

# TEN THINGS ABOUT BIRMINGHAM

## History

### A central place for Industrialisation

**1** The second city in the UK, Birmingham, was the leader of the Industrialisation in the 18th century, and contributed to the technological progress in the country. The city was expert in metal industry, jewelry, and automobile industry.



### A central place for trade and markets

**2** The very famous Bullring shopping center has been a market place since the 12th century. Although the city didn't have any river transport, so no access to the maritime trade, the King gave it the right to hold a weekly market.



### The civil war

**3** Birmingham went through political troubles during the 17th century. The country was divided between the parliamentarists and the royalists, and most of the brummies would support parliamentarists, and provide them with weapons. The king sent an army to capture Birmingham, and the Royalists eventually won.



### Stained glass tradition

**4** Birmingham's cathedral is famous for its stained glass windows. The stained glass tradition started at the beginning of the 19th century and prospered thanks to Edward Burne Jones, a famous pre-Raphaelite painter.

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### 5 A leading city in the railways' history

In 1838, the first rail links from Birmingham to Liverpool and London were completed. From that time and until the end of the 19th century, the British rail carriages were made in Birmingham.



### 6 Water delivery service

The first Brummie water company was created in 1826, but this service was very expensive and wasn't available everywhere.

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### 7 A green town

Birmingham is known nowadays as one of the greenest British cities. But a lot of parks and botanical gardens actually opened in the second half of the 19th century.



### 8 Becoming a city

The municipal council house was created in 1879 and the Art Museum opened in 1885. Those two places made it a city.

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### 9 Canals for trade

During the Industrial Revolution, the river transport in Birmingham was massively improved, and around 30 miles of canals were dug at that time to carry the coal, iron, and heavy goods.



### 10 A busy theater

The theater was built in 1913, and a school of speech and drama opened in 1936. Birmingham is nowadays seen as a culturally rich city, and its theater is the busiest in the UK.

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