Matlock Bath is a beautiful village with breath-taking scenery at every turn. Positioned favourably in the **Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site** and the southern gateway to the **Peak District**, no matter what the season, there is always something to delight the senses.

The village was created because visitors came to *'take the waters'* This natural thermal or spa water comes out of the ground at a temperature of 20 degrees centigrade in three different places in the village. The first is in the grounds of the **New Bath Hotel**, the second on the upper level of Temple Road car park in **The Royal Well** and the third in the **Aquarium**. The water from the Royal Well makes its way under the car park (site of the Royal Hotel) to the Palais Pond on Temple Road, on to the Fishpond by the Pavilion and into the river down the cascade. The tufa stone you see around the village is the limestone deposits of this thermal water.

It is still possible to see the petrification process caused by the water deposits in an exhibition upstairs in the **Aquarium**.

The village has attracted many of the rich and famous including Lord Byron, Percy and Mary Shelley (a mention in Frankenstein) and Princess Victoria (before she became queen). Byron likened the village to a 'Little Switzerland' They even built the **railway station** in the style of Swiss chalets.

With the arrival of the railway in 1849 came mass tourism. On August Bank Holiday 1914, over 20,000 visitors came on special trains.

Lovers Walk is the oldest public park in the world. As well as the accessible riverside walk, there are paths to ascend to the top of the limestone tors with some having stone Victorian steps for the energetic to explore. There is also a large play area, popular with our young visitors.

Derwent Gardens is a large open space with a riverside walk. You can **hire boats** and enjoy the village scenery from a different perspective.

At the far end of Derwent Gardens is **The Water Garden** featuring the thermal spring water. There is also a children's play area, seating and picnic tables.

Each autumn on the river, the **Illuminations** take place with the unique illuminated boats sailing up and down adding beautiful reflections to those of the lights on the riverbank.

Close to the **Grand Pavilion**, which houses a **Lead Mining Museum** and tourist information, you will find **the Fishpond** where large Koi Carp can be seen enjoying the warm thermal water.

In the **Memorial Gardens** is an exhibition marking the centenary of World War 1. There is also a distinctive memorial dedicated to the fallen of the village from both world wars.

There are many **paths and byways** around the village to explore, some taking you to the **Heights of Abraham** if you would rather not ride to the top on the cable cars. Others lead to the less well-known Heights of Jacob. There is also the Parks Walk over High Tor to Matlock.

At the southern end of the village is **Masson Mills**, built by the entrepreneur and industrialist Richard Arkwright.

If you take photos while visiting our village, why not enter them for the annual **Pro Loco Photo Competition** with cash prizes Enter online at www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk

Please be water safety aware at all times!

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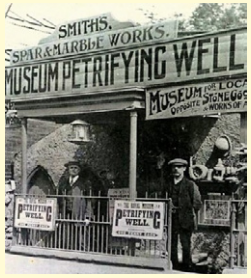
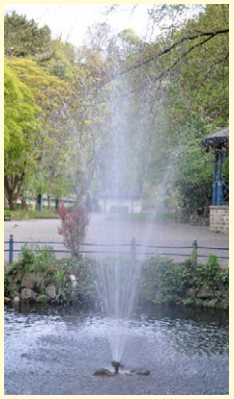
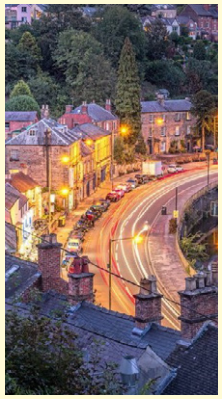
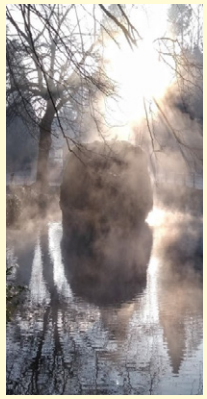
Matlock Bath

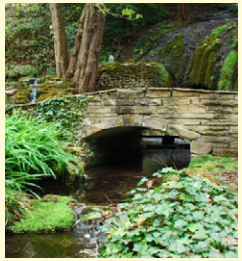


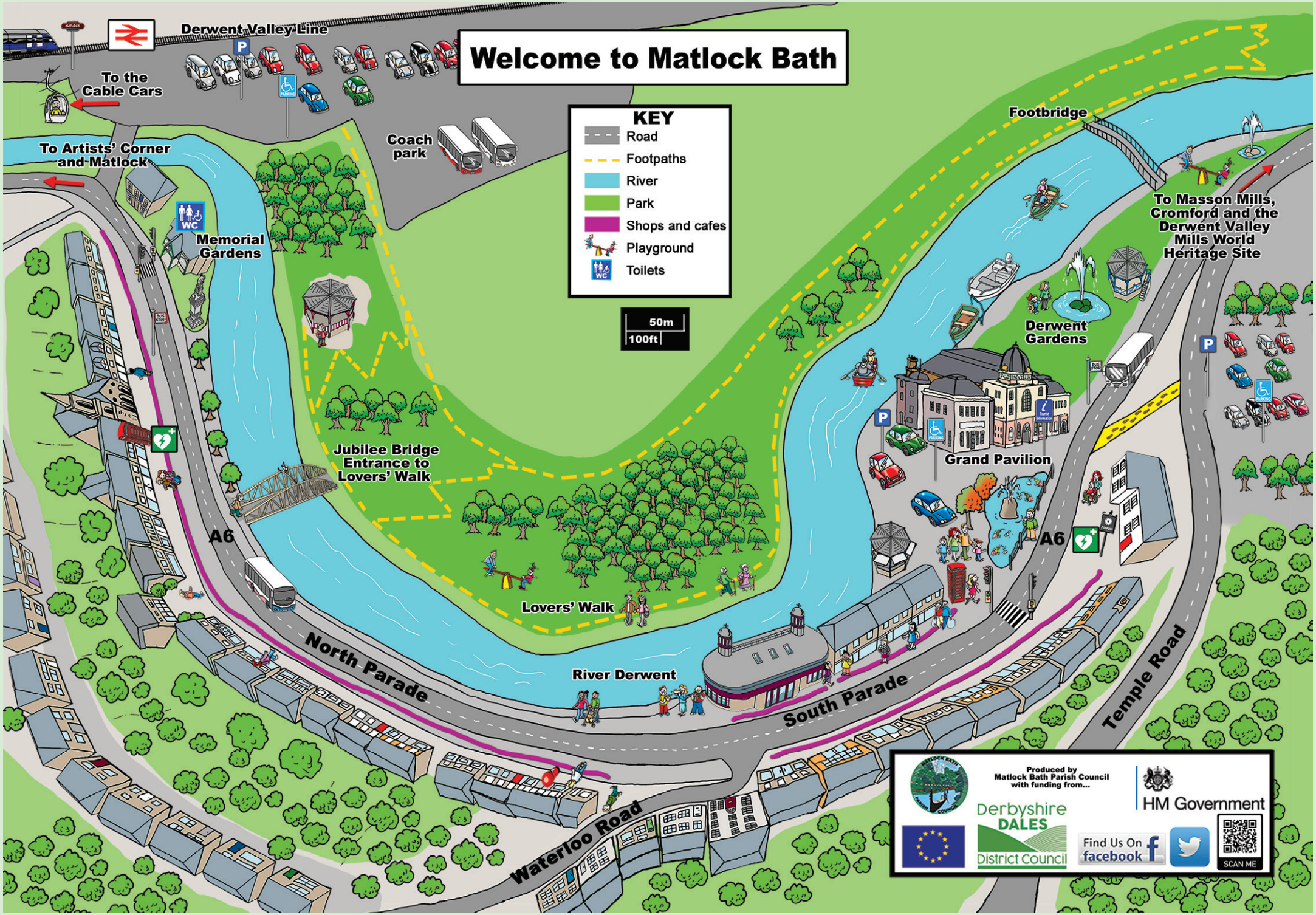
Welcoming visitors since 1698










Welcome to Matlock Bath
KEY
Road
Footpaths
River
Park
Shops and cafes
Playground
Toilets
50m
100ft
Derwent Valley Line
To the Cable Cars
To Artists' Corner and Matlock
Coach park
Memorial Gardens
Footbridge
To Masson Mills, Cromford and the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site
Derwent Gardens
Grand Pavilion
Jubilee Bridge Entrance to Lovers' Walk
Lovers' Walk
A6
A6
North Parade
River Derwent
South Parade
Temple Road
Waterloo Road
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