



Magna Carta has journeyed across the globe, and through history. It has overcome the barriers of language and the division of cultures to become one of the most important documents of Medieval England.

2015 marks 800 years since Magna Carta was agreed between King John and his barons, so enshrining the rule of law in English society.

We now invite you to make your own Magna Carta journey.

Follow King John's footsteps. Explore the homes of barons and bishops. Stand on the spot of the showdown at Runnymede. See the original 1215 Magna Carta plus the many copies and iterations around the country. Discover the Magna Carta towns.

Whether you have a day, a long weekend or are planning a short break, discover the rich history across the land of Magna Carta, the guarantor of our freedoms and the legal basis for our centuries-old way of life.

Use this map as inspiration for your visits and see www.magnacartatrails.com for more information.

MAGNA CARTA Trails



TRAIL 1: LONDON TO WINDSOR 4 DAYS

DAY 4 WINDSOR
King John loved Windsor Castle above all others. The oldest and largest inhabited castle in the world, Windsor embodies the history of the nation in its development from an early fortification to the royal palace we see today. It was besieged in 1216.

DAY 2 BRITISH LIBRARY A TREASURE TROVE FOR CHARTER ENTHUSIASTS
Two of the only surviving four copies of the 1215 version of Magna Carta are housed here, with other original medieval documents in a once in a lifetime exhibition.

DAY 2 TROWBRIDGE ONE OF THE BARON TOWNS
Henry de Bohun from Trowbridge was one of the 25 barons elected to enforce Magna Carta in the early 13th century. He is pictured in a stained glass window in St James's Church, holding a copy of the Charter.

DAY 1 CITY OF LONDON THE CENTRE OF DISSENT
The ancient City of London is home to the Heritage Gallery – displaying the 1297 Magna Carta sealed by Edward I – and the Temple complex, where the barons confronted King John.

DAY 3 RUNNYMEDE THE SEALING OF MAGNA CARTA
Runnymede, the untouched riverside landscape and ancient meeting meadow, is where King John sealed Magna Carta in 1215.

DAY 1 DAY 2
LONDON KENSINGTON Kew WINDSOR

TRAIL 2: SALISBURY AND WILTSHIRE 2 DAYS

DAY 2 MORNING STONEHENGE WORLD HERITAGE SITE
Just 20 minutes from Salisbury, this stone circle is one of the most famous sites in the world. Archaeologists believe it evolved between 3,000 BC and 1,600 BC.

DAY 1 SALISBURY A MEDIEVAL MASTERPIECE
Salisbury Cathedral is home to the finest preserved of the four original 1215 copies of Magna Carta, presented in a new exhibition for 2015. This beautiful medieval city offers a wealth of fascinating attractions and will host numerous Magna Carta themed events during 2015.

DAY 2 AFTERNOON TROWBRIDGE
Henry de Bohun from Trowbridge was one of the 25 barons elected to enforce Magna Carta in the early 13th century. He is pictured in a stained glass window in St James's Church, holding a copy of the Charter.

DAY 2
SALISBURY AMESBURY STONEHENGE WESTBURY TROWBRIDGE CHIPPENHAM DEVIZES BATH WARMINSTER

TRAIL 3: THE CATHEDRAL CITIES OF THE NORTH 3 DAYS

DAY 3 DURHAM EARLS PALATINE
Three editions of Magna Carta dated 1216, 1225 and 1300 are held in Durham Cathedral, recently voted the UK's Number One Landmark. The 1216 issue will be on display in Durham City from 1 June to 31 August 2015 at Durham University's Palace Green Library.

DAY 1 LINCOLN CATHEDRAL'S 1215 MAGNA CARTA
Lincoln Cathedral has the best pedigree of all four exemplars. It is displayed in Lincoln Castle in a new Magna Carta vault. Visit the Cathedral and Castle and enjoy a number of anniversary events and celebrations during 2015. Royalists won a decisive land battle in 1217.

DAY 2 YORK AND CARTMEL
AM: In 1212 the King granted a charter to the citizens of York, which proved a precursor of Magna Carta.
PM: William the Marshal established the Priory Church of St. Mary and St. Michael in Cartmel, Cumbria, in 1189. Norham Castle was captured by the Scots in 1215. Berwick was recaptured by John in 1216.

DAY 2
CARTMEL CUMBRIA YORK LEEDS MANCHESTER SHEFFIELD LINCOLN

TRAIL 4: KENT AND EAST SUSSEX 3 DAYS

DAY 2 FAVERSHAM / ROCHESTER KINGS, QUEENS AND SIEGES
AM: Faversham holds a Magna Carta issued by Edward I in 1300.
PM: The great siege of Rochester Castle in 1215 is possibly the most famous siege of the medieval period as its outcome would ultimately decide whether the crown of England would stand or fall. Kent's second Cathedral at Rochester houses the remarkable 1123 Textus Roffensis.

DAY 1 CANTERBURY THE EYE OF THE STORM
Archbishop Langton joined with rebellious barons and other bishops to limit the royal powers. Also, in 1170 the infamous murder of Thomas Becket took place here.

DAY 3 / OPTION 1 DOVER CASTLE THE KEY TO ENGLAND
Dover Castle, sitting atop the world famous White Cliffs of Dover, was besieged by Louis VIII of France in 1216. At Sandwich, the royalists won a decisive naval battle in 1217.

DAY 3 / OPTION 2 PEVENSEY, EAST SUSSEX NORMAN STRONGHOLD
Pevensey received a Royal Charter from King John in 1207. The original seals are on view in the Court House Museum. The Royal Charter is at Kew and the seals are on view.

DAY 2
ROCHESTER SHEERNESS SITTINGBOURNE FAVERSHAM CANTERBURY DOVER PEVENSEY

TRAIL 5: EAST OF ENGLAND 2 DAYS

DAY 1 ST ALBANS AND BURY ST EDMUNDS
AM: At St Albans Abbey, barons and clergy met in 1213 to demand payment from King John for past grievances.
PM: At the High Altar of the Abbey in Bury St. Edmunds the barons reputedly met to swear an oath of allegiance to each other to force King John to accept the Charter. Other castles in the war were at Bedford and Cambridge.

DAY 2 FRAMLINGHAM AND NORWICH
AM: Framlingham Castle in Suffolk is home of Roger Bigod, 2nd Earl of Norfolk, and one of the most important of the 25 baronial sureties of Magna Carta.
PM: In 1216 Norwich Castle was captured by French forces led by Prince Louis, son of the King of France.

DAY 1
ST ALBANS COLCHESTER BURY ST EDMUNDS CAMBRIDGE NORWICH FRAMLINGHAM HUNTINGFIELD

TRAIL 6: THE HEART OF ENGLAND 3 DAYS

DAY 1 OXFORD THE BODLEIAN LIBRARY
Oxford's Bodleian Library holds nearly a quarter of the world's original 13th century manuscripts of Magna Carta and of the seventeen known surviving Charters, three are in the Bodleian.

DAY 2 WORCESTER AND EVESHAM
King John died on campaign at Newark on 18 Oct 1216 and was buried at Worcester Cathedral in 1216. His will is usually kept in the Cathedral Library and his effigy is near the High Altar. Simon de Montfort led the rebellion against Henry III and died at the Battle of Evesham in 1265.


DAY 3 HEREFORD MAPPA MUNDI AND MAGNA CARTA
Hereford Cathedral displays its own Magna Carta (the finest surviving 1217 issue) March to October, alongside the cathedral's famous medieval map and unique Chained Library, with a supporting programme of exhibitions, talks, lectures and family events. Also visit Berkeley Castle, Gloucestershire.

DAY 2
HEREFORD WALSLEY WORCESTER EVESHAM STRATFORD-UPON-AVON CHIPPING-NORTON OXFORD

www.visitmedway.org

Explore Rochester's historic High Street and the buildings that featured in the work of the great British author, Charles Dickens. Or explore the internationally-renowned Historic Dockyard, the country's best preserved dockyard dating from the age of sail and the site where Nelson's flagship HMS Victory was built.

WHILST IN THE AREA



Cathedral crypt newly restored Rochester on display together in the medieval English – will be the laws of the land written oldest surviving example of In 2015 Magna Carta and Textus Roffensis – the finest Norman castle in the country. Today visitors can see the rebuilt castle recognised as Magna Carta. In preparation for war King John recruited foreign mercenaries and began marching toward London. In his way stood Rochester Castle. At Christmas 1213 he ordered a supply of 15,000 herring, 3,000 capons, 1,000 sated eels, 400 pig heads, 100 pounds of almonds, 20 pounds of white bread, spices, 500 pounds of wax, 1,000 yards of cloth for napkins, 20 large casks of good wine for his household and 4 casks of the best for himself. The barons assembled on the 10th June 1215 and meetings took place daily with the King's base at Windsor Castle. King John rode from Windsor to Runnymede on 15th June 1215 – the day agreement was finally reached.

ROCHESTER

www.visitaversham.com

Packed with history, located on a creek and with one of Britain's finest medieval streets, Faversham is home to Britain's oldest brewer, Shepherd Neame. Enjoy a brewery tour, visit the Fleur de Lis Heritage Museum and Faversham Market on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.

WHILST IN THE AREA




Faversham mentioned in Domesday Book and the oldest market town in Kent, possesses a magnificent collection of charters, including a 1300 Magna Carta, the last reissue of King Edward I's seal. Faversham will host Magna Carta Rediscovered, from 23 May to 28 June 2015, with its 1300 Magna Carta as the centrepiece. While in the town, the exhibition will incorporate the Faversham Charter Collection, a display of royal charters presented to Faversham between 1252 and 1685, many of which recognise the special status of the town as a member of the Cinque Ports Federation.

FAVERSHAM, KENT

www.templechurch.com

Explore the history and resonance of Magna Carta at the British Library show Magna Carta: Law, Liberty, Legacy (13 March – 1 September 2015, www.bl.uk). or enjoy the Houses of Parliament's 2015 Parliament in the Making celebrations from February (www.parliament.uk/2015).

WHILST IN THE AREA




The Temple Church was built by the Knights Templar to protect pilgrims to the Holy Land. In the crisis of 1214-15 King John had two London headquarters: the Tower in the East; and the Temple in the West, where he was safe under the protection of the Templars. It was here, in January 1215, King John was confronted by a posse of barons demanding a charter. Four months later, the original charter was issued from the Temple. In Temple Church there is an effigy of William the Marshal who mediated between King and barons and was a witness to the Charter.

TEMPLE

www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/mc800

The City of London is the only place to be named in Magna Carta thanks to its pivotal role in the events leading to Runnymede. King John granted the City the right to appoint its own Mayor who needed royal approval and to swear an oath of allegiance – a practice that continues to this day. The City's Heritage Gallery houses a 1297 Magna Carta and free Magna Carta and the City guided walks start at Blackfriars Station (north) at 11am daily (1 June - 20 September 2015). A programme of special events will also take place throughout the summer of 2015.

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CITY OF LONDON

www.windsor.gov.uk

Visit the American Bar Association Magna Carta Memorial, Commonwealth Air Forces Memorial and John F Kennedy Memorial. Nearby are Windsor Hampton Court Palace, Thorpe Park, Loseley Park and the Surrey History Centre. The National Archives, home of two Magna Cartas, is also worth a visit.

WHILST IN THE AREA




King John is said to have loved Windsor Castle. In 1215, King John sealed Magna Carta on Runnymede Meadows – and the untouched landscape remains a place for pilgrimage for those reflecting on the values of liberty, democracy, freedom and the rule of law. On 15 June 2015, Runnymede will welcome commemoration activities together with the magnificent views from Cooper's Hill and the memorials at Runnymede, help us consider important moments in history and their meaning today. One hour from London, Runnymede is perfect for a taste of history, river boat ride, picnic or countryside walk.

WINDSOR

www.visitsurrey.com

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RUNNYMEDE, SURREY

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HEATHROW - GUILDFORD
MANCHESTER, FREE TRADE HALL

DURHAM



Durham Cathedral in Durham City, often cited as the greatest Norman building in Europe, holds three editions of Magna Carta dated 1216, 1225 and 1300, which demonstrate the evolution of the original. The 1216 issue – the only surviving copy – will be on display from 1 June to 31 August 2015 at Durham University's Palace Green Library, in the heart of the city's UNESCO World Heritage Site, as part of *Magna Carta and the changing face of revolt* – an exhibition exploring different historical instances and types of rebellion.




WHILST IN THE AREA

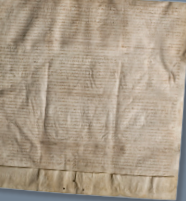
Auckland Castle in the Vale of Durham was home to the Bishops of Durham for over 900 years - stroll through its magnificent state rooms adorned with precious works of art. And at award-winning Beamish Museum take a tram ride into the past for the chance to touch, taste, hear, see and smell history.

www.thisisdurham.com

LINCOLN



Twelfth and thirteenth century Lincoln was a place of learning, where a young Stephen Langton's radical constitutional idea took shape. Langton later became Archbishop of Canterbury and instilled in Magna Carta his ideas on kingship. 2015 sees the opening of a new vault and visitor centre for Magna Carta that will be displayed alongside 1217 Charter of the Forest, within Lincoln Castle. This recent development of the Castle also includes a Medieval Wall Walk and a Victorian Prison. Lincoln Magna Carta is owned by Lincoln Cathedral, one of the finest examples of Gothic architecture in Europe.



WHILST IN THE AREA

A visit to the Cathedral is a must when viewing Magna Carta at Lincoln Castle. Enjoy roof, floor and tower tours of the Cathedral. Explore the wider Cathedral Quarter with many independent shops and places to eat. And look out for the year round programme of festivals and events across the city.

www.visitlincoln.com

SALISBURY & WILTSHIRE



Salisbury Cathedral is home to the finest preserved of four original 1215 Magna Cartas, displayed in a spectacular medieval setting. A major exhibition opening in February 2015 will present Magna Carta in its historic context and capture the document's legacy and current relevance. A range of Magna Carta events will take place in Salisbury and Wiltshire during 2015. These include contemporary art installations, a barons' trail, musical performances, theatre (especially commissioned by Salisbury Playhouse), a wide range of family activities and a flower festival. Trowbridge, home of one of the 25 barons, will also be a focal point for activities.




WHILST IN THE AREA


Stonehenge, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is just 20 minutes away. Other attractions in Salisbury Cathedral Close include the recently refurbished Salisbury Museum. Also nearby are the stone circle at Avebury, Old Wardour Castle, Stourhead, Longleat and Wiltshire's iconic white chalk horses.

www.visitwiltshire.co.uk

WORCESTERSHIRE



King John often visited Worcester Cathedral to worship at the shrine of St Wulfstan. At the end of King John's reign, the city of Worcester had declared for the rebellious barons. In July 1216 one of John's lieutenants broke through the defences at Worcester Castle and captured the city. Just before his death in October 1216 John declared in his Will that he should be buried at Worcester Cathedral, in front of the High Altar and between the Cathedral's two saints. The effigy on his tomb is unique – it is a life-like image of him and is the oldest royal effigy in England.



WHILST IN THE AREA

What the city looked like during this significant time in history can be seen in The Commandery, one of the Worcester city museums, on a 1:500 scale reconstruction of the walled city of Worcester in 1250.

www.visitworcestershire.org/magnacarta

MAGNA CARTA 800th Trails



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www.magnacartatrails.com