

## About TransWilts

In Wiltshire, TransWilts supports the Swindon to Westbury service line. We seek to demonstrate and develop the importance of the railway to our local communities and economy, promoting improved connectivity between our local services and the wider national rail network.

Our mission is to: "carry on activities which encourage and promote increasing community usage of our local rail stations for the benefit of those living and working in Wiltshire, and to represent the interests of local rail users."

TransWilts bring you this guide to serve as an inspiration to discover local train journeys and the subsequent beautiful countryside that awaits you along the rail line. Their station stops make excellent starting points for walks that range from leisurely to challenging as day trips or as a longer staycation. Explore the great outdoors on foot, benefit from the wide open spaces and breathe in fresh & clean air.

With half of Wiltshire designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty discover this charming ancient county with its history of druids and kingdoms, stunning idyllic rolling wide valleys and riverside paths that make it ideal walking territory. In this guide we have put together a number of walking suggestions, for you friends and family to consider in the hope they might pique your curiosity and inspire you to explore this green & lush countryside.

The many waterways offer walks through chocolate box villages to stately homes and romantic gardens nestled in the peaceful countryside. A good chance to catch glimpses of a wide variety of flora and fauna including slow worms, herons, red kites, kestrels, skylarks, Adonis butterflies, water voles and even otters. With plenty of breathtaking views to soak in, there are ample rest points perfect for a quick photo opportunity, a sit down to picnic, or simply a pause to reflect, look up and watch the clouds.

Our Helpful Links page will direct you to further information on our suggestions so you can plan your own routes at your own pace.

## A Green Day Out



## TransWilts Railway & Walks



Swindon • Chippenham • Melksham  
Trowbridge • Westbury

Mon to Fri: Valid from 09:30 No restrictions at weekends or bank holidays. Available to purchase on line at GWR.com from any staffed station, a train conductor or by telephone: 03457 000 125 For further ticket information and how you can save on fares & passes visit GWR.com

**Time Restrictions**

1 Day	Adult	£24.00
	Child	£12.00
	Child	£34.50
	Railcards	£62.10

Prices valid at date of printing.

For further information - [www.GreatWestWay.co.uk](http://www.GreatWestWay.co.uk)

travel in most areas is also included to many areas.

Unlimited off-peak travel for either 1 day or 7 consecutive days centred around the western part of the Great West Way. Bus

Westbury – Frome  
Westbury – Pewsey  
Chippenham – Trowbridge via Melksham  
Bristol Temple Meads – Salisbury via Westbury  
Bristol Temple Meads – Swindon via Bristol Parkway or Chippenham

The Great West Way Discoverer West Pass ticket allows you to travel on the following rail routes:

Get around the Great West Way on the rail and bus network using the Great West Way@ Discoverer pass. There are Great West Way - Global, Great West Way - East and Great West Way - West versions available.

Having a staycation? The Great West Way is a 125-mile touring route between London, Bath and Bristol, based on ancient routes, roaming through idyllic countryside, quaint villages & elegant towns.

## Great West Way® Discoverer Pass

For live departure information on GWR services in Wiltshire, download our TransWilts app from the Apple App Store, Google Play Store.

Download on the App Store  
GET IT ON Google Play

## Also available



We would love to hear from you.

## Share your stories

- [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)
- [www.visitwiltshire.co.uk](http://www.visitwiltshire.co.uk)
- [www.alltrails.com](http://www.alltrails.com)
- [www.wiltsswimdonramblers.org.uk](http://www.wiltsswimdonramblers.org.uk)
- [www.ramblers.org.uk](http://www.ramblers.org.uk)
- [www.getoutside.ordnancesurvey.co.uk](http://www.getoutside.ordnancesurvey.co.uk)
- [www.gps-routes.co.uk](http://www.gps-routes.co.uk)

walking options in North Wiltshire.

## Helpful Links

## Facts & Fiction

### Swindon

- ★ Walt Disney World in Florida is twinned with Swindon.
- ★ The James Bond author, Ian Fleming is buried just a few miles away in St James' Church, Sevenhampton. Two Bond movies were filmed in Swindon.
- ★ STEAM - Museum of the Great Western Railway, tells the story of the men & women who built, operated & travelled on the Great Western Railway.
- ★ John Richard Jefferies a Victorian English nature writer was born at Coate Farm. The farm and Coate Reservoir were an influence on his Bevis Books for children.

### Chippenham

- ★ In 1969 Eddie Cochran the American rock and roll singer died in a car crash in Chippenham on Rowden Hill. He has been immortalised here with a memorial monument.
- ★ St Nicholas Chapel in Tytherton Lucas has a church bell from the 12th century, making it one of the oldest in the county.
- ★ Bowood House Gardens were landscaped by the UK's most celebrated & influential designer of the mid-late 18th Century, Lancelot 'Capability' Brown.
- ★ Black Dog Halt railway station was originally created in 1863 as a private stop for Lord Lansdowne of Bowood House.

### Melksham

- ★ Melksham was once part of a vast royal forest and a favourite hunting ground of Tudor kings.
- ★ Melksham was a Spa town in the 19th century.
- ★ Lacock Abbey is where William Henry Fox Talbot took the first photographic negative on the site. The Fox Talbot Museum here celebrates his life and work.
- ★ Lacock village has made famous TV & film appearances in 'Downton Abbey', the BBC's 'Pride and Prejudice' and 'Cranford', and the films 'Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince' and 'Wolfman'.

### Trowbridge

- ★ The Kennet & Avon Canal is 87 miles long and has 104 locks.
- ★ Westford Manor has unusual topiary and sculptures.

### Westbury

- ★ The Westbury White Horse is the largest of 8 chalk horses. It's a whopping 55 metres tall and 52 metres wide.
- ★ Westbury has an important history in the woollen industries and it was famous for its annual sheep fair which was held each year from the 1800s until the Second World War.

Great Western Railway | Community Rail | South Western Railway

Accredited Partnership 2020-21

Community Rail Network | Wiltshire Council

TransWilts

Connecting Wiltshire's Communities

Email: [info@transwilts.org](mailto:info@transwilts.org)  
[www.transwilts.org](http://www.transwilts.org)

Registered address: Dryfields House, Bristol Road, Chippenham, Wilts. SN14 6LG  
Community Interest Company  
(Company number 9397959 registered in England and Wales)



## Swindon walks

### Swindon Parks & Canal - 5 miles



Leave direction south east from the station to Wellington Street right on The Parade. Pick up Canal Walk by Brunel Shopping Centre & go south west on a gentle flat walk along the Wilts & Berks Canal & the Old Town Railway Path, to Rushy Rushey Platt Nature Reserve. Complete the loop back eastward via gorgeous Lawns Park and Queen's Park.

### Coate Water Park Lakeside - 7 miles



From the station, head south east to towards Holy Rood Church & Queen's Park. It's a short walk to Lawns Park which you cross & leave by Dorchester Road then Guildford Avenue. At the junction cross Buckingham Road, Coate Water Park is across the field. It's a great place to unwind and stretch your legs. It has an impressive and distinctive feature - a tall art deco diving board which rises majestically out of the 56 acre reservoir.

### Chiseldon Timberland Trail - 16 miles



From Coate Water Park, signage will lead south to the Chiseldon Timberland Trail. Walk along the disused Swindon to Marlborough railway line path to Chiseldon. Spot in the distance Liddington Hill - climb it and be afforded smashing views. In Chiseldon take a rest at a traditional pub.

**DISCOVER:** STEAM Museum • Richard Jefferies Memorial • Chiseldon Museum

## Melksham walks

### Magical Gardens - 2 miles



Head south west from the station, catch a No.69 Zig Zag bus at Roundpond to the village of Holt. This is where you'll discover The Courts Garden, the 1st of two National Trust gardens. Leave the Courts and take the marked public footpath to Great Chalfield Manor, a 15th century manor famed for its Arts & Crafts gardens and cascading roses. Then back to Holt to catch your bus back to Chippenham.

### Town Walk - 8 miles



From the train station head south & take the left on Beanacre Road. Turn right on to Scotland Road, which in turn becomes Murray Walk - your start point. Head south west, along the footpath past King George V Park until you reach Packhorse Bridge. Stay on the path down past Whaddon and on to Semington. Here pick up the Kennet & Avon Canal towpath towards Seend Cleeve. It's then homeward bound via Redstock through countryside, and along the pretty Clackers Brook to town.

### Lacock Village & Abbey - 10 miles



Begin at the restored & traffic free towpath of the former Wilts & Berks Canal at Murray Walk. Heading north for about 3.5 miles will bring you to the quintessentially English village of Lacock. It's as if the village has been untouched by a modern world. The National Trust recommends a 2 mile circular walk in Lacock that will lead you past several sites of historic interest & marvellous riverside views of the Abbey.

**DISCOVER:** Fox Talbot Museum • Harry Potter was filmed in Lacock Village • Abbey grounds

## Westbury walks

### The Westbury White Horse & Bratton Camp - 3 miles



From the train station walk north east and turn right on to Station road, continue for 0.5 miles to catch the 87 Faresaver bus from the Police Station to Bratton, Duke bus stop. Here follow Castle Road south west to Bratton Camp & White Horse. Next it's a short climb to the view point on the ridge and the hill's most legendary feature, the striking white horse. You are now on the edge of Salisbury Plain.

### Bratton Village & Edington - 8 miles



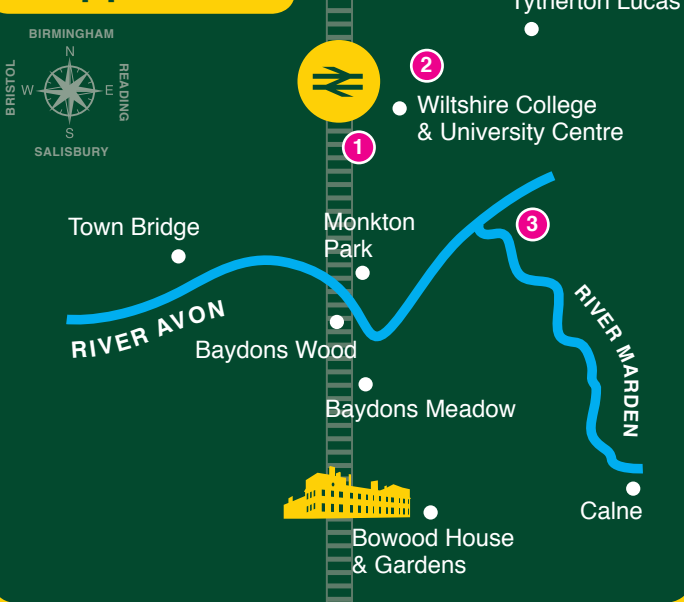
From the train station, make your way to the Police Station & hop on 87 bus to Bratton, bus stop The Duke. From the village, walk south along The Butts then north east along Millditch, then veering south to join the Imber Range Perimeter Path. Walk eastward, then north eastward (some stunning views here) hiking over Tenantry Down & Coulston Hill into the attractive village of Coulston. Head south west to follow footpaths to Baynton Way & Edington. To head home walk south west on the footpath from Edington to Bratton. Catch a bus back to Westbury.

**DISCOVER:** Edington Priory • Erlestoke Woods • Ghost Village Imber

## Swindon



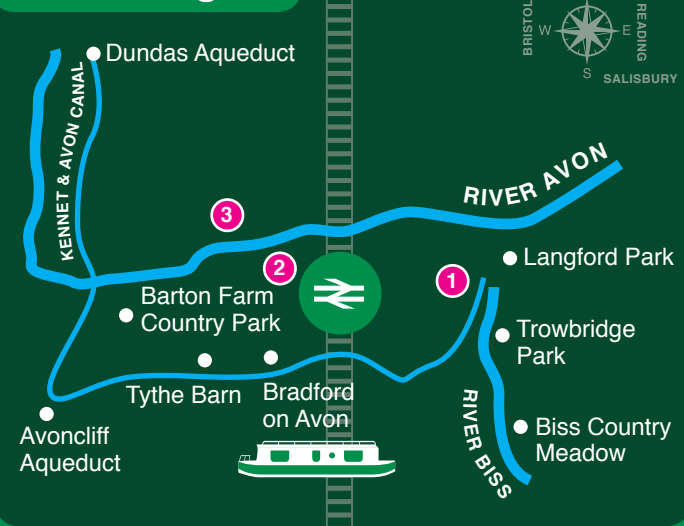
## Chippenham



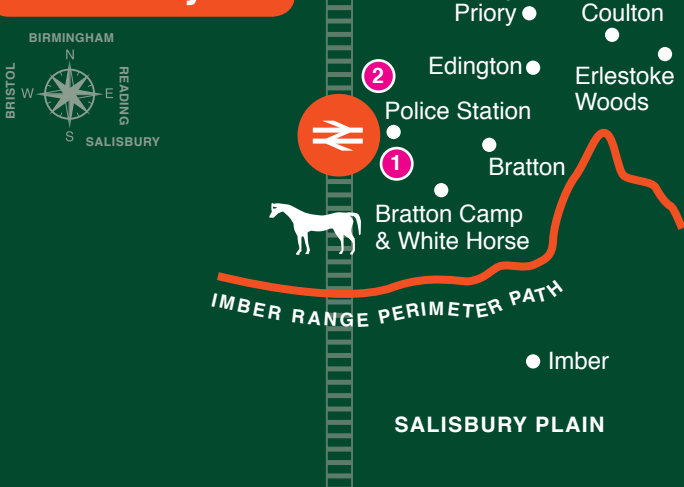
## Melksham



## Trowbridge



## Westbury



## KEY

1	Start point
1	Leisurely
2	Moderate
3	Challenge
1	Circular route
2	Linear route
1	Dog friendly
1	Pub
1	Picnic area
1	Cafe/restaurant
1	Electric bike hire
NT	National Trust

Check out the Helpful Links page to help plan your walk  
Visit the National Trust website for guidance on dogs as they vary

## Chippenham walks

### Chippenham Riverside & Town - 2.5 miles



From the train station, it's a short walk south west to the bottom of the high street & Town Bridge. This walk is a gentle & accessible riverside amble along the Avon steering you around Monkton Park. Head south east which brings you to the edge of Baydons Meadow. Here you can decide to either head back to Town Bridge or explore this meadow that is a small Wildlife Trust site.

### Tytherton Lucas - 6.5 miles



From the train station, walk south east and right on to Cocklebury Road. Walk north east up past the Wiltshire College & University Centre until the junction and take Eastern Avenue to the North Wiltshire Rivers Route disused railway path. Cross the Avon. Follow this quiet path south east and when you reach Stanley Lane, head towards the River Marden to cross the bridge and continue up along the path all the way to Tytherton Lucas.

### Calne, Bowood House - 13 miles



Head south east from the station to Cocklebury Road and make your way to the North Wiltshire Rivers Route as in previous walk, which provides a pleasant, accessible and mostly traffic free walk along the disused railway. It includes lovely riverside runs along the River Avon and the River Marden. Before you reach Calne, at Studley Lane, it's well worth a small detour south of the path to visit the magnificent Bowood House & Gardens. Before heading back refuel in a pub beer garden in Calne.

**DISCOVER:** Bowood House & Gardens • Black Dog Halt • Attwell Wilson Motor Museum • St Nicholas Church

## Trowbridge walks

### River Biss & Biss Meadows Country Park - 4 miles



Leave the station direction east to the post office then south west to Trowbridge Town Hall. The park is just by it. Stroll south through the park along the tree-lined footpaths and you'll come to the River Biss. Keep to the accessible paths along the river to Biss Meadows Country Park. Being on a flood plain, it naturally attracts an abundance of wildlife. You could lose a good couple hours navigating the walkways, exploring the green open spaces.

### Kennet & Avon Canal Bradford on Avon - 8 miles



From the station head north east towards Langford Road, keep left. Langford Park is on your right. Continue northward to join the Kennet & Avon Canal towpath westward all the way to Bradford on Avon. The moored boats along the canal bring a brilliant splash of colour along the way. Bradford on Avon is an exceptionally attractive English village, full of charming independent shops and tearooms.

### The Aqueducts - 15 miles



From the train station walk westward to the Kennet & Avon Canal towpath which will take you to Bradford on Avon (as above). Here at Tythe Barn pick up the towpath westward past Barton Farm Country Park all the way to Avoncliff your first aqueduct location. At this stage you'll need to cross over to the other side of the canal. Follow this peaceful, traffic free towpath to the 2nd aqueduct - Dundas. Then back to Bradford on Avon.

**DISCOVER:** Barton Farm Country Park • Avoncliff Aqueduct • Dundas Aqueduct