

# Visit Moreton-in-Marsh



## incredible history



The town dates back to the Saxon age. The settlement owes much to the Romans and their construction of the Fosseway which made it an important staging post for the Roman army travelling between Leicester and Cirencester. In the centre of the town in the 16th century Curfew Tower, whose roles included that of a lock-up. The Tower displays a replica board of toll charges taken on this key route. Some of the local inns were formally coaching inns providing accommodation for travellers and their horses. The Manor House Hotel dates back to 1545 and is rumoured to be haunted.



## about moreton-in-marsh

Located on the Fosse Way Roman road at the northern edge of the Cotswolds, the town is a bustling working town with excellent public transport routes both by rail and bus. Being a planned market town of the 13th century it has a long and wide high street full of independent shops to explore. Every Tuesday the town hosts the largest open-air street market in the Cotswolds.

Various locations in the town appeared in the Father Brown television series, whilst the former RAF station may figure in the Much-Binding-in-the-Marsh radio series. Additionally, there are several local sites which may have inspired J R R Tolkien: The Four Shires Stone for the Three Farthing Stone; the Rollright Stones (on the road to Long Compton) for The Barrow Downs and the Bell Inn for the Prancing Pony.

## walks around the town

Explore the town by walking the town trail taking in the historic buildings such as the Curfew Tower, Edith Mann institute and St David's church. On the outskirts of the town you will find the old WW2 RAF base, now home to the National Fire College (not open to public), and the Four Shires stone. Country walks are abundant, including the Moreton Eight Walk Trail, with opportunities to reach Batsford Arboretum, Bourton on the Hill or the village of Longborough, all of which will give you fantastic views across the Evenlode valley. Call into the Moreton Information Centre for suggestions and plenty of routes and maps to buy.

## events & festivals



The annual Moreton-in-Marsh Show, held on the first Saturday in September, is one of the country's biggest one-day agricultural shows combining farming, fashion, food and fun. The town also hosts a large mop fair, annual remembrance parade, and is beautifully decorated for the annual Christmas fair and lights switch on. Nearby summer events include Longborough Festival Opera, Chipping Campden music festival and many of the local vibrant gardens open as part of the national open gardens scheme.

## green spaces

The town has several open spaces including Queen Victoria Gardens, which has a children's play area and picnic tables, and Blenheim Meadow, which is delightful to stroll around.

## shopping & eating



Moreton in Marsh has a lovely café culture and offers a varied choice from specialist cake cafes to award winning tea shops. Plenty of inns, restaurants and hotels ensure a wide variety of tastes are catered for, from spice to pizza. Food lovers can visit shops specialising in a variety of goods, including deli and cheese, together with locally produced food and drink.

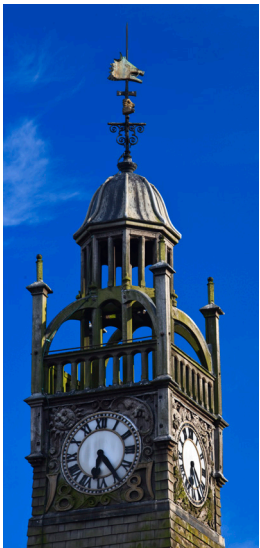
The town offers a wonderful array of small shops which are treasure troves of opportunities from jewellery, contemporary home and giftware to art and antiques. The town also has two business parks which provide shopping outlets.

## 5 things to see & do in moreton-in-marsh

- 1 Check out the historic buildings all along the High Street; spot the Manor House, Curfew Tower and Redesdale Hall
- 2 Read about the history of The Mitford Sisters by following the town trail
- 3 Stop for a break at any one of the inns and restaurants, including one said to be the inspiration for The Prancing Pony in JRR Tolkien's Lord of the Rings
- 4 Antiques and arts shopping - the town boasts a wealth of antique & arts shops
- 5 Visit on Tuesday market day and explore the many retail stalls

## attractions

The area has plenty of varied attractions. These include Batsford Arboretum, Cotswold Falconry, Sezincote House, Bourton House Garden, Mill Dene Garden, Cotswold Distillery, Chastleton House and the small Wellington Aviation museum. The museum commemorates the WW2 role of RAF Moreton-in-Marsh. Please check opening hours of all attractions before visiting.



## other areas to explore



Moreton-in-Marsh is situated on the Roman Fosseway surrounded by pretty villages such as Batsford, Evenlode, Longborough and Bourton on the Hill. The wonderful countryside and scenery in the North Cotswolds ensures visitors that enjoy the outdoors will not be disappointed.

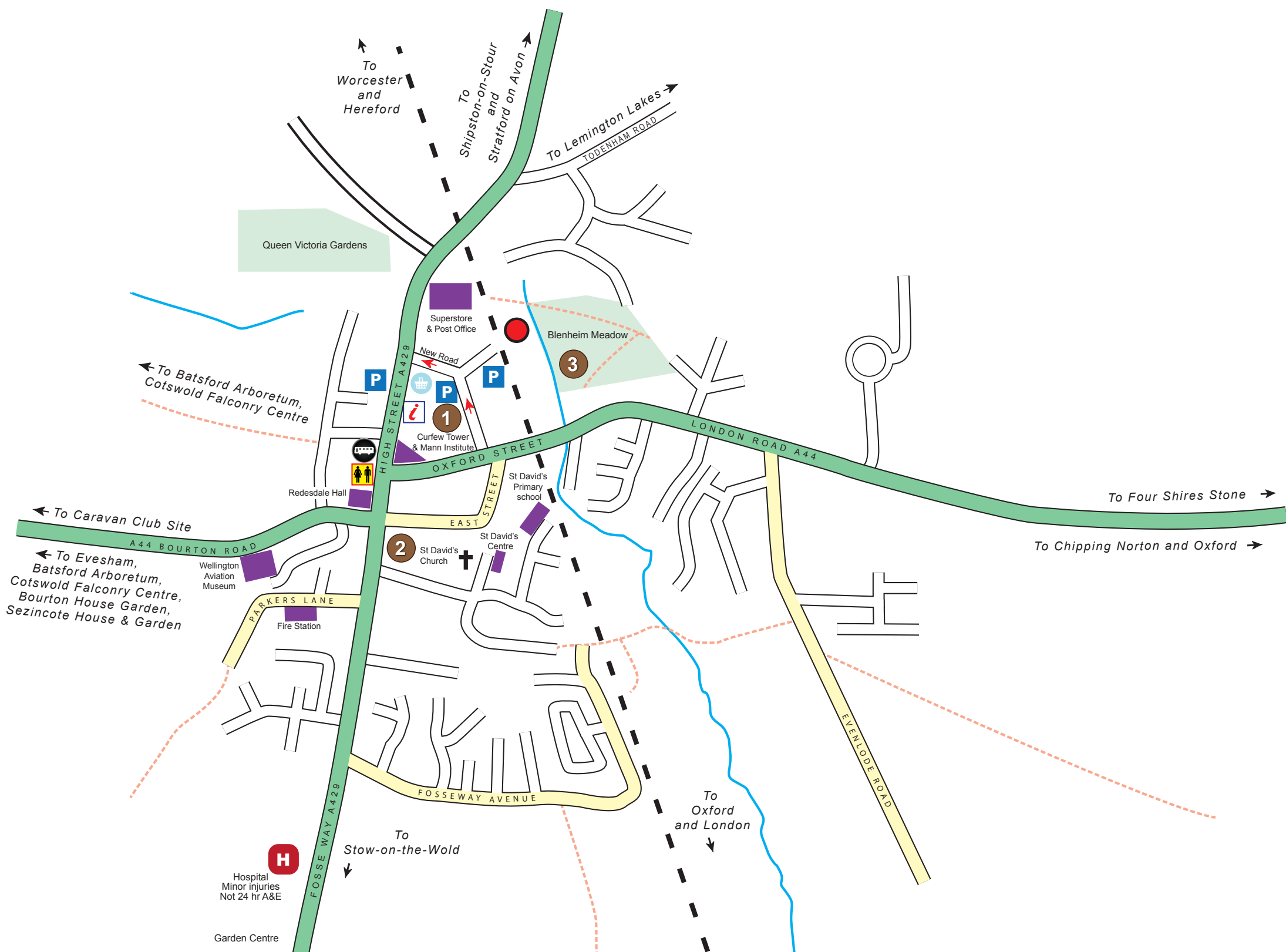
To the South and up on the hill you will find Stow-on-the-Wold with its impressive market square and the oldest inn in England.

Chipping Campden lies to the West with its links to the Arts and Craft Movement and Chipping Norton is over to the East. Visit Stratford-upon-Avon or Broadway easily using public transport from Moreton.

Moreton-in-Marsh has excellent public transport connections making this a great place to stay without a car.



# Visitor map of Moreton-in-Marsh



## make sure you visit

Nearby Batsford Arboretum and Cotswold Falconry centre make a great day out for the family. Within the private arboretum is Batsford House which was the family home of Lord Redesdale and the Mitford family.

## visitor information centre

The Visitor Information Centre is located in Moreton Area Centre on the main High Street and can provide local maps, guide books, information and leaflets to help your visit. It operates an accommodation booking service and has up-to-date information on local events.

Telephone 01608 650881



## did you know ...

King Charles 1 stayed at White Hart Royal Hotel during the English Civil War and apparently failed to pay his bill! The towns original name was Moreton Henmarsh - meaning founded on moorland that wild birds nest on.

Painter L.S.Lowry visited the area in 1940's and The Redesdale Hall was a subject for one of his creations.

## points of interest

- 1 Curfew Tower
- 2 St David's Church
- 3 Blenheim Meadow

## Key to symbols

- Visitor Information
- Car Parks
- Public Toilets
- Shopping Centre
- Major Buildings
- Place of Worship
- One Way Street
- Coach Parking
- Railway Station
- Footpath
- Railway Line