





Beyond...

**FUNERAL
COSTS
REPORT
2016**

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FUNERAL COSTS 2016

The cost of many funeral services has risen steadily over the last few years and location has become an important factor in how much you're likely to pay to say goodbye to a loved one.

Such variations can make it difficult to establish how much you should be paying and what is deemed good value for money.

By collating these fees from all around the country, we hope to give you a slightly better idea of indicative costs for burial and cremation in your area.

2016

BURIAL COSTS 2016

Burial costs now constitute one of the biggest expenses involved in arranging a funeral and last year customers could expect to pay anywhere from £255 to £4,561 for a burial (excluding other expenses such as the coffin, the flowers and funeral director fees).

All of the top ten most expensive burial sites can be found within the Greater London area, with prices ranging from £3,800 to £4,600. This should come as no surprise to Londoners, who will have first-hand experience of the high living costs associated with the capital.

A lack of physical space and high real estate costs make burial a challenging and expensive proposition. The London Boroughs of Wandsworth, Kingston and Lambeth are home to nine cemeteries within our top ten, with Croydon filling the remaining spot.

At the top of the pile sit Battersea New Cemetery, Putney Lower Common Cemetery, Putney Vale Cemetery and Wandsworth Cemetery, all of which offer burial services at a total cost of £4,561.

At the other end of the scale, burial costs drop to as little as £255 in the Cross Cemetery in Enniskillen, Northern Ireland.

In fact, all of the top ten least expensive burial sites can be found in Northern Ireland, highlighting the enormous discrepancy in costs between London and other regions around the United Kingdom.

The huge gap between the cheapest and most expensive fees for burial in the UK speaks volumes about the postcode lottery that burying a loved one in a dignified way has become.

While it's understandable that purchasing a grave space will be more expensive in London than in parts of Northern Ireland, it's harder to understand how the interment, or digging fee, can differ so greatly – from just £115 in Fermanagh & Omagh to an eye-watering £1,813 in the London Borough of Wandsworth.

In terms of the largest percentage increase in fees, eight out of the ten biggest rises are to be found in the Milton Keynes area, with the other two entries being Beaulieu Cemetery in the New Forest and North Watford Cemetery, which saw the biggest percentage rise in costs last year with their fees increasing 49.1%.

BURIAL COSTS 2016

10 most expensive places to be buried in 2016

Cemetery	Owner/Authority	Town/Region	Price
Battersea New Cemetery	London Borough of Wandsworth	London	£4,561
Putney Lower Common Cemetery	London Borough of Wandsworth	London	£4,561
Putney Vale Cemetery	London Borough of Wandsworth	London	£4,561
Wandsworth Cemetery	London Borough of Wandsworth	London	£4,561
Greenlawns Memorial Park Cemetery	London Borough of Croydon	London	£4,365
Kingston Cemetery	London Borough of Kingston-upon-Thames	London	£4,065
Surbiton Cemetery	London Borough of Kingston-upon-Thames	London	£4,065
Streatham Cemetery	London Borough of Lambeth	London	£3,806
West Norwood Cemetery	London Borough of Lambeth	London	£3,806
Lambeth Cemetery	London Borough of Lambeth	London	£3,806

2016

BURIAL COSTS 2016

10 least expensive places to be buried in 2016

Cemetery	Owner/Authority	Town/Region	Price
Cross Cemetery	Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	Enniskillen	£255
Coolhill Cemetery	Mid-Ulster District Council	Dungannon	£262
Cottagequinn Cemetery	Mid-Ulster District Council	Dungannon	£262
Forthill Cemetery	Mid-Ulster District Council	Cookstown	£262
Polepatrick Memorial Park Cemetery	Mid-Ulster District Council	Magherafelt	£262
Monkshill Cemetery	Newry, Mourne & Down District Council	Newry	£326
Upper Dromore Road Cemetery	Newry, Mourne & Down District Council	Newry	£326
Kilbroney Road Cemetery	Newry, Mourne & Down District Council	Rostrevor	£326
Coleraine Cemetery	Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council	Coleraine	£345
Portrush Cemetery	Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council	Portrush	£345

2016

BURIAL COSTS 2016

10 highest rises in burial costs in 2016

Cemetery	Owner/Authority	Town/Region	% increase
North Watford Cemetery	Watford Council	Watford	49.1%
Tickford Street Cemetery	Milton Keynes Council	Milton Keynes	43.8%
New Bradwell Cemetery	Milton Keynes Council	Milton Keynes	43.8%
Whalley Drive Cemetery	Milton Keynes Council	Milton Keynes	43.8%
Manor Road Cemetery	Milton Keynes Council	Milton Keynes	43.8%
Shelbourne Avenue Cemetery	Milton Keynes Council	Milton Keynes	43.8%
London Road Cemetery	Milton Keynes Council	Milton Keynes	43.8%
Calverton Road Cemetery	Milton Keynes Council	Milton Keynes	43.8%
Wolverton Cemetery	Milton Keynes Council	Milton Keynes	43.8%
Beaulieu Cemetery	New Forest District Council	Beaulieu	38.9%
West Norwood Cemetery	London Borough of Lambeth	London	£5,800
Lambeth Cemetery	London Borough of Lambeth	London	£3,806

2016

CREMATION COSTS 2016

When it comes to cremation fees, prices differ less around the country as there is no need to lease land from the owner of the cemetery. As with our burial fee calculations, these figures are for a weekday adult service, generally held between 10am and 3.30pm, the 'standard.' At the top of the list, costing £956, we have crematoria in Beckenham, Crawley, Leatherhead, Chichester and Nuneaton. All of the ten most expensive crematoria are operated by Dignity PLC, with the only exception being Distington Hall Crematorium in Workington, run by Copeland Borough Council.

The list of least expensive cremation fees is also markedly different from the equivalent burial figures, although once again it is a Northern Irish crematorium which proves the cheapest. A cremation service in the City of Belfast Crematorium last year came in at a mere £364 for local residents. Otherwise, cremation costs are fairly even across the map and costs are likely to be fairly similar in the Midlands, Wales, London and Scotland.

Similarly, the biggest percentage increases in cremation costs aren't linked to a specific geographical area. It's also worth noting that cremation costs didn't rise quite as much as burial costs, with the biggest rise in fees being 29.7% at Crownhill Crematorium in Milton Keynes.

2016

CREMATION COSTS 2016

10 most expensive places to be cremated in 2016

Cemetery	Owner/Authority	Town/Region	Price
Beckenham Crematorium	Dignity PLC	London	£956
Surrey & Sussex Crematorium	Dignity PLC	Crawley	£956
Randalls Park Crematorium	Dignity PLC	Leatherhead	£956
Chichester Crematorium	Dignity PLC	Chichester	£956
Heart of England Crematorium	Dignity PLC	Nuneaton	£956
Distington Hall Crematorium	Copeland Borough Council	Workington	£950.50
Moray Crematorium	Dignity PLC	Moray	£943
Oxford Crematorium	Dignity PLC	Headington	£943
The Counties Crematorium	Dignity PLC	Northampton	£943
Dundee Crematorium	Dignity PLC	Dundee	£943

2016

CREMATION COSTS 2016

10 least expensive places to be cremated in 2016

Cemetery	Owner/Authority	Town/Region	Price
City of Belfast Crematorium	Belfast City Council	Crossnacrevy	£364
South West Middlesex Crematorium	South West Middlesex Crematorium Board	Feltham	£490
Greenock Crematorium	Inverclyde Council	Greenock	£522
Thornhill Crematorium	City of Cardiff Council	Cardiff	£530
West Hertfordshire Crematorium	West Hertfordshire Joint Crematorium Committee	Garston	£540
North East Surrey Crematorium	North East Surrey Crematorium Board	Morden	£545
Wilford Hill Crematorium	Nottingham City Council	West Bridgford	£545
Chilterns Crematorium	Chilterns Crematorium Joint Committee	Amersham	£546
Crewe Crematorium	Cheshire East Council	Crewe	£550
Macclesfield Crematorium	Cheshire East Council	Macclesfield	£550

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CREMATION COSTS 2016

10 highest rises in cremation costs in 2016

Cemetery	Owner/Authority	Town/Region	% increase
Crownhill Crematorium	Milton Keynes Council	Milton Keynes	29.7%
Masonhill Crematorium	South Ayrshire Council	By Ayr	24.1%
Yeovil Crematorium	Yeovil Crematorium and Cemetery Committee	Yeovil	20.4%
Cardross Crematorium	Argyll and Bute Council	Cardross	20%
Taunton Deane Crematorium	Taunton Deane Borough Council	Taunton	15.4%
Bangor Crematorium	Gwynedd Council	Bangor	15%
Distington Hall Crematorium	Copeland Borough Council	Workington	14.7%
Hastings Crematorium	Hastings Borough Council	Hastings	14.1%
Hereford Crematorium	Herefordshire Council	Hereford	13.4%
Markeaton Crematorium	Derby City Council	Derby	13%
Lambeth Cemetery	London Borough of Lambeth	London	£3,806

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RESEARCH METHODS

Our funeral costs research is the only comprehensive and complete funeral costs research conducted in the UK. Unlike other research conducted through surveys, limited mystery shopping and anecdotal evidence, our data represents the full and actual geographic data.

The report is produced using the following methods:

- Collecting costs for all crematoriums and cemeteries in the UK. Fieldwork took place between April and July 2016
- Using our internal UK funeral directors' costs data, which is maintained by the funeral directors themselves.

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