

Leicester's Heritage Venues



Beautiful Venues Steeped In History

Abbey Pumping Station • Belgrave Hall & Gardens • The Guildhall • New Walk Museum & Art Gallery



The Victorian Gallery at New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Welcome to Leicester's Heritage Venues

We have an exclusive selection of beautiful, original and timeless buildings which can be hired for your wedding ceremony and reception.

You can choose to exchange vows in the 14th-century timber-framed Guildhall set in the historic Greyfriars Conservation Area or the delightful 18th-century Belgrave Hall and its beautiful long-established walled gardens.

The Victorian New Walk Museum & Art Gallery in the picturesque surroundings of New Walk or the wonderfully ornate Beam Engine House at Abbey Pumping Station are perfect settings to get married.

These stunning venues have a number of rooms suitable for civil ceremonies and receptions to accommodate up to 200 guests.

All our venues provide outstanding settings for wedding photographs and are perfect for couples seeking a truly individual and romantic location for their special day.

Each venue has an experienced team to help with the planning of your special day and will ensure you and your guests enjoy the occasion.

Abbey Pumping Station



Belgrave Hall & Gardens



The Guildhall



New Walk Museum & Art Gallery





Abbey Pumping Station

Fine Victorian Engineering

Leicester's Museum of Science and Technology and Abbey Pumping Station provide a truly unique setting for your big day.

Designed by local architects Stockdale Harrison to resemble aspects of an Elizabethan country house, the Beam Engine House displays decorative columns with foliated gilt capitals that rise up to meet ornate ironwork that has been beautifully finished. Brass shines from every angle and ceramic tiles create subtle patterns around the top of the interior walls.

From the moment you and your guests enter this magnificent 120-year-old monument to fine Victorian engineering, you will be transported to a bygone era.

Wedding ceremonies can be held in the Beam Engine House, a truly impressive space and home to the rare Woolf compound rotative beam engines, built by local engineers Gimsons. It is the only place in Britain where you can see four magnificently decorated steam-powered beam engines restored to working order.

You can choose to hold your drinks reception in the adjoining Electric Switch Room, which is a bright and airy space with catering facilities.

Alternatively, for an outdoor reception, a gazebo or marquee can be erected in our private paddock and you can have photographs taken in front of exceptional backdrops including a narrow gauge railway, leaving a lasting impression on your guests.





Belgrave Hall & Gardens

18th-Century Charm

This lovingly restored former family home provides the perfect backdrop for the more intimate wedding. Surrounded by two acres of serene walled gardens, there is no setting more romantic than Belgrave Hall.

The hall dates back to 1709 and its owners played a major role in the economic, social and charitable life of the city until the 1920s. Recently refurbished, the hall retains much of its traditional architectural character with original period features and detailing.

Wedding ceremonies can be held in the elegant William Vann Room with an original fireplace and glorious views of the gardens. The John Ellis Room with period features and large windows along two sides of the room or in the former laundry with its high ceilings and doors opening onto an attractive cobbled courtyard.

We welcome outside caterers and our converted stable block offers a professional-standard kitchen. Whether you fancy making your own canapés and buffet or choose to employ a catering company to make you a traditional wedding breakfast, you can be sure we have the facilities to make your dream reception come true.

In the summer, you can choose to hold your reception and wedding breakfast in our magnificent marquee, which stands elegantly beside the lawn.

The gardens* change with each season and every month there is something new to enjoy. You and your guests can enjoy a stroll around the woodland and formal gardens to discover the rare trees, plants and shrubs that grow here. Colourful flower beds, fragrant Edwardian roses and ancient mulberry trees offer the perfect backdrops for wedding photography.

A special bridal room with views of the stunning gardens is available for you to prepare for the day. You can arrange for your hairdresser and beautician to come and help with those finishing touches, with a photographer standing by to capture all those precious moments, before walking down the sweeping staircase and up the aisle.

**see photograph towards the back of this brochure*



Photograph: Ian Bursill

The Guildhall

Medieval Elegance

Leicester's Guildhall is one of the finest surviving timber-framed medieval halls in England and has been a focus of civic life in Leicester for more than 600 years.

This Grade I listed building dates back to 1390 and retains much of its medieval appearance and sense of the past. It is set in the heart of Leicester's old town, an area steeped in history, famous for the discovery of King Richard III's remains and home to Leicester Cathedral with its beautiful gardens.

Imagine your wedding day in a stunning medieval setting where Parliament and the borough council met, municipal feasts were held and where Shakespeare's players took to the stage.

You can choose to say 'I will' in the stunning Great Hall* with murals dating back to the 17th-century showing the arms of the borough, large medieval windows, fine brass chandeliers and walls lined in elegant dark oak wooden panelling.

If you are looking for a more intimate ceremony or drinks reception why not choose the majestic Mayor's Parlour; with carved oak panelling, an elaborate 17th-century fireplace and a stunning 15th-century stained glass window.

A wonderful feature of the building is the enclosed courtyard. A space perfect for hosting drinks receptions and a fantastic location for your wedding photography.

**see front cover*



Photograph: Craig Bennett



Photograph: Chris Bunce Photography



Photograph: Chris Bunce Photography



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New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Victorian Splendour

Situated in the heart of the picturesque New Walk promenade, New Walk Museum & Art Gallery combines culture and history with panache and is home to exquisite collections of art, history and the natural world.

This stunning venue, which opened in 1849, is the perfect location for an elegant trend-setting occasion.

The breath-taking Victorian Art Gallery is home to pre-1900 art collections by British and European artists including Turner, Frith, Rodin and Degas.

Across the hall is the Lord Mayor's Room. Sharing the same elegance and grandeur as the Victorian Art Gallery*, it is perfect for intimate wedding ceremonies or drinks receptions.

Museum Square** and the attractive New Walk promenade, bordered by grand townhouses and lined with flower beds, trees and benches is a perfect setting for your wedding photographs.

You are welcome to arrange for a musician or singer to perform. Alternatively our beautiful Steinway grand piano is available to hire. The acoustics in the Victorian Art Gallery are fantastic, so whatever your choice of music, it will sound glorious.

The museum has full access for wheelchair users. Guide dogs are welcome and there is a modern AV system and hearing loop system within the gallery.

**see inside front cover **see photograph towards the back of this brochure*

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We are professional caterers established since 1972 with over 40 years of experience, built on a reputation of honesty and integrity with our exquisite catering.

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The service is your call too, silver, banquet, buffet or A la Carte the team at Chutney Ivy will go the extra mile on your special day.

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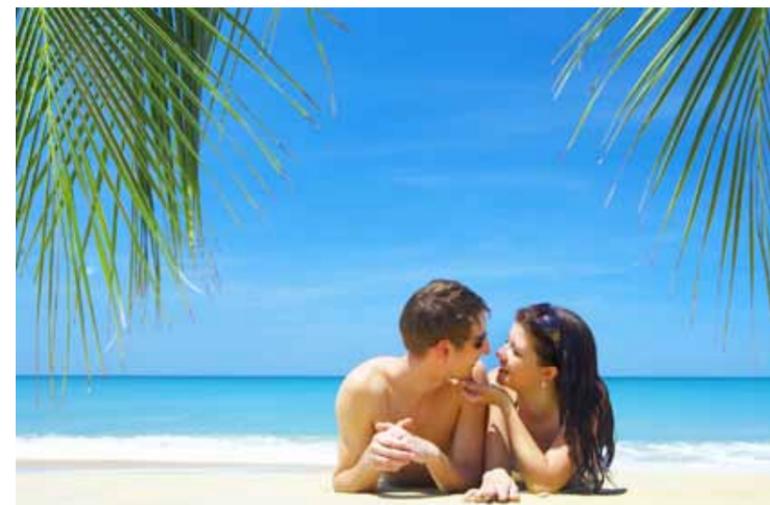
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Belgrave Hall Gardens

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- A special thank you to the Leicester Weddings Network for organising the photo shoot by Lesley Bee at Belgrave Hall and Gardens.

For more information see page 23.

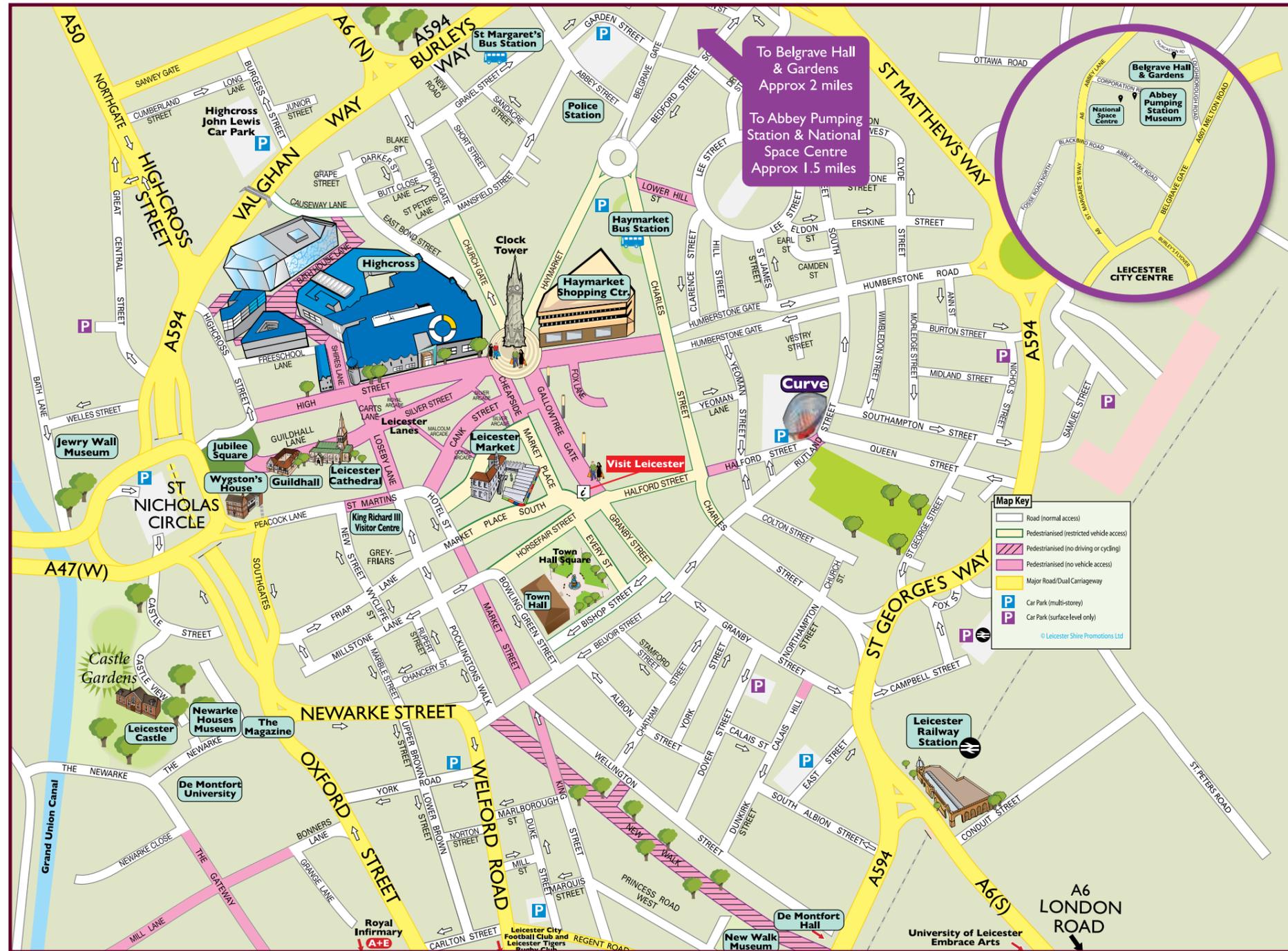
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Museum Square

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Beautiful Venues Steeped In History



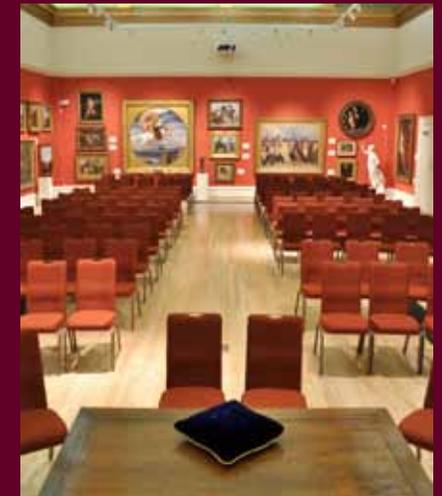
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Belgrave Hall & Gardens
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The Guildhall
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**New Walk Museum
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