### ANY TIME IS WILTSHIRE TIME



Today life is hectic. Too hectic. 24/7 this, 4G that. Sometimes you just need to press pause and let time stand still. Wiltshire's towns and villages are the perfect places to connect with the past whilst enjoying the present.

Friendly, relaxed and welcoming - and set within a glorious natural landscape - each has something unique to offer. Stylish independent shops and colourful markets, for example. Fascinating history and heritage. Great entertainment. Or tempting pubs and restaurants.

So step off the world for a while, escape to Wiltshire, and let our gentler pace of life put back what the rest of the week takes out. It's time to write your chapter in our never-ending story.

For more inspiration go to visitwiltshire.co.uk

#### RURAL ENGLAND AT ITS VERY BEST

Easy to explore, yet off the beaten track, Wiltshire is one of Britain's best kept secrets. Almost half the county lies withir an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, full of peaceful drove oads and quiet country lanes. Rolling green downs and

Lacock too has formed a breathtaking backdrop to many film and TV classics, from Wolf Hall and Pride and Prejudice to

THERE'S ALWAYS TIME

FOR WILTSHIRE

visitwiltshire.co.uk



## YOU'LL BE HERE IN NO TIME

Ever since Brunel chose to site his engineering works here in 1835, railways have played an important part in Wiltshire's prosperity. Today, thanks to fast and frequent trains from London Paddington and London Waterloo, travelling to Wiltshire is easy. With services operated by both Great Western Railway and South Western Railway, the rail network links 14 towns and villages right across the county, including Melksham and Warminster.

well located for accessing Wiltshire's stunning countryside and many attractions. The historic quarter is where you will find St Michael and All Angel's Church, Canon Square and Church Walk. As well as the railway station Melksham is served by excellent bus routes and the friendly town centre offers independent shops and plenty of cafés, pubs and restaurants. Melksham is renowned for its spectacular Christmas lights; other events in the busy community calendar include Party in the Park (July)

**Melksham** evolved at a ford across the River Avon and is

On the western edge of Salisbury Plain, Warminster is a busy market town with fine Georgian buildings and a wide variety of independent shops, cafés, restaurants and inns. Lake Pleasure Grounds provide tennis courts, a boating lake, children's playground, putting green, café and skateboard park. Nearby, Smallbrook Meadows Nature Reserve is a lovely mosaic of water-meadows between the Were and Wylye rivers. The surrounding countryside provides numerous opportunities for walking, cycling and horse riding, while **Longleat** – with its historic house, safari park and more – is within easy reach. Annual events include the Warminster Wobble (June), Inspire live music event (July) and Carnival (October).

Other timeless towns and villages connected by the rail network include Avoncliff, Bedwyn, Bradford on Avon, Chippenham, Dean, Dilton Marsh, Pewsey, Salisbury, Swindon, Tisbury, Trowbridge and Westbury.



### HERE YOU CAN TOUCH AND FEEL THE PAST

Waterways were vital to the Wiltshire economy in years gone by and the Kennet & Avon Canal runs right across the centre of the county. During the Industrial Revolution it was a key means of transport for goods and materials; today it makes a peaceful and unhurried way to enjoy Wiltshire's timeless scenery. Walk or cycle along the towpath. Relax on board a narrowboat. Or take to the water in a canoe.

In the east of the county the Canal runs through the lush meadows of the **Vale of Pewsey** which lies on the western edge of the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. This tranquil, spiritual and ancient area makes a great base for walking, cycling and horse riding. Here you'll find charming thatched cottages, peaceful villages, and a wide range of places to eat, drink and shop. At the heart of the Vale is the village of **Pewsey** with its Heritage Centre, statue of Alfred the Great and wharf on the Kennet & Avon Canal. If you visit during September you can take part in the oldest carnival in Wiltshire. Wilton Windmill

and **Crofton Beam Engines** can be visited nearby – the latter runs regular steaming weekends and its annual steam gala is an ever-popular event. The historic market town of **Devizes** also stands on the

Rising 237 feet over two miles, this continuous flight of 29 locks is one of the longest in the country. Devizes has a colourful medieval past and a rich heritage of fine Georgian houses. Home to both Wiltshire Museum and Wadworth Brewery, this is a town that has kept its character. Here you'll find many small, family-run businesses and a good, traditional market filled with fresh food, crafts and curios. With colourful events such as the Picnic in the Park, Confetti Battle and Carnival Parade, the town's Festival Fortnight is a highlight of the annual entertainment programme, which also offers food and drink events, an archaeology conference and even an eisteddfod.

Kennet & Avon Canal, near the top of Caen Hill Locks.







#### Barn and the ancient Town Bridge. Then take a relaxing narrowboat trip on the Kennet & Avon Canal. With events taking place all year round you can drop in on the Day of Dance (May), check out the Chilli Festival (July) or enjoy an outstanding performance at Wiltshire Music Centre. Thanks to the wool trade and the quarrying of golden Bath stone, **Corsham** developed from Saxon origins into a prosperous town. The historic High Street is lined with properties from the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, many

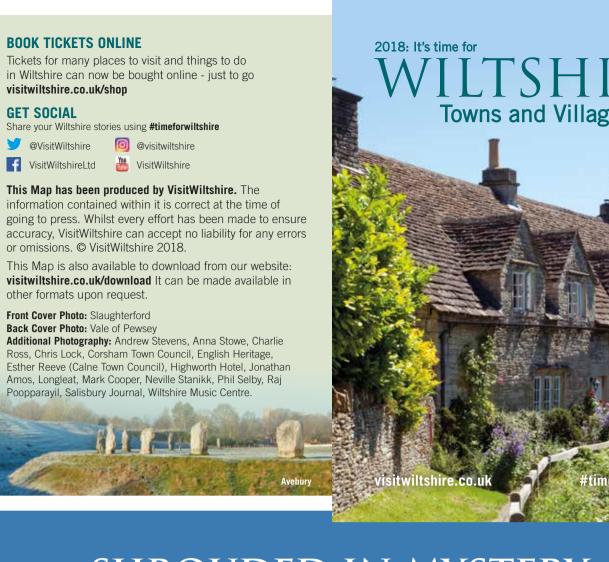
- in the first series of BBC One's Poldark. Trowbridge – Wiltshire's county town and a Magna Carta

baron town – has a history of weaving dating back over 1,000 years. The result is a rich architectural legacy ranging from the late-16th to the mid-19th century. **Trowbridge** Museum (currently closed for renovation but reopening mid-2020) contains a fascinating collection relating to West Country woollen cloth production, including working looms. Today Trowbridge also boasts many independent retailers, quality markets, an Odeon cinema and family restaurants, as well as a vibrant heritage and arts scene. Annual highlights include the Active Festival (June), Country Fayre (September) and Carnival Procession (October).



#### MADE IN WILTSHIRE

drink, as well as attractions including the 350-year-old Almshouses and stately Corsham Court. Popular events include Walking and Food Festivals (June) and the Peacock Arts Trail (September-October), while The Pound arts centre is a thriving venue with a year-round programme of performances, exhibitions and films. In recent years the town has achieved fame thanks to its starring role – as Truro



#### SHROUDED IN MYSTERY, STEEPED IN LEGEND

Wiltshire has been a special place for a very long time and our World Heritage Site stands testament to the ages. On a misty morning at **Avebury** you can understand the appeal this sacred place held for our ancestors. Here, maller stone circles and part of the village

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Share your Wiltshire stories using #timeforwiltshire

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other formats upon request.

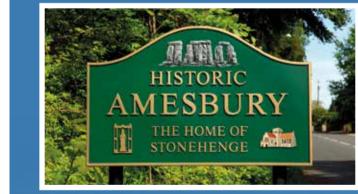
Front Cover Photo: Slaughterford

**Back Cover Photo:** Vale of Pewsey

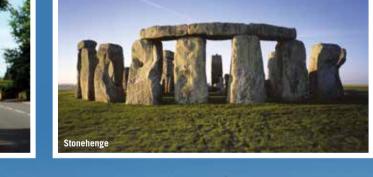
the North Wessex Downs, lies the market town of Marlborough. Today, this handsome former staging post green spaces to enjoy. The town's busy events calendar cludes the ever-popular Marlborough College Summer School (July-August) and colourful Music and Literature Festivals (September). Don't miss The Merchant's House, a glorious restoration dating from 1653

make the pilgrimage here to marvel at one of the most iconic wonders in the world. Among its many unique features is its orientation on the rising and setting sun, but

small town of Amesbury, just three miles from Stonehens and close to the Neolithic sites of Durrington Walls and Woodhenge. Amesbury has a history dating back to 8,820BC. Imagine what life would have been like all those thousands of years ago... think of the stories this place has to tell... then find out more at **Amesbury History** Centre. The grave of the Amesbury Archer – an early Bronze Age man – was discovered here in 2002. Toda visitors can enjoy a range of events, including the Carnival (June), Duck Race (August), Scarecrow Trail (September) and Christmas Market (December).







## SALISBURY: THE PERFECT HISTORIC CITY

medieval magnificence meets contemporary culture. The istoric neart of the city retains its original medieval

empting tearooms and coffee shops abound, together ha recently formed Wiltshire Creative ... combining le recently-formed Willshire Creative – combining disbury Playhouse, Salisbury Arts Centre and Salisbuternational Arts Festival – promises a fabulous pan-a rogramme from summer 2018. While inspirational e Drink Festival (Sentember)

the delightful Christmas W

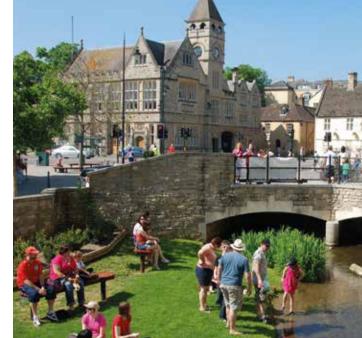
working clock. Take a Tower Tour for panoramic views and find further attractions including The Salisbury Museum,
Mompesson House, Arundells and The Rifles Berkshire
& Wiltshire Museum, Nearby is the Parish Church of St & Wiltshire Museum. Nearby is the Parish Church of St

ern outskirts of the city lies Old Sarum (t on the northern outskirts of the city lies **Uld Sarum** (the original site of Salisbury), while **Boscombe Down Aviation Collection, Salisbury Racecourse** and the **World Heritage Site of Stonehenge** are also on the doorstep.









### SAVOUR THE TASTE OF WILTSHIRE

In Wiltshire, food matters. Here, we create food to feed the second to none. Back in 18th century Calne, the Harris family invented the traditional English technique of curing bacon and ham. In time, this became known as the 'Wiltshire Cure' and is now recognised countrywide.

Festival and Carnival (June).

For a small town, **Calne** certainly packs a historic punch. Its story is one of drovers' trails and coach roads... the rise and fall of canal and rail travel... and the legacy of woollen broadcloth. Calne has always been a town of discovery, too. Joseph Priestley 'discovered' oxygen here whilst working at nearby **Bowood House**, and shortly after that Jan Ingenhousz 'discovered' photosynthesis. Today you can visit Calne's heritage quarter to experience each chapter of its past, browse the town's range of independent shops, and stop for refreshments at a cosy café. Explore Castlefields Canal and River Park and the outstanding **Atwell-Wilson Motor Museum**. Or enjoy events such as Calne Spring Sing (April) and the Summer

#### **ESCAPE THE EVERYDAY** Whether your ideal break is calming, comforting, refreshing, or bursting with high octane excitement, Wiltshire is the perfect antidote to overcrowded cities.

Our breathtaking countryside might well have been invented with outdoor pursuits in mind. If you fancy a stroll you can follow in the footsteps of the ancient drovers. towpath of the Kennet & Avon Canal, If serious, longdistance routes are your thing, stride out to your heart's content on the White Horse Trail. Roam the Ridgeway.

Many Wiltshire towns owe their modern-day prosperity to the

production of woollen broadcloth in centuries past. With the

exception of Wilton Carpets, the textile industry is long gone,

but outstanding examples of industrial architecture remain.

noney-coloured gem of Bradford on Avon, renowned for its

stylish shops and restaurants. Evidence of its textile heritage

Perched on the edge of the Cotswolds is the charming

can be found in the 19th century cloth mills flanking the

river bank, and former weavers' cottages lining the hill

above. Visit the Saxon Church, the 14th century Tithe

of which are now home to quirky, independent shops.

'ou'll find a choice of characterful places to eat and

Walk the Wansdyke. Tackle their entire length over several days (sturdy shoes recommended). Or cherry pick the bits you like best. Either way, escape and let time stand still. Cyclists – seasoned experts, keen amateurs and those just starting out – will find plenty of opportunities too. From the

confidence-building to the downright daring. Looking for a stress-free family outing? Give the Golden Way a go. Eager for the excitement of off-road adventure? Head to the Longleat Estate. Keen to test your mettle on a demanding long-distance trail? The 160-mile Wiltshire Cycleway will prove more than enough of a challenge.

For the ultimate white-knuckle ride, sign up for a tandem skydive or set a speed record round the race track. Head for the hills on a Landrover safari or steel yourself for laser combat 21st century-style. Prefer your activities wet and wild? Looking for team building activities or fun group days out? Want to pit your wits against the clock in an escape room game? We've got those covered too. But adrenalininducing activities are not the only options. You can float gently over the landscape in a hot air balloon. Challenge family and friends to a treasure hunt. Chill out on a spa

Whatever you do, one thing's for sure – you'll find new stories around every corner.

day. Or treat yourself to a relaxing round of golf.



#### FIND OUT MORE

TIND OUT WORL
Amesbury Community & Visitor Centre
T: 01980 622525 www.amesburytowncouncil.gov.uk
Bradford on Avon Town Council ₹
<b>T:</b> 01225 865797
www.bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk  Calne Visitor and Community Information Centre
T: 01249 814000
www.calne.gov.uk
Castle Combe
Chippenham Town Council <b>₹</b>
T: 01249 446699 www.chippenham.gov.uk
Corsham Area Information Centre
T: 01249 714660
www.corsham.gov.uk/visit Cricklade Visitor Information Point
<b>T:</b> 01793 751394
www.crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk
Devizes T: 01380 800400
Accommodation Booking Line: 01380 620660
www.devizes-tc.gov.uk Highworth Town Council
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Lacock
Ludgershall Town Council
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www.ludgershall-tc.gov.uk  Malmesbury Tourist Information Centre
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www.marlborough-tc.gov.uk
Melksham Tourist Information Centre <del>→</del>
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www.merechamberoftrade.co.uk  Royal Wootton Bassett
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Salisbury Information Centre <b>₹</b> T: 01722 342860
www.visitsalisbury.co.uk
www.salisburycitycouncil.gov.uk Swindon ₹
Tidworth Town Council
www.tidworthtowncouncil.gov.uk
Tisbury Information Centre <b>₹</b>
<b>T:</b> 01747 260088
www.tisbury-wiltshire-pc.gov.uk  Trowbridge Information Centre ₹
<b>T:</b> 01225 765072 (Option 3)
www.trowbridge.gov.uk
Vale of Pewsey ≥
www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk  Warminster Community Hub
T: 01985 218548
www.warminstercommunityhub.co.uk
Westbury Visitor Centre <b>₹</b> T: 01373 825784
www.westburytowncouncil.gov.uk
www.westburyvisitorcentre.co.uk Wilton Town Council
www.wiltontown.com
Trowbridge





#### LET US ENTERTAIN YOU

#### Plenty to Fire the Imagination

We're a creative lot in Wiltshire. Here we have space and time to nurture the arts, in all their inventive, ingenious forms. Theatres, galleries, music and arts centres. Drama, dance, concerts and exhibitions. Inspirational venues and

outstanding performances. You'll find an enormous range of events to enjoy. Around the county and throughout the year. Cuckoo, craft and Mop fairs. Open days, action and fun days. Pancake races, duck races,

horse races and canoe races. There are river, cycling and walking festivals. Scarecrow and sculpture festivals. History and literature festivals. Not to mention steam and vintage weekends, a confetti battle and a flying monk trail.

With such beautiful and diverse countryside as our backdrop, the whole county is a canvas for creativity. So escape the everyday and make the most of our timeless pleasures. Go to **visitwiltshire.co.uk/whats-on** to find out more.



With so much on offer throughout the day and into the early hours, Salisbury and Chippenha are proud holders of Purple Flag status - the

#### **Spectacular Film and TV Locations**

Thanks to its timeless charm and appeal, Wiltshire has taken centre stage in a whole host of big screen movies and TV costume dramas. From swashbuckling adventures to Jane Austen classics. Dr Dolittle to Dr Who. Harry Potter to Wolf Hall. Here are just a few examples – go to visitwiltshire.co.uk/film to find out more.

Tomb Raider (2018) / The Crown (2017): Wilton House The White Princess (2017): Bradford on Avon, Lacock Poldark (2015 and 2016): Corsham, Great Chalfield Manor Downton Abbey (2015): Lacock Wolf Hall (2015): Lacock, Great Chalfield Manor War Horse (2011) / Dr Dolittle (1967): Castle Combe Harry Potter (2002 and 2009): Lacock

Lark Rise to Candleford (2008-2011): Corsham Pride & Prejudice (2005): Stourhead, Wilton House Sense & Sensibility (1995): Mompesson House, Wilton House Far from the Madding Crowd (1967): Devizes

## LESS RACING AGAINST THE CLOCK

Wiltshire is blessed with outstanding chalk streams and rivers, their gin-clear waters offering excellent trout fishing and delightful riverside strolls.

nce the ancient capital of Wessex, Wilton nestles at the nfluence of the rivers Nadder and Wylye. Within a short walk of the Market Square and St Mary's Ruin you'll find the famous Italianate Church, the stately home of **Wilton House** and the factory outlets of Wilton Shopping Village.

Chippenham the River Avon forms a peaceful backdrop has a variety of modern shopping centres and a wealth of historic buildings. It is home to The Neeld Community and Arts Centre, Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre and the beautifully maintained John Coles Park. **Chippenham** Museum hosts a range of exhibitions each year, while the annual **Chippenham Folk Festival** (May) stages more than 200 events in and around the town. The stately home and gardens at **Bowood** are nearby.

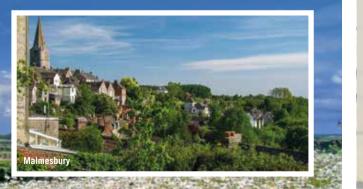
at the southern gateway to the Cotswold Water Park. An National Nature Reserve, renowned for its stunning display of rare Snakeshead Fritillaries during April. Events at nearby **Swindon and Cricklade Railway** include a Real Ale and ider Festival, and a Steam and Vintage Weekend.

Perched on a hill above the River Avon, Malmesbury is puted to be England's oldest borough. Its 15th century arket Cross still hosts a weekly market, while the riving town centre offers independent shops and cosy fés, restaurants and pubs. As well as the world-famou WOMAD festival (July), a diverse range of events includes nelstan Museum, and beautiful Abbey House Gardens.









# TAKE A JOURNEY

Wiltshire's history has been thousands of years in the making and our museums showcase outstanding exhibits of national

# THROUGH TIME

In 1651 Charles II rested at **Mere** after his defeat at the Battle of Worcester. Nowadays, as well as accommodation a tearoom, pubs, antiques retailers and local shops, you'll walking, cycling and horse riding can be enjoyed in the surrounding landscape, which is characterised by the Lynchets, ridges formed by ancient ploughing. The spectacular National Trust property of **Stourhead** is nearly

The picturesque village of **Tisbury** has been a settlement t

For up-to-date details of these and many other markets



Wiltshire has plenty to choose from. Indoor, outdoor and farmers' markets... continental and Christmas markets... vintage, artisan and foodie markets. What better way to spend an hour or two than browsing the many colourful stalls where every imaginable item is on offer. Top quality fruit and vegetables. Meat, fish, cheese and eggs. Haberdashery, clothes, jewellery and more.

First prize for the longest-running market goes to Trowbridge, Wiltshire's county town, where stallholders have been trading since the year 1200. These days, it's on a Wednesday. Hot on its heels, history-wise, is Salisbury's Charter Market, which has been coming to the city on Tuesdays and Saturdays (except the third Tuesday in October) for almost 800 years.

Other bustling market towns include Amesbury (Wednesday), Bradford on Avon (Thursday), Calne (Friday), Chippenham (Friday and Saturday), Corsham (Tuesday), Devizes (Thursday), Highworth (Saturday), Marlborough (Wednesda and Saturday), Melksham (Tuesday), Pewsey (Tuesday), Royal Wootton Bassett (Wednesday), Swindon (Monday-Saturday), Warminster (Friday), Wilton (Thursday) and Wroughton (Friday).

go to visitwiltshire.co.uk/markets





### WHAT VIEW DID YOU WAKE UP TO THIS MORNING?

Wiltshire is a county for all seasons. An enchanted place, where you feel close to the earth and the ever-changing big

vild, this untamed plateau is home to rare and endangered pecies which thrive in the sparsely populated landscape. aradoxically, the reason this unique and important habitat mains a haven for wildlife is due to its continued use as a

East of Salisbury Plain, on the Wiltshire/Hampshire border, lies the garrison town of **Tidworth**. Listed in the Domesday Book it has a long and interesting history, whilst modernday attractions include both polo and golf clubs. If you are elling through, keep an eye out for Tedworth House, the an church of Holy Trinity, St Mary's Church and the arby Iron Age earthworks on Sidbury Hill. All of which nd testament to the centuries of this town's existence. worth Town Festival takes place in July.





These days, it seems, you're always on the go. Someone's always on your case. Luckily, Wiltshire offers the perfect antidote to busy lives and overcrowded cities.

What could be more timeless than the English bed and roses round the door. Our pubs, inns and restaurants with rooms combine charm and character with a friendly bar, delicious evening meals and maybe a roaring fire in the grate. Comfortable two, three and four-star hotels guarantee something to suit every pocket. While country house hotels offer the ultimate in indulgence.

For those who like to come and go as they please, our **self-catering** properties offer the last word in flexibility. If you dream of starting the day with eggs straight from the hen, a Farm Stay does just what it says on the tin. For a taste of

the great outdoors you can spend the night under a canopy of stars at one of our **campsites**. Try a spot of **glamping** in a canvas lodge or pod. Or get in touch with your rural roots in a traditional shepherd's hut.

Details of all our places to stay, as well as the latest offers, can be found at visitwiltshire.co.uk/accommodation

Accessibility: Wiltshire is here for all to enjoy, including disabled visitors and those with specific access needs. For detailed information on things to do, places to stay and ways to plan your visit to Wiltshire go to: visitwiltshire.co.uk/disabledaccess

Getting Here is Easy: Whether you are travelling by car, coach, train, air or sea, Wiltshire is easy to get to just go to visitwiltshire.co.uk/plan-your-visit for details.



