

Castles Picnics

Northumberland has tons of castles; we have the most castles of any county, a whopping thirteen, so there's plenty of choice if you're looking to picnic in view of one of these magnificent fortresses. Harry Potter fans will enjoy the setting of Alnwick Castle, now familiar as Hogwarts School, while those who like a coastal setting can enjoy their picnic in the ruins of Dunstanburgh or the shade of Bamburgh's imposing walls.

Tasty stuff:

- Free Range Northumberland Eggs
- River Tweed Poached Salmon
- Berwick Edge Cheese from Doddington Dairy with one of the many homemade local chutneys available in farm shops and delicatessens
- Award Winning Bamburgh Bangers from Carters the Butchers in Bamburgh, Bell's Butchers in Haltwhistle, Blaydon Farm Shop, Rothbury Butchers or bespoke sausages from Foreman's the butchers in Norham. (see 'Make to take' section below)

Catch in season:

Pick your own soft fruits from various farm shops across the County including Tritlington and Brocksbushes.

Sweet somethings:

- Biscuits, flapjacks or cherrycake from the Heatherslaw Bakery, also available in outlets throughout the county
- Scones from the Great Northumberland Bread Company
- Cupcakes from Yummylicious

Quenchers and tipples:

- Fentimans Seville Orange Jigger
- Alnwick India Pale Ale or some Alnwick Rum in your hip flask



Make to take!

If you have the time to make something especially for your picnic, you can't go wrong with this mouth-watering recipe:

Ingredients:

- 1 tbsp Chainbridge honey mustard
- 1 tbsp Chainbridge honey
- 1 tsp of sesame seeds
- 1lb of Northumberland sausages

Method:

- Lay the sausages in a roasting pan in a single layer and cook for about 15 minutes, turning occasionally, until golden and cooked through.
- Mix the honey, mustard and sesame seeds together in a bowl. Add the cooked sausages and stir around so they all get a good sticky coating.
- Return the sausages to the roasting pan and pour over any remaining honey mixture.
- Cook for a further 8 minutes until the sausages are bubbling. Leave to cool.