

## **Birmingham**

### **50**

Discover more in Birmingham. Bustling streets filled with independent shops, stylish restaurants serving next level cuisine, chic canal-side venues, boutique bars to suit any style and heaps of history – there’s a surprise around every corner. Packed full of attractions, while keeping its own unique personality, the city is the very heart of the West Midlands.

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A diverse cultural centre, Birmingham is world-famous for its incredible cuisine, from street food to five-star dining. The city is home to five Michelin starred restaurants, more than any city outside of the capital. Not to forget the beloved Balti which was invented right here – visit the Balti Triangle where chefs still use the traditional one-pot method of cooking today! Fuelled up, prepare to explore a huge array of family attractions, theatres, galleries, shopping for every style, stunning gardens, museums and much, much more.

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A diverse cultural heartland, Birmingham is world-famous for its incredible cuisine, from street food to five-star dining. Visit the Balti Triangle for a flavour of the city’s biggest culinary export – the Balti – or wander the stalls of some of the UK’s biggest foodie festivals to taste everything the city has to offer. Splash out in one of the city’s five Michelin-starred restaurants, followed by drinks in stylish bars before a night on the town. Whether you prefer to relax in a roof-top bar after a spot of luxury shopping, or want to sample all things independent in Digbeth, Birmingham’s creative quarter, the city won’t disappoint.

Look around and you’ll see history on every street. Explore the famous Jewellery Quarter, where almost half of the UK’s jewellery is still made today and ramble along back streets stopped in time, or visit the Back to Backs to see how people lived in the height of the Industrial Revolution. At Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery you can feast your eyes on pre-Raphaelite masterpieces, or simply stroll along the scenic canals to see Birmingham at its very best. If culture is your thing, visit the Symphony Hall for some wonderful music or the Birmingham Hippodrome – the busiest theatre outside of the West End – for a play. Any production by Birmingham Royal Ballet is sure to transport you with its romance and talent.

Birmingham is the ideal place to escape the everyday with family attractions, theatres, galleries, endless shopping and museums all within its bounds. What’s more, there are plenty of gardens and green spaces within the centre, but travel just 15 minutes out of the city and you’ll be pulling on

your walking boots ready to explore the great outdoors – be sure to visit Sutton Park, one of the largest urban parks in Europe.

Birmingham's bold spirit is on show wherever you turn, and with just months to go, the scene is set for the city to host an historic Commonwealth Games boasting world-class sport and culture.