with all vehicles imaginable. in the Transport Museum, bursting experience the sensation of flight majestic steam locomotives or parkland of the Folk Museum. Explore as you wander through the beautiful coffages, farms, schools and shops Step back 100 years to discover

> 155 Bangor Road **Ulster Transport Museum** Ulster Folk Museum &

Holywood BT18 0EU

the special events days for festivities. still reside there or plan to visit one of wonderful stories of the family that at your leisure and uncover the are certainly worth the visit. Explore stately house and farmland trails Trust's ownership the gardens, and unusual gardens in the National Known as one of the most inspiring **Uewtownards BT22 2AD**

Portaterry Road Mount Stewart House & Gardens

faking landscape and seascapes. opportunities to enjoy the breath-

quarries allowing visitors many tine beech woodlands and the disused relax along walking trails taking in the the tower itself (open seasonally) or and the surrounding countryside. Visit incredible views over Strangford Lough Standing tall, Scrabo Tower boasts Newtownards BT25 45J 203a Scrabo Road

Scrabo Tower and Country Park

with exhibitions and magnificent lunch or a snack in the on-site café. this unique military defensive fort car track and splash pads. Enjoy rides, play park, children's electric stunning waterfall and viaduct. Walk pedal swans, Pickie Puffer train meadows and wooded glens past a 18-hole mini-golf course, giant retreat. Enjoy tranquil walks through provides a fun day out, featuring scenery provide a relaxing natural popular visitor attractions, the park Excellent beaches and spectacular Bridge Road, Helen's Bay BT19 1JT One of Morthern Ireland's most Marine Gardens, Bangor BT20 5AG **Pickie Funpark** Crawfordsburn Country Park

to Grey Point Fort and experience Must See and Do!

25 feet long guns.

& Grey Point Fort

North Down Ards and







and tour information before visiting. Please check online for opening times explore 100 acres of beautiful gardens. within the brand new visitor centre and tood and drink in the relaxing cate, the stunning Castle, enjoy delicious from Belfast. Take a guided tour of Gardens, located just 20 minutes transformed Hillsborough Castle and residence with a visit to the Explore Northern Ireland's royal The Square, Hillsborough BT26 6AG

Must See and Do!

Castlereagh Lisburn and



at Ireland's first 'Clip 'n' Climb'. challenge to test your head for heights a kids adventure play area or take the The facility also offers Tenpin Bowling, rink offers a great day out for all ages. Ireland's only public Olympic size ice Tor your tamily day out. Northern provides a fantastic range of activities Dundonald International Ice Bowl Castlereagh BT16 1XT 111 Old Dundonald Road

Dundonald International Ice Bowl

9521 2529 820

gourmet food and drink trucks. Silks, or enjoy a variety of outdoor in the Dark Horse Wine Bar and available as well as casual dining a variety of hospitality packages Boxing Day Race Meeting. There's Day in autumn and the annual Summer Festival of Racing, Ladies including St Patrick's Day, the hosts 12 race meetings per year Ireland's oldest horse racing venue Maze, Lisburn BT27 5RW Down Royal Race Course

damask linen collections. and loom-weaving and browse the demonstrations of hand spinning importance to Lisburn. Enjoy daily of the Irish linen industry and its House. It brings to life the history a former 17th Century Market based in Lisburn's oldest building, This award-winning museum is Market Square, Lisburn BT28 1AG and Lisburn Museum Irish Linen Centre

1212 7529 820

endless range of sports and classes. the health suite or choose from an the premier Vitality Gym, unwind in in the 25 metre pool, workout in leisure pool, enjoy a leisurely swim fastest water slides around in the a splash down the longest and Valley LeisurePlex. You can make facilities to suit every age at Lagan Enjoy first class sporting and leisure Lisburn Leisure Park, Lisburn BT28 JLP Lagan Valley LeisurePlex



Ards and North Down for yourself.

pe exblored, so come and experience

of Worth Down Coastal path waiting to

of Strangford Lough. There's 16 miles

or walk around the stunning shoreline

a divers view of marine life at Exploris

the Castle Espie Wetland Centre, enjoy

County Down. See nature at her best at

with its stunning panoramic views of

around Castle Park and Bangor Castle

world class gardens, wander the trails

day to amble through Mount Stewart's

unique history and heritage. Take a

days out with the family and uncover

explore the Ards and North Down area.

Just 13 miles east of Belfast you can

along the coast, experience great Make time to enjoy peaceful walks

fascinating tales from the area's

Walled Garden or climb Scrabo Hill

beaten track Step off the

unwind in Lisburn and Castlereagh.

outdoor and indoor activities for all

range of fascinating heritage sites,

the races at Down Royal. With a wide

the Stillhouse, Moira or enjoy a day at

of Lagan Valley Regional Park, learn

archaeological sites, the rolling hills

in Lisburn. You can explore ancient

Of Sti bne stile and its 100

charming cafés and atmospheric exduisite architecture, quaint shops,

the history of the Irish linen industry

acres of beautiful gardens or discover

gastro pubs. Visit the Royal residence

you can explore historic villages with

just 6-9 miles south of Belfast where The Lisburn and Castlereagh area lies

the art of brewing at Hilden Brewery or

ages, superb shopping and a fantastic

100d scene, come and relax and

2019 J267198

see and do, all just a few minutes' drive outside the capital. preather and discover some of the other fantastic things to estates, wonderful wildlife and historic attractions. Take a lush valleys, a stunning coastline, country parks, magnificent

centre, you can discover a completely different world filled with

things about Belfast is that within a short drive from the city

Reasons to visit don't end at our city limits. One of the great

BELFASTPLUS.COM









Only a few minutes outside Belfast city centre lies a world of historic castles and houses, history and heritage, family fun and outdoor adventure. All you need to do is get out there and enjoy it.



BELFAST

Traver tille by car		
Belfast - Lisburn	9 miles	15mins
Belfast - Hillsborough	13 miles	20mins
Belfast - Bangor	13 miles	30mins
Belfast - Portaferry	30 miles	1 hour
Belfast - Dundonald	6 miles	20mins
Belfast - Newtownards	14 miles	30mins

Travel tips

Frequent trains run from Belfast to Lisburn and Bangor. Ulsterbus and Goldline express bus services run throughout Northern Ireland, Unlimited day travel cards and tickets are available from the Translink desk in the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre, or find your travel options online at translink.co.uk

Make the most of your visit by taking the time to explore and enjoy the **Belfast Plus** experience.

LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH | ARDS AND NORTH DOWN

Why not drop into one of our **Visitor Information** Centres...



Visit Belfast Welcome Centre

9 Donegall Square North Belfast BT1 5GB +44 (0)28 9024 6609

Ards Visitor Information Centre 31 Regent Street Newtownards BT23 4AD +44 (0)28 9182 6846

Bangor Visitor Information Centre Tower House, 34 Quay Street Bangor BT20 5ED +44 (0)28 9127 0069

The Old Courthouse, The Square Hillsborough BT26 6AG

Lisburn Visitor Information Centre 15 Lisburn Square Lisburn BT28 1AN +44 (0)28 9244 7622



BELFASTPLUS.COM

+44 (0)28 9244 7640

The information in this booklet is correct at the time of print and every care has been taken to ensure accuracy. We cannot accept responsibil for any errors, omissions or changes which may occur. @2020.



and Ards and North Down

Belfast Plus

Step off the beaten track

Reasons to visit don't end at our city limits. One of the great things about Belfast is that within a short drive from the city centre, you can discover a completely different world filled with lush valleys, a stunning coastline, country parks, magnificent estates, wonderful wildlife and historic attractions. Take a breather and discover some of the other fantastic things to see and do, all just a few minutes' drive outside the capital.

The Lisburn and Castlereagh area lies just 6-9 miles south of Belfast where you can explore historic villages with exquisite architecture, quaint shops, charming cafés and atmospheric gastro pubs. Visit the Royal residence of Hillsborough Castle and its 100 acres of beautiful gardens or discover the history of the Irish linen industry in Lisburn. You can explore ancient archaeological sites, the rolling hills of Lagan Valley Regional Park, learn the art of brewing at Hilden Brewery or the Stillhouse, Moira or enjoy a day at the races at Down Royal. With a wide range of fascinating heritage sites, outdoor and indoor activities for all ages, superb shopping and a fantastic food scene, come and relax and unwind in Lisburn and Castlereagh.

Just 13 miles east of Belfast vou can explore the Ards and North Down area Make time to enjoy peaceful walks along the coast, experience great days out with the family and uncover fascinating tales from the area's unique history and heritage. Take a day to amble through Mount Stewart's world class gardens, wander the trails around Castle Park and Bangor Castle Walled Garden or climb Scrabo Hill with its stunning panoramic views of County Down. See nature at her best at the Castle Espie Wetland Centre, enjoy a divers view of marine life at Exploris or walk around the stunning shoreline of Strangford Lough. There's 16 miles of North Down Coastal path waiting to be explored, so come and experience Ards and North Down for yourself.









Dundonald International Ice Bowl

Dundonald International Ice Bowl

for your family day out. Northern

at Ireland's first 'Clip 'n' Climb'.

provides a fantastic range of activities

Ireland's only public Olympic size ice

rink offers a great day out for all ages.

The facility also offers Tenpin Bowling.

a kids adventure play area or take the

challenge to test your head for heights

111 Old Dundonald Road

Castlereagh BT16 1XT

Lisburn and Castlereagh

Top 5
Must See and Do!

Hillsborough Castle and Gardens

The Square, Hillsborough BT26 6AG Explore Northern Ireland's royal residence with a visit to the transformed Hillsborough Castle and Gardens, located just 20 minutes from Belfast. Take a guided tour of the stunning Castle, enjoy delicious food and drink in the relaxing café, within the brand new visitor centre and explore 100 acres of beautiful gardens. Please check online for opening times and tour information before visiting.

hrp.org.uk/Hillsborough

Lagan Valley LeisurePlex

Lisburn Leisure Park, Lisburn BT28 1LP Enjoy first class sporting and leisure facilities to suit every age at Lagan Valley LeisurePlex. You can make a splash down the longest and fastest water slides around in the leisure pool, enjoy a leisurely swim in the 25 metre pool, workout in the premier Vitality Gym, unwind in the health suite or choose from an endless range of sports and classes.

028 9267 2121 theleisureplex.com/book-online

Irish Linen Centre and Lisburn Museum

Market Square, Lisburn BT28 1AG
This award-winning museum is
based in Lisburn's oldest building,
a former 17th Century Market
House. It brings to life the history
of the Irish linen industry and its
importance to Lisburn. Enjoy daily
demonstrations of hand spinning
and loom-weaving and browse the
damask linen collections.

028 9266 3377 lisburnmuseum.com

Down Royal Race Course

downroyal.com

Maze, Lisburn BT27 5RW
Ireland's oldest horse racing venue hosts 12 race meetings per year including St Patrick's Day, the Summer Festival of Racing, Ladies Day in autumn and the annual Boxing Day Race Meeting. There's a variety of hospitality packages available as well as casual dining in the Dark Horse Wine Bar and Silks, or enjoy a variety of outdoor gourmet food and drink trucks.

cks. 028 9080 9100 theicebowl.com







5

Ards and North Down

Top 5 Must See and Do!

Crawfordsburn Country Park & Grey Point Fort

Bridge Road, Helen's Bay BT19 1JT Excellent beaches and spectacular scenery provide a relaxing natural retreat. Enjoy tranquil walks through meadows and wooded glens past a stunning waterfall and viaduct. Walk to Grey Point Fort and experience this unique military defensive fort with exhibitions and magnificent 23 feet long guns.

028 9185 3621 visitardsandnorthdo

Pickie Funpark

Marine Gardens, Bangor BT20 5AG

One of Northern Ireland's most popular visitor attractions, the park provides a fun day out, featuring 18-hole mini-golf course, giant pedal swans, Pickie Puffer train rides, play park, children's electric car track and splash pads. Enjoy lunch or a snack in the on-site café. 028 9145 0746 pickiefunpark.com

...

Scrabo Tower and Country Park 203a Scrabo Road

Newtownards BT23 4SJ

Standing tall, Scrabo Tower boasts incredible views over Strangford Lough and the surrounding countryside. Visit the tower itself (open seasonally) or relax along walking trails taking in the fine beech woodlands and the disused quarries allowing visitors many opportunities to enjoy the breathtaking landscape and seascapes.

wn.com

Trust's ownership the gardens, stately house and farmland trails are certainly worth the visit. Explore at your leisure and uncover the

Newtownards BT22 2AD

Portaferry Road

Mount Stewart House & Gardens

Known as one of the most inspiring

and unusual gardens in the National

at your leisure and uncover the wonderful stories of the family that still reside there or plan to visit one of the special events days for festivities.

nationaltrust.org.uk/mount-stewart

Ulster Folk Museum & Ulster Transport Museum

153 Bangor Road Holywood BT18 0EU

Step back 100 years to discover cottages, farms, schools and shops as you wander through the beautiful parkland of the Folk Museum. Explore majestic steam locomotives or experience the sensation of flight in the Transport Museum, bursting with all vehicles imaginable.

028 9042 8



















Lisburn and Castlereagh

LCCC

Castlereagh

City Council

Lisburn &

and walks to enjoy in the area. Broadwater Canal is part of the derelict Lagan Navigation Canal and takes you to the village of Aghalee. Moira Demesne is host to beautiful walks, picnic sites and a play area. Castle Gardens was once the site of Lisburn Castle and Wallace Park covers 25 acres of mature parkland, both located in the heart of the city. Lagan Valley Regional Park stretches 11 miles between Belfast and Lisburn and boasts a blend of countryside, urban parks, nature reserves and trails.

There are many stunning gardens

Walks and Gardens

Ballance House

118a Lisburn Road

Glenavy BT29 4NY
Ballance House is the restored
birthplace of John Ballance, former
Prime Minister of New Zealand
1891-1893. Now home to an
exhibition on Ulster-New Zealand
links, a tea barn and function
room for events and markets.
028 9264 8492
theballancehouse.com

Coca-Cola Visitor Experience

12 Lissue Road Lisburn BT28 2SZ

Come and explore, learn and have fun discovering the past, present and future of the world's number one soft drink. Free tours available to groups aged 12+ by prior arrangement only. 028 9264 2267 ie.coca-colahellenic.com

Drumbo Park Greyhound Stadium 57 Rallyskeagh Poach

57 Ballyskeagh Road Lambeg BT27 5TE

If you've never experienced greyhound racing before then it's time you came up to speed! Nothing beats the flutter of excitement when you place your bet; the rush of adrenalin as you see your dog sprinting from the traps; or the sheer exhilaration of watching your dog race across the finish line in pole position.

028 9061 0070

E-Trax H

Moira BT67 0JW
E-Trax is a purpose-built indoor motocross track that gives you a unique opportunity to learn and improve your off-road riding in a safe and fun environment, all year round! Full safety gear and training provided by qualified MRA instructors. Suitable for age 5+028 9261 7321

etrax-ni.co.uk

Golf

There are a number of stunning parkland golf courses in the area including Lisburn, Rockmount, Castlereagh, Temple, Aberdelghy and Down Royal as well as great driving range facilities at Laganview Golf Centre - plenty of choice for both the experienced player and beginner. visitlisburncastlereagh.com

Harry Ferguson Memorials

One of the great inventors of the 20th century is remembered by a Memorial Garden opposite his birthplace near Dromore. A half life-sized sculpture depicting the engineer in his aeroplane is located on the A1 at Hillsborough and a bronze memorial in Hillsborough Forest commemorates the centenary of his first flight. He was the first Irishman to build and fly his own aircraft.

arrytergusofffielfforfal.com

Hilden Brewing Company

Grand Street, Lisburn BT27 4TY
A working brewery with licensed restaurant in the beautiful and historic setting of Hilden House.
Learn about this ancient craft from a Master Brewer and sample award winning beers on a brewery tour.

028 9266 0800

Hillsborough Courthouse

The Square, Hillsborough BT26 6AG
The Courthouse, located in The
Square at the top of Main Street
was formerly a market house and
was built in two phases, the first
in about 1760 and the second in
1810. Lisburn & Castlereagh City
Council's award-winning Visitor
Information Centre is located in the
building. It is an excellent starting
place to explore the unique history
and heritage of Hillsborough and
offers free information together with
an excellent range of maps, guides,
gifts and crafts.

028 9244 7640 visitlisburncastlereagh.com

Hillsborough Fort & Forest

Park Street, Hillsborough BT26 6AE
Founded in 1630, the fort consists
of a square enclosed by an earthen
rampart level to form a parapet wall.
William of Orange spent several
nights at the fort on his way to the
Boyne in 1690. The surrounding
Hillsborough Forest offers 200 acres
of woodland with tranquil walking
trails and a picturesque lake.
028 9268 9717

Island Arts Centre

The Island, Lisburn BT27 4RL
Enjoy live theatre performances,
music, dance and children's
theatre from an array of national
and international performers.
Discover the XPLORART Sculpture
Trail, browse gallery exhibitions
or take part in one of the many
creative classes or workshops.
028 9250 9509

andartscentre.com

Lisburn BowlLisburn Leisure Park

Lisburn BT28 1LP
Bring your bowling experience
to a whole new level. The lanes
feature state of the art technology
and there's an on-site arcade
for the whole family to enjoy.
Visitors can also take a break at
Blaze restaurant, which offers a
comfortable and stylish experience
at competitive prices.
028 9266 9466
lisburnbowl.co.uk

Lyons Karting

112 Comber Road
Hillsborough BT26 6NA
Enjoy the thrills and excitement
of karting at this fantastic,
professionally run circuit. 400m
track offering a variety of karts
(160, 200 & 270cc) catering for all
the family from age 8 upwards.
Go-karting is available for arrive
and drive, grand prix and corporate
events, endurance races and
birthday parties.

07592 398066 lyonskarting.co.uk

The Stillhouse of Moira 61 Main Street

Moira BT67 OLQ
The only Gin & Spirit School in
Northern Ireland! The experience
includes: Spirit School, tour,
tasting and history of Hughes Craft
Distillery. During the class you will
have a lot of fun, enjoy a range of
Still House cocktails and canapés.
Class lasts approx. 150mins.
028 9278 0735
stillhousemoira.com

Ulster Aviation Society

Halftown Road, Lisburn BT27 5RF A unique array of 20 historic aircraft and exhibits celebrating Northern Ireland's aviation heritage. See commercial, Cold War and World War 2 aircraft, stroll among the displays, and observe restorations in progress in a historic hangar. Visits by prior arrangement only. 028 9048 0747

iisteraviationsociety.org

Unit 1 Cedarhurst Road Belfast BT8 7RH

We Are Vertigo

We Are Vertigo is Northern Ireland's number one family entertainment complex, featuring an indoor Ski Centre, an Adventure and Climbing Centre and the brand new Inflata Park, a whopping 30,000 square ft. inflatable action course. There's guaranteed fun here for all the family!

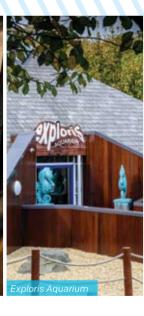
0870 066 1522

wearevertigo.com

For all the latest events and all the things to see and do visit us online.

BELFASTPLUS.COM





















Ards and North Down



Ards Arts Centre Conway Square

Newtownards BT23 4NP

The Centre aims to bring art to life in the Borough by presenting a programme of creative classes, exhibitions and performances of dance, drama, and music. The annual event programme also features festivals and a series of workshops.

028 9181 0803

ardsarts.com

Ards Blair Mayne Wellbeing and Leisure Complex

1 Dairy Hall Lane Newtownards BT23 4DB

These modern and advanced leisure amenities include: contemporary gym, luxury spa, six lane main pool and minor pool, a splash play area for toddlers and young children, a soft play area and adventure zone, covered AstroTurf area, diversity playzone, pump track and wheelpark.

Situated in the and offering a gout. The complements waters with slice pool, extensive and soft play a

Bangor Abbey

Newtownards Road Bangor BT20 4JB

Founded by St Comgall in 558AD the Abbey grew to become one of the most important seats of learning in Ireland. Two of its most famous students, Columbanus and Gall, travelled throughout Europe setting up monasteries. 028 9127 0069 visitardsandnorthdown.com

Bangor Aurora Aquatic and Leisure Complex

3 Valentine Road Bangor BT20 4TH

Bangor BT20 4TH
Situated in the heart of Bangor
and offering a great family day
out. The complex features a 50
metre swimming pool, leisure
waters with slides and wave
pool, extensive gym facilities
and soft play area.
028 9127 0271
bangoraurora.com

Bangor Castle Walled Garden

Bangor BT20 4BT

An award-winning walled garden situated within the tranquil grounds of Castle Park. The garden is divided into four different sections, each with its own horticultural personality.

028 9127 0069

visitardsandnorthdown.com

Copeland Distillery
Manor Street
Donaghadee BT21 OHG

Book your tour and be taken on a journey through the decades of events that led to the creation of their spirits. Shaped by the tales of smugglers and savage ocean battles, let the history unfold, all whilst enjoying a sample of portfolio of spirits. Discover the local foraged botanicals used, the unique distillation processes all while taking in the picturesque views of The Copeland Islands and the surrounding area of Donaghadee.

Echlinville Distillery

62 Gransha Road Kircubbin BT22 1AJ

Set in the Heart of the Ards
Peninsula and producing craft
whiskey and gins, immerse yourself
in the art of distilling, watch the
vapours condensing and the spirit
trickling from the mouth of the still
while soaking up the aromas. Book
onto a tour and tasting, afternoon
tea, gin evenings or bespoke group
experiences.
028 4273 8597

Eden Pottery

218 Abbey Road

Millisle BT22 2DH
Eden Pottery is famed for its striking designs, using traditional methods to hand craft and decorate pottery. The gallery is a wonderful creative space where you can craft your own masterpiece with specially cut sponge shapes in the Paint-Your-Own Studio or simply sit back and relax with home-made cakes and coffee.

028 9186 2300

edenpotteryshop.co.uk

Experience Ards and North Down Tours

Throughout Ards and North Down
Why not book on to one of our
excellent Tours, where you will be sure
to enjoy a unique peek into some of
the area's hidden gems. The extensive
range of bus, boat and walking tours
for all ages throughout the area
are all led by local, knowledgeable
guides. New for 2020 will be our
range of Food Tours, which are sure
to get your taste buds tingling!

Exploris Aquarium

The Rope Walk, Castle Street Portaferry BT22 1NZ

028 9182 6846

Enjoy a diver's view of marine life from Strangford Lough to the many coral reefs of the Tropical Oceans and enter the dark depths of the Amazon Rainforest where you will see some of its inhabitants. Check out our rehabilitation work with common and grey seals in our nursery pens and outdoor pools and enjoy the playful antics of our resident otters.

028 4272 8062
explorisni.com

Grey Abbey

Main Street, Greyabbey BT22 2QN
Founded in 1196 by John de Courcy's
wife Affreca, this is a fine example
of Anglo Norman Cistercian
architecture. Visitors can wander the
lawns taking in the wonderful ruins
of what was a fascinating building,
walking in the footsteps of monks
or try some of the remedies from
the medieval physic garden.
028 9182 6846

North Down Coastal Path Holywood to Orlock

Stride out along this beautiful shoreline walk from Holywood to Orlock near Groomsport. You can enjoy a variety of geological features, some 400 to 500 million years old making them among the oldest in Ireland, or identify the many different wild flowers and shrubs.

028 9127 0069

visitardsandnorthdown.com

North Down Museum

Castle Park Avenue
Bangor BT20 4BT
Travel from the Bronze Age to
the present day through a series
of exhibitions, each dedicated
to a particular era of history. Key
artefacts on display include Bronze
Age Ballycroghan Swords, the
Bangor Bell and the Raven Maps,
the only complete folio of Plantation
era maps in Ireland.
028 9127 1200

Castle Espie Wildfowl

and Wetland Centre

78 Ballydrain Road, Comber Newtownards BT23 6EA
This wonderful centre is set on the shores of the stunning Strangford Lough. Get up close to Ireland's largest collection of native and exotic waterbirds, bats and migrant birds whilst taking in stunning estuary views.

estuary views.
028 9187 4146
wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/
castle-espie

The Ark Open Farm 296 Bangor Road Newtownards BT23 7PH

028 9182 3202

Somme Museum

233 Bangor Road

Newtownards BT23 7PH

time to 1910 where they learn

the Home Rule Crisis, recruiting

and training of men and life in the

trenches. The museum features

reconstructed trenches from the

Battle of the Somme in 1916.

Guided tours bring the visitor back in

See lots of cute and cuddly rabbits, chicks, guinea pigs, pet lambs, kid goats and ponies to ride. You can get up close and have lots of interaction, supervised by our friendly helpful staff. The Ark Farm is unique, being the only one of its kind specialising in animals no longer seen in Northern Ireland's fields and the only farm staying open all year round.

028 9182 0445
thearkopenfarm.co.uk



For all the latest events and all the things to see and do visit us online

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