



Tudor royal visit expected at the Katharine of Aragon Festival 2022

Peterborough Cathedral and Peterborough Museum will be hosting the annual **Katharine of Aragon Festival from 27th to 30th January 2022**, to mark the date in 1536 when Henry VIII's first wife was buried at the Cathedral (which was in those days an Abbey).

The centrepiece of the Festival, which includes events for all ages on a Tudor theme, is an audience with King Henry VIII, in the form of performance historian John White. 'His Majesty' will be in contemplative mood in the year 1542, reflecting on recent turbulent events, including the annulment of his marriage to Katharine. The performance will be both in person at the Cathedral and also live streamed to allow more people to take part.

At the start of the Festival is a Commemoration Service and wreath laying, on Friday 28th January at 11am, when dignitaries will lay tributes on the tomb. Schools would normally attend this service before enjoying a Tudor activity day in the Cathedral but this year, due to the pandemic, they will instead visit in smaller groups over the week leading up to the Festival.

Activities for families over the weekend include 'At Home with the Tudors' drop in sessions at the Museum, tours of the Cathedral with 'Old Scarlett the Tudor Gravedigger' and, new this year, a short Family Service on Saturday 29th January at 10am during which children can make a gift to lay on Queen Katharine's tomb.

A Cathedral filled with music and candlelight is a highlight on the evening of Friday 28th January when Vespers, sung by the Cathedral Choir at 5.30pm, will be followed by a drop-in open evening, which ends at 8.30pm when everyone is invited to take a seat and hear Compline sung by the choir at 9.00pm.

A variety of tours take place during the weekend, including a Tudor Peterborough Walk from the Museum, Cathedral Tower and Upper Level tours, and a ground floor tour of the Cathedral with a focus on its Tudor history. There is also an online talk about Sacred Music from Katharine of Aragon's time on Thursday 27th January.

Details of the full programme, including ticket links, can be found on the Cathedral website here www.peterborough-cathedral.org.uk/katharine.aspx.

PROGRAMME LISTING BELOW



Katharine of Aragon Festival 2022

Information link: <https://www.peterborough-cathedral.org.uk/katharine.aspx>

Ticket link: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/peterborough-cathedral?eventref=KofA22>
(except Tudor Peterborough Walk)

All events are at Peterborough Cathedral unless otherwise specified.

Thursday 27th January 2022

7.30pm, online via Zoom

Sacred Music from Katharine of Aragon's Time

Canon Tim Alban Jones will take us on an audio tour of the music that would have been sung in church services at the Tudor Court, introducing each piece of music and pausing for questions at the end.

Tickets: £7 per viewing + booking fee. The Zoom link will be sent to ticket holders by email on the day of the event.

Friday 28th January 2022

8.30am, Mass

A Roman Catholic service attended by local congregations.

11am, Commemoration Service with Wreath Laying

The Very Revd Chris Dalliston, Dean of Peterborough, will lead a short service of commemoration with readings, prayers and wreaths laid by dignitaries on Katharine's tomb. All welcome, no need to book. Around 30 mins.

2pm, Tudor Peterborough Walk

Meet at Peterborough Museum

Explore Peterborough's historic city centre with a costumed guide and find out what the city was like during the time of Katharine of Aragon.

Tickets: £6 (£4 under 16s). 01733 864663. Around 60 mins.

Book via

<https://heritagepeterborough.ticketsolve.com/shows/1173619068/events/428428191>

5.30pm, Vespers

Worship in a form that would have been familiar in Tudor times, sung by the Cathedral Choir. All welcome. Around 40 mins.

6.30pm, Cathedral Open Evening

Following Vespers the Cathedral will remain open for visitors to drop in and take time to enjoy the special atmosphere of the building at night. Candles will be lit and there will be background music to listen to. It is a great opportunity to take photos or simply to sit quietly. The Open Evening ends at 8.30pm, when visitors are invited to take a seat ready to

hear Compline sung.

All welcome. A drop-in event, no need to book. Donations invited.

9pm, Compline

A service at the close of the day, sung by the Cathedral Choir. Like Vespers, Compline would have been part of the daily Divine Office observed by the monks of Peterborough Abbey. All welcome. Around 40 mins.

Saturday 29th January 2022

10am, Family Service

A short service especially for families with children to commemorate Katharine of Aragon. We will explore her faithfulness, love for her husband, her peaceful heart and her forgiveness. During the service there will also be an opportunity to make a gift for Katharine to lay at her tomb. All welcome. Around 30 mins.

10am – 4pm, At Home with the Tudors

Travel back in time to the 1500s, with a chance to meet Tudor characters at Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery. Mind your manners with a Tudor lady, try period food, and find out all about life in the times of Katharine of Aragon. There will also be family craft activities with a Tudor theme.

Tickets: £4 adults, £3 concessions, £12 families, under 5s Free. This is a drop-in event, so there's no need to pre-book.

11am, 1pm and 2pm, Old Scarlett Tours

This family-friendly tour of the Cathedral will be led by 'Old Scarlett', the Tudor gravedigger. He lived to be 98 and buried both Katharine of Aragon and Mary, Queen of Scots. Children receive a free copy of the 'Monks, Mischief & Marauders' activity book.

Tickets: £3.50 per person, £12 family (2 adults 2 children). Around 60 mins.

11am and 2pm, Upper Levels and Tower Tours

Explore the fascinating upper levels of the Cathedral. A knowledgeable guide will lead you in this popular tour of the building. Visitors will emerge at the top to take in the views across the city from the central tower (weather permitting). Ages 8+. Please read the Conditions for Tower Tours.

Tickets: £15 per person. Allow 2 hours.

11.30am and 2.30pm, Tudor Cathedral Tours

A tour of the Cathedral with the focus on its Tudor history, led by a guide in period costume. Tickets: £8 per person. Around 90 mins.

7pm, Conflict between Church and State: An audience with King Henry VIII

The year is 1542 and His Majesty, King Henry VIII, despite increasing age, is again engaged upon Royal Progress about his realm. His Majesty is in contemplative mood with the events of recent years weighing heavily upon him: the annulment of his marriage to Katherine of Aragon, the break with Rome, the dissolution of the monasteries, the revolt in the north. In the course of the 'Audience' His Majesty (also known as actor John White) will invite his loyal subjects to petition him, or to ask of him a question: a lively Question and Answer session is assured!

Tickets: £12.50 per person attending at the Cathedral, or £10 per live stream viewing.
Around 60 mins.

Sunday 30th January 2022

Services take place at Peterborough Cathedral at 8am, 9.15am, 10.30am and 3.30pm. All are welcome.

2pm, Tudor Peterborough Walk

Details as Friday 28th January above.

10am – 4pm, At Home with the Tudors

Details as Saturday 29th January above.

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