



ENGLAND'S
GREAT WEST WAY®

INSPIRING ITINERARIES
WHERE FACT AND FICTION MEET



The Royal Crescent Bath

Perfect, sleepy English villages, heart-lifting country landscapes, arresting architecture – the Great West Way is a constant lure for film and television crews. And its timeless mysteries have been a gift of inspiration to many authors, such as Jane Austen.

If your clients are flying into Bristol, start the trip with a visit to Tyntesfield, a spectacular Gothic estate which was the backdrop for a Sherlock special. It is only 6 miles from the Airport and a similar distance to Bristol.

Overnight: Hotel du Vin Bristol City

Day 1. Shaun the Sheep and Sherlock the sleuth

Bristol has a film heritage all of its own, becoming a UNESCO City of Film in 2017. Most recently, its well preserved Harbourside became Weymouth Docks in the 1940s for The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society. Other films include The Sense of an Ending with Jim Broadbent, which takes in Brunel's spectacular Clifton Suspension Bridge, and Inbetweeners 2 - where Will (Simon Bird) is a student at the University of Bristol. Take a trip around the harbour on The Matthew, a fabulous and faithful reconstruction of the boat used by John Cabot when he discovered Newfoundland in 1497. It set sail to reconstruct Cabot's original journey, 500 years on.

Bristol-based animation studio Aardman created the stop-motion films featuring Wallace and Gromit, plus Chicken Run and Shaun the Sheep. Fans can discover more in an ongoing exhibition at We The Curious and even have a go at making their own. The Sherlock TV series, starring Benedict Cumberbatch, was filmed at locations in and around Bristol. These included Arnos Vale, a unique heritage site with 45 acres of Victorian garden cemetery.

Overnight: The Royal Crescent, Bath

Day 2. Turn a page in a Jane Austen novel...

A walk past the beautiful honey-coloured Georgian architecture in Bath is like turning a page in a Jane Austen novel. The great English novelist lived and set two of her novels, Persuasion and Northanger Abbey, in the city. Bath is a natural star of the Austen films, including the 2007 adaptation of Persuasion. The Pump Room, by the Roman Baths, was a fashionable meeting place in Austen's world and in real life. The Assembly Rooms, Pulteney Bridge and The Royal Crescent were also historically important. Literature lovers can visit The Jane Austen Centre, a permanent exhibition that explores the city's influence on Jane. Bath also dominates the screen in The Duchess, Les Misérables and Sherlock.

Overnight: Wooley Grange, Bradford on Avon. See what's on at the Wiltshire Music Centre for evening entertainment.

Day 3. Wiltshire's claims to film and literary fame

TV Tudor passion and politics seethed in the streets of Bradford on Avon. The remarkable 14th-century Tithe Barn became the candlelit Throne Room for The White Princess, based on Philippa Gregory's Wars of the Roses books. And it was a 16th-century setting for the filming of Wolf Hall, with

Damian Lewis. A stroll into town allows visitors to admire architecture that stretches from the Romans to the Victorians. In Corsham, they can walk in the boot-prints of dark and brooding Ross Poldark; its High Street was magically transformed into 18th-century Truro for the hit BBC show. Magic happened at Lacock Abbey, a former nunnery, parts of which doubled as Hogwarts in the first two Harry Potter films. Now fans come to check out the 'classrooms' and huge cauldron in the cloisters. This charming Wiltshire village has changed little since the 15th century, making it a go-to film location for historical dramas such as Pride and Prejudice and The Other Boleyn Girl.

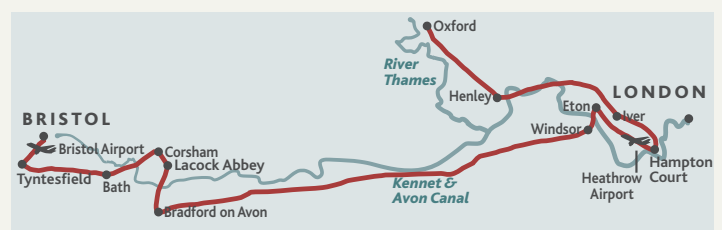
Overnight: The Oakley Court, Windsor. This was the perfect creepy Gothic setting for Hammer Film Productions' horror movies between 1955 and 1965.

Day 4 & 5. The River Thames: locations, locations, locations

The great river and the places along its banks have inspired many film and TV producers, from London to Oxford. Film, TV and literature themed tours can be guided by Tours2Order.

There are two significant film locations to visit around Windsor: Windsor Great Park: Tomb Raider (2001), Thunderbirds (2003), Harry Potter (2003, 2004, 2010 & 2011), Midsomer Murders (TV 2004 & 2008), Robin Hood (2010), Bridget Jones's Baby (2016), Goodbye Christopher Robin (2017). Eton College, Windsor, helped shape the destinies of most of England's prime ministers and royals (Princes William and Harry included). Viewers can spot the school in films including Chariots of Fire, Henry VIII and His Six Wives, and Shakespeare in Love. Take a walking tour to discover the locations.

Places	Miles/kms by road
Bristol Airport to Bristol (via Tyntesfield)	13miles/21kms
Bristol to Bath	14miles/23kms
Bath to Bradford on Avon	8miles/13kms
Bradford on Avon to Windsor	94miles/151kms
Iver to Bristol Airport	153miles/246kms
Iver to Oxford	46miles/74kms





Jane Austen Centre



Corsham



Lacock Abbey

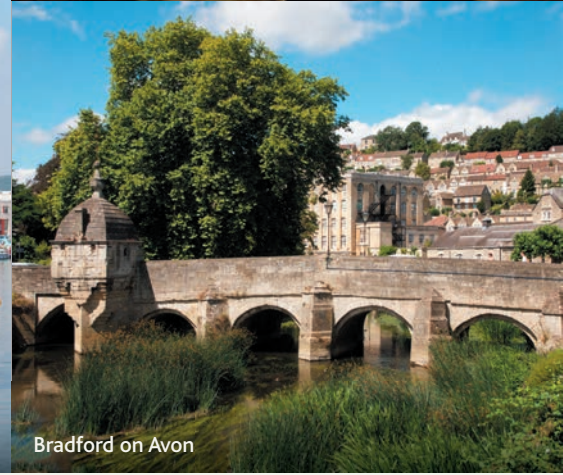
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The Matthew and Bristol harbourside



Argyll Public House, Henley on Thames (Midsomer)



Bradford on Avon

PM Hampton Court Palace has played starring roles in films: Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (2011) and Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (2011).

Overnight: The Langley, Iver, Buckinghamshire.

Day 5. Murder & Mystery

Head to Henley stopping off en route at Cliveden House. The 2009 Sherlock film with Jude Law and Robert Downey Jr, was filmed at Cliveden - its French dining room became a Parisian hotel room.

Henley-on-Thames in its other life is Causton, in Midsomer Murders. Fans of Detective Barnaby will recognise many of the filming locations including Gabriel Machin's butcher shop and the Argyll Public House, where you can pull a pint of beer. Groups can take a Midsomer Murders tour around the town and a typically British afternoon tea on a **Hobbs of Henley** boat trip.

Take a detour to Snowhill in the Northern Cotswolds. This romantic village is worth venturing a little off the Great West Way for. Especially if you're a fan of classic rom com Bridget Jones's Diary. You'll recognise the village from the scene where Bridget (Renée Zellweger) goes to visit her parents at Christmas. Cue awkward meeting in outlandish festive jumpers with Mark Darcy (Colin Firth).

Finally head back to Bristol.

Take a look at our suggested itineraries and the film and TV locations guide: GreatWestWay.co.uk/plan-your-way/top-10s/top-10-famousfilming-locations

Wholesalers/DMCs who offer Great West Way tours

Hotels & More: hotels-more.com

Norman Allen Group Travel Ltd: group-travel.com

Local Tour Operators/Guiding services who can offer individual days out from destinations for groups or individuals:

Around & About Bath: aroundandaboutbath.com

Tours2Order: tours2order.com

Tour and Explore: tourandexplore.com

A selection of tour operators and guiding services who offer bookable itineraries along the Great West Way can be found on the Bookable Products section of Greatwestway.co.uk/traveltrade

Contacts

Bristol Airport: bristolairport.co.uk

Bath: visitbath.co.uk

Bristol: visitbristol.co.uk

Bradford on Avon: bradfordonavon.co.uk

Corsham: corsham.gov.uk/visit

Henley-on-Thames: visit-henley.com

River Thames: visitthames.co.uk/film-and-tv-connections

Thames Valley & North Hampshire: visitsoutheastengland.com

Wiltshire: visitwiltshire.co.uk

Windsor: Windsor.gov.uk

Arnos Vale: arnosvale.org.uk

Bristol Harbourside: visitbristol.co.uk/your-visit/areas/harbourside

Clifton Suspension Bridge: cliftonbridge.org.uk

Eton College: etoncollege.com/Visits.aspx

Hampton Court Palace: hrp.org.uk/hampton-court-palace

Hobbs of Henley: hobbsoftenley.com

Lacock Abbey: nationaltrust.org.uk/lacock-abbeyfox-talbot-museum-and-village

The Jane Austen Centre: janeausten.co.uk

The Matthew of Bristol: matthew.co.uk

The Roman Baths: romanbaths.co.uk

Tyntesfield: nationaltrust.org.uk/tyntesfield

We The Curious: wethecurious.org

Accommodation

Hotel du Vin Bristol City Centre: hotelduvin.com/locations/bristolcity-centre

The Oakley Court: oakleycourt.co.uk

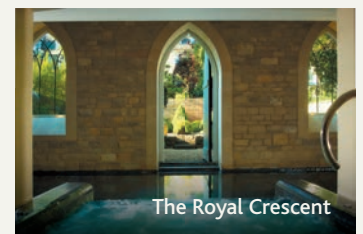
The Langley: thelangley.com

The Royal Crescent Hotel: royalcrescent.co.uk

Woolley Grange: woolleygrangehotel.co.uk



The Langley



The Royal Crescent