

Programme of visits to significant places of worship of various faiths

<http://birminghamfaithmap.org.uk/>

Sunday morning 24th August:

Departing at 9.30am, return for 12.00pm (in time for registration before Opening Ceremony starting at 1pm)
Maximum of 45 visitors, first-come basis.

1 option: New Testament Church of God

240-244 Lozells Rd. B19 1NP Family Worship Service

10.00 - 11.45am

A big Afro-Caribbean-led Pentecostal church, in a beautiful new building.

Sunday evening 24th August:

Departing at 7.30pm having already eaten an evening meal. Returning by 10.00pm

2 options: 1. Singers Hill Synagogue (orthodox Jewish), Ellis St. B1 1HL

A beautiful historic building. Visitors will be given a tour of the building by Jeremy Lang.

OR 2. Buddhist Maha Vihara, 216, New John St West, Hockley, B19 3UA

A multi-purpose Buddhist vihara, in a former bank. Visitors will be received by the Ven Kassapa (from Sri Lanka), and given a guided tour of the building by Faith Guide Ann Lovelock. Tea will be served.

Monday evening 25th August:

Departing at 6.30pm and returning by 10.00pm.

An evening meal will be provided as part of the programme. Two of the programmes include 2 places of worship, A and B.

3 options: 1. A. All Saints Church, Vicarage Rd, Kings Heath B14 7RA 6.45 – 8.00pm

An Anglican parish church at the heart of its community. Visitors will be given a tour of the church by Faith Guide Kath Isaac, followed by a simple meal (charged at £9 including dessert).

B. Green Lane Mosque, 20, Green Lane, Small Heath B9 5DB 8.30 - 9.30pm

A large community mosque in a converted library. Visitors will be given a tour of the building by Faith Guide Suffyan Ali.

OR 2. A. Ramgarhia Sikh Temple, Graham St. Jewellery Quarter, B1 3LA 7.00 - 8.00pm

A large gurdwara in a converted church. Visitors will be given a tour of the building and '*langar*' (vegetarian meal) by Dr Payara Singh Bhogal.

B. Jain Ashram, 322, Hamstead Rd. Handsworth, B20 2RA 8.30 - 9.30pm

The ashram is in a converted house. Visitors will be hosted by Arvinder Jain.

OR 3. Only one place because it is at a greater distance:

Sri Venkateswara (Balaji) Temple (Hindu), Tividale, B69 3DU 7.15 – 9.15pm

This is a large site with a magnificent purpose-built South Indian style temple. Visitors will be given a tour of the site by Faith Guide Ram Aithal and a vegetarian meal.

Tuesday evening 26th August:

Departing at 6pm, returning by 8.30pm

***1 option:* Gurudwara of Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha (GNNSJ) and the Nishkam Civic Association**

Soho Road, Handsworth, B21 9BH

6.15pm – 8.30pm

GNNSJ is an international organisation presided over by Bhai Sahib Mohinder Singh, with a number of Gurudwaras of which this is the founding one. The organisation runs community projects, businesses, schools, in India, Kenya and the UK.

This visit will include a tour of the Gurudwara, an opportunity of an address from Bhai Sahibji Bhai Mohinder Singhji (his travel arrangements permitting), and the opportunity to partake in Langar (blessed vegetarian food from the Guru's Kitchen).