

Essential Guide to Marlborough

All you need to know about your visit to Marlborough - but if you think there's something missing, please tell us.

All third party information was correct at time of publication, but please check directly, or follow the links provided, for current information.

Plan your visit

Marlborough is in north Wiltshire, located north/south (A346) between Swindon and Salisbury, and west/east (A4) between Hungerford/Newbury and Calne. Get here from the M4 J15 by heading south on the A346.

Set in the stunning scenery of the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, there is countryside within 10 minutes' walk of the High Street in almost any direction. Downland, stone circles and Savernake Forest are literally on the doorstep and the River Kennet chalk stream flows through the town.

There is a good mix of shops, cafes, pubs, restaurants and open spaces – perfect to explore no matter how brief your visit.

This guide should provide you with the essentials for your visit.

Information

Information Information, including a Town Guide, bus timetables and leaflets for local attractions are available in person from our offices at 5 High Street, as well as from the Library and St Peter's Church (check opening times). [Let us know](#) if you'd like us to post one to you. The [Town Guide](#) includes a map showing footpaths, cycle ways, children's play areas and more.

Use the [VisitWiltshire website](#) to plan your visit or to download the [free App](#) to get information on the move.

Library 91 High Street, SN8 1HD. Tel 01672 512663. Free WiltsOnline public Wi-Fi is available in this [library](#). Open Mon: 1400-1900, Tue: Closed, Wed: 0930-1700, Thu: 0930-1900, Fri: 0930-1700, Sat: 0930-1300, Sun: Closed.

Travel and mobility

- Buses** Bus services are available to a number of surrounding towns and villages, and timetables are available at our offices. Please use a travel plan website to find the most up-to-date information as services and times may be subject to change. See UK wide [travel search](#), specific operators [Wiltshire Council](#) - [Swindon Borough Council](#) - [Salisbury Reds](#) or [Wiltshire Council's website](#) for more details, including community transport options
- Rail** There is no railway station in Marlborough. Nearby towns with railway links include Great Bedwyn, Pewsey, Hungerford and Swindon. To plan your rail journey please see the [National Rail Website](#)
- Coach** There is long stay parking and provision for extra-large vehicles in George Lane car park. Maximum stay for coaches: 10 hours, Pay and Display, Disabled Spaces, Toilets, Extra Large Spaces. Payments accepted: Coins, Pay-by-Mobile. Height restrictions: None. Number of spaces: 163 (2 disabled). Full details, location map and latest prices at [Parkopedia](#)
- Cars** Free on-street car parking is available for up to 30 minutes at the side of the High Street, and for up to 2 hours in The Parade and Silverless Street. There are a number of pay & display car parks, including in the centre of the High Street. See [Parkopedia](#) and click on the map for specific car parks
- You can charge your electric vehicle in George Lane car park (look for the building housing the WCs - the charger points are just in front of it). There are two filling stations – at 109 London Road, and on the Business Park, just off the A346 at the top of the hill on Salisbury Road

- Taxis There is a taxi rank in the High Street next to the Castle & Ball hotel and a number of [private hire taxi firms](#).
- Mobility Marlborough is in a valley so some of the streets are hilly although the High Street is level. Due to the age and listed status of the buildings, some shops and restaurants are accessed via steps. The Marlborough [Mobility Store](#) at 55 George Lane, SN8 4BY (next to the long stay/coach park) hires mobility aids. Contact them directly for options and opening hours. 01672 511550

Essential services

- Toilets Public toilets can be found in [George Lane](#) car park (24 hour) and Chantry Lane (0800 – 1800)
- Mobility Marlborough is in a valley so some of the streets are hilly although the High Street is level. Due to the age and listed status of the buildings, some shops and restaurants are accessed via steps. The Marlborough [Mobility Store](#) at 55 George Lane, SN8 4BY (next to the long stay/coach park) hires mobility aids. Contact them directly for options and opening hours. 01672 511550
- Pharmacy Kennet Pharmacy: 55 George Lane, SN8 4BY 01672 512543
Mon 0730–1900, Tue 0730–2000, Wed 0730–2000, Thu 0730–1900, Fri 0730–1900, Sat 0900–1200, Sun closed

Boots: 102-103 High Street, Marlborough SN8 1LT Telephone: 01672512351
Mon 0845-1730, Tue 0845-1730, Wed 0900-1730, Thu 0845-1730, Fri 0845-1730, Sat 0845-1730, Sun 1000-1600
- Post Office 33 High St, Marlborough SN8 1LW (inside One Stop)
- Banks There is a good mix of banks, building societies and ATMs
- Health General Practitioner: [Marlborough Medical Practice](#) at the entrance to George Lane car park, SN8 4BY. Tel: 01672 512187 or 111 out of hours.

The nearest hospital with Accident and Emergency and out of hours GP services is [Great Western Hospital](#), Marlborough Road, Swindon SN3 6BB
Tel: 01793 604020

[Savernake Community Hospital](#), London Road, Marlborough SN8 3HL. No Accident and Emergency provision. Some out of hours GP service and outpatient clinics. Tel: 01672 517200
- Police [Marlborough Police Station](#), George Lane, Marlborough SN8 4DB. Enquiry office open: Tue and Thu 0900-1700 (Closed 1245-1315), Wed 0900-1230. Closed Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Friday and bank holidays. Call 101 outside these hours, or 999 in an emergency.

Vet There are two vets in Marlborough – check with them directly for opening hours and appointments. Both provide emergency services out of hours. [Drove](#): 51 London Road, Marlborough SN8 2AJ (Next to the Roebuck Public House) Tel: 01672 512043. [Riverside](#): London Road, Marlborough SN8 2AG (behind Pelham Court). Tel: 01672 514875.

Dentist There are a number of [dentists](#) in the town.

Worship

Anglican - St George's, Preshute (best reached via Manton village). See [website](#) for times of worship and events.

Anglican - St Mary's, Patten Alley, Marlborough (through the archway next to the Estate Agent at the junction between High Street and Kingsbury Street). See [website](#) for times of worship and events.

Methodist – Christchurch, New Road, Marlborough SN8 1AH. See [website](#) for times of worship and events.

Roman Catholic - St Thomas More, George Lane SN8 4BU. See [website](#) for times of worship and events.

Eat, Drink, Shop

Markets are held in the High Street every Wednesday and Saturday except during road closure events, e.g. Mop Fairs, or in extreme weather.

There's more to Marlborough than the High Street – seek out Hughenden Yard, Hillier's Yard, Kingsbury Street, The Parade, Kennet Place and London Road for a mix of independent shops, galleries, antiques, cafes, restaurants and pubs.

Accommodation

There is a mix of options in the town and surrounding area, including bed & breakfast, pubs with rooms, hotels, self-catering, camp sites and caravan parks. Search for your needs, including pet-friendly options, at <http://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/accommodation> or see <http://www.marlbroughtowncouncil.gov.uk/tourism/where-to-stay>

Entertainment, arts and events

Theatre on the Hill <http://www.stjohns.wilts.sch.uk/html/theatre.html>

The Town Hall in the High Street is often the centre of events, from annual flower & produce shows to weddings to wrestling matches and craft fairs.

There is no dedicated cinema in the town, but [regular screenings](#) are held in the Town Hall along with concerts and plays.

Several pubs have live music at weekends and for late night revellers there is a nightclub in Hughenden Yard.

Annual events include local artists' [Open Studios](#), [Open Gardens](#), a [Jazz Festival](#), a [Literature Festival](#), a [Food & Drink Festival](#), Marlborough College [Summer School](#) and the town is a recent entrant into [South West in Bloom](#). Twice a year in October the High Street is closed to traffic and transformed into a fairground for the traditional [Mop Fairs](#) – Little Mop and Big Mop, held the two weekends around Michaelmas Day. [Gifford's Circus](#) visits the Common every year in late summer, and there are funfairs held on the Common too. In late November the town switches on the Christmas Lights at an event which includes the Citizen of the Year award, a Christmas market and carol concert.

For art lovers, as well as [Open Studios](#) there are occasional art exhibitions at [St Peter's Church](#), [Katherine House Gallery](#) and [The Mount House](#) and an annual exhibition by local artists in the Town Hall.

Nearby annual events include:

[Avebury Rocks](#) – a combined charity concert and sponsored walk

[Barbury International Horse Trials](#)

[Bluebell Sundays](#) in West Woods

For more upcoming events see the [events page](#) on our website, [Marlborough News Online](#) listings, [VisitWiltshire](#) or [InsideWiltshire](#)

Open spaces, parks, gardens and children's play areas

Town Centre:

[Priory Gardens](#) – quiet riverside gardens with picnic tables (open 0900 until dusk – no dogs, cycles or ball games)

Cooper's Meadow – riverside park with benches, children's play area and sheep grazing during the summer

[St Mary's Churchyard](#) – small, quiet garden with benches and a view of the High Street and over the rooftops to the surrounding countryside

[The Green](#) – open space with benches

[Wye House Gardens](#) – lovely enclosed garden with a pond, leading to a children's play area (park open daylight hours only - no dogs, cycles or ball games)

On the edges of town but accessible on foot if you are reasonably fit:

[The Common](#) – large open space on the northern edge of town with benches, swings, and lots of space to run around. Site of occasional events such as car boot sales, pigeon liberations, funfairs and circuses, with regular rugby fixtures in season.

[Victorian Cemetery](#) – situated on the Common, next to the Cemetery. A quiet haven with mature trees and wildflowers

[Stonebridge Meadow](#) – large meadow on the eastern edge of the town with the River Kennet running through it. Wild areas, pond dipping platform, wetland, boardwalk and a link to the [old railway](#) footpath

Tinpit Meadow – on the north east edge of town, open space with the River Og running through it

Rabley Wood View – open space with community children's play area

Salisbury Road Recreation Ground – children's play area, skate park, Bowls Club

Elcot Lane Recreation Ground/Village Green

Treacle Bolly – follows the River Kennet out of town, open space with a view of Marlborough's little known White Horse and a good climb up Granham Hill for lovely views over the town

Jubilee Field – in Manton, riverside park with children's play area

[Savernake Forest](#) – explore the forest, stop at [Postern Hill](#) picnic/barbecue site, or stay at the [camping and caravan site](#) which is open all year round

See the map in the [Town Guide](#) for locations

Local sites and attractions

[The Merchant's House](#) – restored 17th Century silk merchant's house on the High Street

[Marlborough College](#) – some interesting buildings can be viewed from the street at the west end of town. The mount is in the grounds, once the site of Marlborough Castle

Follow the [Blue Plaque Trail](#) through the town centre

Cardinal Wolsey was ordained a priest at [St Peter's Church](#). It closed for worship in 1974 and now hosts a café, arts and craft shop, regular music events, tower tours and more

[Avebury](#) – stone circle and manor house

[The Ridgeway/Barbury Castle](#)

[North Wessex Downs](#) Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

[Savernake Forest](#)

[Crofton Beam Engines](#)

[Wilton Windmill](#)

The Kennet & Avon Canal – at [Pewsey Wharf](#) and [Caen Hill Locks](#), Devizes

[West Woods](#) – a must in mid to late May for the bluebells

See <http://www.marlboughtowncouncil.gov.uk/tourism/places-of-interest> for more options.

Sport and recreation

Walking and cycling <http://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk/things-to-do/activities/walking> / [The Old Railway Path](#) / [The Ridgeway](#) / <http://www.sustrans.org.uk/ncn/map?place=sn8>

[Marlborough Leisure Centre](#) is open to all, with a gym, swimming pool, sports hall and more

Golf – [Marlborough Golf Club](#) on The Common welcomes visitors, as does the club at [Ogbourne Downs](#) which is just a short drive north from the town

The town also has a variety of sport and leisure clubs including bowls, cricket, football, hockey, horse-riding, rugby and tennis.

Marlborough Town Council, 5 High Street, Marlborough SN8 1AA www.marlboughtowncouncil.gov.uk 01672 512487