



Tour Information



Arts & Crafts in the Cotswolds

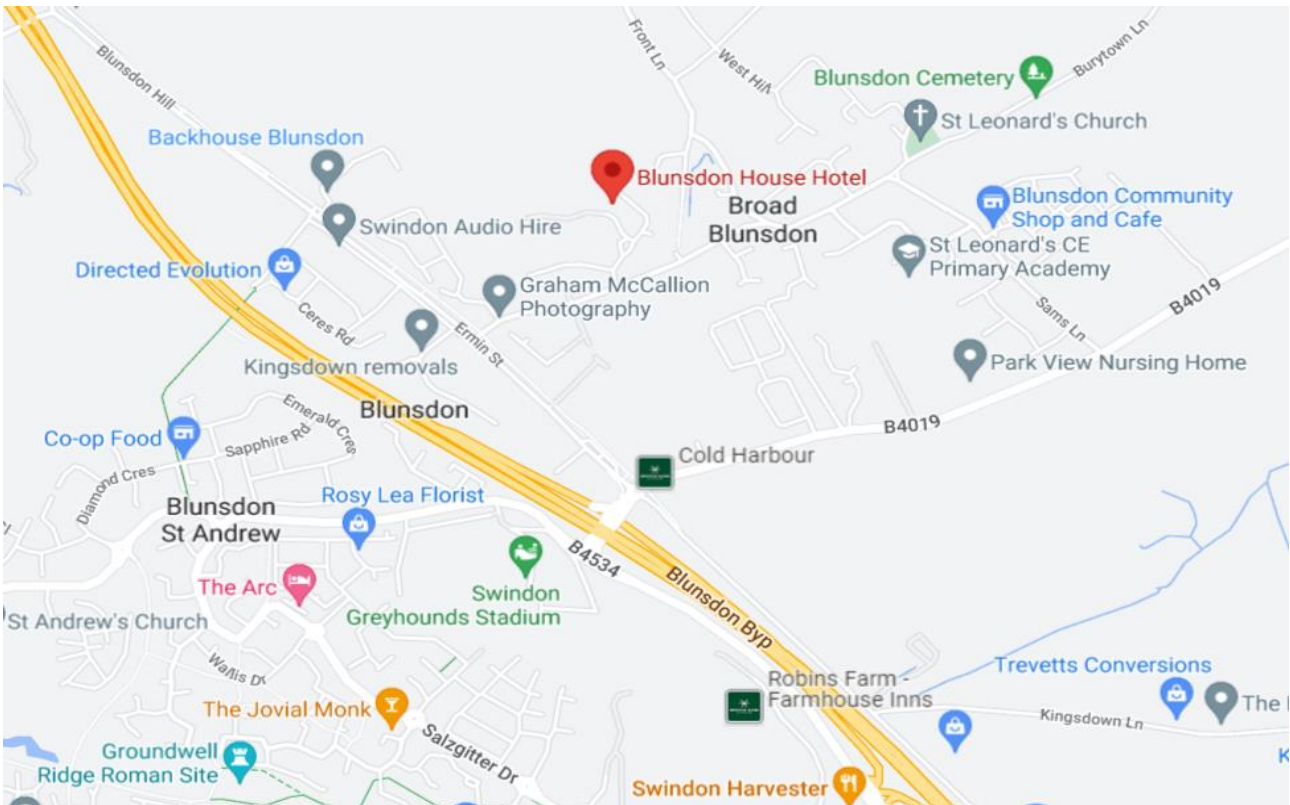




The tour commences and concludes at the **Blunsdon House Hotel, Swindon**.

The Ridge
Blunsdon
Swindon, SN26 7AS
England
Tel: 01793 721701

Please note that transport to the hotel is not included in the price of the tour.



Transport

If you are travelling by car:

From the South: Leave the M4 at junction 15 and take the A419 north for approx. 6 miles. Leave the A419 at Turnpike junction and turn right at the traffic lights signposted Highworth / Blunsdon (B4019). After 300 yards turn right at the lights signposted B4019 and continue over the bridge. At the mini roundabout turn left for Blunsdon, then right into the village. The hotel is situated on the left just off the High Street.

From the North: Leave the M5 at junction 11a and follow the A417 / A419 for Cirencester / Swindon. Continue along the dual carriageway and after approx. 26 miles leave the A419 signposted for Swindon N & W. Turn left at the top of the slip road and then left at the mini roundabout for Blunsdon, then right into the village. The hotel is situated on the left just off the High Street.

If you are travelling by train: The nearest train station is Swindon – 5 miles away.



Accommodation

Blunsdon House Hotel

Located on the edge of the Cotswolds in the village of Broad Blunsdon near Swindon, the four-star family owned Blunsdon House Hotel offers comfortable, individually decorated and tastefully furnished bedrooms with en-suite bathroom, TV, mini bar, safe and tea & coffee making facilities in the room. Other facilities at the hotel includes two restaurants, bar, and a health and leisure club including gym and swimming pool. Complimentary on-site parking is available at the hotel.

More information can be found via the hotel's website: <http://www.blunsdonhouse.co.uk/>

Check-in and departure from the hotel

On the day of arrival, you will be able to check-in at the hotel from 15.00, and the tour manager will meet you in the evening at the welcome reception.

On the last day, the tour will not finish until approximately 16.30/17.00 so you should check with your tour manager, or the hotel reception, where luggage should be stored until your departure.

Extra nights

If you have booked to stay an extra night at the hotel, this is on bed and breakfast basis and check out from the hotel is at 11.00.

Dining

On the first night, dinner with wine is provided at the hotel and included in the price of the tour. For the remainder of your stay, dinner will be provided in the hotel restaurant. Breakfast on all days of your stay is included in the price plus two light lunches, but meals other than these stated are not included.

Special requests

If you haven't already done so, please notify Travel Editions of any special requests as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements.



Places Visited

The Wilson, Cheltenham

The Wilson, Cheltenham's Art Gallery and Museum was first opened in 1899 after the third Baron de Ferrieres, a former Mayor and MP for Cheltenham gave 43 important paintings, mostly from Belgium and the Netherlands to the town together with £1000 towards the building of the gallery. Fast forward a few years to 1905 and the premises next door to the Art Gallery became available and the museum expanded into the space where the collection grew in number and quality, with the majority generously given by the people of Cheltenham. After a couple more expansions over the years the biggest came in 1989 when HRH The Princess Royal opened another extension, and this is the building in which the main entrance today is still located. In 2013 the Art Gallery and Museum had a major new build with the building designed by architect Berman Guedes Stretton which included four new floors which house a gallery dedicated to the gallery's fine art collection, space to discover more about local heroes, a Arts & Crafts gallery showcasing the world-renowned designed collection, and two temporary exhibition galleries for showing national and international touring shows.

The Wilson holds an internationally important collection of the British Arts & Crafts Movement inspired by William Morris which spans the 1880s to around 1940. The collection provides an insight into one of the most influential art movements though items of furniture, silver and other metalwork, jewellery, pottery, plasterwork, leatherwork, private press books, textiles and important archives. The collection has a strong local base featuring work by designers such as C.R. Ashbee and Ernest Gimson. Since the 1970s the collection has been developed to give a national overview with work by William Morris, C.F.A Voysey, M.H Baillie Scott, Eric Gill and many others.

For more information on The Wilson please visit the website:

<https://www.cheltenhammuseum.org.uk/>

Cotswold Farm

Owned by the Birchall family Cotswold Farm is an historic Arts & Crafts house located 5 miles north of Cirencester with extensive views towards the Marlborough Downs. The house was originally a small stone-built farmhouse with cart shed and cow shed forming a small farmyard. In 1900 the house doubled in size and in 1926 the architect Sidney Barns alongside his assistant, Norman Jewson, extended the house adding two wings in the Arts & Crafts style for the Birchall family.

The garden is also styled in the beautiful Arts & Crafts style on descending levels with terraces designed by Norman Jewson. Enclosed by Cotswold stone walls the garden has all year-round interest. The top terrace is laid out with geometric beds with a rectangular lily pond in the centre, while the beds are planted with colourful low growing herbaceous plants. Steps lead down to the more informal shrub garden as well as there also being a winter step garden, knot garden and the magical bog garden with streams and waterfalls.

For more information on Cotswold Farm please visit the website:

<http://www.cotswoldfarmgardens.org.uk/>

Rodmarton Manor

Rodmarton Manor is an excellent example of a house built and all its furniture made according to the Arts & Crafts ideals and was one of the last country houses to be built and furnished in the old traditional style when everything was done by hand with local stone, local timber and local craftsmen. Built by Ernest Barnsley, who was a follower of William Morris, he built the house for Claud and Margaret Biddulph between 1909 and 1929 and today it is the home of John and Sarah Biddulph and their family – the fourth and fifth generations of the Biddulph's to live in the house.

The house also boasts 8-acres of Cotswold gardens which were designed originally as a series of outdoor rooms and are still the same today. There is a wide selection of planting that has been done over the years with superb vistas and views throughout the garden and plenty of places to sit and admire the view. The garden was also drawn up by Ernest Barnsley as he was designing the house, and it is still his layout which survives in the garden today.

For more information on Rodmarton Manor please visit the website:

<https://rodmarton-manor.co.uk/>

All Saints, Selsley

All Saints in Selsley was originally designed by GF Bodley and was the first ecclesiastical commission for Morris and Co. and uniquely is the only church in Britain to have all its windows designed by Morris and his colleagues. A standout feature of the church is the series of three large windows along the south side of the nave which flood the space with light. Uncoloured glass admits this light and contrasts with rich colours in the three triptychs: the Sermon on the Mount by Dante Gabriel Rossetti, St Paul preaching at Athens by William Morris and Christ Blessing the Children by Edward Burne-Jones. The Rose window above the west door of the church depicts scenes from the Creation that include a richly colour Adam and Eve that is considered to be on of the best small-scale designs in stained glass by William Morris.

For more information on All Saints Church please visit the website:

<https://allsaintsselsley.org.uk/>

St Kenelm's Church, Sapperton

Sitting in a charming Cotswold village St Kenelm's Church is a wonderful example of early Georgian design with vast windows overlooking the churchyard. It is renowned for its collection of ornate memorials dating from the 15th and 16th centuries. The chancel houses several 17th century wall tablets and one date 1584 which was made for the Poole family. The village of Sapperton was closely associated with the Arts & Crafts movement and the cemetery has the graves of Ernest and Sidney Barnsley as well as Emery Walker.

For more information on St Kenelm's Church please visit the website:

<https://www.visitchurches.org.uk/visit/church-listing/st-kenelms-church-sapperton.html>

Your Guides

Your guide, **Prof. Anne Anderson**, author, broadcaster, lecturer and Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, was a senior lecturer at Southampton Solent University for 14 years, specialising in the Arts & Crafts, Art Nouveau and Modernism. Anne's career as an international speaker has taken her all over the world and her TV credits include the BBC's *Flog It!*. Anne has received a rapturous response from our customers at the many Travel Editions UK lectures and tours as well as a host of tours overseas and her knowledge, wit and enthusiasm bring her beloved subjects to life in whatever location she finds them.



Dr Scott Anderson is a University Senior Lecturer in the History of Art and Design and is an Honorary Fellow of the National Association of Valuers and Auctioneers. He is a specialist in Victorian and Edwardian art, architecture and antiques and is a consultant expert for the BBC2 *Flog It!* programme. Scott is an Arts Society lecturer and has lectured extensively to various societies, special interest groups and educational groups throughout Britain. He has extensive tour guiding experience in Britain, European locations such as Nancy, Paris, Berlin, Vienna and New York.

Anne will give the following talks during the tour:

"Arts & Crafts in the Cotswolds"

"Inventing the Cotswold Style: Gimson and the Barnsleys"

Practical Information

Tour manager - Your tour manager will be on hand throughout the tour to ensure that everything operates according to plan. If you have any problems or questions, please see him or her immediately – it is often possible to resolve complaints or problems very quickly on the spot and do everything to help you enjoy your holiday.

Tipping –To keep our tours affordable, we do not increase the tour price by adding in tips. However, in the tourism industry, there is a certain level of expectation that when receiving a good service, one does award with a tip. Tour Managers, Representatives, Guides and Drivers appreciate a tip at the end of their involvement with the tour, but this is entirely at your discretion. We believe in allowing you to tip according to your level of satisfaction with their services.

Walking Grading – This tour has been graded as **Moderate**: Walking between sites, lots of standings for viewing etc.



Insurance

Although this is a UK holiday, please note that, should you cancel your holiday, the amount paid is non-refundable. For this reason, you may wish to take out insurance just in case an unforeseen event caused you to have to cancel the tour. As well as covering cancellations, your travel insurance will also cover your baggage and personal belongings in case they are lost or stolen.



Emergencies

Should an emergency arise, please call our offices on:

020 7251 0045

Outside office hours (Mon-Fri 0900-1700), telephone our emergency staff on:

07841 023807 or 07831 133079

PLEASE USE THESE NUMBERS ONLY IN THE EVENT OF A GENUINE EMERGENCY.

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