

# STOURBRIDGE GLASS QUARTER

## THE CRYSTAL MILE

The days of mass, hand-cut crystal production in Stourbridge may be gone, but an exciting new era of glass making based on 400 years of traditions and history in the Black Country has begun. New skills and developments are emerging along the Crystal Mile that meet the needs of modern day markets.

Tourism is a major market for the Glass Quarter. Many of the old glass factory buildings that manufactured top brands of hand-cut crystal such as Stuart, Webb Corbett and Royal Doulton now present a look back in time. These buildings have become some of the Black Country's leading visitor attractions, offering demonstrations of contemporary glassmaking.

The magnificent Red House Glass Cone is one of only a few remaining in the UK and Broadfield House Glass Museum houses possibly the largest collection of glass in Britain. The Webb Corbett Visitor Centre is home to the finds of two recent archaeological on-site digs, presenting visitors with a time capsule of several centuries of glass production.

Many attractions offer workshops to artisan craftspeople who produce their work on site and sell to the public, offering visitors a unique opportunity to purchase gifts that have been made locally.

All the attractions along the Crystal Mile offer their facilities free but some charge for group bookings to cover guided tour costs. Catering is available at several sites and the Glass Quarter now offers group packages that link all attractions.

### Red House Glass Cone

[www.redhousecone.co.uk](http://www.redhousecone.co.uk)  
(SAT NAV DY8 4AZ) Tel: 01384 812750

### Tudor Crystal

[www.tudorcrystal.com](http://www.tudorcrystal.com)  
(SAT NAV DY8 4YN) Tel: 01384 392525

### Broadfield House Glass Museum

[www.glassmuseum.org.uk](http://www.glassmuseum.org.uk)  
(SAT NAV DY6 9NS) Tel: 01384 812745

### Ruskin Glass Centre [www.ruskinglasscentre.co.uk](http://www.ruskinglasscentre.co.uk)

(SAT NAV DY8 4HF) Tel: 01384 399419

### Webb Corbett Visitor Centre

[www.ruskinglasscentre.co.uk](http://www.ruskinglasscentre.co.uk)  
(SAT NAV DY8 4HF) Tel: 01384 399419

### For further information

Email: [tourism@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:tourism@dudley.gov.uk) or visit  
[www.discoverdudley.org.uk](http://www.discoverdudley.org.uk)

## 2015 INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF GLASS

28th May – 31st May will be a very exciting time for the Stourbridge Glass Quarter as we host the 6th International Festival of Glass

*A spectacular four day glass festival, world class exhibitions, and inspiring masterclasses*

Throughout the Stourbridge Glass Quarter there will be events including glass making and engraving demonstrations, walks and talks, places to visit, family entertainments and craft makers. You can also visit the Biennale Exhibition of Contemporary makers and designers.

Entry to many of the Festival venues is free, although charges for activities may apply.

### Ruskin Glass Centre entrance fee:

£5 adult day pass, £1 child day pass,  
£14.50 four day pass, (28th-31st May only).

For further programme details and venue information visit [www.ifg.org.uk](http://www.ifg.org.uk) or Tel: 01384 399410



## GLASS QUARTER WEBSITE

Discover the diverse and fascinating world of glass in the Stourbridge Glass Quarter; where past and present are effortlessly combined.



For more information visit [www.glassquarter.org.uk](http://www.glassquarter.org.uk)

## DISCOVER DUDLEY

For information about places to visit, things to see and do, events in the Borough or accommodation during the International Festival of Glass:

Visit [www.discoverdudley.org.uk](http://www.discoverdudley.org.uk).

## RED HOUSE GLASS CONE

The cone will once again host the Guild of Glass Engravers Exhibition **International Contemporary Engraved Glass** from 18th May – 26th June. It will include a variety of glass and different styles of engraving and engraved subjects.

Within the Guild's exhibition will be **Gravur on Tour: Modern European Glass Engraving** – a small, touring show of 31 pieces of art glass representing the diversity of contemporary glass engraving, including experimental and traditional work.

Singer, composer and visual artist Andi Garbi will showcase a sound heritage project exhibition **Shadows and Dust**, which was originally made for the Coffin Works Museum in Birmingham. Andi will draw inspiration from the unique acoustics within the Cone to compose a piece of original music.

On the 30th and 31st of May, the Cone will step back in time to look at different periods in glassmaking history with a series of demonstrations from **The Bandits of Glass**,



including techniques from Ancient, Roman, Renaissance, Italian Murano, the 19th century, Glass Nuvo and contemporary glass. All pieces will be auctioned for the British

Glass Foundation. The historical re-enactment society The Guild of the Blessed St. Edmund will set up camp on site showing aspects of medieval life and knights in armour.

Red House Glass Cone will be open 10.00am-5.00pm Thursday 28th-Sunday 31st May, with glassmaking demonstrations, open crafts studios and the Red Cone Coffee House on site.

Visit [www.redhousecone.co.uk](http://www.redhousecone.co.uk) or telephone 01384 812750 for further details.



Courtesy of Caroline Travers

## RUSKIN GLASS CENTRE

Discover Stourbridge's oasis of arts and crafts, housed in the former old Webb Corbett Glasshouse, where 18 craft businesses produce a wonderful range of handmade items, with many for sale. Craft workers also offer tailor made craft workshops where people can make their own work guided by experienced tutors (advance booking is advised). The Centre also houses an organic café providing a selection of freshly prepared meals and snacks.

Free entry and free parking

**Location: Wollaston Road, Amblecote, Stourbridge, DY8 4HF.**  
**Tel: 01384 399419**  
[www.ruskinglasscentre.co.uk](http://www.ruskinglasscentre.co.uk)

Please contact us for opening hours and further event details

## BROADFIELD HOUSE GLASS MUSEUM

Broadfield House Glass Museum will offer an impressive variety of experiences for visitors during Festival Week. There will be demonstrations, hands-on experiences and history, beginning with Ladies Day on 25th

May and finishing with Paperweights on the 31st. There will be glassmaking demonstrations



by artists including Allister Malcolm, Tim Boswell, Elliott Walker, Lynn Baker, Jonathan Harris, Vic Bamforth and Darren Weed and engraving demonstrations by Nancy Sutcliffe and Steve Piper. There will be an exhibition of Cutting Edge contemporary glass from Hungary, a flint knapper will demonstrate his skills with old bottles, archaeologists will conduct excavations on 31st May, a host of rare designs and manuscripts will be on show from the archives and a Family Fun Day will take place on 30th May with donkey rides and a fire engine.

Visit [www.glassmuseum.org.uk](http://www.glassmuseum.org.uk) or telephone 01384 812745 for further details

## WEBB CORBETT VISITOR CENTRE

Webb Corbett was a renowned brand within the British and Worldwide hand-cut crystal market. In 1912, the company moved to this site and was taken over by Royal Doulton in 1969.

Production continued until its closure in 1999, when the site was converted into Glasshouse College which is a working college for students with special educational needs.

Thanks to new technology and artefacts, the basement of the Bottom Glassworks known as the 'caves' tells the story of 100 years of glass production, including the manufacturing of crystal and the heritage and social history that existed within the factory and the glass making

quarter. Some of the volunteer staff spent their working life within the crystal industry.

The finds of two archaeological digs that took place in 2014 are now on show. The remnants of two 1690s glass cones were excavated, providing a time capsule of British glass making artefacts spanning over 300 years of glassmaking on the site.

Admission Free Free Car Parking  
Opening Times: Tues-Sat 10.00am-3.00pm

For group booking enquiries telephone 01384 399419 or visit [www.ruskinglasscentre.co.uk](http://www.ruskinglasscentre.co.uk)



## TUDOR CRYSTAL

The last, fully working multi-furnace glassmaking cone in England makes high-quality 30 per cent lead crystal tabletop products. Free tours of the factory to see the glass being made and cut are available by appointment and a factory shop is open on site. We charge £2.50 for groups of over 4. Coaches welcome. Parking available. No refreshment facilities. Disabled toilets. One level access with sloping ramps. Factory shop open Monday to Friday 10am-5pm. Saturday 9.30am-4.30pm Glassmaking tour by appointment Monday to Friday 9.30am-12 noon.

**Tudor Crystal – Dial Glass Works, Stewkins, Stourbridge DY8 4YN.**  
**Tel: 01384 392525 or visit**  
[www.tudorcrystal.com](http://www.tudorcrystal.com)