

PLACES TO VISIT IN CIRENCESTER

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Or visit Cirencester Town Council's website at www.cirencester.gov.uk



PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

MARKET PLACE ♦ OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (TIMES VARY)

THE PARISH CHURCH is one of the largest in the United Kingdom. From its founding in the late C12, the church was extended and embellished over more than three centuries, culminating in a complete rebuilding of the nave in the early C16. The works were funded through a range of benefactions, including merchants who had amassed wealth in the Cotswold wool trade. Of especial note is the south porch, 'the most splendid of all English church porches' (Pevsner). A protective coating was applied following its recent restoration, which accounts for the brighter hue.



CORINIUM MUSEUM

PARK STREET (GL7 2BX)

OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY 10AM-4PM, SUNDAY 2-4PM

THE CORINIUM MUSEUM presents a unique space for displaying nationally important collections. Visitors are able to trace the story of the Cotswolds with hands-on exhibits, computer interactive and room reconstructions. The juxtaposition of these techniques with objects brings the past to life for everyone from school children to grandparents.

NEW BREWERY ARTS

BREWERY COURT (OFF CRICKLADE STREET) ♦ ADMISSION FREE
OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY 9AM-5PM ♦ SUNDAY 10AM-4PM

NEW BREWERY ARTS is the Cotswolds' unique arts and crafts centre. Visitors are encouraged to browse around the studios to see the resident craft workers at work, who include wire weavers, glass blowing, ceramicist, weaver stained glass artist and many more. It also has a main gallery where it stages exhibitions of nationally recognised contemporary craft as well as sculpture and paintings. There are two further exhibition spaces showing the work of local artists and community groups.



HISTORIC DWELLINGS

COXWELL STREET (OFF DOLLAR STREET)
& THOMAS STREET

THIS AREA of Cirencester is considered by historians to contain more genuine survival than any other town in the Cotswolds. The dwellings in Coxwell Street, still occupied by townspeople, are a delightful jumble of vernacular cottages and more imposing structures. Thomas Street, adjoining, has historic buildings such as Monmouth House, whose origins go back to the C14. For a guide to the town's historic buildings, pick up a copy of Cirencester Civic Society's *Town Walk* leaflet (£1.20).

 DON'T MISS THE AIR RAID SHELTER AND WARTIME DISPLAY IN SHEEP STREET ♦ OPEN SUMMER SATURDAYS ♦ PICK UP A LEAFLET

OUT & ABOUT: ENJOY THE TOWN'S HISTORIC OPEN SPACES

ROMAN AMPHITHEATRE ♦ COTSWOLD AVE ♦ OPEN ALL YEAR

THE ROMAN AMPHITHEATRE is one of the best preserved in Britain (now grassed over). The large oval arena, with its twin entrances and sloping earthen banks, is plainly visible amongst the disturbed landscape of the Querns area, much used as a stone quarry throughout the Roman and later periods. The site is managed by Cirencester Town Council and is owned by English Heritage.



THE ABBEY GROUNDS

ENTRANCE IN WEST MARKET PLACE ♦ OPEN 9AM TILL DUSK

A BEAUTIFUL family-friendly open space (owned by Cirencester Town Council) behind the church in the centre of town. It often hosts family musical events. The grounds contain the site of St Mary's Abbey which was consecrated in 1176. The lake, wildfowl, trees and greenery form an impressive pastoral experience.

ST MICHAEL'S PARK

ENTRANCES IN KING STREET & ADMIRAL'S WALK (THE AVENUE)
OPEN 9AM TILL DUSK ♦ NO DOGS

ST MICHAEL'S PARK, owned by Cirencester Town Council, is a centre of leisure activities in the heart of the town. Visitors can enjoy tennis, mini golf, croquet, boules, a children's play area as well as barbecue facilities; or just sit and take in the beautiful surroundings. The Cabin, the Park's recently opened café, offers high-quality drinks and snacks.



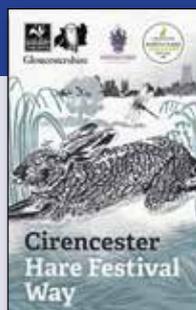
CIRENCESTER PARK

CECILY HILL ♦ OPEN 8AM TILL 5PM

A WONDERFUL tree-lined space stretching for five miles leading out into open countryside. Cirencester Park is open to the public courtesy of Earl Bathurst, whose ancestor, the first Earl, landscaped it during the Eighteenth Century. The main gates are at the top of Cecily Hill. Notice the impressive barracks building on the right (sometimes referred to as The Castle), built in 1857 to house the Royal North Gloucestershire Militia.

HARE FESTIVAL WAY

DEVELOPING out of the Cirencester March Hare Festival, this unusual walk was established by Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust in partnership with the Town Council. It follows the river Churn, connecting up the town's little known green areas and celebrating its natural and historical heritage.



LEAFLETS FOR SALE HERE: £2

RIVERSIDE WALK

JUNCTION OF PARK STREET & THOMAS STREET

RUNNING parallel to Cecily Hill is a tranquil pathway along the western edge of the town. This takes you past the seasonal open air pool, one of the oldest in the country, and continues along a former millpond that fed Barton Mill, possibly one of three local mills recorded in Domesday. The area is a haven for wildlife. An information panel sets out the history of the site.