

It's time for

WILTSHIRE

Visitor Guide



visitwiltshire.co.uk

Visit Wiltshire...

Discover Timeless



Ready to start planning an amazing holiday for the coming year? If you're planning a staycation, once restrictions are eased, Wiltshire is the ideal destination to visit. Need convincing?

There's so much space to enjoy. After an unprecedented year of lockdown, social distancing and new rules to get our heads around, we are all searching for space to relax and are probably keen to avoid the crowds. In Wiltshire, you'll find rolling open countryside and expansive views. With over 8,000 footpaths around the county there's always somewhere to stretch your legs off the beaten track! Get the most out of our spacious landscapes by going for a walk, exploring by bike or trying out horseriding. You can even hire a classic car to enjoy a scenic drive in style.

Nowhere else in England has such a concentration of iconic sites as Wiltshire. For thousands of years, travellers have been in awe of their grandeur and magic. Now you can explore them and experience that same sense of wonder for yourself by following the Great West Way®. Around a quarter of this touring route between London and Bristol runs through the breathtaking

landscape of Wiltshire. Along ancient paths once used by druids, pilgrims and drovers. Through lush river valleys. Over rolling chalk hills. Amid ancient woodland. Past picturesque towns and villages. To find out more, turn to pages 20-23 of this Guide or visit GreatWestWay.co.uk

Things will look a little different to normal when businesses open again after the 2021 lockdown. "We're Good To Go" is the official UK mark to signal that a business has implemented Government and industry COVID-19 guidelines and has a process in place to maintain cleanliness and aid social distancing. Many tourist attractions, shops, places to stay, activities and places to eat and drink in Wiltshire have been awarded the mark. Look out for the Good to Go logo when planning your visit.



Wiltshire is timeless wonders, timeless places, timeless pleasures and timeless nature. Morning mist swirling round prehistoric stone circles. Historic houses nestling in 'Capability' Brown parkland. Museums bursting with exhibits of national importance. Delicious local produce. Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Make this year the year you discover them all for yourself.

There's always time for Wiltshire.



Timeless Wonders

> Avebury



Timeless Places

> Longleat



> Kennet & Avon Canal

Timeless Pleasures



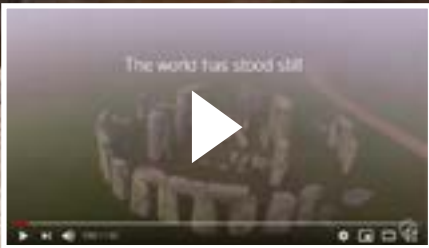
> Marlborough Downs

Timeless Nature

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Front Cover Photo: Kennet & Avon Canal

> Stonehenge Visitor Centre



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Unforgettably Unique

Timeless Pleasures

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Timeless Nature

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Wiltshire at your fingertips

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Salisbury

Salisbury is a city of ageless beauty and captivating history, where medieval magnificence meets contemporary culture.



High Street



ENGLAND'S HISTORIC CITIES

Traditional, Original



Salisbury Cathedral

Click here to explore Salisbury Cathedral with a virtual tour of their Spirit and Endeavour Exhibition



Magna Carta Exhibition



Layer upon layer of history



Salisbury International Arts Festival



Salisbury Information Centre



Salisbury Racecourse

At its heart is Salisbury Cathedral, a beacon which has attracted travellers for hundreds of years. Gathered around it is an inspiring city, alive with fascinating people, places and experiences. Salisbury's story reaches back through the centuries and the city is proud of this rich heritage. Yet it is no stranger to original thinking...

Home to the tallest spire in Britain and the best-preserved original 1215 **Magna Carta**, breathtaking **Salisbury Cathedral** has been described as 'the single most beautiful structure in England'. In 2020 it celebrated the 800th anniversary of its foundation. Surrounding this medieval masterpiece is the largest cathedral close in Britain, an oasis of calm amid the buzz of the city. Heavy wooden gates, still locked at 11pm every evening, remain the only way in. As you venture over the threshold it's like stepping back in time.

Gathered within the Cathedral Close are further fascinating attractions. Discover finds from Stonehenge at **The Salisbury Museum**. Relive scenes from Sense and Sensibility at the National Trust's Mompesson House. Browse the diverse collections at

A WARM WELCOME SINCE 1227

Arundells, former home of Sir Edward Heath. Or delve into the history of two local regiments at **The Rifles Berkshire & Wiltshire Museum**. A short stroll along the High Street takes you to the **Parish Church of St Thomas** with its magnificent Doom Painting. On the outskirts of the city you'll find **Old Sarum**, the original site of Salisbury, and **River Bourne Community Farm**. While **Boscombe Down Aviation Collection**, **Salisbury Racecourse** and, of course, **Stonehenge** are right on the doorstep too.

Brimming with character and charm, the historic heart of Salisbury still follows its medieval 'chequered' layout. Keep an eye out for original street names as you stroll around, and be sure to look up, as some of the most interesting architectural details are to be seen

at first floor level and above. When it's time for a break you'll find tempting tearooms and coffee shops, family-friendly brasseries and romantic tables-for-two, cosy city pubs and historic inns with views of the river. One of the quirkiest hostellers is the 14th century Haunch of Venison. Order a pint at the unusual pewter-topped bar, then take a peek at the former bread oven containing (so the tale goes) the mummified hand of an ill-fated card sharp.

Shoppers can head for their favourite high street stores. Or seek out quirky, independent shops offering products designed and crafted locally. For hustle and bustle you can't beat a good market, and Salisbury is blessed with markets in abundance. A magnet for traders and shoppers alike, the Charter Market has been drawing people to the city – every century, every year, every week, every Tuesday* and Saturday – for almost 800 years. Throughout the year the Market Place and Guildhall Square are also home to artisan, teenage and vintage markets. Farmers' and Foodie Friday markets. Continental markets and an ever-popular Christmas Fayre.

Salisbury's engaging cultural scene reflects the city's deep-rooted creativity and imagination. Under the banner of **Wiltshire Creative**, **Salisbury Playhouse**, **Salisbury Arts Centre** and **Salisbury International Arts Festival** embrace the contemporary, the traditional and the – occasionally – somewhat eccentric. Resulting in a vibrant blend of music, dance, theatre, comedy and more. Add to this an eclectic range of events on offer at **City Hall** and you can enjoy top notch entertainment, all year round. With so much going on throughout the day and into the early hours, it's no surprise that Salisbury has been awarded **Purple Flag** status – the 'gold standard' for a great night out.

Just 90 minutes by train from London Waterloo, Salisbury makes an unbeatable destination for day trips and short breaks alike. It is also an excellent base for discovering all that Wiltshire has to offer. For a comprehensive guide to the city and surrounding areas go to visitsalisbury.co.uk

*Except the third Tuesday in October

Wiltshire's Towns and Villages

The home of timeless experiences

Wiltshire's historic towns and villages are friendly, relaxed and welcoming.

Each with something unique to offer. Stylish independent shops and colourful markets. Great entertainment. Fascinating history and heritage. Tempting pubs and restaurants. In all four corners of the county you'll find an excellent range of accommodation to suit every budget. So come and spend time in Wiltshire: the England you love in one county.

Amesbury

It's hard to imagine what life would have been like over 10,000 years ago, but Amesbury has a history dating back to 8,820BC. Nowadays it offers free parking, a weekly market, restaurants, inns and independent shops. Nestling in a loop of the meandering River Avon, the town is close to the ancient wonders of Stonehenge and Woodhenge.

www.amesburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Bradford on Avon ➡

This stunning town flanks both sides of the peaceful River Avon at the southern end of the Cotswolds, with the Kennet & Avon Canal also running through it. Steeped in history, it boasts spectacular medieval barns, Saxon and Norman churches, imposing mansions and a rich industrial heritage, which means this town is definitely not one to be missed!

www.bradfordonavon.co.uk

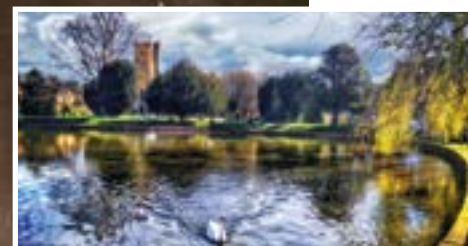
Calne

For a small town, Calne packs in a lot of history. Its story is one of drovers' trails and coach roads. The rise and fall of canal and rail travel. The legacy of woollen broadcloth. It's where the traditional English technique of producing ham and bacon – the Wiltshire Cure – was invented. Also where oxygen was discovered. Visit the heritage quarter to experience each chapter of its past.

www.visitcalne.co.uk



> Caen Hill Locks



Castle Combe

The perfect English hamlet. Arguably 'the prettiest village in England'. Also a location scout's favourite, featuring regularly on the big screen in films such as *Stardust*, *The Wolf Man* and *War Horse*. In short, unmissable.

Chippenham ➡

This busy market town has much to recommend it. Modern shopping centres and a wealth of historic buildings. The Neeld Community and Arts Centre, Chippenham Museum, and Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre. John Coles Park and the River Avon, which forms a peaceful backdrop for walking and cycling. Lacock, Castle Combe and major attractions including Bowood are nearby.

www.chippenham.gov.uk

Corsham

Corsham developed from Saxon origins into a prosperous town thanks to the wool trade and the quarrying of golden Bath stone. Home to quirky independent shops, the historic High Street contains properties from the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, with the 350-year-old Almshouses at one end and stately Corsham Court at the other. The town starred, as Truro, in BBC One's *Poldark*.

www.corsham.gov.uk/visit

Cricklade

Lying at the southern gateway to the Cotswold Water Park is the first town on the River Thames. An historic Saxon town with over 100 listed buildings, including the medieval St Sampson's Church. There is free parking with opportunities to shop, eat and drink as you stroll around the Heritage Trail, explore North Meadow Nature Reserve or walk parts of the Thames Path.

www.crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk

Devizes

This historic market town has a colourful medieval past and a rich heritage of Georgian houses. The town has kept its character, with many small, family-run businesses and a traditional market bustling with fresh food, crafts and curios. Home to both the Wiltshire Museum and Wadworth Brewery, Devizes stands on the Kennet & Avon Canal, near the flight of 29 locks at Caen Hill.

www.devizes-tc.gov.uk

Highworth

This ancient hilltop market town is situated on the edge of the Cotswolds, four miles from the River Thames. Described by John Betjeman as "...one of the most charming and unassuming country towns in the west of England" its claims to fame range from being a Cavalier stronghold during the Civil War, to running the official ABBA fan club from a house in Sheep Street.

www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Lacock

A stunning National Trust village. Here, cottages and inns dating back to the 15th century have formed a breathtaking backdrop to many film and TV classics, from *Wolf Hall* and *Pride and Prejudice* to *Harry Potter*.

Ludgershall

Were you to delve into the Domesday Book of 1086 you would find a listing for this small town on the eastern edge of Salisbury Plain. Dating from the late 11th century, Ludgershall Castle was originally a royal hunting lodge; today its ruins are in the care of English Heritage. From the castle grounds there are splendid views, and local walks to nearby Collingbourne Woods.

www.ludgershall-tc.gov.uk

Malmesbury

This vibrant market town is believed to be the country’s oldest borough and the one-time capital of England. There is much to delight and discover, including the stunning 12th century Abbey, Abbey House Gardens and river walks along the Avon. The High Street offers unique shops, cafés, restaurants and a regular market at the 15th century Market Cross.

www.malmesbury.gov.uk www.discovermalmesbury.life

Marlborough

Set in beautiful countryside, this handsome former staging post has evolved into a stylish and cosmopolitan town with its own thriving café culture. With a twice-weekly market, the wide High Street is lined with characterful old buildings housing an array of high quality shops, pubs and restaurants. Don’t forget to explore the side streets, riverside parks and green spaces too.

www.marlborough-tc.gov.uk/visitors

Melksham ➡

Melksham evolved at a ford across the River Avon and is served by excellent bus routes and a railway station. At the heart of a rural community, its friendly town centre is full of independent shops and plenty of cafés.

Mere

A delightful spot with many amenities. There is excellent walking, cycling and horse riding in the surrounding landscape, and the spectacular National Trust house and garden at Stourhead are nearby.

Royal Wootton Bassett

A bright and vibrant town with a welcoming atmosphere, a range of independent shops and plenty of places to eat. The iconic black and white Town Hall on the High Street houses the Museum.

Swindon ➡

Swindon is surrounded by some of England’s finest countryside and attractions. Enriched with Victorian parks and gardens, STEAM Museum, an art gallery, and Lydiard House – an elegant Palladian abode set in rolling parkland. Originally a small market settlement, the arrival of the Great Western Railway in 1840 led to the birth of an entire new town for Swindon.

www.visitswindon.org.uk



Tidworth

The small town of Tidworth lies close to the Wiltshire/Hampshire border. If you are travelling through, keep an eye out for clues to its long and interesting history. The Iron Age earthworks on Sidbury Hill, the Norman church of Holy Trinity, the thatched cottages, Station Road, St Mary’s Church and Tedworth House all stand testament to the centuries of this town’s existence.

www.tidworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Tisbury ➡

The picturesque village of Tisbury has been a settlement for over 2,000 years. With a mainline railway station and an excellent choice of independent shops, it makes a superb base for walking, riding and cycling. Visit Old Wardour Castle just three miles away and the excellent medieval tithe barn at Place Farm, recently re-opened as a stunning centre for the arts.

www.tisbury-wiltshire-pc.gov.uk

Trowbridge ➡

A Magna Carta Baron town. Unique industrial architecture and a superb museum showcase its rich past as a centre for woollen cloth production. Today it boasts a vibrant heritage and arts scene, quality markets, independent retailers, family restaurants, a cinema and a Premier Inn. Great transport links, with mainline rail connections to Bath, Bristol and London.

www.trowbridge.gov.uk

Vale of Pewsey ➡

White horses, ancient downland and the Kennet & Avon Canal make this a great base for walking, cycling and riding. You’ll find thatched cottages, peaceful villages and places to eat, drink and shop, as well as Pewsey Heritage Centre, Crofton Beam Engines and Wilton Windmill. Mainline railway stations at Great Bedwyn and Pewsey connect to London Paddington and the South West.

www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk

Warminster ➡

A historic market town packed with listed buildings and a variety of independent shops, cafés, restaurants and inns. Head to Lake Pleasure Grounds for the brand new skatepark, the pavilion café, play areas, boating lake and more, or enjoy Smallbrook Meadows Nature Reserve. Longleat and Stourhead are nearby, with excellent transport links to Bath and Salisbury.

www.warminstercommunityhub.co.uk

Westbury ➡

On the edge of Salisbury Plain, watched over by the famous White Horse, Westbury offers a lively mix of shops, pubs and restaurants, surrounded by stunning countryside with many outdoor activities.

Wilton

Once the ancient capital of Wessex, the quintessentially English market town of Wilton nestles at the confluence of the rivers Nadder and Wylfe. Wilton offers a range of shops, including The Guild and a variety of places to eat.

“Here you can touch and feel the past”



Take a Walk Through Time

> Stonehenge



> Malmesbury



> Salisbury Museum



> Roman Baths



> Ludgershall Castle

From stone circles to crop circles, history in Wiltshire has been thousands of years in the making. Numerous civilisations have called it home. Why not visit in 2021 to write your own chapter in our never-ending story?

People have been drawn to Wiltshire since ancient times. Reaching back to the Stone Age and beyond, the county’s archaeological inheritance is second to none. Our prehistoric henge monuments at **Stonehenge** and **Avebury** are renowned throughout the world. But they are only part of the story. Later inhabitants have left their mark as well, bequeathing tangible links with the past.

Built for defence and characterised by enormous ditches and banks, Iron Age hillforts are a recurring feature of the Wiltshire landscape. Visit at sunrise or sunset. Pause for a while on the ramparts. See how the atmosphere alters with the light and reflect on the generations who have stood in this very spot before you – these are the ideal places to connect with our ancestors. The best known can be found at Old Sarum on the northern outskirts of Salisbury. This massive earthwork began life as a Neolithic community some 5,000 years ago. Subsequently inhabited by Romans, Saxons and Normans, it developed into a flourishing medieval settlement, eventually becoming the original city of Salisbury. Today you can stroll among the ruins of a royal palace, a castle, and no less than two earlier cathedrals.

Other Wiltshire hillforts include Barbury Castle on the North Wessex Downs. Battlesbury Camp, one of the best preserved in the county. Bratton Castle, home to an even older Neolithic long barrow. Cley Hill, Britain’s UFO capital, with hundreds of sightings since the mid-1960s. Oldbury Castle, overlooking the Cherhill White Horse. For further inspiration, view our ancient hillforts film: [visitwiltshire.co.uk/videos](https://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/videos)

Elsewhere, the legacy of the past continues. **Ludgershall Castle** was built as a fortress in the late 11th century – once a royal

hunting lodge, it is now a glorious ruin. The beautiful 12th century Abbey at **Malmesbury** contains the tomb of Athelstan, first king of all England, who made this historic town his capital. Old Wardour Castle, dating from the 14th century, was badly damaged in the English Civil War, but today provides a picturesque lakeside setting for picnics.



> Wiltshire Museum

To unearth the secrets of Wiltshire’s journey through the ages, team up with an expert tour guide. Or explore the galleries at our award-winning museums, bursting with treasured exhibits of outstanding national importance. **The Salisbury Museum** is home to one of Europe’s most extensive collections of Stonehenge and prehistoric artefacts. Here you can discover the Monkton Deverill Gold Torc, recovered from a Bronze Age burial mound, and the grave of the ‘Amesbury Archer’, the richest Beaker burial in Britain. Galleries at **Wiltshire Museum** in Devizes cover 500,000 years of Wiltshire’s history, including the Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age eras, as well as Roman, Saxon and Medieval times. The displays of ‘Gold from the Time of Stonehenge’ feature remarkable finds excavated from the prehistoric landscapes of the World Heritage Site.

For further evidence of Roman occupation in Wessex you need look no further than the **Roman Baths** in Bath, home to the Sacred Spring, the Roman Temple, the Roman Bath House and finds from Roman Bath. **Amesbury**, on the southern edge of Salisbury Plain, is the nearest town to Stonehenge and close to the ancient monuments of Woodhenge, the Cursus, the Avenue and Durrington Walls. Recent excavations suggest that the town may date back more than 10,000 years.

The **Amesbury History Centre** (opening summer 2021) tells the story behind Amesbury’s unique heritage, its connections to Stonehenge and the origins of its rise to military importance.



> Lydiard House



> Avebury Manor



> Westonbirt
The National
Arboretum



> Iford Manor

Set against the drama and majesty of the surrounding landscape, Wiltshire's great estates combine magnificent residences with equally outstanding grounds. From acres of landscaped parkland, to intimate formal and informal gardens.

Grand country properties don't come much finer than those to be found in Wiltshire. Among them are **Longleat House**, a splendid example of high Elizabethan architecture. Impressive 18th century **Bowood**, with interiors designed by Robert Adam. **Wilton House**, home to the Earls of Pembroke for over 400 years. As you might expect, legendary horticultural genius Lancelot 'Capability' Brown was hard at work in 18th century Wiltshire. The breathtaking pastoral settings which complement these properties today were greatly influenced by his brilliance as a landscape architect. Even the grounds surrounding Lacock Abbey – founded in the 13th century for monastic purposes, before later becoming a family home – are said to have benefited from his attention.

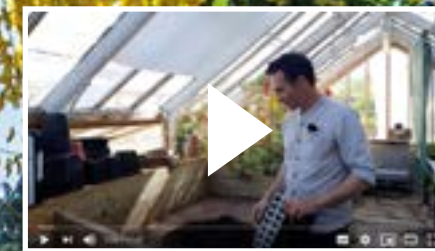
But he was not the only green-fingered enthusiast to have left his mark in Wiltshire. The stunning National Trust garden at Stourhead was designed in the 18th century by gentleman gardener Henry 'The Magnificent'. Described as a living work of art, reflections of classical temples and grottoes shimmer in the waters of a spectacular lake, surrounded by rare and exotic trees. The garden is open all year, and from March to October (as well as in the run up to Christmas) you can also visit the Palladian mansion of Stourhead House. **Lydiard House**, at the opposite end of the county, is another Palladian jewel, renowned for its elegant state rooms, original family furnishings and Elizabethan portraits. It is surrounded by 260 acres of parkland, with a lake and 18th century walled garden.

Designers of note have also left their mark on smaller homes of the well-to-do. Thanks to the vision of General Pitt Rivers, **Larmer Tree** is an extraordinary example of Victorian extravagance, perfectly set amid the rolling downland of Cranborne Chase. **Iford Manor Gardens**, featuring romantic Italianate terraces cut into the hillside, evokes an Edwardian version of Tuscany. At Avebury Manor, some of the rooms and part of the garden have been variously redesigned to reflect Tudor, Queen Anne, Georgian, Victorian and 20th century styles. While Malmesbury's **Abbey House Gardens**, beside the 12th century Abbey Church, have been restored in recent years by the Pollard family (better known as 'The Naked Gardeners').

The walled gardens at three properties in Salisbury Cathedral Close provide peace and tranquillity in the midst of the city. Within this timeless setting are the National Trust's Mompesson House, a charming Queen Anne mansion; Arundells, home of former Prime Minister Sir Edward Heath; and a former Bishops' storehouse, known as 'The Wardrobe', which houses **The Rifles Berkshire & Wiltshire Museum**. The gardens at the latter two properties run down to the river, with views of the soaring cathedral spire.

Three equally memorable properties lie just across the county border in Gloucestershire. As well as being breathtakingly beautiful, the 600 acres at **Westonbirt Arboretum** are a record-breaker, with one of the world's finest collections of temperate trees and shrubs. 15th century Chavenage House, with its golden stone walls and lichen grey rooves, has remained almost unchanged for 400 years, making it the perfect vision of a Cotswold manor. Although currently closed for renovation works, the Grade I listed house and enchanting riverside gardens at Kelmscott Manor were the Cotswold retreat of William Morris: poet, designer, craftsman, socialist and founding father of the Arts and Crafts movement.

“Bringing the history of England to life”



Click for Iford Manor Gardening Tips



Centuries of
Stately Splendour

> Bowood

The Age of Industry

Brought to Life



> Bradford on Avon



> Kennet and Avon Canal



> Trowbridge Museum



> Swindon & Cricklade Railway



> Wilton Windmill

The source of many Wiltshire towns' modern-day prosperity lies in the production of woollen broadcloth in centuries past. Apart from Wilton Carpets – which has been trading on the same site in the former capital of Wessex for more than 300 years – the textile industry is long gone. But outstanding examples of industrial architecture remain to provide tangible links with the past.

Back in its textile manufacturing heyday, **Bradford on Avon** was home to more than 30 cloth factories. Today, the towering walls of Abbey Mill still flank the river, while the cottages once inhabited by spinners and weavers can be seen clinging to the hillside above. In **Trowbridge** the history of weaving dates back

over 1,000 years. The result is an important architectural legacy ranging from the late-16th to the mid-19th century. **Trowbridge Museum**, following extensive renovation and expansion, has a fascinating collection relating to West Country woollen cloth production, including interactive exhibits, sensory experiences and working looms.

Alex Moulton Charitable Trust (The Hall) is a hidden gem in central Bradford on Avon. Historically significant for its connection to the industrial trade, it has had a variety of purposes including that of a family home, a storage space for wool, accommodation for factory workers, and an officer's mess.

For much of its 87-mile course, the beautifully restored **Kennet & Avon Canal** runs through Wiltshire. 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 the county's timeless scenery. Colourful narrowboats are the traditional way to travel. But you can also walk or cycle along the towpath. Try your hand at stand-up paddleboarding. Or take to the water in a canoe.

In the course of your journey along and around the canal you will come across outstanding examples of industrial archaeology. Pay a visit to **Crofton Beam Engines**, just outside Marlborough – 200 years old, yet still capable of performing their original job. Nearby **Wilton Windmill**, the only working windmill in Wessex, where you can buy a bag of Wiltshire flour to take home. Or the flight of 29 locks at Caen Hill on the edge of Devizes – an astonishing feat of engineering. For further inspiration, view our Kennet & Avon Canal film here: visitwiltshire.co.uk/videos.

In 1840 Isambard Kingdom Brunel chose to site the factory for his Great Western Railway in Swindon. Today, the Grade II listed buildings of the former railway works make a fitting home for **STEAM Museum**. Here you can step back in time, try out the interactive exhibits, and discover the story of this iconic line. For the chance to actually ride aboard a vintage steam train, head for Swindon & Cricklade Railway.

Wiltshire's local museums offer further links with the past. Athelstan Museum in Malmesbury traces the history of

lacemaking. Calne Heritage Centre tells the story of the town and its surrounding area. **Chippenham Museum** highlights aspects of trade and industry, including a working model of a flourmill. While displays at Royal Wootton Bassett Museum depict the town's social, rural, commercial and industrial history. A more recent example of manufacturing in Wiltshire can be experienced at Hillbrush, in Mere, where they've been making cleaning equipment since 1922. Visit Hillbrush, their visitor centre, includes not only a gift shop, restaurant and coffee bar but also a brush museum – the only one in the UK!





> Vintage Classics



> Boscombe Down Aviation Collection



> Royal Signals Museum



> Atwell-Wilson Motor Museum



> REME Museum



> The Rifles Berkshire & Wiltshire Museum

Hands-on *Heritage*

Vehicles, aircraft and the armed forces

If you've always wanted to take the wheel of an iconic car, now is your chance, as **Vintage Classics** bring you the ultimate driving experience! Timeless models available to hire include the Audi Ur Quattro Turbo (as featured in the BBC's *Ashes to Ashes*), the Jaguar MKII (of Inspector Morse fame) and many other models from Triumph and Daimler to Austen and Alfa Romeo.

You can take a nostalgic trip down memory lane at Atwell-Wilson Motor Museum in Calne, which showcases vehicles from yesteryear. Most exhibits are cars from 1910 onwards. But you'll also find motorcycles, mopeds and bicycles; a reconstructed

1930s-style garage complete with vehicles; a model lorry collection; and a range of interesting motoring memorabilia.

Highlighting the ingenuity and endeavour of Britain's armed forces, from centuries past to the present day, several of our museums trace the history of a particular corps or regiment. Within the walls of Salisbury's Cathedral Close, **The Rifles Berkshire & Wiltshire Museum** showcases the exploits of the infantry of these two local regiments, from 1748 until the present day. In addition to many fascinating photographs, the collection features documents, medals and items of uniform; swords, pistols and anti-tank weapons; pictures, flags and battlefield souvenirs... even a cannonball from the American War of Independence.

The Royal Signals Museum near Blandford Forum traces the history of the British Army's battlefield communications. From the introduction of telegraph in the Crimea, via espionage and satellites, to today's digital battlefields of cyberspace and electronic

warfare. With interactive exhibits bringing history to life, you can send and receive messages in Morse code, set up a radio and satellite network, and drive a full-size truck through a virtual world.

REME Museum in Lyneham is the latest addition to the Wiltshire stable. Opened in 2017, its remit is to preserve the heritage of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. In a collection exceeding 100,000 items you'll find over 100 military vehicles and more than 1,700 medals. Over 950 weapons and more than 2,000 items of uniform. Plus an extensive archive of letters, pamphlets and photographs, paintings, instruction manuals and vehicle specifications.

Located beside the busy airfield at Middle Wallop near Salisbury, the **Army Flying Museum** is the official Regimental Museum of the Army Air Corps and its predecessors. Here you can experience 100 years of British soldiers in the air, from the pioneering era of balloons and kites through to modern day helicopter operations. Exhibits housed in two large hangars include over 40 fixed wing and rotary aircraft.

You can also trace the fascinating story of flight at **Boscombe Down Aviation Collection** near Salisbury. A working museum, housed in a historic World War One hangar, it brings the history of test flight in the UK to life with over 100 exhibits, including 30 aircraft. Sit in a cockpit, dress up in a flight suit and helmet, imagine yourself as a fighter pilot, and watch ongoing restoration on real aircraft.

“The story of military communications, from semaphore to cyber”



“Go on safari,
Wiltshire-style!”

> Cholderton Rare Breeds Farm



> Hawk Conservancy Trust



> Studley Grange
Garden & Leisure Park



> River Bourne Community Farm



> Cotswold Water Park



> Longleat

Encounter Wiltshire's Wild Side

As you would expect from a county of such outstanding natural beauty, Wiltshire has plenty of indigenous wildlife. What you might be surprised to learn is that the county is home to all manner of exotic creatures too. Lions... Lemurs... Lorikeets...

How come? Because **Longleat**, with its outstanding Elizabethan house, 'Capability' Brown parkland, enormous hedge maze and more, was also the first Safari Park outside of Africa. Keep an eye out for adorable Amur tiger cubs on the Safari Drive-through. Say g'day to England's only koalas in their purpose-built, walkthrough habitat. Check out the Jungle Cruise. Observe the pack in Wolf Wood. Hand feed sea lion and giraffe. And don't

miss Longleat's astonishing range of events, including the Food & Music Festival, Sky Safari, Festival of Light and more.

You can imagine yourself on safari at **Cotswold Wildlife Park**, too, where there's a real sense of being in the wild. Look out for zebra, giraffe and rhino. Red pandas, lemurs and sloths. Giant tortoises, slender tailed meerkats and pygmy marmosets. Then feed the penguins, take a trip on the narrow-gauge railway, and navigate jungle bridges in the Skymaze. Set in over 160 acres of beautiful grounds, the Park has an amazingly diverse collection of species, many of which are endangered. Dedicated and caring keepers are passionate about the animals in their care, and keen to share their knowledge with visitors.

If big game spotting is a bit overwhelming, young children may feel more at home in one of our smaller animal parks. Here there are rabbits to handle, lambs to stroke and tractor and trailer rides to enjoy. In the event that anyone has energy to spare, exciting indoor and outdoor play areas provide the perfect place to let off steam. Many of these activities are common to all our animal parks, but each has unique features too.

At **Cholderton Rare Breeds Farm Park** the peak time pig races are a sure-fire hit. For the opportunity to experience a working farm and learn about rural life, look no further than **River Bourne Community Farm**. Here you can meet and hand feed animals such as pigs, sheep, alpacas, donkeys, goats and Highland cattle, plus ducks, turkeys, poultry, chicks, guinea pigs and rabbits. In addition to 5 acres of farmyard there are 53 acres of water-meadow to explore and nature trails to follow.

For a taste of the tropics, visit **Studley Grange Garden and Leisure Park** to walk among some of the world's most beautiful butterflies as they fly freely against a backdrop of tropical plants and fish-filled ponds. Head for the zoo area to meet meerkats and energetic Wallabies. Introduce yourself to Rigby the Raccoon. Then brave creepy crawlies in the reptile house, greet geese and goats in the Farm Park, and round it all off with a session in our Soft Play area.

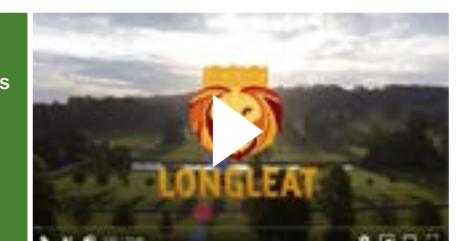
Comprising 150 lakes set over 40 square miles, lovely off-road cycle routes, miles of peaceful footpaths and wonderful flora and fauna, **Cotswold Water Park** is a great place to discover the wonders of our natural world. As is **Wiltshire Wildlife Trust's** nature reserve at **Langford Lakes**, which attracts a whole host of wild birds throughout the year. Depending on the season you can watch as grebes shake their heads in dramatic courtship displays. Look out for Canada geese and tufted duck. Spy the turquoise flash of a kingfisher. Or glimpse the spectacular

osprey. Even the elusive and endangered bittern has been spotted creeping silently through the reeds. With a packed timetable of activities the

Hawk Conservancy Trust offers a full-on family adventure. Witness up to three world-class flying displays each day. Find out more about the birds at a special Experience session. Book a VIP Encounter. There are over 150 birds of prey on view here... and every visitor can meet one!



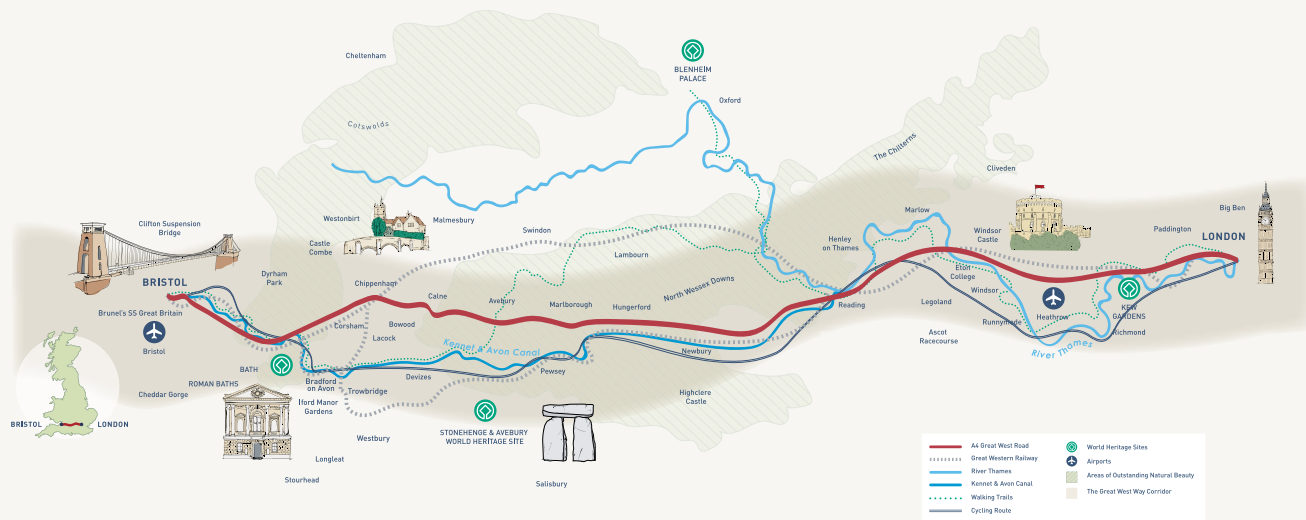
Click here to
meet the animals
with Longleat's
3 part virtual
safari tour
narrated by
Kate Humble



Great West Way®



“For travellers who want to explore further and delve deeper”



> Bradford on Avon

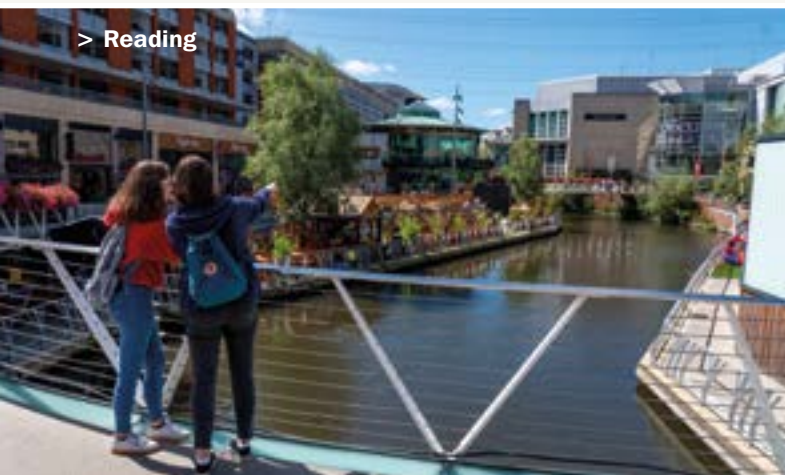


> Alder Ridge Vineyard



> Clifton

> Reading



> Hampton Court Palace



> Kew Gardens



> Windsor Castle



Welcome to the Great West Way: an exciting new touring route combining the world renowned with the yet-to-be-discovered. Where timeless icons rub shoulders with everyday England.

At one end you have **London**, with its rich cultural heritage and famous royal sights. At the other, **Bath** and **Bristol** – close neighbours, yes, but with very different personalities. While elegant Bath is renowned for its classical Georgian architecture and romantic literary connections, Bristol is a riot of alternative art, music and dining experiences. In between lie lush green landscapes, characterful villages and relaxing riverside towns. But the Great West Way isn't simply about getting from A to B. The Great West Way is for those who relish the journey. The curious. For whom the colourful characters they encounter along the way are as fascinating as the places they visit.

There is no right or wrong place to start your Great West Way journey. No correct route to follow. No best mode of transport. Travel by road, rail or water. On two feet or two wheels. Stay in one place for a while or move on every day. Just be sure to say

‘yes’ to unforeseen adventures and unexpected diversions. Take the direct route and the Great West Way runs for 125 miles... add in all the tempting trails and off-the-beaten-track detours and there are 500 miles or more to explore. As you follow its twists and turns you'll encounter the very essence of England.

Along the Great West Way you'll find three breathtaking Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty – the Chilterns, the **Cotswolds** and the **North Wessex Downs** – as well as the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of **Stonehenge and Avebury**, Kew Gardens, **Blenheim Palace** and **Bath**.

You can stand on the site of the sealing of **Magna Carta** at Runnymede. Step aboard the last Concorde ever made at **Aerospace Bristol**. Enjoy a wine tour and tasting at **Alder Ridge Vineyard**. Or soak in the UK's only natural hot springs at **Thermae Bath Spa**. Watch the Changing of the Guard at **Windsor Castle**. Sample award-winning real ale at **West Berkshire Brewery**. Stroll through 15,000 extraordinary trees at **Westonbirt, The National Arboretum**. Or lose yourself in the hedge maze at **Hampton Court Palace**. Take a pleasure cruise along the **Royal River Thames**. Admire sumptuous Georgian gowns at the **Fashion Museum**. Unearth amazing archaeology at the **Roman Baths Baths**. Enjoy **Newbury's**

canalside pubs and restaurants. Discover **Reading's** Museum and Abbey Quarter. Trawl **Hungerford's** antique shops and fairs, then sample seasonal produce at **Cobbs Farm Shop & Kitchen** on the edge of town. Or visit a stunning **National Trust** property.

From the famous to the far out, the Great West Way offers an astonishing variety of English experiences. A combination not found in any other part of the country. If you're on a tight schedule, it makes for a wonderful day trip. But for those with more time to spare, a short break or longer adventure will allow you to immerse yourself more thoroughly in local life. Your choice of accommodation can be an integral part of the Great West Way experience, too. Quirky glamping sites, pretty country B&Bs, cool city hotels... even castles and stately homes. Offering a world of hidden delights, **The Royal Crescent Hotel & Spa** in Bath is a Georgian gem.

Based on one of the first Great Roads commissioned by kings, the Great West Way is easy to join and easy to follow. It passes by both Heathrow and Bristol airports. It's accessible for visitors travelling from the Channel ports or already based in London. It will take you to places you've always dreamed of visiting, and secret spots that even some locals have yet to discover. So create your own itinerary. Write your own story.

Go to **GreatWestWay.co.uk** and discover your way.

You can get social and follow us along the Great West Way too:

@GreatWestWay

@theGreatWestWay

@GreatWestWay

Great West Way Discoverer pass

To make the most of your Great West Way adventure, choose the **Great West Way Discoverer pass**, offering unlimited off-peak train travel from London Paddington or London Waterloo to Bristol Temple Meads, via the Reading and/or Basingstoke routes, with options to branch off towards Oxford. Plus unlimited travel on designated bus services along the route. One-day and seven-day options are available, with prices from just £24.50 per person. For further details and to book go to **gwr.com** or **visitbritainshop.com**



Wiltshire on the Great West Way®



“You never quite know what awaits you around the corner”



> Kennet & Avon Canal



> Silbury Hill



> Longleat



> Bowood House and Gardens



> Marlborough High Street



> Corsham



> Wilton Windmill



> STEAM



> Lacock Abbey

The Great West Way is England undiluted. England concentrated. Around a quarter of it runs through the beautiful county of Wiltshire. Across rolling hillsides in the North Wessex Downs. Past white horse carvings that have watched over the Vale of Pewsey for generations. Along routes that brought drovers to market. Druids to Stonehenge. Pilgrims to Salisbury Cathedral.

The Great West Way is all about finding your own way. By all means tick off those celebrated icons you've always dreamed of seeing, but allow for spontaneity too. The joy of the Great West Way is that you are never more than a few minutes from a quirky attraction or an extraordinary experience. Just pick somewhere you like the sound of and see where the Great West Way leads you.

Much of the Great West Way's appeal lies in its enormous variety. Stroll around 'Capability' Brown parkland at **Bowood House and**

Gardens. Channel your inner racing driver on a lap of **Castle Combe Circuit**. Admire elegant state rooms at **Lydiard House**. Step back in time at **STEAM – Museum of the Great Western Railway**. Or see how many incredible animals you can spot on a six-and-a-half-mile drive-through experience at **Longleat**, the first Safari Park outside of Africa.

If **Stonehenge** and **Avebury** feature on your wish list, try to visit at dawn or dusk to fully appreciate the magnetism that has drawn people to them over thousands of years. Take time, too, to discover the other monuments that make up this outstanding **World Heritage Site**. Gaze across fields at the enigmatic mound of **Silbury Hill**, perhaps. Or edge your way inside the Neolithic tomb at **West Kennet Long Barrow** (torches recommended).

The industrial revolution left a rich legacy in Wiltshire. Not least the **Kennet & Avon Canal**. Walk or cycle the towpath. Take to the water with a kayak or paddleboard. Relax aboard a traditional narrowboat. Back on dry land you can meet the mighty Shire horses and see sign writers at work on a tour of Wadworth Brewery in Devizes. Uncover fascinating industrial archaeology at **Wilton Windmill** and **Crofton Beam Engines** near Marlborough. Or visit **McArthurGlen Designer Outlet Swindon**, housed in the

beautifully renovated Grade II listed buildings of Brunel's former railway works, and search for bargains in over 90 top name stores.

Many of Wiltshire's timeless towns and villages are within easy reach of the Great West Way. Marvel at Bradford on Avon's 14th century tithe barn. Visit the heritage quarter in **Calne** to learn of its colourful past. Seek out the wealth of historic buildings in **Chippenham**. Discover **Corsham**, familiar to many as Truro from BBC's Poldark. Unearth the rich heritage of Georgian houses in **Devizes**. Wander through the stunning National Trust village of **Lacock**. Explore hilltop **Malmesbury**, England's oldest borough. Stroll along the high street in the handsome former staging post of **Marlborough**. Enjoy entertainment and leisure opportunities in **Swindon**. Stumble across unique industrial architecture in **Trowbridge**. Or visit the medieval city of **Salisbury** with its magnificent **Cathedral**.

With beer gardens for summer and log fires in winter, an authentic English pub experience is hard to beat. So settle down at one of Wiltshire's many traditional inns. If your Great West Way adventure includes an overnight stay, you can enjoy home-from-home hospitality in a friendly B&B, character and charm at **The Old Bell Hotel** or some serious pampering at **Whatley**

Manor Hotel and Spa. Other options include the chance to live the rural dream on a farm stay, or climb aboard a traditional narrowboat and let the lapping waters soothe you to sleep.

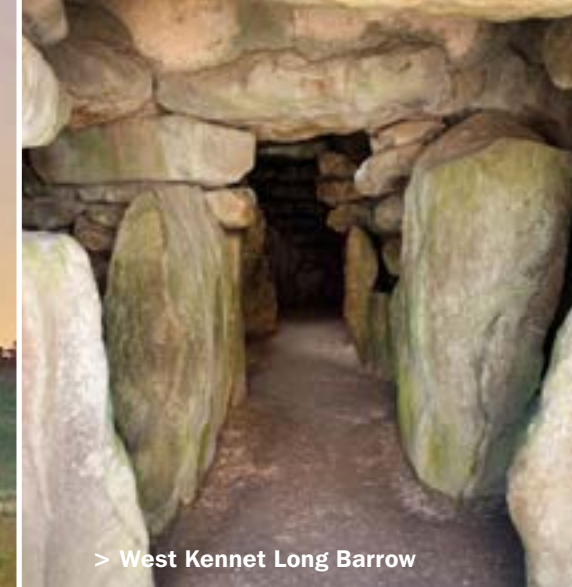
Rail connections along the Great West Way are excellent, linking Wiltshire with London's Paddington and Waterloo stations at one end, Bristol and Bath at the other. Within 90 minutes, or less, of leaving the capital you can find yourself here, enjoying authentic English experiences. To uncover Wiltshire's secrets and immerse yourself in some of the grand dramas of English history, go to GreatWestWay.co.uk

“Discover an essential strand of England's story”

“Two inimitable
stone circles”



> Devil's Den



> West Kennet Long Barrow



> Salisbury Cathedral



> Stonehenge



> Silbury Hill

Unforgettably Unique

Stonehenge and Avebury. Two inimitable stone circles. One outstanding World Heritage Site. One that also embraces West Kennet Long Barrow, Silbury Hill and numerous associated sites across the wider landscape. Together they have a magnetism that has drawn people to them for thousands of years and celebrations marking the summer and winter solstices still take place today. No visit to Wiltshire would be complete without experiencing their magic for yourself.

2020 saw the 800th anniversary of the year that the foundation stones of Salisbury Cathedral were laid. Salisbury Cathedral is a magnificent example of Early English Gothic architecture. Its glorious Chapter House is home to the finest of only four original **Magna Carta** manuscripts, dating from 1215. Other incomparable features include the tallest spire in Britain, Britain's largest cathedral close and cloisters, and the world's oldest working clock. For stunning panoramic views, take a Tower Tour up narrow spiral stairs to the foot of the spire, 225 feet (over 68 metres) above ground.

If you stand on Salisbury Plain at sunrise or sunset, it's easy to see why the ancient Britons believed **Stonehenge** was special. One of its many unique features is its orientation on the rising and setting sun, although why it was built in this way remains an enduring mystery. **Stonehenge visitor centre** brings its story to life through outstanding exhibitions showcasing items on loan from nearby museums, a superb 360° audio-visual stone circle experience, and replicas of Neolithic houses built from authentic materials. Understandably it's a popular place, so entry is by timed ticket and pre-booking is strongly recommended – you can do this easily at [visitwiltshire.co.uk/shop](https://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/shop)

Arrive at **Avebury** on a misty autumnal morning, or in the depths of winter when a sprinkling of snow dusts the ground, and you'll understand the appeal this sacred place held for our ancestors. Here, no less than three stone circles and part of the village shelter within the massive outer bank and ditch. Stroll among the stones. Touch them, if you will. Try your hand at dowsing for ley lines. Then complete your Avebury experience with visits to the Alexander Keiller Museum and Avebury Manor and Garden.

Dotted across the wider landscape of the World Heritage Site are other monuments, some of them older than the stone circles themselves. Near Avebury you'll find **Silbury Hill**, the largest artificial mound in Europe; **West Kennet Long Barrow**, one of Britain's largest Stone Age burial sites; and the 'dolmen' burial chamber of **The Devil's Den**. Not far from Stonehenge are the Bronze Age burial mounds at **King Barrow Ridge**; the site of **a Neolithic settlement and henge at Durrington Walls**; and earthworks including **The Cursus** and **The Avenue**.

The Stonehenge Tour makes a convenient way to explore several of Wiltshire's ancient wonders. Picking up from Salisbury railway station and the city centre, it runs via Old Sarum to Stonehenge, before returning via Salisbury Cathedral.

Among Wiltshire's other iconic views are its **White Horses**, carved into the rolling chalk downs. Westbury, the oldest, dates from 1778 (although local records suggest it may have replaced an even earlier one carved in the late 1600s). Devizes, the most

recent, was cut into Roundway Hill in 1999, to mark the new millennium. For further inspiration, view our white horse film here: [visitwiltshire.co.uk/videos](https://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/videos)

Wiltshire's World Heritage Site and other timeless wonders are within easy reach of all accommodation in this guide. To experience the magic for yourself, an overnight visit is highly recommended. Go to [visitwiltshire.co.uk/accommodation](https://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/accommodation) for a wide range of places to stay.

“One outstanding
World Heritage Site”



Events & Festivals

As more events and festivals are announced they will be added to the website. Keep up to date with full details of events and festivals in Wiltshire on our website visitwiltshire.co.uk/whats-on

To give you a taste of what's to come we've a small selection of events that are currently being planned for this year, any changes to these will be updated on the website. All events will abide by the Covid-19 guidelines at the time.



> Chalke Valley History Festival

In the lead-up to the summer, live events and festivals across Wiltshire are planning to reopen in line with the Government's roadmap.



> Marlborough College Summer School



> Longleat Sky Safari

May / June

30 – 31 May: Wiltshire Creative, City Encounters

A free ticketed event with a programme of outdoor, socially distanced theatre performance will take place across Salisbury city centre.

12 – 13 June: Castle Combe Circuit, The BIG Race Weekend

A whole weekend of non-stop racing action, with packed grids guaranteed and close margins...

June: Wiltshire Creative, Outdoor Shakespeare

As is Salisbury tradition, The Lord Chamberlain's Men, will bring you much loved outdoor Shakespeare in the beautiful surroundings of Salisbury Cathedral in June.

23 – 27 June: Daily Mail Chalk Valley History Festival

The largest festival dedicated entirely to history.

July / August

3 July: A Wallop Wheels and Wings 2021

Army Flying Museum and the Army Air Corps airfield, Middle Wallop. This event is being held outdoors, with a limited capacity, and will be fully Covid compliant. If the event cannot take place full refunds will be given. Showcasing some of the finest classic aircraft and vehicles in the UK.

11 July to 7 August: Marlborough College Summer School

will return from with more than 500 courses and a wealth of entertainment suitable for all ages and interests.

17 – 18 July: Bradford on Avon Food and Drink Festival

will be returning to Victory Field. There will be a fantastic selection of artisan producers for visitors to sample and shop from, showcasing and celebrating some of the best regional food and drink. From cheese, chutneys and sweet treats to the finest festival street food, visitors won't be going home hungry! Pre book tickets online.

23 to 29 August: Edington Music Festival, Westbury

An 8-day Festival of Music within the Liturgy.

September / October

10 – 11 September: Longleat Sky Safari Hot air balloon event.

30 September – 3 October: Marlborough Literary Festival with a varied programme of literary events for all ages including fiction, non-fiction, poetry and our annual Big Town Read.

25 – 31 October: Marlborough Dark Skies Festival Marlborough's first festival of arts and science dedicated to celebrating the night sky,

This is just a small selection of events planned for 2021. As more events become finalized we will add them to the website. To keep up to date with full details of events in Wiltshire please visit www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/whats-on

If you can't get out and about virtual events have also become very popular please check our website to see what's on offer. www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/whats-on/virtual-events-in-wiltshire

November / December

Bonfire and firework celebrations throughout Wiltshire

November:
Salisbury Cathedral Sarum Lights

Selected Dates 5 November to 8 January 2022:
The Festival of Light, Longleat
The winter lantern spectacular will be returning to the Estate this year.

27 November 2021 - 9 January 2022:
Salisbury Playhouse Cinderella

November:
Darkness to Light, Salisbury Cathedral

Various dates throughout November and December:
Christmas Light switch on and Christmas Fayres around Wiltshire, look out for specific details to get you into the Christmas spirit!

Escape *the Everyday*

“In Wiltshire, imagination and creativity flourish”



> Wiltshire Music Centre



> The Lord Chamberlain's Men



> Sky Safari, Longleat



> Salisbury Literacy Festival



> Salisbury Arts Centre



> Enchanted Christmas, Westonbirt



> Barely Methodical Troupe



> Festival of Light

Theatres, galleries, arts centres. Plays, recitals, exhibitions. Inspirational venues and outstanding entertainment, dedicated to making imaginations fly. With such beautiful and diverse countryside as our backdrop, Wiltshire is a canvas for creativity.

Wiltshire Music Centre, in Bradford on Avon, hosts over 120 events every year, from classical, jazz and folk music to children's and storytelling shows. Sean Rafferty of BBC Radio 3 once described its 300-seat concert hall as having 'the finest acoustic outside London'. No surprise, then, that musicians of international renown are regular performers here. In Corsham, **The Pound** arts centre is a thriving venue with a year-round

programme of shows, exhibitions and films. **Pound Arts** creates live performances across Wiltshire under the banner of Rural Arts Touring, running both the family-focussed *Blue Sky Festival* in June and the deliciously decadent *Magic and Mayhem Festival* in November. At the heart of the community, **Trowbridge Town Hall Arts** offers professional performances and exhibitions by companies and artists from around the world. While Swindon's Wyvern Theatre and Arts Centre, with its impressive auditorium seating over 600 people, offers a mixed programme of concerts, comedy, musicals, drama and dance, including a popular annual pantomime.

Under the banner of Wiltshire Creative, three of Salisbury's arts venues have joined forces to form an exciting pan-arts organisation, rooted in the city, yet drawing inspiration from across the county and beyond. **Salisbury Playhouse** is

renowned for commissioning and producing new works as well as hosting touring productions. **Salisbury Arts Centre** is a vibrant hub of activity housed in a beautiful deconsecrated church.

At the **Victoria Art Gallery**, just across the county border in Bath, you'll find a stunning permanent collection from Turner and Gainsborough to the moderns, as well as an exciting programme of temporary exhibitions. Important art collections can be seen in many of Wiltshire's stately homes too. At Corsham Court, for example, housing furniture by Chippendale, mirrors by Adams and portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds. Or Wilton House, where the magnificent Inigo Jones state rooms include the Double Cube Room, the finest surviving 17th century stateroom in England. Designed to display family portraits by van Dyck, it contains the greatest collection of his paintings still housed in its original setting.

Events including open-air theatre, historic re-enactments, firework displays and Christmas celebrations are regular occurrences at historic properties too. Including Arundells, Avebury and **Bowood**, Lacock, **Longleat** and Mompesson House, Old Sarum, Old Wardour Castle, Stourhead and **Westonbirt Arboretum**.

We're a creative lot in Wiltshire. Our arts scene is thriving, inventive and engaging. If you appreciate art in any of its forms, Wiltshire is the perfect place to immerse yourself in timeless pleasures.

For further information on the many artistic opportunities to be enjoyed around the county, go to visitwiltshire.co.uk/whats-on

“Take time out”



> Castle Combe Circuit



> Marlborough College Summer School



> Darkness to Light 2018, Salisbury Cathedral



> Daily Mail Chalke Valley History Festival



> Enchanted Christmas, Westonbirt



> Salisbury Food & Drink Festival



> Longleat Festival of Light

Authentic and Entertaining

Wiltshire hosts a huge variety of events and festivals throughout the year, despite the pandemic a lot of events have managed to adapt, move or scale down for 2021, and with an increasingly brighter light at the end of the tunnel there is a hope that some will be able to take place in the second half of the year. Often based on stories drawn from the history of England, these experiences offer plenty to fire the imagination.

Swindon Spring Festival of Literature and the Arts, from 3-9 May, celebrates all things well thought, well written and well said, alongside dance, drama, music, film, and circus performances. They are hoping it will be live events but if that's not possible, there are alternative plans in place.

Chippenham Folk Festival is combining with Chester Folk Festival and moving online for 2021 from 28-31 May, which means geography is no longer an issue and the festival can achieve a global reach, bringing communities together wherever they are in the world. Although the world-renowned **Salisbury International Arts Festival** will not be taking place in 2021, Wiltshire Creative are planning some smaller outdoors events in May and June with two weeks of music, comedy and dance, poetry, exhibitions and outdoor spectacles.

As the UK's largest festival dedicated entirely to history, the **Daily Mail Chalke Valley History Festival** is hoping to go ahead from 21-27 June offers a star-studded line-up of speakers embracing all things historical in an idyllic downland setting.

The largest multi-generational learning experience of its kind, this year's **Marlborough College Summer School** runs from 11 July-7 August, combining a mix of art, cultural and sporting courses for adults with inspirational activities for children. This Summer you can get a flavor of what life was like in Victorian Chippenham as part of Chippenham Museum's **Kilvert's World Exhibition**. For any Stargazers amongst us, there is **Marlborough's Dark Skies Festival** in late October and there will be a return of **Sarum Lights** at Salisbury Cathedral in November.

This year's **Devizes Festival Fortnight** provides two whole weeks of colourful events, including Picnic in the Park, the Confetti Battle and Devizes International Street Festival from 2-3 May.

There are a number of music and Arts festivals and events which take place annually in Wiltshire and are hoping to return for 2021. **MFor Festival** at Lydiard Park 31 July, **WOMAD Festival** 22-25 July and **End of the Road Festival** at Larmer Tree 2-5 September.

Focusing on creative writing across all genres and with a strong local content, **Marlborough Literary Festival** will be taking

place from 30 Sept-3 October, whilst **Salisbury Literary Festival** is one of October's highlights.

As usual there will be a host of events through the year in Salisbury's Market and Guildhall Squares. These include the regular **Car Boot Sundays** and **Salisbury Street Sellers**, the annual celebration for **Armed Forces Day** and of course the famous **Charter Fair** in October. While from late November **Salisbury Christmas Fayre** fills the Guildhall Square with stalls selling tasteful, high quality gifts and festive goods. Also in Salisbury, **St Thomas's Church Autumn Fayre** will take place on 9 October.

Castle Combe Circuit have a full calendar of events from Spring time onwards including races, track days and classic motoring weekends.

As the year progresses, into Autumn and Winter regular seasonal events such as Longleat's **Sky Safari**, Heritage Open Days and the huge range of Christmas markets and events including Westonbirt's **Enchanted Christmas** and the Longleat **Festival of Light** will hopefully be able to take place as usual.

Even though 2021 appears to have brighter horizons for the great collection of festivals and events Wiltshire has to offer, it will be important to check our dedicated events section on our [visitwiltshire.co.uk/whats-on](https://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/whats-on) which will be updating with new events as they are confirmed as well as if there are any changes along the way.



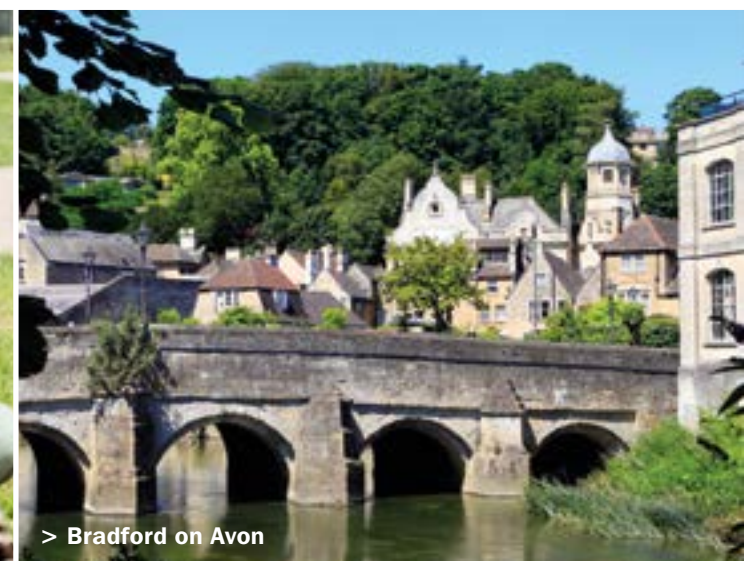
> Stourhead



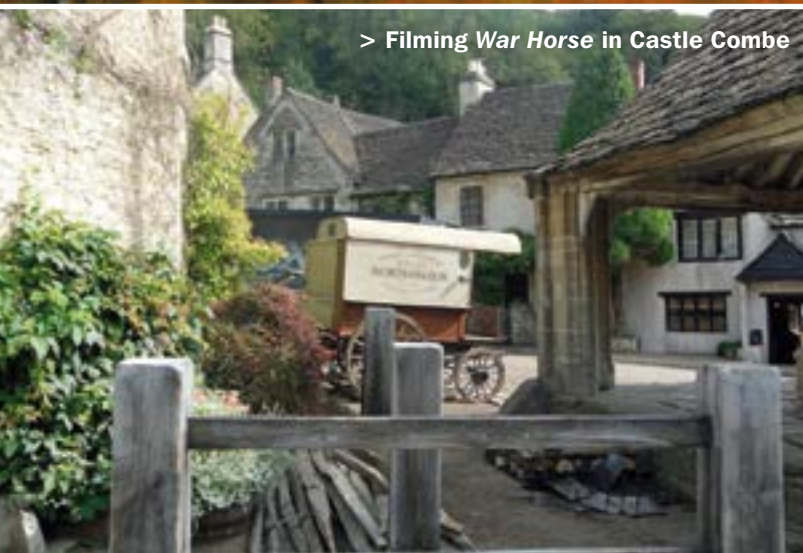
> Filming Poldark in Corsham



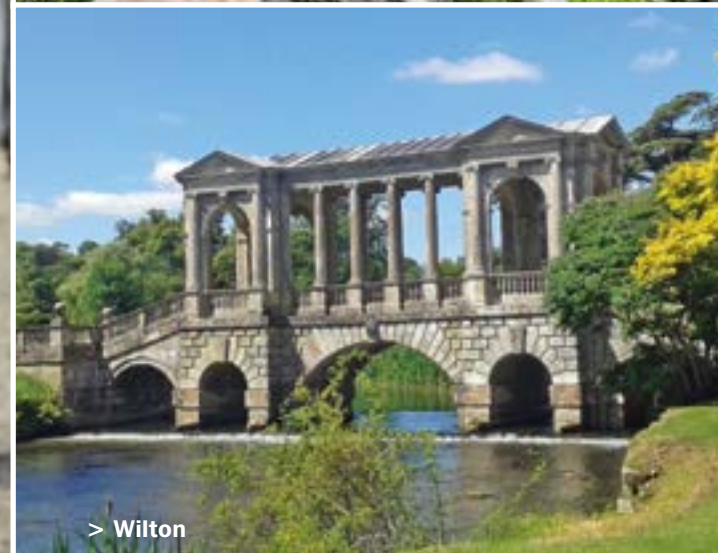
> Animal Park at Longleat



> Bradford on Avon



> Filming War Horse in Castle Combe



> Wilton



> Pride & Prejudice, Wilton House

Showstopping Locations

From swashbuckling adventures to Jane Austen classics, Dr Dolittle to Dr Who, Wiltshire locations have played a leading role in a host of big screen movies and TV costume dramas. Some of the best known are listed below; for more information on how to follow in the footsteps of the stars go to visitwiltshire.co.uk/film

Bowood House and Gardens – Locations around this magnificent property were chosen to feature in series 4 of BBC's *Poldark*, representing Hyde Park and the Serpentine lake among others.

Bradford on Avon – This charming town featured in the film version of *Downton Abbey* (2019) and has also appeared in The

White Princess (2017) and *Creation* (2009). Its Tithe Barn and surrounding areas were seen in the BBC's *Wolf Hall* (2015) and *Robin of Sherwood* (1984-1986).

Castle Combe – Sometimes referred to as 'the prettiest village in England', Castle Combe has played host to many TV and film productions including *Dr Thorne* (2016), *War Horse* (2012), *The Wolf Man* (2010), *Stardust* (2007) and *Dr Dolittle* (1966).

Chavenage House – Just across the border in Gloucestershire, Chavenage House played the part of Trenwith, Ross's family home, in the BBC's adaptation of *Poldark* (2015-2018).

Corsham – The High Street of this attractive market town was selected as the perfect match for 18th century Truro in series one of BBC's *Poldark* (2015). Locations near Corsham also featured in *Lark Rise to Candleford* (2008-2011).

Devizes – Devizes achieved renown as Casterbridge in Hardy's *Far from the Madding Crowd* (1967) with scenes shot in the Market

Place, St John's Church, the Corn Exchange and the Shambles Market. Nearby Roundway Down featured in Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1984).

Great Chalfield Manor – In *Wolf Hall* (2015) the Manor's interiors stood in for Austin Friars, home of Thomas Cromwell. It also appeared – as Killewarren, home of the Penvenens – in series three of BBC's *Poldark* and starred as the family home of the Boleyns in *The Other Boleyn Girl* (2008).

Iford Manor Gardens – Most recently these romantic, award-winning gardens featured in a re-make of *The Secret Garden*. Iford Manor has also appeared in *The Razor's Edge* (1984), the BBC's *Robin of Sherwood* (1984-1986) and ITV's *Element of Doubt* (1996).

Lacock – Having featured in the final series of ITV's *Downton Abbey* (2015) this charming National Trust village made a welcome return in the film version (2019). It has also played host to a variety of classic films including *The White Princess* (2017), *Wolf Hall* (2015), *The Wolfman* (2010), *The Other Boleyn Girl* (2008) and *Pride and Prejudice* (2005). Scenes from *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince* (2009) and *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* (2002) were shot here. Lacock featured in ITV's costume drama *Dr Thorne* (2016) too, and in the BBC production of *Cranford* (2007).

Longleat – The safari park has starred in various series of the BBC's *Animal Park*, while the Elizabethan house featured in *The Four Seasons* (2008), based on two of Rosamunde Pilcher's best-selling novels. Other productions filmed here include a Bollywood movie.

Mompesson House – Situated in Salisbury's Cathedral Close this National Trust mansion achieved celebrity status as the London home of Mrs Jennings in the Oscar-winning version of *Sense and Sensibility* (1995).

Old Wardour Castle – This impressive historic property experienced some modern-day drama when it was used in the filming of *Robin Hood*, *Prince of Thieves* (1991).

Salisbury Cathedral – The cathedral was the inspiration behind TV mini-series *Pillars of the Earth* (2010).

Stonehenge – In recent years this iconic location has featured in *Transformers: The Last Knight* (2017), *Thor: The Dark World* (2013) and *Doctor Who* (2010). It also appeared in the BBC production of *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* (2008).

Stourhead – This National Trust property's magnificent gardens were used in the filming of *Pride and Prejudice* (2005) for the scene where Lizzie initially rejects Darcy's proposal of marriage.

Wilton House – Most recently Wilton House has featured in *Tomb Raider* (2018) and *The Crown* (2017). In *The Young Victoria* (2009) it represented Rosenau Castle, Prince Albert's Coburg family home and Buckingham Palace. The Double Cube Room featured in the cinema version of *Pride and Prejudice* (2005) and was also used for ballroom scenes in *Sense and Sensibility* (1995).

Wilton Windmill – Featured in *The Victorian Farm* produced by Lion TV for the BBC series.

What's in Store...



> **McArthurGlen Designer Outlet**



> **Bradford on Avon**



> **Fisherton Mill, Salisbury**



> **Chippenham**



> **Devizes**

Whether you're looking for designer brands or high street names, independent outlets or shopping malls, farm shops or markets, you'll find everything you want in Wiltshire!

Our award for the most unusual shopping location goes to... Avebury! Probably not the first place that comes to mind when planning a little retail therapy. Yet here, within the world's largest prehistoric stone circle, you'll find not one, but two charming businesses: **The Henge Shop** and Elements of Avebury.

Not far geographically, but a million miles away in atmosphere, **McArthurGlen Designer Outlet Swindon** makes a great day out for all the family. Over 100 stores to choose from... A huge range of high street and designer labels... Up to 60% off recommended retail prices... All housed in the tastefully converted Grade II listed buildings of Brunel's former Great Western Railway works. Other retail opportunities in **Swindon** include the traditional stores of Old Town and shopping malls in the modern city centre.

All around Wiltshire, numerous small, family-run outlets continue to thrive. Offering a relaxed and unhurried shopping experience as they've been doing for generations. In **Devizes**, for example. Hilltop **Malmesbury**. Or **Tisbury** – which more than makes up for its lack of size with a unique selection of interesting, independent shops. For stylish stores in a cosmopolitan setting, the quintessentially English towns of **Marlborough** and **Bradford on Avon** are popular choices. As is **Corsham**, where many of the Bath stone buildings on High Street are independent businesses, providing irresistible retail opportunities.

PA Oxley near Calne is a treasure trove of antique clocks and barometers. In Salisbury you'll find galleries, studios and

workshops at **Fisherton Mill**, classic and contemporary menswear at **Chas H Baker** and fine lingerie at **Annie's Just Jane**. **Regent Tailoring** for timeless design with British heritage at its core. Or **Roly's Fudge Pantry** for the ultimate in indulgent treats. You'll find **The Guild** (formerly Wilton Shopping village) set in a rural and historic setting of regenerated carpet factory buildings, here you'll discover a distinctive mix of independent and national brands ranging from homeware, interiors, gifting and wellbeing.

As befits a county famous for its local produce there are farm shops aplenty – **Allington Farm Shop** near Chippenham, for example. Wiltshire is also home to markets of every shape and size. Indoor, outdoor and farmers' markets... continental and Christmas markets... vintage, artisan and foodie markets... we've got them all. What better way to spend an hour or two than browsing the many stalls, where every imaginable item is on offer. Top quality fruit and vegetables. Meat, fish, cheese and eggs. Haberdashery, clothing, 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 nigh on 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 (Wednesday and Saturday), Melksham (Tuesday), Pewsey (Tuesday), Royal Wootton Bassett (Wednesday), Swindon (Monday-Saturday), Warminster (Friday), Wilton (Thursday) and Wroughton (Friday). For up-to-date details of these and other markets go to visitwiltshire.co.uk/markets

“Unique and unusual items you won't find on every high street”



> **Marlborough**

Culinary Magic

“Menus change with the seasons”



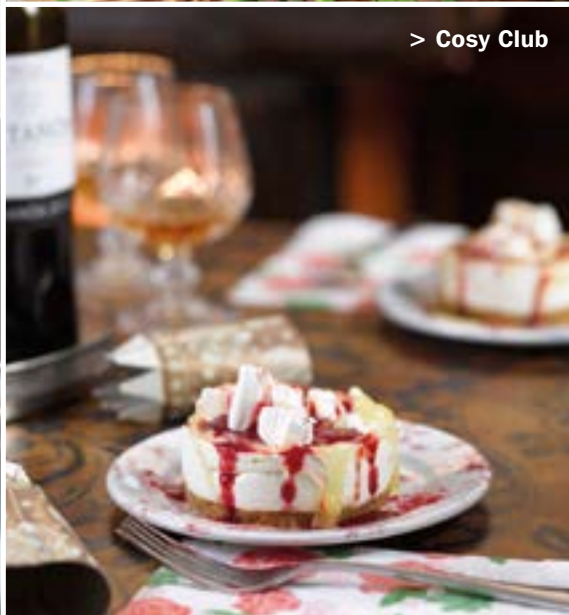
> Whatley



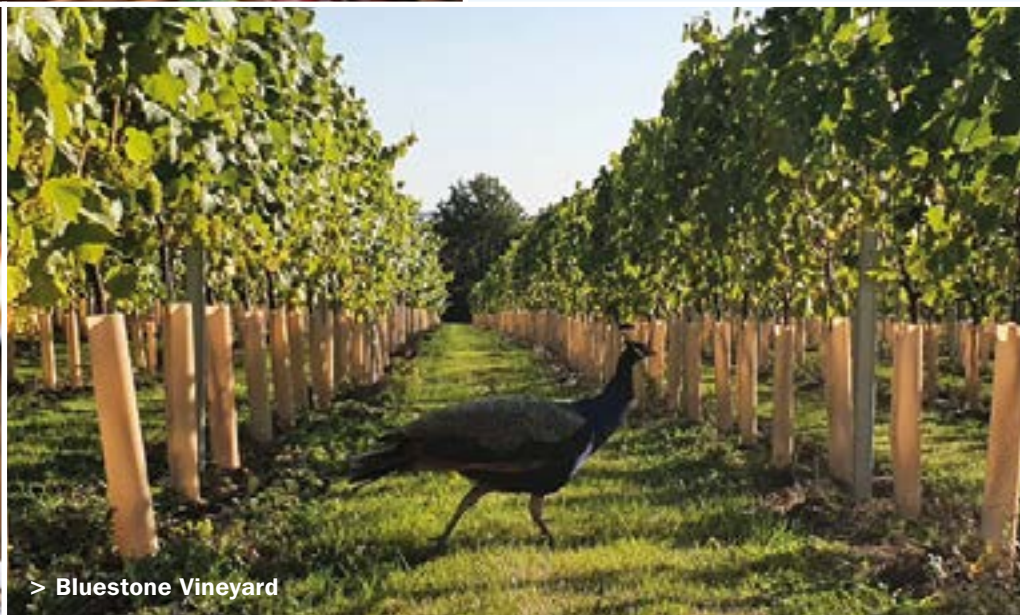
> Salisbury Market



> Allium



> Cosy Club



> Bluestone Vineyard

Taste, provenance, food miles... when it comes to local produce, Wiltshire’s pedigree is second to none. Back in 18th century Calne, the Harris family invented the traditional technique of curing bacon and ham. In time, this became known as the ‘Wiltshire Cure’ and is now recognised countrywide.

Start the day by tucking into a hearty Wiltshire breakfast. As you might expect, bacon features widely on the menu. Home-made bread, jam and preserves are Wiltshire staples too. Depending on where you stay, you could even find yourself eating the very eggs you collected fresh from the hens that morning.

At some point in a busy day’s sightseeing you’ll almost certainly start to feel peckish again. Giving you the perfect excuse to take a break and savour the taste of Wiltshire. Mouth-watering cakes and pastries are widely available at coffee shops and tea rooms around the county. So linger over elevenses. Treat yourself to afternoon tea. Keep an eye out for ice cream, prepared on site using milk from the farm’s own cows. Naturally, you’ll want to sample some of our traditional local specialities. Malmesbury Pudding, maybe. Wiltshire Lardy Cake. Wiltshire Loaf. (That last one’s a cheese, by the way, not a type of bread!) Made using recipes handed down the generations, they still taste just as good as ever today.

Wiltshire is fortunate to enjoy an abundance of friendly inns offering delicious food and drink at reasonable prices. Restaurants across the county embrace the concept of ‘plot to plate’, crafting timeless classics and new favourites with equal care and attention. If celebrations are the order of the day you could head for **Rick Stein, Marlborough**. Book a table at Howard’s House

near Salisbury. Or **Allium** an independent, family-run fine dining restaurant, serving the best of modern British cuisine, located in the centre of the beautiful charter market city of Salisbury. Try The George & Dragon at Rowde, **Beechfield House** near Melksham, The **Bishopstrow Hotel & Spa** near Warminster, or **Woolley Grange** near Bradford on Avon, all of which have been awarded two AA Dining Rosettes. If you really want to push the boat out, look no further than the **Red Lion Freehouse** at East Chisenbury and the hotel restaurant at **Lucknam Park** near Chippenham – all proud holders of coveted Michelin stars.

With such a wealth of fresh local produce right here on the doorstep, Wiltshire sets great store by its mouth-watering range of foodie events. Sample the beer festivals in Devizes (February and July), Salisbury (March), Chippenham (April), Blunsdon (May), Malmesbury (July) and Swindon (October). Or savour the food and drink festivals in Corsham (June), Longleat (July), Salisbury (August), Melksham (end August/early September), Bromham and

Calne (September) and Devizes (late September/early October). Wander among an array of tempting stalls. Inhale the aromas of freshly ground coffee and herbs. Eat your fill from sizzling sausages, barbecues or a hog roast. Then wash it all down with one of our lip-smacking local ales. With names such as Honey Bee Nectar and Rosy Rain, they sound almost as good as they taste!

You can discover your own personal gin profile – and their range of signature cocktails – at **Bombay Sapphire Distillery** in Whitechurch. Or sample award-winning still and sparkling wines at **a’Beckett’s Vineyard** near Devizes or **Bluestone Vineyards** near Salisbury.

In Wiltshire, good food matters. Luckily, life here moves at a gentle pace. Giving you time to savour the culinary magic conjured up by our chefs, bakers and brewers. While away the hours over a long lunch, or dinner with family and friends. No hurry. It’ll be ready in a Wiltshire minute.

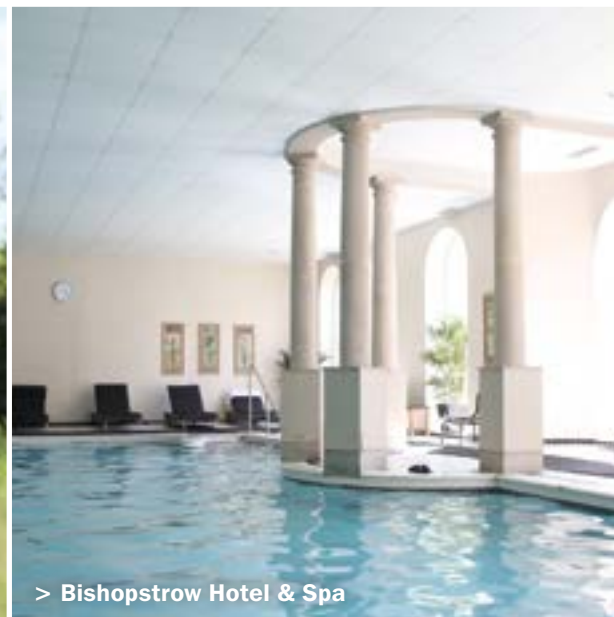
For more inspiration pick up a copy of our Food and Drink Map or go to visitwiltshire.co.uk/food-and-drink

Relax and Unwind

“Wiltshire will leave you restored and rejuvenated”



> Rein and Shine



> Bishopstrow Hotel & Spa



> Salisbury Races



> Log House Holidays



> Lucknam Park Hotel & Spa



> The Gym, Bowood



> Lucknam Park Hotel & Spa



> Cumberwell Park Golf Club

Horse riding is a great way to discover Wiltshire's varied and breathtaking scenery. Follow bridleways across the World Heritage Site of Stonehenge and Avebury. Trek within the New Forest National Park. Or sample sections of the Ridgeway National Trail.

Surrounded by 500 acres of unspoilt parkland, **Lucknam Park Equestrian Centre** near Chippenham has access to numerous routes across the southern Cotswolds. With 35 horses of all sizes and capabilities it welcomes adults and children, complete beginners and expert riders alike. Based at Braydon in north Wiltshire, **Rein and Shine** offers private, semi-private and group lessons, as well as short-term livery and holiday events for children. All ages and abilities are welcome here too. Or, if you

fancy something a little different, saddle up for a two-hour hack with **Salisbury Plain Safaris** and explore the vast and untamed plateau at the heart of the county.

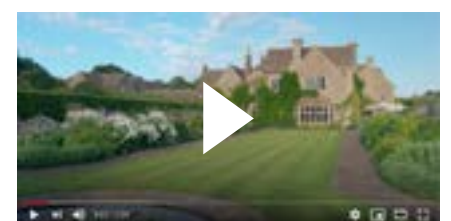
For horse racing enthusiasts, **Salisbury Racecourse** holds sixteen flat race meetings between April and October each year. With a mix of afternoon and evening fixtures it combines high quality racing with a friendly and enjoyable day out. Accompanied children are always welcome and entertainments are provided at weekend and evening meetings. They've been laying the odds here since the early 1600s, making it one of England's most historic racecourses. Thanks to a glorious location on the eastern edge of Cranborne Chase, with the soaring Cathedral spire in the distance, the views are as outstanding as the racing.

There are many reasons to choose Wiltshire for your next golfing break. First-rate courses, excellent facilities, affordable green fees, flexible timings, special offers, stay-and-play packages

and, of course, more fabulous vistas. The meticulous 18-hole championship course at **Bowood Golf and Country Club** blends perfectly with woodland and undulating countryside, looking out across rolling parkland towards the Cherhill White Horse. **Cumberwell Park Golf Club**, near Bradford on Avon, has a total of five 9-hole courses set within 700 acres of beautiful parkland, a delightful blend of rolling hills, lakes and streams, natural copse and woodland. If you feel in need of a little practice before you head out, **Sleight Valley Golf Driving Range** on the edge of Devizes provides twelve floodlit bays, plus tuition with PGA professionals.

There's nothing quite like a luxurious spa experience for restoring body and soul. Surrounded by Wiltshire's magnificent landscape, **Bishopstrow, Bowood and Lucknam Park** are among the UK's finest spa hotels; perfect sanctuaries from the pressures of everyday life. Facilities vary, but chances are you'll be able to pamper yourself with a choice of calming beauty

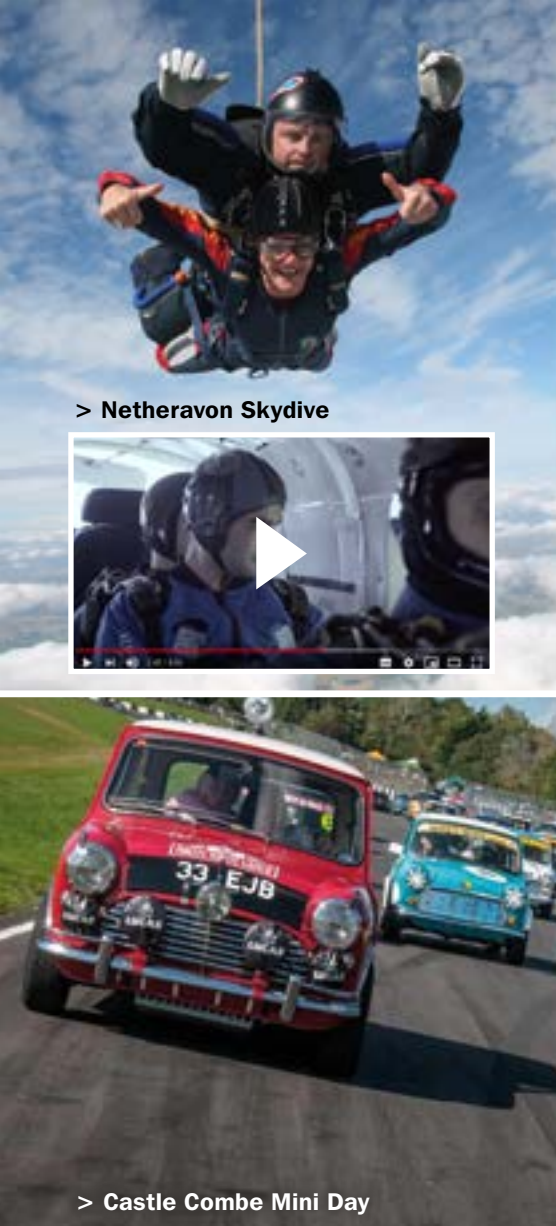
treatments. Exercise in a state-of-the-art gym. Detox in a steam room. Chill out in a hot tub. Or paddle gently around an infinity pool. For added indulgence, treat yourself to an 'Afternoon Tea and Spa Package'. Or ring the changes by combining riding and relaxation on a 'Saddle and Spa Day'.



> Whatley Manor



> Roman Baths



> Netheravon Skydive

> Castle Combe Mini Day



> Cotswolds Water Park

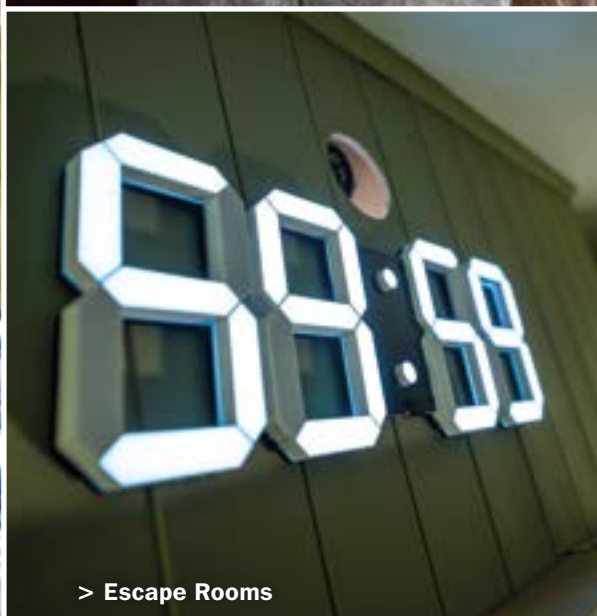
“Experience
the ultimate
adrenalin
rush”



> Wiltshire Outdoor Learning Team



> Salisbury Plain Safari



> Escape Rooms



> Aerosaurus Balloons

Send Your Heart Rate Soaring

If jumping out of a plane from almost three miles high sounds like the ideal way to relax and unwind, team up with GoSkydive or Skydive Netheravon for the experience of a lifetime. On a tandem skydive with one of their highly qualified instructors you'll enjoy up to a minute's freefall against the stunning backdrop of Salisbury Plain. One day, one jump, one big adventure!

Think unrivalled excitement and exhilaration in the air, followed by elation and a real sense of achievement on landing – if this doesn't set your pulse racing, nothing will! At Netheravon, skydivers with over 200 jumps under their belt can even have a go at wingsuiting, a whole new way to experience the freedom of the skies.

But, rest assured, not all airborne adventures have to be nerve racking, white knuckle rides. For a gentler experience, a dawn or dusk flight with **Aerosaurus Balloons** will see you drifting peacefully over Wiltshire's timeless countryside, admiring the view from on high. With complimentary in-flight Champagne and a post-flight certificate signed by your pilot to complete a truly memorable trip.

Back on solid ground, **Castle Combe Circuit** has been welcoming fans of racing, car shows and events for over 65 years! This season sees more action than ever before with a full race programme, adrenalin-fuelled action days, incredible live action shows and our hugely popular racing school. With everything from an epic 2-day bike race meeting to Europe's biggest rally car

show, it's a petrol head's paradise that's also fun for all the family – especially with FREE entry for the under 17s. With so much variety, exhilarating entertainment and good value action, this is the West Country's home of motorsport.

Sign up for a **Salisbury Plain Safari** and sit back as their iconic Land Rover Defender transports you to far flung parts of the Wiltshire landscape, hidden places inaccessible to many other vehicles. Take spectacular views of Europe's largest expanse of chalk downland... throw in some rutted tracks, deep puddles and bumpy roads... add a splash or two of mud and you have all the makings of an expedition to write home about.

Prefer your activities wet and wild? Then head to the **Cotswold Water Park** for canoeing, kayaking, paddleboarding, sailing, swimming, wakeboarding, waterskiing and windsurfing. Or for an (almost) A-Z of activities, join **Wiltshire Outdoor Learning Team** to experience abseiling, archery, axe throwing, bush craft, canoeing, fishing, high ropes, kayaking, laser tag, mountain biking, orienteering, raft building, stand-up paddle boarding, a Tarzan tree top trail, zip wires and more!

For fitness fans and lovers of the great outdoors Wiltshire offers plenty of extreme sporting events to take part in too. Half and full marathons, horse trials, cycling sportives, epic canoe races – there are no limits, other than your own endurance.

For those who get a kick out of racing against the clock, real life escape games have taken the world by storm. Faced with an array of puzzles, riddles and clues, your team has to work swiftly to solve the mystery and escape from captivity. Unique, interactive challenges are offered by **Live Escape Salisbury** and **Salisbury Escape Rooms**. So choose your favourite theme and start sleuthing. But don't forget, for each challenge you have only one hour, and time is fast running out...

Treasure hunts are another great way to have fun with friends and family. **Treasure Trails** offer challenges in over 20 locations around Wiltshire – just download a self-guided booklet and set out on your expedition. Your mission: to find and solve intriguing clues on buildings, statues and monuments, revealing fascinating history and stunning scenery along the way.

In Salisbury you can find your way around the fun way with **Text Quest**. As its name suggests, you receive a text with directions and a clue. Reply with the right answer and you receive the next clue. Pit your wits against other teams. Aim for a personal best. Or just amble round at your own pace, enjoying the sights. However you play it, it's time to channel your inner Holmes and Watson.

Why not share your adventure stories with other enthusiasts using **#timeforwiltshire**

A County for *All Seasons*

“A county of
big skies and
broad horizons”



What view did you wake up to this morning? Newborn lambs taking their first unsteady steps? Scarlet poppies nodding amid fields of golden corn? Blankets of mist floating low over meadows? Mighty standing stones sparkling with frost? In Wiltshire you can enjoy all these sights, and more...

Summer is traditionally a lovely time of year to visit Wiltshire. With luck, it brings long, lazy days filled with sunshine, perfect for outdoor pursuits. Try a spot of cycling or horse riding. Tour a stately home or a landscape garden. Pack a picnic and head for the hills. Every year, thousands gather to observe the Summer Solstice at **Stonehenge** or Avebury, watching transfixed as the sun rises above the horizon on the longest day, bathing the stones in the first light of dawn. Throughout June, July and August the festival season in full swing, and warm evenings invite you to book tickets for open-air theatre or ballet beneath the stars.

But the summer months are not the only time to enjoy a holiday or short break here. Once the harvest has been safely gathered, autumn is in the air. Migrating birds gather on telegraph wires and there's a new chill in the mornings. Across the landscape, ploughed furrows run in straight lines as far as the eye can see. As September slips into October and the nights draw in, conkers drop from the trees. Berries adorn the hedgerows. Clumps of toadstools push up through the leaf mould. Blue skies may still stretch overhead, but leaves now crunch underfoot and the Wiltshire landscape turns a dazzling mix of red and gold. To see autumnal colours in all their glory, head to Stourhead, **Bowood** and **Longleat**, the Savernake Forest or the New Forest National

Park. According to folklore, catch a falling leaf and it will bring you good luck... that's got to be worth a try!

The run up to Christmas can be a hectic time, but a short break in Wiltshire will lift your spirits and help you get into festive mood. To keep the cold at bay, cosy up with friends or family in a traditional Wiltshire pub. Sip mulled wine by an open fire. Tuck into hearty, rib-sticking dishes. Then go late night shopping in one of our charming market towns and solve all your present dilemmas at one fell swoop.

After you've welcomed in the New Year, where better to walk off any over indulgence than Wiltshire's breathtaking countryside. Almost half the county falls within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and even – or perhaps especially – when dusted with snow, it's the perfect place to blow those cobwebs away. So wrap up warm, put your best foot forward and stride out across the frozen landscape. For a cheering sight in the depths of winter, Lacock Abbey and **Lydiard Park** are renowned for their dramatic displays of snowdrops.

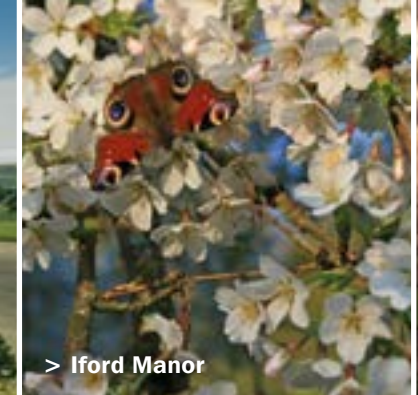
Eventually, winter gives way to spring. The days grow longer and there's less of a nip in the air. Drifts of golden daffodils help to raise the spirits. Verges are dotted with clusters of primrose and celandine. Hedgerows turn green as leaves unfurl, and hibernating hedgehogs wake. If you know where to look (and the answers are given in these pages) you can find ancient woodland carpeted with bluebells. Lowland pasture covered in rare Snakeshead fritillaries. Nature in all its glory.

Wiltshire gives you space and time. To enjoy nature's bounty. To appreciate the simpler things in life. It's the perfect place to celebrate the changing of the seasons and every time of year brings its own rewards. So why not plan your own escape to the country in 2021?

“An ideal year-round destination”



> North Wessex Downs



> Iford Manor



> Vale of Pewsey



> Snowdrops



> Stapleford



> Avebury



> Bluebells, West Woods



> Avebury



> Savernake Forest

“Over 8,200 paths for walkers and cyclists”



> ??

> Pepperbox Hill



> Shearwater Lake

> New Forest



> Log House Holidays



> Marlborough College Summer School

Perfect for Outdoor Pursuits



> Kayaking near Bradford on Avon



> Caen Hill Lock

This year, step off the world for a while and allow yourself to appreciate the beauty of Wiltshire's breathtaking countryside. Saddle up for a pony trek or horseback Safari. Go fishing. Try your hand at canoeing or paddle boarding. Whatever you choose, new stories await you around every corner.

For those travelling under their own steam we have an outstanding array of walks you can comfortably complete within just a few hours. Follow in the footsteps of the ancient drovers. Meander through our market towns. Amble along the towpath of the Kennet & Avon Canal. Even if you're short on time, you'll never be short on views! If you hanker after more serious, long-distance routes you can stride out to your heart's content too. Walk the Wansdyke. Roam the Ridgeway. Hike the White Horse Trail. Tackle their entire length over several days (sturdy shoes recommended!) or cherry pick the bits you like best.

Cyclists – whether seasoned experts, keen amateurs or just starting out – have plenty of options too. From the confidence-building to the downright daring. Looking for a stress-free family outing? Give the Golden Way a go. Crave the excitement of off-road adventure? The Longleat Estate is a great place to start. Keen to test your mettle on a demanding long-distance trail? The 160-mile Wiltshire Cycleway should provide more than enough of a challenge. There's an exciting selection of cycling events throughout the year to watch or take part in too. And don't worry if you've left your wheels at home – you can hire a bike from **Hayball Cyclesport** in Salisbury, or the **Towpath Trail** in Bradford on Avon.

You'll find a great choice of walker- and cyclist-friendly accommodation on our website. Accommodation providers are often happy to advise on their favourite local routes, and many actively welcome outdoor enthusiasts by offering facilities such as drying rooms for wet clothing. Go to visitwiltshire.co.uk/accommodation to find out more. If your idea of happiness is heading off in the morning with only a packed lunch and a map for company, that's fine by us. But if you'd like a little help with planning your itinerary, arranging places to stay – even transporting your luggage – local specialists such as Foot Trails, **Footpath Holidays**, **Oldbury Tours** and **Guided Walks in Wiltshire** are on hand to take the hassle out of your holiday.

If the sun seems reluctant to put in an appearance, why not try out new culinary techniques at one of our cookery schools? You'll find a wide range of courses for adults and children at **Vaughan's Cookery School** in Devizes, **The Farm Cookery School** in Bromham, **The Cooking School** in Warminster or **Waitrose Cookery School** in Salisbury. From beginners' courses on bread making to Michelin star 'dining at home', there is plenty to choose from.

Further details of a wide range of other things to do around Wiltshire, as well as walking and cycling routes, can be found at visitwiltshire.co.uk/activities. Maps and routes for cyclists and walkers can be downloaded from connectingwiltshire.co.uk too. Or contact one of the Information Centres listed on page 66. For walkers download the **Wiltshire Walks** app that includes over 150 GPS guided walking routes in and around Wiltshire.

These days we're all so busy. 24/7 this. 5G that. Sometimes you need to escape, press pause and let time stand still. To take things at a gentler pace, try a narrowboat cruise along the **Kennet & Avon Canal**. With just three speeds – slow, very slow and stop – there's no need for speed cameras, although the more conventional kind could come in handy!

The Ideal Antidote to Overcrowded Cities

“Cranborne Chase is an International Dark Sky Reserve”



> Lacock



> Fishing



> Bluebell woods



> Crop circle at Westbury



> Vale of Pewsey

If you're tired of the everyday, it's time for Wiltshire. Easy to explore, yet off the beaten track, this is an enchanted place. Here, you feel close to the earth and the ever-changing big skies. As the landscape's mood alters with the seasons and light changes the texture of the hills, you feel connected not just to nature, but to time itself.

Wiltshire is rural England at its very best. Almost half the landscape lies within an **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**. In the **Cotswolds**, where dry stone walls, narrow winding lanes and honey-coloured villages meld seamlessly into rolling hills. In **Cranborne Chase** and the **West Wiltshire Downs**, which stretch in a giant undulating swathe across the south of the county. In the **North Wessex Downs** and the **Vale of Pewsey**, where lush meadows and more austere expanses of upland unite amid a nationally protected landscape. Crop circles are a much-debated phenomenon here. To ponder the meaning of these mysterious formations, head to the **Crop Circle Exhibition and Information Centre** in Honeystreet. There are acres of ancient woodland to be found, too, on the edge of the **New Forest National Park** and in the **Savernake Forest**. And, at the heart of it all, the vast, untouched expanse of **Salisbury Plain**. An untamed plateau, it is home to rare and endangered species which thrive in the sparsely populated landscape.

Whether you are walking, cycling or travelling by car, miles of ancient drove roads and quiet country lanes make exploring a pleasure. Look out for charming hamlets, nestling amid rolling, unspoiled countryside. Among them **Castle Combe**, arguably one of England's prettiest, and the stunning National Trust village of **Lacock**. Film-makers' favourites, both.

The 40 nature reserves managed by **Wiltshire Wildlife Trust** cover a variety of natural habitats. From chalk grassland and woodland to wetland and bog, they are havens for flora and fauna. **North Meadow** on the outskirts of Cricklade is renowned for its spectacular display of rare Snakeshead Fritillaries during April. **West Woods** near Marlborough and **Grovely Wood** near Wilton are awash with bluebells in May. **Lower Moor Farm** near Cricklade is a mosaic of lakes, brooks and ponds linked by boardwalks, ancient hedges, woodland and meadows. **Langford Lakes** between Salisbury and Warminster is the perfect spot for birdwatching enthusiasts.

Wiltshire is also blessed with outstanding chalk streams and rivers. Flowing south from Pewsey, the **River Avon** supports an abundant variety of wildlife, including the endangered water vole. The gin-clear waters of the **Wylde, Nadder, Bourne** and **Ebbel** offer excellent trout fishing and delightful riverside walks. The **River Kennet** winds through the North Wessex Downs, skirting the prehistoric sites of Avebury and Silbury Hill. Even the young **River Thames** gets a look in, as it meanders through the north of the county, close to the Saxon town of Cricklade.

To find out more and to book your rural break, go to visitwiltshire.co.uk/accommodation

Sleep Soundly and Wake Refreshed

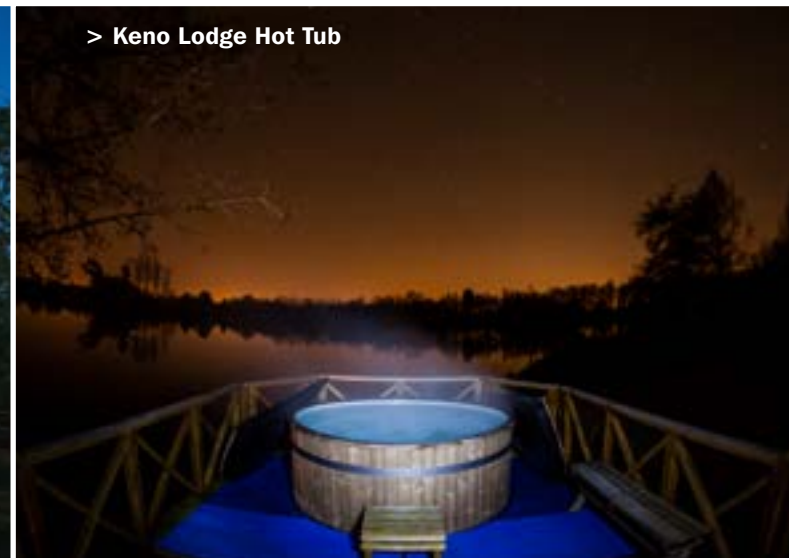
For details of all our places to stay,
as well as the latest offers, go to
visitwiltshire.co.uk/accommodation



> Dog and Gun Inn



> Mill Farm



> Keno Lodge Hot Tub



> Church Farm Country Cottages



> The Old Bell Hotel



> Totteridge Campsite



> Troutbeck Guesthouse/Red Lion



> Woolley Grange

These days, it seems, you're always on the go. Someone's always on your case. When you need to relax, unwind and enjoy a little 'me' time, visit Wiltshire and step off the world for a while.

With comfortable two, three and four star options we have **hotels** to suit every pocket. Some at the centre of the action. Others peacefully rural. Several with AA Dining Rosettes. Wherever you choose to lay your head, you'll feel rested and restored. Ready for another day, out and about in Wiltshire.

At the upper end of the market our breathtaking **country house hotels** are the ultimate in indulgence. Excellent facilities and levels of comfort and service that are second to none. Some offer

Michelin star dining. Others a luxurious spa, on-site golf course or their own riding stables. Many are surrounded by acres of beautiful English parkland. Take time out and treat yourself. No expense spared.

What could be more timeless than the English B&B experience? Cosy rooms, thatched rooves, and a hearty English breakfast featuring local produce to start the day. Make time for each other at a perfect **bed and breakfast**, in a charming Wiltshire village.

When was the last time you all went away together? Reconnect with the family at one of our **self-catering** properties.

A converted stable or barn, maybe, with inglenook fireplace and flagstone floors. Or a city centre property, with all amenities close at hand. Come and go as you please. Eat out or cater for yourselves. If your thing is to do your own thing, these homes from home offer the last word in flexibility.

In Wiltshire we know that little moments matter. A crackling open fire, a comfy chair, and a glass or two of your favourite tipple. Wiltshire's **pubs and inns** have been welcoming and reviving generations of weary travellers for centuries. Our **restaurants with rooms**, too, are the perfect places to enjoy a delicious evening meal with good company all around.

For many people, holiday heaven means waking up to the sounds of the countryside. With home-made bread, local honey, and eggs straight from the hen. If this describes your rustic dream, a **Farm Stay** property could be the perfect fit. Some are on working farms, others simply in farm locations. Chances are you'll be able to take your best friend along too, as many are happy to welcome dogs. Or even horses!

When only the ultimate countryside experience will do, nothing beats spending the night under a canopy of stars. Which is where

our **campsites** come into their own. Just park your caravan, pitch your tent, or pull up in your motorhome and get in touch with your rural roots. If you hanker for something a little out of the ordinary, we have plenty of quirky **alternative** and **glamping** options too. Colourful narrowboats on the canal. Well-appointed log cabins and canvas lodges. Romantic eco pods and shepherd's huts. Simple pleasures, with creature comforts thrown in. All with the great outdoors on your doorstep.

“Find your ideal home
from home”

Choosing and Booking Your Accommodation

Hopefully the information contained within these pages has whetted your appetite and inspired you to visit Wiltshire soon... all you need to do now is find somewhere to stay.

To help you on your way

A selection of accommodation is featured on pages 51-56 of this guide. If you can't see exactly what you're looking for there, a wider choice of places to stay can be found on our website.

As you would expect, our website has an extensive range of hotels, bed & breakfasts and self-catering cottages to choose from. Farm stay properties, caravan and campsites are also featured. Or, if you fancy something a little different, you'll find log cabins, canvas lodges, glamping pods, narrowboats and shepherd's huts too.

Getting started is easy

Just go to **visitwiltshire.co.uk** on your mobile, tablet or laptop and click on the 'Accommodation' tab. You can search by location and/or type of accommodation; narrow the search by adding keywords; filter by price, room type or facilities; and check availability for your preferred dates.

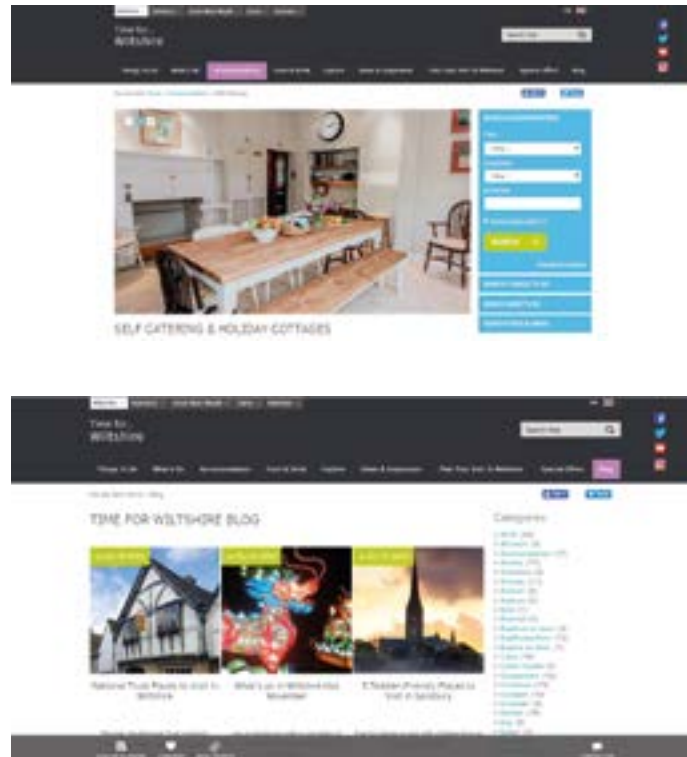
Once you've found somewhere you like the look of, the **next step** is to check out its full details online, as comprehensive information is provided for each property. We also highlight details of **what's nearby** – from attractions, events and activities to shopping and eating out, including distances from your chosen accommodation – and once you have made your decision you can **add it to your itinerary**.

Book attraction tickets online

Planning your short break or holiday to Wiltshire using our website couldn't be easier... especially as you can now also **book tickets online**, before you arrive, for lots of places to visit and things to do – just go to **visitwiltshire.co.uk/shop**

Check the What's on pages on the website **visitwiltshire.co.uk/whats-on** to find out what's on while you are here. Keep an eye on the **Special Offers** page on our website for a range of seasonal escapes, activity breaks, last minute deals and more. And be sure to check out our **Blog** – it's full of great ideas for places to visit and things to do.

“Book via VisitWiltshire or direct with the accommodation provider”



Accommodation

Bradford on Avon, Trowbridge & Villages



> Bradford on Avon

For quality assessment, pricing and symbol information please see pages 65-66
For map references please see page 67

Cumberwell Country Cottages
★★★★★ Self-Catering

Great Cumberwell Farm, Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire, BA15 2PQ
T: 01225 869230
E: enquiries@cumberwellcountrycottages.com
Mr Alistair James

Seven unique, luxurious and spacious self-catering cottages set in a peaceful, rural location on the edge of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, only 5 miles from Bath and 1 mile from Bradford on Avon.

Bedrooms 1 or 2 per unit
Sleeps Between 2-4 in seven cottages
Prices £370-£1050
www.cumberwellcountrycottages.com

Map Ref D2

Church Farm Country Cottages and The Old Granary
★★★★★ Self-Catering to ★★★★★ Gold Award

Church Farm, Winsley, Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire, BA15 2JH
T: 01225 722246 E: stay@churchfarmcottages.com

Church Farm offers family-run cottages on a working sheep farm, with a superb indoor heated pool and games room. Well located on the edge of the village of Winsley in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Seven well-equipped, single-storey cottages including one with M2 grading. Four 4-person cottages with two bedrooms, three 2-person cottages with one bedroom. The gold award-winning twelve-person converted barn, The Old Granary, is ¼ mile away along a country lane. Green Tourism gold award. Bath 5 miles and Longleat 12 miles. Discounted Longleat tickets if you book with us. Regular buses. Ample parking on site. Free WiFi. Excellent village pub and award-winning farm shop and newly opened barn café both under 500m. Kennet & Avon canal ¾ mile for cycling and walking. Couples, families, friends' gatherings, business groups are all welcome. Up to 34 can be accommodated. The increasingly popular farm and woodland activities can be booked in advance. Dogs welcome (by prior arrangement). Weekend and midweek breaks, weekly and longer stays available. Welcome cream tea on arrival. Event space bookings for The Walnut Room now being taken – ideal for groups dining together or activities.

7 Cottages: Four 4-person and three 2-person cottages. £215-£695 short break; £395-£1,425 per week.
Old Granary: Sleeps up to 12. Short breaks from £995-£2,395; £2,595-£3,895 per week.
www.churchfarmcottages.com

Map Ref D2

LOOK OUT FOR THE WE'RE GOOD TO GO SYMBOL



“We're Good To Go” is the official UK mark to signal that a business has implemented Government and industry COVID-19 guidelines and has a process in place to maintain cleanliness and aid social distancing.

Many tourist attractions, shops, places to stay, activities and places to eat and drink in Wiltshire have been awarded the mark.


LOOK OUT FOR THE GOOD TO GO LOGO WHEN PLANNING YOUR VISIT.

Accommodation

Calne, Devizes & Villages

Bowood Hotel, Spa and Golf Resort
VisitWiltshire Accommodation Charter

Map Ref C3



Derry Hill, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 9PQ
T: 01249 822228 E: resort@bowood.org
Situating on the stunning Bowood Estate just outside Chippenham, all the bedrooms are individually designed in a contemporary house style using heritage colours. Relax in front of log fires in Winter or on the terrace with a chilled glass of wine in Summer and enjoy a relaxed yet sophisticated dining experience with panoramic views of Bowood's pristine parklands in the Shelburne Restaurant, Bar and Library. Bowood offers a luxurious award-winning Spa for use by all guests and a wide selection of spa treatments to indulge a little further. For golfers, the Bowood PGA Golf Course for the South West will not disappoint, and there's plenty to keep children happy too, with a host of games, swim sessions, flexible mealtimes and complimentary access to Bowood House & Gardens during the open season, April to October. For an exclusive break away with friends or family, enjoy the privacy of Queenwood Lodge with your own private host and chef, or simply close the door and enjoy time to yourselves with a self-catering break.
Bedrooms 43 (all en suite) **B&B Rates** Double Occupancy from £160
Dinner, B&B Rates Double Occupancy from £220
www.bowood.org



Queenwood Lodge
VisitWiltshire Accommodation Charter

Map Ref C3



Queenwood Hotel, Spa and Golf Resort, Derry Hill, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 9PQ
T: 01249 822228 E: resort@bowood.org
For an exclusive break away with friends or family, enjoy the privacy of Queenwood Lodge, a beautiful Georgian house on the Bowood Estate, with your own private host and chef, or simply close the door and enjoy time to yourselves with a self-catering break.
Bedrooms 4 (all en suite)
Sleeps 8 adults, plus 2 children
Prices From £1,075 per night for DBB or from £450 self-catering
www.bowood.org



Chippenham & Villages

Rouselands Farm

Map Ref B3



Sundays Hill, Brinkworth, Chippenham, Wilts, SN15 5AT
T: 01666 510315 E: enquiries@rouselandsfarmcampsite.co.uk
Small, family run campsite on a working farm in the Beautiful Wiltshire countryside, 10 minutes from Malmesbury. Our 10 acre camping field is the perfect place to relax and get away from it all, with ample space for our 10 tent pitches, 2 Glamping bell tents and 1 Shepherds Hut. See the animals, enjoy the stunning scenery and some of our home bred and reared lamb or beef on the BBQ.
Pitches: 10 + 1 Shepherds Hut + 2 Bell Tents
Tents: from £14 **Shepherds Hut:** from £75 **Bell Tents:** from £65
www.rouselandsfarmcampsite.co.uk



Corsham, Lacock & Villages




The Old Post Office Cottage
VisitWiltshire Accommodation Charter



Map Ref C2



Silver Street, Gastard, Corsham, Wiltshire, SN13 9PY
T: 01249 713968 M: 07876155676 E: pjcollier@talktalk.net
Peter and Jenny Collier
A well-equipped cottage in the grounds of owners' Grade II listed home. Quiet village location 1.2 miles from Corsham and convenient for Lacock, Castle Combe and Bath. Village pub 150 yards.
Bedrooms 1
Sleeps 2
Prices £400-£450
www.theoldpostofficecottage.com

Hotel Accommodation Guest Accommodation Self-Catering Camping & Caravanning



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www.totteridge-farm.website


Salisbury & Villages

> View across Harnham Water-Meadows






oldrectorychicklade.co.uk

> Salisbury Charter Market



Salisbury Charter Market – since 1227




salisburycitycouncil.gov.uk

SALISBURY
CITY COUNCIL

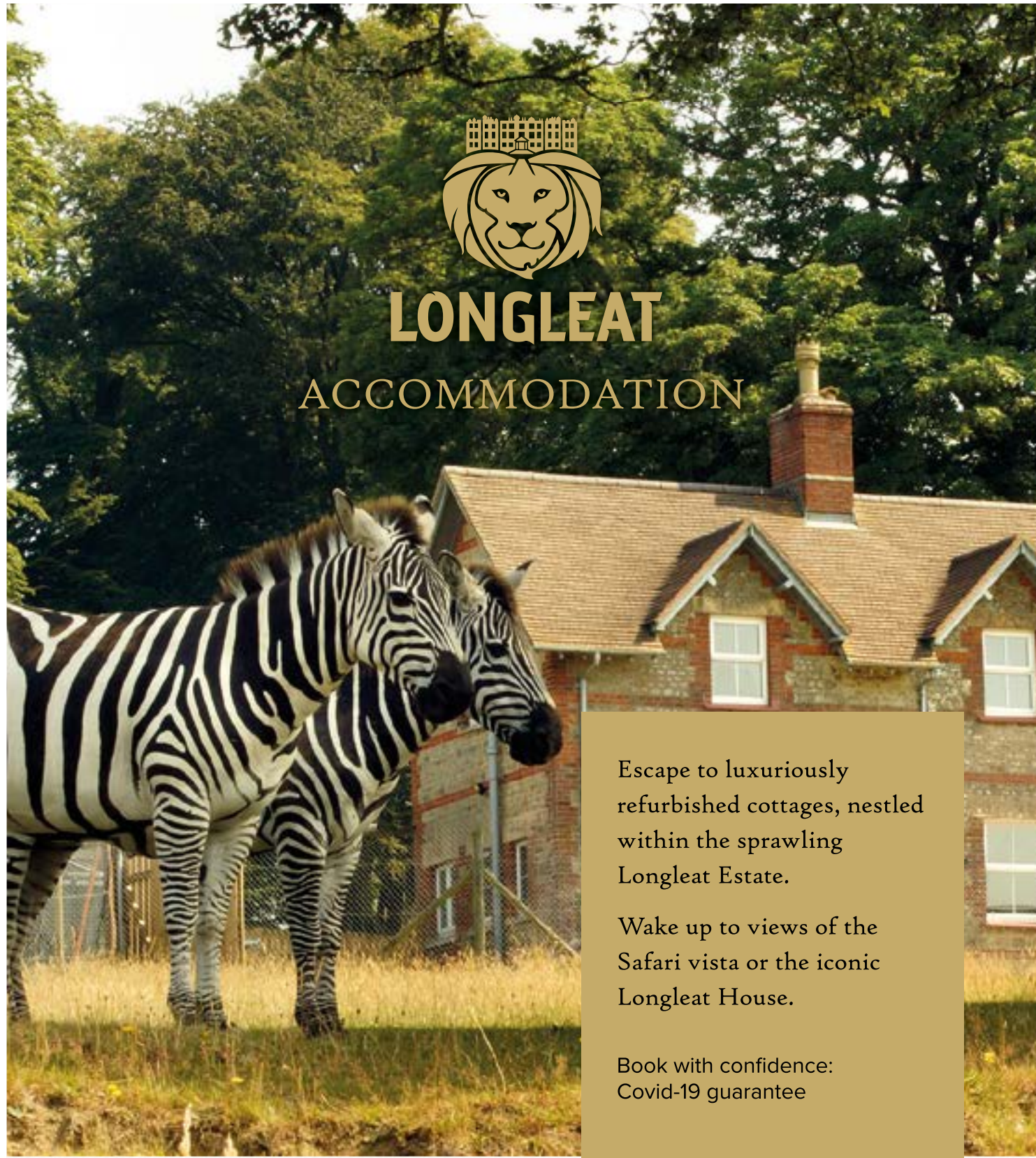
Mere, Warminster, Westbury & Villages

A large, light-colored stone building with multiple windows and a central entrance, surrounded by greenery and a driveway. The building has a traditional architectural style with a gabled roof and several chimneys. The foreground shows a paved area and some landscaping.



Wedding Venues

visitwiltshire.co.uk 55



longleat.co.uk/accommodation

Places to Visit and Things to Do

For map references please see page 67

AMESBURY

The Home of Stonehenge, Historic Amesbury is an interesting town sitting on the River Avon.

Recognized as the oldest continuous living settlement in the country, dating back over 8500 years BC, before Stonehenge.

Offering accommodation, local shops, restaurants and inns - the town is a great stopping point for travellers and visitors to Stonehenge and south Wiltshire. With plenty of affordable parking, including two coach spaces in the town centre.

In 2021 a new History Centre will open, with one of the largest Mesolithic collections and will tell an amazing story of how life was before and around Stonehenge.

The 10th century church of St Mary and St Melor houses a 15th century clock that is believed to have been built for the Benedictine Abbey. Also, crusader crosses, royal floor tiles and see the story of Queen Eleanor of Provence, who was given a royal funeral in Amesbury in 1291.

For more information contact:
Amesbury Community & Visitor Centre
on 01980 622525

Iford Manor

Map Ref D2

Iford Manor Gardens, Iford, Bradford on Avon BA15 2BA
T: 01225 863146
E: info@ifordmanor.co.uk

Romantic, award-winning, Grade I listed gardens, as featured in "The Secret Garden" (2020). Tucked away at the bottom of a tranquil valley, steep and narrow paths twist and turn around ancient statues, columns, terraces and architecture. Steeped in history, a visit to these timeless, 2.5 acre Italianate gardens is often described as 'stepping into another world'.

Open/Admission:
 Open April - September. Please visit website for information.
www.ifordmanor.co.uk

The Bridge Tea Rooms

Map Ref D2

24a Bridge Street, Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire, BA15 1BY
T: 01225 865537
E: info@thebridgetearooms.co.uk

Afternoon tea is a fine art at The Bridge Tea Rooms. Recognised as excellent by the UK Tea Guild and twice awarded winners of 'The UK's Top Tea Place'. Friendly staff in Victorian dress serve light meals, cakes, sandwiches and a wide range of afternoon teas. All housed in a former blacksmith's cottage dating from 1502.

Open: Mon-Sun 10am-5pm. Afternoon Teas served from 12noon-5pm.
www.thebridgetearooms.co.uk

Crofton Beam Engines

Map Ref C4

Crofton Beam Engines, Crofton, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 3DW
T: 01672 870300
E: crofton@katrust.org.uk

Magnificent 200-year-old working steam operated beam engines still capable of performing their original job. Amazing industrial archaeology in an unspoiled, rural setting overlooking the Kennet & Avon Canal. Free access to grounds except during special events. The beam engines are in steam on selected weekends during the summer.

Admission/Open:
 Please see website for details
www.croftonbeamengines.org

Vintage Classics

Map Ref C2

Melksham
T: 01225 703377 E: info@vintage-classics.co.uk

Self-drive classic car hire.

Explore the beautiful county of Wiltshire and the Cotswolds differently with a romantic escape or a nostalgic trip down memory lane in an iconic classic car. Choose from E-Type Jaguar or Jaguar MKII (of Inspector Morse fame), Austin Healey 3000, MGC Roadster, Morris Minor Convertible, Alfa Romeo GTV, Alfa Romeo Spider, Audi Ur Quattro Turbo (as in the BBC's Ashes to Ashes), Triumph Stag or Aston Martin DB7 Volante. Or try our latest addition: a 1969 Morris Mini Cooper S. Live your dream of driving a classic car – the perfect way to view this mystical and romantic area. Tour routes provided.

Open: All year round
Hire Charges: From £185 per day
www.vintage-classics.co.uk

Bowood House & Gardens

Map Ref C3

Bowood House & Gardens, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 0LZ
T: 01249 812102
E: houseandgardens@bowood.org

Visit the magnificent home of the Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne set in 2,000 acres of Grade 1 listed parkland. Wander through the grounds or book a tour of the award-winning walled garden. A fantastic day out for all the family, with the Adventure Playground, including life size pirate ship, slides and new for 2021 – The Den.

Open: 1 Apr-1 Nov 2021, 11am-6pm (5pm after autumn clock change) **Admission:** Please see website for details
www.bowood.org

Salisbury Escape Rooms

Map Ref F4

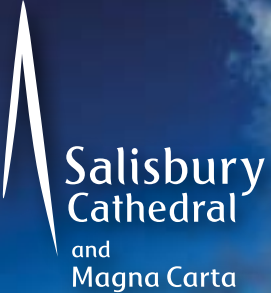
11a Fisherton Street, Salisbury SP2 7SU
T: 01722 428980
E: info@salisburyescape.com

Quite probably the most fun hour you'll spend in Salisbury. Come and solve our current whodunnit escape room game "Death at the lab". Groups of up to 6 friends, family or work colleagues. A great way to socialise in a Covid-safe environment. Advisable to book in advance, but try your luck for on-the-day availability. *Please note we will be closed during lockdowns, but in the meantime, you can play our online multi-player escape room game with your friends and families from the safety of your own homes.

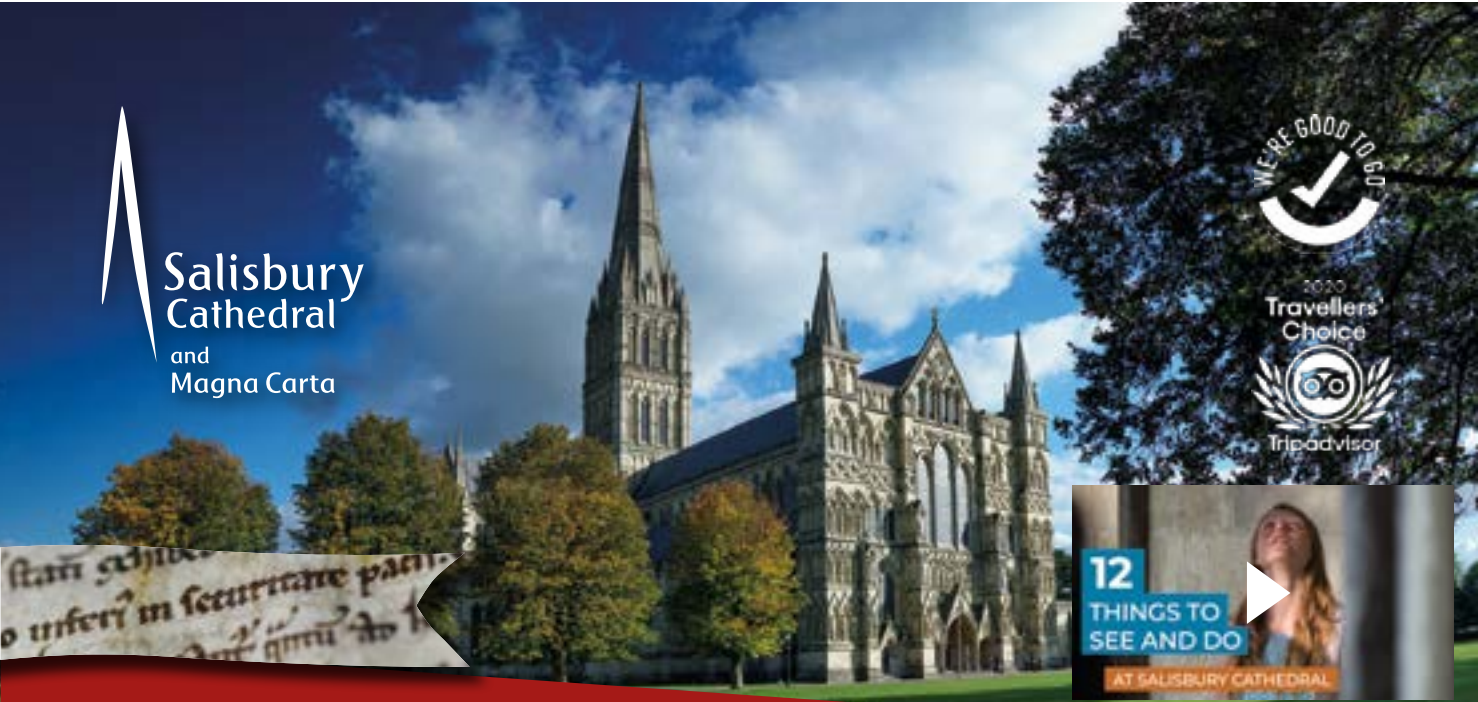
Please visit the website for latest updates.
www.salisburyescape.com




> Corsham




Salisbury Cathedral
and
Magna Carta








2020
Travellers' Choice
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12
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www.salisburycathedral.org.uk   




BOOK TICKETS NOW





Come and discover Wiltshire's hidden treasure

History, heritage, arts and crafts, great places to eat and drink and lots of independent shops – plus BBC One's Poldark was filmed here too.


www.corsham.gov.uk/visit

Just 8 miles from Bath on the A4, 4 miles from the M4 (J17), or 3 miles from Chippenham Station.





The George

Set in the hamlet of Woolley, Bradford on Avon is a quintessential Country Inn, The George. An award winning dining pub.

SET LUNCH
Monday to Friday 2 courses **£17.95** and 3 Courses **£19.95**

SET DINNER
Monday to Wednesday 2 courses **£18.95** 3 courses **£21.95**

SUNDAY LUNCH
Whole roast chicken for a family of four to share with Roast pots, Yorkie Puds, bread sauce, stuffing, seasonal veg and cauliflower gratin, jugs of gravy **£50**

Open from 9.30am for breakfast daily

BOOK NOW!
Call: 01225 865650

67 Woolley Street, Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire, BA15 1AQ
Tel: 01225 865650 | web: thegeorgebradfordonavon.co.uk



Skydiving over Salisbury Plain is the ultimate staycation activity and one you will never forget. Imagine an experience that puts your senses into overdrive. One that has your heart racing, the adrenaline pumping.

A tandem skydive is the ultimate adrenaline rush. Freefalling at 125mph is an experience like nothing on earth. Beyond exhilarating, it defies description. The only way to understand it is to do it.

GoSkydive is a specialist tandem skydiving centre, fully regulated by and affiliated with British Skydiving. We specialise in customer focussed tandem skydiving days and over 50,000 people have jumped with us.

Skydiving from a variety of altitudes for a pulse-racing experience. Why not jump from the UK's highest altitude - 15,000ft!

PRICES FROM £199



DO SOMETHING AMAZING THIS YEAR!



THE ULTIMATE STAYCATION ACTIVITY



Old Sarum Airfield, Salisbury, SP4 6DZ
Call us on: 01722 568244 or email info@goskydive.com



Trowbridge Museum

Reopening

22nd May 2021

A brand new floor of innovative displays!

Interactive family events programme launching in the Summer!



trowbridgemuseum.co.uk

A hidden gem, open to all.



A church has stood on this site for nearly eight hundred years and St Thomas's has always been the church of the City and Guilds of Salisbury.


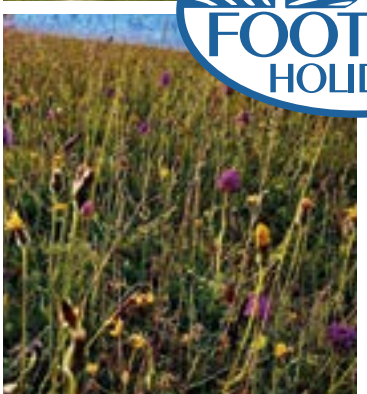


Our recently restored 'Doom' painting above the chancel arch is the largest and most complete example still surviving in the UK, painted between 1470 and 1500.


Visitors will also enjoy the strikingly modern altar table, built by local craftsman Matthew Burt, and created as part of a larger and ongoing project to reorder, repair and restore this wonderful church.

St Thomas's is part of the Inclusive Church initiative, which means that we are committed to ensuring that all are truly welcome, whatever their story. There are services held daily (except Saturdays) – do join us if you can.

St Thomas's Church,
St Thomas's Square SP1 1BA
www.stthomassalisbury.co.uk







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Contact us at:
footpath.holidays@gmail.com
www.footpath-holidays.com
+44 (0)1985 840049

Marlborough

Map Ref C4



TIC at Marlborough Town Council, 5 High Street, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 1AA
T: 01672 512487 E: enquiries@marlborough-tc.gov.uk

Historic, vibrant Marlborough with its wide High Street is bursting with character. Close to Avebury and Savernake Forest in the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, it has been consistently listed in the top ten shopping districts for having a great mix of independent and national shops, a twice-weekly street market as well as a host of cafés, pubs and restaurants.

Annual events include a literary festival, summer school, art trails, Mop Fairs, music events, a puppet festival and – new this year – a Dark Skies Fest.

Shop, eat, explore and enjoy our river and parks... a warm Marlborough welcome awaits you!

Marlborough - town and country combined.

Find us on Twitter: @MTCwils Facebook: @MarlboroughTC Instagram: @visitmarlborough

www.marlborough-tc.gov.uk





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Rick Stein, Marlborough

Fresh fish, simply cooked with classic seafood dishes including Dover sole à la meunière and turbot hollandaise alongside local meat and game.

3 course set lunch for £24.95

To make a reservation
call 01672 233333 or visit www.rickstein.com



Lloran House, 42a High Street,
Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 1HQ



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Day Hire: Purpose Built day boat for a wonderful lock free day up to 8 people!

www.honestyboats.co.uk



Canal side café



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We are open everyday all year round you can moor up next to bridge 124!

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SN9 5PS
www.honestymillcafe.co.uk

Catch The Stonehenge Tour bus in Salisbury:
bus stop U or  Salisbury railway station

THE STONEHENGE TOUR

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buy tickets
online or
from the
driver

thestonehenge tour.info
  thestonehenge tour

 wear a face covering unless exempt

 use on board hand sanitiser



**From history's dawn -
to Wiltshire's present
- it's time to visit**

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Chequered
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to take six visitors,
including two
optional child seats

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salcheqbb@gmail.com
salisburyhistorytours.co.uk



Salisbury Plain Safaris Map Ref E3

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or call us on **07717 803999**

Every Salisbury Plain Safari is a unique experience. Join our guides to explore areas of Salisbury Plain off the usual tourist routes and see the hidden sights of the UK's largest military training area, featuring ancient archaeology telling the story of Stonehenge, wildlife, stunning landscapes and to top it all off lots of fun in our 4x4 Land Rover Defender. Check us out on TripAdvisor to see our 5-star reviews.

Tours for up to 6 people **from £30pp**
www.salisburyplainsafaris.co.uk




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the Cotswolds, Wiltshire Museum & much more

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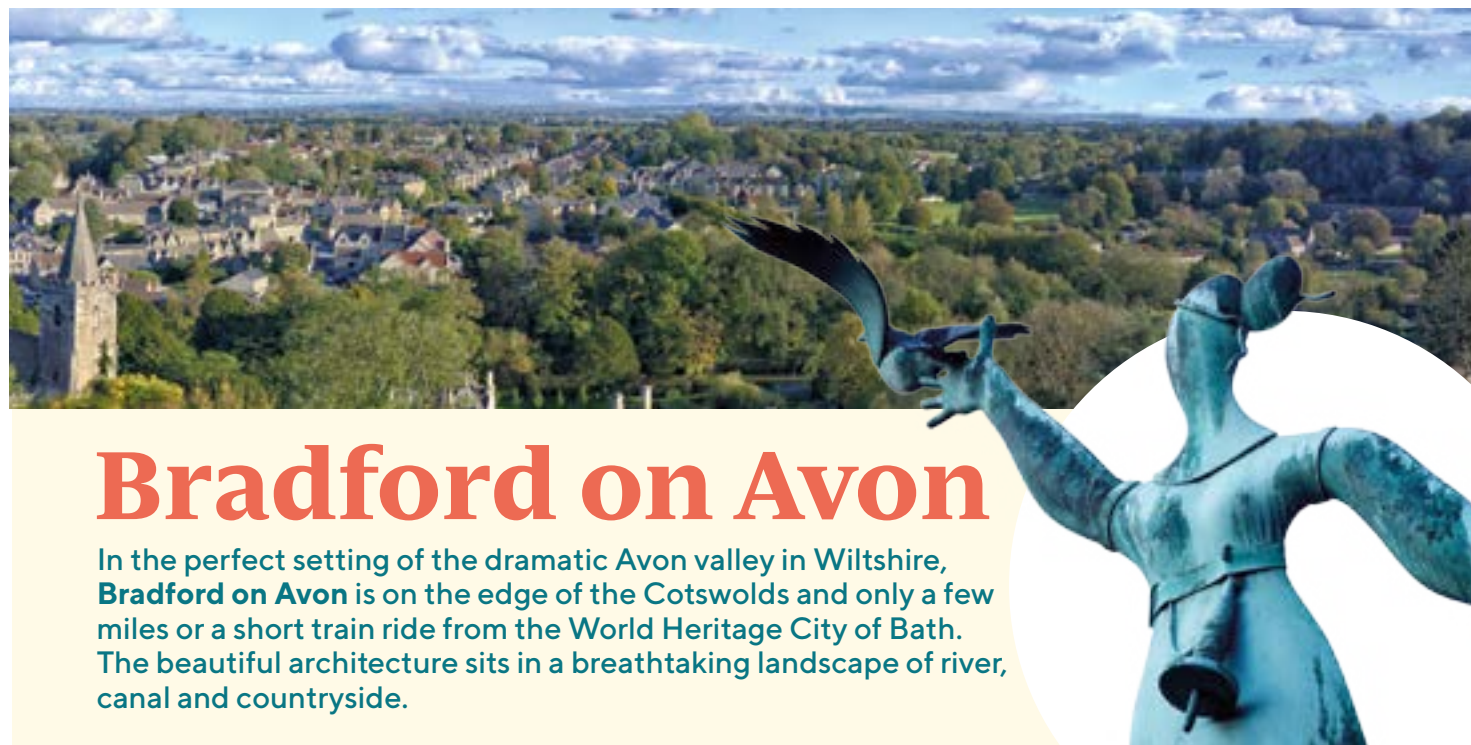
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Travel back over 10,000 years in time with your own personalised tour of some of Britain's hidden gems



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Churchfields Industrial Estate,
Salisbury,
Wiltshire SP2 7YS
Tel: 01722 333333
www.salisburystonehengegetours.co.uk**



Bradford on Avon

In the perfect setting of the dramatic Avon valley in Wiltshire, **Bradford on Avon** is on the edge of the Cotswolds and only a few miles or a short train ride from the World Heritage City of Bath. The beautiful architecture sits in a breathtaking landscape of river, canal and countryside.

From cosy cottages to grand townhouses; handsome public buildings, a medieval barn, and ancient places of worship, you could spend the day getting lost on the meandering footpaths of Tory with picturesque views over the town; enjoy a boat trip along the Kennet and Avon canal or bring a picnic and take pleasure in beautiful green spaces.

For those who enjoy the outdoors, you can't go wrong with a trip to Bradford on Avon. Surrounded by stunning countryside and waterways, we have many experiences to get the heart pumping while enjoying beautiful scenery at the same time! You could hire a canoe or mountain bike or follow the Bradford on Avon Walkers Wheel map and explore by foot. This caters for all abilities from short local rambles to more adventurous hikes.

If you fancy a more leisurely experience in Bradford on Avon, the town is a haven of independent retailers and award-winning restaurants, cafés and pubs, many with locally sourced produce or artwork for that truly unique BoA experience.



Bradford on Avon really is the perfect place to *explore*!
To find out more please visit www.bradfordonavon.co.uk

'BY SKILL AND BY FIGHTING'

The motto of the
Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers



The award winning museum has 8 modern, interactive galleries
Displays include huge armoured vehicles, medals, uniforms and weapons
There is a large free car park and the excellent crowns café for refreshments.

Located just outside MOD Lyneham, Wiltshire

Opening times: Tues-Sat 10am-4:30pm



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> Ludgershall Castle

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Key to Symbols Used in this Guide

VisitEngland	VisitEngland Cyclists Welcome
VisitEngland Gold Award	VisitEngland Families Welcome
VisitEngland Silver Award	VisitEngland Pets Welcome
VisitEngland Walkers Welcome	VisitEngland Breakfast Award

The AA	AA Highly Commended Award Guest Accommodation
AA Breakfast Award	AA Dining Rosette
AA Silver Star Award	

Green Tourism Award	World Host
Welcome to Excellence	

Mobility Level 1	Mobility Level 3
Mobility Level 2	Mobility Level 4

Key to Room Types and Abbreviations Used in this Guide

D – Double	K – King	Su – Superior	Tr – Triple
F – Family	S – Single	T – Twin	

Plan Your Visit to Wiltshire

Please remember to abide by government guidelines as the COVID-19 pandemic continues, and take a look at our advice on the website on how to visit Wiltshire safely and responsibly before you arrive. Look out for the “Good to Go” logo which shows businesses have put necessary processes in place. Please check in advance to find out more about what to expect when you visit, and remember that you will need to book in advance for most attractions.

Getting Here is Easy

Whether you are travelling by car, coach, train, air or sea, Wiltshire is easily accessible – go to [visitwiltshire.co.uk/plan-your-visit](https://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/plan-your-visit) for details.

Disabled Access – Wiltshire’s countryside, towns and villages are 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](https://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/disabledaccess)

Find the Perfect Place to Stay

Plenty to choose from – Wiltshire has a fantastic range and variety of accommodation, including stylish hotels, comfortable bed & breakfasts, well-equipped self-catering cottages, friendly campsites and quirky alternative accommodation such as glamping and shepherd’s huts.

Special offers – Our accommodation providers pride themselves on offering excellent value for money with a range of discounts available year-round. So keep an eye on the special offers section on our website to make sure you don’t miss a bargain.

Quality you can trust – All accommodation providers featured in this guide are partners of VisitWiltshire. All have been quality assessed by, or have applied for a rating from, one of the national bodies or one of their recognised agencies, or are part of one of the local schemes. For further details please visit our website: [visitwiltshire.co.uk/gradinginformation](https://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/gradinginformation)

Pricing and meal arrangements – Unless otherwise stated, hotel and guest accommodation prices are per room, per night including breakfast; self-catering prices are per week. Breakfast is not usually included at self-catering, camping or caravanning establishments. Please be aware that prices listed within this publication are the starting prices for each establishment and may vary according to the type of room, the day of the week, or the time of the year.

Meeting your requirements – Please read accommodation descriptions carefully. Remember to confirm the price, facilities and cancellation policy at the time of booking, paying special attention to any aspects that are of particular importance to you. A key to the symbols, room types and abbreviations used in this guide can be found on page 65.

How to find your accommodation – Accommodation within this guide has been grouped according to location (eg Corsham, Lacock and Villages). Standard accommodation entries are colour coded according to the type of accommodation and have a map reference which cross-refers to the map on page 67.

Accuracy – Details of businesses included in this guide are based on information supplied by them at the time of going to press. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, VisitWiltshire can accept no liability for any errors or omissions.

Attractions – All attractions featured throughout this publication are members of the Wiltshire Association of Visitor Attractions.

General Information

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Information Centres

- For information before you travel, take a look at [visitwiltshire.co.uk](https://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk) For local information, please contact one of the Information Centres listed below:
- Amesbury Community & Visitor Centre**
2 Flower Court, Amesbury, SP4 7JE. Tel: 01980 622525
- Bradford on Avon Visitor Centre**
Westbury Gardens, 50 St Margaret’s Street, Bradford on Avon, BA15 1DE. Tel: 01225 865797
Email: tourism@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk
- Calne Visitor and Community Information Centre**
Bank House, The Strand, Calne, SN11 0EN.
Tel: 01249 814000. Email: calne@calne.gov.uk
- Chippenham Town Council**
High Street, Chippenham, SN15 3ER
Tel: 01249 446699. Email: enquiries@chippenham.gov.uk
- Corsham Area Information Centre**
Arnold House, 31 High Street, Corsham, SN13 0EZ
Tel: 01249 714660. Email: info@visitcorshamarea.co.uk
- Cricklade Visitor Information Point**
Town Council Office, Ockwells, 113 High Street, Cricklade, SN6 6AE
Tel: 01793 751394. Email: admin@crickladetowncouncil.gov.uk
- Devizes** Visitor information is available at a number of locations in the town, including the Kennet & Avon Canal Museum and Wiltshire Museum. Contact: Devizes Tourism Partnership c/o Wiltshire Museum, 41 Long Street, Devizes, SN10 1NS. Tel: 01380 800400
Email: tourism@devizes.org.uk
- Highworth Tourist Information, Arts and Craft Centre and Museum**
The Old Lloyds Bank, 7 High Street, Highworth, SN6 7BE
Tel: 01793 764440. Email: enquiries@visithighworth.co.uk
- Malmesbury Tourist Information Centre**
Town Hall, Cross Hayes, Malmesbury, SN16 9BZ
Tel: 01666 822143. Email: tic@malmesbury.gov.uk
- Marlborough Town Council**
5 High Street, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 1AA
Tel: 01672 512487. Email: enquiries@marlborough-tc.gov.uk
- Salisbury Information Centre**
Fish Row, Salisbury, SP1 1EJ
Tel: 01722 342860. Email: info@salisburycitycouncil.gov.uk
- Swindon Information Centre**
Central Library, Regent Circus, Swindon, SN1 1QG
Tel: 01793 466454. Email: infocentre@swindon.gov.uk
- Tisbury Information Centre**
c/o Tisbury Parish Council, The Reading Room, High Street, Tisbury, SP3 6LD. Tel: 01747 260088. Email: tisburyipc@gmail.com
- Trowbridge Information Centre**
The Civic Centre, St Stephen’s Place, Trowbridge, BA14 8AH
Tel: 01225 765072 (Option 3). Email: info@trowbridge.gov.uk
- Vale of Pewsey**
Look out for our Tourist Information Kiosks in red phone boxes across the Vale. Information is also available from our partner organisations, including Pewsey Heritage Centre, Wilton Windmill and Crofton Beam Engines, or wherever you see the blue Information sticker and on our website: www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk
Contact Pewsey Vale Tourism Partnership: 07802 444022.
info@visitpewseyvale.co.uk
- Warminster Community Hub**
Central Car Park, Off Station Road, Warminster, BA12 9BT
Tel: 01985 218548. Email: enquiries@warminstercommunityhub.co.uk



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