



Gloucester Festival of Archaeology Returns with Two Weeks of Heritage Events Across the City

Gloucester Civic Trust is proud to announce the return of the **Gloucester Festival of Archaeology**, taking place from **18 July to 2 August 2026**. Organised in partnership with Gloucester Cathedral, Gloucester BID and a network of heritage organisations, museums, community groups and sponsors, the Festival of Archaeology offers an exciting programme celebrating Gloucester's remarkable archaeological and historical heritage.

Running for **two weeks during the summer holidays**, the fortnight features guided walks, expert lectures, family activities, living history experiences, exhibitions and exclusive access to historic sites across the city. PLUS the new experience of enjoying an archaeological themed cocktail at Crimson Spire.

The Festival of Archaeology brings together many of Gloucester's leading heritage organisations in a shared celebration of the city's past, creating opportunities for residents and visitors to discover hidden stories, explore remarkable historic buildings and engage with archaeology in fun, accessible ways.

The event begins with the **Family Day on Saturday 18 July**, transforming Gloucester city centre into a giant hands-on heritage experience. Running from **10am–4pm**, the day is packed with free and low-cost activities designed to inspire children and adults alike, making it the perfect summer holiday outing for families. Visitors can try their hand at being an archaeologist in a miniature excavation outside Gloucester Cathedral, explore the popular 3D archaeology, discover fascinating finds at the Museum of Gloucester, visit the Festival Village at The Folk of Gloucester, and enjoy interactive activities across a range of heritage venues.

Marc Waters, Volunteer for Gloucester Civic Trust said:

"The Festival of Archaeology showcases everything that makes Gloucester such an extraordinary historic city. By working alongside our heritage partners, sponsors and volunteers, we're able to create an inspiring programme that encourages people of all ages to explore, discover and celebrate our shared heritage."

The Festival of Archaeology forms part of Gloucester Civic Trust's ongoing commitment to promoting the city's heritage and encouraging greater understanding of Gloucester's unique place in British history. Many events are free to attend, while others can be booked online in advance.

Gloucester Civic Trust would like to thank all participating organisations, volunteers and sponsors whose continued support enables this event to grow year after year.

gloucestercivictrust.org

Gloucester Civic Trust Limited.
Company Registered in England & Wales
Reg No. 01078805 Charity No 264719
Registered Office: Bishop Hooper House,
99-103 Westgate Street, Gloucester GL1 2PG

Supported by
 ecclesiastical



Made possible with
 Heritage Fund