

# WELCOME TO BATH! PRESS INFORMATION 2020

visitbath.co.uk

@visitbath Twitter, Facebook and Instagram

Image Library: visitwest.co.uk/media/image-library

# Introduction to Bath - The Original Wellbeing Destination

Built for pleasure and relaxation, the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Bath has been a wellbeing destination since Roman times. The thermal waters are a big draw, both at the ancient Roman Baths, built in 70 A.D. and the modern Thermae Bath Spa, where you can bathe in the naturally heated mineral waters from the roof-top pool, while taking in the view of Bath's skyline. The springs in the Spa Quarter under the city produce 1,170,000 litres of thermal water every day.

Bath was inscribed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site in 1987. The only other city to be awarded UNESCO World Heritage site status is Venice. Bath is included because of its Roman remains, eighteenth-century architecture, eighteenth-century town planning, social setting, hot springs and landscape setting.

Bath's compact, visitor-friendly centre is overflowing with places to eat and drink, plus some of the finest independent shops in Britain, making it the ideal city break. Bath has a vast collection of museums and galleries to explore as well as a programme of all year-round festivals, theatre, music and sporting events.

Bath's stunning honey-coloured Georgian architecture is straight from a Jane Austen novel highlights include the iconic Royal Crescent and the majestic Circus. There's plenty to see beyond the city, too, with stunning Somerset and Wiltshire countryside to explore, as well as attractions like Stonehenge, Lacock, Avebury, Wells Cathedral, Longleat Safari Park and various National Trust properties.

For accommodation, choose from luxury spa hotels, boutique hotels and grand Georgian guesthouses, or cosy country cottages and chic central self-catered apartments. Come midweek for better rates - stay longer and explore more.

### Bath's Top Ten Things to See and Do

### 1. The Roman Baths

Visit the heart of the World Heritage Site. Around Britain's only hot spring, the Romans built a magnificent temple and bathing complex that still flows with natural hot water. See the water's source and walk where Romans walked on the ancient stone pavements. The end of 2020, early 2021, will see the opening of a new World Heritage Centre and Educational Suite.

### 2. Jane Austen Centre

Celebrating Bath's most famous resident, The Jane Austen Centre offers a snapshot of life during Regency times and explores how living in this magnificent city affected Jane Austen's life and writing. 'Live' Guides, costume, film, a giftshop and tearoom and authentic period atmosphere await you at this premier attraction.

### 3. Fashion Museum and Assembly Rooms

A world-class collection of contemporary and historical dress. The displays include 150 dressed figures to illustrate the changing styles in fashionable clothes from the late sixteenth century to the present day plus The Dress of the Year exhibition. The Ball Room, Octagon, Tea Room and Card Room of the magnificent Assembly Rooms were used in the eighteenth century for dancing, music and card playing, tea drinking and conversation and are still in use for functions and conferences.

### 4. Thermae Bath Spa

Using the warm, mineral-rich waters which the Celts and Romans enjoyed over 2000 years ago, Thermae Bath Spa is a remarkable combination of 'old and new' where historic spa buildings blend with the contemporary design of the New Royal Bath. The Wellness Suite was updated in 2018 to include two steam rooms, an ice room, an infra-red sauna and a celestial relaxation room.

### 5. The Royal Crescent, The Circus and Pulteney Bridge

The Royal Crescent was built between 1767 and 1775 and designed by John Wood the younger and contains 30 houses with The Royal Crescent Hotel the central focal point. The Circus was a masterpiece of John Wood the Elder and is one of the key reasons Bath was awarded the title of World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Pulteney Bridge, is the only historic bridge, apart from the Ponte Vecchio in Florence, to have shops built into it and was designed by Robert Adams.

### 6. Bath Abbey

Begun in 1499, Bath Abbey is the last of the great medieval churches of England. Over the past twelve and a half centuries, three different churches have occupied the site of today's Abbey; an Anglo-Saxon Abbey Church dating from 757, a massive Norman cathedral begun about 1090, and the present Abbey church. Climb the 200 steps to the top of the tower on a Bath Abbey Tour.

### 7. Afternoon Tea – Sally Lunn's and Pump Room

Enjoy afternoon tea in Bath like the Georgians did. The Pump Room has been regarded as the social heart of Bath for more than two centuries and is the place where the Georgians 'took the waters'. Sally Lunn's is the oldest house in Bath (c.1482) and serves the most famous local delicacy – the original Sally Lunn bun. Sally Lunn, a French refugee, arrived in Bath in 1680 and established her bakery.

### 8. The Holburne and Sydney Gardens

Experience one of the country's greatest art museums and follow in the footsteps of Jane Austen who enjoyed the beautiful grounds. The Holburne was the city's first

public art gallery, and the stunning Grade I listed building is home to fine and decorative arts built around the collection of Sir William Holburne. Artists in the collection include Gainsborough, Guardi, Stubbs, Ramsay and Zoffany. The museum also hosts nine temporary exhibitions a year.

# 9. Take a Tour – Open-Top Bus or One of the Many Guided Walking Tours

Bath is a compact city, which makes it easy to explore on foot. There are several walking tours on offer for those who love walking and want to explore everything that the city has to offer. Join an organised regular group tour or book a private tour guide for a more bespoke experience. The Mayor of Bath Honorary Guides offer free daily tours and a number of specialist walks are also available from Jane Austen to Ghost walks. You can even embark on a journey to discover Bath's beautiful hidden gardens.

# 10. Visit Bath Christmas Market

The award-wining Bath Christmas Market runs for 18 days from the end of November. Over 150 twinkling chalets showcasing the very best local food, crafts and gifts, line the picturesque Georgian streets around Bath Abbey, the Roman Baths and Milsom Street. For further information, go to bathchristmasmarket.co.uk.

# Twenty-Five Sites to Discover in the UNESCO City of Bath

- Bath Abbey Construction of the current Abbey began in 1502 and following its Dissolution in 1539 it was sold into private ownership, until 1572 when the building was given back to the city. If you go to the back of the outside of the Abbey, at the base of the east end you can see two surviving pier bases from the Norman church that once stood on the same site. The Abbey is currently undergoing a £19 million refurbishment and conservation project which will include a brand-new Discovery Centre and Song School as well as harness the city's hot spring water to power underfloor heating.
- 2. **Roman Baths and Temple complex** At the centre of the Baths and Temple complex is the Great Bath, one of the greatest Roman monuments in England, and central to Bath's history as a city of healing hot waters.
- 3. Grand Pump Room The first pump Room for the city was built on this site in 1705, but soon became too small for the increased visitors to the city. The Grand Pump Room was built 1790-95, designed by Thomas Baldwin and completed after 1793 by John Palmer. The design is best appreciated by standing at the end of Bath Street and viewing the austere stall street elevation, with its heavy rustication, flanked on either side by colonnades.
- 4. **Bath Street** Thomas Baldwin's masterpiece of town planning was designed following the 1789 Bath Improvement Act, the colonnaded Bath Street forms a connection between the Grand Pump Room and the Cross Bath.
- 5. The Curve of the Cross Bath Looking down Bath Street to the Cross Bath you see the sweeping curve of the Cross Bath. This curved wall was originally designed as part of Thomas Baldwin's Cross Bath and used to face to the north, but in 1798 John Palmer dismantled Baldwin's building, rebuilding it to his own design. Palmer kept the curved elevation and moved it to face east, creating a fitting end point to Baldwin's Bath Street layout.

- 6. **The House of Antiquities** Sitting between the entrance to the Thermae Bath Spa and the Hot Bath is No.8 Bath Street, or the House of Antiquities. Constructed by the Bath Corporation in 1797 this was built as an early museum to house the antiquities of the city that had been discovered in the eighteenth century.
- 7. The South Side of the Theatre Royal Bath Designed by the architect George Dance the Younger and constructed by Bath architect John Palmer, the south side of the Theatre Royal Bath in Beauford Square is decorated along the roof line with stone lyres and an imposing carved Royal coat of arms of the House of Hanover.
- General Wolfe's house on Trim Street One of the earliest surviving houses to be built outside of the original city walls, No.5 Trim Street dates from c.1720 and clearly shows the Baroque style of building in Bath before John Wood the Elder popularised Palladianism.
- 9. Fragments of the Old City Wall, Upper Borough Walls Although this fragment of the old medieval wall to the city has been much repaired in the nineteenth century, it clearly shows the northern limit of the old city before the expansion of the eighteenth century. Walking alongside it on the pavement also highlights how when we walk around the Georgian city, we are walking one or two storeys above the original street level of the medieval city.
- 10. Queen Square Designed by John Wood the Elder, Queen Square is the benchmark for Palladian design in Bath. It introduced the building type of creating a terrace of townhouses all united behind a palatial façade, offering visitors to the city the same grandeur in their lodgings that they had at their country estates. It is also the start of one of the most significant sequences of town planning in England: Queen Square, the Circus and the Royal Crescent.
- 11. The Circus A simple form yet endlessly complex building, the Circus was designed by Wood the Elder and his son John Wood the Younger. Influenced by the fashionable national style of Palladianism mixed with ideas of British History. It is the same diameter as Stonehenge. Look for the acorns on the roofline, a reference to Bladud and the founding of ancient Bath.
- 12. **The Royal Crescent** Designed by John Wood the Younger 1767-1775, the Royal Crescent is the culmination of the Wood's great town planning scheme, and is where the modern city of the eighteenth century merged with its surrounding landscape setting.
- 13. Georgian Garden around the back of No.4 The Circus is a fine example of a Georgian Townhouse garden, restored to its original 1760s design. Although not apparent from outside of the garden's walls, these townhouse gardens were essential as they would be viewed from the main reception's rooms on the first floor of the houses.
- 14. Lansdown Crescent perhaps the most beautiful of all Bath's crescents, Lansdown Crescent is flanked on both sides by smaller convex terraces to form a serpentine line sweeping along the hillside. Complete with grazing sheep on its lawn, at Lansdown the natural landscape of the city perfectly blends with the built environment.
- 15. Assembly Rooms Built by John Wood the Younger in 1769-71 the Assembly Rooms catered to the ever-growing city, which was developing up the northern slopes of the valley. Vital to the life of eighteenth-century society, the Assembly Rooms have experienced many events, in particular look in the Tea Room for the

pink coloured stone, the marks of the great fire that nearly destroyed the Rooms when they were bombed in 1942.

- 16. St Swithin's Church built at the end of the Paragon in 1777-80, St Swithin's is the only surviving Parish church in Bath to be designed in the classical style of the eighteenth century. Its wonderful interior is filled with memorials and tablets commemorating the inhabitants of the city. Jane Austen's parents were married here.
- 17. **Paragon** built by Thomas Warr Atwood in 1768-75 The Paragon shows the essential proportions and forms of the eighteenth-century townhouse. Go down the steps at the end to Walcot Street and the skill of the builders who constructed the city and had to cope with building along the hills of a valley can be seen in the steep change in street level.
- 18. Site of the old Northgate Northgate street sits just north of where the old North Gate to the city used to stand. Demolished in 1754 the north gate would have been the main entrance into the city, and a plaque on the wall in Northgate streets shows an early map of the city when it still sat within its medieval walls.
- 19. **The Guildhall** Designed by Thomas Baldwin in 1775-8, the High Street elevation of the Guildhall is one of the most impressive in the city, but not to be missed is the east elevation around the back where Baldwin's skill and light touch can be seen.
- 20. **East Gate** around the back of the Guildhall, next to the empire building down a slipway to the river is the only surviving gate from the original medieval city.
- 21. **Pulteney Bridge** Built to the designs of Robert Adam, Pulteney Bridge is the gateway to the expansion of Bath across the river into Bathwick.
- 22. **Pulteney Weir** The water flowing under Pulteney Bridge and cascading down the weir is one of the finest views in the city, what makes the weir even more significant is that when it was rebuilt in 1968-72 it became key to the flood prevention schemes of the city, and is perhaps the most effective modern intervention in the historic built environment of Bath.
- 23. **Sydney Gardens** Opened in 1795 Sydney Gardens were essential to the entertainments of society in the early nineteenth-century city. Both the Kennet and Avon Canal and the Great Western Railway slice through the garden's landscape.
- 24. **North Parade Buildings** Tucked away off North Parade Passage, North Parade Buildings, once called Gallaway's buildings, is a small but delightful alley, with fine townhouses from 1750. The lack of a road and its slightly hidden position makes it feel almost untouched by change.
- 25. View of Prior Park from River Ralph Allen's majestic mansion designed by John Wood the Elder sits proud on a terrace of the southern slopes of the valley. A testament to the glorious building material that makes Bath such a complete Palladian city, as well as clearly illustrating the integration of architecture into the landscape setting that makes Bath so unique.

# **Bath's History and Important Dates**

The city of Bath lies between the Cotswold Hills to the north and the Mendips to the south and is unique in the UK as the only Hot Springs in the country. A quarter of a million gallons of water gush from the spring every day at a constant temperature of 46.5 degrees. The water fell as rain on the Mendips approximately 10,000 years ago and percolated deep into the earth before rising in the Avon Valley.

In around **500 BC** (some say much earlier), legend has it that Bladud, father of Shakespeare's King Lear, discovered the springs and the locally living Celts began to worship here, dedicating the springs to their God, Sul.

From **AD 43**, the Romans started the development of Bath. The city was located on one of the Roman's principal roads, the Fosse Way, which stretched from Exeter to the Humber. The Romans developed Bath as a city of recreation, rather than a garrison, and built around the hot springs a sophisticated series of baths used for bathing and curative purposes. A temple, dedicated to the goddess Minerva, was built alongside the baths and this area formed the centre of Aquae Sulis.

**AD 577** a great battle at Dyrham (just north of Bath) saw the demise of the Roman occupation in the South West when the Saxons triumphed.

**AD 675** the Saxons founded a monastery which was to become one of the most important in England. Situated very close to the site of the present Abbey, it included the first of Bath's three Abbeys built in **AD 781**.

**AD 973** the monastery was used for the coronation of King Edgar, the first monarch to rule over a united England. His coronation took place in the Saxon abbey in the presence of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in a service which is little changed and is still used.

In the **eleventh century**, Bath fell victim to revolt and about this time Bishop John of Tours bought the city for £60 and built a vast cathedral over the site of the former monastery.

**1499** Bath's third Abbey was built under the direction of Bishop Oliver King who was prompted to start the rebuilding after a powerful vision of angels whom he saw assisting with the building by climbing a ladder to heaven. The image is now represented in carving on the recently restored west front. Bath's Abbey is known as the "Lantern of the West" because of its exceptional stained glass.

Bath flourished on the strength of its wool trade throughout the Middle Ages and the three baths (Kings Bath, Cross Bath and Hot Bath) continued to attract visitors, mostly the sick and the poor who came in search of a cure or to benefit from the cities charities.

**1668** Samuel Pepys, the famous diarist, wrote of Bath and the bathing: 'it cannot be clean to go so many bodies together in the same water'. Bath's population was less than 1200 and there were only about 150 houses.

**1692, 1702** and **1703** Queen Anne came to Bath to take the waters and these royal visits began Bath's development.

In the **early 1700s**, Richard 'Beau' Nash, Ralph Allen and John Wood came to Bath and it was these three men who created the new city. Nash changing the city's social structure and Allen and Wood providing the public buildings, homes and street including the renowned Circus and Royal Crescent.

**1703** Beau Nash arrived in Bath from London. Despite being a professional gambler, he was soon accepted by society. Following the death in a duel of Captain Webster, the Master of Ceremonies, Nash succeeded him as 'King of Bath'. Nash had a passion for order, propriety and cleanliness, set new social rules and reformed and regulated the fares of the sedan chair owners who had been unruly and bullying. These regulations form the basis of the regulations, which govern modern taxis.

**1710** Ralph Allen arrived in Bath from Cornwall to become assistant to the postmistress. He later made his fortune by reorganising the main postal routes across England avoiding London which all routes had formerly passed through. This earned him a considerable annual sum from the Post Office.

In **1727**, Allen bought the stone quarries at Combe Down and with the help of architect, John Wood, transformed the city.

**1727** (the year his son, John Wood the younger, was born), Wood was brought to Bath from Yorkshire by Allen. Wood, like many of his colleagues at that time was an enthusiast of the sixteenth-century Italian architect, Andrea Palladio and his dream was to recreate the former splendour of Bath in the fashionable Palladian style.

Queen Square, designed in **1728**, was Wood's first major work, followed by Prior Park, designed in **1735**, which was built for Allen and to show of Bath stone to its best advantage. He also drew up designs for the Circus and the Royal Crescent but it was his son, John Wood the younger, who completed the construction of these masterpieces.

Life at this time took on a strict routine. Early morning there was a ritual visit to the Pump Room to take the regulation three glasses of water, to see and be seen. Church was attended at midday, dinner at three and then a rest until the great round of card playing, dancing and socialising started in the evening.

**1754** the building of the Circus, a circle of 33 houses divided into three sections commenced. Drawing inspiration from the Colosseum, it shows three classic styles of architecture – Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian – while the carved frieze represents the arts and the sciences. The acorns on the roof commemorate the story of Bladud whose pigs often fed on acorns.

**1754** John Wood the Elder died (just after work on the Circus began), followed by Nash's death in **1761** and Allen's death in **1764**. The Royal Mineral Hospital was the only project on which the three men collaborated with Dr William Oliver (famous as the inventor of the Bath Oliver biscuit). The hospital was started in **1737**. The Pump Room, Assembly Rooms and Guildhall as we know them today were not built until after their deaths.

**1767 to 1774** the Royal Crescent was constructed. Under the direction of John Wood the younger, several different builders and craftsmen completed 30 houses. Set on a hill with sweeping lawns to the front, the imposing sweep of the semi-elliptical curve is emphasised by the huge lonic columns.

**1769** Work began on the Assembly Rooms, which were, designed by John Wood the younger. The interior includes the ballroom, the Tea Room and the Octagon – three superb eighteenth-century Rooms. Although severely damaged by bombs in **1942**, the Assembly Rooms are now restored to their former splendour. In the basement is the Fashion Museum.

**1770** Robert Adam, the renowned Scottish architect, designed Pulteney Bridge to connect the Bathwick Estate with the city. Based on the Ponte Vecchio of Florence, the bridge is unusual as it is lined with shops. It was completed in **1774**.

**1776** Thomas Baldwin, the city surveyor, designed the Guildhall which included the magnificent Banqueting Room which is elaborately decorated in the Adam Style with its chandeliers made in **1778**.

**1786** Baldwin's new Pump Room (replacing the original, smaller building) was completed by John Palmer.

**1788** Baldwin commenced the building of Great Pulteney Street, Bath's most impressive street. 1100-feet long and 100-feet wide and ending at The Holburne Museum, which was built in **1796** by Charles Harcourt Masters and was formerly the Sydney Hotel before becoming a museum in **1915**.

During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Bath became a cultural centre attracting such famous people as writers Jane Austen, Oliver Goldsmith, and later Charles Dickens, artist Thomas Gainsborough, poets William Wordsworth, Richard Brinsley Sheriden and Walter Savage Landor and actors David Garrick and Sarah Siddons. Bath also attracted Lord Nelson, Josiah Wedgwood, William Pitt (later Prime Minister, Lord Clive (later Governor of Bengal in India) and the explorer and missionary Dr David Livingstone.

1805 Theatre Royal opened.

**1810** Kennet and Avon Canal opened. The canal connected the River Thames with the Severn Estuary and was used for the transportation of coal and other products.

**1830** Princess Victoria opened Royal Victoria Park which was designed by City Architect of the time, Edward Davis. It was the first of many places in England to be named in her honour.

2<sup>nd</sup> May 1840 The first Penny Black postage stamp was sent from 8 Broad Street, Bath.

About **1840** The canal was superseded by the Great Western Railway, built by Isambard Kingdom Brunel who also built Bath Spa Station.

**1878** Major Charles Davis discovered Roman remains which led to the excavation of the Great Bath. The Queen's Bath was demolished during these major excavations.

**1890s** John Brydon extended the original Guildhall, adding the dome and two baroque wings.

**1909-1912** Suffragettes including Emmeline Pankhurst came to Eagle House, Batheaston

**1940s** Ministry of Defence Navy Department came to Bath and occupied various sites in Bath, including the Empire Hotel and Foxhill.

1948 Bath International Festival began.

**1966** The new University received its charter and opened at Claverton.

**1982** Theatre Royal reopened after extensive refurbishment at a cost of £2 million. The magnificent curtains were a gift of Lady Oona Chaplin, bearing Charlie Chaplin's initials.

1987 Bath was inscribed by UNESCO on the World Heritage List.

**2006** Thermae Bath Spa opened in August, restoring over two thousand years of tradition as the waters come into full use and provide benefit once again.

**2020** Bath is now a flourishing and vibrant city boasting some of the finest Roman remains in Europe, superb Georgian architecture, extensive shopping of excellent quality and choice and a superb choice of restaurants serving food from around the globe. As part of the Great Spas of Europe project Bath is bidding for double UNESCO World Heritage Status for the Spa water.

**2021** – Mary Shelley's House of Frankenstein and The World Heritage Centre open. Bath Abbey Footprint project completes.

### Seen on Screen

Bath's Georgian architecture has often been used as a historical backdrop on both the big and small screen.

Multi-award-winning musical **Les Misérables** featured scenes shot around Pulteney Bridge, with period dramas **Vanity Fair** and **The Duchess** making extensive use of the city.

On the small screen, you may have seen Bath in **Poldark** and **Sherlock**, and most recently in **The Trial of Christine Keeler**, **ITV's McDonald and Dodds** and Netflix's smash hit period drama **Bridgerton** released Christmas Day 2020.

The recent adaptation of **Sanditon** used Dyrham Park and Iford Manor as prominent locations, which will also feature in **The Secret Garden**, released in cinemas this year.

While not an actual location, Bath's **Little Theatre Cinema** – one of several cinemas in the area – has been immortalised in stop motion classic, Fantastic Mr Fox.

# Literary Bath

As well as Bath's most famous literary resident – Jane Austen, who set both Persuasion and Northanger Abbey here, Bath has been inspiration for many authors over the centuries. A young Mary Shelley penned much of Frankenstein in Bath in 1816 from lodgings next to the Pump Room, while Charles Dickens and Irish poet and writer Oliver Goldsmith also visited Bath.

The Bath Festival, Bath Children's Literature Festival and new event Wonder all celebrate twenty-first-century fiction, welcoming some of the biggest names in literature and world-class writers and illustrators. Explore the many independent book shops in the city who often hold special events and book signings.

### Accommodation

There are options to suit all tastes and budgets, from cosy bed and breakfasts and grand guesthouses, overflowing with personal touches, to chic boutique and five-star luxury spa hotels. Alternatively, chose a self-catering Georgian apartment, or venture outside of the city to a scenic countryside hotel.

For more information on accommodation in Bath, go to visitbath.co.uk/stay

# Bath's Independent Restaurants – Food and Drink Recommendations

**Cafés** – Sweet Little Things, The Good Day Café, The Provenist, Sally Lunns Historic Eating House, The Fine Cheese Company, Swoon, Chapel Arts Café.

**Bars and Pubs** – The Bath Brew House, The Marlborough Tavern, The Canary Gin Bar (Bath Gin), Electric Bear Brewing Company, Sub 13, Circo Bar, The Hare and Hounds, Le Vignoble, Beckford Bottle Shop, Comptoir + Cuisine Champagne Bar.

**Restaurants** – The Circus Restaurant, Noya's Kitchen, OAK, Dan Moon at The Gainsborough, The Olive Tree at The Queensberry (Michelin starred), Thai Balcony, Chez Dominique, Dough, The Oven, Henry's Restaurant, Bandook, Sotto Sotto, The Scallop Shell, The Pump Room Restaurant.

# Getting to Bath

# **By Train**

There are regular, direct trains from London Paddington to Bath, with an average journey time of around 90 minutes. Bristol Temple Meads, just 15 minutes away, is also a major hub for travel to other parts of the country. On certain peak-hour trains it will take 1 hour 11 minutes to travel from London Paddington to Bath Spa, calling at Chippenham only.

For further information visit gwr.com.

# By Coach

National Express provides good-value coach travel, linking all major towns and cities in the UK. Frequent services to Bath run from London Victoria Coach Station, London Heathrow and Chippenham.

For further information visit nationalexpress.com.

# By Bus

There are several bus operators that provide regular services in and around Bath. First Bus is the largest, operating from the main Bath bus station in Dorchester Street, adjacent to Bath Spa railway station.

For further information visit firstgroup.com/bath.

# By Car

Bath is located just ten miles from Junction 18 of the M4, the motorway that runs directly from London and Heathrow Airport. There are also excellent motorway links from Devon, Cornwall and the North via the M5, whilst Wales is a short drive west on the M4.

# By Park and Ride

Bath has three Park and Ride services that operate seven days a week. Regular bus services run into the city every ten to 15 minutes. Parking is free and tickets are purchased on the bus.

Find more information on fares and timetables at firstgroup.com/bathparkandride.

# By Air

Just 19 miles from Bath, Bristol Airport is the international gateway into the region offering direct scheduled flights from 122 locations across 30 countries, including 17 capital cities, with convenient connections from the rest of the world to Bristol. Bath Bus Company operates a service between Bath and the airport every 30 minutes.

For further information, visit bristolairport.co.uk.