

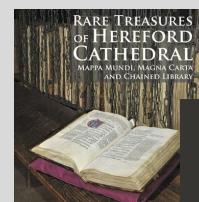
Having taken your time over the selection of your lunch, then treating it with deserved respect, it is time for all good things to come to an end. You now need to settle your bill and when everyone is ready and listening; yes including

you

I will ask you to make a decision, and please do not hide behind the person in front of you.

We have about two and a half hours before we start out for our train, and the time is yours to fill. There are a number of very interesting places to visit and things to do. We shall stop on the way back to the station for a last drink, coffee for some, something a little stronger perhaps for others. So here are some of my recommendations for using up those two and a half hours before we meet once more in front of the Black and White House and the Bull (why can I see one or two red faces at the mention of this animal; perhaps it's a slight excess of red wine?)

Hereford cathedral its chained library and the Mappa Mundi



Cider Museum (sorry, no wine or coffee museum)



Hereford Museum and Art Gallery one for the cognoscenti perhaps



Of course you can just wander around and look at the quaint streets and artisan shops

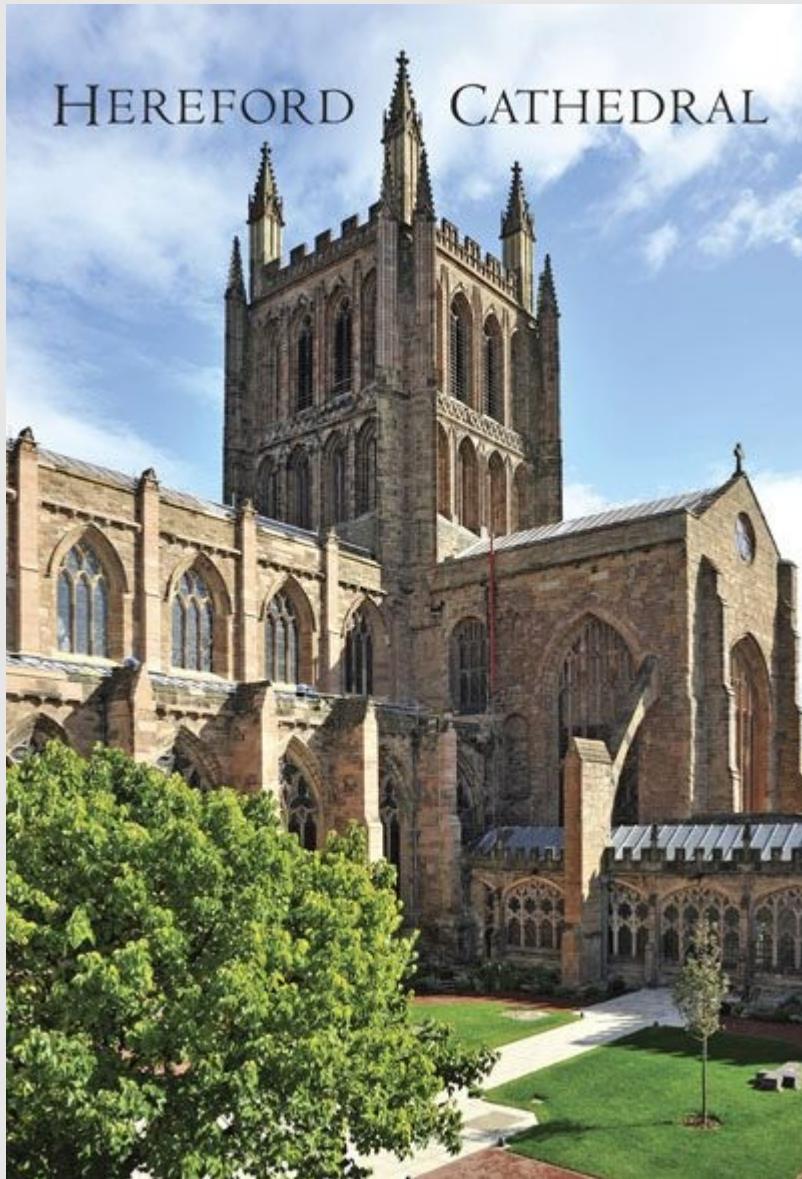
I have prepared a small guide outlining each of these attractions. Decide what you want to do and now please collect this guide from me. The shops I leave you to find for yourself. Go as individuals or small groups, it's down to you.



Steady on please, I have enough guides for everyone

And for the very fit
The Grand Bike Tour of Hereford.

Mind you, it's two and a half hours so I somehow think that this might be a step too far for most of us today especially after such a goof lunch! Besides which you have to book in advance, and as I thought the likelihood of anyone wanting to to that TODAY was pretty remote. Am I right or not?



Hereford Cathedral is the cathedral church of the Anglican Diocese of Hereford in Hereford, England. Its most famous treasure is **Mappa Mundi**, a medieval map of the world created around 1300 by Richard of Holdingham. The map is listed on the UNESCO Memory of the World Register.

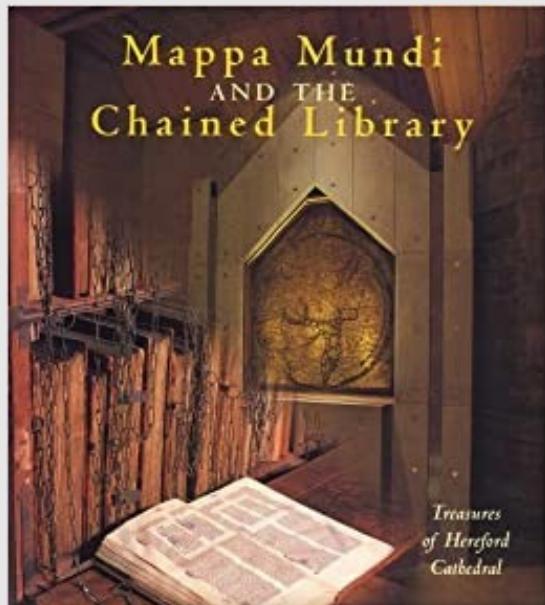
There has been a place of worship on the cathedral site since at least the 8th century, although no part of any building earlier than the 11th-century bishop's chapel survives.

The medieval cathedral was not monastic; the governing body, known as the Dean and Chapter, were not monks but secular priests who led active lives in the world. They employed the Vicars Choral, a body of clergy who lived a collegiate life in the Vicars' Cloister, to sing the daily services for them.

The Mappa Mundi and Chained Library Exhibition at Hereford Cathedral is open

all year round and is famous for housing both the medieval map of the world and the chained library.

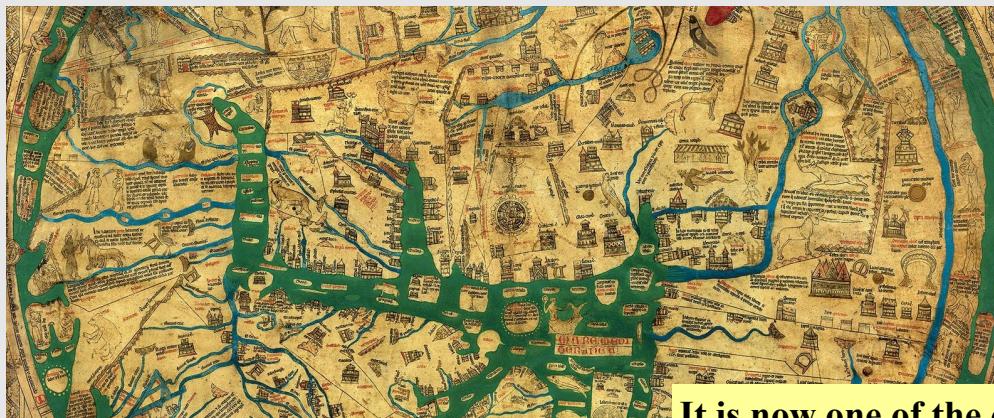




The Hereford Mappa Mundi is unique in Britain's heritage; an outstanding treasure of the medieval world, it records how 13th-century scholars interpreted the world in spiritual as well as geographical terms.

The map bears the name of its author, 'Richard of Haldingham or Lafford' (Holdingham and Sleaford in Lincolnshire). Recent research suggests a date of about 1300 for the creation of the map. Mappa Mundi is drawn on a single sheet of vellum (calf skin) measuring 64×52 inches (1.58 × 1.33 metres), tapering towards the top with a

rounded apex. The geographical material of the map is contained within a circle 52 inches in diameter and reflects the thinking of the medieval Church with Jerusalem at the centre of the world. Superimposed on to



the continents are drawings of the history of humankind and the marvels of the natural world. These 500 or so drawings include of around 420 cities and towns, 15 Biblical events, 33 plants, animals, birds and strange creatures, 32 images of the peoples of the world and 8 pictures from classical mythology.

It is now one of the cathedral's greatest treasures and a tourist attraction of international importance. In 2007 it became the United Kingdom's second entry on the UNESCO's Memory of the World register – a status for documents and collections similar to that of a World Heritage Site.

The Mappa Mundi has its own interactive website, where it can be explored in detail when you get home if you have visited one of the other attractions

<https://www.themappamundi.co.uk/mappa-mundi/>

or click on this picture



Christopher de Hamel, a leading authority on medieval manuscripts, has said of the Mappa Mundi, '... it is without parallel the most important and most celebrated medieval map in any form, the most remarkable illustrated English manuscript of any kind, and certainly the greatest extant thirteenth-century pictorial manuscript.'

THE CHAINED LIBRARY



The Hereford Cathedral Chained Library is the largest surviving chained library in the world. In the early 17th century, when the bookcases you see today were made, libraries similar to it could be found in universities and cathedrals, but this is the only one still to be chained. It contains about 1,500 books, dating from around the year 800 to the early 19th century, including 227 medieval manuscript books. The books are still examined and read today by scholars who come from all over the world to study them.

Most of the volumes in the collection date to acquisitions made in the 1100s, although the oldest book in the collection, the “Hereford Gospels,” dates to about the year 800. The books have moved around the Cathedral buildings over the centuries with some chained to desks and others to pulpits or study tables at one time. The chained library as a collection was created when the books were moved into the Lady Chapel in 1611, following an investigation into the care of the books.

Amazingly, the cathedral and the library collection escaped the widespread damage of the English Civil War, adding more books in 1678 from a Jesuit college.

Restoration work at the cathedral ended the chaining of the books. In 1841, the collection was moved into storage and then into separate rooms for several decades.

The Medieval Library

- The Hereford Gospels
- 12th century Gospels with miniature painting by the Alexis master
- The Hereford Breviary (between 1262 and 1268)
- Gratian's Decreum (late 13th century)
- Sermons of St. Gregory the Great and St. Bede (12th century)

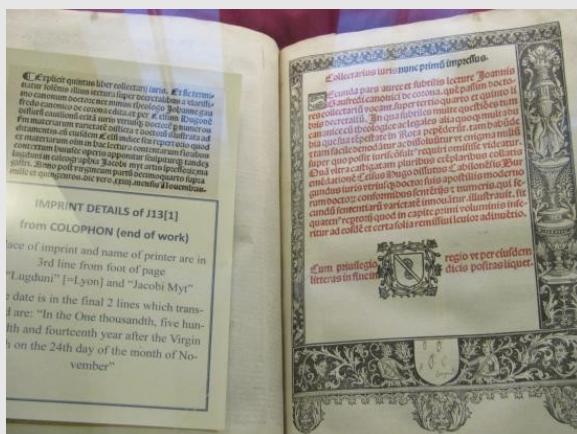
Click to go to
the library web-
site



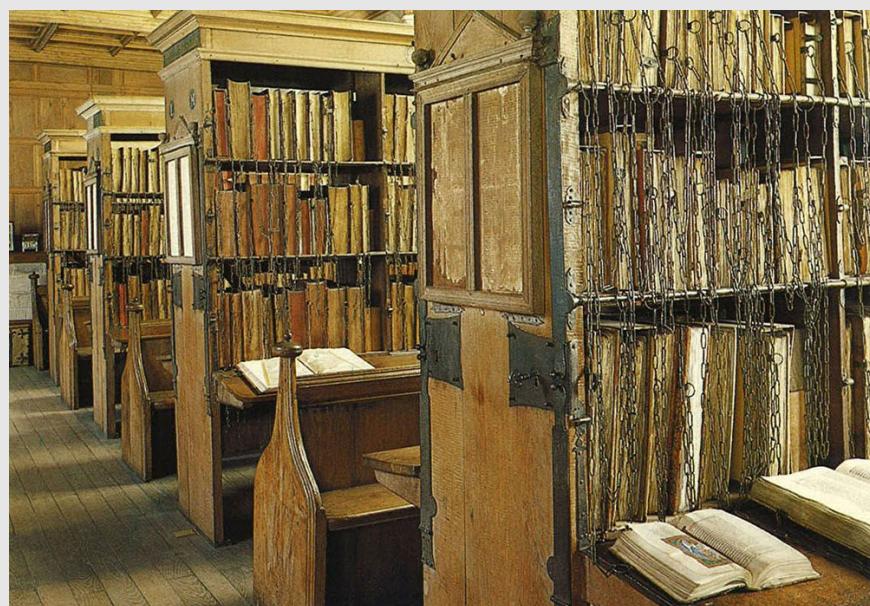
The chaining of books was the most widespread and effective security system in European libraries from the Middle Ages to the 18th century, and Hereford Cathedral's 17th-century Chained Library is the largest to survive with all its chains, rods and locks intact.

A chain is attached at one end to the front cover of

each book; the other end is slotted on to a rod running along the bottom of each shelf. The system allows a book to be taken from the shelf and read at the desk, but not to be removed from the bookcase.



The specially designed chamber in the New Library Building not only means that the whole library can now be seen in its original arrangement as it was from 1611 to 1841, but also allows the books to be kept in controlled environmental conditions according to modern standards of presentation.



There has been a working theological library at the cathedral since the 12th century, and the whole library continues to serve the cathedral's work and witness both as a research centre and as a tourist attraction.

The Magna Carta

The Great Charter of Liberties or 'Magna Carta' agreed between King John and his barons at Runnymede near Windsor in 1215 is one of the most famous documents in history. It is considered the foundation of English common law and much of its worldwide importance lies in the interpretation of the clauses from which grew the right of the freedom of the individual.

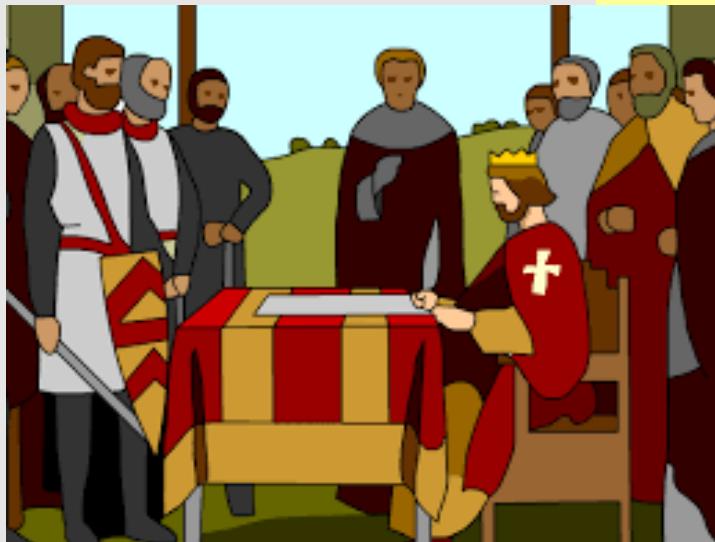
'No free man shall be arrested, imprisoned, dispossessed, outlawed, exiled or in any way victimised, or attacked except by the lawful judgement of his peers or by the law of the land'



On his accession in 1199, King John inherited a huge kingdom covering England, Ireland, parts of Scotland and lands in France stretching from the Channel to the Pyrenees but also considerable financial liability as a result of the expenditure on crusades and French wars of his father Henry II and brother Richard I. His reign was characterised by unprecedented taxation demands, harsh and arbitrary treatment of opponents and supporters alike and disastrous wars resulting in the loss of most of the French lands. This all gradually disaffected his most powerful barons who threatened open revolt.

John had also alienated the church by refusing to accept the Pope's nominee, Stephen Langton, as Archbishop of Canterbury resulting in the country enduring papal sanction for 4 years. As tension both at home and abroad increased John attempted to remedy the situation by accepting Langton as Archbishop in 1213, restoring confiscated lands to the church and also agreeing that England and Ireland be papal fiefdoms. By doing this John made himself a vassal, with the pope as his overlord. No English king had ever done such a thing, and it was deeply resented. This did little to

appease the rebel barons and matters came to a head in 1215 with Stephen Langton assuming the role of chief mediator between the king and the rebels.



In January 1215 a party of barons, fully armed, met with John demanding that he agree to a charter confirming the ancient liberties of the kingdom. John asked for time to consider but failed to meet or negotiate as agreed. Losing patience the barons were provoked into renouncing their obedience to the king and open military action seizing control of London in May. This was decisive in forcing John to agree to meet with the barons in June at Runnymede, near Windsor, to restore peace.

The Charter of Liberties known as Magna Carta, agreed between King John and his barons on 15 June at Runnymede followed the custom of previous English monarchs in confirming existing liberties and privileges of his subjects but went much further in including terms that attacked or curtailed the king's sovereignty. Additionally John agreed to the creation of a council of twenty five to ensure the enforcement of the terms of the charter effectively overriding his own authority.



King John's Seal

Hereford Cathedral possesses the only known surviving original of a writ sent out by King John from Runnymede in June 1215 to the sheriff and other royal officials in each county informing his subjects of the peace made and terms of Magna Carta. John declares that

'through God's grace a firm peace has been re-established between us and the barons and freemen of our kingdom, as you may hear and see through our charter which we have caused to be made concerning it, and which we have also ordered to be read out publicly throughout your jurisdiction and to be firmly kept'.

Each county was also elect twelve knights to inquire into the evil customs of the sheriffs and other officials as required by the charter.



The Cider museum Hereford

This was founded in 1973 to preserve the history of cider making worldwide. The extensive collection includes cider mills, presses, bottles, old photographs, watercolours, advertising memorabilia and a rare collection of English lead crystal cider flutes.

The museum continues to collect artefacts associated with the history of cider making and has achieved Accreditation status (awarded by the Arts Council, England) for its standards of care applied to the collection.

Admission to the tea and gift shop is free but there is a charge for entry to the museum itself.



Collection & Archive

Preserving the history of cider making worldwide

There are various inter-active computers to view as well as vintage film and other audio visual presentations. Be aware: audio in the Boardroom is triggered as you go in.





For a glimpse of some of the collections and the stories behind them, see this film commissioned by The National Association of Cidermakers, whose support we appreciate.

There is a warning about appropriateness at the start of the video which turns out to be 'age appropriateness! I think we all fall into the 'old enough' category. Just click on this image, enjoy!





Hereford Museum and Art Gallery, housed in a spectacular Victorian gothic building, has been exhibiting artefacts and works of fine and decorative art connected with the local area since 1874. Although the exterior of the building has changed very little, the museum and gallery have kept up with the times.

The exhibitions begin in the foyer of the building

with a regularly changing small display in the foyer case.

Don't miss the beautiful Kenchester mosaic on your way upstairs. The museum is full of interesting local history with hands-on elements for all the family. Around the walls of the museum is a timeline created by wood engraver

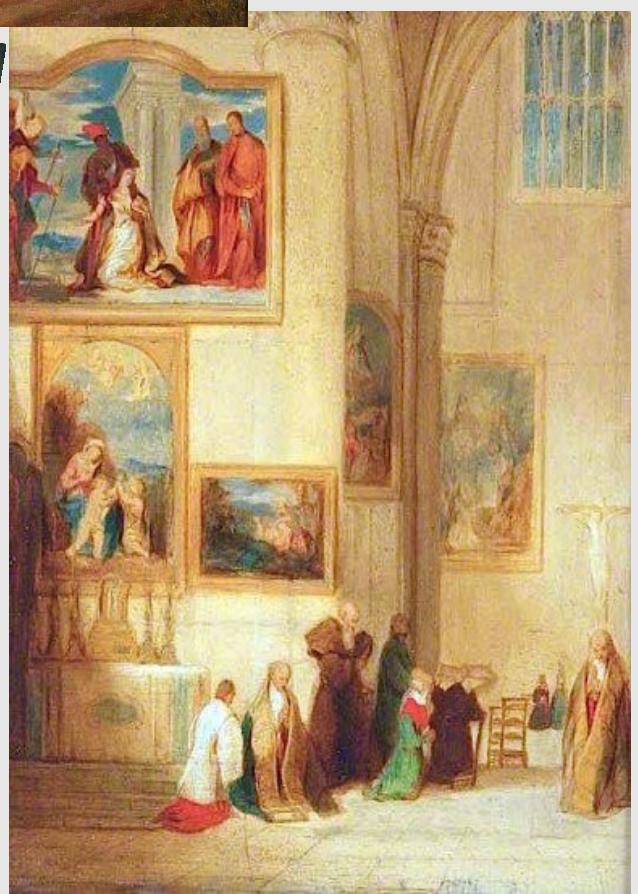
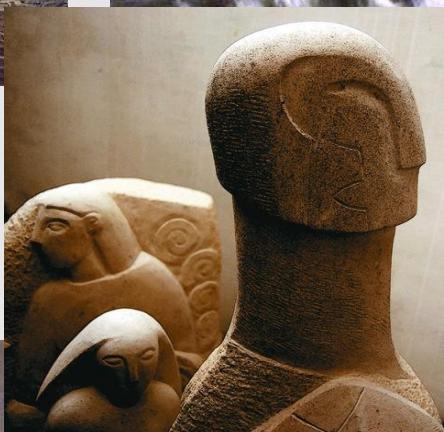


Harry Brockway. This sets out the major periods of history and depicts local events, places or museum objects. The exhibits themselves are then ordered according to both the historical era to which they belong and to one of four main themes - Herefordshire as a cultural county, a productive county, a natural county and a border county. Exhibits include a hive of live bees, a two-headed calf, a two metre long fish, swords of every shape and size, elements of costume and textiles and much more besides.





ART GALLERY





Of course you can always take a stroll along the river banks

