

# quest

for the holy trail



explore hidden gems  
and discover treasure houses of history  
in south yorkshire's heritage churches

HERITAGE INSPIRED: south yorkshire's faith tourism initiative



heritage inspired  
South Yorkshire's Faith Tourism Initiative



LOTTERY FUNDED



Yorkshire South

## LET US INSPIRE YOU!

Feast your eyes on our wonderful faith heritage. You'll find many inspirational places to visit and events to experience.

Churches, chapels, mosques, gurdwaras, synagogues and other faith sites are literally 'treasure houses' of history.

Very few ancient sites are built in the style of one architectural period, and their history can be traced through the jigsaw of architectural styles.

Faith sites are the keepers of community heritage.

Churchyards, in particular, are a veritable 'who's who' of the area. In addition, they are also keepers of traditions and rites that may have been practiced for generations.

There are around 10,000 faith sites of medieval origin in the UK. They were all built for the same purpose, but no two are the same. Each offers a new experience, and subsequent visits often reveal new secrets.

South Yorkshire has a wonderful heritage of faith buildings peppered across the countryside and nestling in our towns.

Why not come and explore them with us!

**discover heritage that inspires the world...**

Sheffield Cathedral



# poetry in stone



Our magnificent major churches are rich in culture and heritage.

Explore them and you will discover their spectacular architecture, social heritage and tranquil spaces.

## Sheffield Cathedral

Come to explore, pray, search, marvel or ponder. Lovers of art, architecture and music are all welcome in one of Sheffield's oldest buildings, the ancient heart of this great city.



## Silkstone All Saints & St James the Greater

Known as the 'Minster of the Moors' since the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

A warm welcome awaits at this beautiful, ancient church, which is well worth discovery.



## Conisbrough St Peter

An 8<sup>th</sup> century Saxon welcome awaits you!

The oldest building in South Yorkshire has a lovely 'across the centuries' feel and much to explore.



find what's through the stained glass window...

Wath All Saints



# treasure houses of history



Churches and other faith sites are literally 'treasure houses' of history - containing ancient carvings both in stone and timber, wall paintings, green men, roof bosses, gargoyles and dripstone heads, tombs and monuments, stained glass and more.

## Wath All Saints

A church has stood on this spot for more than 1000 years. Saxons, Normans, Tudors, Elizabethans and Victorians have left their mark on it - there is much to explore!



## Royston St John

The church was built by the monks of Monk Bretton Priory, and consecrated in 1234. Most of the present building is 15<sup>th</sup> century and has many things to see.



## Wales St John the Baptist

This ancient church has an impressive 12<sup>th</sup> century doorway with a fine tympanum and band of carved human and bird heads. There are also 'green men' and other carvings.



**a breath of fresh air in God's own county...**

**Bradfield St-Nicholas**





# the way to heaven



South Yorkshire is blessed with clusters of pretty villages nestled in wide open spaces of some the finest natural landscapes in the UK. Tucked away within this setting are beautiful village churches.

## Bradfield St Nicholas

A beautiful 15<sup>th</sup> century church in the Peak District, with many interesting features. Original features date from 1109, and include a carved Saxon cross from the 9<sup>th</sup> century.



## Fishlake St Cuthbert

Discover the ancient church of St Cuthbert, in the lovely village of Fishlake. The church boasts a wonderful Norman doorway, from 1170. It is adorned with rich sculpture.



## Midhopestones St John the Baptist

In a hamlet high in the Pennines is St James - a tiny rugged church, surrounded by a picturesque graveyard. All have been welcome since the foundations were laid around 1360.



# the footsteps of OUR ancestors



Follow in the footsteps of our ancestors and delight in any church crawlers dream... lots of wonderful ancient churches to visit, explore, discover and experience!

There are many ways to visit our churches and many things to discover. Whether you fancy a stroll around a pretty churchyard, enjoy reading interesting inscriptions on monuments or want to immerse yourself in prayer soaked walls - it's all here for you!

## **ARCHITECTURE**

Ancient Saxon remains can be found at many of our churches, including Conisbrough St Peter and Laughton All Saints.

Fishlake St Cuthbert boasts one of the finest Norman doorways in the country and Penistone St John has a wonderful collection of early Medieval roof bosses. There is stained glass by Kempe and furniture by Mousey Thompson. Whatever floats your architectural boat, can be found here!



Worsbrough St Mary

## **PILGRIMAGE**

From pre-Christian worship sites through ancient churches to modern buildings of other faiths we have much to inspire and nourish your spiritual soul.



Barnsley St Edward the Confessor

# Where the present meets the past

Illuminate your past on a voyage of discovery into ours. Churches are a living part of the community they serve, not just a historic monument. They can give you a very real sense of a continuing link with the past.



South Yorkshire is a great place to explore your family history, and what could be better than finding your roots in one of our beautiful heritage faith buildings. Reach out and touch your past, through the handwritten records of your ancestors in the place where they were created!

Our area is also home to the heritage of all of us, through links with national and international figures.

Some of our villages were home to the Pilgrim Fathers - the founding fathers of America who sailed on the Mayflower. **Babworth All Saints** was home to Richard Clyfton, the preacher whose teachings started the pilgrim movement and was regularly visited by William Bradford from nearby Austerfield, Governor and Historian of Plymouth Colony, Massachusetts.

**Upper Wincobank Udenominational Chapel** was visited by William Wilberforce, the leader of the movement to abolish the slave trade. His great-grandson was Rector at **Babworth All Saints**.



**Babworth All Saints**

# a stroll through time

Our heritage faith sites are blessed. They are set within some of the finest natural landscapes in the country, and to visit is to discover the past, present and future of our place within them.

Our villages are great places to start, and often have a local pub serving wholesome homemade food. Some even have local ales!

If feeling the earth beneath your boots or bike is your thing, you are in for a treat. South Yorkshire has hundreds of miles of well maintained paths and bridleways to explore.

If you would like some ideas then request one of our walk leaflets, which contain not only a well laid out route, but also information about local heritage and places to visit. The **Six Churches Walk** is just one of a selection, which visits a number of open churches including **Brampton Bierlow Christ Church**, **Wath All Saints** and others.

Don't forget that the Trans Pennine Trail and the National Cycle Network pass right by many of our churches, and a walk or ride along these routes can also be a chance to explore some hidden gems!



# events



South Yorkshire has an ancient and varied heritage. Our landscape and buildings show evidence of invasion, battles, faith, settlement, peace and the everyday life of local people. HERITAGE INSPIRED organises three large events every year, giving you the chance to explore many of our wonderful heritage faith sites.

## HERITAGE FESTIVAL

**BARNSELY** 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> June 2009  
**SHEFFIELD** 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> June 2009  
**DONCASTER** 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> June 2009  
**ROTHERHAM** 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> June 2009

Join us each year in JUNE for a month of open days at our hidden gems of architecture and social heritage across South Yorkshire.

Explore rarely open churches, chapels and other heritage faith sites. Enjoy events and activities and tuck into some yummy homemade cakes and other refreshments!

Keep an eye on our website or give us a ring for up to date details of this event, including sites taking part, opening times and events.

## HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

**10<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

Heritage Open Days celebrates England's fantastic architecture and culture by offering free access to properties that are usually closed to the public or normally charge for admission.

In South Yorkshire it's your chance to explore lots of sites over one weekend, and experience activities organised especially for this event.

Keep an eye on our website or give us a ring for up to date details of this event, including sites taking part, opening times and events.

## MULLED WINE & MUSIC

**26<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

Join one of three walks from Maltby, Laughton and Firbeck which meet up at atmospheric Roche Abbey for mulled drinks, mince pies, brass band and carol singing before walking back!

For more information check our website or give us a ring.

Many of our heritage faith sites organise wonderful events throughout the year. For information about concerts, exhibitions, flower festivals and much more please check our website or give us a ring to join our mailing list.



# DIRECTORY



For more information about the churches included in this directory, or to request copies of our other publications please ring **0845 6529634** or visit **[www.heritageinspired.org.uk](http://www.heritageinspired.org.uk)** where you can find detailed information about each church and download all our publications.

For more information about accessibility, opening times or to book a guided tour or school trip please ring the church.

For more information about visiting other heritage sites in South Yorkshire, or to book accommodation of all types please visit **[www.yorkshiresouth.com](http://www.yorkshiresouth.com)**

Please bear in mind that although this leaflet lists opening times for each site, they are all working buildings and may be closed on some days for special occasions. If you are really keen to visit a particular site please telephone in advance to make sure that it will be open.

## BABWORTH all saints

**OPEN:** May-September, Saturdays, 1:30pm-4:30pm

A quintessential English parish church, around 900 years old although most of the building dates from the 15<sup>th</sup> century. There is furniture by Robert 'Mousey' Thompson. Babworth is known for its connection with the Pilgrim Fathers. Richard Clyfton was Parson here 1586 - 1605.

[Bridle Path, Babworth, Nottinghamshire](#)  
Telephone: [01777 702417](tel:01777702417)

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## BARNBY DUN st peter & st paul

**OPEN:** May-September, Saturday & Sundays, 2pm-4pm

This beautiful village church is mainly 14<sup>th</sup> century, although the tower is 13<sup>th</sup> century. There are wonderful gargoyles and figure heads. Inside, the arcades are late 13<sup>th</sup> century, behind the altar is a carved stone reredos and the sanctuary floor has beautiful Victorian tiles.

[The Grove, Barnby Dun, Doncaster, DN3 1EB](#)  
Telephone: [01302 882835](tel:01302882835)  
[www.barnbydunparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.barnbydunparishchurch.co.uk)

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## BARNSLEY st edward the confessor

**OPEN:** May-October, Wednesdays, 10:30am-3:30pm

We look forward to welcoming you to St Edwards, built in 1902 in the Early English style. There is much to see including the carved font and pulpit, and the magnificent west window showing the ship of the church approaching Jerusalem. There is a carved alabaster reredos.

[Racecommon Road, Kingstone, Barnsley, S70 6JY](#)  
Telephone: [01226 203986](tel:01226203986)  
[www.stedwards-barnsley.org.uk](http://www.stedwards-barnsley.org.uk)

## BRADFIELD ST NICHOLAS

**OPEN:** Everyday, 9am-dusk

This beautiful 15<sup>th</sup> century church is set in Sheffield's Peak District, and has interesting features from an 1109 church, including a carved 9<sup>th</sup> century Saxon cross. There is much to see including stained glass, carved pulpit, camber beam roof and the original Norman font.

Jane Street, High Bradfield, Sheffield, S6 6LG

Telephone: 0114 285 1225

[www.achurchnearyou.com/bradfield-st-nicholas](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/bradfield-st-nicholas)

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## BRAMPTON BIERLOW CHRIST CHURCH

**OPEN:** Wednesdays & Thursdays 10am-12pm

Christ Church was built in 1855 in the Decorated style. The windows have delicate tracery and beautiful stained glass, some by Whitefriars. The top of one pillar boasts a cow eating grass (a 'green man'?) and the face of a milk maid. There is a much admired rood screen.

Melton High Street, West Melton, Wath Upon Dearne, Rotherham, S63 6AN

Telephone: 01709 873210

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## CANTLEY ST WILFRID

**OPEN:** Wednesdays, 10am-12pm

Parts of the church are 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> century with the tower being 14<sup>th</sup> century. St Wilfrid's is one of the finest examples of the early work of Sir Ninian Comper, who created the atmosphere of a medieval parish church with elaborate rich decoration, rood screen, reredos and more.

Church Lane, Cantley, Doncaster, DN4 6QR

Telephone: 01302 535967

[www.stwilfridscantley.co.uk](http://www.stwilfridscantley.co.uk)

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## CONISBROUGH ST PETER

**OPEN:** Everyday, 9am-4pm

The oldest building in South Yorkshire, built in Saxon times (c740-750AD). From 1100 the church was extended until 1450. There are many features, including the 'hagioscope' and 'lychnoscope', a medieval altar slab and two 13<sup>th</sup> century stained glass windows.

Church Street, Conisbrough

Telephone: 01709 862108

[www.stpetersconisbrough.co.uk](http://www.stpetersconisbrough.co.uk)

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## DARTON ALL SAINTS

**OPEN:** Easter-September, Saturdays, 10am-12pm

The church was built in 1480 and is virtually unaltered. Discover the elements of two older churches, including a Norman font base and medieval stone altar. There are magnificent carvings including poppy heads in the choir stalls, the 'imp', roof bosses and four 'green men'.

Darton, Barnsley, S75 5NQ

Telephone: 01226 384596

[www.acny.org.uk/venue.php?V=18086](http://www.acny.org.uk/venue.php?V=18086)

## Dinnington St Leonard

**OPEN:** Monday-Saturday, 10am-12pm

St Leonard's is an 18<sup>th</sup> century church, which contains the remains of much earlier buildings. The church contains the wonderful glass and wood Miners Memorial Screen. There is stained glass by Kempe and interesting memorials covering the history of village life.

Church Lane, Dinnington, S25 2PQ

Telephone: 01909 562335

[www.dinningtonandlaughtonunitedbenefice.com](http://www.dinningtonandlaughtonunitedbenefice.com)

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## Finningley Holy Trinity

**OPEN:** Wednesdays, 1:30pm-4:30pm

A delightful medieval church, surrounded by an award-winning churchyard, managed for conservation. The bell tower was built around 1080, the main nave around 1280. There is much to see, including 23 painted roof bosses and 700 year old coffin lids.

Rectory Lane, Finningley, Doncaster, DN9 3DA

Telephone: 01302 770268

[www.fabparish.org.uk](http://www.fabparish.org.uk)

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## Fishlake St Cuthbert

**OPEN:** Everyday, dawn-dusk

Tradition says that the remains of St Cuthbert rested in Fishlake during the Viking invasions. The church is famous for its Norman doorway from 1170. It is richly adorned with sculpture. There is much to see, including a rood screen from 1500 and a priest's stall from 1616.

Church Lane, Fishlake, DN7 5JW

Telephone: 01302 841396

[www.benefice-of-fishlake-sykehouse-kirkbramwith-fenwick-moss.co.uk](http://www.benefice-of-fishlake-sykehouse-kirkbramwith-fenwick-moss.co.uk)

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## Harthill All Hallows

**OPEN:** Summer, 10am-6pm & Winter, 10am-4pm

Harthill's first church was built in 1085. It was enlarged in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. Inside is splendid, with carved Italian woodwork. The nave roof has bosses and green men and the east window is by Kempe. The church contains the tomb of the first Duke of Leeds.

Union Street, Harthill, S26 7YG

Telephone: 01909 771369

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## Hatfield St Lawrence

**OPEN:** Wednesday & Saturday, 2pm-4pm

This Norman church dates from 1150, with later additions. There are Norman lancet windows and 13<sup>th</sup> century nave arcades. There are many things to see, including stained glass by Kempe, a finely carved chancel screen and a massive Norman iron bound dug-out chest.

Station Road, Hatfield, Doncaster DN7 6QE

Telephone: 01302 840280

[www.hcol.co.uk](http://www.hcol.co.uk)



## KILLMARSH ST GILES

**OPEN:** Saturday, 9am - 11:30am

The church dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> century and Norman chevron carving can be seen around the entrance. There are many items of interest, including the Norman font and beautiful stained glass windows, including a medieval stained glass window.

[Kirkcroft Lane, Killamarsh, S21 1BS](#)

Telephone: 0114 248 2769

[www.stgiles-killamarsh.org](http://www.stgiles-killamarsh.org)

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## LAUGHTON ALL SAINTS

**OPEN:** April-December, third Thursday in month, 10am-12pm

All Saints dates back to Saxon times, although the present church was built around 1377. All Saints is famous for its Saxon doorway, which is often described as the most spectacular piece of Saxon architecture in South Yorkshire. The spire is one of the most beautiful of any village.

[Church Corner, High Street, Laughton-en-le-Morthen, S25 1YB](#)

Telephone: 01909 563681

<http://www.dinningtonandlaughtonunitedbenefice.com>

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## MIDHOPESTONE ST JAMES

**OPEN:** Everyday, dawn-dusk

Set in a hamlet, high in the Pennines, St James' is a tiny rugged church, surrounded by a picturesque graveyard. It was built in 1360, of grey sandstone, with roof tiles of the same material. There are wonderful views over the open moors and fields.

[Chapel Lane, Midhopestone, S36 4GW](#)

Telephone: 01226 370006

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## OWSTON ALL SAINTS

**OPEN:** Summer, first Sunday in month

This lovely 12<sup>th</sup> century church is set within a tiny Domesday village. There is Norman herringbone masonry and a lovely 13<sup>th</sup> century tower. There are many things to see including medieval glass, two monuments by Chantrey and a monument to George Byard.

[Stocksbridge Lane, Owston, Doncaster, Dn6 9JF](#)

Telephone: 01302 337101

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## PENISTONE ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

**OPEN:** Thursdays, 10am-12:00pm & Saturdays, 10:15am-12pm

The market town of Penistone sits on the Trans Pennine Trail. This has been a site of prayer since 900AD, although the church dates from the 14<sup>th</sup> century and has 33 wonderful bosses, carved in 1375. The churchyard contains the St John's Sensory & Heritage Garden.

[Church Street, Penistone](#)

Telephone: 01226 370006

## Rotherham Talbot Lane

**OPEN:** Monday-Friday, mornings

Often called a "gem of Methodist architecture", the church was built in the neo-gothic style in 1903. The interior is magnificent, with carved woodwork, including an oak pulpit and font and a high vaulted roof. There are lovely Art Nouveau style chandeliers and stained glass.

Ship Hill, Moorgate Street, Rotherham, S60 2EY  
Telephone: 01709 835037

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## Royston St John the Baptist

**OPEN:** Everyday, dawn-dusk (closed until May 2009 for restoration)

The church was built by the monks of Monk Bretton Priory, and consecrated in 1234. Most of the building is 15<sup>th</sup> century. The nave roof has very fine carved roof bosses, including some 'green men', and carved screens. There are fine monuments and a Saxon cross.

Church Street, Royston, Barnsley S71 4QZ  
Telephone: 01226 722410

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## Sheffield Cathedral Church of St Peter & St Paul

**OPEN:** Everyday, 8:45am-4:30pm

One of Sheffield's oldest buildings, the ancient heart of this great city. The Tudor monuments are magnificent, especially one commemorating the 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Shrewsbury, husband of Bess of Hardwick and guardian of Mary Queen of Scots during her imprisonment in Sheffield.

Church Street, Sheffield, S1 1HA  
Telephone: 0114 275 3434  
[www.sheffield-cathedral.org.uk](http://www.sheffield-cathedral.org.uk)

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## Silkstone All Saints & St James the Greater

**OPEN:** Wednesdays, 9:30am-11:30am

The building has monastic foundations, prior to 1066. The current church is 14<sup>th</sup> century and has striking flying buttresses, pinnacles and gargoyles. There are interesting tombstones, including an intricately carved knight in armour from 1675 and the Huskar Monument.

High Street, Silkstone, S75 4JH  
Telephone: 01226 791033

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## Thurlstone St Saviour

**OPEN:** Tuesdays, 10am-11:30am

A warm welcome awaits at this lovely church in the Pennines. Built in 1905 the church contains some wonderful woodwork and an impressive wagon roof in the chancel.

Manchester Road, Thurlstone, Sheffield, S36 9QS  
Telephone: 01226 763260

## upper wincobank undenominational chapel

**OPEN:** Tuesdays, 10:30am-12:30pm

Lovely chapel a short walk from the Ironage Hillfort. Established by two ladies - reformers and campaigners for the Abolition of Slavery. Visitors included William Wilberforce. The chapel dates from 1841.

Wincobank Avenue, Upper Wincobank, S5 6BB

Telephone: 0114 249 1027

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## wadworth st john

**OPEN:** Last Saturday in month, 10am-12pm

The main body of the church is 12<sup>th</sup> century and the tower dates from the 15<sup>th</sup> century. There are two Fitzwilliam family tombs from the 15<sup>th</sup> century - one is a knight from the battle of Agincourt. There is also a double semi-effigial figure.

Church Road, Wadworth, DN11 9BG

Telephone: 01302 851974

[www.wadworthloversallchurches.org.uk](http://www.wadworthloversallchurches.org.uk)

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## wales st john the baptist

**OPEN:** Everyday except school holidays, 9am-4:30pm

The Norman nave and chancel now form the Lady Chapel with a beautiful arch, curious carved head and attractive roof bosses - including two 'green men'. There is an impressive 12<sup>th</sup> century doorway - with a fine tympanum and band of human and bird head

Church Street, Wales, Sheffield, S26 5LQ

Telephone: 01909 565811

[www.stjohnschurchwales-kivetonpark.org](http://www.stjohnschurchwales-kivetonpark.org)

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## wath all saints

**OPEN:** Everyday, 10am-2pm

All Saints is a spectacular church, with much to see. There are remains of the Norman church, from 1150 and a Lady Chapel from 1300, including five stone heads. All Saints has an impressive collection of 16<sup>th</sup> century painted roof bosses - including animals and humans.

Church Street, Wath upon Dearne, S63 7RD

Telephone: 01709 872299

[www.wathparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.wathparishchurch.co.uk)

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## worsbrough st mary

**OPEN:** Wednesdays, 10am-11:15am

'Few churches in SY contain more that may delay and interest the curious inquirer'. From Saxon stonework, through the Norman chancel and 14<sup>th</sup> century nave - St Mary's looks as it did in 1450. Contains the unique double-decker tomb and figures of Sir Roger Rockley (d1553).

Worsbrough Village, Barnsley, S70 5LQ

Telephone: 01226 203933



## **HERITAGE INSPIRED**

HERITAGE INSPIRED is a unique project, working with faith sites across South Yorkshire to promote their social, architectural and cultural heritage. For more information about us, or our partners please visit our website.

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

