The Seven Wonders of Wiltshire

If you take a look at the calendar you'll notice we're only a stone's throw from the February half term. This is not only an opportunity to spend quality time with the kids but also an opportunity to explore; and where better do so other than the glorious Wiltshire countryside. Wiltshire is steeped in rich history; from 14th century ruins to world class railway museums, it certainly isn't shy of an experience you'll remember for many years to come.

As we head towards the holidays, one of the luxury boutique hotels in Wiltshire, <u>The Bishopstrow Hotel and Spa</u>, has decided to share its guests seven most popular hotspots in a winter 'Wiltshire-wonderland'.

ONE: Old Wardour Castle

Near Tisbury, Old Wardour Castle was once one of the most daring and innovative homes in Britain. Despite being such a grand property in the 14th century, today the castle stands in ruin. On the upside, it does however provide a relaxed, romantic day out for couples and families with plenty of nooks and crannies to explore.

TWO: Wadworth Brewery

Situated in the market town of Devizes, Wadworth Brewery Shop and Visitor Centre is perfect for those who like a beer or two. Open Monday to Saturday all year round, you are free to take a self-guided 'Brewseum' tour. Alongside, there is an onsite sampling bar where you can appreciate their range of hand crafted ales in relaxing surroundings.

THREE: Caen Hill Locks

While enjoying a mid-morning wander, pass by the Caen Hill Locks. Boasting a flight of 29 locks in total, it's a must visit. The locks are built in three steps with a rise of 237 feet over a two mile stretch. This quirky lock system really is something you will remember forever.

FOUR: STEAM Museum of the Great Western Railway

STEAM is located in the centre of what used to be one of the biggest railway engineering complexes in the world. The Swindon Railway Works was founded in January 1843 as a repair and maintenance facility for the new Great Western Railway. The museum is a Grade two listed structure and represents a complex piece of industrial archaeology. STEAM is an ideal day whether you want to gently tease your brain or you enjoy the odd train journey.

FIVE: Salisbury Cathedral

Impossible to miss, Salisbury Cathedral is a true landmark. On the drive by, you can't help but feel yourself drawn to the stunning architecture of the cathedral and its hand stencilled stain glass windows. With many of its original features inside, the cathedral advocates a wealth of stories and history. Guided tours are available and all visitors are welcomed.

SIX: Wiltshire Afternoon Tea

When it comes to the quintessentially British tradition of afternoon tea, Wiltshire sure is in the know. With a variety of exquisite afternoon tea experiences to choose from, it is the perfect way to indulge after a long afternoon stroll through the glorious countryside.

SEVEN: Stonehenge & Avebury Stone Circle

Finally, if you are travelling to Wiltshire you would be crazy not to stop by this one; it is, in fact, one of the official wonders of the world. Stonehenge's pre-historic beauty is admired every year by hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world. And in case these ancient stones were not enough to whet your appetite, you can also stop of at Avebury Stone Circle on your Wiltshire travels.