

History & Heritage

Itinerary

visit
exeter

Exeter's 2,000 year long history means the city has plenty of historical attractions to show off. Immerse yourself in Exeter's fascinating past with our suggested two-day history and heritage itinerary



Day One:

Morning

Start your journey through Exeter's 2,000 year history at the award-winning Royal Albert Memorial Museum (RAMM). Spend a few hours here and discover history and culture from pre-historic times to the present day. Visit RAMM's café for a quick coffee and don't miss the gift shop to pick out a unique souvenir to take home with you.

Afternoon

Visit Exeter Cathedral in the heart of the city. Join a guided tour to learn more about the history of the building from the experts. Don't miss the minstrels' gallery, the impressive organ and the astronomical clock, and be sure to look up to see the beautiful stained glass windows set under the longest stretch of unbroken Gothic vaulting in the world.

Visit the Cathedral's Chapter House Café for lunch, set inside its magnificent Medieval Chapter House, complete with painted ceiling and angel carvings (you may even find the grave of Serlo, the first Dean of Exeter who died in 1231!).

After lunch, join a guided walking tour with Exeter's Red Coat Guides to discover more about the city's fascinating, and often turbulent history. Tours can be pre-booked at a date and time to suit your group. Choose a tour which takes you downhill to the river, to finish at Exeter's historic Quayside. Here you can browse in quirky shops housed in historic cellars and explore the Exeter Custom House, built in 1680.

Finish your day with an evening meal beside the river. Choose Crave, or Rockfish for river views and fresh local ingredients on the menus.



Day Two:

Morning

Book onto a tour at the fascinating Underground Passages, one of Exeter's most unusual visitor attractions. Dating from medieval times, these vaulted passageways were used to bring a supply of fresh drinking water into the city through lead pipes.

Afterwards, head to Fore Street where you can take in the history of St Nicholas Priory, founded by William the Conqueror in 1087. The West range of the priory is presented as the home of a Tudor family who bought the building after the Dissolution of the Monasteries.

Afternoon

Visit one of Exeter's historic pubs for lunch. The Turk's Head is a 700-year-old pub on Exeter's High Street, where Charles Dickens frequented and even had his own corner where he would pen his timeless novels!

Exeter's wealth in the 17th century was due to the woollen cloth trade, and you can find out more at nearby Tuckers Hall, home to the Incorporation of Weavers, Fullers and Shearmen, one of the ancient craft guilds of Exeter.

Just four miles from Exeter is the picturesque town of Topsham. Spend the rest of the afternoon here to see the Dutch-style merchants houses, which stand as a legacy to Topsham's maritime past when the town exported wool and cotton to Holland. Take some time to relax on Topsham's historic Quayside, where goods were exported from the town in the 17th and 18th century.

Topsham is a foodie's heaven, and there are numerous independent cafes and restaurants here for dinner.

For further itinerary inspiration, go to:
www.visitexeter.com/groups

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