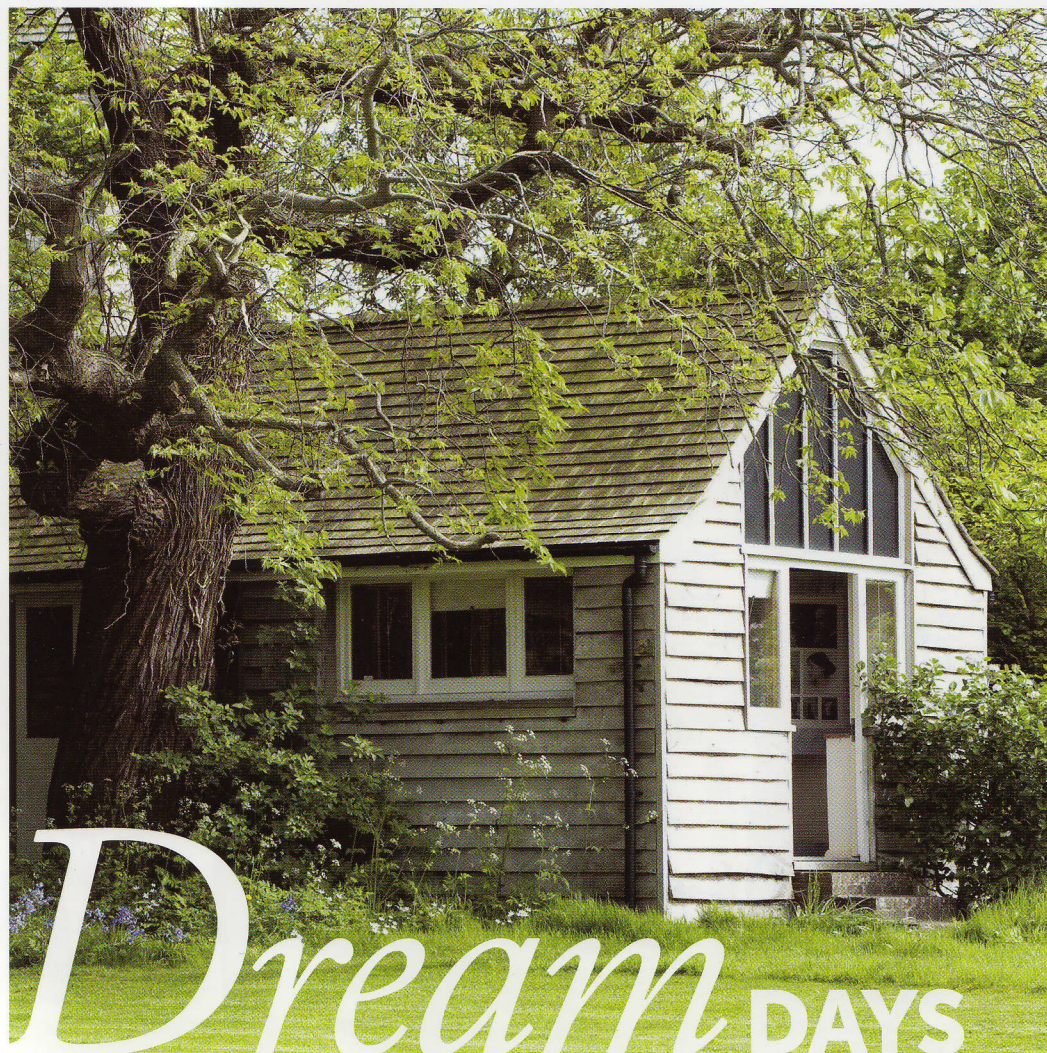


## GOING OUT

**IMMERSE YOURSELF IN ART, CRAFTS AND LITERATURE ON A DAY OUT INSPIRED BY SOME OF THE UK'S GREATEST ARTISTS AND CULTURAL MOVEMENTS.**

Take a tour of locations that made it into some of our best loved works of art, visit artists' homes and kick back at their favourite pubs. From Wedgwood to Woolf and Robert Burns to Burne-Jones, there's enough to keep you busy all summer long.



*Monks House - the writing lodge East Sussex*

### SCOTLAND

Get to know Scotland's National Bard, Robert Burns, with a visit to the poet's hometown and the locations that inspired his works. The Robert Burns Birthplace Museum in Alloway is set over 10 acres and includes the humble Burns Cottage, where the writer of *Auld Lang Syne* was born, the ruins of Alloway Auld Kirk, where Burns set his 1790 poem *Tam O'Shanter* and a modern museum dedicated to his life and work where performances of song and poetry take place hourly. Burns learnt to dance, founded a debating club and became a Freemason at the Bachelors' Club, in nearby Tarbolton - the property is now run by the National Trust of Scotland. See the chair and desk where he wrote his last works at Robert Burns House in Dumfries, and have a pint at the poet's favourite pub, the Globe Inn.

### MANCHESTER

L.S. Lowry lived and worked in Manchester all his life and the city is home to the largest collection of his paintings and drawings in the world. The gallery that bears his name has a collection of over 400 works, including seven of the artist's rare 'mannequin' sketches, which show a darker, erotic side to the UK's greatest ever painter of industrial and urban life. Put your visit in context by joining local expert Ed Glinert

on a walking tour of locations that appear in Lowry's works (14 August; private tours also available on request), or recreate a day in the painter's life by watching his beloved Manchester City play.

### STOKE-ON-TRENT

As the centre of the UK's pottery industry since the 18th century, Stoke-on-Trent offers a great day out for craft fans. The most famous name in these parts is Josiah Wedgwood - learn about him and the company he founded in 1759 at the Wedgwood Museum, or take a tour of the factory to get an insight into the making process. A more modern take is on offer at the Emma Bridgewater Factory, where tours run Monday to Friday. The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery and the Gladstone Pottery Museum provide a broader view of the development of the pottery industry in the area and together hold an enormous collection of local, British and international ceramics.

### BIRMINGHAM

Birmingham may not look like the sort of place to incubate an artistic movement, but that's exactly what happened in the second half of the 19th century when Edward Burne-Jones and fellow artists from the area



*Gladstone Pottery Museum  
Stoke-on-Trent*



Gladstone Pottery Museum Stoke-on-Trent Berwick Church East Sussex Robert Burns House Scotland  
The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery Stoke-on-Trent

joined forces with William Morris to create the Arts and Crafts Movement. The Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery holds the largest public collection of pre-Raphaelite works in the world and currently has around 35 paintings, sculptures, watercolours and applied works on display in two dedicated galleries. You can see stained glass by Edward Burne-Jones in Birmingham Cathedral and the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists is presenting an exhibition on the pre-Raphaelites in October.

## EAST SUSSEX

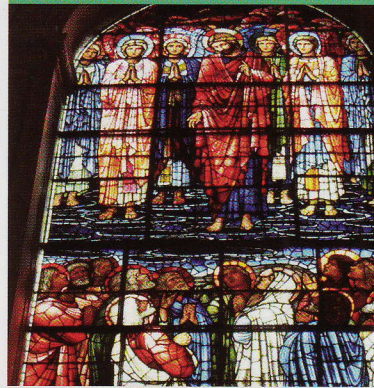
The Bloomsbury Group artists Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant moved to Charleston, a pretty 17th-century farmhouse near Lewes in East Sussex in 1916. It soon became an important meeting place for their literary and artistic circle, attracting the likes of Virginia and Leonard Woolf, Clive Bell and E.M. Forster. Charleston has been restored and you can tour the house to see a huge amount of work by the Bloomsbury Group, including murals, painted furniture, ceramics, paintings and textiles. Also in the area is Monks House, where the Woolfs lived from 1919. As well as paintings by Bloomsbury artists including Roger Fry, you can see Virginia's writing desk. Visit nearby Berwick Church for

some beautiful frescoes by Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant.

## KENT

Charles Dickens lived most of his life in London but it was on the Kent coast that he spent some of his happiest times. Gad's Hill Place, the country house outside Rochester where he lived from 1857 until his death, is now a school, but the building is open to the public on selected dates throughout the summer. In Rochester itself you'll find Restoration House, the fine late 16th-century mansion that served as the inspiration for Satis House in *Great Expectations*. Dickens tours take place regularly at the Historic Dockyard Chatham nearby, offering insights into the writer's relationship with the place from the days when his father worked there while along the coast in Broadstairs, the Dickens House Museum is located in the cottage that inspired Betsy Trotwood's house in *David Copperfield*. ■

**THE PERFECT FINALE** Continue the cultural theme with the best plays, musicals, opera & ballet at ATG's theatres in Glasgow, Manchester, Stoke-on-Trent, Birmingham, Brighton & Folkestone, Kent. For full details of what's on visit [atgtickets.com](http://atgtickets.com)



Birmingham Cathedral Birmingham  
Duncan Grant's studio, Charleston  
farmhouse East Sussex

[burnsmuseum.org.uk](http://burnsmuseum.org.uk)

[nts.org.uk/Property/Bachelors-Club](http://nts.org.uk/Property/Bachelors-Club)

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[thedockyard.co.uk](http://thedockyard.co.uk)

[dickensfellowship.org/broadstairs](http://dickensfellowship.org/broadstairs)

Feature by Jo Caird