

## **NewcastleGateshead in 2 days**

Stitched together by seven awe-inspiring bridges, NewcastleGateshead forms a cultural hub home to a host of icons including the Angel of the North, the towering figure of ex-Prime Minister Earl Grey, and the landmark music hall, The Sage Gateshead.

Recently named the 'hipster capital of the northeast' in the influential Lonely Planet Great Britain Travel guidebook, NewcastleGateshead is a chic destination packed with award-winning restaurants, fantastic attractions and a varied retail offering, mixing independent boutiques with high-street mainstays and designer outlets. The destination is home to one of the UK's largest city centre malls, Eldon Square; Europe's largest shopping centre, Gateshead's Metrocentre; and the original Fenwick department store.

The Ouseburn Valley, heralded by the New York Times as one of most vibrant areas in NewcastleGateshead, was once the cradle of the industrial revolution on Tyneside, and has transformed into an exciting place to live, work and play, thanks to imaginative, culture led regeneration projects and the enthusiasm and commitment of the local community. Now the stunning townscape, set against fields, two rivers and six bridges, is home to artists, musicians, creative businesses, attractions and, increasingly, residents.

## **Guided Tours**

For groups there's no better way to learn more about NewcastleGateshead and its surrounding areas than through a guided tour with one of our knowledgeable Blue Badge Guides.

**Northern Secrets** specialises in personal guided tours in English and German and is committed to providing a unique journey of the highest quality:

[www.northern-secrets.co.uk](http://www.northern-secrets.co.uk)

**Jan Williams** is an award-winning, professional and friendly North East England Blue Badge Guide, delivering tailored tours to suit individual or group needs and interests: [janwildurh@aol.com](mailto:janwildurh@aol.com)

**Personalised Touring Services** are husband and wife team, Tom and Gwen Keating. They provide specialist Blue and Green Badge guiding and itinerary planning services across NewcastleGateshead & North East England:

[www.tomkeating.net](http://www.tomkeating.net)

For individuals and small groups, regular city focused walking tours **A Taste of Newcastle** take place throughout the summer season and are delivered by professional Green Badge City Guides; Monday-Saturday from June-September; Adult £4, Concession £3, (Under-16s Free): [www.newcastlecityguides.org.uk](http://www.newcastlecityguides.org.uk)

## Getting Around

**The Metro** links NewcastleGateshead with the coast, neighbouring towns and the city of Sunderland. The frequent trains have stations throughout the city centre and easily link the suburbs of Jesmond and Gosforth. Look out for the Metro DaySaver which gives all day unlimited Metro travel.

**QuayLink** buses offer a low-emission, high-frequency, accessible and easy-to-use service, and are the best way to get around central NewcastleGateshead. Q1 and Q2 routes connect the attractions and sights of Newcastle Quayside and Gateshead Quays with Newcastle Central Station, Haymarket Bus Station, Gateshead Interchange and the Ouseburn Valley. It's just £2 for a hop-on/hop-off all day ticket.

**City Sight Seeing Tour** busses run regularly from key points across NewcastleGateshead, offering a hop-on hop-off service so visitors can take in the most popular sights and tourist attractions [www.city-sightseeing.com/en/tours/united-kingdom/newcastle.htm#tourlandingposition](http://www.city-sightseeing.com/en/tours/united-kingdom/newcastle.htm#tourlandingposition)

When it comes to ways of getting around, cycling is still the best kept secret. **ScratchBikes** have various pick-up and drop-off points around Newcastle city centre and bikes can be rented for 2hrs at a time [www.scratchbikes.co.uk](http://www.scratchbikes.co.uk)

**The Cycle Hub** provide bike hire for longer periods giving visitors the chance to explore not just the city centre, but further afield on two wheels [www.thecyclehub.org](http://www.thecyclehub.org)

## Discover Deals

Discover Deals is NewcastleGateshead's free online service offering discounts and special offers that are redeemable at over 120 attractions, cultural venues, pubs, restaurants and hotels across the city and wider North East region.

To gain access to Discover Deals, simply visit [www.newcastlegateshead.com/discover-deals](http://www.newcastlegateshead.com/discover-deals), register your email address, and start downloading your vouchers. You can then use your voucher either by printing it or saving a copy on your Smartphone.

<b>Day 1</b>	
<b>Morning</b>	<p><b>Stroll along NewcastleGateshead's picturesque Quayside and take in the impressive sight of the seven famous bridges connecting the 'twin city'.</b></p> <p>If you're visiting on a Sunday take your time browsing the stalls at the <b>Quayside Sunday Market</b>. Enjoy the fashion, arts and tempting smells</p>

<b>Afternoon</b>	<p>from the food stalls.</p> <p>Take in the sights of the award winning <b>Gateshead Millennium Bridge</b> arching over the river. Designed by Wilkinson Eyre Architects and engineered by Gifford, the bridge takes its place at the end of a line of distinguished bridges across the River Tyne, including the Tyne Bridge and Robert Stephenson's High Level Bridge  <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.gateshead.gov.uk/bridge/bridged.htm">www.gateshead.gov.uk/bridge/bridged.htm</a></p> <p>On the south banks of the River Tyne sits the <b>BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art</b>. Housed in a landmark industrial building the BALTIC is the biggest gallery of its kind in the world – presenting a dynamic, diverse and international programme of contemporary visual art. Widely recognised as one of the most important and prestigious awards for the visual arts in Europe, BALTIC hosted the Turner Prize 2011, which attracted a record 150,000 visitors.  <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.balticmill.com">www.balticmill.com</a></p> <p>Further along the south bank sits the <b>Sage Gateshead</b>. It is both a live music venue and a centre for music education. The local, national and international concert programme runs all year round. It incorporates all kinds of music ranging from acoustic, indie, country, world, folk, jazz, electronic and dance to classical music, including concerts by Northern Sinfonia, orchestra of The Sage Gateshead. It brings national and international performers to the region that have not previously appeared in the North East and offer a new and outstandingly equipped additional venue to performers already established here.  <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.thesagegateshead.org">www.thesagegateshead.org</a></p> <p><b>Grab some lunch in NewcastleGateshead top cafes.</b></p> <p><b>Caffè Vivo</b> is all about simple, authentic, Italian food, cooked with panache and passion. Its dishes are bold, honest and true to their ingredients. Expect bright and sunny flavours, a dollop of rustic charm, and a flash of Italian brio.  <b>Tel:</b> 0191 232 1331 <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.caffevivo.co.uk">www.caffevivo.co.uk</a></p> <p>With well over a decade's experience <b>Blakes Coffee House</b> is great for breakfast, a sandwich, snack or delicious cup of coffee. Free papers and WiFi are provided for everyone so you can unwind and catch up with what the world has to offer, and you can eat and drink guilt-free as Blakes only use fair trade and rainforest alliance produce.  <b>Tel:</b> 0191 261 5463 <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.newcastlegateshead.com">www.newcastlegateshead.com</a></p> <p><b>Café Royal</b> is a relaxing haven, a social hub where you can truly indulge your taste buds, Breakfast, morning coffee, lunch and afternoon tea can all be enjoyed within this chic interior. Fused with Café Royals grand,</p>
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neo classical façade, it makes this a truly special place.

**Tel:** 0191 231 3000      **Web:** <http://www.sjf.co.uk/caferoyal/about.php>

After lunch spend the afternoon browsing the range of shops NewcastleGateshead has to offer.

**Grainger Town** is the Georgian quarter of the city, and is the destination's centre for shopping. This includes elegant Grey Street, voted the best street in Britain by BBC Radio 4 listeners. A huge 40% of the buildings in Grainger Town are listed, the highest concentration of listed buildings outside Bath and the capital. Grainger town offers a wide range of shops such as Urban Outfitters, French Connection and Warehouse.

**Eldon Square** in the heart of the Grainger Town with entrances on Northumberland Street and at Grey's Monument, is one of the biggest city centre shopping malls in the UK following the opening of the brand new St George's Way February 2010. This fantastic shopping experience includes flagship Debenhams, River Island and TOPSHOP, Apple, Guess, Hollister and John Lewis to name but a few.  
<http://www.eldon-square.co.uk/>

**High Bridge** is a little cobbled street close to Grainger Town which is filled with independent clothing and music shops. It is home to **Union** [www.unionclothing.co.uk](http://www.unionclothing.co.uk), vintage clothing specialist **Best Vintage** [www.bestvintageuk.com](http://www.bestvintageuk.com) and funky boutique **Attica**, veritable treasure trove of vintage clothing and memorabilia with everything from 1920's cocktail dresses to leather jackets.

Based in Gateshead, the **Metrocentre** is accessible via bus (Number 100 from Eldon Square in Newcastle city centre or X66 from Gateshead Metro Interchange), and by train (from Newcastle Central Station). With over 330 stores and stocked full of key designer and cost conscious brands, Metrocentre recently opened **Qube**, its newest mall featuring a state of the art Odeon IMAX cinema and a Namco Funscape with bowling alley and the fastest dodgem track in Europe.

**Web:** [www.metrocentre.uk.com](http://www.metrocentre.uk.com)

After a long day enjoying some of the sights NewcastleGateshead has to offer, grab some food in a top restaurant.

**Café 21**'s food is big on flavour, short on fussiness. Classic bistro cooking where respect for the ingredients - fresh, seasonal - leads the way. Expect to find stylish bistro dishes, plenty of comfort food and still have room for pudding. The restaurant is run by famed North East restaurateur, Terry Laybourne.

**Tel:** 0191 222 6755      **Web:** <http://www.cafetwentyone.co.uk>

<p><b>Evening</b></p>	<p><b>Pasqualinos</b> is a contemporary Italian Bar-Restaurant where the emphasis is on fresh antipasti and snacks, dinner deals for theatre goers, bio-dynamic wines and local beers on tap. Open from 11.00am.  <b>Tel:</b> 0191 244 2513    <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.theatroyal.co.uk/your-visit/food-and-drink">www.theatroyal.co.uk/your-visit/food-and-drink</a></p> <p><b>For some light evening entertainment there are several venues in which you can enjoy music, comedy and performances.</b></p> <p><b>The Theatre Royal</b> is one of only nine Grade I Listed theatres in England and is regarded by many as the UK's finest theatre building. In September 2011, a major, £5 million, six-month restoration was completed to recreate Frank Matcham's classic 1901 Edwardian design. Using Matcham's 1901 template for the decorative scheme, the original wallpaper has been reprinted, lost tilework reinstated, original fixtures and fittings replaced and original designs faithfully recreated, incorporating truly amazing levels of luxury and astonishing amounts of gold leaf. <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.theatroyal.co.uk">www.theatroyal.co.uk</a></p> <p><b>The Stand Comedy Club Bistro</b> is a 300 capacity basement comedy venue offering six nights of comedy every week, with big name performances on Tuesday nights – Rory Bremner, Mark Watson, Patrick Monahan and Craig Campbell featured in the first season. The Red Raw beginners' night on Wednesdays, features brand new and up and coming acts from the North East. Apart from the main performance space in the basement there's a ground floor bar/restaurant open all day which also serves as a box office. A contemporary menu is on offer throughout the day and also provides a pre-theatre service before shows. <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.thestand.co.uk/newcastle">www.thestand.co.uk/newcastle</a></p> <p>Set in the heart of the Ouseburn district, <b>The Cluny</b> music venue and bar plays host to rising stars from across the globe. A chilled-out haven for music fans and artists, the perfect place to see an evening gig.  <b>Tel:</b> 0191 230 4474    <b>Web:</b> <a href="mailto:cluny@theheadofsteam.co.uk">cluny@theheadofsteam.co.uk</a></p> <p><b>Enjoy a drink in some of NewcastleGateshead's premium pubs and bars</b></p> <p>A tripadvisor poll named Newcastle the third best place in Europe for nightlife (behind London and Berlin). With Newcastle club Digital named Best Large Club in the Britain 2010 by DJ Magazine, it's not hard to see why NewcastleGateshead is still famous as a place to enjoy a great night out.</p> <p>If there was ever a reminder of what drinking in Victorian days was like, you'll find it at <b>The Bodega</b>. It boasts a traditional long bar, Victorian</p>
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stained glass domes, elaborately tiled floors, and lots and lots (and lots) of history. As CAMRA Newcastle & Northumberland 2005 Real Ale Pub of the Year, you can also expect a true commitment to offering the very best real ale.

Voted 'Newcastle's most impressive watering hole' by the Observer, **the Centurion** is a former first class passenger lounge with a welcoming atmosphere. Your surrounding are beautifully restored tiling which is today worth an amazing £3.8 million.

**The Head of Steam** is split over two levels, this fabulous pub stocks a wide range of European beers and lagers and attracts the fashionable end of the market, no doubt drawn by a music policy which allows only the coolest funk and soul to emanate from their speakers.

Quirky but very stylish **Baby Lynch** bar is a great place to Kick back, relax and enjoy the atmosphere, with a classic Pac Man, ginger mojito, curly wurly and late night music it's the perfect place to get a cocktail. Or visit **Tokyo's** chic bar with a sleek, modern, oriental feel, an outdoor terrace and bags of style.

**Once you have enjoyed NewcastleGateshead's nightlife stay in one of the top hotels and enjoy a good night's sleep.**

**Sleeperz Hotels** are a brilliant new concept in compact city centre lifestyle hotels for the business and leisure traveller. Offering a friendly service, stylish design and a comfortable night's sleep all at great value prices. The 99 bedroom Sleeperz Newcastle places you at the centre of the city's multiple attractions.

**Web:** [sleeperz.com/newcastle](http://sleeperz.com/newcastle)

**The Sandman Signature Hotel Newcastle** sits in the city centre of Newcastle, surrounded by key attractions including Newcastle United Football Club, China Town, city centre shopping district, and the destination's two universities. In addition it is just a few minutes' walk away from the Theatre Royal, the Life Science Centre, the city Quayside and a great selection of restaurants and bars.

**Web:** [www.sandmansignature.co.uk/find-hotels/newcastle](http://www.sandmansignature.co.uk/find-hotels/newcastle)

Overlooking the River Tyne, **The Hilton Newcastle Gateshead** is 10 minutes walk from the city centre. Guests can relax in the gym or pool, dine on international fare, or sip cocktails while looking out across stunning views of NewcastleGateshead and the famous Tyne bridge.

**Tel:** 0191 490 9700

**Web:** <http://www.hilton.co.uk/newcastlegateshead>

**Malmaison Newcastle**

There are hotels and there are Mals. Mal Newcastle is a truly stunning

	<p>hotel, situated on the banks of the River Tyne offering everything needed for a top class weekend break.  <b>Tel:</b> 0191 245 5000  <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.malmaison.com/hotels/newcastle/newcastle-mal.aspx">http://www.malmaison.com/hotels/newcastle/newcastle-mal.aspx</a></p>
<p><b>Day 2</b></p>	
	<p><b>On day 2, explore 2000 years of heritage at some of NewcastleGateshead's most historic sites.</b></p> <p>The historic heart of the city, including the <b>Castle Keep</b> and its gate house (known as <b>Black Gate</b>) and the <b>Cathedral Church of St Nicholas</b>. The Castle Keep stands on the original site of the new castle – built by William the Conqueror's son – from which Newcastle takes its name.</p> <p>The <b>Cathedral Church of St. Nicholas</b> is one of the most beautiful and historic buildings in Newcastle. The spire has dominated Newcastle's skyline and served as a prominent landmark and navigation point for ships on the River Tyne for over 500 years.</p> <p>The castle which gave the city its name sits upon a steep-sided promontory guarding a vital crossing point over the River Tyne, the <b>Castle Keep</b> is one of the finest Norman stone keeps or donjons surviving in Britain today. Built between 1247 and 1250 during the reign of King Henry III, the grade I listed <b>Black Gate</b> was gatehouse to the barbican and the last addition to the medieval Castle defences.</p> <p>Completed in 1849 and designed by Robert Stephenson the <b>High Level Bridge</b> crosses 156 metres of water connecting Newcastle and Gateshead. Officially opened by Queen Victoria in September 1849 it was the world's first dual-decked rail and road bridge.</p> <p>Discover all about life in Newcastle and Tyneside, from the area's renowned maritime history and world-changing science and technology, right through to fashion through the eras and military history. <b>The Discovery Museum</b> is also home to a model of Turbinia. Built in 1864, it was the first ship to be powered by steam turbines.  <b>Tel:</b> 0191 232 6789 <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.twmuseums.org.uk/discovery">www.twmuseums.org.uk/discovery</a></p> <p><b>The Biscuit Factory</b> is Britain's largest independent art gallery with two floors of exhibition space and artists' studios, selling paints, prints, photography, sculpture, glass, ceramics and jewellery by regional, national and international artists and makers. Open from 11am on Sunday.  <b>Tel:</b> 0191 261 1103 <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.thebiscuitfactory.com">www.thebiscuitfactory.com</a></p> <p><b>The Life Science Centre</b> is a vibrant and exciting place where science</p>

is explored through hands-on displays, interactive games and demonstrations. The Life Science Centre encourages curiosity about science by uncovering new things about life and the world around us.

**Web:** [www.life.org.uk](http://www.life.org.uk)

**The Great North Museum** has attracted over one million visitors since opening in April 2009 after undergoing a £26million refurbishment and features a scale model of the UNESCO World Heritage Site Hadrian's Wall, natural history exhibits, mummies and Tyrannosaurus Rex skeleton. **Web:** [www.twmuseums.org.uk/greatnorthmuseum/](http://www.twmuseums.org.uk/greatnorthmuseum/)

There was nowhere in Britain that treasured and shared the richness, diversity and innovation of modern Britain's authors and illustrators for children. **Seven Stories, the Centre for Children's Books**, has become such a place. It is the only archive and gallery in the UK dedicated to the art of children's literature.

**Tel:** 0845 271 0777 **Web:** [www.sevenstories.org.uk](http://www.sevenstories.org.uk)

Finish your stay and sample 'proper' food and drink in a 'proper' pub!

**The Broad Chare** is a new kind of 'old' pub: all the best bits of traditional inn-keeping, given a fresh, modern touch. It's warm friendly, welcoming and the result of a happy partnership between Live Theatre and Terry Laybourne's 21 Hospitality Group. Housed over two floors the main dining area, with 56 seats, is situated on the first floor. Downstairs is the bar and separate 'snug' where snacks are served daily.

**Web:** [www.thebroadchare.co.uk](http://www.thebroadchare.co.uk)

### Why 'NewcastleGateshead'?

You may wonder why the destination is described as NewcastleGateshead....

Newcastle (a city on the north bank of the River Tyne) and Gateshead (a town on the south bank of the River Tyne) have been transformed into a single cultural and cosmopolitan visitor destination: NewcastleGateshead (think Buda Pest).

The two places are closely linked - by seven bridges across the river – and visitor attractions and events can be found on both sides.

For further information, to download high- resolution images, or to contact a member of the team, visit: [www.NewcastleGateshead.com/media](http://www.NewcastleGateshead.com/media)