



Press Release

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Chippenham: The heart of traditional England



Chippenham combines the ancient and modern, with historic architectural gems, excellent communication links, beautifully maintained parks, modern shopping centres- not to mention some of the country's greatest houses and historic villages on its doorstep.

Chippenham hosts regular celebrations of local history and culture. The [Folk Festival](#) introduces new generations to English music, dance and song with an array of performances and demonstrations. With over 200 events over four days, this will mark the 43rd year of the festival. Tickets for the full four days are £94 for adults, £47 for children, and free for under-10s. The festival runs from Friday 23rd to Monday 26th May.

There's nowhere better to learn more about the area than the [Chippenham Museum & Heritage Centre](#). Set in a Grade II listed building and featuring displays from the Saxon era- via the Industrial

Age to the modern day- the museum charts Chippenham's fascinating local history. Admission is free, and the museum is open Monday-Saturday, 10am to 4pm.

The area surrounding Chippenham is famous for idyllic stone villages. Lacock and Castle Combe are amongst the best known, and are regularly voted amongst the most beautiful in the British Isles. [Lacock](#) is home to cottages and inns dating from the 15th century and is much admired by filmmakers. It has featured in many film classics from *Pride and Prejudice* to *Harry Potter*. The Abbey, located at the heart of the village within its own woodland grounds, is open to the public from 11am to 5pm, Wednesday to Monday. [Castle Combe](#) has also been the backdrop to Hollywood films such as *War Horse* and *Stardust*. The village is the perfect destination to enjoy a lazy walk, take in the views, and soak up the picturesque surroundings.

With a beautiful landscape and quiet rural roads, it's no wonder that there are plenty of four-wheeled activities in and around Chippenham. The [Atwell-Wilson Motor Museum](#) is home to vintage cars from across the world, including classic American models. Entry is £7 for adults, £1 for children. The museum is open Tuesday-Sunday, 11am to 5pm. [Vintage Classics](#) offers visitors the opportunity to get behind the wheel of classic luxury and sports cars from yesteryear. The fleet of Jaguars, Alfa Romeos and more can be hired by the hour; perfect taking for a day trip, picnic or weekend break in style. For a more high-octane experience, the [Castle Combe Circuit](#) is sure to get the pulse racing. Aspiring racers can sign up for a Racing School Driving Experience and end up driving a Formula Ford; a real race car on a genuine race circuit. The experience costs from £110, year round.

Visitors staying in and around Chippenham can choose from a number of excellent hotels, B&Bs and guesthouses. [Number 35 B&B](#), in the centre of the town, mixes Victorian features with 21st century luxury. Doubles including breakfast from £75. Just outside Chippenham, the highly acclaimed [Fosse Farmhouse](#) offers comfortable accommodation alongside home-cooked food, cream teas and unique décor. Double rooms from £95, including breakfast.

[King John's Hunting Lodge](#), the oldest medieval property in Lacock has been transformed into a welcoming and luxurious B&B. The atmosphere is friendly and laid back, with a reputation for hospitality and traditional home cooking. Double rooms are from £100, and include breakfast. Lacock is also home to [The Old Rectory](#); set within a Gothic Grade II listed building full of original features. Double rooms from £40 per person, with breakfast.

Hungry visitors are never short of options around Chippenham. With a fantastic central location, [Revolutions Restaurant](#) specialises in beautifully presented, reasonably priced dishes with excellent service. [The George Inn](#), surrounded by the Bowood Estate offers fresh, local food in a homely environment. Dogs are welcome, and diners can also enjoy the art collection hanging on the walls. The restaurant at [Guyers House Hotel](#) has received two AA rosettes for exceptional cooking. For special occasions, the restaurant specialises in traditional cooking with a modern twist. Steak lovers should consider [The White Hart](#) in Ford. With a full menu of locally-sourced dishes, the restaurant is famous for its Black Angus steaks.

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VisitWiltshire

VisitWiltshire Ltd was established in August 2011 and is the official Tourist Board for Wiltshire. It is a private sector membership organisation representing over 530 members. VisitWiltshire's priority is to grow the county's Visitor Economy by raising awareness of the destination and generating additional tourism visits and spend. Wiltshire's Visitor Economy currently generates an estimated £1.4billion and supports over 27,000 jobs.

Note to editors

Further information and images of the above attractions available upon request. Visitors can also find more information at: <http://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk>