

Alnwick Castle



Derbent Fortress





Alnwick Castle is a [castle](#) and [stately home](#) in the town of [Alnwick](#) in the English county of [Northumberland](#). It is the seat of the [Duke of Northumberland](#)



The history of Alnwick is the history of the castle and its lords, starting with Gilbert Tyson, written variously as "Tison", "Tisson", and "De Tesson", one of [William the Conqueror's](#) standard bearers, upon whom this northern estate was bestowed. It was held by the De Vesci family (now spelt "Vasey" – a name found all over south-east Northumberland) for over 200 years, and then passed into the hands of the [house of Percy](#) in 1309.

At various points in the town are memorials of the constant wars between Percys and Scots, in which so many Percys spent the greater part of their lives. A cross near Broomhouse Hill across the river from the castle marks the spot where [Malcolm III of Scotland](#) was killed during the first [Battle of Alnwick \(1093\)](#). At the side of the broad shady road called Ratten Row, leading from the West Lodge to Bailiffgate, a stone tablet marks the spot where [William the Lion](#) of Scotland was captured during the second [Battle of Alnwick \(1174\)](#) by a party of about 400 mounted knights, led by [Ranulf de Glanvill](#).



- [Hulne Priory](#), outside the town walls in [Hulne Park](#), the Duke of Northumberland's walled estate, was a monastery founded in the 13th century by the [Carmelites](#); it is said that the site was chosen for some slight resemblance to [Mount Carmel](#) where the order originated. Substantial ruins remain.
- In 1314, Sir John Felton was governor of Alnwick.^[3] In winter 1424, much of the town was burnt by a Scottish raiding party. Again in 1448 the town was burnt by a Scottish army led by [William Douglas, 8th Earl of Douglas](#) and [George Douglas, 4th Earl of Angus](#).
- [Thomas Malory](#) mentions Alnwick as a possible location for Lancelot's castle Joyous Garde.
- The Alnwick by-pass takes the [A1 London – Edinburgh trunk road](#) around the town. It was started in 1968

- The [River Aln](#) forms its unofficial northern boundary. Historically, the town was partly within the [Bamburgh Ward](#) and Coquetdale Ward and later included in the East Division of Coquetdale Ward in 1832



- By the time of the 2011 Census an [electoral ward](#) covering only part of Alnwick Parish name existed. The total population of this ward was 4,766





Brizlee Tower, a [folly](#) and observation platform overlooking Hulne Park, the Duke of Northumberland's walled estate by Alnwick Castle.

- The Front of [Bailliffgate Museum](#), a museum of Local History.



- This fame has much to do with the Harry Potter movies. Also known as the Harry Potter Castle, this stately structure in northeast [England](#) has been used as a stand in for the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. This fictional boarding school caters to both witches and wizards in the film series. This castle is more than just a movie stand in, however. The Duke of Northumberland maintains residence at Alnwick Castle, and from April to October, it becomes one of the top tourist attractions in the area.





- Other places of interest in and near the town include:
- Brizlee Tower, a [folly](#) and observation platform overlooking Hulne Park, the Duke of Northumberland's walled estate by Alnwick Castle
- [Brizlee Tower](#), a Grade 1 listed [folly tower](#) on a hill in Hulne Park, the Duke's walled estate, designed by [Robert Adam](#) in 1777 and erected in 1781 for [Hugh Percy, 1st Duke of Northumberland](#).
- [Camphill Column](#), an 1814 construction celebrating British victories in Europe, and possibly erected as a reaction against the [French Revolution](#).
- the Hotspur Tower, part of the remains of the ancient town wall, and named after Sir [Henry Percy](#), also called Harry Hotspur, the eldest son of the [1st Earl of Northumberland](#) and a major character in [Henry IV, Part 1](#).
- the [Nelson Memorial, Swarland](#), emphasizing a local link to the admired [Admiral](#).



[Stella Vine](#)

- **Born in Alnwick**[\[edit\]](#)
- [William of Alnwick](#), (c. 1275–1333), Franciscan theologian and Bishop of Giovinazzo
- [William Henry Percy](#) (1788–1855), naval commander and politician.
- [George Biddell Airy](#), (1801–1892), [Astronomer Royal](#) from 1835 to 1881
- [Bernard Bosanquet](#), (1848–1923), philosopher
- [John Busby](#), (1765–1857), mining engineer
- [Jeremy Darroch](#), chief executive of British Sky Broadcasting ([BSkyB](#))
- [William Davison](#) (1781–1858) pharmacist, apothecary, printer, etc.



Derbent fortress



- **Derbent** is a [city](#) in the [Republic of Dagestan, Russia](#), located on the [Caspian Sea](#), north of the [Azerbaijani](#) border. It is the southernmost city in Russia, and it is the second-most important city of Dagestan. Population: 119,200 ([2010 Census](#));^[4] 101,031 ([2002 Census](#));^[9] 78,371 ([1989 Census](#)).^[10]
- Derbent occupies the narrow gateway between the [Caspian Sea](#) and the [Caucasus Mountains](#) connecting the [Eurasian steppes](#) to the north and the [Iranian Plateau](#) to the south. Derbent claims to be the oldest city in Russia with historical documentation dating to the 8th century BCE.



- The city's name derives from the [Persian Darband](#) (دربند), meaning "locked gate",^[13] and it is often identified with the [legendary Gates of Alexander](#). The Persian name for the city came into use at the end of the 5th or the beginning of the 6th century AD, when the city was re-established by [Kavadh I](#) of the [Sassanid](#) dynasty of Persia, but Derbent was probably already in the Sasanian sphere of influence as a result of the victory over the [Parthians](#) and the conquest of [Caucasian Albania](#) by [Shapur I](#), the first shah of the [Sassanid](#) Persians.^[14] Since antiquity, the value of the area as the gate to the Caucasus has been understood and exploited, and Derbent has archaeological structures over 5,000 years old. As a result of this geographic peculiarity, the city developed between two walls, stretching from the mountains to the sea. These fortifications were continuously employed for a millennium and a half, longer than any other extant [fortress](#) in the world.^[citation needed] Over the years, different nations gave the city different names, all connected to the word *gate*, as in the Arabic *Bab al-Abwab* ("Gate of all Gates").^[15]



- Derbent's location on a narrow, three-kilometer strip of land in the [North Caucasus](#) between the Caspian Sea and the Caucasus mountains is strategic in the entire [Caucasus](#) region. Historically, this position allowed the rulers of Derbent to control land traffic between the [Eurasian Steppe](#) and the [Middle East](#). The only other practicable crossing of the Caucasus ridge was over the [Darial Gorge](#).



- Within the framework of administrative divisions, Derbent serves as the administrative center of Derbentsky District, even though it is not a part of it. ^[1] As an administrative division, it is incorporated separately as the **City of Derbent**—an administrative unit with the status equal to that of the districts. ^[1] As a municipal division, the City of Derbent is incorporated as **Derbent Urban Okrug**. ^[2]



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- The city is home to machine building, food, textile, fishing and fishery supplies, construction materials and wood industries. It is the center of Russian [brandy](#) production. The educational infrastructure includes a university as well as several technical schools. On the cultural front, there is a Lezgin drama theater (named after S. Stalsky). About two kilometers (1.2 miles) from the city is the vacation colony of Chayka (Seagull).
- The Soviet novelist [Yury Krymov](#) named a fictional motor tanker after the city in his book [The Tanker "Derbent"](#).

- Derbent resembles a huge museum and has magnificent mountains and shore nearby, and therefore possesses much touristic potential, further increased by [UNESCO](#)'s classification of the citadel, ancient city and fortress as a [World Heritage Site](#) in 2003; however, instability in the region has retarded development.
- The current fortification and walls were built by the Persian [Sassanian Empire](#) as a defensive structure against hostile nomadic people in the north, and continuously repaired or improved by later Arab, Mongol, Timurid, Shirvan and Iranian kingdoms until the early course of the 19th century, as long as its military function lasted. The fortress was built under direction of the Sassanid emperor [Khosrow \(Chosroes\) I.](#)^[44]



- A large portion of the walls and several watchtowers still remain in reasonable shape. The walls, reaching to the sea, date from the 6th century, [Sassanid dynasty](#) period. The city has a well-preserved citadel (Narin-kala), enclosing an area of 4.5 hectares (11 acres), enclosed by strong walls. Historical attractions include the baths, the cisterns, the old cemeteries, the caravanserai, the 18th-century Khan's mausoleum, as well as several mosques. The oldest mosque is the Juma Mosque, built over a 6th-century Christian basilica; it has a 15th-century [madrassa](#). Other shrines include the 17th-century Kyrhlyar mosque, the Bala mosque and the 18th-century Chertebe mosque.





- Notable people[[edit](#)]
- [Bella Nisan](#), ophthalmologist
- [Igor Yusufov](#), politician
- [Israel Tsvaygenbaum](#), artist
- [Mushail Mushailov](#), artist and teacher
- [Sergey Izgiyayev](#), poet, playwright and translator of Mountain Jewish descent
- [Suleyman Kerimov](#), businessman, investor and politician.
- [Tamara Musakhanova](#), sculptor and ceramist
- [Yagutil Mishiev](#), writer
- Twin towns and sister cities[[edit](#)]

I chose this fortress because they are similar in appearance. But the state of England pays more attention to its attractions than Dagestan state.

