This January we’re challenging you to create your very own bucket list – perhaps watching the sunrise on a beautiful beach, spotting your first red squirrel or discovering something fascinating about the past.

The more time you spend with us, the more we can do to look after the places that bring us peace, relaxation and enjoyment.

To get you started with that list, we’ve suggested some must-see places. Here’s to you and your year.

**Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal**

It’s just an abbey, right?Wrong! There’s so much more to this World Heritage Site, and that’s why it’s at the top of our list.

Carve out a full day to explore the atmospheric ruins and elegant water garden with its temples, follies, views, canals and bridges. It’s perfect for nature lovers, with 500 wild deer roaming the medieval park. There’s a large adventure playground to burn off that last bit of energy too, before picking up a freshly baked cake for the road.

**Farne Islands**

There is arguably no better place in the UK to immerse yourself in nature than the Farne Islands. The Islands are home to puffins, terns, shags, guillemots and eider ducks – all of which can be seen at close quarters. Out to sea you can spot grey seals and if you’re lucky, whales and dolphins. The sights, sounds and smells of this seabird city will stay with you for a long time.

**Hill Top**

For an ultimate nostalgia trip, head to Hill Top in the heart of the Lake District to follow in Beatrix Potter’s footsteps. This is the special place that inspired Beatrix to create her much-loved characters such as Jemima Puddle-Duck and Tom Kitten. Filled with her personal possessions, including Lakeland furniture and trophies for her prize-winning Herdwick sheep, the house is a true reminder of Beatrix’s legacy.

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**From little acorns mighty oaks grow…**

We’re celebrating this year – it’s 125 years since the Trust was set up. It’s a momentous occasion and we’d love the year ahead to be momentous for you too.

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

- [facebook.com/NTYorkshire](https://www.facebook.com/NTYorkshire)
- [@NTYorkshire](https://twitter.com/NTYorkshire)
- [facebook.com/NorthEastNT](https://www.facebook.com/NorthEastNT)
- [@NorthEastNT](https://twitter.com/NorthEastNT)

**You’ll find your spring What’s on inside**

- [nationaltrust.org.uk/yorkshire](https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/yorkshire)
- [nationaltrust.org.uk/north-east](https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/north-east)
Unmissable art in extraordinary places

There’s a packed programme of art, photography and sculpture installations across Yorkshire and the North East, including L.S. Lowry, Marc Chagall and many more. There’s a packed programme of art, photography and sculpture installations across Yorkshire and the North East, including L.S. Lowry, Marc Chagall and many more.

Get active

Kick Off at Souter

Kick Off at Souter Lighthouse is a great way to get some fresh air and exercise. You can explore the coastline, take a guided tour or simply relax by the sea. The lighthouse is a popular spot for photography and birdwatching, so don’t forget your camera and binoculars.

Making a leap year

To mark 2020 being a leap year, the National Trust has created 366 hare sculptures – one for every day of the year! For Nunnington Hall, Made from bronze, steel, textiles and paper, see if you can find them all.

Discover how art can help you to relax and disconnect from life’s worries. This year at Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal, we’ve commissioned works created by artists David Hockney, Ben Nicholson and Bridget Riley.

Marking a leap year

This February and marking the leap year, we’re celebrating the craft and collectivity of football. Working with artist Vava-Daeva, there’ll be local women’s matches and a chance to see co-designed football memorabilia we’ve developed with our partners at the National Football Museum.

The hidden stories of... Wentworth Castle Gardens

At its original designers intended to impress visitors, the Wentworth family were inspired by the grandeur of their land and the achievements of the Wentworth family, including L.S. Lowry, Marc Chagall and many more.

The secret garden at Allen Banks

Spring is not just a great time for the plants to come out of hibernation, but it’s also a great time for the National Trust to open up for visitors. For a hidden walled garden... visit Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal, where people can shape its future. What will you do with the land? Consideration has brought another unique landscape.

Nature’s colour palette

Next time you visit, don’t forget to look up. The trees are changing colour and the sky is a brilliant shade of blue. Look out for the abbey in the distance.

Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal are planning to burst out and celebrate with us. What better way to start the new year than to come and join us? We’re sure you won’t be disappointed.

For local wildlife... visit Wallington

Over 100 red and fallow deer call Westwood Castle Gardens home. From late spring, listen out for the high-pitched bleats of young fawns. If you’re lucky enough to spot one, it’s a great opportunity to see this wonderful animal up close. Remember to keep mum and obey plenty of space and avoid from a distance.

Make some noise

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The hidden stories of... Wentworth Castle Gardens

Amongst the rolling green spaces and colourful flowerbeds of Wentworth Castle Gardens, there are stories of family feuds, political power and hope. You just need to know where to look.

The early history of the estate is dominated by the ambitions of its owners, the Wentworth family. Wealth gathered from political schemes and wealthy marriages, as well as the deer park, they made their estate a showcase of status. It’s clear that the land and monuments and gardens, it’s clear that they were designed to impress and influence.

In the 19th century, coal miners under the land brought another fortune to the family, generating employment and community. Do you know the history of this unique landscape? If you’ve never been to Wentworth Castle Gardens, you’re missing out on a performance not to be missed.

Spring returns, new life begins to unfurl and birdsong fills the air. The crocus lawn... visit Fountains Abbey. For true gardeners... visit Cragside

There’s nothing dull about magnolias at Nostell. Everything is in bloom. If you’re lucky enough to spot one, it’s a great opportunity to see this wonderful animal up close. Remember to keep mum and obey plenty of space and avoid from a distance.

Wentworth Castle and Gardens

Folksy! returns

Look out for new large-scale artworks created by arts group Messin in the walled garden at Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal this year. Inspired by the history of the walled garden, these colourful and distinctive pieces will bring to life the spirit of the garden as its original designers intended it – playful and unexpected.

Gain some noise

Gibside

If you’re lucky enough to spot one, it’s a great opportunity to see this wonderful animal up close. Remember to keep mum and obey plenty of space and avoid from a distance.

National Trust Curator Matthew Constantine uncovers the history of this unique landscape.

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Summer checklist

Spend a day at the beach at smuggler's cove Robin Hood's Bay, or the golden sands of Embleton.

Sit among the flowers: don’t miss the evolving Mediterranean Garden at Beningbrough Hall or fields of wildflowers surrounding Malham Tarn.

Book your summer holiday cottage today: how about waking up with Fountains Abbey on your doorstep or next to Hadrian’s Wall?

Getting a taste for autumn

Autumn is the season to get the gang together, wellies on and get out for a woodland walk amidst the changing colours. Wind your way around the crisis-crossing paths of Hardcastle Crags or follow the river through the ancient wooded gorge at Cragside.

Nature bushes itself this season too: head out to spot red squirrels or fields of apples and pears. And Nostell’s historic hydro story inspired him to return as an adult and build his home.

In our cafes we’ll be serving up the spoils from our kitchen gardens as we reach peak harvest season. At Beningbrough Hall, we’ll be harvesting over 40 varieties of apples and pears, and Nostell’s impressive plot is a great spot to pick up some tips to take home.

Make your list, and check it twice

You may have just gotten over this year’s celebrations, but Christmas will be back again before you know it. So like the big man in red, it’s worth making your list early this year. Whether it’s getting in the diary to see Fountains Abbey aglow with a live choir soundtrack, or getting that pre-Christmas catch up planned in with friends over a mince pie, look out for Christmas listings and bookings from late summer and make your plans.

Autumn must-sees

Spot cute and fluffy seal pups on a boat trip to the Farne Islands.

Make your list.

Enjoy a warming dish that’s travelled metres from the season with Music and Lights at Fountains Abbey.

Autumn must-sees

Pick up a present or two as you visit throughout the year – our shops are stocked with great gifts. Have you been to our shop in York yet?

Make your list.

Our Father Christmas experiences book up early – look out for the event bookings going live from late summer.

Here’s where you can find out about fun for the family:

Your 2020 vision

We hope that we’ve inspired you to explore the landmarks on your doorstep, and a little further afield. With a busy spring put to bed, it’s time to start looking forward to the rest of the year. It’s never too early to make plans for Christmas is it?

Long summer days

School holiday season is all about fun for the family – but don’t forget that means mums, dads, grandads and grandmas too. Don’t sit on the side lines while the kids tick off their list of 50 things to do before you’re 11 ¾, join in! How amazing does it feel to roll down a really big hill or paddle in the cold North Sea?

Make your list, and check it twice

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Cherryburn Garden Project

Nestled in the Tyne Valley, Cherryburn was the childhood home of wood-engraver and naturalist Thomas Bewick. His famous engravings were inspired by the nature and wildlife that surrounds this unassuming home and, with your help, we’re looking to bring more of that nature back to Cherryburn. We’ll be launching a new fundraising campaign this spring to help us transform the garden with plans for improved paths, new seating, wildlife-friendly planting and an orchard area. Look out for opportunities to get involved and enjoy the same sights and sounds of nature that inspired Bewick.

Connecting the historic hydro story at Cragside

A historic walking route that has been closed to the public for over 20 years is opening this spring at Cragside. The Gorge is one of the most significant parts of Cragside; it’s where the young Lord Armstrong fished as a boy, which ultimately inspired him to return as an adult and build his home.

The new Gorge Walk will take you from the Formal Garden through the towering trees of the Pinetum and past tumbling streams to emerge into the peaceful open valley where the Power House sits.

For all the latest news, events and ideas from across Yorkshire and the North East, sign up for updates delivered direct to your inbox at nationaltrust.org.uk/mynationaltrust

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

For updates delivered direct to your inbox at nationaltrust.org.uk/mynationaltrust

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