



heritage open days

Appleby-in-Westmorland



Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th September
Free admission to all venues and activities!

The market town of Appleby-in-Westmorland retains its old-world charm and the main street of Boroughgate, described as one of the finest in England, can transport you back to Medieval England.

Appleby is the county town of the historic county of Westmorland, and this is reflected in the broad avenue of Boroughgate, which sweeps from St Lawrence's Church up to the Castle. Appleby is one of only 20 Heritage Action Zones (HAZ) and it the first HAZ in the North West and the only one in Cumbria. HAZ is an English Heritage initiative designed to use a town's build and written history to promote itself as a place to live and visit.

Appleby has an incredible 147 listed buildings within one square mile of the town centre. It has links to George Washington, Earl Grey, Lady Anne Clifford, Beatrix Potter and William Pitt the Younger.

Heritage Open Days are a chance for communities nationwide to come together to learn, explore and have fun by sharing the treasures on their doorsteps.

www.visitappleby.com

www.heritageopendays.org.uk



Moot Hall Council Chamber

Grade II*

Built in 1596 and refurbished in 2021, the Moot Hall is one of only two left in England used for their original purpose of conducting Town Council business. Since 1974, downstairs has hosted the Tourist Information Centre and Exhibition Room.

Appleby's copy of Foxe's *'Book of Martyrs'*, published in 1632, will also be on display as well as a copy of Appleby's Magna Carta. Tours of the Chamber throughout Saturday and Sunday.

Open Saturday 10am-3pm and Sunday 11am-1pm



St Lawrence's Church

Grade I

The church was extensively rebuilt in 1655, at the expense of the Castle's owner, Lady Anne Clifford, whose tomb and family memorial are in the North East corner of the Church, along with the alabaster monument of her mother, Margaret. The Athelstan Tapestry panels will be displayed and stitched in St Lawrence's Church on Saturday, along with a talk and presentation at 11.45am.

Open Saturday 9am-5pm, Sunday 12pm-4pm



The Colour Maker's House

Grade II

The Colour Makers House (rebuilt in 1677) is home to a traditional artist's colour shop, and alchemy workshops demonstrations will be held daily at 11am and 1pm showing how paint and pigments are traditionally made.

There will also be an exhibition 'Elizabethan Reds and the Clifford's Of Appleby'.

Open Saturday and Sunday, 10am-4pm



St Anne's Hospital

Grade II*

St Anne's Hospital, or Almshouses, was founded by Lady Anne Clifford in 1653 and for more than 350 years, ageing, widowed, or single ladies have lived there. All thirteen Almshouses were recently refurbished in a major project to modernise the fabric of the buildings. It has been described as 'one of the most peaceful and perfectly preserved places in the Eden Valley'.

Open Saturday and Sunday 10am-3pm





This years theme is Everyday Histories

In 2026 we'll be exploring stories of working lives, from learning a craft to establishing routines and cherished rituals. What will you discover in our buildings and beyond?!

The Old Post Office: ClayLife and RopeWork

Visit ClayLife Pottery in the historic old post office and discover the stories of the past and how the pottery industry shaped the local landscape. Crafters will be on hand to answer all your questions! Demonstrations of ropemaking will be taking place daily from 9am-6pm.

Open Friday & Saturday from 9am-6pm



Masonic Hall

Grade II

Originally called Bank House, the property became known as the Masonic Hall after being leased by the Vale of Eden Lodge in 1911. They then purchased it in 1962. All three floors of the hall will be open, including the 'ritual' room, which is not usually open to the public. Tours of the Lodge will be conducted by Members.

Open Saturday and Sunday 11am-2pm

Castle Bank

Grade II

This beautiful riverbank villa with a walled garden and stables, reflects the quiet prosperity of Appleby in the 18th Century. It was inherited by the Holmes family - Sir Charles Holmes was a painter, author and Director of both the National Portrait and National Gallery. A collection of his works will be on display. Tea and cakes will be served throughout the day and there will be a music recital at 3pm.

Open Saturday and Sunday from 12 noon-4pm

Tours of the ground floor at 12.30pm and 2pm



Kingstone House

Grade II

Kingstone House (formerly the King's Arms) dates back to at least the 1660s when the Warwickshire antiquary William Dugdale stayed there. Later visitors to the inn include the artist J M W Turner, and Beatrix Potter who married into the Heelis family who owned the house as a private residence when it ceased to be an inn in the late 19th-century.

Tours on Saturday at 11am and 3pm, and Sunday at 11am and 3pm



Drybeck Hall

Grade II*

Situated 3 miles out of Appleby, this former 17th century Cumbrian longhouse was acquired by the Tufton family, who inherited Lady Anne Clifford's estates. Relatively little has changed in the house, and it now serves as a family home. Brunskill's books about Drybeck Hall's architecture will also be on display.

*Open Saturday & Sunday, 9am-12noon then 1pm-5pm
Tours at 9am, 10am, 11am, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm*



The Crewel Work Company

The Crewel Work team are currently taking part in The Athelstan Project, a three-year embroidery project celebrating the life of King Athelstan. Athelstan was King of the Anglo-Saxons from 924 to 927 and King of the English from 927 to his death in 939. The shop on the Sands will be open throughout, with opportunities to speak to the ladies working on the embroidery. The tapestry will be displayed in St Lawrence's Church on Saturday 19th.



HERITAGE QR CODE TRAIL:

Look out for the QR Codes and scan them to see historic pictures and listen to a short audio clip, which will tell you more about Appleby's history. Trail maps are available from the TIC and the train station.



APPLEBY TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

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OPENING HOURS FOR HERITAGE WEEKEND

Saturday 10am-3pm
Sunday 11am-1pm



Produced by Appleby Town Council

The information on this leaflet was correct at the time of print, we cannot take responsibility for any changes that may have occurred since.