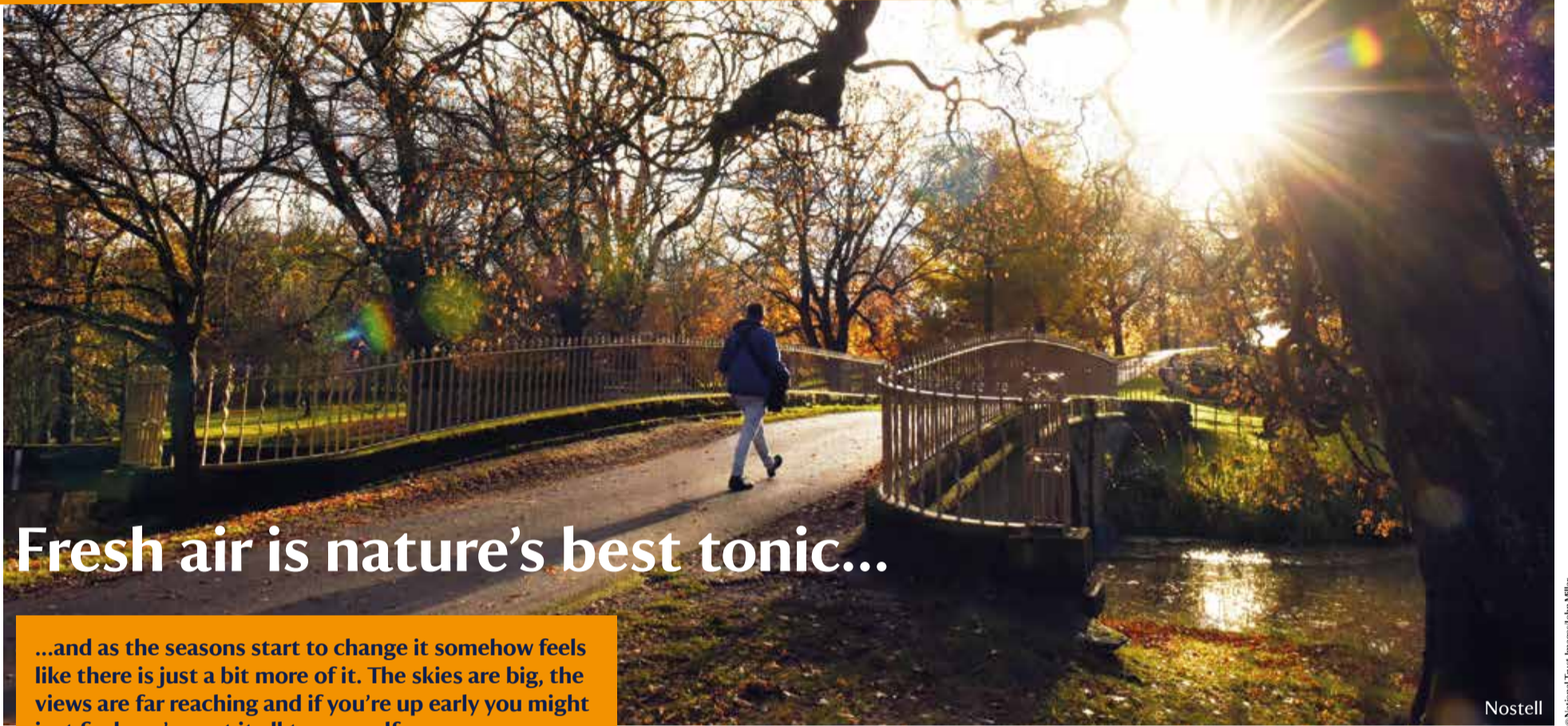




National Trust

News and events for autumn and winter 2019
North East | Yorkshire

Near you



Fresh air is nature's best tonic...

...and as the seasons start to change it somehow feels like there is just a bit more of it. The skies are big, the views are far reaching and if you're up early you might just find you've got it all to yourself.

Nostell

©National Trust Images/John Millar

Red hot

As the summer fades you get days where the air is still warm and the late sun is dappling through the trees. The woodland at **Wallington** is perfect for switching off and trying forest bathing – the Japanese feel good phenomenon that's gone global. As autumn turns the trees every shade of red, look out for one of the resident red squirrels that have made these woods their home. And as the days get colder remember there's always a hot chocolate waiting in the café with your name on it.

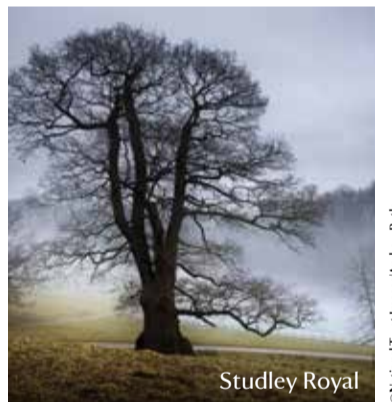


Janet's Foss

©National Trust Images/Paul Harris

Soaked through

Some walks are just better in the rain and once you're wet, you're wet! Up in the Yorkshire Dales you can reach **Janet's Foss** on a short walk through ancient woodland. As well as having all the gorgeous colours of autumn, the trees provide a natural umbrella too. The waterfall at the end is great for youngsters to experience the thrill, spray and thunder of a waterfall in full force for the first time.



Studley Royal

©National Trust Images/Andrew Butler

Urban escape

At **Gibside**, replace the grey pavements of the city, the soaking from a passing car and the honk of rush hour horns for the crunch of red and orange leaves beneath your feet and the tooting of bird song. That loud drumming sound you can hear is more likely to be a woodpecker at work. Forget being stuck in rush hour traffic on the way home too, book a cosy yurt instead and have the place to yourself after everyone has headed home.

Misty mornings

The deer park at **Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal** opens from 6am so get here as early as you like and explore as the winter mist slowly lifts. The absolute quiet is the perfect time for nature spotting and it's a great feeling to be full of fresh air and tucking into a breakfast butty at the café just as your day would often be getting started!

Kaleidoscopes of colour

Above your head and under your feet, the striking red Acer leaves, burnt orange beech and bright yellow hazel, mix with shiny brown conkers to make an autumn walk at **Nostell** pretty hard to beat. It's not all about the fiery colours though; along the lake path deep blue adds the perfect contrast as big open skies filter through the trees and the occasional kingfisher darts across the lake.

Explore somewhere new

After being closed for two years, **Wentworth Castle Gardens** has recently re-opened with miles of parkland and gardens to explore. Meet the herds of red and fallow deer in the parkland that live alongside wild hares and great crested newts. And make sure you have your binoculars trained to the sky too as buzzards and kestrels soar overhead.



Wallington

©National Trust Images/Chris Lacey

It's fair to say we do big views pretty well in this part of the country. Whether you want to get little legs running off steam, burn off all the extra winter calories, or simply ease into a gentle and rejuvenating walk, our website is full of ideas, trails, and ranger led walks to help you get out and make the most of this time of year.

We'd love to hear what you've been up to. Join the adventure and share your top spots this season:

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You'll find your autumn and winter What's on inside



If these walls could talk



We care for houses of all shapes and sizes... great mansions, humble homes and quirky castles. Step inside this autumn, these rooms have a story to tell.

The State Apartment, Nostell

Nostell, Wakefield Treasurer's House, York

The State Apartment

Had you been invited to stay over at Nostell 250 years ago you might've been lucky enough to see the most stylish and opulent rooms of all. Thrown open for special guests, the magnificent State Apartment was the Winn family's way of showing just how far their influence stretched.

A key feature of these rooms was hand-painted Chinese wallpaper, which amazingly has survived to this day. As a visitor today, unlock your imagination as you stare into the intricate wallpaper, peeling back the layers of time to guess just what it felt like to stay here.

These rooms, inspired by the Far East, were designed by Yorkshire's master craftsman Thomas Chippendale.

'Chinese inspired interiors were popular for bedrooms because they were considered dream-like,' says Nostell curator Simon McCormack. 'This is one of the finest examples of 18th-century rooms in this style and one of the most complete and well-documented Chippendale interiors to be found anywhere.'

This year, when we removed the Pier Glass mirror from the wall, we discovered that most of the wall behind was blank with just a patchwork of wallpaper offcuts used near the edges. And why would you use such ornate and expensive paper where it's never going to be seen? Until now that is.



The Great Hall, Treasurer's House

The Great Hall

This hidden gem in York city centre wasn't always known as **Treasurer's House**. In fact, we're not sure that a treasurer ever lived here.

Sitting above a Roman road, on the site of a house from the Middle Ages, **Treasurer's House** was almost entirely rebuilt in the 17th century. But if you step inside the Great Hall today, you'll discover that not everything is quite what it seems.

Yorkshire industrialist Frank Green bought the house around 1897 and was determined to make it seem even more historic. Giving it the name **Treasurer's House**,

Green made some major changes to the building. He even removed an entire floor to create the Great Hall he believed should be there – this medieval-looking hall was actually created in the 1900s.

'Green was driven by very personal ideas and tastes' says Yorkshire curator Matthew Constantine. 'Look out for the brass nails he had hammered into the floor throughout the house, to mark exactly where furniture legs should sit.'

For the full story of these and other fascinating places go to nationaltrust.org.uk/yorkshire

Tree spotting

If only trees could tell a story. Some have witnessed Roman invasion others are remnants of big changes in land use over the centuries. And, they're all quietly getting on with providing a home to hundreds of insects, mammals, birds and fungi.

From ancient to veteran, the tallest and the tiny, we care for some pretty special trees in the North.

Find Beatrix Potter's own Bramley Apple tree at **Hill Top**, the Duke of Cambridge's Oak Tree at **Beningbrough Hall** and ancient beech and oaks at **Dunham Massey**.

Our arboreal bucket list also includes the iconic Sycamore Gap at **Hadrian's Wall** which famously starred in 1991 film *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*.

The Dalston Oak, in the Lake District, is one of the oldest trees on the **Acorn Bank** estate at around 350-400 years old. Despite this grand age it's a mere teenager compared to one of **Sizergh's** ancient yew trees in Holeslack Wood which is estimated to be over 1,800 years old.

Towering in at 40 metres high, the country's tallest tree is a Scots pine at **Cragside**.

If you want to extend your adventure you can now sleep in a woodland canopy in new tree tents at Low Wray Campsite, on the shore of Windermere.



Aira Force

Look closely next time you're wandering in the woods, there are so many different types of trees. We like to think of them as friendly green giants; always watching over us and usually the oldest living thing in a landscape.

Forget food miles, we're talking food metres...

You can't beat the taste of locally grown, seasonal produce. Autumn brings the chance to sample nature's harvest, where the journey from plot to plate is often only footsteps.



At **Nunnington Hall** food takes seconds to reach the kitchen, with produce from the organic gardens including apples, pears, potatoes, onions and leeks transformed into seasonal specials in the tea-room.

A taste of autumn: Nunnington will be holding its annual Autumn Festival on 17-20 October with nature displays, apple juicing and tasting, and talks from the gardening team.

And at **Nostell** the kitchen garden provides the Courtyard Café with lots of fresh ingredients. Try the soup made using produce grown by Kitchen Gardener Mark or tuck into beetroot and chocolate cake.

Look out for: Nostell's pumpkin week running 21-27 October.

Cragside sources many of its ingredients from close to home too. All the eggs, butter, cheddar, potatoes and flour used in the kitchen come from farmers who live and work on the Cragside estate.

The orchard at **Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal** is full of heritage apples. Head Chef Paul and his team use them in their recipes along with other autumn fruits and pumpkins from the medieval-style garden next to Swanley Grange, echoing the monks' belief in self-sufficiency.

Get a taste: At both **Fountains Abbey** and during **Beningbrough Hall's** apple week make your own apple juice using a traditional apple press and sample the fresh from the tree taste.

Did you know?

At **Beningbrough Hall** the gardeners are happy for you to take home any of the fruit and veg they grow that isn't used in the restaurant, so you can also take the taste away with you. Just look out for the produce rack in the outdoor shop.

Five minutes with Father Christmas

Father Christmas will soon be checking his list and getting his reindeer ready. Before the hard work starts, we caught up over a mince pie to get the low-down from the man himself.

Name:
Father Christmas

Profession:
Delivery service, sleigh pilot, and mince pie muncher

Age:
1,749 years young



Wallington

What do you love about Christmas at the National Trust?

I enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of a traditional Christmas and seeing people make new memories together. National Trust places across the North have this by the sleigh-full. This year I'm looking forward to tucking into a festive afternoon tea at **Wallington**, making my own wreath to take back to the North Pole at **East Riddlesden Hall** and reminiscing about Christmases past at **Nunnington Hall**.

What's your favourite Christmas treat?

I'm partial to a chocolate orange, so a big thank you to the Terry family from **Goddards!** But my absolute favourite is the Christmas Pudding Scone served warm with a little brandy butter created at **Treasurer's House**.

What's your favourite Christmas carol?

Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer is my ringtones, but I like to sing along to all carols. On my nights off from list-checking I make sure I visit **Fountains Abbey** and **Gibside** for carols old and new.

You must be very busy, when do you do your Christmas shopping?

The shop at **Beningbrough Hall** has late opening in December, so I can pop in after a day in the grotto and enjoy the festive music while picking up a special gift for Mrs Claus.

What's the best way to sneak a peek of you on Christmas Eve?

Well, you do need to be asleep on Christmas Eve so the magic can happen. There are plenty of places to see me ahead of the big day though including **Wallington**, **Ormesby Hall** and **Nostell**. I'll also pop in to **Washington Old Hall** to visit my old friend The Green Man, who children met in pagan times.

To be in with a chance of chatting to Father Christmas yourself see What's on or visit the website.



Wallington



Wallington

News round-up

Help create some colour

Would you like to help us plant daffodils at **Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal**? Come along on Wednesday 30 October and join the gardeners as we hope to plant 20,000 bulbs along the river from the abbey to the water garden.

nationaltrust.org.uk/fountains-abbey

Funding to repair much loved Penshaw Monument



Often referred to as 'the first sign of home' by locals, Penshaw Monument is a familiar landmark towering above the Tyne and Wear skyline.

The Grade I listed monument - a half-sized replica of the Temple of Hephaestus in Athens - celebrates its 175th birthday this year.

Thanks to funding from Highways England, work will begin this autumn to repair the steps leading up to the monument and add information boards that bring the stories and legends of the Monument to life.

Beningbrough Hall's winter wildlife exhibition

Explore a new indoor and outdoor winter wildlife exhibition by York artist Gerard Hobson, inspired by the real-life creatures that make Beningbrough their home. The beautifully crafted linoprints showcase the artist's lifelong passion for birds, animals and art.

Please also note that due to conservation work within the hall, the Saloon Galleries and hall will be closed from 4 November until 3 March 2020.

nationaltrust.org.uk/beningbrough

On the move

As autumn moves in, many animals across the North are seeking out new places to live. We look after habitats to suit even the most discerning of house hunters. Read on for a roundup of some of the best natural autumn and winter homes across the North...

Commuter convenience

The river network across the Lake District takes the hassle out of commuting for different types of fish, all the while enjoying the privilege of living in a World Heritage Site. The River Kent is a popular commuter route for salmon, ideally located for leaping out and spotting a glimpse of **Sizergh** as it winds its way upstream.

Bird-watching's one thing but have you tried fish watching? Spot salmon leaping up river during autumn as they return to their breeding grounds to spawn.



©National Trust Images/Paul Harris

©National Trust Images/Neilman Scott

Seaside living

Grey seals will feel at home in the island community of the Farnes. Craggy boltholes boast sought-after views across to Northumberland's coastal castles and Holy Island. An onsite crèche is popular, with over 2,700 pups born here last year.

Learn more about the residents of the Farnes at Marine week, from 26 October – 3 November, where you can join our rangers for talks, show and tell, and learn more about marine plastics.



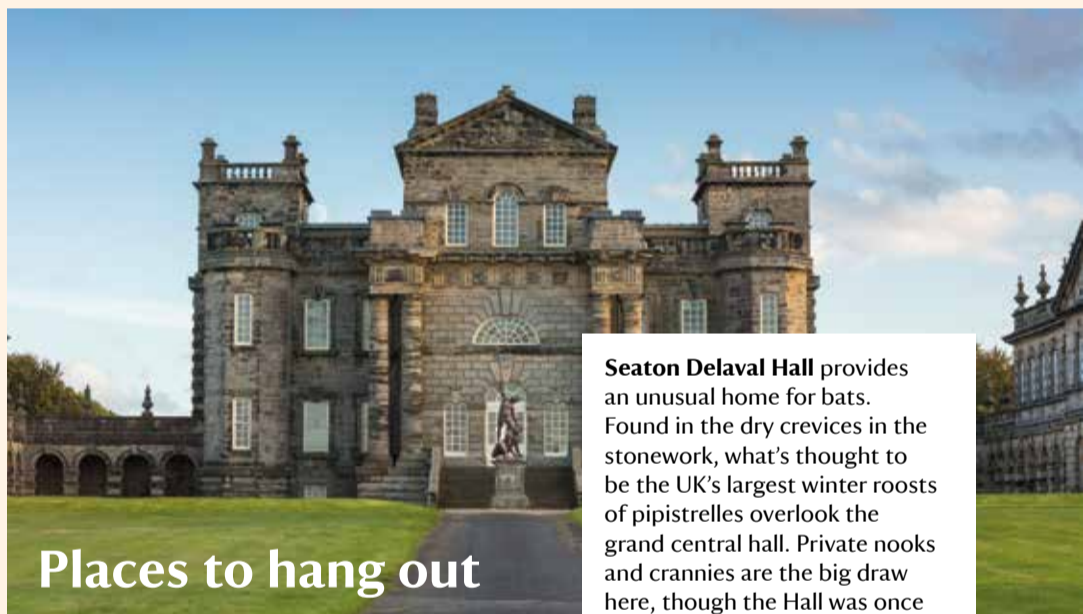
©National Trust Images/Chris Lacey

Woodland retreats



Red squirrels at Formby get the best of both worlds with homes among the pine forest, naturally full of all the berries and seeds they could possibly need and unrivalled access to the popular beach right on the doorstep. Over at **Wallington** they can enjoy ranger-assisted living with catering and security provided by concierge Glen, all within the appealing setting of Wallington's West Wood.

Join us at Wallington for Red Squirrel Month this September with talks, walks and activities to enjoy.



Places to hang out

Seaton Delaval Hall provides an unusual home for bats. Found in the dry crevices in the stonework, what's thought to be the UK's largest winter roosts of pipistrelles overlook the grand central hall. Private nooks and crannies are the big draw here, though the Hall was once notorious for lavish parties.

Find out how we're breathing life back into Seaton Delaval Hall and looking after the bats, on your next visit.

©National Trust Images/James Dobson

Country life

Set on a generous plot, the deer park at **Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal** is a thriving community of red, fallow and sika deer. There are regular opportunities to spot groups of visitors taking part in deer feeding walks.

Stay onsite at a Fountains Abbey cottage this autumn and keep an ear out for the impressive sound of the deer rut.



©National Trust Images/Paul Harris

Winter time share

Meanwhile on the Mersey shoreline birds are flocking to **Speke's** coastal reserve to take up their winter residences. This taste of coastal living at the edge of the city is a draw for godwits, teal, plover and more, with **Speke Hall's** eye catching black-and-white exteriors and woodland walks right on the doorstep making this an attractive proposition.

Take an easy walk around the Coastal Reserve Trail at Speke for views to the Wirral and North Wales, and look out for wildlife enjoying the estuary on your way round.



Plover in flight

©National Trust Images/Dougie Holden

©National Trust Images/Dougie Holden



Rural retreat

For hedgehogs that have been through a difficult time, the loving care provided by the gardeners at **Rufford Old Hall** is exactly what's needed.

After all that good home cooking has had the desired effect and the scales are tipping in the right direction, it's time to venture into the woods and set up cosy new homes in the grounds.

Enjoy the blazing reds of autumn at Rufford (the hedgehogs have the right idea) and then treat yourself to a warm, homemade scone in the tea-room too.

For alternative formats, please call us on 01904 702021 or email yne.customerenquiries@nationaltrust.org.uk



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