

# Discover Amazing St Albans

## *What's On Guide: September to December*



*St Albans Christmas Cracker ©KL Creative Photography*

There may be a chill in the air but a visit to the vibrant and cultural Cathedral city of St Albans, in Hertfordshire, promises to warm you to the core this autumn and winter.

A top place for city breaks, St Albans boasts a rich history and is a must-visit destination for independent shopping, heritage attractions, beautiful architecture, stunning outside space, and top-quality eating and drinking venues.

From fantastic foodie festivals to magical Christmas events, there's always something for all ages to see, do and enjoy.

Just 20 miles and 20 minutes by train from London, St Albans is just waiting to be explored. Whether you're visiting for a day or longer, come and soak up the dynamism of this wonderful city.

***Here's your guide to What's On...***

### **SEPTEMBER...**

The hugely anticipated ***St Albans Festival*** returns on Sunday 25 September and promises to be an incredible foodie experience for all. The central streets in the city centre will be filled with food and drink stalls, street entertainment, bars with live music, art and crafts activities, cookery demonstrations, face painting and fun for all ages.

*September 2022 Central St Albans. Organised by SADC and sponsored by St Albans BID and SA Law*



St Albans Festival ©Stephanie Belton

**CAMRA's St Albans Beer & Cider Festival** returns to the Alban Arena this September as it celebrates its Silver and Golden Jubilee- 25 years of the festival and 50 years since the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) was established in Hertfordshire. Whether you're a regular or a first-timer, the festival promises to be a fantastic pageant of real ale, craft beer and cider. With delicious street food, great live music, and lots of exciting attractions, it will be a fantastic celebration of the nation's favourite drinks.

*28 September to 1 October 2022 Alban Arena*

### **OCTOBER...**

Joy comes to St Albans with the hugely popular **Gin and Jazz** festival. A fantastic showcase for retailers and hospitality venues who open their doors for late night shopping and take to the street with fantastic independent stalls. With live Swing Jazz music, fabulous food, and of course... gin bars, this free event is a brilliant buzz for all.

*7 October 6-10pm 2022. Sponsored by St Albans BID*



St Albans Gin & Jazz Festival ©KL Creative Photography

**University of Hertfordshire Arts + Culture** hosts an exciting programme of cultural events open to the public, including a mix of vibrant exhibitions, live performances and classical music. **Empathy for People, Empathy for Things** – a group exhibition initially conceived before the pandemic – looks at the relationships with human and non-human things. From listening and making space for each other's histories, to studying trees and understanding the lives of fungi; this exhibition invites us to consider how can we live and work respectfully with each other and our worlds. Artists include Celia Pym, Harold Offeh, Andy Holden, Feral Practice, Katie Paterson and Paul Johnson.

26 October 2022 - 14 January 2023 Term Time. Art + Design Gallery, University of Hertfordshire [www.uharts.co.uk](http://www.uharts.co.uk) @unihertsarts

### NOVEMBER...

Visit **St Albans Cathedral**, this impressive landmark stands on the site where Alban, Britain's first Saint, was buried over 1,700 years ago. With special events running throughout the year, there's always something to enjoy and discover. Enjoy the awe-inspiring light show during October half-term and delight in the Cathedral's **Fireworks Spectacular** held at Verulamium Park in November.

Various Events St Albans Cathedral <https://www.stalbanscathedral.org/>



St Albans Cathedral Fireworks Spectacular ©Paul Wilkinson

The festive season begins with the hugely anticipated **Christmas Cracker** event. Kickstart your Christmas shopping and enjoy fun for all the family at the spectacular Christmas Street Festival with Santa's Grotto, family entertainment, live music, delicious street food, rides, festive market stalls and more.

Sunday 20 November 2022 Central St Albans. Organised by SADC and sponsored by St Albans BID



*St Albans Christmas Cracker ©KL Creative Photography*

The **Enjoy St Albans Christmas** programme is absolutely packed with magical and fun festive events for all ages to cherish including the famous Nutcracker Trail, Santa's Post Office, Carol Concerts, street performers and entertainment, live music at the Clock Tower and much more. Incredible Christmas lights and animation installations dotted across St Albans town centre will bring fun and joy to all folk across the festive period- and provide the perfect opportunity for a fabulous Instagram picture too.

*November – December 2022 Central St Albans. Sponsored by St Albans BID*



*St Albans Nutcracker Trail / St Albans Cathedral ©Stephanie Belton*

## DECEMBER...

**St Albans Museum + Gallery** is a world-class centre for arts and culture, set over three floors and showcases over 2,000 years of momentous history. A number of inspiring and intriguing exhibitions and events run throughout the year including **Henry Moore: Drawing in the Dark** which is the largest exhibition of coalmining drawings by the celebrated artist

ever to be shown- eighty years since they were completed for the War Artists' Advisory Committee (WAAC). Visitors are invited to journey from quick pencil sketches, through developmental drawings, finished pieces and finally to later works inspired by Moore's coalmining experience.

16 December 2022 to 16 April 2023 St Albans Museum + Gallery

<https://www.stalbansmuseums.org.uk/>



St Albans Museum + Gallery & Henry Moore sketches two miners at Wheldale Colliery 1942 © R Saidman

### Regular Markets...

St Albans is famous for its many wonderful home-grown and independent visiting markets. From the legendary Charter Market and quality Farmers Market to the progressive independent Vegan and inspiring Vintage markets- you can find all you need from local mouth-watering food and drink delicacies to all manner of homewares, antiques and architectural salvage.

Various, visit: [www.enjoystalbans.com/whats-on](http://www.enjoystalbans.com/whats-on)

### Where to Stay...

Accommodation ranges from small and intimate bed and breakfasts to large hotels including the White Hart Hotel & Restaurant and the Travelodge, both in the centre of town, the stunning country style Manor hotel, St Michaels Manor, luxurious Sopwell House and the Victorian Grade II listed Torrington Hall.

View the new Visitor Guide 22/23 [here](#) and discover more at: [www.enjoystalbans.com](http://www.enjoystalbans.com)

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For images or more information please contact [kathy@pr4.com](mailto:kathy@pr4.com) or call 07788 272 009

**About St Albans:**



- St Albans is a top place for city breaks. A historic gem of an English Cathedral City just 20 miles and 20 minutes by train from London is easily accessible by road with links to the M25, M1 and A1(M)
- The city's colourful history and heritage can be seen in the Roman remains and the beautiful medieval architecture and picturesque buildings that look spectacular all year round
- A fabulous shopping destination, St Albans is home to an array of innovative independent retailers and well-known chains
- The city is famous for its café and pub culture with a fantastic range of award-winning eating and drinking establishments, including Britain's oldest pub, Ye Olde Fighting Cocks
- Enjoy lots of green, open spaces and parks – making St Albans a family friendly destination
- Discover more at: [www.enjoystalbans.com](http://www.enjoystalbans.com)