



Farnham World Craft Town

a guide to

Farnham World Craft Town supporters and makers

Farnham, as a World Craft Town with Dame Magdalene Odundo as its Patron, is guided by a steering group made up of the University for the Creative Arts, the Crafts Study Centre, the New Ashgate Gallery, Farnham Maltings and Farnham Town Council. Additional financial support comes from the Farnham South Street Trust, and time is generously given by all the makers, craft venues and organisations who are part of Farnham Craft Town.

Our makers come together through the Farnham Creatives' Network, a growing social group that provides local artists, makers, designers, educators, gallerists and creatives of all kinds with an opportunity to meet and get to know each other a little better.

Relaxed and informal gatherings are held every other month, hosted by Farnham Maltings or in other local art venues, where creatives can chat over a drink and share ideas and experiences in a friendly and collaborative environment. They are free to attend and open to all.

Follow them on Instagram @farnhamcreativesnetwork to find out more.

Design and illustration by [talbot.graphics](#) | Photos by [Seamus Flanagan](#) and [Luke Welvaert](#)



Farnham's Craft Heritage

Farnham is a thriving and historic market town nestled within the Surrey Hills and located less than an hour from London and the coast. Sitting on the banks of the River Wey and surrounded by woodland, the town is crowned by a magnificent deer park and castle.

Farnham has a vibrant community feel and combines a rich tradition of craft with a modern and innovative outlook.

A stroll through its central conservation area and charming network of passages reveals hidden parts of the town's history and gives a glimpse into its heritage of craft and making.

During the Roman period, Farnham became a centre for pottery and it is the local clay that provides the warm red brick and tiles, which give the town its distinctive character, together with the ironstone cobbles along its numerous footpaths and alleyways.



Our Modern Craft Heritage

Farnham School of Art opened in 1866 and was associated with renowned architects, painters, potters and landscape gardeners such as Edwin Lutyens, George and Mary Watts, and Gertrude Jekyll who all worked in the area.

The school promoted an education in craft subjects as part of its curriculum, and a powerful reputation was developed that has lasted to the present day.

Craft courses at the University for the Creative Arts at Farnham offer today's emerging craft makers some of the best equipped workshops in the country, across jewellery, metalwork, glass and ceramics.

Farnham is home to both world-renowned craft artists and to the next generation of emerging makers with craft continuing to sit at the heart of Farnham's distinctiveness.

Buildings throughout the town now recall this rich history of making and illustrate how craft makes Farnham such a unique and distinctive place.

If you want to learn more about the history of craft within the town then try exploring the Museum of Farnham with its dedicated gallery for Greenware and the unrivalled collections of the Crafts Study Centre.



Our Artist in Residence

Each year we host an Artist in Residence who lives and works with us for a month. During their time here, they make a piece of work inspired by Farnham and it takes its place in our growing collection of outstanding craft.

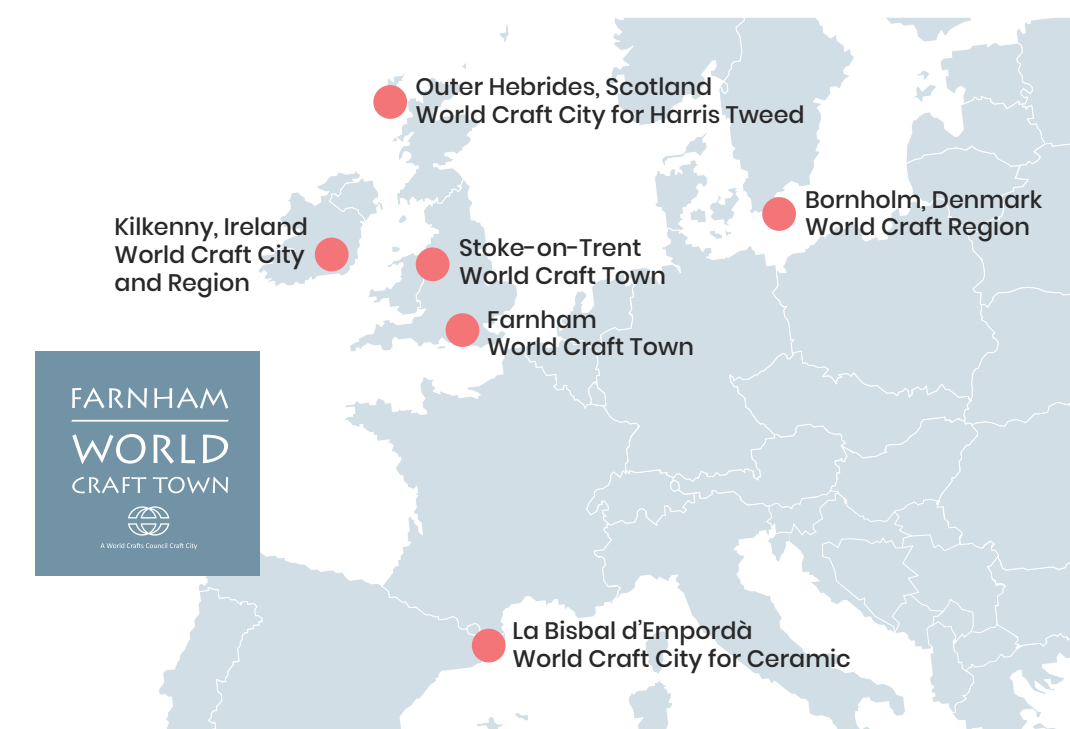
Our first artist, Fiona Byrne, spent a month working in the glass hot shop at the University for the Creative Arts, and created a glass sculpture which is on regular display in Farnham.



Farnham World Craft Town

Since 2020, Farnham has been recognised by the World Craft Council as one of only a handful of World Craft Cities in Europe. This recognises a vibrant community of makers, and the special role that Craft plays in the community. Farnham is very fortunate to have passionate supporters in its arts and community organisations, its University and the Town Council, who work together to support and encourage creativity in everybody.

Why not visit one of Farnham's World Craft City neighbours and enjoy their wealth of talented makers and artists?



Craft and Beyond

Throughout the year Farnham has a vibrant programme of activities for all the family. At Farnham Maltings, crafts are celebrated at festivals of textiles and yarn, as well as the prestigious Festival of Crafts every October.

Literature, music and heritage form part of our year round programme of events, with street markets, an annual carnival, outdoor music every weekend in the summer, open studios to meet artists at work and a Christmas lights switch on with a festival atmosphere.

Courses on craft subjects take place at the Farnham Pottery, UCA and Surrey Adult Education throughout the year.

Whenever you visit, you'll find something to whet your appetite.



EXHIBITIONS, EVENTS, RESEARCH CENTRE AND SHOP

Visit [csc.uca.ac.uk](#) to discover more and keep up to date with us on social media @craftsstudycentre
Free admission Tuesday - Friday 10-5 and Saturday 10-4

Crafts Study Centre, Falkner Road, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 7DS
01252 891450



X: @UCASurreygallery
I: @ucagallerysurrey
#ucasurreygalleries
[uca.ac.uk](#)

University for the Creative Arts



Creative workshops for all ages:
[wattsgallery.org.uk](#)

Watts Gallery Artists' Village



bringing artists, makers and communities together
[farnhammaltings.com](#)

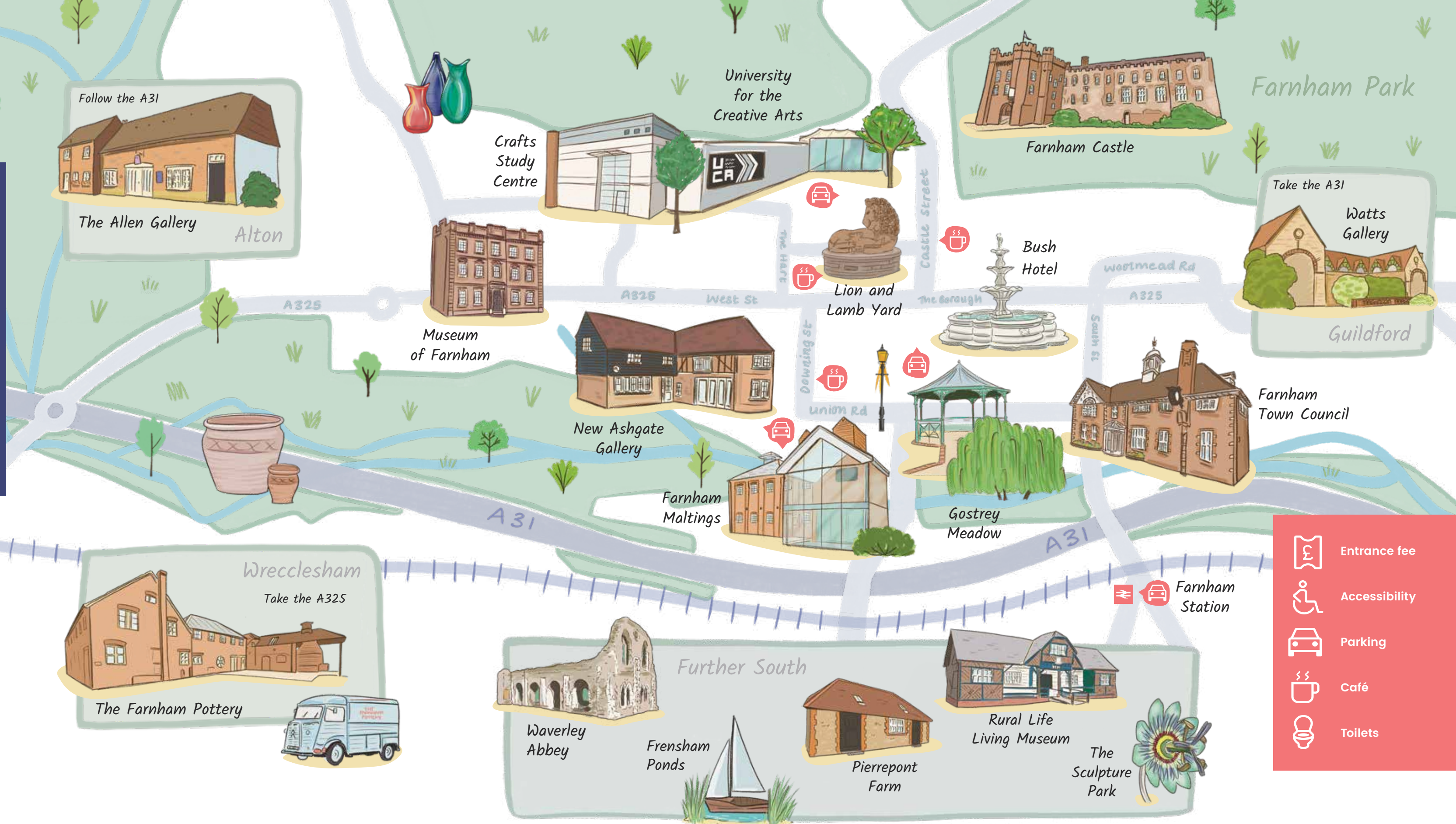
Farnham Maltings

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@farnhamcrafttown

farnhamcrafttown.com



- Entrance fee
- Accessibility
- Parking
- Café
- Toilets



University for the Creative Arts

The Foyer and James Hockey galleries are home to a varied exhibition programme from UCA staff, students and visiting artists, across a wide range of disciplines including fine art, craft, film and photography.

Closed Sat, Sun and BH
uca.ac.uk/campuses/galleries/james-hockey-and-foyer-galleries/



The Farnham Pottery

The Farnham Pottery is a carefully preserved example of a Victorian country pottery with a host of charming architectural features, now a home for today's makers and artists. Come and explore the historic buildings and see the creative work that is being produced today.

Open every day
thefarnhampottery.co.uk



The Old Dairy at Pierrepoint Farm

Just a 10 minute drive from central Farnham, The Old Dairy houses a collection of artisan businesses, including food and drink, furniture and jewellery, all nestled in the picturesque setting of Pierrepoint Farm.

Open second Saturday of each month from 2.00pm

@theolddairy_pierreport



Rural Life Living Museum

Ten minutes from Farnham, The Rural Life Living Museum tells the story of rural crafts and the countryside, through its unique collection of re-located historic buildings, complemented by one of the largest collections of agricultural implements and objects from everyday life.

Closed Mon, Tues
Open all year in school holidays
rural-life.org.uk



Farnham Town Council

As well as serving as the Town Hall and Visitor Information Centre, this building doubles up as a venue for events during Heritage Open Days, the Farnham Literary Festival, October Craft Month and more. Pop in to find out what is on in town while you are visiting.

Open 10.00-4.30 weekdays only
www.farnham.gov.uk



The Allen Gallery

Less than 20 minutes from Farnham, Alton's Allen Gallery is an intimate setting for one of the south's most outstanding collections of ceramics. The gallery hosts an impressive and varied selection of pottery, porcelain and tiles dating from 1250 to the present day.

Closed on Mondays
hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery



Museum of Farnham

The Museum of Farnham tells the story of the town through object rich displays, including a gallery dedicated to the town's arts and crafts heritage. You can also visit its local studies library or relax in the walled garden.

Closed Sun, Mon, Tues and BH
farnhammaltings.com/museum



Farnham Maltings

Farnham Maltings is proud to be part of the craft conversation in the town by providing space and opportunities for people to express their creativity through studios, workshops, festivals, its shop and more.

Closed Sun and BH
farnhammaltings.com



The Sculpture Park

More than 600 large outdoor sculptures are displayed across 10 acres of enchanting woodland and water gardens throughout the stunning grounds all year. The park, in nearby Churt, is teeming with wildlife and plants which are ever-changing throughout the seasons.

Open every day
thesculpturepark.com



Frensham Ponds

Frensham Little Pond and Great Pond are a sanctuary for wildlife with always something new to see. The heathland is a colourful mosaic of purple heathers, fragrant bright yellow gorse and rich green bracken with an annual Heathland Art Trail.

Open every day
surreyhill.org/places-to-see/frensham-ponds



Watts Gallery - Artists' Village

This unique Arts & Crafts gem, just 15 minutes' drive from central Farnham, is the first gallery in the UK devoted to a single artist. Watts Gallery - Artists' Village offers a unique insight into the life and work of 'England's Michelangelo' George Frederic Watts and the designer and artist Mary Watts.

Open every day
wattsgallery.org.uk



Waverley Abbey

Waverley Abbey ruins are less than ten minutes' drive from Farnham and was the first. Cistercian monastery in Britain. The impressive site includes the 13th century vaulted refectory and a spectacular ancient Yew tree. Café available at Waverley Abbey House next door.

Open every day
www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/waverley-abbey

