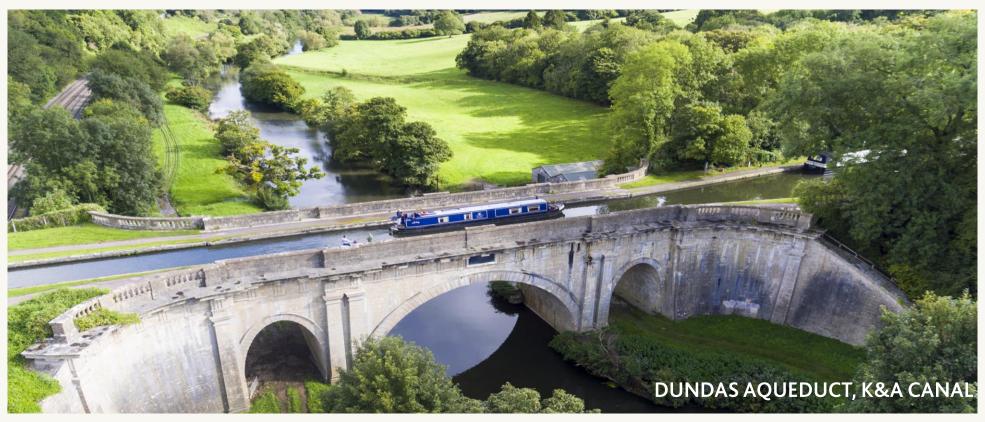


### WELCOME TO THE GREAT WEST WAY





GreatWestWay.co.uk/traveltrade | @GreatWestWaybiz



### **Our Vision**

To create one of the world's premier touring routes between London and Bristol

## GREAT WEST WAY ROUTE MAP





### Why Choose England's Great West Way®



### What is it?

The Great West Way is a new touring route between London and Bristol. The 125 mile route was based on one of the first Great Roads commissioned by the kings of England (1660).

### Who is it for?

The Great West Way is for curious travellers searching for the real England. Those who want to explore further, delve deeper and uncover the essence of England.

### Why Choose England's Great West Way®



### What is it like?

Along the Way, everyday England rubs shoulders with world famous heritage - English icons Bath, Windsor, Southern Cotswolds and nearby Stonehenge. There are a range of travel options – road, rail, water, walk, cycle.

### Why should I choose the Great West Way?

The Great West Way offers an extraordinary variety of English experiences not found in any other part of the country. Discover our way with a range of themes - History & Heritage, Food & Drink, Waterways, Cities & Culture, Gardens, Local People, Sport & Adventure

## GREAT WEST WAY A MULTI-MODAL ROUTE













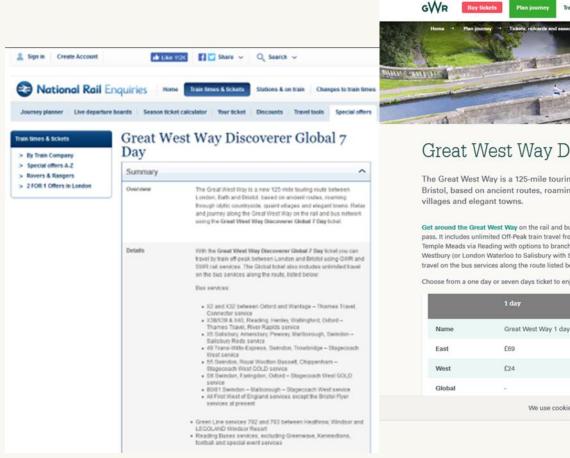






### GWR GREAT WEST WAY DISCOVERER PASS







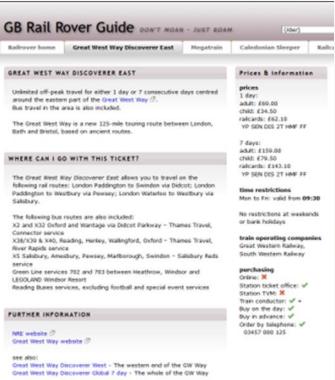
Great West Way 7 days

We use cookies on our website to give you the best experience. Manage cookies.

£159

£69

£239

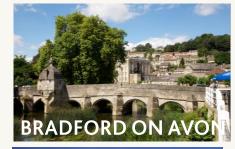


### **GREAT WEST WAY DESTINATIONS ALONG THE ROUTE**





































## GREAT WEST WAY GEOGRAPHY & LANDSCAPE



- 6 Counties Somerset,
   Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Berkshire
   South Oxfordshire and
   Buckinghamshire
- 3 UNESCO World Heritage Sites -Kew Gardens, Stonehenge/Avebury and Bath
- 3 Areas of Outstanding Natural
   Beauty The Chilterns, The
   Cotswolds and North Wessex Downs
- 3 National Trails The Ridgeway,
   Thames Path and Cotswold Way





# GREAT WEST WAY DISCOVER EXTRAORDINARY HISTORY









## GREAT WEST WAY NATIONAL TRUST















## GREAT WEST WAY ENGLISH HERITAGE













## GREAT WEST WAY A ROUTE FOR ALL SEASONS















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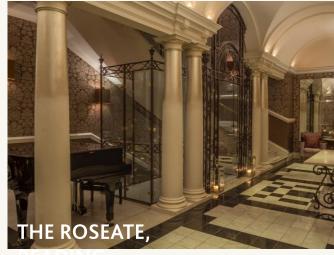
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## GREAT WEST WAY STAYING ALONG THE GREAT WEST









READING









### GREAT WEST WAY FOOD & DRINK

















### **GREAT WEST WAY ITINERARIES**





Hunt the history in some of the finest gardens and houses along England's Great West Way and take a detour to enjoy those nearby

Arrive Bristol Airport and travel in to Bristol Overnight: Hotel duVin City Centre (an old sugar mill)

### Day 1. Bristol and Dyrham Park

The Georgian House Museum was an affluent Bristol sugar tycoon and slave owner's home around 1790. The Holburne Museum has a collection of fine and decorative art in a Grade I Listed building set in 5 acres, The University of Bristol Botanic Gardens feature more than 4,000 different types of plants, including many exotic species. Stop off at National Trust Dyrham Park, a spectacular late 17th-century mansion, garden and deer park.

Overnight: Whatley Manor Hotel & Spa

### Day 2. Malmesbury, Westonbirt and Lydiard Park

Explore Malmesbury, England's oldest borough with 12th Century Malmesbury Abbey, still in use today and Abbey House Gardens, At Westonbirt, The National Arboretum, walk amongst 15,000 tree specimens gathered from all over the globe and five National Plant Collections. End the day at Lydiard Park, Swindon, a beautiful Palladian mansion sitting in 260 acres of glorious grounds with a church and walled garden.

Overnight: Cricklade House Hotel

### Day 3. Cotswolds and Blenheim Palace

Take a detour off the route through the Cotswolds; visit New Brewery Arts in Cirencester; the gallery shows inspiring work by artists, makers craftsmen and designers, Stop off at Burford's famous High Street for a spot of shopping, especially antiques, Move on to magnificent Blenheim Palace, the birthplace of SirWinston Churchill,

Overnight: Hotel duVin, Henley on Thames, a former brewery

### Day 4. Henley on Thames

Stonor, home to the Stonor family for over 850 years, Discover art and treasure collections and beautiful Italianate gardens, Follow with a boat trip and vintage afternoon tea with Hobbs of Henley, Head to Runnymede stopping at Cliveden National Trust Gardens with breathtaking views over the River Thames. Over 300 years, each family has contributed to a series of distinct gardens,

Overnight: Runnymede on Thames Hotel & Spa

### Day 5. Hampton Court Palace and Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

Visit the spot where the Magna Carta was signed at Runny mede before exploring Hampton Court Palace, a Tudor treasure with over a thousand rooms Then it's a visit to Doval Botanic Cardens Kew Walk 18 metres above the woodland floor and take in the views. Go inside

Kew Palace, once the family home of King George III and Queen Charlotte.

Overnight: The Langley, Iver (opening Spring 2019)

### Day 6. Bowood, Lacock or Longleat

Bowood, a Georgian country house with a garden by landscaper "Capability" Brown, Explore the arboretum with its vast collection of trees leading down to the lake, in the afternoon either a visit to Lacock Abbey & Fox Talbot Museum or end the day with a journey off the route to Longleat House, exploring this stunning example of high Elizabethan architecture - and the Capability Brown landscaped

Overnight: Abbey Hotel, Bath - The hotel encompasses three Georgian townhouses on North Parade, or The Royal Crescent, a five star hote with 250 years of history.

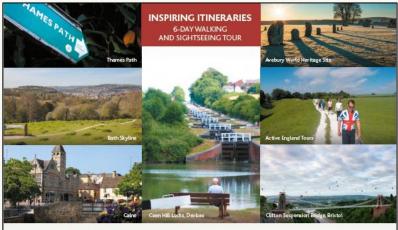
Take a look at No.1 Royal Crescent reflecting the period 1776-1796. Don't miss the Roman Baths and stop off at Prior Park Landscape Gardens National Trust, before heading out of the city to fford Manor Gardens, Tucked away at the bottom of a tranquil valley, paths in the award-winning Grade I Listed gardens twist and turn around ancient statues, columns, terraces and architecture.

Overnight: Hampton by Hilton, Bristol Airport

### INSIDER TIP

precious works, in its conservation studio tours? Several rooms previously unopened to the public have been transformed into a working conservation studio with free guided tours on Tue/ Wed/Thurs, volunteer numbers permitting.

Places	Miles/kms by road	
Bristol to Malmesbury	33miles/53kms	
Malmesbury to Cricklade	14miles/23kms	
Cricklade to Henley on Tharnes	74miles/119kms	
Henley on Thames to Windsor	33miles/54kms	
Windsor to Chippenham	106miles/171kms	
Chippenham to Bath	44miles/71kms	
Bath to Bristol Airport	32miles/52kms	



### Local Tour Operators who can offer full tour package or individual days out from destinations for groups or individuals:

### Alison Howell's Foot Trails: foottrails.co.uk

Active England: active-englandtours,com/us/tours/6-day-guided-west-

Around & About Bath: aroundandaboutbath.com Trips from The Netherlands can be booked with:

House of Britain: houseofbritain,nl/8-dagen-along-the-great-west-way De Jong Intra: dejongintra.nl/vakantie/groot-brittannie/11-daagse-flydrive-the-great-west-way

To find out more about England's GreatWestWay: GreatWestWay.co.uk and maps can be found here GreatWestWay.co.uk/

### Contacts

Bath: visitbath, co,uk

Bristol: visitbristol.co.uk

Calne: calne.gov,uk/tourism.aspx

Canal and River Trust: canalrivertrust.org.uk/GreatWestWay

Devizes: devizes.org.uk

North Wessex Downs: northwessexdowns.org.uk

Reading: livingreading.co.uk/visit

River Thames: VisitThames,co,uk

Thames Path National Trail: nationaltrail.co.uk/thames-path Thames Valley & North Hampshire: visitsoutheastengland.com

Vale of Pewsey: visitpewseyvale,co,uk Wiltshire: visitwiltshire.co.uk

Avebury: national trust orguk/avebury

Basildon Park National Trust: national trust, org.uk/basildon-park Bath Skyline Walk: nationaltrust.org.uk/bath-skyline

Bristol Ferry Boats: bristolferry.com

Brunel's SS Great Britain: ssgreatbritain.org Clifton Suspension Bridge: cliftonbridge.org.uk

French Brothers: frenchbrothers,co,uk Hampton Court Palace: hrp.org.uk/hampton-court-palace

Kennet & Avon Canal: katrust.org.uk Kennet & Avon Canal Museum: katrust.org.uk/museum National Trust Leigh Woods: national trust, org.uk/leigh-woods No. 1 Royal Crescent: no1royalcrescent.org.uk

Reading Abbey Quarter: readingabbey quarter, org.uk Savouring Bath: savouringbath.com/

The Assembly Rooms: nationaltrust,org.uk/bath-assembly-rooms The Roman Baths: romanbaths.co.uk

Wadworth Brewery: wadworth.co.uk Westonbirt Arboretum: forestryengland,uk/westonbirt-the-national-

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust's Jone's Mill: wiltshirewildlife.org/joness-mill-

the-vera-leans-reserve-pewsey Windsor Castle- rct uk/visit/windsorcastle

Heritage Luxury B&B, Calne: heritagebandb,co,uk The Queen's Arms, East Garston: queensarmseastgarston.co.uk Qurator, Bristol: cliftonhotels.com Poseate Villa Rath-meeatehotels com/hath/themseatevilla The Royal Crescent Hotel, Bath: royalcrescent.co.uk The Roseate Reading: roseatehotels.com/reading/theroseate







Feel the ancient past reach out to you as you tread the Great West Way's glorious landscapes on this self-drive itinerary - a combination of walking exploration and guided tours.

A modern city with its feet rooted firmly in the past, Isambard Kingdom Brunel's legacies include the Clifton Suspension Bridge, SS Great Britain and the Great Western Railway, which terminates at his imposing Temple Meads station. Discover the story of the city from prehistoric times to the present day at M Shed.

Overnight: Hotel du Vin has two hotels to choose from in Bristol

Day 28.3 Bath and a delightful detour
The only city in the UK to be designated as a UNESCOWorld Heritage Site thanks to its extraordinary historic buildings; 17 museums within one square mile some of the finest architectural sights in Europe and its remarkable Roman Baths. The city still offers premier soa bathing at Thermae Spa Bath, Book an Around & About Bath tour to explore further including a detour in the Cotswolds,

Overnight: Royal Crescent Hotel, Abbey Hotel, Apex Hotel, Bath Spa Macdonald Hotel, Brooks Guesthouse, The Roseate Vill

Day 4 Salisbury & Stonehenge
A detour off the route to Salisbury and the Stonehenge Tour, a short bus Journey from Salisbury station to Stonehenge, the world-famous stone circle and its fascinating visitor centre. Back in Salisbury, there's time to explore the magnificent 13th century Salisbury Cathedral before catching the train to 9windon,

Overnight: The Great Western Hotel, Swindon

### Day 5 Chippenham and Rowood House and Gardens

The STEAM Museum gives a 'hands on' look at the story behind the GreatWestern Railway, and the people who created this piece of English locomotive history, 'Drive' a train simulator and even work the signals, Across the road is the Swindon Designer Outlet, within the former GreatWestern Railway works for a spot of shopping! Next stop is Reading, Thames Rivercruise offer a boat trip along the River Thames to Reading Abbey Quarter, Discover almost nine hundred years of history, with fascinating buildings and the remains of Reading Abbey, a Grade I listed building and Scheduled Ancient Monument. Overnight: The Roseate, Reading

Queen Victoria had her own personal station for her visits to Windsor, Today it's Windsor Royal Shopping Centre with a daily arts and crafts market. There's a story in every stone at Windsor Castle — right up the present day, with the marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, Book a walking tour of Windsor and Eton with Tours 2 Order or a sightseeing boat trip with French Brothers. Overnight: Macdonald Windsor

Follow the tracks from London to Bristol with Great Western Railway

ENGLAND'S

**INSPIRING ITINERARIES** 

HISTORY AND HERITAGE BY RAIL

Take a look at the magnificent architecture of this Paddington Station created by Brunel, Leave your luggage at Excess Baggage Co on platform 12, London is a city with views that reward the river traveller, Take a City Cruises sightseeing trip from Westminster Pier, followed by a visit to the Houses of Parliament and the Tower of London. In the afternoon make a visit to Apsley House, the grandest address in the capital, once known as 'Number 1 London' and the London home of the first Duke of Wellington, He transformed it into a palatial residence to befit his status and filled it with works of art and gifts from grateful rulers across Europe, Standing opposite is Wellington Arch topped by the biggest bronze sculpture in Europe, it was originally intended as a grand outer entrance to Buckingham Palace,

Overnight: Roseate House, Paddington, London

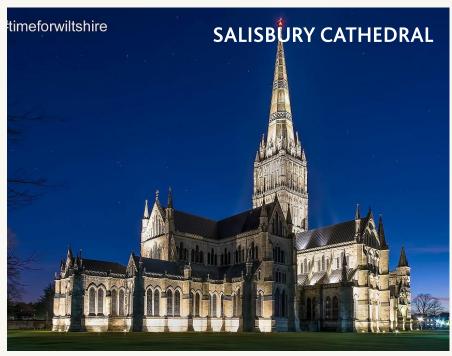


## GREAT WEST WAY DETOURS OFF THE ROUTE











### GREAT WEST WAY LATEST NEWS & ANNIVERSARIES 2020/2021



- Historic Royal Palaces will be celebrating the 500th anniversary of The Field of Cloth of Gold at Hampton Court Palace (from 10 April 2020)
- 125th anniversary of the founding of the National Trust on 12th January 1895 (2020)
- The Flower Festival is part of a year-long programme of celebrations, marking the 800th Anniversary of the founding of Salisbury Cathedral (Sept 2020)
- 50th anniversary of Brunel's SS Great Britain returning to Bristol (2020)
- Hobbs of Henley will be celebrating 150 years of trading on the River Thames (2020).
- Castle Combe Motor Circuit will be 70 years old in 2020 (first opened in July 1950), making it one of the longest established circuits in the UK
- In 2021 it will be 900 years since the foundations were laid for Reading Abbey
- In 2021 Wiltshire Museum, Devizes and Salisbury Museum have a series of Thomas Hardy exhibitions
  exploring Hardy's relationship with Wessex (as part of a wider Wessex Museum partnership).

## GREAT WEST WAY LOCAL TOURS/GUIDING SERVICES



These tours can be offered on a group basis, to individuals joining a public tour, or as a private bespoke tour.

- Driver Guide Car Tours whether you or your client have their own itineraries or wish to tailor make one, local operators offer a range of services in executive vehicles up to 8 seaters, or in some cases minibuses. They can also provide airport transfers.
- Experiential tours try a foodie, street art or cultural tour etc.
- Guided outdoor activities walking and cycling are always popular. These can be both guided, or self-guided. Equipment can be supplied, as can luggage transfers and travel.
- Sightseeing tours whether you're looking for a guide to join your tour or meet you in a destination, here's a selection of operators who can unlock the secrets of surprising places along the Great West Way.



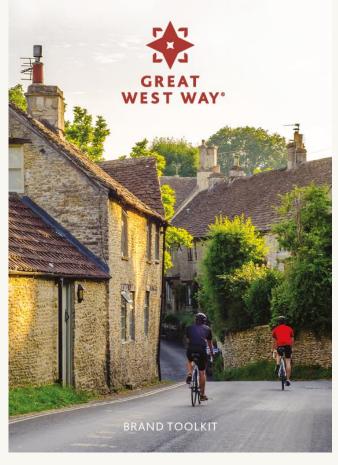


## GREAT WEST WAY OFFICIAL TOUR OPERATOR PROGRAMME –

GREAT WEST WAY®

**HELP TO SELL** 







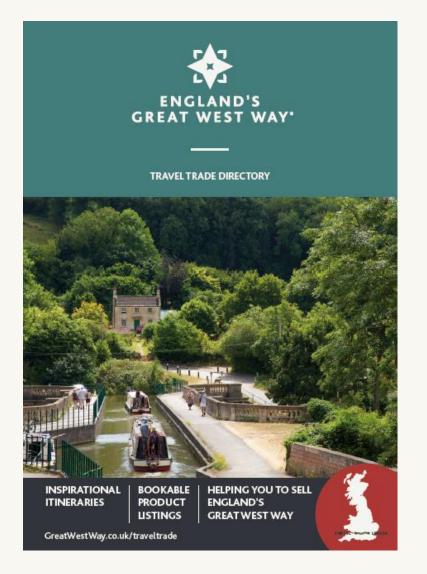






## GREAT WEST WAY ONLINE TRAVEL TRADE DIRECTORY





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### CONTACT DETAILS



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