

Based on one of the first Great Roads commissioned by the Kings of England, the Great West Way winds its way through landscapes filled with the world-famous and the yet-to-be-discovered.

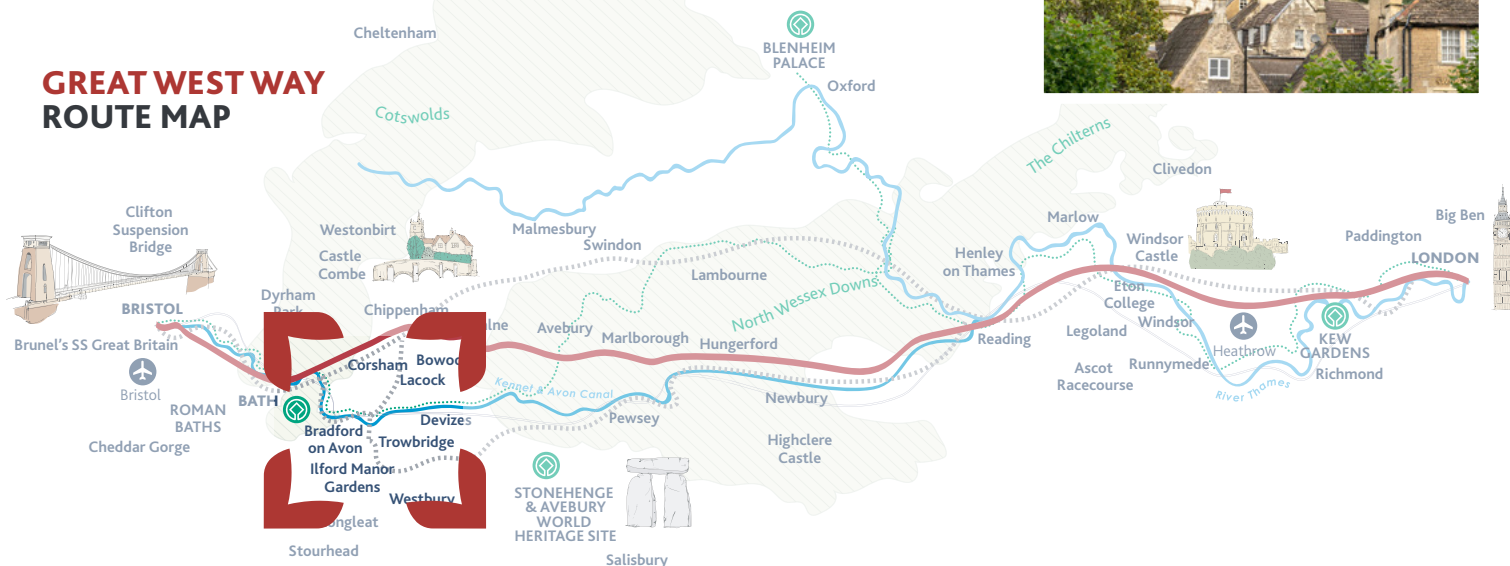


GUIDE TO BRADFORD ON AVON

Enjoy an easy-going short break in and around the historic market town of Bradford on Avon – with its medieval cottages, converted cloth mills, independent shops, country pubs, and miles of walking and cycling trails.



GREAT WEST WAY ROUTE MAP



PLACES OF INTEREST IN THE BRADFORD ON AVON AREA

[Tithe Barn](#)
[Bradford-on-Avon Museum](#)

[Kennet & Avon Canal](#)
[Iford Manor Gardens](#)
[Courts Garden](#)

PLACES TO EAT

Timbrell's Yard
 The Boat House
[Canal Trust Café](#)
 The Bunch of Grapes

Swan Hotel
 Field Kitchen
 George

PLACES TO STAY

[Woolley Grange](#)
[The Farm Camp](#)

DAY ONE

TITHE BARN & THE SHAMBLES



Start at the 14th-century **Tithe Barn**, one of the largest and finest in England then head along the leafy river or over the medieval packhorse bridge, past the Second World War pillbox, and through Barton Orchard. The latter route brings you out onto **Church Street**, Bradford's most elegant. Pop into tiny 11th Century St Laurence Church – it's one of the most unaltered Saxon buildings in Britain. Further along is Holy Trinity Church (of Norman origin) and gorgeous Church House, a Palladian mansion built around 1730.

Lunch at **Timbrell's Yard** then head to the small but encyclopaedic **Bradford-on-Avon Museum** - it's a great place to learn about the town, then amble over the old Town Bridge – where a small prison cell stands atop one of the arches – and nose along the **Shambles**, a narrow alley lined with little independent stores - every lane is worth a look, hiding vintage clothing outfitters, cheese shops, and homewares boutiques.

Overnight Dine at, **The Boat House** then spend the night at **Woolley Grange**, a Jacobean manor-turned-hotel.



DAY TWO

KENNET AND AVON CANAL & IFORD MANOR

The **Bradford on Avon Wheel** is a 68km network of waymarked and interconnected hiking trails encircling the town. There's also the **Kennet & Avon Canal** for miles of easy, flat walking.

Head west along the towpath and you'll discover the aqueducts of Avoncliff and Dundas. Else head east to the village of **Staverton**, with its weavers' cottages and marina, and on to **Trowbridge** – either walk out and back along the waterway, admiring the barges and birds, or make a loop to return via fields and quiet country lanes.

Lunch at the charming **Canal Trust Cafe**, the perfect place for a bacon bap, homemade burger, hot soup or cream tea, then head out to **Iford Manor Gardens**, an Italianate idyll hidden in rural Wiltshire, then dine at the **Bunch of Grapes** back in Bradford on Avon.

Overnight For somewhere completely different, stay at **The Farm Camp's** bell tents and toast marshmallows under the stars.



DAY THREE

COURTS GARDEN

Start with a slap-up breakfast at the **Swan Hotel** or avocado toast and harissa eggs at **Timbrell's Yard**. If it's a Sunday morning, this will provide good fuel for the weekly Bradford-on-Avon Walking Tour or alternatively head to Holt – 2.5 miles east – to roam around the **National**

Trust's Courts Garden, an intriguing cluster of 'outdoor rooms', spanning formal topiary, lily ponds, winding paths, a stone temple, an arboretum and Rose Garden teasshop. Lunch by the lakeside at the **Field Kitchen** in Holt or enjoy produce plucked from the garden at the **Woolley Grange Hotel**.

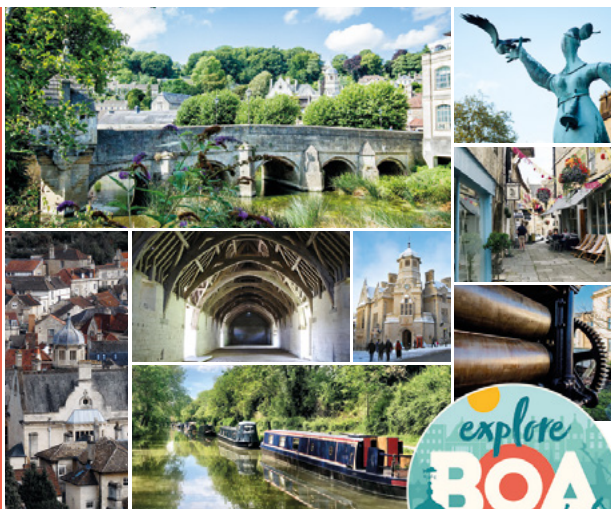
The Kennet & Avon Canal Trust run great-value trips aboard the Barbara McLellan barge, either through the lock to the aqueduct at Avoncliff or the tree-fringed route to Hilperton. Enjoy cake and a cuppa on the open bow or nip into ye olde **Bridge Tea Rooms** after you disembark – this wonderfully wonky establishment is a double winner of the UK Tea Guild's 'Top Tea Place'.



The order of experiences included in this itinerary is intended to be a guide only; you can choose to visit these wonderful experiences at your own pace and in your own way. Devising your own route is all part of discovering the Great West Way!

Bradford on Avon

is perfectly set in the dramatic Avon valley in Wiltshire, only a few miles from the World Heritage City of Bath; it is a combination of river, canal, history and architecture of true character.



Explore BoA Visitor Centre: 01225 865797
www.bradfordonavon.co.uk



DID YOU KNOW?

- Bradford's unofficial town icon is the **Bradford Gudgeon**, the fish-shaped weathervane atop the old lock-up on the Town Bridge.
- **The Tithe Barn** has been seen on screen several times, including in the BBC's 1980s classic Robin of Sherwood and 2014's Wolf Hall.
- Henry Shrapnel, **inventor of the explosive shell**, was born in Bradford in 1761.
- During the **English Civil War**, Royalist troops crossed the Avon at Bradford before heading towards Bath to fight in the Battle of Lansdown in July 1643.



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