

**W**  
**ENGLAND'S**  
**WATERWAYS**



**DISCOVER EDGBASTON  
A RURAL CITY ESCAPE  
AT THE HEART OF ENGLAND**

---

*The perfect start or finale to your waterways holiday, or a  
delicious excuse for a short break.*

*Journey to the heart of England*  
**englandswaterways.com**

# DISCOVER LEAFY EDGBASTON

## A RURAL CITY ESCAPE

Just outside of Birmingham city centre is the calm oasis of Edgbaston. An affluent suburb, with its leafy streets and stately Georgian architecture, an eclectic mix of boutique shops, bars and award-winning restaurants, it makes mini-destination worth exploring a while.

### What to expect:



#### Travel and accommodation

Trains to and from Birmingham airport; stay in a boutique townhouse hotel.



#### Unique Experiences

- Winterbourne House and Gardens
- Barber Institute of Fine Art
- Lapworth Museum of Geology
- Edgbaston Cricket Ground
- Worlds oldest lawn tennis club



#### Dining options

A range of traditional English pubs, Michelin starred restaurants and contemporary dining options.



### Day 1

In the 19th century, Edgbaston was under the control of the Gough-Calthorpe family and the Gillott family who refused to allow factories and warehouses to be built there, thus making it attractive for the wealthier residents of the city. It was known as "where the trees begin".

Many elegant homes were built during the late Georgian period and a few of these now house restaurants and independent boutique hotels, which will welcome you for a night in Edgbaston, such as The Edgbaston townhouse hotel, its design inspired by 1920s style.

Stroll across Edgbaston and down to the canal, marvelling at how quickly the city gives way to a countryside feel. Climb the steps to exit at Somerset Road and wander along to Winterbourne House and Gardens, an Edwardian Arts and Crafts House with a 7 acre designed garden, home to over 6000 different plant species.

Here you can enjoy a classic afternoon tea on the terrace, admiring the beautiful gardens. Walk back through the charming suburb of Edgbaston to The White Swan, for a traditional pint of beer, before supper at the Blue Piano.

# WATERSIDE ITINERARY: **EDGBASTON**

**DURATION: 2-3 DAY SHORT-BREAK**

## Day 2

Following your hearty 'full English' (the traditional well-loved breakfast choice), take the no.1 bus, or walk to Martineau Gardens, a beautiful therapeutic community garden and a charity. It's an oasis for wildlife and there are two and a half acres of organically managed landscape for you to explore. For lunch, wander to the Mac Arts Centre in Cannon Hill Park, combining indoor and outdoors spaces, with a café and bar for good fresh food.

During your afternoon, visit the beautiful campus of the University of Birmingham, established by Queen Victoria by Royal Charter in 1900 and the UK's first civic or 'redbrick' university.

Head for the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, of which the Independent newspaper says '**visit this. It's a jewel.**' Enjoy the Barber's Lightning Talks - 6 works of art in 6 minutes.

For those with an interest in sport - Edgbaston is home to Edgbaston Cricket Ground and Edgbaston Golf Club, one of the most exclusive private members clubs in the Midlands. In addition, the area also boasts the Edgbaston Archery and Lawn Tennis Society, which is the oldest lawn tennis club in the world that is still in use today. The first game of lawn tennis was incidentally also played in Edgbaston, in a garden of a house known as "Fairlawn".

In the evening you will be spoilt for choice for dinner options, as Edgbaston is home to a variety of traditional English pubs and contemporary bistros and restaurants.



## Day 3

Why not indulge in some last minute shopping. Stay local in Edgbaston or head into the city centre, to Grand Central and Bullring, The Mailbox, alongside the independent shops in The Great Western and Piccadilly Arcades.

You can take the train straight from Birmingham New Street Station to Birmingham International Airport, it takes less than 10 minutes, for your flight home.