# WELCOME

Thame is a thriving, award winning market town, perfectly situated in beautiful South Oxfordshire, with Oxford and the Chiltern Hills within easy reach.



The town has a rich history deriving from Anglo-Saxon roots; ancient medieval buildings mingle with those dating from the Tudor, Georgian and Victorian eras, right through to the modern day.

Over the years, Thame has developed its own strikingly individual character complete with an iconic boat-shaped high street, testifying to its origins as a bustling marketplace.

Thame's 800-year-old market continues weekly and is complemented by speciality markets that visit the town throughout the year.



#### **TRAILS**

There is an abundance of excellent walking, cycling and historical trails in and around Thame



### Historic Walking

**Trails.** Three historic trails, each taking 1–1.5 hours, will allow you to explore Thame's past.

#### **Commemorative Plaques Trail**

Discover the famous people connected to Thame, including James Figg the first bare–knuckle boxing champion of England, W.B. Yeats, Henry Boddington and Alfredo Campoli.



#### **Walking Trails**

Thame offers a selection of walks from the town centre out to surrounding villages, ranging from 2–6 miles that allow you to explore the beautiful English countryside around the town; an 'Outer Circuit' – an approximately 20 mile circular walk through the Oxfordshire countryside surrounding Thame, with linking routes allowing exploration of shorter sections, and a 4 mile 'Inner Circuit' making use of existing paths, pavements, tracks and trails within the town.



#### **Public Art Trails**

Shorter interactive trails, best enjoyed with a phone enabled with a QR code reader. Each trail brings to life different elements of Thame's heritage and history.

All trails are available as leaflets from the Town Hall Information Centre, or online via thametowncouncil.gov.uk/visit-thame/town-trails





#### **INFORMATION CENTRE**

Located inside Thame Town Hall is the Information Centre, where our friendly and helpful team have the latest details about our town and are available to answer your questions.

#### What you can do at the Information Centre:

Pick up leaflets about Thame and the surrounding areas to make the most of your visit. Purchase tickets for the latest Thame Players show at Thame Players Theatre Box Office.

Book tickets (and join the start point) for the Midsomer Murders Tours of Thame.



Get information about local transport.

Opening times can be found at **thametowncouncil. gov.uk/visit-thame/information-centre** 

#### **EVENTS**

There is always something going on in Thame including local fairs and speciality markets, food festival, music, theatre & arts events, annual carnival and duck race, street fun fairs, charity events and our Christmas Light Switch on. With such a full calendar of events there is bound to be something to enjoy when you are here. Discover what's on by visiting thametowncouncil.gov.uk/community/festivals-and-events







# The historic market town of Thame is a great place to visit

There is an exciting calendar of events; walks that explore heritage, history, nature and our links to Midsomer Murders; as well as a vibrant town centre featuring a museum, theatre, independent shops, restaurants and pubs.

#### **Getting here**

Thame has excellent road links to Oxford (A418), Aylesbury (A418) and Bicester (B4011), and to London and Birmingham by the M40 motorway. It is also well linked by bus direct to the town and train to Haddenham & Thame Parkway Station, 2 miles from Thame.

Links to current services and to information about where to park when you come to Thame can be found at **thametowncouncil. gov.uk/visit-thame/getting-here.** 







#### **Thame Leaflets:**

Historic Town Trail 1
Historic Town Trail 2

Historic Town Trail 3

Murders Trail
Commemorative

**Plaques Trail** 

Midsomer

Local Walking Guide

Thame Outer Circuit
Thame Inner Circuit

Cuttle Brook Nature Reserve

**Public Art Trails** 

Leaflet designed by **Sam Osborne**With support from **Thame Town Council**, **Thame Green Living**, and **Thame and Wheatley Ramblers**.



#### **MIDSOMER MURDERS**



Thame is one of the most frequently used filming locations for the popular ITV series Midsomer Murders, with 23 filming locations. The town appears as Causton, as well as one of many other villages in the fictional county of Midsomer.

## You can experience Midsomer in Thame in the following ways:

- Join the weekly Guided Walking Tour that takes place regularly between April and October, starting outside the Town Hall. To secure your place on this limited-numbers tour, tickets can be bought in advance from ticketsource.co.uk/thamemidsomer or from Thame Town Hall Information Centre. Alternatively, you can arrange a bespoke tour by emailing thamemidsomertours@gmail.com.
- Pick up a trail leaflet from the Information Centre and do a self-guided tour
- Head to 8 Upper High Street to visit
   Rumsey's Chocolaterie (a filming
   location) where you can buy a Midsomer
   Lollipop
- Take a Midsomer selfie outside the Town Hall - ask for the Causton Town Hall sign in the Information Centre and place it over the Town Hall sign
- Purchase Midsomer themed books and gifts at the Information Centre and museum.

Visitor Guide

# THAME

Town centre map included



#### 💶 ST MARY'S CHURCH

A large historic parish church built c.1242 with many alterations. It is has a number of interesting features, including a wall painting, tombs and monuments, including one of Lord Williams and several picturesque gargoyles and corbels.

In the ancient churchyard is the grave of Robin Gibb, from Bee Gees fame, who used to live in The Prebendal, found behind the church in Priestend. Priestend leads to a bridge that takes you over the 'dark flowing' river from which the town takes its name.



#### **3** TOWN HALL

St Josep Church

Located in the heart of the town, the Town Hall is Grade II listed, built in 1887 to commemorate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. Today it is the location of an Information Centre, and regularly hosts arts & craft fairs, and community activities.



Thame's 800-year-old weekly Tuesday market, held in the town's Upper High Street Car Park, continues to offer a vibrant display of fruit, vegetables, meat and bread, alongside clothing, gifts and household goods. It is joined by a Local Produce Market on the second Tuesday of each month, and is complemented by speciality markets that visit the town throughout the year. Find out more: thametowncouncil.gov.uk/ visitthame/a-market-town



#### MEMORIAL GARDENS

Take some time out and enjoy the peace in our Memorial Gardens. Former Prime Minister Lloyd George unveiled the War Memorial here in 1921.

dig in Thame.

New to the museum is a permanent display gallery dedicated to the 20th century music icons, the Bee Gees, that is filled

The museum also has a large photographic collection that provides an intriguing overview of Thame's history, and runs an active programme of talks and





(Dorchester Place)

**Southern Road** car park

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The only dedicated theatre serving the town and surrounding areas. Owned and run by Thame Players Theatre Company, a lively, successful amateur dramatics group. It has a consistently good track record as a first class venue for live performances and cinema.

The theatre's varied programme includes plays, comedy and pantomime. Visiting shows include musical performances, comedy acts and celebrity appearances. Regular film screenings are hosted by Thame Cinema for All, with children's films being delivered in partnership with the Red Kite Family Centre. www.thameplayers.co.uk



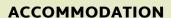
#### **SHOPPING**

Thame's streets host a great variety of shops, cafes and restaurants. What truly makes a shopping experience in Thame unique are the many independent businesses that choose to call Thame 'home'. Jewellers, gift shops, arts & craft galleries, clothes and accessories boutiques, a unique bookshop, florists, beauty clinics, homewares and a fantastic toy shop.

#### **FOOD & DRINK**

If you love food, then a short stroll around Thame town centre will set your taste buds tingling as you come face to face with delicious

artisan bakers, delicatessens and butchers, plus several eateries that focus on seasonal and local produce. Full listings: thametowncouncil. gov.uk/visit-thame/eat-drink-shop



If you are looking for somewhere to stay in or around Thame there are different options from hotels to B&Bs, self-catering accommodation to campsites. Browse listings:

thametowncouncil.gov.uk/ visit-thame/accommodation



#### **7** CUTTLE BROOK NATURE **RESERVE**

This unique piece of 'semi-wild' countryside free from roads is just a few minutes walk from Thame town centre. The site is home to a rich diversity of wildlife and has thirty acres of mixed meadows, woodland, sedge and reed beds, hedges, trees, riverbanks and scrubland. Meandering right through the reserve is a tributary of the River Thame called the 'Cuttle Brook', which springs to life in the Chilterns. A quick, circular walk can take just twenty minutes. If you have an hour or more, there's a network of paths with plenty to see, and it's different every time you visit.

cuttlebrook.org.uk







**Cattle Market** 

**Car Park** 

**Thame** 

Cornmarket

Monteson





with artefacts, photographs and other memorabilia from the personal archive of Robin's widow, Dwina.



Christchurch

Memorial Gardens

irmuummin

Allotments