

A weekend with walks in Cirencester



AT A GLANCE

- Roman finery at the Corinium Museum
- Cutting edge art design
- Boutique shopping
- Fantastic heritage
- Great local farmers market
- Visit events and festivals



Roman Cirencester

Art, history, classic Cotswolds and time to go shopping...

Cirencester, 'The Capital of the Cotswolds' is a place with ancient origins. The Roman fort, later town, of 'Corinium Dobunorum' was an important regional capital (there's still an atmospheric grassed over amphitheatre), mentioned by Ptolemy in his Geography, written about AD150. All this makes the award-winning Corinium Museum very much more than the average town museum where you can experience life as a Roman and marvel at the stunning mosaics.

The Church of St. John Baptist dominates the town's market place, in 'woolgothic' style (a reference to the importance of income from the wool trade in medieval times). The porch is

a landmark building built by the abbey in 1490 and designed to serve as a public meeting place as well as the main entrance to the church.

Cirencester is an important tourist and craft centre and has an arts centre with workshops in a converted brewery, and there are regular craft fairs, antique fairs and auctions. There is a wonderful variety of quality shops and the street market is one of the oldest. The town has other quirky discoveries such as Cirencester's Open Air Swimming Pool which is Britain's oldest and uses natural spring water. There are open spaces too; the Abbey grounds and the extensive 18th century parkland landscape of Cirencester Park, in the Bathurst family's ownership for over three centuries.

Walking in and around Cirencester:

Short walks – all of these routes are available to buy at Cirencester Visitor Information Centre.

Medieval Town Trail – starting at the Corinium Museum, this walk should take around 1¼ hours and takes in the medieval highlights of the town.

A Roman Town Trail – this trail is a brief guide to see all that survives above ground of the large Roman town of Corinium Dobunorum, now modern day Cirencester. The trail takes 1½ hours to complete and includes ancient town walls and a Roman amphitheatre.

Cirencester History Walks – a series of organised walks are available; the Cirencester Story Walk, the Market



The Great
Cotswold
wold
Outdoors

Roman Cirencester

Walk, A Roman walk in time and the Amphitheatre stroll.

www.cirencesterhistorywalks.co.uk
booking essential: 07547403057

Cirencester Civic Society - Self Guided and Guided Walks

Get a sense of Cirencesters buildings and it's past by doing a self-guided walk following the Cirencester Civic Society way-marked town walk. The society also holds guided walks regularly throughout the summer - contact Cirencester Visitor Information Centre for information.

Longer walks:

Cirencester is also on the route of several major longer distance routes:

The Monarchs Way

This long-distance footpath follows the route that Charles II took during his escape after the battle of Worcester in 1651. For 6 weeks, hotly pursued by the parliamentary forces under Oliver Cromwell, he went north, then south through the Cotswolds and the Mendips to the South Coast and finally along the South Downs to Shoreham, where he then escaped to France. This long-distance walk (610 miles) uses footpaths and bridleways following the route that Charles took and enables you to visit many historic sites and buildings.

Things to do in Cirencester and nearby:

- The Corinium Museum
- Roman Ampitheatre
- Open air swimming pool
- New Brewery Arts Centre
- Abbey and grounds
- Cirencester Deer Park



- Organic Farm and Shop
- Cotswold Water Park
- Bibury Trout Farm nearby
- Bibury, Arlington Row nearby
- Butts Farm, nearby

Accommodation that welcomes walkers

Bed & Breakfast

Riverside House

www.riversidehouse.org.uk

Cottage

Isis Cottage, Somerford Keynes

www.kemblemill.com

Visitor Information Centre

+44 (0) 1285 654 180



New Brewery Arts



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