

Captain John Smith

Lincolnshire to Virginia: On the trail of the New World

Celebrate the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown, the birthplace of America, by retracing Capt John Smith's journey of discovery to the New World.

Follow in Smith's footsteps on a trail through his native Lincolnshire that eventually led to Virginia.

Willoughby

Birthplace of Captain John Smith, visit St Helena Church where he was baptised and see a photograph of his registry entry – the font used is still the one in use today. Pick up a village trail leaflet.

Alford

John Smith attended school in this small picturesque market town with a working five-sailed windmill. Anne Hutchinson, a religious liberal who championed women's rights and freedom of worship in America, was also born here.

Louth

John Smith continued his education in this charming market town, known as the capital of the Wolds, and would have worshipped at the magnificent St James' s Church. Lincolnshire poet Alfred lord Tennyson also later went to school here.

Spilsby

St James Church in this small, but bustling market town has a family chapel for the Willoughby de Eresby family. Most relevant is Sir Peregrine Bertie, Smith's landlord, whose sons travelled on the Continent with Smith.

Tattershall

Tattershall Castle, dominated by the brick keep, is one of the earliest brick buildings in England and here.

is where John Smith learnt horsemanship and tilting, possibly in the castle tilt yard south of the churchyard. www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Grimsthorpe

Grimsthorpe Castle with over 800 years of history was the magnificent home of the Willoughby de Eresby

family and centerpiece of a 3,000 acre park. John Smith joined Lord Willoughby's sons to tour the continent. www.grimsthorpe.co.uk

For more information in Lincolnshire's Film locations or to arrange a visit to the county please contact Charlotte Goy, Media Executive on 01522 561670 or email charlotte@visitlincolnshire.com.