



## Stop 9: February Gloucestershire Castles and Cathedral

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# Fact File

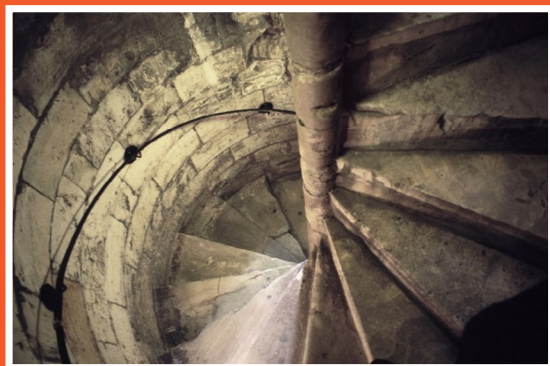
## Medieval Castles

Here are four common castle features: can you name them and explain what they were for?



This is a slit in a wall. It doesn't let in much light. But what else could it be keeping out?

**Medieval castles were designed to be secure and protect the people who lived in them.**



This was built with a clock-wise spiral – for ingenious reasons to do with defending the castle...Can you guess why?





This hole cut into the stone is on the outer wall of the castle, so whatever is dropped into it will fall outside...What do you think it was used for?



This 'oubliette' is named after the French word for forgetting. Beneath this grille is a large chamber.

What or who did the owners of the castle want to forget about?



## How do you imagine life inside a castle and outside a castle differs?

## Would you prefer to live inside or outside of the castle?



# Fact File

## Gloucester Cathedral

This picture gallery has been created to look at during the interview with Becky, the Cathedral Archivist, in the Drawing on the Past – Gloucestershire castles and Cathedral session (recorded February 2022). You will see that these are images of everything she talks about!



## Fact! A cathedral is a very large church where Christians worship God

### Monks and Nuns



Monks and Nuns dedicate their lives to God. To begin with, Gloucester Cathedral was the home to many monks and nuns

### William the Conqueror



William the Conqueror came from Normandy in France. He invaded England in 1066

### Battle of Hastings



William beat King Harold at the Battle of Hastings to take the throne. He became King William I. A lot of cathedrals and castles started to be built after this time.

## Tewkesbury Abbey



Tewkesbury Abbey, several miles away from Gloucester, was built around the same time as Gloucester Cathedral

## Gloucester Cathedral



Gloucester Cathedral was built a thousand years ago

## Stone Masons



Stone masons were the people who built the cathedral. They scratched their symbols into the stone they worked on. What symbol would you use?

## Inside the cathedral



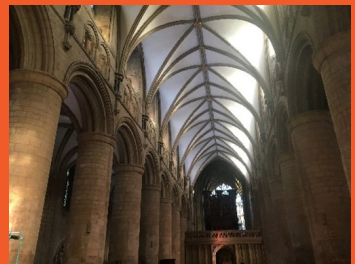
The cathedral is separated into several areas for group worship and private prayer

## Cathedra chair



To become a cathedral, a church needs to have a 'cathedra'. This a special seat for the bishop to sit in

## Nave



The nave is the central part of a church or cathedral



## Cloisters



The cloisters are a series of long corridors attached to the cathedral. They form the sides of a square. You might recognise them from the Harry Potter films!

## Work spaces in the cloisters



The cloisters had spaces for monks to work. They each had a seat and desk. Their work included copying books at a time before printed books. They hand wrote everything!

## The garden



The cloisters surround a garden

## The Great East Window Tower



The Great East Window was created hundreds of years ago. For many years it was the largest window in the world



Most churches and cathedrals have a tower, often with a spire on top. Bells are kept in the tower.

## Library



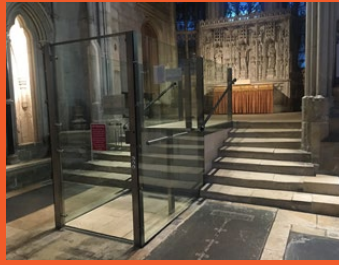
The cathedral has many ancient and important books, kept in their library. You reach the library by going up a narrow spiral staircase!

## Lady Chapel



The Lady Chapel is a separate space for worship.

## Getting about!



Recently changes have been made to allow every person to get around the cathedral. This includes new lifts and ramps. A post was removed from a doorway so wheelchairs can get through.

## Secret salamander!



The mason who removed the post created a little salamander on the wall. If you know where to look, the cathedral is filled with interesting things!

- Did you know: Gloucester Cathedral has been used in many TV shows and films? This includes the Harry Potter films, Sherlock and Doctor Who.
- Did you know: The building narrowly escaped being destroyed in the 1500s? This was a time when hundreds of churches were destroyed and their treasures sold. Fortunately, King Henry VIII decided to turn it into a cathedral instead out of respect for King Edward II who was buried there.
- Did you know: The inside of the cathedral is also a graveyard? Very important people were buried underneath the floors. If you look down, you will notice there are many grave stones forming part of the floor throughout the building.





Did you know: There are beautiful memorials to important people? Here we have memorials to King Edward II who was murdered at nearby Berkeley Castle and to Elizabeth Williams who died aged 17, seen here with her baby.





# Castles and Cathedral Word Search

M	P	L	Y	C	B	A	I	L	E	Y	F
O	H	P	G	V	A	I	O	S	W	K	R
A	D	O	A	D	T	U	L	I	S	P	O
T	U	R	R	E	T	L	V	J	T	U	U
I	N	T	G	R	L	A	I	N	T	V	B
U	G	C	O	U	E	C	H	A	P	E	L
Q	E	U	Y	S	M	Y	X	V	J	I	B
B	O	L	L	T	E	Y	M	E	C	A	E
K	N	L	E	R	N	P	L	E	E	S	T
L	O	I	R	E	X	T	K	P	H	O	T
P	M	S	U	W	F	E	S	S	D	X	E
G	A	R	D	E	R	O	B	E	K	L	Z



Search the grid for words connected to castles and cathedral buildings.



# Fact File

## Gargoyles



These gargoyles can be seen on the outside of Gloucester Cathedral.

They replaced older ones which had become too damaged to repair.



Unlike most gargoyles, these ones were only made in the last few years.

Gargoyles can be found on many churches and cathedrals. Gargoyles are a carved sculpture with a spout which drains water away from the side of the building. This protected the church or cathedral from water damage



Gargoyles also protected their building by frightening away evil spirits. This is why they are so terrifying!

## Gargoyle Activity

Activity: Design your own gargoyle to protect your home. Remember it needs to be really scary!