

## Press Release

09 October 2013

### **Fine Food and Insider Tips: Autumnal Foodie Fun from VisitWiltshire**

Autumn is the perfect season for food and foodies. Out go beach bodies, in come warming layers. Roaring log fires, farmers markets, puddings, soups, pints of ale; all these invoke memories of the shortening days and longer nights. There is nowhere better to conjure up new food memories than Britain's most quintessentially English county Wiltshire this autumn season.

[VisitWiltshire](#) has pulled together some of its favourite food locations, activities, venues and events this autumn, ranging from the well-known to some superb insider tips.

You can find all of these and more food inspiration, at [www.visitwiltshire.co.uk](http://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk).

#### **Best Roaring Log Fire Pubs**

What could be more English than hiding away from the cold weather with a pint, some good grub and a roaring log fire? Fine food pubs are plentiful across Wiltshire: some even have Michelin stars and are widely recognised for their cuisine, while others are just fantastic locals (even if they do have their own [micro-breweries](#)). VisitWiltshire's favourite "pubs with fireplaces" include:

- The multi-award winning, Michelin starred, [Red Lion Freehouse](#) near Pewsey has a superb fire which is the centrepiece of its dining room. This pub was recently recognised as a top-50 UK eatery by Waitrose Magazine, and you can also stay in the recently added Troutbeck Guesthouse.
- The chic and laid back [Beckford Arms](#) on the Fonthill Gifford Estate. A fantastic open fire is the centrepiece of the bar which serves everything from a house Bellini to local ales. For true indulgence the Beckford puts on a Sunday movie night, complete with comfy sofas and comfort food.
- [The Lamb at Hindon](#) oozes winter warmth. Part of the Boisdale Group, the food is traditional and warming and is a true retreat from any inclement weather. The tables next to the dramatic fireplace are a must.
- [The Three Daggers](#) is a much-loved local pub (as well as farm shop and its own micro-brewery) serving deliciously prepared food using local produce.

#### **Farmer's Market Favourites**

Wiltshire is renowned for its farming and local produce, and autumn with its game, root vegetables, jams and pickles, as well as Wiltshire's own signature ham and lardy cake, is a great time to visit them. It is no surprise, therefore, that the county is peppered with wonderful [farmer's and artisan markets](#), selling produce with an impeccable provenance.

Almost every town and village has a farmer's market, or local farm shop, selling wonderful ingredients, and discovery is all part of the fun. The VisitWiltshire team however, do have some favourites from across the county. These include markets in:

- Bradford on Avon, Lamb Yard and Riverside. Last Sunday each month. 1030-1400
- Devizes Market Place. First Saturday each month. 0900-1300
- Malmesbury The Market Cross. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday each month. 0900-1300
- Salisbury Poultry Cross. Every Wednesday. 0900-1400
- Royal Wootton Bassett High Street. 4<sup>th</sup> Sat each month. 0900-1300

More permanent foodie outlets, which sell local products all year round and are well worth a visit, include [The Britford Farm Shop](#) in Salisbury, which has a superb café as well and [Gastro Nick's Deli](#) south of Marlborough in Collingbourne Ducis.

### **Food with a View**

We are told we eat with our eyes, so what could be better than indulging in eating (or buying) superb food and drink whilst taking in a magnificent view. From spires to thatched roofs and canals to fantastic walks, here are some of the best 'food with a view' suggestions that can be found across Wiltshire.

- [Salisbury Cathedral](#) is famous for many things; the Magna Carta, its spectacular Cathedral Close and of course for having the tallest spire in England. There is nowhere better to enjoy this spire and enjoy wonderfully locally cooked food than in the Cathedral's own [Refectory Restaurant](#), complete with glass roof.
- Sandy Lane, near Chippenham, is a picture-perfect postcard village, complete with thatched cottages, a thatched church and of course a wonderful village pub, [The George Inn](#), from which to soak in the wonderfully English rural view. Sandy Lane is on the edge of the Bowood Estate, with its own superb views and mature gardens.
- Watch the world go by as you drift down the famous Kennet and Avon Canal by hiring a barge from [The Boatyard](#) at Trowbridge. You can hire barges for a full day, and each has a well kitted-out galley, ensuring you can drink in the view whilst enjoying a drink with lunch.
- Sometimes nothing beats a good walk, followed by a good lunch. [The Bell Inn at Ramsbury](#) is a pub built with walkers in mind. Ramsbury is surrounded by wonderful walks, including one taking in a famous Wiltshire white horse. The pub itself comes complete with a boot room, wellie washer and of course, great home cooked pub grub (there is also a restaurant option).

### **Something a little Different**

Being quintessentially English means embracing some of our eccentricities, and there are some wonderfully eccentric and eclectic food experiences across the county. Art studios combined with restaurants, beer-pulling shire horses, magnificently flavoured ice creams and fine dining at its very best can all be found in Wiltshire.

- [Fisherton Mill](#) is one of Salisbury's best kept 'secrets'. Built in 1880 as a grain mill, Fisherton is the south of England's largest independent gallery with onsite café & artist studios. The gallery exhibits work by many leading artists, furniture makers and sculptors as well as jewellery, ceramics, glasswork and decorative items. The Gallery Café offers a selection of homemade cakes and light modern lunches using local produce.
- [Wadworth Brewery](#) lies at the heart of the county in Devizes, and is a Victorian Brewery still working today and selling a range of highly popular beers including the iconic 6X. Its famous shire horses can still be seen transporting beer in and around Devizes and are a highlight of the Brewery Tour organised by the Wadworth Brewery Visitor Centre. Tastings are, of course, also a highlight.
- [Fosse Farmhouse](#), near Nettleton, is a B&B (and self-catering accommodation) with a difference. Chef and owner Caron Cooper does so much more than breakfast, and can as often be found teaching her guests how to cook as well as feeding them. She is an expert in traditional Wiltshire Lardy Cake, and also is famous in Japan for her English cooking. Indeed, the farm has recently featured in a [Japanese Anime cartoon](#).
- For those seeking the peak of fine dining, in luxurious surroundings, the Michelin starred The Park restaurant at [Lucknam Park Hotel and Spa](#) is a must visit. Run by Executive Chef Hywel Jones, The Park has held its star since 2006. Produce is as local as possible, and fresh herbs and seasonal vegetables are from the hotel's own kitchen garden. Three courses cost £75 per person and the Gourmet Menu is £90 per person. Lucknam Park is currently offering an autumnal [Gourmet Break](#) which includes dinner at The Park, as well as dinner in the Brasserie, for two nights. Costs start at £485 per room.

**ENDS**

### **NOTE TO PRESS – PRESS TRIP SUGGESTION**

**If you would be interested in an overnight stay in Wiltshire to explore the foodie treats it has to offer, we would love to host you on a dinner, B&B basis. We can also help create a two day itinerary if needed. If you are interested please contact Callum or Sophy as below.**

#### **For further information please contact:**

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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 500 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 £1billion and supports over 21,000 jobs.

Note to editors

Visitors can also find more information at:

<http://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk>