

Bridgend Designer Outlet

Bridgend Designer Outlet is the largest designer outlet in Wales and one of the most visited leisure attractions in the country.

Located just off junction 36 of the M4, the designer outlet benefits from first-class road and rail links. There are scheduled bus services connecting the outlet to Bridgend town centre every 10 minutes, in addition to a bus service direct from Cardiff and Swansea.

Attractions close to the centre include the Museum of Welsh Life, Cardiff Castle and the Gower coastline.

Covering 228,000 square feet, Bridgend Designer Outlet has over 80 stores including Calvin Klein Jeans, Marks & Spencer Outlet, Clarks, Elle, Nike, Reebok and The Professional Cookware Company.

More than 5 million people visited the centre in 2003, some from as far afield as Australia, Singapore, USA, Canada, Japan and South Africa.

The designer outlet was also the first in Britain to have its own cinema, which has staged a number of Welsh film premieres.

Centre facilities include:

- 600 seat foodcourt including names such as KFC, Madison's, McDonald's and Harry Ramsden's
- Two safety-approved children's play areas
- Tourist Information Centre
- 1800 free car parking spaces
- A nine-screen Odeon cinema
- A full-service Pizza Hut restaurant

The centre is open 364 days a year, from 10am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 10am to 7pm Saturday and 10am* to 5pm Sunday (*larger stores open at 11am).

For more information visit www.bridgenddesigneroutlet.com or call +44 (0)1656 665700.

Quick facts about Bridgend Designer Outlet:

- In praise of the centre's efforts to promote the Welsh language, it has received the Voluntary Partnership Certificate from the Welsh Language Board. The certificate is in recognition of the dual English and Welsh signage throughout the centre.
- The centre's mascot is Scorch the Dragon.
- Celebrity shoppers spotted bargain hunting at the centre have included rugby star Jonah Lomu, Sir Richard Attenborough, Laurence Llewellyn-Bowen, Simon Weston, award-winning actress Brenda Blethyn and Charlotte Church and Gavin Henson.
- Shane from chart-topping Boyzone and TV presenter Jenny Powell officially opened the cinema in 1998.
- David Emmanuel (who designed Princess Diana's wedding dress), opened the centre in May 1998.
- The centre is built on a former hospital site.
- The centre was the first designer outlet in the UK to feature a CK Outlet store.
- The tiled wall in the foodcourt is based on 84 different designs by children from four local schools.
- The centre is regularly used by S4C Television as a filming location for the popular Welsh soap "Pobl y Cwm".
- If you put all the people that visit the centre each year together, you could fill the Millennium Stadium 70 times!