and during 2010 they will be celebrating their 250th Anniversary. www.hamleys.com

February 2010 sees the celebration of 100th anniversary of Twickenham Rugby. www.rfu.com/microsites/twickenham/index.cfm

20th anniversary of the Birmingham Royal Ballet in March 2010 www.br.org.uk

St Georges Day, 23 April 2010, marks the 160th anniversary of William Wordsworth's death www.wordsworth.org.uk.

June 2010 will see the 80th anniversary of Wainwright's first walk in Cumbria, at Orrest Head. www.wainwright.org.uk

2010 is the 200th anniversary of the completion of the Kennet & Avon Canal www.visitwestberkshire.org.uk

The Duke of York's Picturehouse in Brighton is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2010, as is Shoreham Airport just outside of Brighton. 2010 is also the 10th anniversary since Brighton & Hove officially became a city.

70th anniversary of Battle of Britain in 2010 – events and celebrations to be announced.

350th anniversary exhibition at Woolsthorpe Manor in Lincolnshire, the home of Sir Isaac Newton. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-woolsthorpemanor

Themed walks have been planned throughout 2010 to mark the 250th anniversary of George III coming to the throne. www.windsortouristguides.co.uk

2010 also brings the 800th anniversary of the Holy Trinity Church in Stratford, where Shakespeare is buried.

Salisbury & South Wiltshire Museum celebrates its 150th anniversary in 2010. www.salisburymuseum.org.uk

2010 sees the celebrations surrounding 125 years of Wadworth Brewery, Wiltshire's main brewery. www.wadworth.co.uk

In 2010 The Sir John Barrow Monument in Cumbria will be 160 years old. www.sirjohnbarrowmonument.co.uk

950th anniversary of the consecration of Waltham Abbey Church by King Harold. www.leevalleypark.org.uk/

2012

The Alnwick Garden's 10th anniversary will be celebrated in 2012. www.alnwickgarden.com

mima, Middlesbrough's Institute of Modern Art will celebrate its 5th anniversary in 2012 www.visitmima.com

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