

1620—2020
Mayflower
400™

Steering our future,
inspired by the past.



The Plymouth Programme

Mayflower 400 National Supporters and Sponsors



Mayflower 400 Commemorative Programme

Mayflower 400 is a year-long national and international commemorative programme incorporating over 100 events around Plymouth to mark the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower's historic voyage from Plymouth to America.

The 12 month programme in Plymouth includes wide ranging events from large-scale public art installations, cultural exhibitions and live shows to community dance performances, theatre, creative works and sports.

Signature Events and Highlights in 2020

Mayflower 400 Community Sparks

Community workshops, events, music, theatre, dance and storytelling throughout the year including tapestry projects, choral commissions, village fun days, genealogy events, community picnics, film festivals and more.

Mayflower 400 Get Active Programme

January – December

In association with Argyle Community Trust, the programme offers people the chance to try a new sport or activity throughout the Mayflower 400 year to help them stay active with a different focus each month including fitness classes, football, netball, rugby, hockey and more.

Plymouth Trails

February

With 2020 marking the 400th year since the sailing of the Mayflower, the Mayflower Trail guides you around Plymouth's historic Barbican and gives a glimpse of Plymouth in 1620, stopping at historic properties and streets. Follow the trail totems from the Mayflower Steps, book on guided tours or take advantage of the children's activity pack and school resources.

The trails will launch in February 2020, with events bringing the route to life through the year. For the full experience, download the interactive Plymouth Trails app and choose from the three core self-guided trails

– Mayflower, Hoe or City Centre, with more to come from our trail partners. The Plymouth Trails app will be available to download for free on both Apple and Android devices via mayflower400uk.org/app

Opening of The Box Spring

Plymouth's flagship cultural visitor attraction, whose opening programme includes the national commemorative exhibition, 'Mayflower 400: Legend & Legacy'.



Mayflower Sports Week 21 – 29 March

In association with Plymouth Argyle, Plymouth Albion and Plymouth Raiders, celebrate all that is professional sport in Plymouth. Home fixtures will feature community activity and themed workshops.



Some Call It Home

24 – 25 March

Created by Music Director Robert Taub, Some Call It Home is a moving orchestral and visual experience.

An ensemble comprised of musicians from the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra will play this new piece of work by two internationally recognised composers: Jonathan Dawe and Jane O'Leary (a direct descendant of a Mayflower passenger).

Plymouth Philharmonic Choir

5 April

Plymouth Philharmonic Choir's 50th season begins with a performance of Vaughan Williams' A Sea Symphony at Plymouth Guildhall.

The work evokes the great power of the oceans and the choir will be joined by soprano Catherine Hamilton and baritone Julian Rippon. Parry's Blest Pair of Sirens and Elgar's Sea Pictures complete the programme.

Mayflower Ocean Festival Week

4 – 10 May

Hoist the main sail from 4 to 10 May 2020, with a week of ocean activity. Watch the start of the OSTAR and TWOSTAR yacht races or enjoy family fun at Pirates Weekend Plymouth and at a range of other exciting events.

Marking the end of the week, Pirates Weekend Plymouth returns for 2020. This award winning family friendly event will see an array of Pirate themed activities across the historic Barbican and Sutton Harbour, including tall ships, pirate activities and fun for all the family.

University of Plymouth Choral Society

23 May

The first of four classical concerts led by Plymouth Music Accord, the University of Plymouth Choral Society will perform The Mayflower Pilgrims – a cantata about the Atlantic crossing by Clive Jenkins. It will take place at St Andrew’s Minster.

Flavour Feszt

29 – 31 May

See Plymouth city centre transformed as stalls brimming with local delicacies take over the Piazza. With more than 100 traders showcasing the best regional produce as well as cookery demonstrations from talented local and celebrity chefs, it’s a treat for food lovers far and wide.

Plymouth and District Organists’ Association

3 June

The second in a series of classical concerts for Mayflower 400 will take place at St Andrew’s Minster with an organ recital by Richard Line, plus premières of works by Plymouth composer Clive Jenkins and Harvard University organist Carson Cooman.

This new music will later tour and feature in the recital series at Harvard University in October.

Plymouth Symphony Orchestra

17 June

The third in a series of classical concerts for Mayflower 400 in Plymouth presents an all-American programme featuring pianist Joanna MacGregor in Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue by Plymouth Symphony Orchestra in the historic surrounds of the Plymouth Guildhall.



This Land

16 – 20 June

Theatre Royal Plymouth’s first ever transatlantic community production. Directed by Alan Lane, This Land is performed by a 150 strong community cast – 120 citizens from Plymouth and 30 members of the Wampanoag Tribe from Massachusetts, USA.

Elizabethan House

July

The Elizabethan House on New Street is undergoing a major restoration.

Built just before 1600, it is the best example of an Elizabethan merchant’s house in Plymouth, and is one of few buildings from the time of the Mayflower still standing today.

With the restoration work due to complete in the summer, there will be opportunities to visit the House and learn about the architecture, archaeology and restoration.

These exclusive, limited tours will commence in July 2020. Keep an eye on The Box social media channels to keep up to date with the restoration and how to book on to the tours when the work is complete.

Plymouth Philharmonic Choir

5 July

The highlight of Plymouth Philharmonic Choir’s 50th anniversary year, where they present the world premiere of Plymouth-born composer Paul Foster’s The Lodestone of Love, a large-scale oratorio for choir, soloists and orchestra at Plymouth Guildhall.



Settlement

6 July – 2 August

Settlement is a Native American-led performative encampment in which over 27 acclaimed Indigenous artists from across North America will activate Pounds House and surrounding grounds in Plymouth’s Central Park from July 6 – August 2 2020.

With practices ranging from performance, social engagement, installation, film, poetry, dance and immersive theatre, the wide range of contemporary Native American artists that will share their work for Settlement is unprecedented. Daily programming will present a series of workshops, performances, installations and talks.



‘Roots Up!’ by Street Factory

25 July

People across Plymouth will take part in a free, mass street dance reaching from the Barbican and the Hoe led by award-winning community dance company Street Factory in a bold and contemporary interpretation of the Mayflower story.

The 400

August

This light-hearted and irreverent piece of theatre performed by renowned comedy/clowning theatre company Le Navet Bête at The Plymouth Athenaeum, looks at Britain's special relationship with the USA – from 1620 through to today, following the hilarious attempts of four people trying to flee their past lives.

Plymouth Pride

8 August

Plymouth Pride will return with a Mayflower twist in August 2020, creating a spectacular festival celebrating LGBT+ culture. It will include a parade through the heart of the city, workshops on the themes of freedom, humanity, imagination and the future and explore previously 'hidden' LGBT+ history.

British Firework Championships

12 – 13 August

The world famous British Firework Championships are set to return to Plymouth's waterfront on Wednesday 12 and Thursday 13 August 2020. Enjoy spectacular pyrotechnics that will illuminate Plymouth Sound as six top firework companies battle it out over two nights, each putting on an awe-inspiring ten minute display in an attempt to be crowned the winner.

Flower and Quilt Festival, Plymouth

9 – 16 September

A stunning array of flowers and quilts will be displaying in the beautiful surrounds of the Minister of St Andrew's Church in a festival exploring the Mayflower's voyage.

The exhibition will consider the themes of freedom, faith and personal liberty that informed the original journey and will recognise the impact on Native American communities, addressing themes of colonialism and migration both in 1620 and today.

Plymouth Sponsors



Plymouth Delivery Partners



Plymouth Seafood & Maritime Festival

12 – 13 September

Bringing the Barbican and Sutton Harbour alive with a range of entertainment and activities celebrating the city's fantastic links with the sea. Enjoy an array of seafood traders and a full chef stage programme. The festival will also include angling, diving and fun on the water for all.

Wampum: Stories and Shells from Native America

1 September – 31 October

The 'Stories and Shells' exhibition is a nationally touring exhibition that will acknowledge our cultural connection to the Wampanoag people who met the Mayflower and ensured the survival of the English settlers. It will include the commissioning of a new wampum belt, made exclusively by the Wampanoag people of the Mashpee and Aquinnah nations.

Mayflower Week

14 – 20 September – including public commemoration event, 16 September

Marking the anniversary of the date the Mayflower sailed on 16 September, Mayflower Week will bring a programme of spectacular events to the city's waterfront:

- **Mayflower Ceremony**
16 September

This four-nation civic ceremony will see a 1,000 person choir perform a brand new piece of bespoke music which tells the story of the Mayflower in an entirely new way, along with representatives from the UK, US, Netherlands and Wampanoag.

- **The Royal Marines Rehabilitation Triathlon**
17 September

Traditionally held in Lymstone but transferred to Plymouth for this extra special year, injured serving and former tri-service men and women will compete with a swim at Tinside, cycle ride and static row on Plymouth Hoe promenade.

- **Mayflower Muster**
19 – 20 September

Expect an exciting two-day festival celebrating our military heritage in partnership with the UK, US and Dutch Armed Forces, including live displays, interactive demonstrations and a host of fun activities for families.

Other key dates for your diary:

- **8 – 31 May:** Mayflower International History Festival
- **8 May:** VE Day
- **17 May:** Britain's Ocean City Half Marathon
- **23 May:** Lord Mayor's Day
- **12 June – 12 July:** Euro 2020
- **4 October:** Plymouth 5K and 10K
- **5 November:** Bonfire Night
- **8 November:** Remembrance Sunday
- **12 November:** City Centre Christmas Lights Switch on
- **22 November:** Barbican Christmas Light Switch on
- **26 – 29 November:** Illuminate 2020. The closing event of the Mayflower programme and an even bigger festival of light, including a nationally commissioned piece of art connecting the national Mayflower partnership
- **26 November – 17 December:** Plymouth Christmas Market

For further information on the Mayflower 400 commemorative programme and a full list of events as they are updated, go to www.mayflower400uk.org/plymouth and follow @mayflower400uk on social media.