Glastonbury Abbey has legendary status as the earliest Christian monastic site in Britain and by Domesday it was the wealthiest abbey in England. One of its great abbots, St Dunstan devised the coronation ceremony still used today, including that for Queen Elizabeth II.

The abbey played a major part in the development of Arthurian legend and visitors could be following in the footsteps of the legendary King Arthur, whose grave monks in the 12th century claimed to have discovered. They can also take the opportunity to see the Holy Thorn, believed to be descended from the staff of Joseph of Arimathea.

The abbey featured in Matthew Paris’ map of the world in 1250 and today continues to attract visitors from around the globe, keen to discover the history, heritage, myths, legends and spirituality of this nationally important ancient monument in the heart of Somerset.

Our visitors can meet characters from its historic past who give colourful insights with free tours of the ruins; there’s also a gift shop, seasonal outdoor café and an active events calendar.
Please note the numbers in the Great Church do not correspond with the numbers on this map.