

Top 15 Days Out for The Whole Family

From nature parks and theme parks, to studio tours and notable landmarks – here's our round-up of the best days out in the UK for families with children.

TAKE A TOUR OF THE WARNER BROTHERS STUDIOS HARRY POTTER FILM SET

Take a Warner Brothers Studios Tour and explore the making of the Harry Potter film franchise. The whole family will love a day walking around majestic sets like the Great Hall and the Forbidden Forest, and even Diagon Alley, where you'll find Ollivanders wand shop. Did you know that this shop housed 17,000 individually labelled wand boxes during filming? You'll also get to spot your favourite props, see all the famous costumes from the films in fine detail, and discover how the visual effects used on set made people disappear when using invisibility cloak, and Harry and his friends fly on their broomsticks! Based in Leavesden, the Studio Tour is easily accessed just 20 miles north-west of London and less than three miles from the M1 and M25 motorways, with free parking on site.

EXPERIENCE A WHOLE WORLD BUILT FROM LEGO BRICKS

Perfect for kids of all ages is a trip to Legoland, Windsor. It features 55 rides, attractions and many worlds and cities, all constructed from Lego. Visit the the Lego Reef where you can design your own

Lego creatures and make them explore a digital landscape beneath the waves. There's also a Hilltop Train to take you on a tour around the park, and a Miniland where you can view world-famous landmarks, all built out of Lego, of course. There's even an opportunity for little ones' to earn their Legoland Driving licence on the L-Drivers course!

DISCOVER LONDON'S GRUESOME HISTORY

Step back in time with a family day out at the London Dungeon. You and your kids will be kept entertained on your 2-hour tour, with talented actors walking you through some of the Capital's grim and frightful history. You'll meet some creepy characters, including a torture-loving executioner, a plague doctor, and even Jack The Ripper and Sweeney Todd, with a few jump scares thrown in, too.



**WARNER BROS.
STUDIO TOUR
LONDON**

RIDE ON THE ICONIC LONDON EYE

If you're planning a family day out in the UK's capital city, why not take to the skies and experience unparalleled views of London from 135 metres high. You can see at a distance of up to 40 kilometers ahead of you at the top! Your rotation will be in a swanky glass capsule, with a full rotation taking about 30 minutes, so you'll have lots of time to take photos.

TAKE A TRIP UNDER THE SEA

Kids and adults alike will love a trip to Sea Life London Aquarium, where you can see over 10,000 sea creatures, including fish, octopuses and eels. Staff give talks on the animals found at the aquarium, and kids can take part in feeding times. In the Ocean Tunnel, you'll spot giant green sea turtles and the world's smallest hammerhead shark, and there's even a colony of Gentoo penguins to meet, too.

STEP BACK IN TIME AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM

If you're strapped for cash, why not take the kids to a free museum housing up to 8 million artifacts? There are free activity workshops, puzzles and games for them to get involved in, and famous exhibitions that grown-ups will love too, including the Parthenon Marbles, the Head Of Rameses, the Assyrian Winged Bull Gateway, Rosetta Stone, and an Easter Island statue.

GET BACK TO NATURE IN A TROPICAL PARADISE

Visit the Eden Project for a taster of life in the jungle as you tour the humid tropics biome and experience the climate of Malaysia, West Africa and South America. Then walk through the Warm Temperate Biome showcasing the cacti and desert regions of the Mediterranean, South Africa and California. Gardeners will love walking around this green-fingered attraction, while the kids will love the various play areas, puzzles and places to climb.

TAKE A UNIQUE RAILWAY EXPERIENCE IN DEVON

Railway enthusiasts will love touring the Devon Railway Centre, which is home to unlimited train rides, miniature railways, steam trains and model railways. The model railway exhibition features an Edwardian Model Village, Wheal Beckie Tin Mine and outdoor children's play area. You can also have a go at driving your own train, too.

HAVE A DAY OF MEDIEVAL ANTICS

Jump into history at Warwick Castle, featuring a life-action show of the War of the Roses! There's plenty to keep you entertained, with a Horrible Histories maze to get lost in, a Pageant Playground and plenty of chambers and creepy rooms to explore that uncover the history of this magnificent fortress. Talks, bird of prey displays and sword-wielding knights should also be expected.

CREATE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE AT CHESSINGTON

Chessington World of Adventures boasts 10 themed worlds and over 40 rides, leaving you totally spoiled for choice. As well as a plethora of white-knuckle coasters and rides for kids of all ages, there's a monkey swing, Blue Sea Life Centre, Tiger Rock (where you can see real-life tigers), and a Gruffalo Groove attraction where families can visit a dark woodland for a song and dance party with the Gruffalo!

EXPLORE AN HISTORIC SCOTTISH DUNGEON

Take an 80-minute tour of Edinburgh's gruesome dungeon, which has housed some of Scotland's most ruthless murderers and torturous guards. Watch as their stories are brought to life and meet famous costumed characters like the ferocious witch, Agnes Finnie; the murderous duo, Burke and Hare and the infamous cannibal, Sawney Bean. Experience the stench of Edinburgh before proper drainage and sewage systems, and find your way out of a labyrinthine mirror maze.

HAVE A TRADITIONAL DAY BY THE SEASIDE IN BLACKPOOL

Blackpool Pleasure Beach has plenty for kids and adults alike. It's great for that age-old British family day by the seaside. Think buckets and spades, ice cream, donkey rides and amusement arcades. There's also Nickelodeon Land, the UK's largest indoor waterpark, Madame Tussauds and the Skywalk viewing platform of the Blackpool Tower.

VISIT THE TOWER OF LONDON

This makes for a great day out if you have a family with school-age children. Discover the many stories and superstitions that are linked to this historic London landmark. There's entertaining tours offered by Yeoman Warders (otherwise known as Beefeaters), and kids will delight in hearing their gruesome tales of imprisonment, torture and execution. During school holidays, there are also costumed guides and craft activities.

SWING THROUGH THE TREES AT BATTERSEA PARK

Located in the heart of Battersea Park is the Go Ape course which kids will love. It features plenty of challenging obstacles that will unleash their inner explorer, such as the Chantermerle's Bridge and Zig Zag Bridge. Get back to nature as younger members of the family scale rope ladders, wire crossings and zip wires. There's also a Tree Top Junior course for kids aged over six.

MEET SHREK AND HIS PALS

Next to the London Eye is a new attraction that is perfect for families with younger children. At Shrek's Adventure, there are 10 live action shows that lead you on a quest of your own as you become involved in the much-loved story of Shrek. Visit the swamp, have a crystal ball reading, get lost in the mirror maze and meet Shrek's sidekick, the lovable Donkey!