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Cotswold Wildlife Park

Following extensive developments the Park has become an unexpected attraction to gardeners. Always a family favourite with animal lovers, garden lovers are surprised at the rich diversity of plants and planting styles encountered throughout the 160 acres of landscaped parkland surrounding a Listed Victorian Manor House. Victorians

would have been familiar with formal parterres and traditional herbaceous borders but not the exuberant and stunning summer displays of hardy and tender exotics including huge bananas and flamboyant cannas now found in the Walled Garden.

The unique arid-scape of cactus and succulents surrounding the meerkats, the calls of Kookaburras, lemurs and macaws also give this area a truly tropical ambience. The flower meadows of snowdrops, narcissus, and bluebells, so welcome in the spring, contrast with the large sweeping groups of ornamental grasses and perennials which provide a wonderful foil for rhino and zebras and the many different types of bamboo which feature strongly in other animal enclosures. The range of plants used in containers and baskets around the Park, many planted twice a year, are an inspiration.

Burford, Oxfordshire OX18 4JW. Tel: 01993 823006 www.cotswoldwildlifepark.co.uk

Open: All year, daily, except 25 Dec 10.00. Admission: Adults £7.50, Children (3-16) £5. Concessions.



The Oxfordshire Cotswolds

In and around the lovely old Cotswold Stone towns of Chipping Norton, Witney, Burford and Woodstock, the upland fields and pretty river valleys of the Oxfordshire Cotswolds harbour a rich variety of gardens, historic houses and country attractions. They include world famous names such as Blenheim Palace, set in the imposing formal landscape largely created by Queen Anne's master gardener; Chastleton House, near Moreton-in-Marsh, within whose Elizabethan and Jacobean gardens the rules of Croquet were devised - and Rousham House, a fine example of an 18th-century William Kent garden. This Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty also provides more modest gems: events such as Fritillary Sunday which takes place in the village of Ducklington in April, or small gardens like Hill Court, at Tackley, which open for limited periods or as part of the National Gardens Scheme. For more details of these and other attractions, visit www.oxfordshirecotswolds.org or contact the following Tourist Information Centres: Burford Tel: 01993 823558; Chipping Norton Tel: 01608 644379; Witney Tel: 01993 775802; Woodstock Tel: 01993 813276.



Chastleton House, nr Moreton-in-Marsh

OTHER PLACES TO VISIT...

BLenheim PALACE

Woodstock, Oxfordshire
OX20 1PX

Tel: 01993 811325

www.blenheimpalace.com

Home of the 11th Duke of Marlborough, birthplace of Britain's 'Greatest Britain', Sir Winston Churchill. Over 2,000 acres of landscaped parkland. Flower Show, 19-22 June.

Open: Palace and Gardens: mid Mar-end Oct, daily, 10.30-16.45.

Admission: Adults £10.50, Children £5. Concessions.



BURFORD GARDEN COMPANY

Shilton Road, Burford,
Oxfordshire OX18 4PA

Tel: 01993 823117 www.bgc.co.uk

One of the country's largest garden centres, with restaurant and playground on 15-acre site. Clematis specialists (National Collection held at Tenbury Wells site).

Open: all year, daily, 9.00-18.00 (20.00 Mar-Dec). Suns 11.00-17.00.

Admission: Free.



BROUGHTON CASTLE

Broughton, nr Banbury, Oxfordshire OX15 5EB

Tel: 01295 276070 / 722547 www.broughtoncastle.demon.co.uk

Outstandingly lovely medieval moated castle, enlarged in Tudor period, with Civil War connections. Still a family home. Fine walled gardens, herbaceous borders, shrubs and old roses.

Open: 18 May-14 Sept, Weds & Suns; also BH Suns & Mons and Thurs in Jul & Aug. 14.00-17.00.

Admission: House & Garden: Adults £5, Children £2, Seniors £4. Garden: Adults £2.



PLACES TO STAY...

BANBURY

TOP FARM HOUSE

18th century farmhouse at centre of picturesque village. Well situated to explore the Cotswolds and Stratford-upon-Avon. ◆◆◆

B&B from £25

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Oxfordshire OX15 6LZ

Tel: 01295 670226

Fax: 01295 678170

Email: coles@topfarmhouse.co.uk

www.topfarmhouse.co.uk



BURFORD

THE HIGHWAY

Crica 1520, a perfect base for touring the Cotswolds. The ground floor accommodates the renowned Burford Needlecraft Centre. ◆◆◆

Double £45-£55, Single £31-£55

117 High Street, Burford,

Oxfordshire OX18 4RG

Tel: 01993 822136

Fax: 01993 824740

Email: cohen.needles@dial.pipex.com

www.oxlink.co.uk/burford



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