Leeds is a city and metropolitan borough in West Yorkshire, England. The name Leeds derives from "Loidis", the name given to a forest covering most of the Brythonic kingdom of Elmet, which existed during the 5th century into the early 7th century.

Leeds is located on the River Aire with over 65% of the district being green belt land, which offers some of the most spectacular scenery and countryside in the UK. Leeds is the cultural, financial and commercial heart of the West Yorkshire Urban Area.

Leeds has a diverse economy with employment in the service sector now far exceeding that in the traditional manufacturing industries. The contemporary economy of Leeds has been shaped, by having the vision of building a ‘24 hour European city’ and a ‘capital of the north’. It has developed from the decay of the post-industrial era to become a telephone-banking centre, connected to the electronic infrastructure of the modern global economy. The extensive retail area of Leeds is identified as the principal regional shopping centre for the whole of the Yorkshire and the Humber region.

Leeds displays a variety of natural and built landmarks including such diverse sites as the gritstone outcrop of Otley Chevin and the Fairburn Ings RSPB reserve. The built environment embraces edifices of civic pride like Morley Town Hall and the trio of buildings in Leeds, Leeds Town Hall, Corn Exchange and Leeds City Museum by the architect Cuthbert Brodrick.

Leeds Carnival is Western Europe’s oldest West Indian Carnival, and the UK’s second largest. The city has teams representing all the major national sports. Leeds United A.F.C is the city’s main Football club. Leeds Rhinos (Rugby League), Leeds Carnegie (Rugby Union) and Yorkshire Country Cricket Club are also based in the city.