

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.

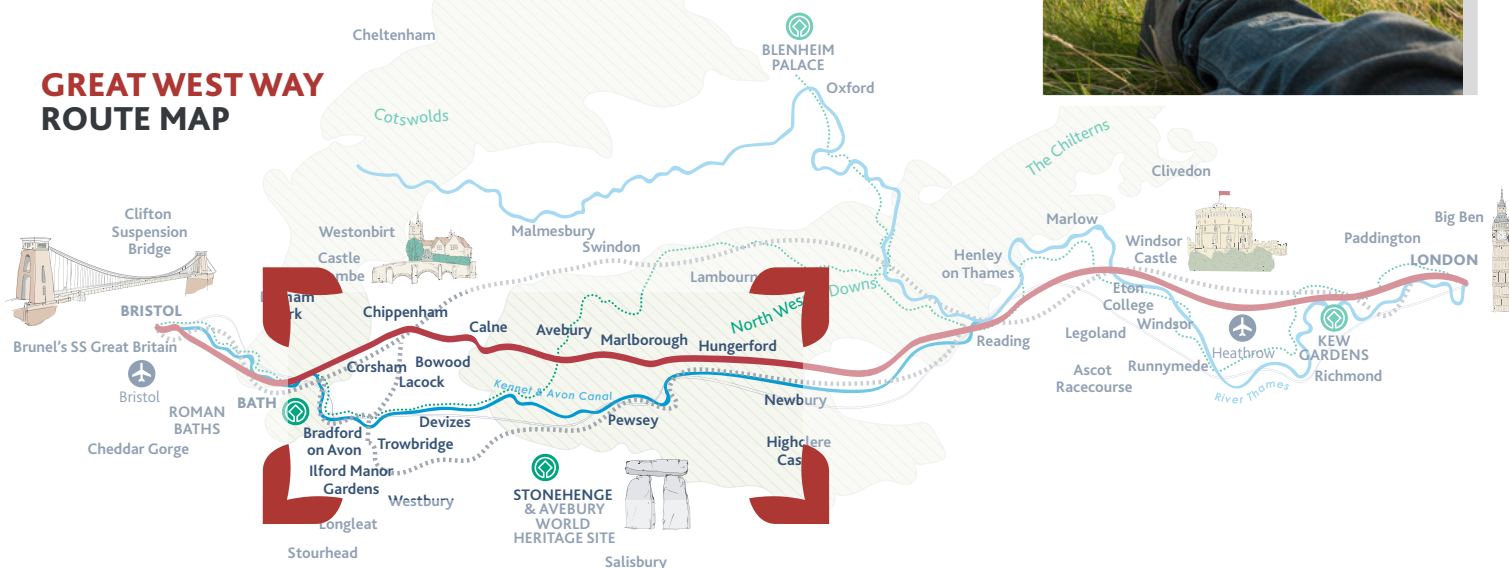


# GUIDE TO WALKING IN NORTH WEST WILTSHIRE

Discover the mellow landscape and some of England's prettiest villages and little towns on a walking break in North West Wiltshire, based at Corsham and the old market town of Devizes.



## GREAT WEST WAY ROUTE MAP



### PLACES OF INTEREST IN NORTH WEST WILTSHIRE

[Corsham Court](#)  
[Lacock Abbey](#)  
[White Horse Trail](#)

[Mid Wilts Way](#)  
[Kennet & Avon Canal](#)  
[Devizes Wharf](#)  
[Caen Hill Locks](#)

### PLACES TO EAT

[Stables Café and Lacock Abbey](#)  
[Courtyard Tea Room](#)  
[George Inn](#)  
[Guyers House Hotel](#)  
[Methuen Arms](#)

[Queens Head](#)  
[Raven Inn](#)

### PLACES TO STAY

[Guyers House Hotel](#)  
[Methuen Arms](#)  
[The Peppermill](#)

## DAY ONE

### CORSHAM & LACOCK



Corsham

Potter pretty **Corsham**, taking in the striking 17th-century almshouses on Pound Pill, and the High Street – in town you might share the streets with flamboyant peacocks; they often stray from **Corsham Court**, a magnificent mansion to the east. Then head out through fields, over stiles and over a couple of country railway crossings to reach **National Trust's Lacock** – it's an easy-going, pleasingly pastoral route. In Lacock tuck into a salad or soup-and-roll lunch at Stables Café on the High Street or head to **Lacock Abbey Courtyard Tea Room**. Lacock is a fabulous timewarp of a village, which has preserved the timber-frame buildings and honey-stone cottages; the go-to sight is **Lacock Abbey** – a glorious museum with a section on photography in honour of its famous resident, the camera pioneer William Fox Talbot. Call in for a cup of tea at **George Inn**, on West Street, whose old stone fireplace still features a dog wheel once used to turn roasting joints of meat.

**Overnight** **Guyers House Hotel** or **Methuen Arms**.



Lacock Abbey

## DAY TWO

### BOX

Go west to **Box** and back, on a circular walk of about 10 miles; you'll glory in an invigorating mix of great views and strenuous hiking. Armed with OS Explorer map 156, head north out of town along Middlewick Lane, which becomes a track leading around Pickwick Lodge and rising sharply through woodland. You'll then follow a path beside By Brook, twisting along to Box. The extensive panoramas are over terrain where seminal engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel built a railway tunnel nearly two miles long, a considerable feat in the 1830s. The **Box Tunnel** is still in use today. You'll pass near Peter Gabriel's Real World Studios as you head into Box where you can stop for a hearty pub lunch at the **Queens Head** on the High Street.

Hugged by hills and featuring elegant stone properties, Box is a charmer of a little town. Walk back to Corsham south of the railway line, across fields and past old stone quarries.

**Overnight** **Guyers House Hotel** or **The Methuen Arms**.



Guyers House Hotel

## DAY THREE

### DEVIZES & SEEND CLEEVE

From Devizes there's a circular walk of about 12 miles out along the **White Horse Trail** and back on the Mid Wilts Way. Head to **Devizes Wharf** and stop for a slice of homemade cake at the tea room, then set out westwards, walking along the towpath of the canal. You'll reach the start of the **Caen Hill Locks** in a mile – a spectacular set of 29 locks enabling boats to get up and down the waterway. Walk about a mile and a half along the locks and turn south along the White Horse trail, heading along farmland to Poulshot for lunch at the **Raven Inn**. Continue hiking south, along fields and through the village of Bulkington. After Wick Bridge turn northward on the Mid Wilts Way and walk back up to the canal, passing through Seend Cleeve. Admire the locks from a different perspective as you return to Devizes.

End the walk at **The Peppermill** on St John Street for first-class British cuisine (there are six bedrooms here, should you wish to stay over).



Caen Hill locks

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!

**DISCOVER BRISTOL  
THE GREAT WEST WAY**

Clifton Suspension Bridge, Bristol

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## GREAT WEST WAY GWR DISCOVERER PASS

Get around the Great West Way on the rail and bus network using the **Great West Way GWR Discoverer pass**. It includes unlimited Off-Peak train travel from London Paddington along the route to Bristol Temple Meads via Reading with options to branch off towards Oxford, Kemble and Salisbury via Westbury (or London Waterloo to Salisbury with South Western Railway). It also includes unlimited travel on the bus services along the route. Choose from a one day or seven days ticket to enjoy your Great West Way adventure. [gwr.com](http://gwr.com)

The locations in this guide can be made largely by public transport, for which a Great West Way GWR Discoverer Pass is ideal. Take the Great Western Railway (GWR) to Chippenham and then the X31 bus to Corsham; and the 33 or X33 bus from Devizes to Chippenham and its railway station.



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