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Destination
North East England



One day in...



Sunderland



Morning: Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens, Roker Beach

Start your day by immersing yourself in the city's history, art and natural heritage at Sunderland Museum and taking time out in the tropical Winter Gardens, before heading to Roker beach for a stroll along the golden sands, fine sea views, and an energising dip if you feel the urge!



Afternoon: Washington Old Hall

Head to Washington Old Hall, the thirteenth-century manor house associated with the family of George Washington, first President of the United States. As well as exploring the manor and gardens, check their event programme before you go for any live music or theatre events on the calendar.

Evening: My Delhi, Sunderland Empire

Make a dinner date with My Delhi and savour authentic Indian cuisine bursting with flavour, from fragrant curries to mouth-watering sweet treats. Then catch a dazzling show at the Sunderland Empire, where the bright lights of the West End are brought up to the North East.



Durham City



Morning: Durham University Botanic Garden, Barrio Comida

Begin by exploring the tranquil beauty of the University Botanic Garden, with its plant collections from around the world. Then refuel with Mexican brunch at Barrio Comida in the heart of the city. After a tasty taco or burrito bonanza you'll be all set for an afternoon exploring.



Afternoon: Durham Cathedral and Castle

Two UNESCO World Heritage Sites in one stop! Built to house relics of St Cuthbert and the Venerable Bede, the Cathedral's stunning Romanesque architecture and picturesque setting above the River Wear make it a captivating place in which to soak up a thousand years of history – or simply the majestic atmosphere. The Castle now houses University College students in place of medieval Prince Bishops, but welcomes visitors for guided tours and special events.

Evening: Durham Riverside, The Cellar Door

Walk up an appetite with a leafy riverside stroll along the Wear, taking in the timeless views of the city, the rows of rowing boats and contented ducks, before ducking into The Cellar Door in its 13th-century setting, to dine on modern European-inspired cuisine crafted from local and seasonal ingredients.



Northumberland



Morning: Barter Books, Alnwick Castle and The Alnwick Garden

Grab a coffee and breakfast sandwich from The Station Buffet café and lose yourself in Barter Books – one of Europe’s biggest second-hand bookshops, housed in a former railway station. Follow with one of England’s largest inhabited castles – Alnwick Castle dates back to Norman times and starred in the first two Harry Potter movies. Be sure to visit The Alnwick Garden next door too, with its Grand Cascade fountain, Poison Garden and Labyrinth.



Afternoon: The Treehouse restaurant, Vindolanda

Enjoy lunch in the unique setting of The Treehouse at The Alnwick Garden, surrounded by whimsical décor and lush greenery. Then head to the Roman forts of Vindolanda and Housesteads to see amazing artifacts from our ancient Roman past.

Evening: The Twice Brewed Inn, stargazing

Savour a hearty dinner of the finest local produce at The Twice Brewed Inn, before ending your day with another of its renowned experiences: stargazing under some of the darkest skies in Europe with an expert astronomer as your guide.



Newcastle and Gateshead



Morning: Stroll along the Quayside

Start your day with a leisurely waterfront walk, taking in the stunning views of the River Tyne, its iconic bridges and historic buildings. Nip into BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, a former flour mill turned art gallery which hosts a diverse programme of contemporary exhibitions by local and international artists.



Afternoon: Grainger Market and Fenwick

With a host of hugely popular street food vendors, you'll be spoilt for choice in Newcastle's Grade-1 listed indoor Grainger Market for your lunch. Explore cuisines from around the world before heading over to Fenwick where you can treat yourself to some retail therapy at Newcastle's 140-year-old department store. Book a personal shopping appointment and let an expert stylist help you curate the perfect outfit.

Evening: Blackfriars, By the River Brew Co.

Nestled at the heart of Newcastle, Blackfriars offers a historic dining experience housed within a 13th-century medieval friary. Expect the finest traditional British and European-inspired cuisine with a contemporary twist, using the freshest locally sourced produce. Head across the river to By the River Brew Co, an independent, seasonal container community on the banks of the River Tyne, for an evening drink with brilliant views of the Quayside.



North Tyneside and South Tyneside



Morning: Tynemouth Market, Tynemouth Priory and Castle

If you're visiting on a weekend, browse the famous Tynemouth Market, which turns Tynemouth Metro Station into a treasure-trove of craft, food and vintage stalls on Saturdays and Sundays from 9am to 3.30pm. Next, visit the dramatic ruins of Tynemouth Priory and Castle, poised at the mouth of the river with panoramic views of the North Sea coastline.



Afternoon: Riley's Fish Shack, South Shields Museum and Art Gallery

Tuck into a delicious freshly grilled seafood lunch at Riley's Fish Shack in King Edward's Bay, then hop on the Shields Ferry to cross the Tyne and explore the heritage and culture of South Tyneside in South Shields Museum and Art Gallery. Pause for tea and treats in the Victorian Pantry tearoom, where servers wear traditional costume to evoke an authentic 19th-century dining experience.

Evening: Marsden Grotto, South Shields Promenade

For a dinner-and-drinks experience that's truly out of the ordinary, head to Marsden Grotto, a bar and restaurant built into the beachside cliffs. When you've enjoyed your pick of the diverse menu, take a leisurely stroll along South Shields Promenade through South Marine Park and Ocean Beach Pleasure Park, taking in the fresh sea air and the glow of the funfair lights as the sun goes down.





Keen to plan your visit or ask us something?

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*Please check websites to find out more information about allergens and dietary requirements, as well as reservations and opening/closing times.

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