

# Jane Austen FESTIVAL

13 - 22 September 2024 *City of Bath*



*from Promenade to Finale...*

Ten wonderful days of celebrating all  
things Austen in the beautiful city of Bath  
[www.janeausten.co.uk](http://www.janeausten.co.uk)



The  
Jane Austen  
Centre

IT IS A TRUTH UNIVERSALLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT...

# Jane Austen's REGENCY WORLD

## IS 21 YEARS OLD!



"I absolutely adore your magazine and look forward to every issue..."

"I truly look forward to receiving each issue of *JARW*. It is absolutely the best researched and most informative magazine to which I have ever subscribed..."

"Thank you for magazine No 120! Amazing to know I have that many!..."

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## Welcome...

To all our Festival-attendees far and near; to book-worms and bonnet-wearers; to Austen-aficionados and dance-floor damsels;

### ...welcome to the 2024 Jane Austen Festival!

This year, we expect to welcome more people than ever to the beautiful Regency city of Bath, and we've been working hard to make sure every kind of Austen fan is kept busy.

We've expanded the events of our world-popular first weekend, with the Festival Fayre opening for two days. Those of you jetting in from far away will now be able to buy a bonnet on arrival, rather than wearing one through airport security! We've added another ball to the beginning of the Festival, as well as our ever-popular dance workshops. With a total of 10 dance event tickets overall, more people than ever before will be jigging and waltzing in the footsteps of their Regency forebears across the dance floors of Bath this year. Some of our first weekend fun even spilled over to the second weekend, with long-term Festival partners The Natural Theatre Company gracing us with their comedy walking tours on the second Saturday.

But that's not all- if you love theatre but you're not a Lizzy-Bennet-style lover of walking, you'll be pleased to know we've been working with the Theatre Royal in Bath this year so for the first time our Festival-attendees can watch some Austen on stage there during the Festival. No1

Royal Crescent makes a welcome return to our programme of events, and after a break of many years we are glad to return to the Herschel Museum to star-gaze!



If you've read the above and thought "I should infinitely prefer a book"... we have you covered! We are delighted to welcome new faces and old favourites to the Festival this year talking about all manner of minutiae from Austen's books, as well as our new book clubs so people can air their own views. We also have plenty for Regency history-buffs or those just starting to find out about the era, with more talks on the background to Austen's world than ever before.

Some of these talks are being graciously hosted for free by event partners and venues around Bath. We are grateful to them from the bottom of our hearts for helping us to expand what we can offer to our guests, particularly those who (like Sir Walter Elliot) are going to Bath on a budget!

Ultimately, this Festival would be nothing without the friendly, enthusiastic and welcoming people who attend it. Whether you are joining us for the first time, or whether we are part of your yearly calendar of events, we hugely value what you bring to the Festival, and hope you have a wonderful time this year.

Yours sincerely,

Georgia  
Festival Director

**The Jane Austen Festival & The Jane Austen Centre**  
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# The 2024 Jane Austen Festival at a glance

*tickets*

www.janeausten.co.uk/pages/festival  
Email: festival@janeausten.co.uk

FRIDAY 13 SEPTEMBER	
9:00	Jane Austen's Bath - minibus tour
10:00	Let's Talk About Love
10:00	A Very Private Public Breakfast
10:00	Pride & Prejudice Book Club – Free Event
13:00	Austen's Arcadia
13:15	"Carriages" to Meryton & Longbourn - minibus tour
14:30	Draw Back the Curtain
15:00	Wristband pick-up point #1
15:00	Friday Festival Fayre
15:30	Pre-Ball Dance Workshop #1
18:00	Festival Welcome Reception
19:00	Dancers Harvest Ball
SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER	
8:30 – 17:30	Regency Hair Salon
9:00	A Very Private Public Breakfast
11:00	Grand Regency Costumed Promenade
12 noon	Promenaders Festival Fayre
13:30 (6 tours)	Austen's Lost & Found – theatrical walking tour
14:30	Pre-Ball Dance Workshop #2
15:00	Dress & Diversion in Jane Austen's Bath
16:00	Rummaging through the Reticule
19:00	Netherfield Assembly Ball
SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER	
8:15	In Pursuit of Jane Austen – minibus tour to Hampshire
9:30	A Very Private Public Breakfast
10:00	Jane Austen & Bath – walking tour
11:00	<i>A Whole Campful of Soldiers</i>
11:30	Regency Church Service
12 noon	Women in Wellington's Army
12 noon	Regency Picnic – <i>Free Event</i> - bring your own informal picnic
13:00	"Pistols at Dawn" – duelling talk
13:00 & 15:00	Croquet Game
13:30 (5 tours)	Austen's Lost & Found – theatrical walking tour
14:00	Afternoon Canal Cruise

15:00	Jane Austen & London
16:00	Rummaging through the Reticule
16:30	Assembly Rooms: Romance, Rows & Riots
18:00	Amusing Aunt Jane
MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER	
9:00	Jane Austen's Bath – minibus tour
10:00	A Very Private Public Breakfast
10:00	"To be a Fan of Dancing" – Regency dance workshop
10:00	Regency Silhouette Embroidery
10:00	Whether the weather be fine or whether the weather be not – walking tour
12:30	Building Northanger Abbey
13.15	"Carriages" to Meryton & Longbourn – minibus tour
14:00	Why Mr Collins? The Church & Clergy
15:30	Dancing in the Footsteps of Jane Austen
19:00	High Tea at Highbury
20:00 & 21:05	Stargazing at the Herschel Museum of Astronomy
TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER	
8:15	In Pursuit of Jane Austen – minibus tour to Hampshire
10:00	Let's Talk About Love
10:00 & 11.30	Fencing Workshop
10:00	Sew Chatty
10:00	Jane Austen's Bath Homes – walking tour
10:00	Turban Making Workshop
10:30	Children's Storytime at Bath Central Library – <i>Free Event</i>
10:30 & 11:30	Regency Health – <i>Free Event</i>
13:00 & 15:00	Croquet Game
13:30 & 16:00	Fabric Dyeing Workshop
14:00	Parasol Making Workshop
18:00 & 20:00	Regency Games Night
19:45	Ghost Walk
20:00 & 21:05	Stargazing at the Herschel Museum of Astronomy

WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER	
9:00	Jane Austen's Bath – minibus tour
10:00	"Every Lady Her Own Shoemaker"
10:00	"She danced next with an officer" – Regency dance workshop
10:00	Romantic chic lit or radical writer? – walking tour
10:00	Reticule Making Workshop
11:30	Jane & Me, My Austen Heritage
13:15	"Carriages" to Meryton & Longbourn – minibus tour
13:30	Ladies & Gentlemen on Parade
14:00	Singing with Jane Austen- workshop
14:00	Bonnet or Turban Making Workshop
14:30	Jane Austen & Bath – walking tour
17:30	Beastly Bath – walking tour
19:00	Honours of the Table
THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER	
8:15	In Pursuit of Jane Austen – minibus tour to Hampshire
10:00	Race For an Heir
10:00	Our Grand Walk to Weston – walking tour
10:00	Reticule Making Workshop
11:30	Stand & Deliver!
12 noon	Murder at Kellynch Hall – murder mystery luncheon
13:30	Pride & the Beast: The Jane Austen Fairytale
14:00 & 15:30	Fencing Workshop
14:00	Parasol Making Workshop
14:00	Afternoon Canal Cruise
18:00 – 21:00	Jane Austen Twilight Tour of No.1 Royal Crescent
19:00	High Tea at Highbury
19:45	Ghost Walk
21:00	Lord Christian Brightly: An Apology to the Good People of Bath
FRIDAY 20 SEPTEMBER	
9:00	Jane Austen's Bath – minibus tour
9:30	Regency Hand Sewing Workshop
10:00	Let's Talk About Love

10:00	A Very Private Public Breakfast
10:00	Mansfield Park Book Club – <i>Free Event</i>
10:00	The Gothic Novel – walking tour
10:00 & 12 noon	Croquet Game
13:00	Austen's Arcadia
13:15	"Carriages" to Meryton & Longbourn – minibus tour
13:30	Drawstring Spencer Toile Workshop
13:30	Ladies & Gentlemen on Parade
14:00	Mr Bennet's Jig – Regency dance workshop
14:30	Courtship with Kim Hicks
16:00	Draw back the Curtain
19:30	Austen's Women: Lady Susan
SATURDAY 21 SEPTEMBER	
8:15	In Pursuit of Jane Austen – minibus tour to Hampshire
8:30 – 17:30	Regency Hair Salon
10:00	A Very Private Public Breakfast
10:00	She played & sang: Jane Austen & Music
10:00	Jane Austen & Bath - walking tour
11:30 (5 tours)	Austen's Lost & Found – theatrical walking tour
11:30	Dancing in Jane Austen's Novels - talk from Prof John Mullan
14:00	The Delights of Jane Austen's Dialogue - talk from Prof John Mullan
15:30	Pre-Gothic Ball Dance Workshop
19:00	Northanger Abbey Gothic Soiree
19:00	Northanger Abbey Gothic Ball
SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER	
9:00	Jane Austen's Bath – minibus tour
10:00	A Very Private Public Breakfast
10:00	Croquet Game
12 noon	Mini-prom from the Royal Crescent to Bath Abbey – <i>Free Event</i>
13:15	"Carriages" to Meryton & Longbourn – minibus tour
13:30	Croquet Game
14:00	Rummaging through the Reticule
14:30	Jane Austen & Bath – walking tour

# THE Jane Austen FESTIVAL

will be back next year 12th to 21st September 2025  
for a very special year of events celebrating the 250th anniversary  
of Jane Austen's birth!

We look forward to welcoming you to Bath.

As well as our ten-day festival we will be holding the following stand-alone events throughout 2025:



An exciting two *Summer Balls* will be happening on  
**SATURDAY 31ST MAY 2025 and SATURDAY 28TH JUNE 2025**



Then to celebrate Jane Austen's birthday we will  
be dancing the night away with a

**Yuletide Birthday Ball**

**ON SATURDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2025**

## For the 2024 Jane Austen Festival we have:

- 700+** Promenaders
- 303** Festival Friends
- 143** Jane Austen Festival Events
- 21** Event locations in the City of Bath
- 20** Festival volunteer stewards
- 10** Chances to dance
- 9** Totally free events
- 8** Walking tours
- 7** Regency breakfasts
- 6** Jane Austen novels to celebrate!
- 5** Costuming workshops
- 4** Fencing sessions
- 3** Festival balls
- 2** Festival Fayres
- 1** Regency church service



Open every day!



**The Jane Austen Centre – 9.45am to 6pm**  
(Last entry to Exhibition 5pm)

A warm and friendly welcome is waiting for you at the Jane Austen Centre. From the polite bow and greeting on the doorstep to the costumed Austen characters inside, nothing is too much trouble. Visit the permanent Exhibition and try on Regency costumes, learn the language of the fan, write with a quill pen and see the world-famous life-sized Jane Austen waxwork.



**Regency Tea Room – 9.45am to 5pm**  
(Last orders 4.30pm)

Situated on the 2nd Floor of the Jane Austen Centre is the very popular Regency Tea Room, with the most delicious cakes and, of course, excellent afternoon tea – 'Tea with Mr Darcy'. Rest your reticule, meet up with other Festival enthusiasts and enjoy the Regency atmosphere whilst savouring a pot of real leaf tea – Assam or Jane Austen blends are particularly good or for a more delicate flavour why not try Earl Grey?

Pre-Festival Events

**Wednesday 11th September 2024**

### Parasol Making Workshop

**14:00 (duration 3 hours)**

Under the expert guidance of Sylvia Spilsbury from Bath Theatrical Costume Hire, create and cover your own parasol with an exclusively designed canopy. Pre-select your fabric to complement your costume. The parasol comes with a longer, detachable handle and matching storage sleeve. Leave with a completed parasol, a pattern, and the knowledge of how to create your own canopy to change as you please.

All materials included along with complimentary tea and cake.

**Tickets:** £180 from enquiries@baththeatrical.com

**Venue:** Bath Elim Church, Charlotte St, BA1 2ND

**Thursday 12th September 2024**

### Reticule Making Workshop

**10:00 (duration 3 hours)**

A reticule for a daytime promenade or an evening Ball is a must! Under the expert guidance of Sylvia Spilsbury from Bath Theatrical Costume Hire, using vintage sewing machines, create your very own reticule.

Pre-select your fabric and choose from an assortment of designs to complement your costume. You'll take home a beautiful personally designed creation. 'Make your own' gift packs will also be available to purchase after the workshop (5 styles – one pattern).

All materials included along with complimentary tea and cake.

**Tickets:** £130 from enquiries@baththeatrical.com

**Venue:** Bath Elim Church, Charlotte St, BA1 2ND

### Bonnet or Turban Making Workshop

**14:00 (duration 3 hours)**

Add the finishing touch to your exquisite outfit. Under the expert guidance of Sylvia Spilsbury from Bath Theatrical Costume Hire, using vintage sewing machines, create your very own bonnet or turban.

Pre-select your fabric and choose from an assortment of designs (straw or fabric bonnets, satin or fabric turbans) to complement your costume. You'll take home a beautiful personally designed creation.

All materials included along with complimentary tea and cake.

**Tickets:** £170 from enquiries@baththeatrical.com

**Venue:** Bath Elim Church, Charlotte St, BA1 2ND

## Jane Austen's Bath – minibus tour

9:00 (duration 3 hours)

A combination of walking and driving visiting outdoor locations in Austen's Persuasion and Northanger Abbey. Includes Charlcombe, described by Jane as 'being sweetly situated in a little green valley', and finishes with the best view of Bath from that 'Noble Hill'.

For this event you will travel in a small luxury 21st Century minibus driven by your tour guide Adge Secker.

**Tickets:** £48

**Meet:** Outside the Jane Austen Centre, 40 Gay Street, BA1 2NT

## Let's Talk About Love

10:00 (duration 1 hour)

"Love must be authentic, complete, and wholehearted"

Join the Queen of Hearts for an amusing but informative look at the rules of society regarding Love, Courtship, Marriage and matters of the heart in Miss Austen's time. Also explore the gestures of the Language of the Fan as you prepare for conversations across the dance floor!

Ticket entitles you to a discount on the purchase of your very own fan and language of the fan booklet.

**Tickets:** £18 from enquiries@baththeatrical.com

**Venue:** Bath Elim Church, Charlotte St, BA1 2ND



## A Very Private Public Breakfast

10:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

Sample the delights of an 18th Century public breakfast just as Jane Austen did in Bath. Bread rolls, toasted fruit bread, cake, tea (Jane Austen blend) or coffee – all in the private dining room of a typical Regency Bath house. Breakfast is accompanied by a talk from Jane Tapley.

**Tickets:** £16

**Venue:** Kinwarton, 3 Upper Camden Place, (part of) Camden Rd, BA1 5HX (20 mins walk from central Bath)



## Pride & Prejudice Book Club

10:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

To start our festival week off with a suitably Austen event, you are welcomed to Jane Austen Festival book club at Bath Library, to discuss "everybody's favourite novel", Pride & Prejudice.

Please reserve a place to indicate you will be attending. You can also suggest a question or point to discuss during the session when booking.

**Free Event** – please reserve a place

**Venue:** Bath Central Library, 19-23 The Podium, BA1 5AN

## Austen's Arcadia

13:00 (duration 1 hour)

Jane Tapley follows the career of one of the earliest and greatest female writers of the 18th Century, if not all time. Hear about her quiet private life as the unmarried vicar's daughter and her personal struggle for independence, and how her novels gathered momentum and appreciation after her death. Talk followed by a Q&A.

**Tickets:** £12.50 from Theatre Royal Box Office, theatreroyal.org.uk

**Meet:** In foyer of Theatre Royal, Saw Close, BA1 1ET

## "Carriages" to Meryton & Longbourn – driver guided tour

13:15 (duration 4 hours)

Starting with a driving tour of Austen's Bath, then onto the village of Luckington to visit the St Mary with Ethelbert Church and walk in the footsteps of the P&P 1995 cast. Next Lacock – a village trapped in time and the location for Meryton & Highbury. Then back to Bath to finish with the best view of Bath from that 'Noble Hill'.

For this event you will travel in a small luxury 21st Century minibus driven by your tour guide Adge Secker.

**Tickets:** £58

**Meet:** Outside the Jane Austen Centre, 40 Gay Street, BA1 2NT

## Draw back the Curtain

14:30 (duration 1 hour)

Join Jane Tapley, Special Events Organiser at the Theatre Royal, for an illustrated talk on the theatre in Georgian Times and its influence on Jane Austen's novels. The talk will take place in Bath's Georgian theatre built in 1805, the year Austen left Bath for the delights of Clifton.

**Tickets:** £12.50 from Theatre Royal Box Office, theatreroyal.org.uk

**Meet:** In foyer of Theatre Royal, Saw Close BA1 1ET

## Wristband pick-up point #1

15:00 (duration 2 hours)

Collection point for Saturday 14th Grand Regency Costumed Promenade wristbands which have been pre-purchased online. If you have not already bought them, you can also purchase wristbands (£14 per adult) here too.

**Venue:** Assembly Rooms, Bennett Street, BA1 2QH

## Friday Festival Fayre

15:00 (duration 3 hours)

New for 2024, we will be opening the Festival Fayre for a few hours on Friday afternoon, for visitors to pick up some last-minute bits of Regency finery ready for Promenade day! Explore the Ballroom for a first look at the stalls offering hats, fans, gloves and lots more.

Entry to the fayre is £3 on the door for all, entry to the Friday Fayre is NOT included with the Promenade Wristbands.

**Tickets:** £3 on the door (cash or card)

**Venue:** Assembly Rooms, Bennett Street, BA1 2QH

## Pre-Ball Dance Workshop #1

15:30 (duration 1hr 30mins)

This Regency dance workshop is a practice session for those attending the Netherfield Ball on Saturday 14th September, led by Liz Bartlett of the Jane Austen Dancers.

If you are new to Regency dancing, this workshop is for you, as it will cover the basic steps & patterns, and give you the chance to learn some of the dances ready for the Assembly on the Saturday evening.

This workshop is a duplication of the Pre-Ball Dance Workshop #2 taking place on Saturday 14th at 14:30, workshop content will be the same.

**Tickets: £16** – purchase together with your Netherfield Assembly Ball tickets as these are not sold separately.

**Venue:** Tea Room, Assembly Rooms, Bennett Street, BA1 2QH

## Festival Welcome Reception

18:00 (duration 2 hours)

Join us in the Card Room of the Assembly Rooms for an informal welcome drink and chatter. Catch up with old and new friendly Festival faces and ask those all-important questions about the week ahead. A chance to meet the Festival team and a great place to meet up if it's your first Festival.

Includes a welcome drink, with a bar open for the evening too. Costume is not mandatory but recommended.

**Tickets:** £15

**Venue:** Card Room, Assembly Rooms, Bennett Street, BA1 2QH



## Dancers Harvest Ball

19:00 (duration 3 hours)

Enjoy a mixed evening of Regency dancing with your fellow experienced dancers, with calling from Liz Bartlett of the Jane Austen Dancers, Sally Petchey of the Hampshire Regency Dancers, and Libby Curzon from Mrs Bennet's Ballroom, to live music provided by Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer.

A bar will be open throughout the evening. No food will be served at this event but please feel free to bring your own snacks. There will be a short mid-evening break.

This dance event is for those with Regency or English country dance experience and a good grasp on dance terminology. The callers will walk & talk everyone through the dances before the music is played, but there will be no dance workshop beforehand... you'll need to know your reels from your rigadons!

**Regency costume mandatory for this event.**

**Tickets:** £42

**Venue:** Tea Room, Assembly Rooms, Bennett Street, BA1 2QH

## Regency Hair Salon

Appointments from 8:30 - 17:30 (duration 30 minutes)

You have the outfit; you have the accessories... now all you need are the ringlets! ForeHairs' top two professional stylists will create a whole new look for your Jane Austen experience. Choose from a selection of styles.

The ticket price is for ½ hour appointments and includes a colour matching hair piece and decorative accessories. Stylised wigs will also be available to hire or purchase.

**Tickets:** £60 from enquiries@baththeatrical.com

**Venue:** Bath Elim Church, Charlotte St, BA1 2ND

## A Very Private Public Breakfast

9:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Friday 13th September



## Grand Regency Costumed Promenade

Arrive for wristband collection from 9:30

Promenade departs 11:00 (duration approx. 1 hour)

To take part buy your wristband, put on your costume and join 500+ people dressed in Regency style, for this world famous, spectacular official opening to the Festival. Stroll through this beautiful city for approximately 1 hour ending at the Festival Fayre. Saturday Promenaders Fayre entrance included with each wristband.

**Regency costume mandatory for this event.**

**Tickets:** £14 (under 16 free with a participating adult in costume)

TO WATCH - NO ticket required

**Meet:** In front of Holburne Museum, Great Pulteney Street, BA2 4DB

## Promenaders Festival Fayre

12 noon – 16:00 (duration 4 hours)

Go on a Regency shopping spree through the Bath Assembly Rooms with stalls offering hats, fans, gloves, books, hair pieces, jewellery and lots more. The Fayre will open to Promenade wristband holders first, with doors opening to the general public\* from 12 noon. \*subject to venue capacity.

Bringing cash for purchases is advised as some sellers only accept cash payment, and the nearest cash point is a 10-minute walk back into town.

**Tickets:** £5 each on the door (Free to Promenade wristband holders)

**Venue:** Assembly Rooms, Bennett Street, BA1 2QH

## Austen's Lost & Found – theatrical walking tour

13:30 14:00, 14:30, 15:00, 15:30 & 16:00 (duration 1 hour)

Another lost Jane Austen novel has been unearthed in Bath, revealing more recognisable plotlines, familiar characters and just a little bit of nonsense. Immerse yourself in wooing, weeping and wagers as we wander around Bath, and watch this joyful story come to life around you!

**Tickets:** £19

**Meet:** At the top of Gravel Walk, opposite No1 Royal Crescent, BA1 2LW



## Pre-Ball Dance Workshop #2

14:30 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Friday 13th September.

This workshop is a duplication of the Pre-Ball Dance Workshop #1 taking place on Friday 13th at 15:30, workshop content will be the same.

## Dress & Diversion in Jane Austen's Bath

15:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

Was Jane Austen a fashionista? In this illustrated talk, fashion historian Penelope Byrde Ruddock looks at the diversions that made the city of Bath so delightful as a spa resort and at the clothes that were worn for the social round – some of which were particular Bath fashions. It will give a context to the city in Austen's time, as both a visitor and resident, and a way of life reflected in her letters and her two 'Bath' novels: Northanger Abbey and Persuasion.

Penelope is the former Curator of the Museum of Costume (now the Fashion Museum) in Bath and was a visiting lecturer at Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts, London. She is a Life Member of the Jane Austen Society and author of Jane Austen Fashion (Moonrise Press).

**Tickets:** £4 – £12 from brlsi.org

**Venue:** BRLSI, 16 – 18 Queen Square, BA1 2HN



## Rummaging through the Reticule

16:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

What did Jane and her characters keep in their reticules? All will be revealed when the contents of this C18th handbag are spilt in the privacy of a Regency drawing room. Jane Tapley's talk is followed by refreshments, a traditional cream tea – scones, jam and cream and, of course, tea.

**Tickets:** £16

**Venue:** Kinwarton, 3 Upper Camden Place, (part of) Camden Road, BA1 5HX (20 mins walk from central Bath)



## Netherfield Assembly Ball

19:00 (duration 4 hours)

Join us in the spectacular surroundings of the Bath Assembly Rooms for a "private public ball" reminiscent of dancing at Netherfield Park. Imagine you are joining the Bennet and Bingley sisters for a splendid evening of dancing, card playing and socialising.

We invite you to wear your tallest, fanciest feathers as the outfit theme for the evening.

Regency dancing will be called by Liz Bartlett of the Jane Austen Dancers, with live music from Beau's Band. Card games will be offered in the Great Octagon, and the Tea Room will be set out for you to gossip with Lady Lucas during the Supper break.

This is a bring-your-own-food-event as no dining options will be available at the Assembly Rooms this year. A bar will be open for drinks throughout the evening.

For the first time, we will be offering Dancing & Cards tickets for people wanting to join us after the supper break. Join us from 21:15 part way through the supper break, cards and games are available at all times, dancing recommences at 21:45 with the ball ending at 23:00.

**Regency costume mandatory for this event.**

**Ball Tickets:** £74 – **Dancing & Cards Tickets:** £35

**Venue:** The Assembly Rooms, Bennett Street, Bath, BA1 2QH



## In Pursuit of Jane Austen – minibus tour to Hampshire

8:15 (return 16:30)

All day minibus tour to Hampshire tracing Jane's footsteps and life. First her birthplace Steventon, then Chawton where much of her writing took place. Visiting Winchester, King Alfred's capital of England and Jane's final resting place in the cathedral. Meander with guide Aedge through the ancient streets, impressive Peninsula Barracks and castle ruins. An unforgettable and atmospheric tour.

For this event you will travel in a small luxury 21st Century minibus driven by your tour guide Aedge Secker.

**Tickets:** £95 (excludes entrance fees)

**Meet:** Outside the Jane Austen Centre, 40 Gay Street, BA1 2NT

## A Very Private Public Breakfast

9:30 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Friday 13th September

## Jane Austen & Bath – walking tour

10:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

'Oh! Who could ever be tired of Bath?' So said Jane Austen's character Catherine Morland in *Northanger Abbey*, which along with her novel *Persuasion* is set in Bath. Through family links and having visited and lived in the city, Austen knew Bath very well indeed. Come and find out more on this walking tour led by Mr Knightley of The Jane Austen Centre.

*This particular walking tour will finish at 11:30 outside Bath Abbey.*

**Tickets:** £13

**Meet:** Outside the Jane Austen Centre, 40 Gay Street, Bath, BA1 2NT

## Regency Church Service

11:30 (duration 1 hour)

Attend the family service in Bath Abbey, this will be a specially themed service to encompass some Regency church elements.

**Regency costume very welcome but not mandatory.**

**Free event** – donations to Bath Abbey welcome

**Venue:** Bath Abbey, Abbey Churchyard, BA1 1LY

## A Whole Campful of Soldiers

11:00 - 15:00 (open 4 hours)

Back by popular demand are His Majesty's 33rd Regiment of Foot. Visit their encampment at the Holburne Museum and experience a whole campful of soldiers with authentic drill displays, music and talks presenting life at war:

### 12 noon - Women in Wellington's Army

Talk from Kitty Scratcher, a soldier's wife. The ordinary women who followed the army in the time of Jane Austen. The life and trials of the unsung heroines who supported the British Army in the war against Napoleon.

### 13:00 – "Pistols at Dawn" – duelling talk

A talk from Captain Macfarlane of His Majesty's 33rd Regiment of Foot. Duelling in the time of Jane Austen, fact and fiction comparing how films often portray duels with how they were really conducted.

### All free events

**Venue:** Holburne Museum Grounds, Great Pulteney Street, BA2 4DB

## Regency Picnic – 'bring your own' picnic

12 noon – 15:00 (duration 3 hours)

Join other Austen lovers for an informal bring-your-own picnic in the beautiful surroundings of Sydney Gardens. Promenade along paths Jane Austen herself would have walked and discuss any scandalous antics of the previous evening's entertainment (weather permitting event).

### Free Event

**Venue:** Sydney Gardens, Sydney Place, Bathwick, BA2 4DB

## Croquet Game

13:00 & 15:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

Spend 1 hour experiencing the Regency sport of "Pall-Mall" with an outdoor croquet game at Bath Croquet Club. Equipment and introductory instructions provided, enjoy a relaxed game of croquet, followed by post-match refreshments in the Croquet Pavilion.

Refreshments included in the ticket price.

**Tickets:** £25

**Venue:** Bath Croquet Club, Recreation Ground, BA2 4DS (entrance via Great Pulteney Street)

## Austen's Lost & Found – theatrical walking tour

13:30, 14:00, 14:30, 15:00, & 15:30 (duration 1 hour)

For details see Saturday 14th September

## Afternoon Canal Cruise

14:00 (duration 3hrs 30mins)

"If adventures will not befall a young lady in her own village, she must seek them abroad."

Join us for an unforgettable afternoon canal cruise. Meet at Bath train station for a short train ride through the English countryside to Bradford on Avon. A promenade along the banks of the river takes us to the canal boat marina where we board the 'Barbara McLellan'. We'll then embark on a slow, truly delightful cruise along the canal passing through the Avoncliff Aqueduct. On board there will be afternoon tea, games and stories with and amusing conversation with the Queen of Hearts about affairs of the day. We shall have our own adventure.

Return train fare and afternoon tea included in ticket price.

**Tickets:** £150 from enquiries@baththeatrical.com

**Meet:** Outside the taxi rank entrance of Bath Spa Train Station, BA1 1SU

## Jane Austen & London – talk from the Jane Austen Society

15:00 (duration 1 hour)

'Here I am once more in this scene of Dissipation & Vice, and I begin already to find my morals corrupted.'

Letter from Jane Austen aged 20 to her sister Cassandra.

Actor and writer Angela Barlow uncovers Jane's changing experience of the wicked capital through twenty years, both in her novels and in her life. Was London a 'scene of Dissipation and Vice', a place of 'Domestic Happiness', or did the city open up her vision, giving her a new freedom and the gift of a deeper companionship with her brother Henry? Many images illustrate Angela's theme, and she includes entertaining extracts from the novels and letters, keeping Jane Austen's voice in our minds throughout. This talk will also include Q&A time about the Jane Austen Society.

**Tickets:** £13

**Venue:** Card Room, Assembly Rooms, Bennett Street, BA1 2QH

## Rummaging through the Reticule

16:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Saturday 14th September



## Assembly Rooms: Romance, Rows and Riots with Dr Hillary Burlock

16:30 (duration 1 hour)

Was the assembly room always a place of politeness and propriety, as depicted in literature and on screen? From riots to affairs of the heart, snobbery, duels and attempted coup d'états, the Georgian ballroom was not always what it seemed. Join Dr Hillary Burlock as she explores forgotten episodes of scandal in the assembly rooms of Jane Austen's Britain.

**Tickets:** £14

**Venue:** Card Room, Assembly Rooms, Bennett Street, BA1 2QH

## Amusing Aunt Jane – with music from the Austen collection

18:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

Join us for an evening of Regency music from the Austen collection performed on original instruments. Hear how music played an important role in Jane's life as an emotional and intellectual distraction and discover how, with typical Jane Austen subtlety, she weaves it into her novels to create plot twists, aid in courtship and turn a spotlight onto the rogues!

With Lisa Timbs – Square Piano, Annemarie Rhys Jones – Harp, and Verity Joy – Soprano.

**Tickets:** £20

**Venue:** Tea Room, Assembly Rooms, Bennett Street, BA1 2QH

## Jane Austen's Bath – minibus tour

9:00 (duration 3 hours)

For details see Friday 13th September.

## A Very Private Public Breakfast

10:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Friday 13th September

## “To be a Fan of Dancing” – Regency dance workshop

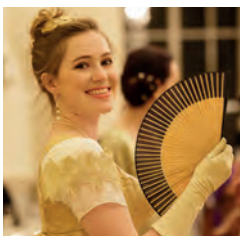
10:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

Not only did a fan keep you cool in a heated ballroom and allow secret messaging, but forgetful dancers, hoping to impress, could take a quick peek at the printed dance instructions! The Jane Austen Dancers select some fast and slow dances from surviving paper fans, to make an unforgettable dancing session for all Jane Austen “fans”!

No experience or partner necessary, but flat non-slip shoes and a drink essential. No seating provided. A good understanding of English is necessary to understand the teaching. Period costume & fans welcome!

**Tickets:** £18

**Venue:** City of Bath Scouts, 7 Grove St, Bathwick, BA2 6PJ



## Regency Silhouette Embroidery – workshop

10:00 (duration 2 hours)

Create your own personalised Regency silhouette (just like Jane Austen's) but with needle and thread! Using the same techniques from over 200 years ago, you will create a piece of embroidery with the added sparkle of metallic thread, embellish with your choice of modern or historical designs.

All materials and instruction are provided by Abigail Rose. Beginners welcome. Refreshments will be provided.

**Tickets:** £60 from Abigail Rose Creative, book via e-mail: [abigailrosecreative@gmail.com](mailto:abigailrosecreative@gmail.com)

**Venue:** Percy Community Centre, New King St, BA1 2BN

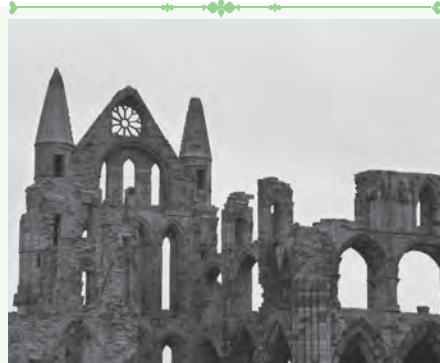
## Whether the weather be fine or whether the weather be not – walking tour

10:00 (duration 2 hours)

We all know the Royal Crescent but what about the others? With Bath Parade Guides discover more of the crescents of Bath, continuing via St Swithin's Church back to the city centre. Includes a stop for refreshments at the Lansdown Hotel (refreshments not included in the ticket price). Sturdy shoes and a stout constitution required as there are up-hill climbs, but wonderful views.

**Tickets:** £13

**Meet:** Outside the main door of Bath Abbey, Abbey Churchyard, BA1 1LY



## Building Northanger Abbey

12:30 (duration 1 hour)

Old medieval ruin or fake gothic new build? Following on from the success of our previous 'Building Pemberley' talk, join Dr Amy Frost to explore Jane Austen's Gothic architecture (real and imagined), as the audience become the architects of Northanger Abbey. Bring your drawing skills with you – no matter how dodgy! As the talk runs over lunchtime, please feel free to bring lunch with you too. Costume welcome but not required.

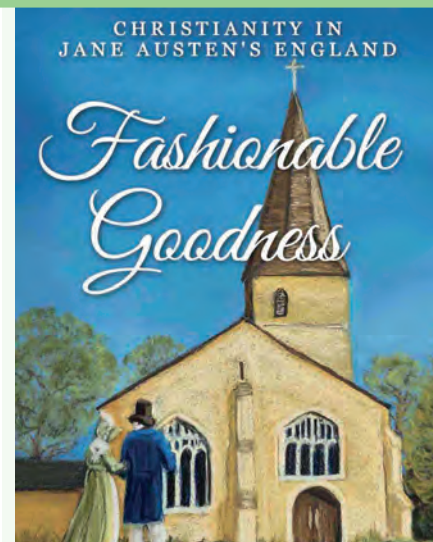
**Tickets:** £13

**Venue:** Museum of Bath Architecture, The Countess of Huntingdon's Chapel, The Paragon, The Vineyards, BA1 5NA

## “Carriages” to Meryton & Longbourn – minibus tour

13:15 (duration 4 hours)

For details see Friday 13th September



## Why Mr Collins? The Church and Clergy in Jane Austen's Novels

14:00 (duration 1 hour)

Jane Austen thought highly of the church. Why, then, did she present Mr. Collins as an obsequious buffoon? This talk explores Mr. Collins's words and character, comparing him to Austen's other clergymen, satirical cartoons, and Anglican and Evangelical ideals. It will conclude with questions and a book signing for Brenda S. Cox's *Fashionable Goodness: Christianity in Jane Austen's England*.

**Tickets:** £13

**Venue:** St Swithin's Church, The Paragon, BA1 5LY

## Dancing in the Footsteps of Jane Austen – Narrated Performance

15:30 (duration 1 hour)

Relax and enjoy performances of all the fashionable dances from Jane Austen's Georgian era. From Minuet to Mazurka, from Cotillion to Quadrille, from the pacy Scottish Reel to the racy, scandalous Waltz!

Offering a visual treat charting the chronological history of dancing throughout Jane Austen's lifetime and beyond, for each dance we explain the background, read dance quotes from the time and surmise whether Jane Austen danced them or merely mentioned in her letters/novels.

**Tickets:** £19

**Venue:** St Swithin's Church, The Paragon, BA1 5LY

## High Tea at Highbury

19:00 (duration 3 hours)

Partake of a deliciously decadent selection of High Tea Treats, finished off with a traditional Regency pudding in the gorgeous surroundings of the Regency Tea Room. Complete with bubbles and highly entertaining Austen interpretations, why not escape for a couple of hours to this haven of literary fiction? With musical interludes, join Emma Woodhouse and Jane Fairfax from the Jane Austen Centre and finally decide who is most accomplished.

**Tickets:** £58

**Venue:** Regency Tea Room, Jane Austen Centre, 40 Gay Street, BA1 2NT



## Stargazing at the Herschel Museum of Astronomy with the Bath Astronomers

20:00 & 21:05 (duration 1 hour)

Join the Bath Astronomers to stargaze from the back garden of the Herschel Museum of Astronomy, where the Planet Uranus was discovered from by William Herschel on 13th March 1781. There will also be a chance to explore the house where brother and sister musicians turned astronomers, William and Caroline Herschel, lived from 1777 to 1782.

Please note: in the event of poor weather the event will go ahead even if stargazing is not possible, as a tour and talk around the museum will be provided from Bath Astronomers.

**Tickets:** £20

**Venue:** Herschel Museum of Astronomy, 19 New King Street, BA1 2BL



## In Pursuit of Jane Austen – minibus tour to Hampshire

8:15 (return 16:30)

For details see Sunday 15th September

## Let's Talk About Love

10:00 (duration 1 hour)

For details see Friday 13th September



## Fencing Workshop

10:00 & 11:30 (duration 1hr 15mins)

Join a Fencing taster workshop with Bath Sword Club and enjoy a taste of the sport rumoured to be Mr Darcy's favourite. Learn offensive & defensive stances, putting them into choreographed non-contact sequences to experience your own 'duel'.

Regency costume very welcome, but please be aware that protective safety equipment will be worn including a full head mask and glove. Flat shoes advised.

**Tickets:** £25

**Venue:** City of Bath Scouts, 7 Grove Street, Bathwick, BA2 6PJ

## Sew Chatty

10:00 (duration 2 hours)

Bring along your sewing, last-minute hemming, embroidery, or latest bonnet in need of trimming to The Bath Townhouse Coppa Club for a morning session of sewing, chatting and sharing sewing advice (or sewing woes!) with other like-minded Austen friends.

This non-guided, free event will take place in the upstairs of the Coppa Club, who are offering a free hot drink with any breakfast or brunch dish purchased during the event.

**Free event – please reserve your place**

**Venue:** The Bath Townhouse, Coppa Club, 18-19 Old Bond St, BA1 1BP

## Jane Austen's Bath Homes – walking tour

10:00 (duration 2hrs 15mins)

Mrs Austen, accompanied by Jane, came to Bath in 1801, looking for suitable accommodation to rent; eventually living at four different addresses in the city. So where did Jane Austen actually live? Walk with Bath Parade Guides to find the locations of her Bath homes and other houses associated with her. The tour ends at 4 Sydney Place, opposite the Holburne Museum where refreshments are available.

**Tickets:** £13

**Meet:** At the entrance to Green Park Park, Green Park Buildings, BA1 1HZ

## Turban Making Workshop

10:00 (duration 3 hours)

Add the finishing touch to your exquisite outfit. Under the expert guidance of Sylvia Spilsbury from Bath Theatrical Costume Hire, using vintage sewing machines, create your very own turban.

Pre-select your fabric and choose from an assortment of fabrics to complement your costume. You'll take home a beautiful personally designed creation.

All materials included along with complimentary tea and cake.

**Tickets:** £170 from enquiries@baththeatrical.com

**Venue:** Bath Elim Church, Charlotte St, BA1 2ND

## Regency Health, Wellbeing, Medicine and 'The Waters'

10:30 & 11:30 (duration 20 minutes)

A unique opportunity to visit The Hetling Pump Room, pre-eminent location for taking The Waters in 18th century Bath before the Grand Pump Room opened. It was here the Austens came on one of their early visits in 1799 so that Edward could take the waters. Share the experience and listen to a short talk explaining the etiquette, effectiveness and expense of 'taking the waters' in the 18th century. There will also be an opportunity to share stories and scandal!

**Free event - please reserve your place**

**Venue:** Bath Medical Museum, Hetling Pump Room, 1 Hetling Court BA1 1SH

## Children's Storytime at Bath Central Library

10:30 (duration 30 minutes)

Join Bath Central Library for storytime and activities with an Austen and Regency twist. Suitable for children ages 2+, children must be accompanied by an adult.

**Free Event** – no reservations necessary

**Venue:** Bath Central Library, 19-23 The Podium, BA1 5AN

## Croquet Game

13:00 & 15:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Sunday 15th September



## Fabric Dyeing Workshop

13:30 & 16:00 (duration 2 hours)

Led by Dr Lindsey Holmes, this workshop allows you to try your hand at dyeing fabrics using plants and flowers, exploring both period and modern techniques. You will create a range of swatches and a guide on how to repeat these processes once you get home, with advice suited to your local plants and flowers.

Feel free to bring small samples of fabrics you want to dye, although everything you need will be provided!

**Tickets:** £35

**Venue:** City of Bath Scouts, 7 Grove St, Bathwick, BA2 6PJ

## Parasol Making Workshop

14:00 (duration 3 hours)

For details see Pre-Festival Events on page 7



## Regency Games Night

18:00 & 20:00 (duration 2 hours)

Jane Austen was known to be particularly adept at both cup & ball, and spillikins. Enjoy an evening or late-night session trying your skills (or luck) at these, as well as lottery tickets, whist, hazard and other Regency-era games, provided by John White of Select Society.

This year taking place in the vaulted basement events space of The Botanist Bath, formally The Octagon Chapel where Jane Austen is said to have reserved a pew whenever she visited Bath. The bar will be open for participants to purchase their own drinks.

**Tickets:** £11

**Venue:** The Botanist Bath, 46a Milsom St, BA1 1DN

## Ghost Walk

19:45 (duration 1hr 30mins)

Take a leisurely night-time stroll through the haunted streets of Bath - listen to eerie stories of murder, mystery, mayhem, and ghosts. Including tales of execution areas, haunted pubs, the old hospital, theatre and, of course, the duelling ground where so many met a grisly fate. A scary and fun evening out!

**Tickets:** £17

**Meet:** Outside the main door of Bath Abbey, Abbey Churchyard, BA1 1LT

## Stargazing at the Herschel Museum of Astronomy with the Bath Astronomers

20:00 & 21:05 (duration 1 hour each)

For details see Monday 16th September

## Jane Austen's Bath – minibus tour

9:00 (duration 3 hours)

For details see Friday 13th September.

## “Every Lady Her Own Shoemaker”: Georgian-Era DIY Cordwaining In The Drawing Rooms of “The Better Sort”

10:00 (duration 1 hour)

During the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries, the fad of fashioning one's own footwear provided women of quality a new sewing diversion which left a historical footprint. Master Cordwainer Brett Walker explores the topic from the perspective of a “scholar-artisan,” offering practical advice to those seeking to walk in the footsteps of the past.

For those who wish to discuss this topic further, Brett will be holding an informal roundtable discussion in The Huntsman Pub & Restaurant on Terrace Walk. Please feel free to join him from 12noon.

**Tickets:** £13

**Venue:** The Mission Theatre, 32 Corn Street, BA1 1UF



## “She danced next with an officer” - Regency dance workshop

10:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

Whether you prefer Mr. Wickham, Captain Wentworth or Colonel Brandon, join the Jane Austen Dancers and try your hand at some military-inspired Regency dances.

This is aimed at all levels of ability and there's no need to bring a partner. Period costume is welcome (regimentals very welcome!), but not essential. We recommend wearing flat shoes and bringing a drink. Please note that no seating is provided, and a good understanding of English is necessary to understand the teaching. Officers not provided – sorry!

**Tickets:** £18

**Venue:** City of Bath Scouts, 7 Grove Street, Bathwick, BA2 6PJ

## Romantic chic lit or radical writer? Will the real Jane Austen please stand up! - walking tour

10:00 (duration 2 hours)

We all know what Jane Austen wrote about don't we? There are 6 novels which are essentially variations of the same plot; where following twists and turns, a few misunderstandings, all comes good in the end and our heroine gets her man. Add some poking fun at society of the day, and essentially, we have a nice bit of romantic comedy. Yet have we misread the books? What if there are far deeper themes highlighting society's ills and failings.

Come along with Bath Parade Guides to find out about hidden references to slavery, women's rights, evolution, and other pressing matters of the day.

**Tickets:** £13

**Meet:** Outside main doors of Bath Abbey, Abbey Churchyard, BA1 1LY

## Reticule Making Workshop

10:00 (duration 3 hours)

For details see Pre-Festival Events on page 7



## Jane & Me, My Austen Heritage - with Caroline Knight

11:30 (duration 1hr 30mins)

Join Caroline Jane Knight, Jane Austen's fifth great niece and the last of Jane's nieces to grow up at Chawton House on her family's ancestral estate where Jane lived and wrote, for a glimpse into the family photo album, a unique insight into her childhood in the heart of Jane's literary legacy and what inspired Caroline to launch the Jane Austen Literacy Foundation a decade ago.

**Tickets:** £13

**Venue:** The Mission Theatre, 32 Corn Street, BA1 1UF

## “Carriages” to Meryton & Longbourn – minibus tour

13:15 (duration 4 hours)

For details see Friday 13th September



## Ladies & Gentlemen on Parade

13:30 (duration 4 hours)

Enjoy a unique Regency Costumed event at one of Wiltshire's finest Georgian buildings. Dressed in your own Regency finery, you'll be escorted by “Mr Darcy” on a short 18 min train journey through the beautiful scenic countryside to the magnificent Parade House in Trowbridge.

Your ticket includes train travel, a House History Tour by the owners, a delicious Full Afternoon Cream Tea with a glass of Champagne in the grand Ballroom, Regency Parlour Games and Theatrical Entertainment.

**Tickets:** £120

**Meet:** Outside the taxi rank entrance of Bath Spa Train Station, BA1 1SU

## Singing with Jane Austen - workshop

14:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

Regency Rum Bluffers will lead an energetic and engaging group singing workshop with songs heard in Jane Austen's lifetime. Participants will sing as a group a variety of songs including nursery rhymes, love songs and a song written by Jane's music teacher. There is no need to read music, we will teach you everything by ear and lyrics will be provided. Everyone is welcome!

**Tickets:** £25

**Venue:** The Mission Theatre, 32 Corn Street, BA1 1UF



## Bonnet or Turban Making Workshop

14:00 (duration 3 hours)

For details see Pre-Festival Events on page 7

## Jane Austen & Bath – walking tour

14:30 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Sunday 15th September

## Beastly Bath – walking tour

17:30 (duration 1hr 30mins)

A light-hearted, unconventional walk through the city's history. Including descriptions of some of the more sordid and disagreeable aspects of C18th life plus original Georgian remedies are demonstrated on this mischievous stroll! See all the main sights including the Pump Room, Circus and Royal Crescent.

**Tickets:** £16

**Meet:** Outside the main door of Bath Abbey, Abbey Churchyard, BA1 1LT

## Honours of the Table

19:00 (duration 2 hours)

Mr Adams, butler in a grand Regency house, has been ‘in service’ for many years. Paying particular attention to the etiquette associated with sitting to table and the ‘art’ of dining he explains and demonstrates the complex process of setting the table for dinner. The presentation is set in the year 1812 and supported by a very considerable range of silver, porcelain, and domestic items.

**Tickets:** £15

**Venue:** The Mission Theatre, 32 Corn Street, BA1 1UF



## In Pursuit of Jane Austen – minibus tour to Hampshire

8:15 (return 16:30)

For details see Sunday 15th September



## Race For an Heir

10:00 (duration 1 hour)

Back by popular demand after her brilliant look at Regency Funerals in 2023; Maggie Barton returns to the Festival with an entertaining and interactive talk on the Georgian dynasty. With 13 children, the succession should have been secure, but George III was driven to despair by disease, debauchery and death among his boys, while his girls were secreted away. Come and hear their stories, how the Regency period came into being and how the family was plunged into a frantic Race for an Heir.

**Tickets:** £13

**Venue:** The Mission Theatre, 32 Corn Street, BA1 1UF

## Our Grand Walk to Weston – walking tour

10:00 (duration 2hrs 30mins)

Retrace one of Jane Austen's favourite walks with Bath Parade Guides. Up elegant Sion Hill with its stunning views, and across the fields to Weston and All Saint's Church.

There are some hills, strong shoes are necessary. Coffee can be purchased at the Old Crown Pub in Weston where the walking tour ends.

Return via an easy 20-minute walk through Victoria Park to the Royal Crescent or catch the local bus back to the city centre.

**Tickets:** £13

**Meet:** Outside No1 Royal Crescent, BA1 2LR

## Reticule Making Workshop

10:00 (duration 3 hours)

For details see Pre-Festival Events on page 7



## Stand & Deliver! Desirable Dress Accessories in the Georgian Age

11:30 (duration 1 hour)

Highwaymen have long exercised a grip on the romantic imagination, but why is this, and why were they considered a cut above common thieves? And what did these 'Gentlemen of the Road' take from their victims? Mark Wallis' lively talk will answer these questions through the use of original objects from his collection which the audience is welcome to examine.

**Tickets:** £13

**Venue:** The Mission Theatre, 32 Corn Street, BA1 1UF

## Murder at Kellynch Hall

12 noon (duration 3 hours)

Join the Moonstone Theatre Company for another Murder Mystery. William Elliot was dead. He had been murdered. His body had been found in the grounds of Kellynch Hall. Whilst in life he was considered by many to be charming, he was a cold, calculating opportunist. But who could have killed him? Was it Mrs Smith or Sir Walter Elliot or Mrs Clay? All of them had motives.... After the murder Captain Wentworth decided to take on the role of investigator and see if he, and the lunch guests, could discover the truth and bring the killer to justice.

Your ticket includes a two-course lunch.

**Tickets:** £50 from Theatre Royal Box Office, theatreroyal.org.uk

**Venue:** Abbey Hotel, North Parade, BA1 1LF

## Pride & the Beast: The Jane Austen Fairytale

13:30 (duration 1 hour)

"Universal truths and happily ever-afters; Jane Austen and the fairy tale"

Monstrous, misunderstood men who own beautiful houses, young girls in red cloaks who fall prey to wolves in disguise, fathers who fall on hard times and let down their daughters, the plotlines of famous fairy tales, or themes within *Pride and Prejudice*?

This talk, by Jane Austen's House Director Lizzie Dunford, will explore the presence and influence of classic literary fairy tales in Austen's beloved novels and what these influences can tell us about her own reading.

**Tickets:** £13

**Venue:** The Mission Theatre, 32 Corn Street, BA1 1UF

## Fencing Workshop

14:00 & 15:30 (duration 1hr 15mins)

For details see Tuesday 17th September

## Parasol Making Workshop

14:00 (duration 3 hours)

For details see Pre Festival Events on page 7

## Afternoon Canal Cruise

14:00 (duration 3hrs 30mins)

For details see Sunday 15th September

## Jane Austen Twilight Tour of No.1 Royal Crescent

Open from 18:00 - 21:00. Last admission 8pm. Self-guided tour sessions available at ten-minute intervals (duration 1 hour)

Visit No.1 Royal Crescent after hours and experience our immersive Jane Austen tour which brings the house to life. The self-guided tour looks at life in Britain in the 1790s - 1820 (the Regency into Late Georgian period), including when Austen was writing - and for a time living - in Bath.

This is an immersive 60-minute experience that runs on a timed loop. Please arrive at least 5 minutes before your ticket slot, to ensure you do not miss any of your experience. The shop and bar close at 8.30pm.

**Tickets:** £15.50 from no1royalcrescent.org.uk

**Venue:** No.1 Royal Crescent, BA1 2LR

## High Tea at Highbury

19:00 (duration 3 hours)

For details see Monday 16th September

## Ghost Walk

19:45 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Tuesday 17th September



## Lord Christian Brighty: An Apology to The Good People of Bath

Hot on the hooves of BBC Radio 4's The Many Wrongs of Lord Christian Brighty, the reformed rake returns to Bath to make up for his wrongdoings and see what new ones he can get away with. For one night only, TikTok's Mr Darcy (@brightybuoy) will hear your grievances against him personally, the aristocracy generally, and men flippantly. If Lord Christian Brighty can't solve it in this hour of comedy mayhem, then at least he tried and you just should drop it, alright? Note: By attending this evening you forgo all legal right to sue Lord Brighty for any wrongs, cuckoldings or bastards he may or may not be responsible for.

This performance is only suitable for viewers aged 18+ as it may contain scenes of a sexual nature, language & partial nudity. The Jane Austen Festival takes no responsibility for anyone swooning for lack of smelling salts; you have been warned!

**Tickets:** £17

**Venue:** The Mission Theatre, 32 Corn Street, BA1 1UF

## Jane Austen's Bath – minibus tour

9:00 (duration 3 hours)

For details see Friday 13th September.



## Regency Hand Sewing Workshop

9:30 (duration 3 hours)

Learn to hand sew various different Regency appropriate stitches with Mackenzie of Fig Leaf Patterns during this hands-on workshop. A period correct sewing kit with a small booklet of stitches & useful information will be provided, for you to use during the class and to keep afterwards. All attendees will need to bring their own scissors and dressmaking pins to use.

This class is suitable for those with little to no sewing experience, a basic starter session to begin your Regency costuming journey.

**Tickets:** £95

**Venue:** Lonsdale Room, BRLSI, 16-18 Queen Square, Bath, BA1 2HN

## Let's Talk About Love

10:00 (duration 1 hour)

For details see Friday 13th September

## A Very Private Public Breakfast

10:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Friday 13th September

## Mansfield Park Book Club

10:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

You are welcomed to Jane Austen Festival book club at Bath Library, to discuss "the one nobody likes", *Mansfield Park*.

Please reserve a place to indicate you will be attending. You can also suggest a question or point to discuss during the session when booking.

**Free event** – please reserve your place

**Venue:** Bath Central Library, 19-23 The Podium, BA1 5AN

## The Gothic Novel – walking tour

10:00 (duration 2 hours)

Were you a fan of the Friday night horror movies, Frankenstein, Dracula, the Fall of the House of Usher? Dark tales that included the paranormal, omens, innocent maidens locked in dark and gloomy castles. Well Jane Austen certainly would have been a fan. The gothic novel has its roots in the 1700s and was all the rage. Jane would have been familiar with *The Castle of Otranto* and the *Mysteries of Udolpho* and we can see the influence of the latter in *Northanger Abbey*. Join Bath Parade Guides to discover how this genre developed.

**Tickets:** £13

**Meet:** Outside the main door of Bath Abbey, Abbey Churchyard, BA1 1LY



## Croquet Game

10:00 & 12 noon (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Sunday 15th September

## Austen's Arcadia

13:00 (duration 1 hour)

For details see Friday 13th September

## "Carriages" to Meryton & Longbourn – minibus tour

13:15 (duration 4 hours)

For details see Friday 13th September

## Drawstring Spencer Toile Workshop

13:30 (duration 3 hours)

Join this workshop and learn to assemble and fit a toile mock-up of this Drawstring Spencer (pattern 123) from Fig Leaf Patterns. The printed pattern will be supplied for you.

FLP 123  
front view



When booking please choose from either the size 8-18 or 18-28 pattern, using your high waistband measurement as a guide. All attendees will need to bring their own fabric scissors and dressmaking pins. You will also need to supply your own cheaper fabric for the toile, and own fashion fabric and lining fabric.

This workshop will be all hand sewing, so a good level of basic hand sewing is required for this workshop.

Please also note it is unlikely that you will end the workshop with a completely finished garment, the aim of the session is to learn how to fit the spencer jacket to yourself for future use. It will be a good opportunity to learn general garment fitting skills.

**Tickets:** £95

**Venue:** Lonsdale Room, BRLSI, 16-18 Queen Square, Bath, BA1 2HN

## Ladies & Gentlemen on Parade

13:30 (duration 4 hours)

For details see Wednesday 18th September

## Mr Bennet's Jig – Regency dance workshop

14:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

Join our own Mr Bennet of the Jane Austen Dancers and jig your way through some of his favourite dances, suited to all levels of experience. Mr Bennet's dance class will set you up for dancing like the members of polished society who frequented the balls of Miss Austen's era.

Period costume welcome but not essential, flat shoes and a drink recommended. Please note that no seating is provided, and a good understanding of English is necessary to understand the teaching.

**Tickets:** £18

**Venue:** City of Bath Scouts, 7 Grove St, Bathwick, BA2 6PJ

## Courtship with Kim Hicks

14:30 (duration 1 hour)

Bristol-based actor Kim Hicks returns to the Jane Austen Festival to perform her internationally acclaimed one woman show, the longest running Jane Austen show in the world! With wonderful renditions of both well-known passages from the novels and less familiar pieces from the minor works, Kim reacquaints you with Austen's beautifully drawn characters.

**Tickets:** £17.50 from Theatre Royal Box Office, [theatreroyal.org.uk](http://theatreroyal.org.uk)

**Meet:** In foyer of Theatre Royal Bath, Saw Close, BA1 1ET

## Draw back the Curtain

16:00 (duration 1 hour)

For details see Friday 13th September

## Austen's Women: Lady Susan

Friday 20th September 19:30 (duration 75 minutes)

Alternate performances on: Thursday 19th @ 19:30, Saturday 21st September @13:30 & 16:00

From the award-winning creators of *Austen's Women*, *A Christmas Carol*, *I, Elizabeth*, *Female Gothic*, *Christmas Gothic*, and *A Room of One's Own*. *Austen's Women* are back - in a brand-new solo comedy show from Dyad Productions!

Devil-may-care Lady Susan, the coquettish black widow, hunting down not one, but two, fortunes; oppressed, rebellious daughter Frederica; long-suffering sister-in-law Catherine; family matriarch Mrs De Courcy; and insouciant best friend, Alicia.

Return to the Regency (or rather, Georgian) in this wickedly funny tale of society and the women trapped within it; their struggles, their desires, their temptations and manipulations - and at the vanguard, Lady Susan: charming, scheming, witty, and powerful; taking on society and making it her own. But has she met her match?

Based on Jane Austen's first full-length work from 1794, the piece is performed by Rebecca Vaughan and directed by Andrew Margerison. This is Austen as you've never seen her before!

**Tickets:** £23 from Theatre Royal Box Office, [theatreroyal.org.uk](http://theatreroyal.org.uk)

**Venue:** Ustinov Studio, Monmouth Street, part of Theatre Royal Bath, Sawclose, BA1 1ET

# Saturday 21 September

## In Pursuit of Jane Austen – minibus tour to Hampshire

8:15 (return 16:30)

For details see Sunday 15th September

## Regency Hair Salon

Appointment from 8:30 – 17:30  
(duration 30 minutes)

For details see Saturday 14th September

## A Very Private Public Breakfast

10:00 (duration 1hr 30 minutes)

For details see Friday 13th September

## She played and sang: Jane Austen and music

10:00 (duration 1 hour)

In this presentation Gillian Dooley explains the place of music in Jane Austen's life from her teenage years through to the end of her life, illustrating the talk by playing and singing a selection of songs and piano works from her own music collection, including some that we know she herself performed in her Chawton home in later life.

Gillian Dooley is the author of *She played and sang: Jane Austen and Music* (Manchester University Press, 2024). Copies will be on sale after the presentation.

**Tickets:** £13

**Venue:** Elwin Room, BRLSI, 16-18 Queen Square, BA1 2HN



## Jane Austen & Bath – walking tour

10:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Sunday 15th September

## Austen's Lost & Found – theatrical walking tour

11:30, 12 noon, 12:30, 13:00, 13:30  
(duration 1 hour)

For details see Saturday 14th September

## Dancing in Jane Austen's Novels – with John Mullan

11:30 (duration 1hr 30mins)

'It may be possible to do without dancing entirely,' observes Jane Austen in *Emma*, with heavy irony – for she is about to show us how essential

it is to the destinies of her characters. This talk will explore why dancing features in every one of Austen's novels and will reveal what we need to know about the conventions governing the dances that she describes.

**Tickets:** £16

**Venue:** Elwin Room, BRLSI, 16-18 Queen Square, BA1 2HN



## The Delights of Jane Austen's Dialogue – with John Mullan

14:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

Jane Austen was revolutionary in her use of dialogue, especially to comic ends. She invented distinctive voices for her characters, but she also made them imitate, provoke or misunderstand each other. Looking at examples from all Austen's novels, we will see how she requires the reader to be a participant in their conversations: to hear what is not said – or what characters inadvertently give away about themselves.

**Tickets:** £16

**Venue:** Elwin Room, BRLSI, 16-18 Queen Square, BA1 2HN

## Pre-Gothic Ball Dance Workshop

15:30 (duration 1hr 30mins)

This Regency dance workshop is a practice session for those attending the Gothic Ball in the evening, led by Liz Bartlett of the Jane Austen Dancers.

**Tickets:** £16 – purchase together with your Gothic Ball tickets as these are not sold separately.

**Venue:** Percy Community Centre, New King Street, BA1 2BN

# Saturday 21 September

## Northanger Abbey Gothic Soiree

19:00 (duration 2 hours)

A **Regency Roman Baths Gothic Soiree ticket** will cover the stunning two-hour soiree by the Roman Baths. Model your Regency gothic finery by the torchlit waters as twilight falls over Bath, while you enjoy musical interludes and a welcome drink.

This year there will not be a bar down by the Roman Baths, however you will be given the option to pre-buy glasses of prosecco (or a soft drink alternative) when booking your tickets.

Entrance doors will open at 19:00 and close promptly at 19:45, please note if you arrive after this you may not be admitted.

**Regency costume is mandatory for this event.**

We look forward to seeing all your finest gothic white muslins, black velvet ribbons, or however else you wish to adjust your Regency evening finery to the Northanger Abbey gothic theme. No steam punk, please. Leave your goggles at home!

**Tickets:** £45

**Venue:** Roman Baths, entrance via Pump Rooms, Stall St, BA1 1LZ

## Northanger Abbey Gothic Ball

19:00 (duration 4hrs 30mins)

A **Northanger Abbey Gothic Ball ticket** will include a Soiree ticket as well access to the rest of the evening's entertainment.

After enjoying a magical drinks reception round the Roman Baths, dance the night away in the Regency Pump Rooms with expert dance calling provided by Liz Bartlett of the Jane Austen Dancers.

There will be a mid-evening break for a two-course dinner, seated in the Pump Rooms Reception Hall and along the Terrace overlooking the Roman Baths. A cash bar will be open for Ball ticketholders from dinner onwards. On booking, you will have the option to pre-buy bottles of prosecco to be placed on your table for dinner.

Entrance doors will open at 19:00 and close promptly at 19:45, please note if you arrive after this you may not be admitted.

**Regency costume is mandatory for this event.**

We look forward to seeing all your finest gothic white muslins, black velvet ribbons, or however else you wish to adjust your Regency ball finery to the Northanger Abbey gothic theme. No steam punk, please. Leave your goggles at home!

**Tickets:** £135

**Venue:** Roman Baths, entrance via Pump Rooms, Stall St, BA1 1LZ

# Sunday 22 September

## Jane Austen's Bath – minibus tour

9:00 (duration 3 hours)

For details see Friday 13th September

## A Very Private Public Breakfast

10:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Friday 13th September

## Croquet Game

10:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Sunday 15th September

## Mini-Promenade

12 noon (duration approx. 45mins)

Meet for an informal short stroll from the Royal Crescent down Gravel Walk, Milsom Street, Stall Street and ending in front of Bath Abbey. A last chance to show off your Regency finery along the pavements of Bath.

No booking or tickets necessary for this event, turn up and join in!

## Free Event

**Meet:** On the grass below the ha-ha in front of the Royal Crescent, Victoria Park, Bath, BA1 2LX

## "Carriages" to Meryton & Longbourn – minibus tour

13:15 (duration 4 hours)

For details see Friday 13th September

## Croquet Game

13:30 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Sunday 15th September

## Rummaging through the Reticule

14:00 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Saturday 14th September

## Jane Austen & Bath – walking tour

14:30 (duration 1hr 30mins)

For details see Sunday 15th September

## Become a Friend of the 2025 Jane Austen Festival



Benefits include:

- a regular newsletter from the Festival Director
- advance notice of Festival events
- advance link to online Festival Programme
- printed Souvenir Festival Programme (posted to UK residents only)
- priority booking for Festival events

*\*Limitations apply – details to be confirmed*

Further details available from our website  
[www.janeausten.co.uk](http://www.janeausten.co.uk)



## Getting around Bath

### By Car

Bath has three different Park and Ride car parks out of town; Lansdown, Odd Down & Newbridge. All have ample parking spaces, including disabled bays and electric charging points, and are a 15-minute bus journey into the centre of town. Lansdown Park & Ride brings you the closest to the Jane Austen Centre.

There are various short-stay & long-stay car parks in Bath city centre. Charlotte Street car park is long-stay, and the closest to the Jane Austen Centre.

### Train

Bath Spa is the main city-centre train station for Bath. It is a 15-minute walk from the Jane Austen Centre, which is nearer to the top of town.

### Bus & Coach

Bath has numerous bus routes around the City, connecting Bath locations & the wider North East Somerset area. Bath Bus Station is located next to the train station at the bottom of the city centre, approximately a 15-minutes walk from the Jane Austen Centre.

### Walking in Bath

Most events are within a 15-minutes walk of the Jane Austen Centre, if they are not it is noted on the event description.

Each ticket confirmation email will contain a direct What3Words link which will take you to to venue location or meeting point for that event. If you are new to Bath we recommend downloading the What3Words app to enable you to navigate using those ticket confirmation links.

Bath, being the beautiful stone city it is, has unpredictable phone signal, so it is also highly recommended to download an offline map of Bath from Google maps.



### Taxi

For those wishing to experience a sedan chair style of travel, a list of taxi rank locations and companies can be found through our website. V Cars are the main company in Bath on 01225 46 46 46.

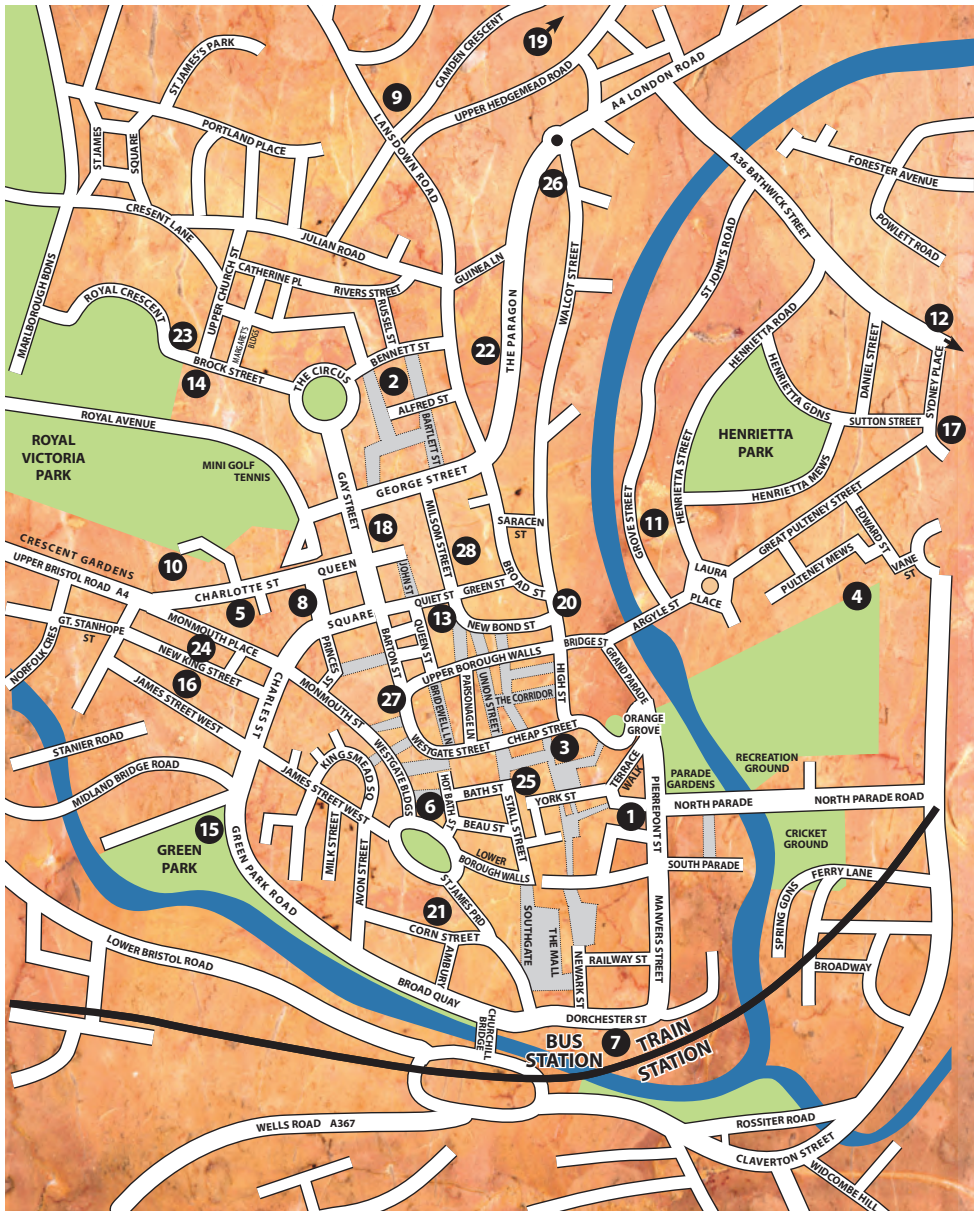
A word to the wise: by the time you have promenaded to a taxi rank, you probably could have promenaded home!

### Accessibility

Bath venues and the city itself can't always guarantee level access or the ability to cater for different accessibility requirements. Please take a look at the Festival website's Venue Accessibility page for further information on this.

### Public Toilets

These can be found in the middle of Charlotte Street car park, Sydney Gardens, and Henrietta Park. Indoor Festival event locations will all have access to toilets (accessible toilets cannot be guaranteed) for the duration of the event.



## ROUGH GUIDE TO LOCATIONS *Map does not include all roads*

- |                          |                              |                                 |   |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 1 Abbey Hotel            | 9 Camden Crescent            | 16 Herschel Museum of Astronomy | 23 No 1, Royal Crescent                               |
| 2 Assembly Rooms         | 10 Charlotte Street car park | 17 Holburne Museum              | 24 Percy Community Centre                             |
| 3 Bath Abbey             | 11 City of Bath Scouts       | 18 Jane Austen Centre           | 25 Roman Baths & Pump Rooms,<br>Stall Street Entrance |
| 4 Bath Croquet Club      | 12 Cleveland Pools           | 19 Kinwarton, Camden Rd         | 26 St Swithun's Church                                |
| 5 Bath Elim Church       | 13 Coppa Club                | 20 Library                      | 27 Theatre Royal                                      |
| 6 Bath Medical Museum    | 14 Gravel Walk               | 21 Mission Theatre              | 28 The Botanist                                       |
| 7 Bath Spa Train Station | 15 Green Park                | 22 Museum of Bath Architecture  |   |
| 8 BRLSI                  |                              |                                 |   |