‘TOP 20’ MARLOW

HIGHLIGHTS OF A LONGER STAY

- A wine-tasting tour of Chiltern Valley Winery, itself a filming location for ‘The Curse of the Ninth’ (accommodation and shop too).
- Guided walks in the Chiltern Hills with Anthea, enjoying panoramic Midsomer scenery.
- Eat at Tom Kerridge’s Michelin star pub and Atul Kochhar’s award-winning Indian restaurant.
- Experience open yard night at local Rebellion Brewery, or Fisher’s Brewing Co Ltd.
- Enjoy an afternoon on the Thames - hire a boat, be chauffeured in a slipper launch, take a boat trip, a Midsomer cruise or walk the Thames Path.
- Download your own murder mystery trail and learn about Marlow’s history whilst solving the clues.
- Pay as you go pilates and yoga at Zacs, golf at Harleyford, or tennis, swim and gym at Court Garden Leisure Complex.
- Spot red kites soaring overhead.
- Chic shopping in Marlow for jewellery, fashion, gifts and homewares.
- Eat ice cream in Higginson Park or watch boats go through Marlow Lock.
- Visit the FREE Marlow Museum.
- Explore nearby Midsomer-filmed manor houses - Greys Court and Stonor Park.
- Make a picnic easy with goodies from Satollo Italian deli, one of the supermarkets or Burgers artisan bakery and chocolatier.
- Enjoy circular walks at Hambleden or Marlow.
- Cosy up for a movie at Claytons pub (Mondays).
- Head to High Wycombe for the Eden Centre with its national brand stores, cinema and 10-pin bowling and excellent theatre at Wycombe Swan.
- Indulge in a spa, hair or beauty treatment.
- Head to Henley by bus for a Midsomer guided tour.
- Cross Marlow bridge for a riverside drink at the rowing club or Compleat Angler Hotel.
- Discover Marlow’s secret walled garden opposite Causton Library.

GETTING HERE

M40 J4 onto A404 *(10 minutes)*
M4 J8/9 onto A404 *(15 minutes)*
Heathrow *(30 minutes)*

Travel information - **www.rome2rio.com/map/London/Marlow**. Also see Google Maps.

The local train station is Marlow. High Wycombe, Henley, Maidenhead and Reading have good bus or rail routes into Marlow.

Marlow parking **www.wycombe.gov.uk**

ACCOMMODATION

A two-centre stay gives you the best of both worlds - cosmopolitan dining and accommodation in Marlow plus a rural pub with views in the Hambleden Valley.

If you want to stay in accommodation that has appeared in the show, try Danesfield House Hotel, The Stag & Huntsman at Hambleden (where dogs can stay too) and St. Katherine’s Retreat at Parmoor which has appeared in eight episodes of the show!

To camp amidst 1,000 acres of meadow and woodland, check out Chiltern Retreat Camping or you can stay with your horse at Cholsey Farm and ride the trail.

Further copies of this leaflet are available from **tourism_enquiries@wycombe.gov.uk** and can be downloaded from **www.visitbuckinghamshire.org/midsomer**

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VISIT MIDSOMER

Marlow
Buckinghamshire

MIDSOMER MURDERS LOCATIONS TRAIL
Follow in the footsteps of DCI Barnaby

www.visitbuckinghamshire.org/midsomer

PICTURE POSTCARD MIDSOMER
FROM FICTION TO REALITY

A TRAIL THROUGH MARLOW AND THE HAMBLEDEN VALLEY

Covering only 17 miles (27km), you will very quickly find yourself immersed in scenes from Midsomer Murders. Following the trail, you can taste wine, sample local beer and sausages, spend the night in a filming location and walk the Chiltern Hills of Midsomer.

1. The trail starts in **Marlow**, a filming location at the heart of Midsomer. A mecca for foodies, Marlow is a historic market town with cosmopolitan shopping and accommodation with character.

2. Ascending into the Chiltern Hills to **Bovingdon Green**, a couple of traditional dairyman's cottages have appeared in the show. A great circular walk from here cuts back through Marlow Common where training trenches still exist from WW1. The Royal Oak Pub, acclaimed 'Best in Bucks', gives local suppliers prime position on its menus – from allotment holders to local Rebellion Brewery.

3. Our next Midsomer village is **Frieth**. The school has appeared in two episodes and schoolteachers are suspects for murder! In 'Dead in the Water', John Parkway, teacher at fictitious Morton Fendle School, is interviewed after the Rowing Club chairman's body is found floating face-down at the Midsomer Regatta.

Frieth's traditional 'brick and flint' architecture is a mark of Midsomer towns and villages. Local flint was a cheap building material found, literally, lying on the ground. The Yew Tree has a relaxed atmosphere and full menu. The Prince Albert is described as a 'proper traditional pub' with original black beams and cosy inglenook fireplace.

4. As you approach **Lane End**, the brick and flint houses on the Common are reminiscent of its farming roots. Today it's a bustling village with pub, Indian restaurant, and a popular foodie café. Our trail takes a left turn onto the main road (B482) towards Bolter End.

5. From Lane End to **Bolter End**, our next stop is filming location, Lacey's Farm, where the victim was found dead in the dairy. This seventh-generation family farm won 'Best Dairy Farm in the UK' for cream from its Guernsey cows. You can buy some from the farm shop and butchers, along with fruit and deli items for a picnic.

6. Take the next left, signposted **Fingest**. At its centre, The Chequers pub is to one side and the impressive, Grade 1 listed Church of St. Bartholomew on the other, with a stunning view up into the Chiltern Hills - a steep but worthwhile walk for the view. Some may prefer to enjoy the view from the delightful pub garden; according to locals - 'the best in the valley'!

The Chequers is one of a number of Brakspear pubs used for filming, and has appeared in 'The Silent Land', 'A Dying Art' and masqueraded once as an antiques shop in 'Country Matters'.

On your way from Fingest to Hambleden, you pass Skirmett and The Frog Pub, an 18th century coaching inn, with three ensuite bedrooms. There are lots of places to stay in the Hambleden Valley, including guest rooms at our next stop. Stay in the Valley and explore Midsomer on foot.

7. Heading down the hill towards Hambleden, take the turning for **Chiltern Valley Winery**, an old pig farm turned vineyard and brewery, and presented as a gin distillery for the episode 'The Curse of the Ninth'. Pre-book a tasting tour to see behind the scenes where much of the filming took place. Visitors not on the tour are welcome to view the vineyards and check out the shop.

8. Our next stop is **Hambleden**. Iconic episodes include 'Down among the Dead Men' which contains all the hallmarks of the show: theft, blackmail, fraud and, of course, murder.

Council worker, Martin Barnett is shot at midnight and DS Jones goes to inspect his car at the small mechanics' garage for clues. Street scenes and The Stag and Huntsman pub appear in the show, and location fees from Midsomer Murders have helped restore the village's war memorial. Please use the public car park (behind The Stag & Huntsman) and do not park in the centre of the village.

9. Heading to the A4155, park at **Mill End** car park. For spectacular riverside scenery and a walk along the Thames path, cross over the A4155, follow the winding footpath to the lock where the lock-keeper's cottage and the marine basin have been filming locations. Take the metal weir path to follow directly in the footsteps of John Nettles and Jason Hughes, who find the body of Rex Masters caught in the weir, in 'The Animal Within'. He died leaving many wills, and many suspected murderers!

Back on the A4155 towards Marlow, you'll see a sign to Danesfield House Hotel, former site of the Royal Air Force Officers Mess, and twice filmed for Midsomer Murders. Joyce Barnaby stayed here with the other judges of the Perfect Village Competition in 'Judgement Day' and the great hall appeared as Lawnside Nursing Home in 'Blue Herrings'.

10. Back in **Marlow**, St. Peter's Street, Two Brewers pub and the church gate, appear in 'King's Crystal', where the son of the first murder victim becomes a victim himself. It's only when Barnaby is watching Cully rehearse Hamlet at the Midsomer open-air theatre that he realises the murdered son has left a clue in the play. The pub appears again in 'Sauce for the Goose', where the victim is famously squashed to death under a tower of toppling relish bottles!

Walking back up Marlow High Street, turn right into Institute Road for our final Midsomer filming location, Causton Library! In 'The Black Book', a rich American bids £400,000 for a Hogson, then receives a blackmail demand for £2m from the holder of the infamous black book, showing it as a forgery.

The money is to be placed in a shopping trolley by desk three at the library. A man collects the trolley and is apprehended outside by the full force of Causton police, who find nothing but groceries. We see the blackmailer sloping off in the background with an identical trolley, switched at the library, under the very nose of DS Jones (Jason Hughes). Marlow Library is home to the visitor information service, and a great place to start your exploration of this picture postcard town.

Parking: Much of the driving in Midsomer is along narrow roads, and access is required at all times for farm and emergency vehicles.
Parking in pub car parks is for patrons only.

Please do not park in farm gateways or on village verges.

Make this an opportunity to leave the car and immerse fully into the beauty of Midsomer.
There are five public car parks in Marlow and lots of places to stay.

Funded by
WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MARLOW - PICTURE POSTCARD MIDSOMER

No visitor ever said they spent too long in Marlow!

Marlow Bridge was completed in 1832 by engineer William Tierney Clark and replaced the old wooden bridge which crossed at St. Peter's Street. Imagine the excitement as WW2 fighter pilot, Bill Marshall flew under it in a Spitfire in 1943, to impress his girlfriend, watching in awe from The Compleat Angler. Very shortly afterwards, the stunning church by the bridge was erected in fancy brick and stone, giving Marlow the grand entrance it has today.

Local Marlow hero, Sir Steve Redgrave CBE, won gold medals at five consecutive Olympics. His statue, in Higginson Park, was unveiled by Queen Elizabeth II in May 2002. Sir Steve appeared in Midsomer Murders as a rowing scout in 'Dead in the Water'.

A good place to start your exploration of Marlow is the visitor information service in Marlow Library, with details on travel, events, accommodation, attractions, walks and cycling leaflets as well as postcards and souvenirs.

Marlow is an excellent base from which to explore over 30 other filming locations in the local area. Little Marlow, Cookham, Hurley and Henley are each about 15 minutes from Marlow, and Beaconsfield, Windsor and Princes Risborough are about 30 minutes away.

SMALL IN SIZE BUT BIG ON FLAVOUR!

If you like good food, you'll love Marlow!

Tom Kerridge has three fabulous restaurants in Marlow, and Atul Kochhar runs Sindhu, an award-winning restaurant on the banks of the Thames. But it doesn't end there, with a range of excellent cuisine at The Vanilla Pod, The Ivy Garden and Marlow Bar and Grill. Good pub food at The Chequers on the High Street, authentic Italian at Satollo, Baroosh for brunch, Indian and Vietnamese, to name but a few.

If you're a fan of beer and wine tasting, you'll love Marlow!

Offering wine tasting tours are Harrow & Hope Marlow Winery, award-winning producer of English sparkling wines and The Chiltern Valley Winery who produce white, red, rosé and sparkling wines, as well as ales and liqueurs under the 'Old Luxters' brand. Both Rebellion and Fisher's Brewing Co. Ltd are now well established in the area, each offering tastings, open nights and brewery shops.

USEFUL LINKS

- Tom Kerridge **www.thehandandflowers.co.uk**
- Sindhu by Atul Kochhar **www.sindhurestaurant.co.uk**
- Harrow & Hope Winery **www.harrowandhope.com/product/vineyard-winery-tour-tasting**
- **Chiltern Valley Winery** **www.chilternvalley.co.uk**
- Rebellion Brewery **www.rebellionbeer.co.uk/brewery-tours/public-night.aspx** and **www.epicureandculture.com/things-to-do-in-marlow**
- Fisher's Brewing Co Ltd. **www.fishersbrewingcompany.com**
- **Lacey's Family Farm Shop** **www.laceysfamilyfarm.co.uk**
- The Royal Oak, Bovingdon Green **www.royaloakmarlow.co.uk**
- The Yew Tree, Frieth **www.yewtreefrieth.com**
- The Prince Albert, Frieth **www.theprincealbert-pub.co.uk**
- **The Chequers, Fingest** **www.thechequersfingest.co.uk**
- The Frog, Skirmett **www.thefrogatskirmett.co.uk/accomodation.html**
- **The Stag and Huntsman, Hambleden** **www.thestagandhuntsman.co.uk**
- Chiltern Retreat Camping **www.chilternretreat.co.uk**
- **St. Katherine's Retreat B&B**, Parmoor **www.srpf.org.uk**
- **Danesfield House Hotel** **www.danesfieldhouse.co.uk**
- Manor houses: National Trust **Greys Court**, Nuffield House, West Wycombe Park and Cliveden **www.nationaltrust.org.uk** and **Stonor Park** **www.stonor.com**
- Midsomer guided tour, Henley **www.ticketsource.co.uk/henley-hosts/events**
- Guided walks and Nordic walking with Anthea **www.afootinthechilterns.co.uk**
- **Midsomer location pubs Brakspear** **www.brakspear.co.uk/midsomer**
- Marlow Visitor Information Service **www.wycombe.gov.uk/pages/Sports-leisure-and-tourism/Tourism/Marlow-visitor-information-service.aspx**
- Visit Buckinghamshire's Midsomer **www.visitbuckinghamshire.org/midsomer**
- Where to stay and what to do in the Hambleden Valley **www.hambledenvalley.com**
- Visit Chilterns **www.visitchilterns.co.uk/heritage-and-history/midsomer-murders-trails**
- Visit Thames **www.visitthames.co.uk/towns/marlow-p92421**
- Murder Mystery Trails **www.treasuretrails.co.uk/things-to-do/buckinghamshire/marlow**

Midsomer filming locations in red

EVENTS

Here are just a few… Pub in the Park; Marlow Players amateur dramatics; Marlow Town Regatta; theatre at Wycombe Swan; Pop-up cinema; town walks; Marlow Carnival; Santa Fun Run and Swan Upping.