

# WALKS IN AND AROUND VILLAGES FILMED FOR MIDSOMER MURDERS

## A GATEWAY TO THE CHILTERN

\*Long Crendon, \*Haddenham, \*Brill, \*Chearsley, \*Thame, \*Wainhill, \*Chinnor, \*Sydenham, \*Henton, \*Dinton, \*Westlington, \*Bledlow, \*Princes Risborough, \*Monks Risborough, \*Cadsden, \*Saunderton, Green Hailey, \*Wendover.

[www.walkinginengland.co.uk](http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk) – search Buckinghamshire, Bledlow

[www.chilternsociety.org.uk](http://www.chilternsociety.org.uk) – search Princes Risborough, Phoenix Trail, Whiteleaf Walks, Ridgeway, The Chiltern Way

[www.gps-routes.co.uk](http://www.gps-routes.co.uk) - search Buckinghamshire, North Bucks Way, Princes Risborough

[www.icknieldwaytrail.org.uk](http://www.icknieldwaytrail.org.uk)

[www.chilternsaonb.org](http://www.chilternsaonb.org) – search Box Wood Walks

[www.nationaltrail.co.uk/ridgeway](http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/ridgeway)

## DASHWOOD TO DISRAELI

\*Saunderton, \*Loosley Row, Lacey Green, Bledlow Ridge, Bradenham, Piddington, West Wycombe, Speen, Bryants Bottom, Walter's Ash, Naphill, \*Downley, Hughenden Valley.

[www.chilternsaonb.org](http://www.chilternsaonb.org) – search West Wycombe & Bradenham

[www.gps-routes.co.uk](http://www.gps-routes.co.uk) - search Buckinghamshire, Bradenham, Hughenden, West Wycombe

[www.chilternsociety.org.uk](http://www.chilternsociety.org.uk) – search Bolter End Farm, Booker stile-free, Bottom Wood, Hughenden, Downley Common, Linky Down, Chequers Valley, West Wycombe, Piddington

## RIVERSIDE RAMBLES

\*Hurley, \*Henley, \*Fawley, \*Colstrop, \*Hambleton, \*Rockwell End, \*Fingest, \*Ibstone, \*Turville, \*Frieth, \*Parmoor, \*Bovingdon Green, \*Marlow, \*Little Marlow, \*Cookham, \*Hedsor, \*Taplow, \*Littleworth Common, \*Burnham Beeches, \*Forty Green, \*Beaconsfield, \*Misbourne Valley.

[www.nationaltrail.co.uk/thames-path](http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/thames-path)

[www.visitbuckinghamshire.org/midsomer](http://www.visitbuckinghamshire.org/midsomer) –

Marlow and Hambleton Valley 17-mile Midsomer trail

[www.chilternsociety.org.uk](http://www.chilternsociety.org.uk) – search Common Series (Marlow and High Wycombe), Frieth, Marlow Common, Little Marlow, Bourne End, Cliveden, Burnham Beeches

[www.gps-routes.co.uk](http://www.gps-routes.co.uk) – search Buckinghamshire, Chiltern Way, Marlow, Cliveden

[www.marlowsociety.org.uk/walksgroup](http://www.marlowsociety.org.uk/walksgroup)

\* denotes filming location

# WALK, HIKE OR STROLL THROUGH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE'S MIDSOMER

The best way to see Midsomer is to get outdoors, and this area is criss-crossed with National Trails and stunning walks through Midsomer villages, woodland, hills and valleys.

## WALK PROVIDERS IN MIDSOMER

- **A Foot in The Chilterns** – guided walks and Nordic walking for individuals and groups
- **Pipsticks** - guided walks and Nordic walking
- **The Carter Company** – walking and cycling holidays
- **Chiltern Weekend Walkers** – part of The Ramblers
- **GG Wildlife Experiences** – wildlife walks
- **Simply Walks** – free weekly walks across Buckinghamshire locations

## EASY TO GET TO

 [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

(30 mins from London)

 [www.traveline.info](http://www.traveline.info)

 [www.chilternsaonb.org/cycleway](http://www.chilternsaonb.org/cycleway)

Nick Hendrix (DS Jamie Winter) enjoys a look through the Marlow & Hambleton Valley Midsomer locations trail whilst relaxing at Danesfield House Hotel.



For further copies of this leaflet, e-mail:

[midsomer@visitbuckinghamshire.org](mailto:midsomer@visitbuckinghamshire.org)

More Midsomer trails including Marlow & the Hambleton Valley and Midsomer on the Misbourne can be found at:

[www.visitbuckinghamshire.org/midsomer](http://www.visitbuckinghamshire.org/midsomer)

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# STEP INTO MIDSOMER

Walks through stunning Buckinghamshire countryside and Midsomer Murders' filming locations



Bledlow – Princes Risborough – Saunderton  
West Wycombe – High Wycombe – Hughenden Valley  
Henley – Marlow – Cliveden

[www.visitbuckinghamshire.org/midsomer](http://www.visitbuckinghamshire.org/midsomer)



# STEP INTO MIDSOMER



ITV's longest-running contemporary detective series, Midsomer Murders, reveals some of England's most beautiful countryside, as scenic landscapes of farming, woodland, valleys and far-reaching views continue to attract location managers of the show. We suggest three areas with great walks that get you out into the open. Enjoy short and long walk options, hilly or flat, and those accessible for wheelchairs and buggies.

## A GATEWAY TO THE CHILTERNS

The Ridgeway National Trail is 87 miles long and the oldest road in England. We focus at a point where it connects with the Chiltern Way and the Icknield Way; in and around Princes Risborough, a settlement which appeared in the Domesday Book (1086).

Well connected by direct rail and bus links into Princes Risborough, you can be in the countryside in ten minutes. Set your sights on Whiteleaf Hill Nature Reserve, the hill fort at NT Pulpit Hill near Cadsden or Yoesden Nature Reserve near Bledlow Ridge.

Experience the natural delights of native box woodland, orchids, red kites, animals grazing, large beechwood forests

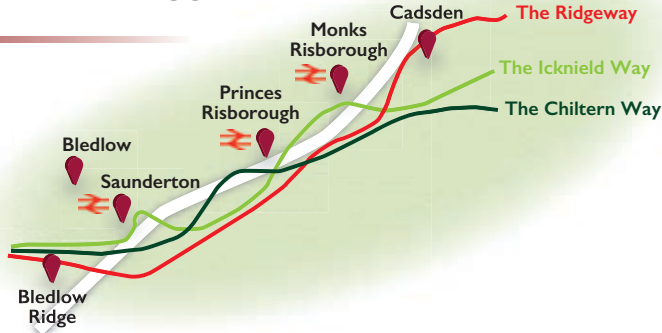


and Pyrtle Spring, where chalk meets clay; or man-made features, such as World War 2 trenches, a water garden, windmill, a white cross etched in the chalk, and Grim's Ditch - earthworks believed to be original Celtic boundary lines.

Filming locations in this area include Princes Risborough Post Office (formerly the Information Centre) as Causton Social Services in 'Shot at Dawn', the episode where a bizarre battle with baguettes breaks out between two veterans in a pub while Barnaby and Joyce are having a 'quiet' dinner. Donald Sinden and George Cole play the two veterans, in a long-standing tradition of famous faces appearing in the show.

Bledlow has 10 episodes to its name, is home to Badger's Drift Church and the pub, The Lions of Bledlow has appeared five times. Monks Risborough, Cadsden and the area around Saunderton also make appearances.

A great way to take a rest between walks, is a trip to Holm Junction (Chinnor and Princes Risborough Steam Railway)



as seen in 'Death in a Chocolate Box'. Board a train and soak up more beautiful Midsomer countryside as you steam through the foothills of the Chilterns.

## DASHWOOD TO DISRAELI

This section of walks runs from NT West Wycombe Park, built by Sir Francis Dashwood (1700s) and occupied by his descendants today; to NT Hughenden Manor, home to Benjamin Disraeli, Prime Minister to Queen Victoria. Not a Midsomer Murders filming area but an area where you may come across riders on horseback, vicars on bicycles and pubs with colourful characters!

A walk to St Lawrence Church, with its infamous 'Golden Ball' at the top of West Wycombe Hill, sets the scene with 270-degree views. As you stand here, allow your mind to imagine its past of pagan temples, Roman settlement and bubonic plague!

By 1870, the railway came to West Wycombe to transport wood to High Wycombe's furniture factories, felled from the vast tracts of native beech woodlands which remain for our pleasure today.



A number of walks in this sparsely-populated area will make you feel a million miles from anywhere. The Hughenden Estate is 660 acres and many walks are published criss-crossing this well-maintained landscape. A published stroll through West Wycombe Park reveals one of the finest surviving 18th century landscape gardens, a series of original and restored features include the Cascade, the Water Garden, Kitty's Lodge and The Temple of the Winds.

Walks will take you through places with quirky English names like Butlers Hanging, Windyhaugh Ho, Beacons Bottom, Downley Common and Nobles Farm, as well as to the quirky Hell Fire Caves, built as an extension to the existing chalk quarry, to employ agricultural workers after years of failed harvests. It was transformed into the meeting place of the Hellfire Club, and is now a unique visitor attraction.



## RIVERSIDE RAMBLES

The Thames Path National Trail follows the River Thames through 2 Midsomer towns, 11 Midsomer villages and over 50 filming locations. We've selected the stretch from Henley to Cliveden, taking in the Hambleden Valley and the picturesque riverside town of Marlow, to combine more demanding walking in the Chiltern Hills, with the flatter and often accessible route of the Thames Path. With plenty of circular walks, pub walks and town trails along the way, this area has been filmed regularly since the first episode in 1997. It offers easy access by train, bus, car, taxi or boat.

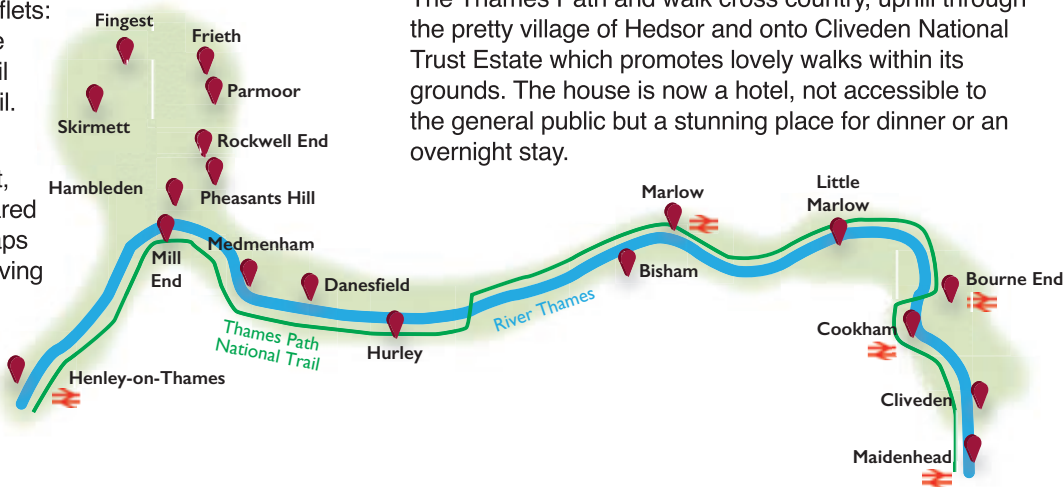
The Thames Path from Henley to Hambleden Lock is fully accessible, with far-reaching views and flanked by the Chiltern Hills. You will pass Henley Greenlands Hotel (Henley Business School), home of the Belvoir Spa in 'The Flying Club', and the lock itself was a scene in 'From the Animal Within'. A longer detour into The Hambleden Valley warrants an overnight stay, to explore ten villages filmed for the show. A shorter circular walk can take in a location pub or vineyard.

The training ground for 'The Lions of Causton' is found at



Henley Rugby Club, while the infamous cryotherapy room is set at Bisham Abbey. A stunning view from the Thames Path reveals the early 13th century manor house, later granted by Henry VIII to Anne of Cleves as part of his divorce settlement, and visited many times by Queen Elizabeth I during her reign. Rounding the corner after Bisham, a stunning view of Marlow Bridge (AD 1830) and All Saints Parish Church (AD 1835), opposite the historic Compleat Angler Hotel whose origins date back 400 years. At Causton (Marlow) Library, seen in 'The Black Book', you can pick up two self-guided tour leaflets: Visit Midsomer Marlow and The Hambleden Valley locations trail or The Marlow Society town trail.

The earlier bridge crossed at the very pretty St. Peters Street, where The Two Brewers appeared in 'Sauce for the Goose'. Perhaps lunch in this filming location, saving room for dessert at the next filming location: The Queens Head in Little Marlow. This picturesque village has appeared 4 times in the show, and will take you



through centuries of English architecture, finishing at the Grade II listed, 12th century church, which appeared in 'Faithful unto Death' and 'A Noble Art'.

Walking on to Bourne End, take the option to veer off The Thames Path and walk cross country, uphill through the pretty village of Hedsor and onto Cliveden National Trust Estate which promotes lovely walks within its grounds. The house is now a hotel, not accessible to the general public but a stunning place for dinner or an overnight stay.

Useful websites detailing walking routes in these areas can be found on the panel overleaf





# STAY IN MIDSOMER



We invite you to get off the beaten track and into the quintessential English countryside that weaves its way through episodes of Midsomer Murders. From the quirky to quaint to cosmopolitan, this area blends history and tradition with modern style, comfort and cuisine.



For avid fans wanting a truly immersive Midsomer experience, stay in accommodation filmed for the show such as the Chiltern Valley Winery and Brewery which became

the gin distillery in 'The Curse of the Ninth', Danesfield House Hotel and Spa which appeared in two episodes, or traditional coaching inns filmed in the pretty villages of Hambleden and Cadsden.

We've spotted eleven pubs in the area filmed for the show, a number of churches, a forge, the steam railway and Bekonscot Model Village which captures 1930's England in miniature and appeared in 'Small Mercies' when the victim is laid out like Gulliver in Lilliput.

Spend time outdoors in this Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Enjoy boat trips from Marlow or Henley, explore a nature reserve, or visit the animals at Odds Farm, Beaconsfield and The Horse Trust and its unique Black Beauty tea rooms in Princes Risborough. Rainy day options include museums in Marlow, High Wycombe, Aylesbury and Amersham, as well as theatre, cinema, covered shopping and leisure complexes in High Wycombe.



## Filming locations where you can eat, sleep and visit

**Stay:** Danesfield House Hotel, The Stag & Huntsman (Hambleden), Henley Greenlands Hotel, The Olde Bell (Hurley), The Plough (Cadsden), Chiltern Valley Winery.

**Eat & Drink:** La Chouette (Dinton), The Lions of Bledlow, The Chequers (Fingest), The Two Brewers (Marlow), The Queens Head (Little Marlow), The Bull and Butcher (Turville), The Royal Standard of England (Forty Green), The Eight Bells (Long Crendon), The Crown (Sydenham).

**Visit:** St. Nicholas Church at Nether Winchendon, Gomme's Forge in Loosley Row, St. Dunstan's Church at Monks Risborough, Chinnor & Princes Risborough Railway, Bekonscot Model Village.

**Information Centres:** In Princes Risborough, Marlow and High Wycombe (not a filming location).



Many of the walks pass through agricultural farmland supplying produce to local shops and restaurants. Seen in the show when a man is found dead in the dairy, Laceys Family Farm with their herd of Guernsey cows produces milk and cream, from grass to glass; sold with other local produce in their farm shop.

Finest foods from around the world are brought together with local and seasonal produce into award-winning, chef-restaurants The Hand & Flowers, Sindhu and The Vanilla Pod in Marlow. Fine fare can also be found in simpler cafés and delis across the area like The Apple Orchard in West Wycombe, The Grange, Saunderton, and Fieldmouse deli in Princes Risborough; or in highly-rated Indian, Thai and Mediterranean restaurants in High Wycombe. After a day's walking to build up your appetite, take your pick!

