

PLACES OF INTEREST NEARBY

1 Cotswold Water Park



Loads of lakes offering a huge variety of activities including water sports, fishing, bird watching, cycling and walking. Call in to the Gateway Information Centre to discover where to go and what to do. Free parking; lakeside café; toilets.

Tel: 01793 752413 www.waterpark.org

2 Lydiard House & Park



The elegant state rooms of the Palladian house – containing original family furnishings and portraits – and the 18th century walled garden are open all year round. Special events, children's play area, café and extensive grounds to explore.

Tel: 01793 770401 www.lydiardpark.org.uk

3 McArthurGlen's Swindon Designer Outlet



Over 90 stores selling a range of high street and designer labels at up to 60% off RRP. Stores include LK Bennett, Kurt Geiger, Superdry, John Lewis Home Outlet, Ted Baker, Marks and Spencer Outlet, Hobbs plus many more.

Tel: 01793 507600 www.swindondesigneroutlet.com

4 STEAM - Museum of the Great Western Railway



Climb aboard famous locomotives, be an engine driver and a signaller and get involved with loads of interactive exhibits telling the story of the Great Western Railway. There's fun, adventure and excitement for everyone!

Tel: 01793 466637 / 466646 www.steam-museum.org.uk

5 Swindon & Cricklade Railway



A collection of locomotives and rolling stock including steam and diesel engines. Locomotive shed with engines under restoration. Train rides on open days and special events, eg Wine and Dine on the Moonraker, Easter Egg Specials, Santa Specials.

Tel: 01793 771615 www.swindon-cricklade-railway.org

ACCOMMODATION

There is plenty of accommodation to be found for visitors wishing to stay overnight, for a weekend, or longer:

- 1 The Angel Hotel, Royal Wootton Bassett
www.theangelhotelwoottonbassett.co.uk
- 2 Marsh Farm Hotel, Royal Wootton Bassett
www.marshfarmhotel.co.uk
- 3 The Red Lion Inn, Cricklade
www.theredlioncricklade.co.uk
- 4 Waterhay Farm, Leigh
www.waterhayfarmbedandbreakfast.com
- 5 Preston Lodge, Preston
www.prestonlodge.co.uk
- 6 Fairview Guesthouse, Royal Wootton Bassett
www.fairviewguesthouse.com
- 7 Park Farm, Lydiard Tregoze
www.parkfarmguesthouse.com
- 8 Hook Farm Cottages, Royal Wootton Bassett
www.hookfarmcottages.co.uk

GENERAL INFORMATION

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ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT AND CRICKLADE

Towns & Villages Trail



visitwiltshire.co.uk

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT



Royal Wootton Bassett dates from AD 681, when it was a Saxon settlement known as Wodeton. Today, Royal Wootton Bassett is a bright and vibrant town with a strong sense of community. Since being granted its 'Royal' prefix in October 2011 it has continued to build on its traditional values, and has a welcoming friendly atmosphere.

Royal Wootton Bassett's High Street is proudly overlooked by the iconic black and white Town Hall housing the Museum. Within the town you'll find a wide range of independent shops, including a greengrocer, deli and award-winning butcher, plus items for the home from the ironmonger and Shabby Chic shops.

Jubilee Lake and the Wilts & Berks Canal are renowned for their wildlife and flora, and various walks can be enjoyed around the town.

Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council, 117 High Street, Royal Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire, SN4 7AU

Tel: 01793 850222

www.woottonbassett.gov.uk



CRICKLADE

Cricklade – the first town on the Thames – is the southern gateway to the Cotswold Water Park. Built by Alfred the Great as a defence against the Danes it is the best preserved example of a Saxon new town.

Cricklade offers free parking, two historic churches and a famous Jubilee Clock. Its wide High Street has some interesting speciality shops and a number of welcoming pubs and hotels, one now with its own microbrewery. The town's layout follows the pattern of ancient burgage plots and there are over 100 listed buildings. A Heritage Trail around the town explains key features through a series of interpretation boards.

Cricklade is renowned for its floral displays and in 2011 was awarded RHS Champion of Champions. North Meadow on the edge of the town is one of the finest examples of a lowland hay meadow with a great variety of wild flowers.

A range of tourism guides and information is available from Cricklade Town Council, 113 High Street, Cricklade, Wiltshire, SN6 6AE

Tel: 01793 751394

www.cricklade-tc.gov.uk



Snakeshead Fritillaries, North Meadow

WALKING THE THAMES PATH



An iconic national trail, the Thames Path follows England's most famous river for 184 miles from its source in the Cotswolds towards London.

Having navigated the Cotswold Water Park, the Path passes through Cricklade – the only Wiltshire town on the Thames – skirting the National Nature Reserve of North Meadow which is renowned for its spectacular display of rare Snakeshead Fritillaries in April.

To tackle the whole length of the Path would take a couple of weeks, but you can spend a weekend exploring the Cricklade section of it, or just enjoy a pleasant afternoon's stroll.

ANNUAL FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Royal Wootton Bassett Carnival	May
Cricklade Town Festival	June
Purton Carnival	June
WOMAD, Malmesbury	July
Tockenham Village Fair	July
Cricklade Show	August
Swindon Mela	August
Festival of Cycling, Cricklade	September
Swindon Railway Festival, STEAM Museum	September
Great Western Lego Show, STEAM Museum	October
Country House Christmas, Lydiard House	December
Cricklade Christmas Lights	December

For further details see www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/whats-on



1 Royal Wootton Bassett
See overleaf for details

2 Broad Town



Broad Town is situated in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It boasts its own White Horse, and rural walks, including the White Horse Trail. There are various annual events, including the Broad Town Five run and the Big Gig – a popular music festival. The Village has a small primary school, and Christ Church. It does not have a pub, but there is an active Social Club on Friday and Sunday nights.



3 Clyffe Pypard

Clyffe Pypard is a picturesque village on the edge of the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. There are numerous circular walks that allow visitors to enjoy a diverse mixture of landscapes, from ancient woodland, to chalk escarpment, from hedge lined pastures with cows grazing to wild flower meadows, and the church is well worth a visit. Ample car parking is available at the village hall in the centre of the parish (SN4 7PX), and two village pubs provide a range of refreshments.

4 Tockenham

In 1994 Channel 4's Time Team discovered a very elaborate Roman villa in Tockenham, complete with 'central heating', mosaic tiled floors and fine carvings. To commemorate their findings, they left a plaque made from Roman pottery found nearby. Originally named St John the Evangelist, and built in the late 13th century, the church had an extension added using stones from the nearby Roman villa. In the early 20th century, the church was renamed St Giles – the patron saint of healing. In July 2013, the church will celebrate the 700th anniversary of its consecration.



5 Lyneham & Bradenstoke

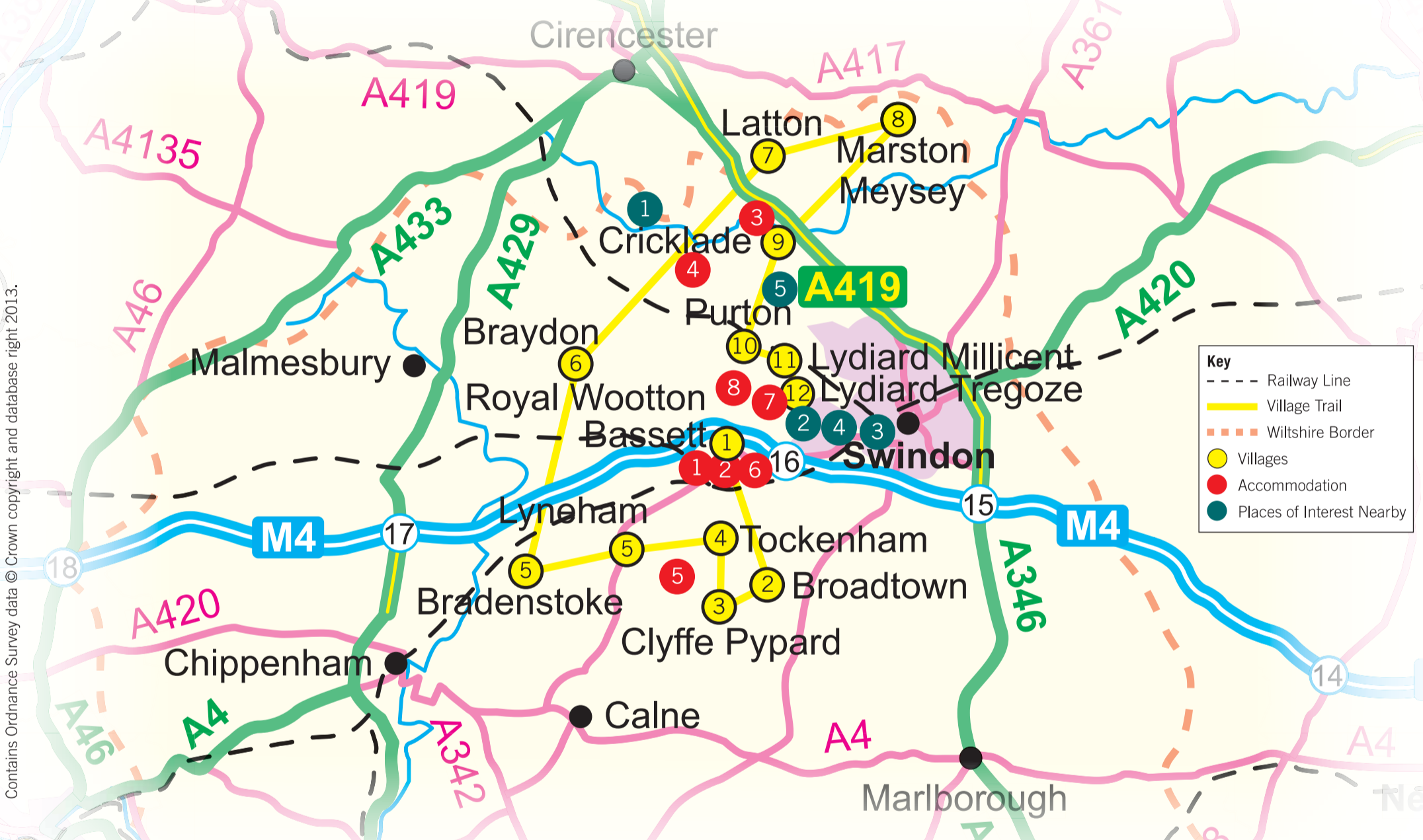


Lyneham and Bradenstoke lie among undulating hills, just north of the escarpment of the Marlborough Downs. Within the conservation area of Bradenstoke are many buildings of historical interest, while services include a public house, village store, church, two chapels and a village hall. Lyneham, too, has buildings of historical interest, alongside convenience stores, food outlets, post office, two public houses, petrol station, small library, two churches and a village hall. Until late 2012 the Parish was home to RAF Lyneham.



6 Braydon

Braydon is reputedly the smallest parish in Wiltshire, with approximately 45 residents. It is located in the remains of an historic early Great Royal Forest dating from 796 – after the Norman Conquest this was established as a major hunting forest. Ravensroost Wood, managed by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, is a Site of Special Scientific Interest. The woods, trees and marshland are the main stars of the parish and there is evidence of early settlers from prehistoric Neolithic and Palaeolithic times.



7 Latton

Latton is located 1½ miles north-west of Cricklade. The stone church of St John the Baptist is mainly Norman, with later additions. Notable features of the church include a nave with a fine wooden roof; a Norman doorway with chevron decoration; and a tower containing five bells. Among Latton's claims to fame are the Mammoth bones, discovered in a gravel pit in 1998 and featured on Channel 4's The Big Dig in 2002. Other discoveries here have included a Roman road with tessellated pavements and Roman coins. An ancient stone cross can be seen on the Cirencester road.



8 Marston Meysey

Marston Meysey is a single street, mainly consisting of large stone houses which have evolved since the 17th century out of the farm buildings that originally formed the village. Since 1974 the village has been designated a conservation area and still retains its traditional feel. The parish numbers fewer than 200 souls but St James' church attracts a loyal congregation and the Church Hall is Grade II listed. A thriving pub - The Old Spotted Cow - is a welcoming destination for meals or socialising.



9 Cricklade

See overleaf for details

10 Purton

There is evidence of Iron Age, Roman and Saxon occupation in Purton. It has a number of 16th to 19th century buildings of historic interest and a beautiful Grade I listed church. The village (population over 4,000) is a vibrant community with schools, sporting facilities, a museum, library, clubs, shops, medical services, pubs, an Indian restaurant and The Pear Tree Hotel. Many organisations keep the residents informed, fit and entertained. St Mary's Church is a rare example of an English church with both a tower and spire.



11 Lydiard Millicent

Lydiard Millicent has an historic past. Parts of All Saints Parish Church date from the 14th century; The Sun Inn first opened its doors in the 17th century; and the grounds of Manor House contain a Grade II listed early 18th century Dovecote. The Parish's more recent past covers the Red Cross station, whose original huts can still be seen today – from here ambulance crews set out to collect returning injured servicemen from local airfields after World War Two actions. The site of the Beeches development once served as a Prisoner of War Camp.

12 Lydiard Tregoze

Lydiard Tregoze is mentioned in the Domesday Book and was once part of the ancient division of the county known as the Kingsbridge Hundred. The parish church of St Mary dates from medieval times and is regarded as one of England's finest small churches. It contains monuments to the St John family, Viscounts Bolingbroke, who once lived in nearby Lydiard House. Lydiard House and Park – including a Palladian Mansion, walled garden and extensive grounds – are now open to the public.

