

## HUNGERFORD

Hungerford is a Saxon name meaning 'Hanging Wood Ford' and located in the stunning Berkshire countryside. The town has two rivers flowing through it The River Kennet and The River Dun but despite these two rivers the main waterway through the town is the Kennet and Avon Canal. The Kennet Avon Canal weaves it's way through spectacular scenery between the Thames and the Bristol Avon. Reopened by the Queen in 1990 the canal is fast becoming one of Britain's favourite waterways. With an excellently maintained towpath it is an ideal base for exploring by boat, bike or on foot.

The North Wessex Downs is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty so why not moor up and explore the stunning scenery. The extensive rights of way allows you access to some of the most spectacular views and secluded valleys in southern England. Explore the area on a bike and enjoy the sense of isolation as you pass through lovely unspoilt villages.

Crofton Pumping Station - Built in 1807 to provide water to the summit of the Kennet and Avon Canal. Visitors have access to all parts of the station, and when it is in steam, can experience close up the sounds and smell of these wonderful relics of the past. The former boiler house is now home to Engineman's Rest Café where locally prepared hot and cold food is available.

Great Bedwyn - take a gentle walk to Great Bedwyn where you will find the local bakery, which sells its own freshly made bread. The village of Great Bedwyn, which is in an area of outstanding natural beauty, also has a village shop, post office and two pubs. For over 200 years there has been a working stone masons yard in the area visit the small museum which demonstrates the craft of Stone masonry. View the many exhibits of all form of stone work and search for the hidden stonemasons signs.

Pewsey - take a gentle stroll by the canal along the towpath to Pewsey and watch the canal boats make their way sedately along the waters. Visit the Heritage Centre for an interesting insight to the social, agricultural and industrial aspects of rural England over the past 150 years. View the Pewsey White Horse, this horse was cut in 1937 the Pewsey Fire Brigade to commemorate the coronation of George VI.

Kintbury - In this charming village a horse-drawn barges provide pleasure trips for visitors along the Kennet and Avon Canal. The two hour trip takes you through the quiet, tranquil and beautiful Berkshire countryside. Order yourselves a Pimms or a cold beer from the on board bar and sit, relax and enjoy the peace and quiet.

Avebury - Visit the nearby world famous Avebury Stone Circle one of Europe's largest prehistoric stone circles and walk within these fantastic monuments. The Museum Galleries tell the story of the stone circle and the sites restaurant serves a good selection of specialised dishes.

Hungerford is famous for it's antique shops and there is sure to be something for everyone at Hungerford Arcade which trades from an ancient building in the centre of town. With over 100 dealers under one roof the Arcade is laid out to resemble a street and has something to offer every visitor. Hungerford was once a coaching stop on the Old Bath Road and several coaching inns still remain offering a warm welcome and good service you will find a good selection of food on their menus and a fine array of real ales.