



HEREFORDSHIRE

www.visitherefordshire.co.uk

Map by kind permission of Visit Herefordshire



George Watkins and his pedigree herd of Herefords at his Ballingham Hall farm.

INSIDERS GUIDE

Hereford is a small, thriving city and its surrounding countryside is some of the most beautiful in the United Kingdom.

We hope you'll find our guide of some use during your stay with us. There is so much to discover and keep you occupied, not least the medieval Hereford Cathedral which is practically on our doorstep.

Castle House's Insiders' Guide contains suggestions from our staff, previous guests and local friends, so you'll have the very best Herefordshire experience again and again!

If you find something that you think should be included in our guide, please don't hesitate to let us know.

George Watkins

PLACES TO VISIT IN HEREFORD CITY

Hereford Cathedral - a veritable historical feast. Home to the Mappa Mundi, the 13th century medieval treasure without parallel, signed copy of the Magna Carta Writ and the Great Seal of King James I. A place of worship since 696, the present building dates from 1079 with 12th, 13th,14th and 16th century restorations including work from eminent architects Sir George Gilbert Scott, James Wyatt and Sir Oldrid Scott.

Look out for carvings in St. John's Porch, a covered Tudor walkway, Simon Beer's 'Corona' in the North Transept, the 'Misericord' 14th century carvings in the choir stalls and John Maine's stained glass window, Ascension, acknowledging Herefordshire's relationship with the Special Air Services.

Cathedral Tours take about 45 mins Monday-Saturday 11.05am, 2.15pm Cathedral Close, HR1 2NG (///navy.highs.await) herefordcathedral.org 01432 374200

The Black and White House - or 'the Old House' now a museum,

is a perfectly preserved Jacobean timber-framed house built in 1621. Look out for Brian Alabaster's lifesize bronze of a Hereford Bull. High Town HR1 2AA (///yours.meal.notice) herefordshire.gov.uk 01432 260694

Apple Store Gallery - promotes local artists and the creativity of Herefordshire and Welsh Borders, with arts events and a good framing service.

Hereford, HR1 2UA (///tanks.affair.monday) applestoregallery.com 01432 263937

Broomy Hill Miniature Railway -

two miniature railway tracks for 3.5" and 5" gauge locos built by the Hereford Society of Model Engineering. Train ride, Garden Railway, large model boating pond and enthusiasm all around!

Broomy Hill, HR4 OLJ (///loss.lake.sheet)

hsme.co.uk 01989 561019

Hereford Museum of Cider learn the history of one of the oldest drinks in the world. See cider mills, presses, bottles, historic photographs, advertising memorabilia and old English lead crystal flutes. Open daily 10.30am-4.30pm Closed Sundays Ryelands Street, HR4 0LM (///cares.smiled.buzz) cidermuseum.co.uk 01432 354207

Hereford Museum & Art Gallery - housed in a spectacular Victorian gothic building, the museum has been exhibiting artefacts and fine art since 1874. Admission free. Closed Mondays.

Broad Street, HR4 9AU (///smashes.pokers.doctor) herefordshire.gov.uk/history-lives 01432 260692

St John Medieval Museum and
Coningsby Hospital - adjacent to
the Blackfriars Rose Garden (with
one of the last surviving Preaching
cross stones), a Dominican Monastery
ruins. The Coningsby Red Coat
Hospital was probably the model
for The Chelsea Hospital in London.
Explore the 13th century Chapel, still
used by the Order of St John, and
the Museum which explains the links
between the Crusades, The Knights
Templar and The Hospitaller Knights.
Open 11.00 to 15.00 on Wednesdays
and Saturdays from April to October.

Private visits may be arranged. Widemarsh Street, HR4 9HN (///record.every.plots) coningsbyhospital.co.uk 01432 264824

The Courtyard Centre for the Arts

- Herefordshire's leading arts venue with art gallery, cinema, theatre, classes, food & drink and craft shop. It has a fun Christmas Pantomime – oh yes it has!

Edgar Street, HR4 9JR (///sung.lived.moons) courtyard.org. uk 01432 340555

Odeon Hereford - state of the art cinema in 2-D/3-D format. It is surrounded by great walk-in restaurants although it does have a bar/café.

Old Market, HR4 9HR (///fresh.branded.calms) odeon.co.uk 0333 0144501

The Waterworks Museum -

a thriving industrial heritage museum with working pumps and engines bringing the story of drinking water to life.

Broomy Hill, HR4 0LJ (///link.gossip.tasty) waterworksmuseum.org.uk 01432 342192

Other interesting places in the city include *The Judges Lodgings* in *The Shire Hall, The Mayor's*Parlour in Church Street, Tourist Information Centre in the Town Hall, St Owen Street.

INDEPENDENT SHOPS AND OTHER EXPERIENCES

Artisan Market - last Saturday of the month with handmade artisan goods from local designers and makers in Hereford's Left Bank Village.

Bridge Street, HR4 9DG
(///blush.player. yoga)

07896 945875

City Market - every Wednesday and Saturday in the centre of the city with a variety of stalls from florists, antiques, vegetables, clothing and local craft. High Town, HR1 2DJ (///handed.slug.bound) herefordshire.gov.uk 01432 261934

The Butter Market - Victorian marketplace with interesting stalls. Open 9am-5pm

Market Hall, High Town HR1 2AA (///salads.dream.nail) thebuttermarket.com
01432 270396

Andrew Lamputt Jeweller & Silversmith - specialists in antique and fine silverware and jewellery. St. Owen Street, HR1 2PR (///movie.keys.prefer) andrewlamputt.co.uk 01432 274961

Philip Morris & Son - a family business founded in 1845. More a department store in Tudor buildings, selling kitchen, hardware, bathroom goods and country sports clothes and equipment. Look out for modern classics such as Le Creuset, Emma Bridgewater, Fairfax & Favor, Musto, DuBarry and more. Great online business. Open daily 9am-5pm Sundays - 4pm Widemarsh Street, HR4 9EE (///email.corner.obey) philipmorrisdirect.co.uk 01432 377089

Printer and Tailor - a shop with considered, creative and contemporary designs. It is a destination for shoppers with a keen eye and aesthetic appreciation. Open 9.30am-5pm Sundays 11am-4pm Widemarsh Street, HR4 9EA (///stable.cloud.inner) printerandtailor.com 01432 265094

Pritchards - quality men's designer clothing, footwear, grooming products and accessories including Gant, Sunspel, Fred Perry, Osprey, Paul Smith and Dunhill.

King Street, HR4 9BW

(///lungs.linked.afford)

01432 272346

Secret Bottle Shop - owned by a family with over 300 years in the business. Discover some of the best and collectable Champagnes, wines and spirits.

Widemarsh Street, HR4 9EA (///stir.tides.curving) 01432 357872

Tanners Wine Merchants - the independent family shippers of estate wines since 1842.

St. Peter's Square, HR1 2PG (///glass.remind.hotels) tanners-wines.co.uk 01432 272044

Church Street - in an age of bland, retail conformity, it's comforting to know that taste, craftsmanship, attention to detail and personal services still exist. Church Street connects the centre of Hereford with the cathedral and showcases a collection of small, independent shops and cafés and is very much a must-see when visiting the city.

Calandras Menswear - is owned by Giovanni Calandra who has over 20 years' experience in retail and a qualified image consultant offering a personal service. Collection includes Armani, Lacoste, Lyle & Scott, Religion and Fila to name a few. Check out the fab Vesper parked outside! Church St., HR1 2LR (///busy.active.gear) 01432 376969

Cherry Savidge - stylish boutique including designers such as New York's Samantha Sung, Sara Roka, Paul Ka and Weekend MaxMara, to name a few. Open Mon-Sat 10am-4.30pm Private appointments available.

East Street, HR1 2LU (///sends.uses.kinks)

Hat Trick - fabulous hats and shoes for every occasion. People come from all over the UK to try the hats! Angela and Cherry (Savidge) work together to help customers top and tail their outfits. Open Mon-Sat 9.30am-4.30pm

East Street, HR1 2LU (///taped.swung.slipped) 01432 279900

cherrysavidge.com

01432 358944

The Mousetrap Cheese Shop - specialises in local, British and international cheeses.

Church Street, HR1 2LR

(///view.error.forms)

mousetrapcheese.co.uk

01432 353423

View Boutique - friendly fashion boutique including Vero Moda, French Connection. Stylish shoes, handbags and jewellery too. Church Street, HR1 2LR (///sports.slim.resist) viewboutique.com 01432 341381

Other good shops include Artisan boutique with Italian designs, Robes, Timonthy Hawkins Gallery, Seedlings Cards, Old Mayors Parlour, CV Osborne, John McKellar and Mike Gell jewellery shops, Fodder for organic/vegetarian food & bodycare, Avant Garde Hairdressers, La Madeleine - French-style café, No.28 Interiors & fashion, Doughtys - everything for knitting, sewing, embroidery and a great collection of buttons, Hey Honey! - selling all things honey.

CASTLES, STATELY HOMES, GARDENS AND COUNTRYSIDE

Berrington Hall - a neo-classical stately home with Biaggio Rebecca ceilings and fine furniture. Designed by Henry Holland in 1778 and is set like a jewel in 'Capability' Brown's final landscape and gardens.

Nr. Leominster, HR6 0DW

(///indeed.milk.award)

berrington@nationaltrust.org.uk

01568 615721

Black and White Village Trail - a 40 mile route through some of the prettiest rural Herefordshire villages with timber-framed buildings and churches. Start in Leominster, Dilwyn, Weobley, Sarnesfield, Kinnersley, Eardisley, Kington, Lyonshall, Pembridge, Eardisland through orchards, hopyards, craft workshops, tea-rooms and pubs waiting to welcome visitors.

Leominster, HR6 8YP Blackandwhitetrail.org **01568 616460**

Croft Castle - surrounded by 1,500 acres of woods, park and farmland, this beautiful stately home was built on the remains of a 14thc medieval castle. Its fortress was destroyed by

Parliamentary troops in 1645 but the rectangular Jacobean house survived. Nr. Leominster, HR6 9PW (///downs.rock.squashes) croftcastle@nationaltrust.org.uk 01568 780246

Eastnor Castle - is an ornate 'mock' castle begun in 1811 and designed by Robert Smirke (British Museum) in Norman Revival style. Pugin was hired to furnish the drawing room. It has a great collection of armoury and Flemish tapestries, originally ordered by Catherine de Medici and an excellent art collection. Now owned by the Hervey-Bathurst family, other attractions include its Deer Park, Arboretum and Land Rover Experience days.

Ledbury, HR8 1RL (///risen.palaces.alpha) eastnorcastle.com 01531 633160

Goodrich Castle - you can climb the ruins of this once mighty medieval castle, ravaged in the English Civil War. It is an historic adventure for the young and young at heart!

Ross-on-Wye, HR9 6HY
(///automatic.clips.acted)

English-heritage.org.uk
03703 331181

Hampton Court Castle - 100
years older than Henry VIII's Surrey
palace. In 1434, the Agincourt hero
Sir Rowland Lenthall was granted
licence by Henry VI to crenallate it.
Tour the castle and see the Joseph
Paxton designed orangery, medieval
chapel and beautiful ballroom.
Wander through captivating gardens,
woodlands or stroll beside the
River Lugg.
Hope under Dinmore, HR6 OPN

Hope under Dinmore, HR6 0PN (///regulator.booklets.handbag) hamptoncourtcastle.co.uk 01568 797777

Hellens Manor - is a much-loved Tudor/Jacobean home with a rich tapestry of art, furniture, grounds and gardens, as well as Anne Boleyn relics and residential ghosts! The gardens include a labyrinth, knot garden, dovecote and pond. Guided tours run April to October and it is a venue for cultural events all year round.

Much Marcle, HR8 2LY (///riverside.gains.topped) Hellensmanor.com 01531 660504

Hergest Croft Gardens - four generations of the Banks family have been creating and sustaining these beautiful gardens for 120 years. Set in the Welsh Marches, the 70 acre

gardens have a collection of over 5,000 rare plants, trees, shrubs and 90 'Champion Trees'. Great plant fairs and sales too.

Kington, HR5 3BG (///plotter.cricket.renews) hergest.co.uk 01544 230160

Kentchurch Court - a Grade I stately home with deer park, beautiful gardens and woodland is situated in a 5,000 acre estate and home to the Scudamore family for nearly 1,000 years. NB: Visits by appointment Pontrilas, HR2 0DB (///twee.baroness.stacks) kentchurchcourt.co.uk 01981 240228

The Laskett - set in idyllic
Herefordshire countryside, the
gardens are the creation of Sir Roy
Strong CH and his late wife, Julia
Trevelyan Oman CBE. Starting with a
bare field in 1974, the gardens have
continued to evolve and are uniquely
autobiographical. Now bequeathed
to Perennial, the charity that provides
help to people in horticulture.
Laskett Lane, HR2 8HZ
(///screamed.rebounder.squish)
thelaskett.org.uk
01372 384045

Ralph Court Gardens -12 amazing gardens set in the grounds of a gothic rectory transporting the viewer on a journey around the world. Edwyn Ralph, HR7 4LU (///robot.digesting.fairness) ralphcourtgardens.co.uk 01885 483225

Raglan Castle - this medieval castle is one of the grandest ever built by Welshmen. Although a ruin, its previous magnificence is still clearly visible.

Raglan, NP15 2BT (///charcoal.masterpiece.conspired) raglancastle@gov.wales 03000 252239

Stockton Bury Gardens - a 4 acre garden at the heart of a working farm created 30 years ago by Raymond Treasure and Gordon Fenn, both keen plantsmen and horticulturalists. Raymond's niece, the gardening journalist Tamsin Westhorpe, is very much involved. Look out for the new Pavilion, Victorian kitchen garden, monkey puzzle tree, dovecote and medieval barns.

Kimbolton, Stockton Bury HR6 0HA (///sharper.quitter.wedding) stocktonbury.co.uk 07880 712649

Westonbury Mill Water Gardens

- created in 1969 by Richard Pimm, the garden and its follies, especially the world's largest water-powered Cuckoo Clock, are a definite mustsee. The new owners, who took over in 2021, have promised to continue his great legacy.

Pembridge, HR6 9HZ (///dribble.grumbling.starters) westonburymillwatergardens 01544 388650

RHS Malvern Spring Festival -

RHS Malvern Spring Festival at the beginning of May is the largest RHS flower show outside London and kickstarts the RHS show season each year.

rhsmalvern.co.uk

Malvern Showground Autumn Show

held in September over 2 days.
 Three Counties Showground,
 WR13 6NW
 (//beanbag.summer.trucks)

01684 584900

threecounties.co.uk

TOURS AND TASTINGS

Broome Farm - home of the award-winning Ross-on-Wye Cider and Perry Company using apples and pears grown and pressed on the family farm. Open for tours and tastings in their own pub, The Yew Tree Inn! See website for all the activities and Cider Festival.

Peterstow, HR9 6QG (///robes.twitchy.buyers) rosscider.com 01989 567232

Coddington Vineyard -

family-owned vineyard with a small selection of white wines from 2,300 vines. Garden Tours and White Wine Tastings.

Nr. Ledbury HR8 1JJ (///harp.rinse.belief) coddingtonvineyard.co.uk 01531 641817

Oliver's Cider & Perry - a living legend, Tom Oliver sets the standard for minimal intervention cider and perry-making with an emphasis on 'balance' and 'character' coupled with 'drinkability'.

Ocle Pychard, HR1 3QZ (///uncouth.perform.cans) oliversciderandperry.co.uk 07768 732026

Three Choirs Vineyard - established 1973 with award-winning wines. Weekend tastings with tapas. Newent GL18 1LS (///seating.jogged.jugs) three-choirs-vineyards.co.uk 01531 890223

Westons Cider - founded in 1878 and still family run today. Learn the long history of cider on the daily tours with an expert guide.

Much Marcle, HR8 2NQ

(///master.unlocking.scream)

westons-cider.co.uk

01531 660108

Wythall Estate - family-owned and run, the estate has a 16th century manor house, beautiful gardens and established vineyards producing award-winning English Wines.
Tours and Tastings available.
Walford, HR9 5SD
(///rifled.prefect.keeps)
wythallestate.co.uk
01989 566868

HEREFORDSHIRE AND BORDERING COUNTIES WITH CHILDREN

Clearwell Caves - discover a hidden world of over 4,500 years of iron mining history and explore atmospheric caverns at a comfortable 10c. Maggi Hambling CBE, Jonathan Kenworthy and Damien Hirst have all exhibited here.

Clearwell, Coleford, GL16 8JR (///unpacked.rail.fatter) clearwellcaves.com 01594 832535

Go Ape - offers exhilarating outdoor activities for those aged 4 to 84 with a head for heights.

Lydney, Glos GL15 4HD

(///firelight.tonight.arrived)

forestryengland.uk/mallards-pike-lake
01603 895500

Queenswood Country Park and

Aboretum - the 47 acres of 1200 rare and exotic trees is but a fragment of the vast ancient oak wood that once stretched to the Welsh borders. The Park offers a wonderful day out with its woodland adventure for children, famous Gruffalo Trail and wildlife. Its Bodenham lake covers 50 acres!

Dinmore Hill, HR6 OPY
(///passage.sprays.reduction)
queenswoodandbodenhamlake.com
01432 530088

Rowlestone Court Farm - stroll through the woodlands and meadows, passing ponds in the wild garden and views of the Black Mountains. See the cows which provide the milk and cream for their award-winning Farmhouse Ice Cream – our in-house choice! Children love the play areas and dogs on leads are welcome.

Rowlestone, HR2 0DW (///protest.conforms.dabbling) rowlestoneicecream.co.uk 01981 240322

Small breeds Farm Park and Owl Centre - a magical place to experience animals, birds and owls where 'hands on' experience is actively encouraged. There is an indoor and outdoor picnic area. Kington, HR5 3HF (///branch.overrides.tribes) owlcentre.com 01544 231109

The River Severn Fairy Trail and Farm - Tara and Rich run this working farm rearing native breeds. Its farm trail is educational and family friendly. The Fairy Trail, with interactive map, is perfect for ages 9 to 90. Check for opening times. Lime Kiln Farm, GL19 4JW (///physical.events.difficult) theriverservernfairytrail.co.uk 07715 576055

The Spaceguard Centre - is a working observatory which watches out for potentially dangerous near earth objects i.e. asteroids or comets. Opened in 2001 by Sir Patrick Moore CBE, the centre is the first of its type in the UK. Learn about structure of the solar system, problems with NEOS and how it counters threats. There is a mini drome planetarium and several telescopes (only in use in the winter). Conducted tours only, no unaccompanied access. Knighton, Powys LD7 1LW (///recapture.ally.bakers)

Wye Valley Visitor Centre with Wye Valley Butterfly Zoo and Hedge

spaceguardcentre.com

01547 520247

Puzzle - walk among butterflies from all over the world and see them supping nectar, finding mates and laying eggs. The Hedge Puzzle next door is great family fun and travel writers rate it a British must-see attraction.

Symonds Yat, HR9 6DA (///childcare.desire.permit) butterflyzoo.co.uk 01600 890360

HISTORIC CHURCHES AND ABBEYS

There are so many to choose from but here are some of our favourites:-

All Saints' Church, Brockhampton (1902) - was designed and built by William Lethaby, one of the leading lights of the Arts & Crafts Movement. Grade I listed in recognition of its architectural importance, Pevsner wrote it was 'one of the most impressive and convincing churches of its date in any country'. It was commissioned and privately funded by Alice Foster, of Brockhampton Court, in memory of her parents Ebenezer and Julia Jordan of Boston, Massachusetts. A small replica of the church can be found at the top of the Monterey Grasmere Hotel skyscraper in Osaka, Japan - used as an Englishstyle wedding venue! Brockhampton, HR1 4SD (///stormed.paradise.publisher) allsaintsbrockhampton.org 01989 740863

Church of St. Mary and St. David, Kilpeck - 'one of the most perfect Norman churches in England' Pevsner. There was a Saxon church on this site in 640 and it is thought this was built around 1140. Attributed to Herefordshire School of stonemasons, the elaborate, distinctly un-christian, Romanesque carvings were probably inspired by a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostella or by relics from the First Crusade. Similar carvings can be found in churches in Eardisley, Leominster and Castle Frome.

Kilpeck, HR2 9DN

(///.survivor.user. slant)

kilpeckchurch.org.uk

01981 570209

Dore Abbey - is one of the great medieval monasteries of Herefordshire, with probably the finest surviving Cistercian church in England. The Abbey is a major example of Norman and medieval monastic and church architecture in the country and one of the oldest buildings in Herefordshire still in use for its original purpose.

Dore Abbey, HR2 0AA (///commander.poetry.filled) doreaabbey.org.uk 01873 860644

St. Francis Xavier Church - another of Hereford's jewels, it is very close to Hereford Cathedral and sometimes overlooked. The general decorations of the church are by Joseph Hanson of Preston. It is of the Doric order of Greek architecture.

with a façade based on the Treasury of the Athenians at Delphi. The interior is that of a 'hall church' with an elegant coved ceiling and three square panels. The dome, which rises to 60 feet and decorated with 390 gold stars on a blue background, is inspired by the ceiling of the mausoleum of the Christian empress Galla Placidia in Ravenna. Broad Street, HR4 9AP (///craft.vocal.unrealistic) sfxhereford.org.uk

Shobdon Church - with its combination of English Rococo and Gothic architecture, it is a hugely important building with a direct connection to Walpole's Strawberry Hill. Twickenham and the 'Committee of Taste', which strongly influenced its rare Walpolean Gothic design. "...a wonderful building, of unique architectural interest and a treasure which we must preserve...". HRH The Prince of Wales (King Charles III) Shobdon, HR6 9LZ (///retained.kickbacks.data) shobdonchurch.org.uk 01568 708360

St. Catherine's, Hoarwithy - built in 1840 and 'beautified' by J.P. Seddon in 1854 in an Italianate Romanesque

and Byzantine style. It has special wood carved choir stalls, marble columns, mosaic floors and lapis lazuli and tiger-eye stones adorn the altar. Hoarwithy, HR2 6QQ (///firms.caked.tailwind)

WALKING

There is a multitude of walks to be found in the county. We have two of our own circular walks at Castle House, the **River Walk** and the **City Walk**, please ask reception for a leaflet or they may be downloaded from our website.

There are 15 mapped Circular Walks in the county ranging in distance from 2 to 10 miles; four are miles without stiles routes. Details may be found at herefordshire.gov.uk/circularwalks or the Tourism Centre has plenty of leaflets. We recommend The Hoarwithy Circular Walk (4.5miles), The Mordiford (4 miles), the Hereford City Sculpture Trail and the Garway Hill Circular Trail (3.7miles alltrails.com) Herefordshire Walking Festival is usually in June herefordshirewalkingfestival.co.uk 01432 383837

GETTING AROUND

Cycling - the Herefordshire countryside is ideal for those who enjoy cycling. There are miles of minor roads between villages and hamlets and many planned cycle routes. Pass by orchards, hop yards, undulating farmland, riverside meadows, no doubt a pub or tearoom enroute, as well as rural attractions and historic monuments. Contact Tourist information or Visit Herefordshire 01432 268430 for details/maps of cycle routes.

Beryl's Bikes - download the mobile app, choose the plan that best suits and pay as you ride. Parking bays are distributed throughout Hereford and clearly marked on the ground and on the app. Simply unlock, ride, park and lock. herefordcitylife.co.uk/stay/good-to-know/beryl-bikes

Herefordmove.org - Choose how you move; information for easy rides around the county.

Atlantis Taxis and Private Hire - is a company we highly recommend. 01432 353253

Hereford Bus and Coach Station
- routes to the Herefordshire
countryside and National Express

coaches go further afield.

Commercial Road, HR1 2BJ

(///ruins.pets.bossy)

nationalexpress.com

Hereford Railway Station - is managed by Transport for Y

is managed by Transport for Wales and the western terminus of the Cotswold line with good links to Ledbury, Malvern, Leominster, Ludlow, Shrewsbury, Abergavenny, Newport, London, Birmingham and Manchester.

Station Approach, HR1 1DA (///flood.first.narrow) tfw.wales

Morgan Motors - drive a Morgan sports car you can share or enjoy on your own. Hire for a day, overnight or a whole week to road trip around the UK. May be hired from the Malvern factory, Worcestershire, Biscester or London. The perfect gift or surprise! Malvern, WR14 2LL (///tapes.chair. spout) morgan-motor.com 01684 573104

Rural Concierge - based in Herefordshire, specialises in researching quality sightseeing itineraries, tours and talks. From coaches to chauffeur-driven cars, local buses and trains to bicycle hire, helicopter and now even ZOOM, your Rural Concierge arranges holidys and days out to suit any budget or experience! For details visit rural-concierge.co.uk or speak to founder Liz Hill 01432 370514 or 07966 378170

Shobdon Airfield - for flying lessons and training for EASA PPL, LAPL, Instrument & Night Ratings, Ground Schooling and Flight Instructor Courses.

Shobdon, HR6 9NR
(///scared.ribcage.cleans)
shobdonairfield.co.uk
01568 708369

Virgin Balloon Flights - green pastures, herds of famous cattle, orchards, quaint villages of black and white and brooding mountains to the west, all go to make a hot air balloon flight over Herefordshire an unmissable and unforgettable experience.

Visit hotairballoonflights.com/herefordshire

There are Music, Art, Craft, Food & Drink Festivals throughout the year, not least the Hay Literary Festival, Ledbury Poetry Festival and The Three Choirs Festival.

For details visitherefordshire.co.uk or eatsleepliveherefordshire.co.uk

MARKET TOWNS BORDERING HEREFORD

Hay-on-Wye - famous for its legendary bookshops and home to two international festivals. Great writers, thinkers, artists and musicians share ideas at the annual literary Hav Festival and eclectic How the Light Gets In. Apart from all the bookshops, we recommend visiting the restored 900 year old Hay Castle (HR3 5DG haycastletrust. org 01497 820097), Shepherds Ice Cream Parlour (HR3 5AE shepherdsicecream.co.uk 01497 821898) the family has been making sheep's icecream for over 30 years, The Great English Outdoors with ethically sourced products made from natural materials (HR3 5DF greatenglish.co.uk 01497 821205) hay-on-wye.co.uk

Ledbury - historic market town with cobbled lanes and lots of independent shops and galleries. We recommend visiting the Heritage Museum (HR8 1DN ledburyplaces. co.uk), Juice designer clothes,

bags and jewellery (HR8 1BN juicecollection.co.uk 01531 248250)
Ceci Paolo for food, fashion and flair (HR8 1DS cecipaolo.com 01531 632976) and carpet specialist, Roger Oates (Eastnor, HR8 1EL rogeroates. com 01531 632718).

Leominster - the largest of
Herefordshire's five market towns,
it has great antique shops. We
recommend visiting Leominster
Priory, HR6 8NH, art exhibitions
at Old Chapel Gallery (Pembridge
HR6 8HB) and Emily Jones' Studio
and see her Aladdin's Cave of
hand-painted china. (emilyjoneschina.
co.uk or call 01568 614843). We
highly recommend Newton Court
Café HR6 0PF (newtoncourtcider.
com 01568 611721). Just a 40
minute drive from us, there is also
a good train service from Hereford.

Ludlow - just over the border in Shropshire, we recommend visiting the medieval Ludlow Castle (SY8 1AY ludlowcastle.com 01584 873355) and St. Laurence's Church (SY8 1AN stlaurences.org.uk 01584 872073), Bill's Kitchen in the Assembly Rooms (SY8 1AZ billskitchen.uk 01584 877956) and Ludlow Racecourse (SY8 2BT

ludlowracecourse.co.uk 01584 856221) has some top notch national hunt racing. About an hour's drive away, there is also a good train service from Hereford.

Malvern - in Worcestershire, the quintessential spa town famed for its mineral springs from the Malvern Hills and annual RHS shows. About 40 minutes' drive from Hereford and a short train ride, we recommend visiting the Malvern Theatre (WR14 3HB malvern-theatres.co.uk 01684 892277) and the Morgan Car Company (WR14 2LL morganmotor.com 01684 573104). Hire car packages are available or take one of their up close and personal factory tours.

Ross-on-Wye - aka the 'birthplace of British tourism', the town is famous for its view of St. Mary's Church rising proud above the sprawling River Wye. We recommend the 16th century Market House, The Prospect Walk or Museum Without Walls, the chic emporium Baileys Home (HR9 6JU baileyshome.com 01989 561931), Rossiters independent book shop (HR9 5HL rossitersbooks. co.uk 01989 564464). More information visitrossonwye.com

SOME OF OUR FAVOURITE RESTAURANTS, PUBS AND CAFÉS

We recommend the following which are all within an easy walking distance from Castle House.

Bill's Kitchen - opened 25 years ago in the still functioning 11th century All Saints Church. No need to book, just turn up for simple, delicious and homemade food. Open 8am-4pm. Half price late lunch 3pm-4pm! High Street, HR4 9AA billskitchen.uk

Cotto - family-owned restaurant serving authentic Italian cuisine. Broad Street, HR4 9AP cottohereford.co.uk 01432 264836

Déjà Vu - restaurant and cocktail bar **St. Owen Street, HR1 2JB thedejavueffect.com 01432 674108**

De Koffie Pot - rustic riverside café with hearty and healthy food and a 'folksy feel'.

Bridge Street, HR4 9DG theleftbankvillage.co.uk 01432 357753 Gilbies Bar & Bistro - is hidden in a courtyard in the centre of the city. On offer are tasty tapas, a bistro menu, an extensive wine list and great cocktails

Commercial Street, HR1 2DL gilbies.co.uk

01432 277863

Jalsagor - regional Indian cooking including South Bengal dishes.
Dine in and take away
St. Owen Street, HR1 2PU jalsagoronline.co.uk
01432 343464

La Madeleine - is a family-run, French inspired café/bistro with a pretty garden. Church Street, HR1 2LR la-madeleine.co.uk 01432 265233

No 9 The Balcony - casual, stylish restaurant-come- brunch spot with a friendly atmosphere
Bewell Street, HR4 0BB no9thebalcony.co.uk
01432 261497

Ponte Vecchio - family-owned and run trattoria with Venetian cicchetti nibbles and tradition Italian dishes Bridge Street, HR4 9DF pontevecchiohereford.co.uk 01432 279714

Simply Thai Kitchen - newly-opened family-owned. Dine in or take away authentic Thai food.

St. Owen Street, HR1 2JB simplythaikitchen 01432 508078

The Barrels - just around the corner from us, this fun and easygoing pub serves the local Wye Valley Brewery ales. It has a pool table and large outside terrace usually full of locals from all walks of life.

St. Owen Street, HR1 2JQ wyevalleybrewery.co.uk 01432 274968

The Beefy Boys - casual dining restaurant specialising in burgers and sides (takeaway available)

Old Market, HR4 9HU

thebeefyboys.com

01432 359209

The Bookshop - modern British restaurant renowned for its burgers and steaks.

Aubrey Street, HR4 0BU thebookshophereford.com 01432 343443 **The Thai Gallery** - authentic family-owned Thai restaurant. Dine in and take away.

Broad Street, HR4 9AR thaigallery. co.uk
01432 277374

TAKE AWAY ONLY

Spice Minister - has an express kitchen takeway menu Widemarsh Street, HR4 9EU orderonline 01432 34421

Doughboy Pizzas - award winning Italian pizzas and dumplings. Dine in and take away.

Hereford, HR1 2SF dough-pizza.co.uk 01432 376885

CHAINS

Cosy Club - relaxed dining and drinking in a roomy, historic building that was the old Farmer's Club Widemarsh Street, HR4 9EP cosyclub.co.uk/hereford 01432 629031

Miller & Carter - caters ostensibly for steak lovers although there are other options on the menu.

Old Market, HR4 9HR millerandcarter. co.uk 01432 261309

01432 367808

Wagamama - Asian and Japanese inspired restaurant where dishes are whisked to long communal tables. Dine in and take away.

Old Market, HR4 9HR

wagamama.com

Wildwood - stylish, modern restaurant chain with European and international favourite dishes.

Old Market, HR4 9HR wildwoodrestaurants.co.uk 01432 808080

Zizzi - the Italian chain restaurant for pizza and calzone on wooden boards and lots of pasta.

Old Market, HR4 9HR zizzi.co.uk 01432 632228

La'De Kitchen Hereford for Turkish/Mediterranean cuisine. 20 Broad Street, HR4 9AP 01432 341333

COUNTRYSIDE RESTAURANTS AND PUBS

Pensons - a restaurant worth the hour or so drive from Hereford. Head Chef Chris Simpson has a Michelin Star for his sumptuous but simple cooking. Tenbury Wells, WR15 8RT (/// pounding.classic.nerd) pensons.co.uk 01885 410321

Riverside Inn - awarding-winning pub by the River Lugg. Aymestrey, HR6 9ST (///outbound.starfish.quote) riversideaymestrey.co.uk 01568 708440

The Cottage of Content - Helen and Richard are the charming and friendly owners of this cosy rural pub/restaurant serving local ciders and ales. Eat in or out in the pretty cottage garden. Richard is a supertalented chef and his menu is always mouthwatering!

Carey, HR2 6NG (///firelight.flames.await) cottageofcontent.uk 01432 840242

The Greenman - old country pub/ restaurant in a picturesque village with great menu and bar. Fownhope, HR1 4PE | (///farmed.marmalade.replaces) thegreenman.co.uk 01432 860243

The Loughpool - chef Paul Franklin and his wife Svenia own this black and white historic pub. Pretty beer garden and very friendly service.

Book early though!

Sellack, HR9 6LX

(///buffoon.rehearsal.taxpayers)

theloughpool.com

01989 730888

The Moody Cow - local beers and cider and hearty modern food in dog and child-friendly pub.

Upton Bishop, HR9 7TT (processor.prepare.rebounds) moodycowpub.com

01989 780470

The New Inn - is a former 16th century coaching inn, recently restored by a Herefordshire farming family! Roaring fires, a pretty garden and a seasonal menu featuring local producers.

St. Owen's Cross, HR2 8LQ (///extended.feasted.zealous) thenewinnherefordshire.co.uk 01989 553387

Under the Nut Tree - a unique dining experience in a beautiful location with wonderful hosts, Carolina and Simon, cooking and serving Australian BBQ-style firecooking or Italian fine dining, using the finest local meats and locally-sourced produce. BYO. Kentchurch, HR2 ODD (///finishing.riverbank.reward) underthenuttree.co.uk 07799 645491

HEREFORDSHIRE GOLF COURSES

Kington Golf Club - the highest golf course in England (up to 1,284 feet) and designated a top course by Golf World, among others. Expect to meet lots of sheep!

Kington, HR5 3RE (///star.scrolled.verbs) kingtongolf.co.uk 01544 230340

Ross-on-Wye Golf Club - a stunning woodland course designed in 1960 and a favourite with many golf lovers. Gorsley, HR9 7UT (///skirting.blend.vowed) therossonwyegolfclub.co.uk 01989 7203667

South Herefordshire Golf Club - a friendly welcoming club with an 18-hole Championship course, driving range, short games areas and a 9 hole par 3 course. Upton Bishop, HR9 7UA (///shackles.oxidation.ruffling) south-herefordshire.co.uk 01989 780535	FOR YOUR TRAVEL NOTES
The Herefordshire - established in 1896, it is the oldest golf club in the county. Designed by James Braid, the course has stunning views. If you are a resident at Castle House they will offer a good rate. Wormsley, HR4 8LY (///series.degrading.gifted) herefordshiregolfclub.co.uk 01432 830219	
The Rolls of Monmouth Golf Club - has a 6,733 yard Championship course in beautiful countryside with views of the Welsh hills. The club house is the former home of Charles Stewart-Rolls of Rolls-Royce fame. The Hendre, NP25 5HG (///myself.chart.inversely) therollsgolfclub.co.uk 01600 715353	



Castle House, Castle Street, Hereford HR1 2NW, UK | 01432 356321 | www.castlehse.co.ul