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PRESS FACT SHEET – SHOPPING IN BRISTOL

From vintage and retro to the latest in high street trends, Bristol really is the shopping capital of the South West of England.

Don't let the challenging gradient of **Park Street** (it's so steep it was famously transformed into a water slide by artist Luke Jerram in 2014) stop you from walking up it and discovering its independent shops. BS8 is great for vintage clothes, while The Guild has several floors of art and jewellery, toys, luxurious chocolates and other foodstuffs, Bristol-themed gifts and a café. Rise Music on **The Triangle** is staffed with friendly and knowledgeable sales assistants and their stock ranges from music of all genres to cult books, movies and vintage clothes. The in-store café - Friska – makes it a friendly spot to hang out.

Also flying the flag for the indie spirit is **Gloucester Road**, believed to be Europe's longest street of independent shops. Locals love it for its eclectic mix of organic foods, clothes and antiques. Shops and galleries like Room 212 showcase and sell work by local artists, while Iota Bristol offers unique gifts and stylish home accessories.

Dating back to the 1600s, the **Christmas Steps Art Quarter** is a steep, cobbled haven of quirk. Ceramics, vintage clothes and a spot of local cider will set you right whether you're headed upwards or down.

In **Clifton Village** - one of Bristol's most desirable areas - shoppers can peruse a treasure chest of items in the Victorian Clifton Arcade, which houses some of the most unique shops in the city selling everything from vintage costume jewellery to classic home interiors.

Immerse yourself in the rich history of Bristol whilst shopping in the **Old City**. The Georgian architecture of St Nicholas Market is a lovely setting for stalls selling local goods. Bristol favourites like Pieminister and the adjacent Source Food Hall and Café come alive with local diners at lunchtime. The Farmers Market every Wednesday and the Friday Food Market spill out along the streets outside. The Nails Market also takes place here every Friday and Saturday, featuring everything from artwork, photography and handcrafted jewellery to vintage clothes and gifts.

Other **regular markets** across Bristol include Harbourside Market every Saturday and Sunday, where the emphasis is on supporting and showcasing local produce, businesses and entrepreneurs. The beautiful waterfront location and growing suite of stalls include tempting cakes and treats, upcycled clothes, second-hand books and handmade jewellery. Tobacco Factory Sunday Market in the

creative Southville area of the city and Whiteladies Road Farmers and Fairtrade market on the second and third Saturdays of each month are both popular too. All are perfect for a leisurely weekend browse.

Visitors looking for the ultimate retail experience will be spoilt for choice in **Bristol Shopping Quarter**. Home to more than 500 stores and more than 50 cafés and restaurants, shoppers can indulge in style at flagship department stores and high street favourites. Combining the shopping centres of Cabot Circus, The Galleries and Broadmead, the area is also home to Quakers Friars - a European-style open-air piazza linked to Cabot Circus. Quakers Friars offers a luxury shopping experience from Harvey Nichols to designer brands including Ted Baker and Hugo Boss.

Just off the M4/M5 interchange is **The Mall at Cribbs Causeway**. This offers the ultimate high street experience under one roof. The two-storey building boasts over 500 brands, 135 stores and is open 'til late - ideal for long shopping sprees.

Did you know..?

In September 2012, Bristol introduced its own currency - The Bristol Pound - designed to work alongside sterling. It is accepted at a growing number of outlets around the city and encourages people to spend their money with local, independent businesses and traders.

Bristol was declared a Fairtrade City in 2005 and has since become one of the most successful Fair Trade cities in the world. In 2015 Bristol hosted the Fair Trade Towns conference.

Gift cards can be purchased to spend across the city including the Cabot Circus Gift Card and the Your Street Gift Card to spend at a huge selection of independent shops across Bristol.