

COMPLETE GUIDE TO DIRECT CREMATION

*Everything you need to know
to say goodbye simply, personally,
and at the right time for you.*



we are
DIRECT
CREMATIONS

*Direct cremation is
the fastest growing
way to say goodbye
in the UK and
we're proud to be
at the forefront
of the revolution.*

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“TIMES HAVE CHANGED, AND FUNERALS HAVE TOO.”

The days of only having one option for a funeral are gone. Now you've got more choices, and a growing number of people are choosing to go down the direct cremation route.

It's a send off that puts you in control, and it's cheaper too.

Tens of thousands of families have already chosen to have a direct cremation - *usually without any mourners present* - and then perhaps host a separate, more informal and intimate celebration of life ceremony at a place and time that suits them, perhaps not until weeks or even months later, when they are ready.

I'm immensely proud of our fantastic team, based out of our beautiful crematorium and cemetery in Burntwood. It's important to note that we own and operate our own crematorium, memorial park and even a chapel - if you wish to use it.

We're not a broker, sending your loved one off into the care of others. When you entrust your loved one to us, they'll be with my team from the moment we collect them, right up until the moment we pass them back to you.

This very short guide shares some of the information my team and I think you'll find useful, I sincerely hope that you do.

John



John Connell
Founder, We Are Direct Cremations

Why So Many People Are Choosing Direct Cremations

The passing of a loved one is a challenging time in many aspects, but one of the most unexpectedly difficult moments can be funeral planning. With so many options to consider, you want to make the right decision to honour the life of the departed. Direct cremation may be one of those options.

Also known as simple cremation, direct cremation is the fastest, simplest and cheapest type of cremation.

It includes no funeral services, ceremonies, or attendees. Instead, the deceased is sent directly to the crematorium, allowing you to celebrate their life in a different way at a time when you are ready.

A direct cremation is well-suited to those who want a simple send-off carried out with the utmost respect and professionalism.

How is a direct cremation different to a regular cremation?

A direct cremation is a simple and respectful way to start the process of saying goodbye without having a traditional formal service. We are Direct Cremations will collect your loved one, return to our beautiful memorial park and crematorium

where we will carry out the cremation.

We'll return their ashes to you within 10 days, so you are free to arrange the send-off that's personal to your loved one, you and your family.

When you use We Are Direct Cremations, you'll get the ashes back faster than anywhere else. most direct cremation companies will usually take between a fortnight and a month to get them back to you.

Why arrange a direct cremation?

It gives you total flexibility to plan the sort of memorial or celebration you want, without following the traditional 'funeral' template and It's a good deal more affordable.

What happens to the ashes?

They'll be back with you in just a few days. Then it's your choice.

If you want to keep them in the urn they come in, or you'd rather scatter them, it's completely up to you – you could even have them buried, planted under a tree or scattered within memorial park – just tell us what you'd prefer.

What is a direct cremation?

A direct cremation is a cremation without the extras. No services, no hearse, no vicar – we come and collect your loved one, carry out their cremation and bring their ashes back within ten days.

Then you've got the flexibility to do whatever suits you and your family.

Do I need to use a Funeral Director?

No. A direct cremation means you can do whatever you want, whether that's a service at the local golf club, a wake at the pub, or a low-key, family-only affair.

We can liaise with Funeral Directors though, so if you're going in that direction, we can still help.

What's the difference between a traditional funeral and a direct cremation?

A traditional funeral refers to the actual ceremony, often in

a church, where the coffin is brought in, and there is a formal service.

Following the service, your loved one is either buried or cremated.

A direct cremation is just the "cremation" bit without the formal service, which makes it a lot more flexible and affordable.

You're free to arrange the send off that's right for everyone involved, rather than going through a process, that can sometimes feel impersonal and detached.

How long does a direct cremation take?

Once we have all the paperwork in place, we can personally return the ashes to you within 10 days, or you could collect them from us if you prefer. Or there are a number of options available if you'd like to us to scatter the ashes right here in our memorial park near Cannock Chase.

What about communication?

We'll keep you updated as much or as little as you like while your loved one is in our care. We use email, text messages and phone calls to keep you fully informed, so you know what's happening when.

Checklist: 7 Things You Need To Do After Someone Has Died

There is no right or wrong way to feel when someone dies, everyone reacts differently, but there are some practical things that do need to be taken care of.

1. A professional verifies the death

A trained healthcare professional needs to verify the death to confirm that the person has died. This is known as 'formal verification of death,' or 'confirmation of death' in Scotland.

2. A doctor certifies the death

A doctor does this by completing a medical certificate of cause of death. This is not the same as the death certificates you can get when you register the death.

3. Arrange for the person's body to be collected

Wherever you are in the UK, we can collect your loved one. Give our team a call on 0333 188 2810 and we'll dispatch an experienced professional in a Private Ambulance.

4. Register the person's death

The death needs to be registered at a register office. The registrar will register the death and issue a certificate for burial or cremation that you'll need to give to us so that we can proceed with the cremation.

5. Get copies of the death certificate

The registrar can give you certified copies of the death certificate. You will need to pay for these.

6. Tell organisations about the death

You may need to tell some organisations about the person's death, for example:

- employers and colleagues
- government departments
- bank and mortgage companies
- insurance companies
- utility companies
- Royal Mail

You can use the Tell Us Once service to report a death to most government departments in one go.

7. Find out whether the person who died had a Will

A Will can tell you who the named executors are. The executors are the people who sort out the person's affairs and deal with their estate.

A Will may also have the person's instructions, requests and ideas for cremation, funeral or service.

Direct cremation gives you complete flexibility to do whatever you want.

We'll take your loved one into our care and cremate them with respect and dignity.

Then the choice is yours, we can scatter the ashes for you in our own beautiful memorial garden near Cannock Chase, you can collect them from the crematorium yourself, or we can hand-deliver the ashes back to you.



Because the cremation has taken place, you can have a single service at a time that suits you, rather than a rushed send-off.

We can host your service in our lovely chapel here after the cremation, or help you to hold a personal, private gathering wherever you like.

*Church, officiant, mourners, cars and flowers?
All up to you.*

Direct cremation is simple and creates flexibility.

No fuss.

We Are Direct Cremations

Chase And District Memorial Park
Burntwood
Staffordshire
WS7 4XE

For more information visit

www.wearedirectcremations.co.uk

or email hello@wearedirectcremations.co.uk

Call our friendly and experienced
team on **0333 1882810**



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