

A weekend with walks in Bourton on the Water



AT A GLANCE

- Leave your car at home
- Stay in a cosy cottage or B&B
- Visit Birdland
- Enjoy browsing the shops
- Walk along the river
- Visit the Model Village
- Walk to Lower Slaughter
- Visit the Cotswold Perfumery



Bourton on the Water - 'Venice of the Cotswolds'

Often referred to as the 'Venice of the Cotswolds' due to the River Windrush running right through the centre, Bourton on the Water is one of the most visited villages in the Cotswolds.

Clear sparkling water and attractive low bridges crossing the river create a charming scene, especially at the quieter times of day and quieter months of the year.

Pubs, shops, restaurants and tea-rooms, and an unusually high number of visitor attractions for such a small place, provide plenty of options to keep all ages entertained. Bourton has a long history of attracting visitors with the Model Village (a replica of the village itself) opening in 1937 and Birdland twenty years later. Other attractions include one of Britain's best small motor museums.

Historically, St Lawrence's church is notable for its domed tower, unique in the Cotswolds. Salmonsbury Meadows has been saved as a wildlife reserve, and the Iron Age site of Salmonsbury Camp can be traced in outline.

Bourton offers lovely walking country and is very close to the beautiful villages of Lower and Upper Slaughter, as well as Stow on the Wold, Northleach and Burford a little further afield.

Walking in or around Bourton on the Water:

Village Walk approx 1.5 hours. A circular walk beginning from the Visitor Information Centre on Victoria Street and taking you away from the High Street to the quieter areas around the

village centre, explaining the heritage of some of the buildings. Available to buy from the Visitor Information Centre.

Bourton on the Water, Upper Slaughter and Lower Slaughter approx 4 miles. This circular walk follows the Windrush Way and Gloucestershire Way to the pretty village of Upper Slaughter. It then heads along the Wardens Way to Lower Slaughter and back to Bourton along the river. Featured in the Five Country Walks booklet on sale at the Visitor Information Centre.

Miles without Stiles: Bourton on the Water & Wyck Rissington approx 4 miles. This is an easy walk through meadows to the unspoilt village of Wyck Rissington incorporating three small rivers (two of which are the shortest in the Cotswolds), a nature



The Great
Cotswold
Wold
Outdoors

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reserve and a maze in a church. Part of the walk is along the Oxfordshire Way and Gustav Holst Way. Holst worked as a choirmaster and organist in Wyck Rissington Church as a teenager. Downloadable.

Meadows & Mills approx 4 miles. This is an easy walk downhill from Stow on the Wold to Bourton on the Water across meadows, through Lower Slaughter, to the old mill which houses a tea shop, small store and a museum. Downloadable.

Bourton on the Water to Little Rissington via Rissington Mill approx 4 miles. A pretty circular walk leaving the village through fields and along the river to Rissington Mill. Admire the 12th century church of Little Rissington and its RAF memorial window and graves. Featured in the Five Country Walks booklet to buy from the Visitor Information Centre.

Greystones Farm Nature Reserve
The reserve is a 5-minute walk from Station Car Park and there are two walking routes including an audio trail marked by arrows: Meadow Walks and Archaeology Walk. As well as being an important nature area, Greystones Farm is a protected Scheduled Ancient Monument with human habitation dating back almost 6000 years. Available from the Visitor Information Centre.

Circular Walk from Bourton through Naunton and the Slaughters approx 9 miles. Beginning from the Visitor Information Centre on Victoria Street, this walk heads out into the fields and along the Windrush Way and Donnington Way. You can stop in



Naunton for refreshment before heading along the Wardens Way to the pretty village of Upper Slaughter. The route then heads to Lower Slaughter and back to Bourton. Available to buy from the Visitor Information Centre.

Things to do in Bourton on the Water

- Meet the king penguins at Birdland
- Spot the landmarks in miniature at the Model Village
- Explore the Cotswolds Motor Museum
- Enjoy a Cotswolds cream tea
- Shop for gifts to take home
- Enjoy the Football in the River event in August

Accommodation that welcomes walkers

Bed & Breakfast

Trevone B&B

Traditional Cotswold stone house with family atmosphere, ideally situated for exploring the picturesque and historic delights of the Cotswolds, as advertised in the Lonely Planet guide book. A traditional English breakfast is provided from locally supplied produce. Parking on the drive and free WiFi.



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www.trevonebb.co.uk

Harrington House

www.hfholidays.co.uk/holidays/harrington-on-house

Woodlands Guesthouse,

Stow-on-the-Wold

www.woodlands-guest-house.co.uk

YHA, Stow-on-the-Wold

www.yha.org.uk

Cottages

Easterleigh Cottage,

Great Rissington

www.rentcotswoldcottage.com

Foxes Manor, Bourton-on-the-Water

www.foxesmanor.com

Home Farm Holiday Cottages,

Little Rissington

www.cotswoldshomefarm.com

Old Brewery House, Stow-on-the-

Wold www.staycotswold.com

Visitor Information Centre

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