

Driving Tour from Lowerfield Farm

This circular route from Willersey takes in many lovely villages and viewpoints of the north Cotswolds, though we would certainly also recommend *Blockley* (a former silk mill town) and *Chipping Campden* (a former wool market town) as a nearby extension.



To drive the route non-stop only takes a couple of hours with total mileage less than 50 miles, though at a leisurely pace taking in the sights and atmosphere it can easily take the best part of a day.

Most of the route is using small 'B' roads and ungraded 'local' single track roads with passing places. Even in peak summer tourist times you will find these roads do not get very busy with traffic.

Before each of the following stages, the first number indicates the total distance travelled from Lowerfield Farm, and the second number the reference on the map.

0.0 **1** From Lowerfield Farm turn left towards Willersey. At the mini-roundabout at the bottom of [Willersey](#) Main Street turn right and continue along Collin Lane to the A44. Cross the roundabout towards Broadway, and continue down Station Road, under the railway bridge, until you come to the right hand turn at the bottom of Broadway High Street.

3.0 **2** Depart [Broadway](#) on B4632 (Cheltenham Road signposted Cheltenham and Winchcombe).

5.5 **3** The village of [Laverton](#) is signposted left - if you want you can drive through the village and return to the B4632



the High Street, at the bottom of which bear left and continue to Stanway on Stanway Road (1.3 miles to Stanway).

8.4 **5** At the small Cotswold village of [Stanway](#) - if it is open you may wish to spend a couple of hours going round Stanway House, the home of Lord & Lady Neidpath or at least have a picture taken outside the very impressive gate house. Continue and turn right at the next junction taking you to Toddington.

9.3 At Toddington roundabout, take the FIRST exit left back onto B4632 signposted Winchcombe

10.3 Look for left turn signposted *Hailes Abbey*

11.2 **6** At [Hailes Abbey](#), if time permits get out of car and look around the Abbey ruins (National Trust/English Heritage) and also the little church opposite - nice to have a picnic in the Abbey grounds on a summer's day. The audio guide tour is also fascinating.

11.3 From the abbey, return to the first, small junction and turn left up the hill (you will pass over cattle grids but it is a public road), making your way to the Cotswold village of Guiting Power.

16.4 **7** At [Guiting Power](#) there's a nice pub - The Hollow Bottom [GL54 5UX] – and you may wish to have drink or lunch and walk around this beautiful village. Continue in the same direction of travel, then follow signs for Naunton via the little village of Barton.

18.4 **8** At [Naunton](#) it is good to have a short walk through the village, also viewing the preserved dovecote down by the brook.

18.4 Continue out of the village in same direction of travel and make your way to Upper Slaughter.

21.8 **9** As you enter [Upper Slaughter](#) you should pass The Lords of the Manor Hotel on your left and immediately after you may wish to park in the little car park on the right. From there you can take a short walk down to the picturesque ford on the river Eye which is popular with artists.

21.8 Continue to Lower Slaughter bearing left after a few hundred yards.

22.8 **10** [Lower Slaughter](#) is a quaint village which also sits beside the little River Eye and is known for its unspoilt limestone cottages in the traditional Cotswold style. Park the car and have a stroll to the Old Mill from where you can look round or have a coffee.

22.9 Leave Lower Slaughter with the river on your right and turn right at the A429 main road (Fosse way).

24.7 Turn left, signposted [Bourton-on-the-Water](#) and after approx 0.5 miles look for Car Park sign by garage on right - follow this sign by turning right into large car park. Park the car and walk the short distance into the village via alleyways signposted 'Village'.

24.8 **11** Bourton-on-the-Water is known as the Little Venice of the Cotswolds and is very romantic and picturesque but can get very busy with tourists. There are a number of things to see and do – Model Village, Birdland, Motor Museum, etc. - and a couple of hours can easily be spent here.

25.1 Rejoin the A429 from where you came and turn right signposted Stow-on-the-Wold.

28.7 On entering the fringe of the town of [Stow-on-the-Wold](#) turn RIGHT onto A436 [Sheep Street] and park (there is car park signposted right in about 0.25 miles).

28.8 **12** Stow-on-the-Wold is a bustling ancient market town with many shops, cafes and restaurants.

28.9 Rejoin the A429 from where you turned off and turn right at the traffic lights signposted Moreton-in-Marsh.

29.1 Turn LEFT (North-West) signposted Evesham onto A424 [Evesham Road] for 54 yds (50m)

29.2 Keep LEFT onto B4077 for 1.1 miles

30.3 **13** At Upper Swell, stay on B4077 (North-West) for 4.8 miles and make your way to Temple Guiting.

35.1 Keep LEFT onto Local road(s) for 0.7 miles

35.7 Bear RIGHT (West) onto Local road(s) for 65 yds (60m)

35.8 Bear RIGHT (West) onto Local road(s) for 131 yds (120m)

35.9 **14** At Temple Guiting make your way to the village of Snowshill - stay on Local road(s) (West) for 76 yds (70m)

35.9 Bear LEFT (South) onto Local road(s) for 0.2 miles

36.1 Turn RIGHT (North) onto Local road(s) for 1.0 mile

37.1 **15** From Temple Guiting cross the B4077 to Snowshill

40.4 **16** The Cotswolds hill top village of [Snowshill](#). You can stop for refreshments at the village pub, (Snowshill Arms [WR12 7JU]) or look around Snowshill Manor which is owned by the National Trust (a short distance away down the hill on the left)

40.5 On leaving Snowshill make your way to Broadway Tower by going uphill on the road opposite the pub with the church on your right

40.9 Bear LEFT (East) onto Local road(s) for 0.6 mi

41.4 Bear LEFT (North-East) onto Buckle Street for 1.1 miles

42.5 Bear LEFT into Tower and Cafe car park

42.6 **17** [Broadway Tower](#) is the second highest spot in the Cotswolds (after Cleeve Hill just north of Cheltenham) at 1024 ft [312m]. It is a small walk from the car park to the Tower from where you can admire the wonderful views over the village of Broadway, the Vale of Evesham, and up to 62 miles distant towards the Welsh Mountains. It's also fairly easy to spot Lowerfield Farm behind the village of Willersey.

42.7 Turn LEFT (North-East) onto Buckle Street for 0.7 miles

43.4 Turn LEFT (North-West) onto A44 [Fish Hill] for 2.3 miles

45.7 At the roundabout, take the FIRST exit to return to Broadway, or the third exit to head back to Willersey.