



## WHERE TO CELEBRATE CHINESE NEW YEAR IN BRITAIN

Celebrated on the first day of the Chinese lunar calendar, Chinese New Year is a spring festival which this year officially takes place from 27 January to 2 February 2017.

The Chinese Zodiac calendar has 12 different signs. This coming year will be the Year of the Rooster, the 10<sup>th</sup> sign in the Zodiac.

Last time it was the Year of the Rooster was in 2005 which, coincidentally, was the year that Britain was granted 'Approved Destination Status' by the Chinese government, meaning that Chinese people could visit Britain for leisure and pleasure as well as on official business. Since then the number of annual visitors from China to the UK has trebled and look set to be worth over £1 billion per annum to the UK economy by 2020.

With more Chinese travelling long haul during the Spring Festival than ever before, Britain is aiming to be the top destination. Which is why a record number of cities and towns across Britain will be marking the Lunar New Year in some way.

## BIRMINGHAM



<http://visitbirmingham.com/what-to-do/festivals-events/special-dates-occasions/chinese-new-year-2016-12-21/>

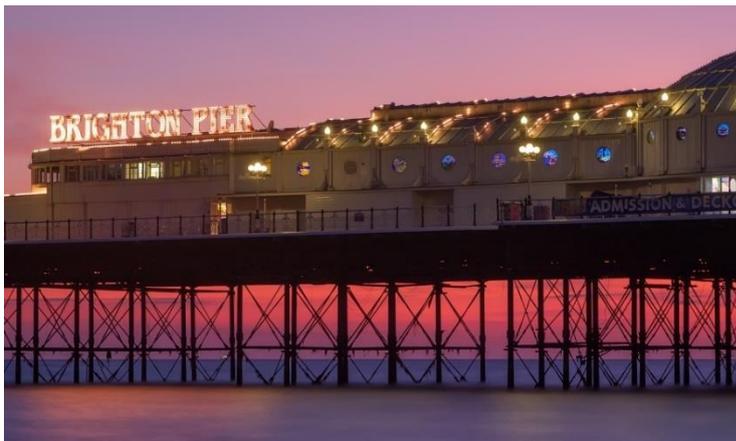
Celebrations take place on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January in the city's Chinese Quarter. This year the free celebrations will be bigger – double the size – than ever before.

From 11am - 4pm, the area will become home to two stages, lion dances, funfair rides and street food as well as a host of traditional entertainment.

The Genting Stage, positioned outside Snobs nightclub, will play host to performances including dragon dances, martial arts, cultural demonstrations and Chinese magic. The Birmingham Airport stage, situated outside Chung Ying, will welcome local community groups and university students to perform throughout the day.

The Birmingham Hippodrome will also take part in the festivities with traditional performances outside their main entrance and children's workshops in the Patrick Centre. And the Arcadian Centre will have a host of stalls and street food as well as a large marquee with seating area.

## BRIGHTON



Chinese festival food stalls, lion dance, singing, traditional instruments and dance to celebrate the Chinese New Year in Brighton and Hove 2017.

Saturday 21st January 2017 – 12pm to 4pm  
Clarendon Centre, 47 New England Street, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 4GQ

<https://www.visitbrighton.com/whats-on/chinese-new-year-2017-p1381121>

## CUMBRIA



Join Ullswater Steamers to celebrate the Chinese New Year and year of the Rooster by cruising through expansive vistas of Lakeland's highest mountains, including the almighty Helvellyn at 3,117ft. The usual stags' heads on board will be exchanged for roosters to help bring in the new year; so, jump on board for an unforgettable experience and celebrate in style.

[.http://www.golakes.co.uk/Ullswater-Chinese-New-Year-@-Ullswater-at-Ullswater-Steamers/details/?dms=3&venue=5100360&feature=1171](http://www.golakes.co.uk/Ullswater-Chinese-New-Year-@-Ullswater-at-Ullswater-Steamers/details/?dms=3&venue=5100360&feature=1171)



Alternatively Celebrate the Chinese New Year with a visit to see *The Emperor and the Nightingale* at Theatre by the Lake. Set in ancient China and featuring exquisite puppetry and an original score of music, this colourful spectacle follows the journey of young emperor Wu as he passes fire-belching dragons, chattering monkeys, mountain tops, and waterfalls on his quest to find the most beautiful sound on earth – the song of the nightingale. <http://www.golakes.co.uk/Keswick-The-Emperor-and-the-Nightingale-at-Theatre-by-the-Lake/details/?dms=3&venue=5014735&feature=1918>

## DURHAM



Join [Durham University Oriental Museum](#) for their unique late night opening to mark the end of Chinese New Year and the Lunar New Year Lantern Festival. For one night only on 11 February, visitors can see the museum lit by lanterns, enjoy traditional craft, and listen to stories.

Even better, the event is free for children under five, and just £2 for all other visitors, and the first 100 children receive a free lantern.

## EDINBURGH



Chinese New Year concert on Burns Night (25 Jan) celebrating Scotland-China links in Edinburgh's prestigious Usher Hall

Chinese Burns Supper on 26 Jan at Waldorf Astoria (Edinburgh) hosted by China Britain Business Council and Confucius Institute

Chinese students are invited to attend a New Year Party at hosted by the University of Edinburgh on 26 Jan

Red envelope promotions and lighting over two week period across city centre premium retail

## HULL

The UK City of Culture 2017 is keeping its Chinese New Year plans under wraps for the moment. But perhaps the fact that the legendary Rhythm & Blues band *Atomic Rooster* is playing at local nightclub Fruit on 26 January is a teaser for exciting things to come...

## ISLE OF WIGHT



Back due to popular demand, visitors can once again experience a spectacle of themed light, sound and entertainment at Robin Hill's '[Spirit of the Orient](#)'. As darkness falls, be immersed in the lush colours, flavours and magic of the Asian sub-continent set in Robin Hill's glorious ancient woodland, which captures the spirit of Chinese New Year. Spot the authentic tea ceremonies and take part in the interactive dragon procession, before seeing an evening of falconry displays.

**When?** Spirit of the Orient: 27 - 29 January 2017, plus various dates in February 2017.

## LEEDS



The Leeds Chinese Community Association is once again hosting a Chinese New Year Festival for the 2017 arrival of the Year of the Rooster. This year event takes place on Sunday 29th January 2017 at Leeds Town Hall. The occasion promises to deliver a much wider Chinese experience than at previous events, as in addition to the usual theatre performances of Dancing, Music, Chinese Lion Dance, Chinese Calligraphy, Kung Fu and Tai Chi, there will also be trade stands offering a variety of Chinese Food, Crafts, Beauty and Face Painting. Tickets on sale from 10.30 am and the workshops begin 11.00am. Tickets: £5 (concessions £3)

<http://www.lcca-uk.org/index.php>

<http://www.leeds.gov.uk/townhall/Pages/Event.aspx?s=5906>

## LIVERPOOL



The city will celebrate the Year of the Rooster from Friday 27 to Sunday 29 January with projections in Chinatown telling the story of *Jingwei and the Ocean*.

Lighting up the Chinese Arch, the Black-E and The Arch for an hour each night, the beautiful lumiere creation will be based on the story of the an emperor's daughter who, after perishing at sea, transformed into a bird and endeavoured to fill the ocean with twigs and stones to prevent anyone else from meeting

the same fate. The story will be adapted to showcase how Chinatowns in Liverpool, and around the world, have developed from the seeds sown and the pebbles laid by the earliest Chinese settlers, and how these small 'islands' have developed into the vibrant and diverse communities we see today.

**In addition, on Sunday 29 January there will be a Chinese New Year festival:**

<b>11 - 11.30am</b>	Pagoda Arts – Flower Drums and Fan Tai Chi
<b>11.35 – 12.15pm</b>	Kwong Tam School of Tai Chi (in association with See Yep Association)
<b>12.20 – 12.35pm</b>	Wah Sing - Traditional Chinese Dance & Song
<b>12.35 – 1pm</b>	Pagoda Arts – Dance, Tai Chi, Happy Dance!
<b>1 – 2pm</b>	Firecracker Display – Lucky Man, Dragon and Unicorn Parade arrives
<b>2.05 – 2.20pm</b>	Hung Gar Kung Fu School – Martial Arts Demonstration
<b>2.30 – 3.15pm</b>	Kwong Tam School of Tai Chi (in association with See Yep Association)
<b>3.20 – 4.30pm</b>	Liverpool Confucius Institute performing a programme of Beijing Chinese Opera in partnership with the Everyman and Playhouse

Finally, across the weekend, people can also take part in a specially created augmented reality trail which will take people on a tour through some amazing moments in Chinese cultural history in Liverpool and beyond.

## LONDON



### TODAY & YESTERDAY - Celebrating China Past & Present

London will host the biggest Chinese New Year Celebrations in Europe, and the largest outside of Asia, attracting over 70,000 visitors and over 100 local and international media.

The main stage at Trafalgar Square will feature high quality performances from visiting international Chinese Art troupe as well as up-and-coming British Chinese Performers. The events are free and are family and children friendly. Highlights include gravity defying flying lions, dragon dances, and performances of Chinese opera, popular & classical music.

In addition to the main celebrations, lots of London attractions are staging their own Chinese New Year activities, for example:

- **Coca Cola London Eye** - CNY weekend 27-29/01
- **National Gallery** - Family Day & Cantonese Opera Show on 28/01
- **China Exchange** – Video Workshop in January 2017
- **Museum of London Docklands** – family day on 28/01 (“fill a tray of togetherness”)
- **Chinatown** – many restaurants are offering special dishes, and there will be a Chinese New Year video and social media competition, and a Digital Red Packet app with prizes

## MANCHESTER



To commemorate the Year of the Rooster, the Dragon Parade will take to the streets of [Manchester](#) to celebrate Chinese New Year. See the parade, led by a spectacular 50-foot dragon, as it makes its way to Chinatown, where you'll find traditional Chinese entertainment, more than 6,000 lanterns adorning the streets, lion dances, street food villages and a firework finale. Additionally, this year will also see the acclaimed international art exhibition 'Lanterns of the Terracotta Warriors', which will be heading to Manchester for the celebrations.

## NEWCASTLE

On Sunday 29th January 2017 from 11am to 4pm the heart of China Town, Stowell Street and Bath Lane will come alive with a vibrant and colourful party complete with dragon and lion dances, firecrackers, children's activities, performances and stalls to celebrate the Year of the Rooster.

PREMIER SUITES are less than 5 minutes walk from all the celebrations, making us the ideal location for people visiting from out of town.



## PORTSMOUTH



The Emirates Spinnaker Tower will be lit up red for the festival.

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb - Chinese Red Letter Day at Gunwharf Quays premium outlet shopping centre - stores will offer discounts that will be available for visitors to collect, in red envelopes, from the Guest Relations Suite.

Sunday 5th Feb 2017 - New Year Celebration at Portsmouth Guildhall, organised by the local Chinese Association with Chinese entertainment and stalls etc.

## YORK



Celebrate the new year in style in York by making your own chocolate bar at York's Chocolate Story or taking advantage of exclusive shopping offers for Chinese visitors at the McArthurGlen Designer Outlets in York and Cheshire. Also on Friday 3 February the York Barbican is staging a special Chinese New Year Gala.