

An enchanting village, steeped in history

The
Wickham
Pocket Guide



Places to visit • Shopping guide
Eating out • Places to stay • Beautiful walks



Wickham Parish Council



Winchester
City Council

Welcome to Wickham

Ancient history, intriguing shopping, quality produce, delicious dining, beautiful countryside and miles of walks and cycle rides; welcome to the stunning medieval village of Wickham.

Nestling in the heart of the picturesque Meon Valley countryside, yet just a stone's throw from the historic cities of Winchester and Portsmouth, Wickham has been a meeting point for people and commerce since Roman times.



Whilst Wickham has evolved, its charm has remained constant. The handsome Square is at the heart of this historic Hampshire village, always alive with residents and visitors, and a great place to explore.

If time allows, a meander along the historic Meon Valley Trail is a relaxing way to work up an appetite so that your day can be made complete by dining in one of our many excellent eateries.



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Formerly spelt 'Wykeham', the village's name derives from the Anglo-Saxon 'wic', meaning 'creek', and 'ham', meaning 'home', suggesting that the earliest settlers were attracted to the location as it featured a ford which crossed the River Meon. A 'dip hole' with steps down to the river, which enabled villagers to draw water, can still be seen in Bridge Street.

Wickham is mentioned in the Royal Charter of 826, when a Saxon settlement was thought to be well established on the east side of the river. By 1086 Wickham was deemed significant enough to feature in the Domesday Book and in 1269, the Lord of the Manor was given the rights to hold a market and a fair here. The Square, still a thriving centre of trade, preserves its medieval characteristics - many buildings have narrow frontages on long plots of land.

River, road and rail links have all played a major part in the village's continuing development, firmly cementing it as a centre of commerce. A major crossing point between two Roman roads (from Winchester in the west to Chichester in the east, and from Portchester to Southampton), historians remain divided as to whether there was actually a Roman settlement here. The branch railway, opened in 1903, linked London with the Isle of Wight and local strawberry growers used the line to send their best fruit to London. Closed in 1955, the disused track now forms part of the Meon Valley Trail (see page 6).

No history of Wickham can be complete without a mention of the village's most famous resident, William of Wykeham, who was born just outside of Wickham in 1320. Twice Lord Chancellor and also a Bishop of Winchester, William is credited with being the founder of Winchester College and New College Oxford, as well as building a significant part of Windsor Castle.

More details of Wickham's fascinating past can be found at www.wickhamsquare.co.uk/about-wickham

1 Wickham Square



The magnificent Wickham Square is one of the largest in the country, covering almost two acres. On arrival, look up to take in the wonderfully erratic roofline. This gives you a glimpse of the historical context of this pretty village before you go on to take in its tapestry of diverse architecture at street level. From 15th century cottages to beautifully preserved examples of majestic Georgian houses, first time visitors are always impressed by the architectural details that await them on a stroll around this handsome Square. See pages 8-15 to find out more about the superb array of shops and eateries in The Square.

2 Wickham Water Meadows



These naturally formed water meadows, covering an area of approximately eight acres, form a tranquil oasis in the middle of the village. Owned by the Lord of the Manor until the early part of the 20th century, the water meadows were historically used for cattle grazing. Thanks to the foresight and hard work of local residents and volunteers the area has been transformed into a peaceful place to walk, picnic or simply spend some time by the water's edge complete with a new bridge across the River Meon, footpaths, benches and a picnic area.

3 St Nicholas Church



Dating back to 1120, this delightful brick and flint church is thought to stand on the site of an earlier chapel, and sits on a very large, almost circular, sacred mound. The church has been extended several times and underwent significant restoration in the late 19th century – so although the interior is largely Victorian, there is a distinct array of much older features. These include the Norman west door with its unusual zigzag arch, stained glass windows and the impressively detailed alabaster and marble tomb of Sir William Uvedale. Uvedale was treasurer of the King's Privy Chamber and Sheriff of Hampshire and died in 1615. For more details on the church visit: www.stnicholaswickham.org.uk.

4 Chesapeake Mill



If you've an eye for a bargain, or you simply like to browse, make sure you allow an hour or so to visit Chesapeake Mill. A fascinating link to Hampshire's maritime history, this extraordinary Grade II* listed mill, built in 1820, incorporates timber from the US Frigate Chesapeake, captured by the British HMS Shannon in 1813. A working mill for much of its life, this grand building is now filled to the brim with exclusive collections of antiques, home furnishings, art and jewellery, as well as a tea room and much more. In fact, you never know quite what you will find. See page 12 for opening times. For more details visit: www.chesapeakemill.co.uk or call 01329 834 078.

Wickham is a little paradise for those who enjoy getting out and about as it is surrounded by some of the most beautiful countryside in Hampshire. There are many walking, cycling and riding trails that take you through woods, fields and water meadows. So why not have a meander around the Meon Valley and see what you discover?

The Meon Valley Trail



© Cloudzilla @ Flickr

Wickham marks the start of the much loved Meon Valley Trail which stretches north for nine miles along the route of the old Meon Valley Railway, towards the village of West Meon. Here it connects with the South Downs Way and Wayfarers' Walk, enabling you to create an extended circular route.

The route is level and passes by various hamlets and country pubs making it a path to be enjoyed at any pace. Park in Station Close car park for fast access to the trail and additional facilities. For details of the Meon Valley Trail visit www.winchester.gov.uk/trailsonline

The Wickham Wander



For walkers, why not try this circular route of about five miles which takes in both local woodland and a visit to Wickham's historic St Nicholas church? Park in Station Close car park for access to the walk. Further facilities and a picnic area are available en route courtesy of

the Forestry Commission. The Wickham Wander is featured in Winchester City Council's Meon Valley churches trail leaflet - downloadable from www.tinyurl.com/pa5l4fs

© Forestry Commission

North Fields



This countryside trail will take you on a circular route to the north of Wickham. Reasonably level, it takes about an hour and a half but may be heavy going for pushchairs and wheelchairs. A great route for cyclists. Park in the Community Centre car park to begin the route. For details and a map visit: www.tinyurl.com/qd5pa2r

The Meadows Meander



Allow an hour and a half for this level walk, which takes in the scenic water meadows as well as views of a local vineyard. A picnic area is situated by the water meadows to allow you to take in the scenery before returning to The Square. Some steep steps in the water meadows can be avoided by finishing the walk via Wickham Square. Park in Station Close car park. For details and a map visit: www.tinyurl.com/npp6dqm

Heytesbury Farm Ramble



A circular path which explores the terrain to the South of Wickham, this walk is approximately three miles long and takes in woodland, farmland and rural lanes as well as urban roads. Park in the Recreation Ground car park for access to the walk. For details and a map visit: www.tinyurl.com/osurvjd



© Paul Carter



© Paul Carter



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Wickham offers shopping as it used to be – just enough, but not too much. A wander around the village is a refreshingly different experience. You will find a collection of enticing, independent shops alongside some more familiar names and traditional stores that have been serving local residents and visitors for generations. Once The Square's delights have been discovered, no one with an eye for a bargain should leave Wickham without a visit to Chesapeake Mill on Bridge Street.

Bay Tree Gifts / PARUA

5

Bay Tree Walk, The Square, Wickham
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Warwick Lane

6

The Square, Wickham
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Gifts, household items, antiques market, fashion, hair salon and art gallery are just some of the many shops and services that await you on two levels, in the quaint Edwardian shop fronted shopping centre. Browse the shops at your leisure, and relax in the café for coffee and lunch.

www.warwicklane.co.uk

Tull's Fine Foods

7

The Square, Wickham, PO17 5JG
Tel: 01329 833 176



Welcome to Tull's, a friendly, traditional butcher with a great range of locally sourced, high quality free-range meat. Our experienced staff are happy to help you with whatever you need from every day traditional cuts to something for a special occasion.

Opening times:

Mon: 07:30-13:00

Tues-Fri: 07:30-17:15

Sat: 07:00-16:00

Sun: 10:00-16:00

www.tullsfinefoods.co.uk

Confiserie Verdonk

8

Baytree Walk, The Square, Wickham
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The Wickham Chocolate Shop
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confiserieverdonk@hotmail.co.uk

Bay Tree Walk

9

The Square, Wickham
Tel: 01329 835495



For over a quarter of a century Bay Tree Walk has provided shops and services for locals and visitors alike. The shops inside the walk consist of a beauty & hair salon, speciality chocolate, gifts and parua, soft furnishings and furniture, collectables and trinkets in cabinets and a tea room.

www.baytreewalk.co.uk

Heming & Co

10

The Square, Wickham PO17 5JT
Tel: 01329 833144



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11

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Mon – Sat: 10:00 – 17:00

Sun & Bank Holidays 11:00 – 16:00

www.jadorelamaison.co.uk

Wonky Pot Tea & Herb Company

12

13 The Square, Wickham,
Hampshire, PO17 5JG
Tel: 01329 833920



Diane & Kate invite you to explore their emporium of original recipe loose-leaf teas & culinary delights. We offer an extensive range of traditional and exotic herbs & spices alongside artisan food, ingredients and much more. We supply beautiful teaware and kitchenware to compliment these wonderful goodies. Daily tasters and samples.

www.wonkypot.com

Biscoes

13

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15

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& Tailoring

16

2 The Square, Wickham
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- Upholstery & carpet cleaning
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- Specialist wedding dress, bridesmaid & prom dress cleaning
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www.crestdrycleaning.co.uk

Baytree Beauty &
Hair Salon

17

Baytree Walk, The Square, Wickham
Hampshire PO17 5JQ
Tel: 01329 836677



Baytree Beauty is more than just a local beauty & hair salon. We aim to meet all your individual requirements in a sophisticated environment - using carefully selected, top of the range products to guarantee the best in treatments. Whats more, with our online booking system you can make an appointment any time of day or night 24/7.

www.baytreebeauty.co.uk

Louise Oram, Sports
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18

The Square, Wickham, PO17 5JT
Tel: 07770 880546

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Sports Massage Therapist.
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More info online

Visit Wickham Square
www.wickhamsquare.com

Nouveau Architecture

19

The Square, Wickham, Hampshire
Tel: 07775 772172

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Chris & Alicja

www.nouveau-architecture.co.uk



© Paul Carter

Did you know ?

After the murder of the Princes in the Tower of London, Sir William Uvedale of Wickham rebelled against Richard III and lost his titles. Restored by Henry VII, he was further awarded the honour of Knight of the Bath.



CHESAPEAKE MILL

Bridge Street, Wickham, Hampshire, PO17 5JH

Tel: **01329 834078**

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www.chesapeakemill.co.uk



ENGULF YOURSELF IN HISTORY ... TAKE SOME HISTORY HOME



In the heart of Hampshire, Chesapeake Mill is a Grade II listed building with a fascinating and unique history. The timbers used in its construction come from the United States frigate Chesapeake, which was captured by the Royal Navy during the war of 1812. In addition to this maritime heritage, the mill has been a prominent feature of the landscape in the Meon Valley.



Come and visit us to find all your decorative inspirations under one roof, you will find a huge range of traditional and vintage lifestyle accessories, for the home, garden and the special people in your life.



Take a break and treat yourself to some home cooked food in our fabulous café, with riverside seating.



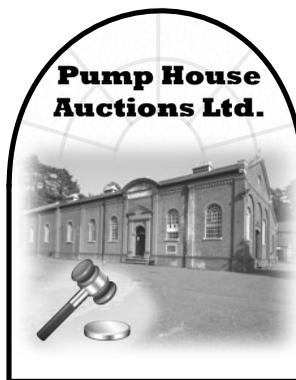
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| Monday - Saturday | 9.30am - 5.00pm |
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Check our website for auction sale dates

www.pumphouseauctions.co.uk
valuations@pumphouseauctions.co.uk

Now firmly on the gastronomic map, an array of eateries awaits you in Wickham, mixing the best local produce with international cuisine. Whether it's traditional afternoon tea, a cool glass of wine in an elegant wine bar or fine dining overlooking one of Hampshire's finest squares, there's something to suit all tastes here.

The King's Head

21

The Square, Wickham PO17 5JN
Tel: 01329 832 123



This beautiful former coaching inn at the centre Wickham has made a name for itself with great home-cooked food, excellent real ales and welcoming staff. Close to some of the area's best attractions, it's the ideal retreat for weary walkers and golfers.

www.kingsheadwickham.co.uk

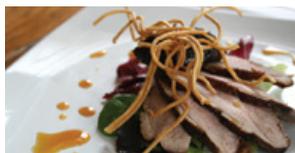


© Paul Carter

Greens Restaurant & Bar

22

The Square, Wickham PO17 5JQ
Tel 01329 833 197



Greens is the ideal venue to enjoy a superb dining experience. Owners Frank and Carol Duckworth have been welcoming guests since 1985, offering fresh high quality food, drinks and friendly professional service. Greens reputation continues to grow; winning the Winchester Business Excellence award for customer service for three consecutive years and the TripAdvisor certificate of excellence. Bookings recommended.

www.greensrestaurant.co.uk

More great places to eat

- 23 Lilly's Tea & Coffee House (see right)
Tel: 01329 830 305
- 24 Kuti's Wickham (see right)
Tel: 01329 835 353
- 25 Wickham Wine Bar & Restaurant
Tel: 01329 832 732
- 26 Wickham Coffeeshouse
Tel: 01329 835 808
- 27 Panda Chinese Takeaway
Tel: 01329 833 960
- 28 Wickham Fisheries (Fish & Chips)
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- 29 Baytree Tea House
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There is plenty of accommodation to choose from in the larger cities around Wickham, but why not choose somewhere right in The Square itself or within a 5 minute drive.



© Paul Carter

The Old House Hotel

30

The Square, Wickham
Tel: 01329835870

Situated on The Square, elegant Old House Hotel offers luxurious guest rooms, & for the more discerning traveller, spacious garden rooms

Award-winning restaurant offers classic British/Mediterranean cuisine

Opening times:

Mon – Sun: 12:00 – 14:30
Mon – Sat: 18:30 – 21:30

www.oldhousehotel.co.uk

Meon Valley, A Marriott Hotel & Country Club

31

Sandy Lane, Shedfield,
Southampton, SO32 2HQ
Tel: 01329 833 455



Set in 225 wooded acres of rolling countryside Meon Valley enjoys a secluded environment. With a commitment to superior service and amenities our 4-star hotel lends itself beautifully to leisure and business pursuits. To unwind, there's a heated indoor pool, 27 holes of golf, gym, tennis courts and spa. Sit back and relax in our informal Zest restaurant or enjoy dinner in our Broadstreet Restaurant with views of the championship golf course.

www.marriottmeonvalley.co.uk

Rookesbury Park Caravan Site

32

Hundred Acres Road, Wickham,
Fareham, Hampshire, PO17 6JR
Tel: 01329 834085



Rookesbury Park Caravan Club Site is splendidly set in tranquil parkland on the valley floor, with the magnificent Forest of Bere at its edge. A good choice for those with children, part of the caravan park is reserved as a children's play and picnic area. For more information, please see

www.caravanclub.co.uk

More info online

For more accommodation options please see www.visitwinchester.co.uk or call Winchester Tourist Information Centre on 01962 840 500.

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Events are a big part of village life, and in Wickham, we like visitors to enjoy our events as much as the locals. Fêtes, fairs, and festivals take place all around the parish, throughout the year. For exact dates and more details, please refer to www.wickhamsquare.co.uk, but for now here's a flavour...

You'll be hard pushed to find a more typically English start to summer than the May Day sunrise celebration in Wickham. Local Morris dancers "greet the dawn" at the start of the day, and perform once again in the early evening, this time joined by school children and several other Morris groups.

On 20th May each year **Wickham Horse Fair** takes place. During this traditional event the travelling community sell and race ponies and horses and a fun fair fills The Square. Please be aware there is no official parking available during the event and road closures affect access to the village during the day.

The annual **Wickham Duck Race**, traditionally in June, raises funds for local organisations such as the primary school and scouts. Everyone is welcome to turn up and join in the fun!

Early August is when a large field to the north of The Square is transformed into **The Wickham Music Festival**. With a definite folky feel, this intimate festival attracts big names and music lovers from across the country, many of them choosing to camp for the 3 days. For more information see www.wickhamfestival.co.uk



© Neale Fray



© Paul Carter

In early December, **Father Christmas** visits The Square to turn on Wickham's Christmas lights. The Parish Council organises entertainment from local groups and visitors to The Square that evening can enjoy seasonal refreshments and late night shopping.

The annual **Boxing Day Rally** sees the village filled with vintage cars and motorbikes of every era. Get there early and be prepared to park a little distance away as this event is getting more and more popular every year.

As well as all of the above, the Wickham Centre plays host to monthly antique fairs, beer festivals, a Christmas fair and much more. See www.wickhamcentre.org.uk for more information.



Wickham Music Festival is a great weekend for all the family.



Is there a family celebration on the horizon? Thinking of throwing a party? Why not consider The Wickham Centre as your venue.

- Selection of function rooms available at very reasonable hourly rates
- Tailored catering available to suit all budgets and dietary requirements
- Fully licensed to sell and serve alcohol
- Free parking

Try The Wickham Centre for birthday or anniversary parties, wedding receptions, stag & hen parties, wakes and corporate events

T 01329 833688
E contact@wickhamcentre.org.uk
W wickhamcentre.org.uk

MILL LANE, WICKHAM, HAMPSHIRE PO17 5AL

Forest of Bere

During the 19th century, the oak from this Royal Forest was used to build ships for the navy. Today, the area known as the Forest of Bere is a mixture of heathland, farmland, streams and ponds as well as woodland.



With its extensive network of paths and trails managed and maintained by the Forestry Commission, the area is very popular with cyclists, horse riders and walkers of all ages. Children are particularly enchanted with the natural forest playground found in West Walk (nearest postcode PO17 6JD). It boasts tree houses, wigwams, a sand pit and plenty of other activities to keep kids occupied. As well as several picnic areas there are also BBQs available for hire (prior booking required on 02380 283 141) and if you've arrived without your lunch, you can always pick something up at the outdoor café in West Walk car park.

Directions:

Leave Wickham via Bridge Street, going under the old railway bridge, crossing the A32 and taking Southwick Road to the right of the Church. Take the first left onto Hundred Acres Road and you'll find the entrance to the car park just beyond Rookesbury Park Caravan Club site on the left.

www.forestry.gov.uk/westwalk



© Paul Carter

Take a peaceful walk along the Meon Trail.



© Paul Carter

If you've got a little extra time, there are plenty of things to see and do within a short hop of Wickham. Here is a tempting selection:

Chiphall Lake Trout Fishery



An idyllic location for a day's fly fishing. With over four acres of clear waters fed from the River Meon, Chiphall Lake is well stocked with rainbow, brown, golden and blue trout – so whether you're an experienced fisherman or a beginner, you're bound to have a satisfying day. Beginners can hire everything they need

and whilst advice is always free, formal one-to-one tuition is also available. The fishery is open all year and is located just north of Wickham on the A32 Droxford Road. For more details visit www.chiphalluk.com or call 01329 833 295.

Wickham Park Golf Course



Set in the heart of the beautiful Meon Valley, this 18-hole parkland course is balanced to offer a relaxing yet challenging round for members and visitors alike. Wide fairways are forgiving for beginners, but the experience of an advanced golfer is needed to make the par

of 69. There's also a 12-bay driving range with six power tees. Pay and play facilities are available every day, although booking is advisable. The course is situated just outside Wickham on Titchfield Lane. For more information visit www.wickhamparkgolf.co.uk or call 01329 833 342.

Bishop's Waltham



Located just 4 miles north of Wickham is the beautiful market town of Bishop's Waltham. From the impressive ruins of the medieval Bishop of Winchester's Palace to the numerous listed buildings of the town centre, history is everywhere. The medieval high street is remarkably well preserved but don't be

deceived - there's a broad range of independent shops, cafés, restaurants and salons tempt the 21st century visitor.

www.lovebishopsaltham.com

Fort Nelson - home of the big guns



© Royal Armouries

Head east and up to Portsdown Hill and visit the Royal Armouries Museum at Fort Nelson, home to the national collection of artillery – the big guns!

Showcasing great guns from across the ages and around the globe, the museum offers history to life – including free daily gun firings and a lively events programme.

Fort Nelson was revamped in 2011 and now includes state-of-the-art galleries, a brand new visitor centre, education centre and Café 1871, with panoramic views over the Meon Valley and The Solent. The museum is open daily and admission and parking are absolutely free. See www.royalarmouries.org.uk

Garden Centres Around Wickham



Whether you're a keen gardener, or you just enjoy shopping and eating at a good garden centre, you are spoilt for choice in this area.

Mud Island Garden Centre
Southwick Rd, Wickham, PO17 6JF
www.mudislandnurseries.co.uk

Park Place Farm Nursery
Titchfield Lane, Wickham, PO17 5HB
www.parkplacefarmnurseryltd.co.uk

Mount Folly Nurseries
Southwick Road, Wickham, PO17 6JH
www.mountfolly.co.uk



© Paul Carter



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Banks

Lloyds TSB

The Square, Wickham PO17 5JQ

The Co-operative Bank

(cashpoint)

The Square, Wickham PO17 5JN

Chemist

Birchall and Haydock Ltd

The Square, Wickham PO17 5JQ

Tel: 01329 832 115

Dentist

Wickham Dental Practice

Knights Chambers, The Square,

Wickham PO17 5JW

Tel: 01329 833 855

Doctor

The Wickham Surgery

Houghton Way, Wickham,

PO17 5GU

Tel: 01329 833 121

Hospital

Queen Alexandra Hospital

Southwick Hill Road, Cosham,

Portsmouth PO6 3LY

Tel: 023 9228 6000

(main switchboard)

Royal Hampshire County Hospital

Romsey Road, Winchester

SO22 5DG

Tel: 01962 863 535

Travel

Gamblins Taxi

Tel: 01329 834 834 or

01489 893 333

My Journey Hampshire

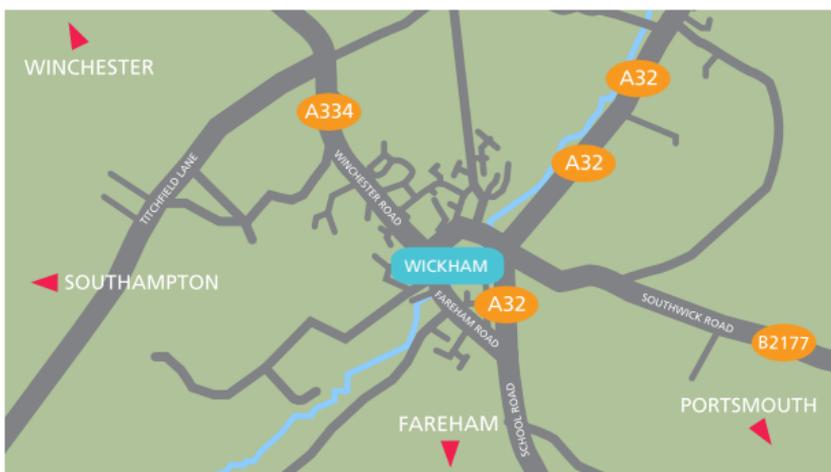
www.myjourneyhampshire.com

(Public transport information for the county)

National Rail Enquiries

Tel: 08457 484 950

www.nationalrail.co.uk



Further Information

Tourist information centre, Winchester Guildhall, High Street, Winchester SO23 9GH. Tel: 01962 840 500 | Fax: 01962 850 348 | Email: tourism@winchester.gov.uk | www.visitwinchester.co.uk

If you would like to receive this leaflet in another format, tel: 01962 848 311 or email: marketing@winchester.gov.uk