



MARKETING NOTTINGHAM

Nottingham is a city with a rich past and a vibrant culture, and plenty of intriguing stories to tell. Here are some of the top fascinating facts about the city.

1

The legend of Robin Hood

Whether it's the Major Oak, an 800-1000-year-old large English Oak tree where the outlaw hero and his merry men were said to hide out in Sherwood Forest, or the many events that take place each year to celebrate his memory, the tales of Robin Hood are still very much all around.

4

Nottingham's Goose Fair

Today the Goose Fair, held at the Forest Recreation Ground, is known for its fairground rides and food stalls. However, its history dates back over 700 years to 1284 when it started out as a livestock trading event.



2

Nottingham Castle

You can experience 1,000 years of history at Nottingham Castle, which has been a beacon of power, protest and rebellion throughout the centuries. Thanks to support from the Heritage Lottery Fund in 2016, a total of £29.4 million is being invested to redevelop the Ducal Palace and Grounds and the sprawling cave systems hidden within the Castle Rock.

5

Wollaton Hall and Batman

The popular Nottingham country house featured as Wayne's Manor in the Hollywood film, The Dark Knight Rises, with Christian Bale as Batman.

6

Green ambitions

Nottingham is on a mission to be the first carbon neutral city in the UK by 2028, having already made significant progress in the last few years. It's now home to an award-winning clean and green public transport system, which includes the world's largest biogas bus fleet and an expanding tram network.

3

Little John (the bell)

Inside the dome of the Nottingham Council House on Old Market Square you'll find a 10.5-tonne bell, designed by John Taylor Co of Loughborough in 1927. That is, if you don't hear it first. It's the fifth largest bell in the U.K. and has the deepest tone in the country, which can be heard up to seven miles away!



7

The first Boots shop

Although Boots is now a household name, its very first store was opened by John Boot on Goose Gate in 1849. Later his son Jesse Boot took sole ownership of the herbalist store before forming Boot & Company Ltd in 1883.

8

A mysterious metal line

Back in the day there used to be a wall that ran down the middle of Old Market Square to separate the animal market from the grain. Today all that's left is a mysterious metal line that runs down the middle of the square.

9

Ice Age art

If you take a drive out towards Creswell Crags, a limestone gorge near the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire border, you can see Britain's only verified Ice Age cave art. Bones, tools, and other artefacts belonging to the stone age and other primitive eras, have also been found inside the caves.

10

The oldest pub in England

Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem is England's oldest inn, built into the rock face beneath Nottingham Castle. Legend has it, King Richard the Lionheart stopped here before setting out on his journey to Jerusalem in 1189AD, hence the name.

11

Two world-class universities

Nottingham is home to not one but two world-class universities – the University of Nottingham and Nottingham Trent University. Both are top of the class for their teaching standards and sustainability strategies.



12

A city of underground caves

Underneath Nottingham's city streets lies a hidden maze of over 500 original sandstone caves dating back to the Dark Ages. Within these caves you can visit the only medieval underground tannery in the country, see the air raid shelter where thousands of people sought refuge during WWII, and explore the remnants of Drury Hill Victorian slums.

13

UNESCO City of Literature

Nottingham is a UNESCO City of Literature, a status that recognises Nottingham's past rebel writers and promising literary future. The permanent designation is enabling Nottingham to use the power of words to transform lives, create new opportunities and establish the city as a leading destination for lovers of literature worldwide.

14

The smallest big city in the UK

Nottingham is often said to have the largest number of independent shops outside London and to have more restaurants per square mile than anywhere else in the UK! Unlike other sprawling city centres, Nottingham is famously compact and easy to explore on foot, with most roads leading back to the beating heart of the city, Old Market Square.

15

The home of HP Sauce

The original recipe for HP Sauce was invented and developed by Frederick Gibson Garton, a grocer from Nottingham. The name H.P. Sauce was registered in 1895 after Garton heard a rumour that it was being served in a restaurant in the Houses of Parliament.



16

Old Market Square

At the heart of Nottingham lies Old Market Square, which is one of Europe's largest city squares. The open, pedestrianised square is 5.5 acres and the perfect location for all the large seasonal festivities, events, fairs and markets that take place throughout the year.