

## Six of the Best... Art Experiences in Norfolk

Enjoy the best of Norfolk's art and design

### Congham Hall Hotel

Congham Hall Hotel is a veritable art gallery, with paintings and sculptures on display that have been specially selected by the owners. Now, we're encouraging guests, as well as visitors dropping by for lunch, afternoon tea or dinner, to take a closer look at the art in our communal spaces, with new information cards explaining a little about the artists and where their work can be purchased. For example, 'The Night Hunters', which hangs in our Writing Room, is by Norfolk-based Rachel Lockwood, whose interpretations of wildlife are widely admired. You'll find works by Rachel and other artists that we feature on sale at the Pinkfoot Gallery at Cley Next The Sea.

Congham Hall Hotel, Lynn Road, Grimston PE32 1AH  
(01485 600250; [www.conghamhallhotel.co.uk](http://www.conghamhallhotel.co.uk))

### GroundWork

Consider art and nature at GroundWork, in neighbouring King's Lynn, the UK's first gallery dedicated to art and the environment. Veronica Sekules, formerly of the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Art in Norwich, opened her thought-provoking showcase for contemporary art opposite the Custom House in summer 2016. Using sustainable materials or depicting natural subjects, her quest is to explore how art can help us to see a changing world and imagine how we can shape its future.

GroundWork, 17 Purfleet Street, King's Lynn PE30 1ER  
(01553 340714; [www.groundworkgallery.com](http://www.groundworkgallery.com))

### Henry Moore at Houghton Hall

Nature and Inspiration is a major new exhibition of sculptor Henry Moore's work at Houghton Hall that will see several of his most recognisable sculptures displayed in the grounds of the historic house. The large-scale bronzes and fibreglass pieces on show include 'Three Piece Sculpture: Vertebrae', while some of the artist's smaller models and drawings will also be exhibited inside the Hall. Curated by Sebastiano Barassi, Head of Collections & Exhibitions at the Henry Moore Foundation, this is the first significant show of Sir Henry Moore's work in Norfolk for many years.

Meanwhile, Norfolk By Design will return for a third year to the stables at Houghton, with a pop-up exhibition, 'Festival', celebrating and responding to the work of Henry Moore. Works by some of Norfolk's finest artists, designer-makers and craftspeople will also be on sale.

Houghton Hall Estate, King's Lynn PE31 6EU  
(01485 528569; [www.houghtonhall.com](http://www.houghtonhall.com) and [www.norfolk-by-design.com](http://www.norfolk-by-design.com))

Nature and Inspiration, 1 May-29 Sept 2019, Weds, Thurs, Sun, Bank Hol Mons, 1 May-19 Jul; 20 Jul onwards, also on Sat. Norfolk By Design, 1 May-29 Sept 2019.

### Peter Coke Shell Gallery

Visit this curious collection of shell art at Sheringham to see the work of the late Peter Coke – best known for playing Francis Durbridge’s amateur sleuth Paul Temple on the radio in the 1950s. After his retirement to the North Norfolk coast in the 1970s, Coke devoted himself to his lifelong passion for creating decorative art from shells. You can see more than 200 of the exquisite items, particularly his famous floral sculptures, at the eponymous gallery now run by the Sheringham Society.

Peter Coke Shell Gallery, West Cliff, Sheringham NR26 8JT  
(<https://sheringhamsociety.com>)

### The Gunton Arms

A pub deep in the Norfolk countryside isn’t the first place you’d expect to find original works by world-renowned contemporary artists. Yet, pop in for a pint at The Gunton Arms, near Thorpe Market, and you can browse pieces by household names such as Tracey Emin, Lucian Freud and Damien Hirst, curated by the landlord, art dealer Ivor Braka. Outside, in the 1,000-acre country park, explore sculptures by Sol Le Witt, Anthony Caro and Ulrich Rückreim.

The Gunton Arms, Cromer Road, Thorpe Market NR11 8TZ  
(01263 832010; [www.theguntonarms.co.uk](http://www.theguntonarms.co.uk))

### The Old Skating Rink Gallery

Norwich’s old Victorian skating rink is now a terrific place to gain inspiration for home interiors and learn more about the arts and crafts of Asia along the way. Within its walls, Country and Eastern is bursting with affordable decorative furnishings and clothes gathered from Turkey to east of Java. In the same vast space, The South Asian Decorative Arts and Crafts Collection (SADACC) showcases more than 4,000 items from the region on rotation, from ritual objects to large architectural pieces.

The Old Skating Rink Gallery, 34-36 Bethel Street, Norwich NR2 1NR  
(01603 663890; [www.countryandeastern.co.uk](http://www.countryandeastern.co.uk) and [www.sadacc.co.uk](http://www.sadacc.co.uk))