

While you are here . . .

Getting to Wallingford



- **Wallingford Castle.** Explore the site of one of England’s strongest and most important castles. Crumbling castle ruins, earthworks and ramparts set in beautifully managed gardens.
- **Agatha Christie.** Famous crime writer Agatha Christie lived for more than 40 years in Wallingford. A five mile circular walk takes in places linked to her life including her former house in Winterbrook and her grave in nearby Cholsey. The annual ‘Celebrating Agatha Christie’ weekend takes place in September. Visit: www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk for more information.
- **Wallingford Museum.** Find out more about Wallingford’s rich history, from Romans and Saxons and its important role in the Civil War to a Victorian street scene plus special annual exhibitions. The museum organises regular guided historic town walks. Visit www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk for more information and forthcoming dates
- **Wallingford History Walk.** Wallingford’s history on foot, from its Saxon heritage and historic churches, to important streets and industries. Download the MP3 from the website or pick up a leaflet.
- **Shopping.** Wallingford is well-renowned for its collection of independent shops and boutiques, selling everything including gifts, jewellery, antiques and trinkets.
- **Cholsey & Wallingford railway.** This heritage railway runs special theme days from its station in Hithercroft Road. Trains run on the ‘Bunk Line’ from Wallingford to the mainline station at Cholsey. For full details visit: www.cholsey-wallingford-railway.com.
- **Events.** Wallingford plays host to a variety of markets and events throughout the year including BunkFest - Wallingford’s Festival of Music, Dance & Steam, Vehicle Rally & Parade and the Christmas Festival. Visit: www.wallingford.co.uk/events for an up to date events calendar.

By car

Accessible from the M4, M40 and A34 main routes. Car parks are signposted within the town. If you’re travelling by car, head to the website to download a copy of the Midsomer Murders Driving Trails www.wallingford.co.uk/visitors



By train

Services are operated by Great Western Railway to the village of Cholsey (just over 2 miles away) and the mainline station of Didcot Parkway (6 miles). Frequent services to both stations from London Paddington, Reading and Oxford.

By bus

Served by local bus operator Thames Travel with regular services to and from Oxford, Reading, Henley and Didcot.

By air

Wallingford is located within an hour’s drive of Heathrow airport and within two hour’s drive of Gatwick, Luton and Stansted airports.

Where to stay

There are a number of hotels, B&Bs and guest houses plus camping and caravan sites near to Wallingford. To find out more, visit www.wallingford.co.uk/visitors or pop in to the Town Information Centre at the Town Hall.

For more information on things to see and local maps and leaflets visit Wallingford Town Information Centre, Town Hall, Market Place Wallingford OX10 0EG
T: 44 (0)1491 826972, E. tic@wallingfordtc.co.uk

www.wallingford.co.uk
www.visitmidsomer.com



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MIDSOMER MURDERS

Wallingford, the original Causton



Welcome to Wallingford, the original Causton

Fans of *Midsomer Murders* will recognise Wallingford as Causton, the capital of fictitious Midsomer County and the town where the show's main characters Detectives Barnaby and Troy work. Read on to find out more about Wallingford's main filming locations for fans of the series to follow in their footsteps.

As well as providing locations, our medieval market town has provided the cast too. Members of the Sinodun Players, Wallingford's amateur dramatics group, have taken part as supporting artists in crowd scenes and Wallingford Parish Choir has featured when the story involves the Midsomer Worthy Choir. Appearing in three episodes so far they have sung carols, won a choir competition, received death threats and witnessed unspeakable horrors!

Wallingford's Festival of Cycling in June 2015 played host to the filming of episode *Breaking the Chain* (series 18). Scenes of the actors racing through the streets were filmed in amongst actual competitive races.

Locations and Episodes

1 Market Place and Town Hall

The central point of Wallingford. Wherever you stand in the Market Place you will be looking at buildings seen in one of the programme's many episodes. This is where you will find the most used locations: the ancient Town Hall building, dating back to 1670, and the Corn Exchange.

The Market Place benches featured in the documentary programme *Map of Midsomer Murders* and were used by lead actor John Nettles as he described some of the times he has filmed in Wallingford.

Featured in the following episodes:

Death's Shadow (series 2): The vicar, played by Richard Briers, cycles across the Market Place to engage two actors in conversation

Strangler's Wood (series 2): Culley waits for her Father to bring tickets for the play at Causton Playhouse but, delayed, he sends Detective Troy instead. Barnaby also interrogates Culley about her friend Simon Fletcher in the same spot.



Breaking the Chain (series 18): Wallingford becomes the Midsomer village of Burwood Mantle and plays host to an international cycling competition. External filming for the cycle races took place in and around the town during an actual event - the Wallingford Festival of Cycling - in June 2015.



2 The Corn Exchange aka Causton Playhouse

Described by John Nettles as "A beautiful old theatre where many keys scenes were played out over the years" this Grade II listed building is run entirely by volunteers. They created a 176 seat auditorium from a derelict shell and now show theatre and film most nights each week.

Featured in the following episodes:

In Strangler's Wood (series 2): DCI Barnaby has to pull in favours to get theatre tickets he promised to daughter Culley.

Death of a Hollow Man (Series 1)

Death's Shadow (Series 2)

Death of a Stranger (Series 3)

3 Wallingford Bridge

The first stone bridge across the River Thames at Wallingford dates from the 13th century and some stonework remains from this time. Despite witnessing tolls, drawbridge, flood and plague during its existence, the bridge provides a grand entrance to the town.

Featured in the following episodes:

Death's Shadow (series 2): DCI Barnaby is seen driving daughter Culley across Wallingford Bridge. It forms part of a sequence which leads on to The Town Hall.

4 Lifestyle Loves, 35 St Martin's Street

This is one of Wallingford's small independent retailers selling a range of gifts, lifestyle products and homewares.

Featured in the following episodes:

Small Mercies (series 12): the shop was transformed into the Browse A While gift shop.