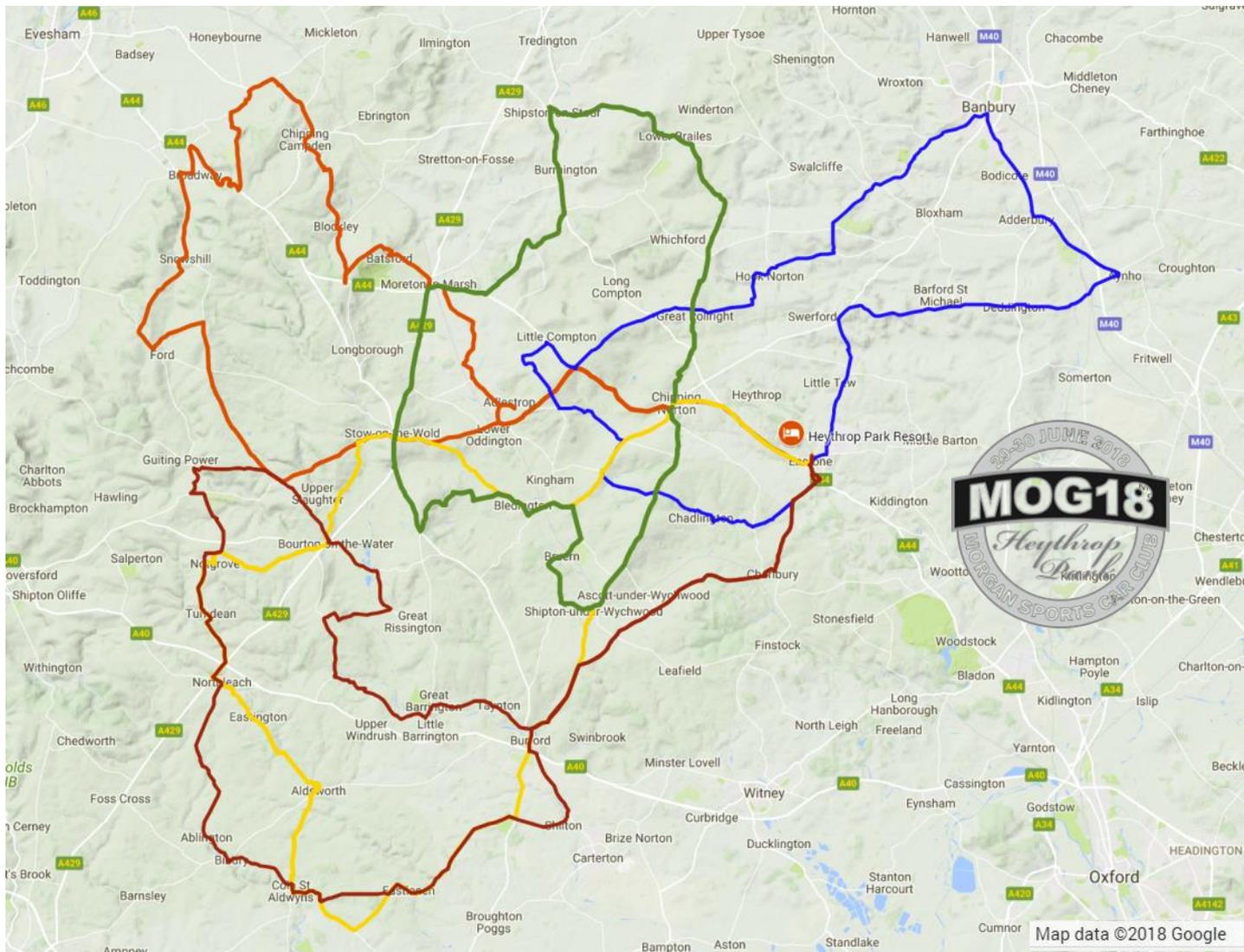


# MOG18 Weekend Scenic Runs



## North Scenic Run

46 Miles



A tour of three counties beginning in Warwickshire and following the boundary between Warwickshire and Oxfordshire, visiting three market towns – Chipping Norton, Stow-on-the-Wold, and Moreton-in-Marsh

## West Scenic Run

50 Miles



‘Go West Young Man’ to the lumpier parts of the Cotswolds. With fine views and plenty of attractions to see— Chipping Campden, Snowhill and Batsford Arboretum

## East Scenic Run

54 miles



Out to the eastern edge of the Cotswolds towards Banbury and Aynho with potential to divert on to the British Motor Museum at Gaydon to the North.

## South Scenic Run

60 miles



Visit the popular towns of Chipping Norton, Stow-on-the-wold and into the Windrush Valley

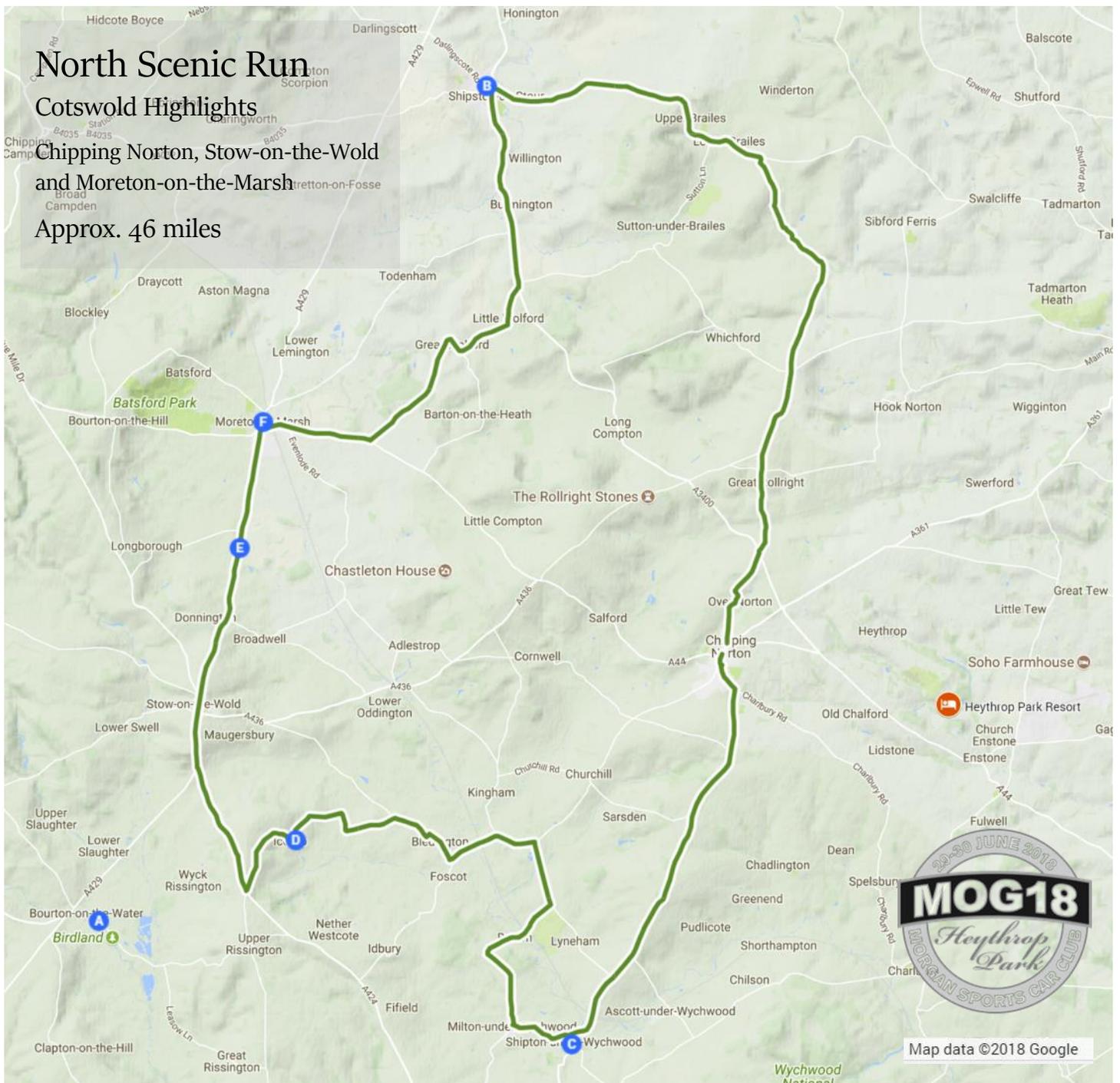
## MOG88 Retro Run

72 miles (incl. run out to Burford to start)



A chance to re-live the Scenic Run of the MOG88 event. I am afraid we cannot guarantee the same fuel prices, sadly.

**Warning:** Keep a close look out for ‘potholes’, ‘Chelsea Tractors’ and Jeremy Clarkson when you get near to Chipping Norton. Also, the Japanese Tourists take no prisoners when they want a photograph of your ‘Pride and Joy’!



*A tour of three counties beginning in Warwickshire and following the boundary between Warwickshire and Oxfordshire, visiting three market towns – Chipping Norton, Stow-on-the-Wold, and Moreton-in-Marsh*

### Places of interest

#### **Bourton-on-the-water** (A)

Bourton can be visited via a small deviation from the route by taking the A424 as advised in the text. Located in a small valley amongst the gentle rolling hills of the Cotswolds, Bourton-on-the-Water is a 'must see' for all visitors to the area. This popular village is often referred to as the 'Venice of the Cotswolds' because of the attractive

little bridges that cross the gently flowing River Windrush, which runs through the centre of the village. Bourton has a charm all of its own at any time of the year.

#### **Shipston-on-Stour** (B)

The market town lies at the centre of the Vale of the Red Horse, the district of rich, heavy soils lying below the escarpment striking south-westwards from Edge Hill. It is named after the large figure of a horse, a representation of the Saxon horse-god Tui, which was cut into the red rock of the hillside above Tysoe church. Sheep grazing the hillside led to the disappearance of the gigantic figure.

In past centuries Shipston was important for its sheep fair it was a staging-post for the Birmingham mail, and the High Street was notable for its coaching inns. Today, many of these have been adapted to serve other purposes, though the town still retains the flavour of its Georgian heyday. Many buildings of this era, built in warm red brick remain.

### **Shipton-under-Wychwood** ③

On the green is the monument to the seventeen emigrant parishioners who died when the vessel *Cospatrick* caught fire on her voyage to New Zealand in 1874. The Shaven Crown Hotel overlooks the monument and boasts of having held its licence since 1384 when it was the lodging-house serving Bruern Abbey. Shipton's large church is mainly twelfth century and has a pre-reformation pulpit carved from a single block of stone. It was given to the parish by a relative of Warwick the Kingmaker, and displays his bear and ragged staff emblem. On the north wall there is a macabre brass to Elizabeth Borne who died in 1548. Note the crouching cats (or are they dragons?) on the sloping stones which buttress the spire.

### **Icomb** ④

In Saxon times King Alfred gave Icomb to the monks of Worcester cathedral in order to supply their monastery with provisions. The dean and chapter of Worcester are still the patrons of the parish and, until recent times, they held a yearly court at Icomb - a practice which survived for more than one thousand years.

Icomb church dates from 1220, and its chancel has been hailed as the perfect specimen of Early English architecture. Note the hourglass placed prominently above the fine early nineteenth-century pulpit. A plaque in the church tells the sad story of the three Dunsdon brothers, Tom, Dick and Harry, who were notorious highwaymen of the district in the eighteenth century. They lived at Icomb and hid their horses and loot in a quarry connected to their cottage by a secret passageway. They succeeded in taking £500 from the Oxford Mail, but subsequently became overconfident. Dick died after his arm became trapped in a house-breaking escapade. His brothers hacked it off in order to free him, but he died of his injuries. In

1784 Tom and Harry were captured and hanged at Gloucester. Their bodies were brought back to their birthplace and for years swung from a gibbet at Capps Lodge on the A361 between Burford and Fulbrook.

### **The Foss Way** ⑤

This was one of the most important Roman roads in Britain. It ran 182 miles from Seaton in Devon to Lincoln and defined the frontier of Roman civilisation as it stood in AD 47, four years after their invasion. Its name derives from the fosse itself, the distinctive ditch to each side of the highway. The road runs in a remarkably straight line across the countryside (never deviating by more than 6 miles) and is supposed to have been aligned by means of smoke signals generated at strategic points.

### **Moreton-in-Marsh** ⑥

The town stands at an important crossroads where the Foss Way is crossed by 'the Great Road' which links London and Oxford with Worcester and Wales. Its name implies that the site is boggy, as it must have been in the past, since it lies at the source of the River Evenlode, the Henmarsh. Thus, in 1253 it was known as Moreton-in-Hennemersh. Celia Fiennes, the formidable Jacobean traveller and diarist, rather facetiously called it Moreton Hindmost. However, she described it as a neat, stone-built town with good inns. This would be a fair description today if mention was also made of its interesting shops. Moreton's prosperity, like that of neighbouring Stow, was based on the flocks of sheep which grazed the surrounding hills. In the eighteenth century Moreton held two sheep sales each year and 50,000 sheep were sold at each. However, Moreton seldom succeeded in rivalling Stow, except for a few decades in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries when its railway station attracted tourists and provided access to new markets for livestock from the district

Both Sezincote (a remarkable house said to have been the inspiration for Brighton Pavilion) and Batsford Arboretum are within 2 miles of the town.

*For this run we provide two sets of instructions, the following set is a verbal commentary, at the end we have a set of turn by turn instructions. Please choose the one most appropriate to you needs*

This scenic tour begins at **Chipping Norton** which can be reached from **Heythrop Park** via the **A44**.

From the High Street at **Chipping Norton** take the **A361** (Rumford road) at the end of the market place, negotiating a pair of mini-roundabouts. Bear right at the outskirts of the town when the **Charlbury Road** leaves to the left, keeping on the **A361**. This road follows the crest of a ridge.

The road drops down into **Shipton-under-Wychwood** allowing a fine view of the large village as you pass the station and cross the River Evenlode. The church may be seen to the left after a row of attractive cottages. The village is best explored on foot to appreciate its old buildings and quiet charm. Take the road opposite the Red Horse pub which reaches **Milton-under-Wychwood** after about 3/4 mile. Milton has a large green and, at the end of this, turn right towards **Lyneham**. On the outskirts of the village keep straight on to pass the cemetery heading towards **Bruern**. Turn right at a T-junction to pass the abbey to the right.

*Nothing remains of the rich Cistercian monastery which once stood here. The Georgian mansion, which can be seen to the right of the road is now a school.*

Cross a bridge over the River Evenlode, and then a level crossing. At the next T-junction turn left towards **Churchill**. When the road meets the B4450 turn left to follow this heading for **Bledington**.

In **Bledington** the church is off to the left, down Church Lane, and it is worth taking the short diversion to see this.

*It has beautiful stained glass and the tower was added in an unusual way in the fifteenth century - it was built up through the roof from the inside of the nave. A stream runs through the village and is the home of a large number of ducks, notably lacking in road sense.*

Leave the village and, after about ½ a mile, look for an inconspicuous left turn to **Icomb**. This is a very pleasant meandering country lane lined by fine trees and tall hedges. Turn left into **Icomb** and bear left again to visit its wonderful church. This village frequently wins best-kept village awards.

From the church do not retrace your route but drive straight out of the village passing the village cross on your right. This lane then bends to the right and climbs back to the main road. Turn right here and then, after 150 yards (137m) take the sharp turning to the left.

Follow this road round, forking left when it divides, to pass a radio mast. There are wonderful views from this lane, and plenty of picnic places. The road descends through dense woodland to reach the main road, the A424. Note that if you do wish to visit **Bourton-on-the-Water** you can turn left onto the **A424**. If not visiting Bourton then turn right onto the **A424** towards **Stow-on-the-Wold**. The **A424** joins the **A429** from **Cirencester** (the **Foss Way**) at traffic lights. Continue up the hill to **Stow-on-the-Wold**. Turn right at the next traffic lights if you wish to explore the town. Otherwise, keep straight on towards **Stratford** staying on the **A429** which soon brings you to **Moreton-in-Marsh**. Turn right at the centre of the town on to the **A44** (**Oxford road**). Two miles further on, just after the **Fire Service College**, take the turning left at a famous landmark known as The **Four Shire Stone**.

*The counties which once met at the monument were Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire and Worcestershire. Today, the boundaries of the first three counties still meet here - Worcestershire's small enclave was swallowed up long ago.*

The road leads to **Great Wolford**, which has a nineteenth-century church with a tall spire.

*The church replaced a medieval one destroyed by fire. Turn right in the middle of the village to descend a hill and bear left at the bottom.*

This takes you into **Little Wolford** past a magnificent Tudor manor house. At the junction with the **A3400** turn left to **Shipston-on-Stour**.

In the town centre at **Shipston-on-Stour** the **A3400** follows a one way system and you need to continue right until you see the **B4035** on the left, signposted to **Brailes** and **Banbury Cross**. Follow the **B4035** eastwards over the River Stour and pass the Mill Hotel.

*The landscape is dotted with small, round hills. The name of Roundhill Farm, below Brailes Hill, reflects this distinctive feature.*

The road climbs up Fain Hill to reach **Upper Brailes**,

a village once infamous for its witches.

*One of them was called Nance, and she was feared by children - it is said she could fix them by their hair to the ceiling and, if they really displeased her, make them walk on it like flies!*

**Upper Brailes**, the first part of the village, has the remains of a motte-and-bailey castle to the left of the road. **Lower Brailes** follows where the splendid church is dedicated to St George.

Leave **Lower Brailes** and, halfway up the hill, take the concealed turn to the right signposted to **Hook Norton**.

*The lane follows just below the crest of the hilt, and there are fine views to the left of a lonely countryside. It descends to cross the infant River Stour at a shaded beauty spot known as Traitor's Ford – unfortunately the reason for this name has been lost to us. Here the route joins an ancient track known as Ditchedge Lane which follows the crest of the escarpment It also serves as the boundary between Warwickshire and Oxfordshire.*

After about 2 miles you will come to a crossroads by the radio masts on top of Whichford Hill. At 808 feet (239 m) it is one of the highest points of the northern Cotswolds. Keep straight on here towards **Great Rollright**.

*If you wish to visit the Rollright Stones fork to the right just before the village. The stones are about 2 miles from this point.*

Otherwise, continue into **Great Rollright** and drive through the village heading towards **Chipping Norton**. Cross over the **A3400** to join the **B4026** and pass through the charming village of **Over Norton**.

*This village has an ornate pump at its centre.*

The road descends to return to the lovely market town of **Chipping Norton**. Here you can return to the hotel by way of the **A44**.

### Turn by turn instructions

For those who may find the textual description too detailed, you may choose to use the following set of instructions. As a guide..

TL turn left,      TR turn right  
TJ T-Junction,    SP Signpost

*From High Street CHIPPING NORTON at the end of the Market Place take A361 towards BURFORD*

*Over 2 mini roundabouts*

*Bear right onto A361*

*Into SHIPTON UNDER WYCHWOOD*

*Take road opposite Wychwood Cotswold Inn to MILTON UNDER WYCHWOOD*

*After village green TR towards LYNEHAM/KINGHAM*

*Past cemetery heading to BRUERN*

*TR at TJ (no SP), pass Abbey on the right, over river & level crossing*

*TJ TL SP KINGHAM/CHURCHILL (right should go to Lyneham)*

*At B4450 TL KINGHAM/BLEDINGTON*

*Leave BLEDINGTON after 1 ml hidden TL ICOMB*

*TJ TL Into ICOMB*

*TJ TR out of village (past cross on right) lane bends to right, TR here then TJ TL RISSINGTON/BURFORD*

*At A424 TR STOW ON THE WOLD*

*At traffic lights TR onto A429 to STOW ON THE WOLD*

*Up the hill over traffic lights and continue on A429 to MORETON-IN-MARSH*

*at roundabout TR A44 SP OXFORD*

*Pass Fire Service College TL SP GREAT WOLFORD*

*TR in middle of village (no SP) downhill, bear left at the bottom to LITTLE WOLFORD*

*At A3400 TL to SHIPSTON ON STOUR*

*Follow A3400 through town around the one way system. Keep going right until*

*TL B4035 SP BRAILES AND BANBURY*

*Through UPPER BRAILES Leave LOWER BRAILES*

*Halfway up hill concealed TR SP HOOK NORTON*

*Follow HOOK NORTON/GREAT ROLLRIGHT*

*at crossroads & radio mast go over to GREAT ROLLRIGHT*

*At A3400 go over to A4026 OVER NORTON (or TR on A3400 crossing over roundabout to join A44 back to hotel)*

*TL onto A361 SP BANBURY back to hotel*

# East Scenic Run

## Banbury and the Eastern Cotswolds

Approx. 54 miles



### PLEASE NOTE:

*Before setting out on this drive there are a couple of options to consider*

- 1. If you wish to visit the **Hook Norton Brewery**, please ensure you have booked your tour, details at the end of this document*
- 2. When at Banbury, on your outbound, or return journey. You can take a deviation to visit the **British Motor Museum** at Gaydon. Join the M40 at Banbury junction 11, and turn off for Gaydon at junction 12. Alternatively take the B4100 from Banbury to Gaydon. Banbury can be busy, so allow some time in your schedule to navigate through the town.*
- 3. The following description includes approximate distances, from the hotel, of points of interest. You may wish to set your trip odometer (if so equipped, or legible) to zero in order to know if you are on track. Alternatively your sat nav may have a trip distance function.*

### PLACES OF INTEREST

**Chastleton House (A)**—Chastleton, nr. Moreton-in-Marsh, Oxfordshire, GL56 0SU

This wonderful Tudor mansion (National Trust) was built in 1603 by Walter Jones, a wool merchant from Witney. He bought the estate from Robert Catesby, one of the conspirators in the Gunpowder Plot. The house has had few alterations over the centuries. There is fine panelling and plasterwork inside, and a topiary garden and dovecot outside. **The house is only open Wednesday to Sunday during the summer**, but please check via [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/chastleton-house](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/chastleton-house).

**The Rollright Stones (B)**—Great Rollright, Chipping Norton OX7 5QB

The site straddles the Jurassic Way, a prehistoric ridgeway route which ran from the Humber to Salisbury Plain. The King's Men are a group of seventy-seven stones which resemble Stonehenge in layout, though they are much smaller than the great slabs to be seen in Wiltshire. The King's Stone stands on the opposite side of the road and is of the same date, c. 1800 BC (early Bronze Age). It

was probably aligned to serve as an astronomical marker in conjunction with the stone circle. The Whispering Knights are five large stones 1/4 mile to the east. They are the remains of a Stone Age burial chamber which pre-dated the other monuments.

Many legends are attached to the stones, the most enduring being that of a king who was marching northwards to conquer all of England. On this hilltop he met a witch who told him that he would be successful if, after taking seven strides, he could see Long Compton. The king stepped forward confidently, before the witch had finished, but found a small hillock blocked his view. She continued to say that, if he was not successful, he and his men would be turned to stone. The king stands apart from his soldiers (the stone circle), with the five knights plotting against him a little way off.

### **Broughton Castle** ©—*Banbury, Oxon OX15 5EB*

The castle was originally a moated manor house and dates from the early fourteenth century. It has been the home of the Fiennes family (Lords Saye and Sele) for more than six hundred years. Much of the medieval house survives, though the castle was enlarged in Elizabethan times. In the seventeenth century Lord Saye and Sele was a supporter of Parliament and so Broughton became an important meeting-place of those plotting against the king. In the Civil War it was besieged and captured by Royalist forces. In Regency times the castle fell into neglect, and this probably saved it from being over-restored by the Victorians. It is a beautiful and romantic house which contains many historic and architectural treasures.

The house, garden and tearoom are open on Wednesdays, Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays from 1st April until 30th September from 2-5pm with last admission at 4.30pm. Please check via [www.broughtoncastle.com/](http://www.broughtoncastle.com/)

### **Banbury** ①

Much of the traffic has been taken away by the M40 and Banbury is a pleasant place in which to linger. Banbury once held Europe's largest cattle market but this closed in 1998. The original Banbury Cross of the nursery rhyme was pulled down by Puritanical zealots in 1600, the present one being erected to commemorate a royal wedding in 1858.

In a rather similar way, the citizens allowed their great Norman church, the largest in the county, to fall into decay. In 1790 it was decided to demolish it, but the church forestalled these plans by collapsing of its own volition. A new church was completed in 1820. It was built of local ironstone which has proved very vulnerable to weathering. Banbury's historic castle was also demolished by the citizens after a fire in 1628 destroyed most of the houses in the town. They successfully petitioned Parliament to allow them to use its fabric for new houses. Banbury cakes, with their lemon fragrance and spicy taste, may be bought in the town.

### **Banbury Museum**—*Park Road, Banbury OX16 2PQ, UK*

Banbury Museum's main entrance is in the Castle Quay Shopping Centre and is fully accessible to all. Follow the signs to Castle Quay. A museum devoted to the history of the town with exhibitions of work by local artists.

The museum's galleries are open Monday – Saturday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm. Check via [www.banburymuseum.org](http://www.banburymuseum.org)

### **Aynho** ②

This is a very attractive village with many of the south-facing walls of the cottages having ancient apricot trees clinging to them. In bygone days the lord of the manor used to claim the fruit as part of the rent.

### **Hook Norton Brewery** ③—*Hook Norton, Banbury OX15 5NY*

A Victorian brewery and visitor centre offering guided tours with free beer samples (must be booked).

Housed in the original maltings the Brewery Visitor Centre and shop is open Monday to Saturday 9.00am to 5.00pm and Sunday 10.00am to 4.00pm throughout the year. They offer light lunches, tea, coffee, soft drinks and of course beer! Choose from a range of delicious pizza, quiche, pies, handmade baguettes and sandwiches along with tasty treats including brownies, cookies, cakes and pastries, perfect with their freshly made coffee.

For groups of 6 or more please let them know if you would like food when booking so they can get it ready for you.

Brewery tours start from the Visitors Centre and last approximately 2 hours. Book online via <https://www.hooky.co.uk/visit-us/visitor-centre-and-tours.ashx> or call them on 01608 730384

**Deddington Castle** © —*Castle St, Deddington OX15 0TP*

The earthworks forming Deddington Castle lie in a rural location to the south-east of the village of Deddington. No stonework is visible above ground today, but the site is nevertheless a striking one owing to the scale of the earthworks – the rampart is 15 metres (49 feet) high in places. Deddington Castle was a medieval fortification, it was built on a wealthy former Anglo-Saxon estate by Bishop Odo of Bayeux following the Norman conquest of England in 1066. Owned by English Heritage, there is no charge to visit.

**British Motor Museum** (H) —*Gaydon, Warwick CV35 0BJ*

The British Motor Museum, is the World's largest collection of historic British cars in Warwickshire, England. There are over 300 Classic cars on display from the British Motor Industry Heritage Trust and the Jaguar Heritage Trust. More details via <https://www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk/>

*At the time of writing the adult entrance charge is £14. A discounted rate of £9 is available for groups of 12 or more. This must be pre-arranged, a minimum of one week prior to the visit, Phone 01926 643356 or email to [groups@britishmotormuseum.co.uk](mailto:groups@britishmotormuseum.co.uk) Once your visit is booked you can pay on arrival at the museum.*

If you visit the museum as part of the scenic drive the directions are described in the directions across the page.

## ROUTE DIRECTIONS

Starting from Heythrop Park head south from the hotel towards **Enstone**, turn left onto the **B4030**, then right onto the **Banbury Road B4022**.

Cross over the **B4030** at **Enstone** and then the **A44** to keep on the **B4022**. After 1 mile bear right on to a road signposted to **Taston**, **Spelsbury** and **Chadlington**. Go past the hamlet of **Taston** and cross over the **B4026** at **Spelsbury** to reach **Chadlington**.

*The cottages here are of a grey stone rather than the typical warm-coloured stone of the Cotswolds proper. The church is on the left and is notable for its amusing gargoyles.*

Turn right at the village shop at the centre of the village to head towards **Churchill** and **Chipping Norton**. Bear left at the next junction towards **Churchill** (the Tite Inn is also signposted). Climb up the winding lane to the **A361**. Turn left on to the main road and then immediately right, ignore a turning to **Sarsden** to the left, and keep straight on to drop down into **Churchill**.

*The route passes the church, which dates from 1826. This replaced a medieval church which was sited to the north-west of the present village at the heart of a community destroyed by fire in 1684.*

Bear right, on to the **B4450**, through the village.

*The ornate drinking fountain dates from 1872. On the opposite side of the road there is a less ostentatious memorial in the form of a slab of oolitic limestone. This was erected in 1891 to the memory of William Smith, 'the father of British geology', who was born in Churchill in 1769. Like the drinking fountain, it was erected by the Earl of Ducie.*

Leave **Churchill** on the **Chipping Norton** road, the **B4450** and, about 1 mile from the village, take the turning on the left to **Cornwell**, the first turn is unsigned, the second is signed, both lead onto the same road.. The road descends giving grand views of a patchwork of fields and woodlands. Bear left at the next junction where a road to Salford goes off to the right and left again at an un-signposted junction to reach the delightful village of **Cornwell**.

*A view of the manor house may be seen through ornamental gates on the right. Its garden is occasionally on show under the National Gardens Scheme.*

Keep ahead on the main road out of the village heading towards **Adlestrop**. At a crossroads at the edge of a wood turn right towards **Chastleton** There is also a wood at the next crossroads where the route crosses the **A436**.

*There are views to the right over Chastleton Barrow, an Iron Age fort unusual in having its earthen walls faced with boulders (though these are not visible).*

Follow the road round a sharp right-hand bend and then turn off left if you wish to visit **Chastleton House (NT)** (now at 17 miles from Heythrop).

*This is a great Tudor mansion standing close to the delightful church dedicated to St Mary. The tower was rebuilt at the end of the seventeenth century after lightning struck and set fire to the ivy which then covered it.*

From **Chastleton House** return down the lane and turn left onto a lane (Greygoose lane), signposted to the **Rollrights**. The lane is unfenced and there are wide views to the north. Turn right when the lane meets the **A44**. Take the first left at the Cross Hands Inn / Greedy Goose to the **Rollrights**. Do not take either of the roads on the left to **Little Compton** or **Long Compton**, but continue on the main road until you see the roadside parking spaces available for you to visit the **Rollright Stones** (now at approx. 20 miles from Heythrop)

*The King's Men are close by to the right of the road and the King's Stone is to the left. The Whispering Knights are the remains of a burial chamber sited 400 yards (366 m) to the east.*

Now continue on this road to cross straight over the **A3400** following the signs to **Hook Norton**. There is a farm shop and tearoom (Wyatts) on the left, just after this junction. Turn right at the next junction to **Great Rollright**. Go straight on over a crossroads to pass the school and church. Follow the road left into **Hook Norton** (you should now be in the order of 24 miles from Heythrop).

*There are lovely views as you approach the village which has many attractive buildings including thatched cottages and several pubs. Its church has a Norman font which bears carvings of the signs of the Zodiac. There is also a grand Victorian brewery (**Hook Norton Brewery**) built of red brick and vaguely reminiscent of a Chinese pagoda.*

Follow the road through the village, passing the post office and heading out for **Banbury** on Station Road. About 2 miles out of the village turn left at a crossroads towards **Tadmarton**. This lane passes a waterfowl sanctuary which, as well as caring for injured wild birds such as owls and swans, has rare breeds of poultry. Go straight over the next crossroads. Bear right at the next junction away from a gated road. There is a golf course to the right (Tadmarton Heath). The road begins to descend, giving a beautiful view ahead. Turn right

towards **Broughton** where you will meet the **B4035**. There is a glimpse of the **Broughton Castle** as the road enters the village.

*If you wish to visit the castle or the park which surrounds it, turn left just after passing the pub (The Saye and Sele Arms). Here you should be reading a distance of 32 miles.*

From Broughton continue into **Banbury** on the **B4035** until you reach **Banbury Cross** at which point you should be at approx 33 miles from Heythrop.

*If you wish to visit the British Motor Museum at Gaydon you can take a diversion at this point...*

This adds a total of approximately 24 miles. Alternatively you may also use the **M40** junctions 11 to 12.

At the roundabout at Banbury Cross turn left onto the **A361** and at the cross roads left onto the **B4100** Warwick Road. Continue on the **B4100** past **Warmington** and running parallel to the **M40**. Near **Gaydon** turn right and then left, still on the **B4100**. (Here you are next to junction 12 of the **M40**). Shortly after you need to turn left for the British Motor Museum.

Out of the museum to the junction with the **B4100**, turn right on the **B4100** and bear right and left continuing on the **B4100** into Banbury. At the junction with the **A361** turn right to Banbury Cross and around the roundabout continuing on the **A361**, you are now back on the scenic route.

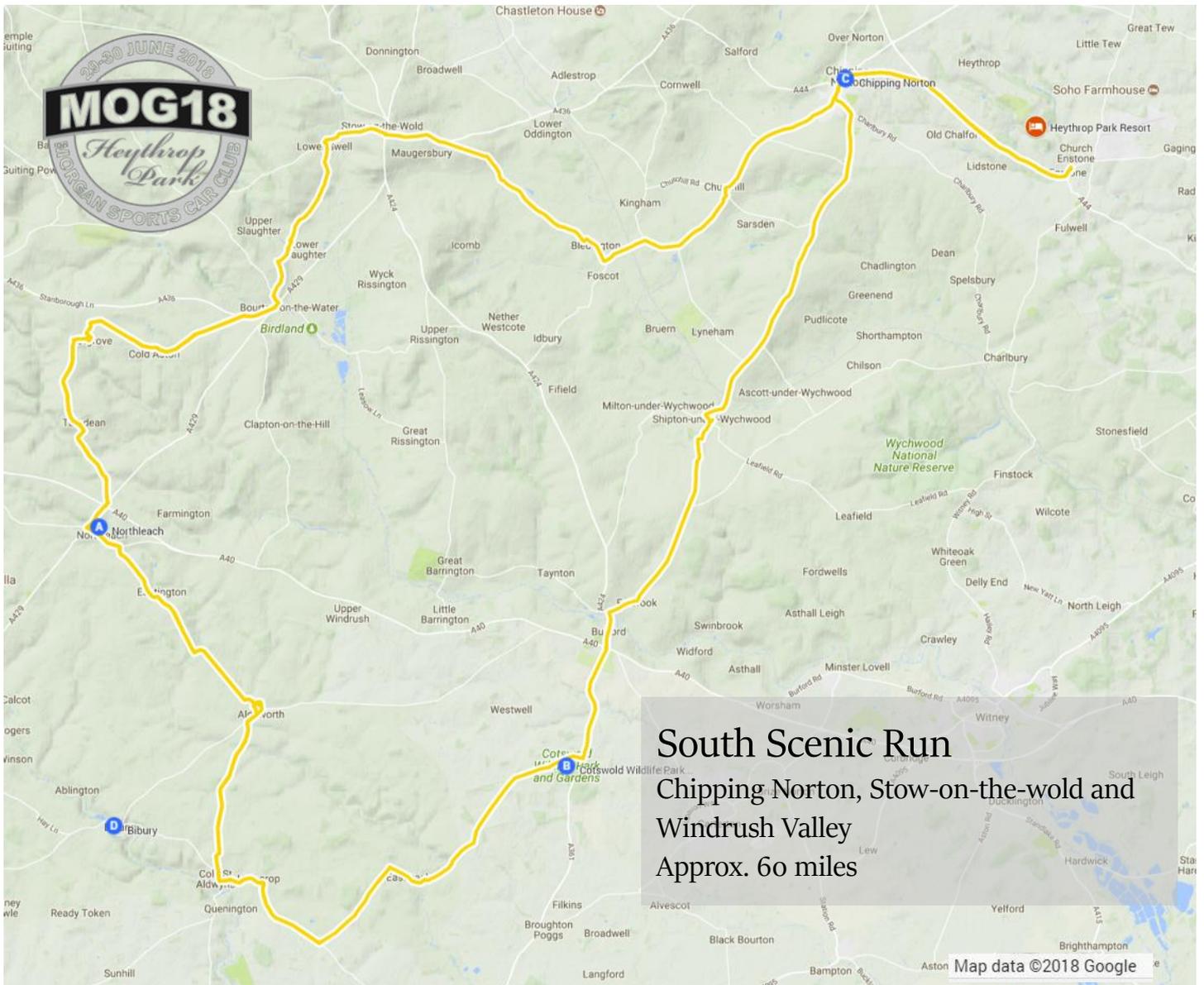
The route back to the hotel continues as follows....

At the roundabout (Banbury Cross) head south on the **A361** (third exit), where the **A361** bears right, continue straight onto the **Oxford Road, A4260**.

Heading towards **Adderbury** on the **A4260** (Oxford road) you will soon pass Horton Hospital on the left. **Adderbury** is a dormitory village made busy by the industrial estates which flank it. Turn left at traffic lights here to follow the **B4100** to **Aynho**, crossing the **M40** just before reaching the village.

*Aynho is very attractive and is worth exploring on foot.*

Take the **B4031** (Station Road) westwards out of the village to cross the motorway again, the railway and then the Oxford Canal.



## PLACES OF INTEREST ALONG THE ROUTE

### Northleach **(A)**

The town seems to have become important as a wool-trading centre quite suddenly in the fifteenth century and lost its pre-eminence equally abruptly about 150 years later. The finishers found that places such as Stroud provided faster-flowing and more reliable streams.

However, Northleach's short era of prosperity led to its church being enhanced into a showpiece of fifteenth-century architecture, one of the finest of the 'wool' churches. The brasses are truly outstanding, probably the best collection to be found in any parish church.

The town has two other notable secular collections:

**Keith Harding's World of Mechanical Music** Oak House, High Street. Antique docks, musical boxes and mechanical musical instruments. Hear exactly how famous composers such as Rachmaninov performed their works. Open all year, daily 10-6. Telephone: (01451) 860181.

**Cotswold Countryside Collection** Fosseway. Situated in the old House of Correction. There is a series of fascinating exhibits telling the story of everyday life of past generations in the area. Open April—October, Monday—Saturday 10.30-5. Sundays and Bank Holidays 2-5. Telephone: (01451) 860715.

### **Cotswold Wildlife Park **(B)****

The 180-acre zoological park is situated 2 miles south of Burford. Collection of animals from all over the world. Also an aquarium and insect house as well as adventure playground, brass-rubbing

centre, and narrow-gauge railway. Open all year, daily 10-6 (or dusk). Telephone: (01993) 823006.

### Chipping Norton ©

Like most of its neighbours, Chipping Norton prospered in medieval times from the wealth generated by the wool trade. This continued until 1980 when the Bliss Tweed Mill closed down. The tall building at the bottom of the valley has now been turned into apartments.. It was built in 1872 to the designs of George Woodhouse, a Lancashire architect.

Chipping Norton church dates from the thirteenth century, butte striking for its fine, albeit restored, fifteenth-century interior. The tower was rebuilt in 1825. A vicar was hanged from the earlier one after he had refused to obey Henry VII's edict to use Cranmer's Book of Common Prayer.

### Bibury ①

Bibury is situated in the Gloucestershire Cotswolds on the River Coln 9 miles from the market town of Burford. The village was once described by William Morris as 'the most beautiful village in the Cotswolds'.

The village centre clusters around a square near St. Mary's, a Saxon church. Some of the Saxon remains inside the church are replicas as the originals are housed in the British Museum.

One of the village's main tourist spots and overlooking a water meadow and the river is Arlington Row, a group of ancient cottages with steeply pitched roofs dating back to the 16th Century.

Henry Ford thought Arlington Row was an icon of England. On a trip to the Cotswolds he tried to buy the entire row of houses to ship back to Michigan so that he could include them in Greenfield Village.

Bibury has provided the backdrop for blockbuster films including Stardust and Bridget Jones's Diary.



## ROUTE DIRECTIONS

Starting from Heythrop Park hotel go down the drive to the T junction, turn right and right again onto the **A44** to **Evesham, Chipping Norton and Stratford**.

At the traffic lights turn left to **Chipping Norton A44** and at the roundabout go left into the town centre.. Pass behind the town hall at its upper end and go straight on to take the **B4450** towards **Stow-on-the-Wold**. (*not the main road A361 which bears left.*) Carry straight on this road which soon leaves the town to cross typically rolling countryside.

*There is a view to the right over a beautiful pattern of fields and hedges.*

A lane leaves to the right to Cornwell and then the distinctive pinnacles of Churchill church are seen ahead. There is a war memorial to the left as you come into the village.

*There is also a monument to the right, dedicated to William Smith, the Father of British Geology. He was born in the village in 1769.*

Cross the River Evenlode to pass from Oxfordshire into Gloucestershire. The next village on the **B4450** is **Bledington**.

*This is a large village with a pleasant green and many fine old buildings at its centre.*

The tower of Stow-on-the-Wold church can be seen just before the **B4450** joins with the **A436**. *\*\*Here it is possible to join the Snowhill and Batsford Arboretum scenic run by turning right onto the A436 and continuing from \*\* on those instructions.*

To continue this tour, turn left at the T junction towards **Stow-on-the-Wold**.

*Like Cirencester and Chipping Norton, Stow on the Wold radiates straight Roman roads like spokes from the hub of a wheel. Besides its countless beautiful old buildings Stow also has a wide variety of shops to please both connoisseurs and gourmets.*

*As you enter Stow there is a coach and car park signposted on the left with toilet facilities, opposite the Bell PH. This car park can be very busy.*

Continue through the town to cross straight over the Foss Way at the traffic lights by getting into the right-hand lane at the Unicorn Hotel and over to the **B4068** signposted to **Lower Swell**. You will cross the little River Dikler over a narrow bridge to enter Lower Swell. Take the turn to the left at the end of the village signposted to **The Slaughters**. *Ignore the turn to the right to Upper Slaughter.* Keep on by bearing left to **Lower Slaughter** and **Bourton-on-the-Water**. Bear left when the road divides again to come to **Lower Slaughter**. Turn right after this to cross the River Eye and then left to leave the village at the mill.

*The famous mill with its waterwheel is to the right after the bridge. There are very few parking spaces in this village, and parking on this short stretch of road is much sought after. However the Lower Slaughter Country Inn in the centre of the village on your right is a popular stopping place for lunch and has car parking.*

Continue along the lane to leave the village and turn left twice to join the **A429**. Turn right towards **Cirencester**. Take the **A436** signposted to **Cheltenham** when this goes off to the right. After about 1/2 mile fork left onto a road signposted to **Cold Aston**.

*A large sycamore tree dominates the centre of the village.*

Carry straight on when you meet the major road. Turn left at a T-junction to **Notgrove** and **Turkdean**. Take the byway on the left to go through **Notgrove**, turning sharply to the left to avoid the manor. This takes you to the peaceful Norman church.

From the church turn round and return to pass in front of the drive to the manor and reach the main road. Turn left to **Turkdean**.

*The road is unhedged between the two villages allowing fine vistas over acres of rolling farmland. When passing through **Turkdean** the church can be seen to the left. It is a pleasing mixture of Norman work with some Perpendicular rebuilding. There are some fine headstones and beautiful lichen-covered tombstones in the churchyard.*

Continue along the main road to leave **Turkdean**. Pass a road to **Lowerdean** on the right and then, further on, one to **Farmington** on the left. Then

right onto the **A429**. At the roundabout cross the **A40** and then, at the traffic lights, turn left into **Northleach**.

*The church is to the right behind the market-place. The route follows the road through the town past the Keith Harding Museum of Clocks and Musical Boxes.*

Take the turn to the right at the end of the town to **Eastington** and **Aldsworth**.

*The lane climbs steadily. This is pleasant broad-verged road. There are places where you could enjoy picnics and good views. Further on the road passes beech woods, glorious in autumn. At the end of a long straight stretch of road Aldsworth church can be seen ahead. Aldsworth church is to the right beyond a lovely manor house. The church is worth seeing for the grotesque faces on the outside of the north aisle.*

Turn right at the cross roads with the war memorial opposite and go down to the main road. Turn right towards **Bibury** (pronounced with a long 'i') onto the **B4425**, the road drops down into **Bibury** if you wish to visit this famous beauty spot, or turn sharply to the left, just as you reach **Bibury**, onto a Lane to **Coln St Aldwyns**. Turn right at a T-junction and then turn left in the village heading for **Hatherop**.

*The church is behind you as you make the turn by the post office. The dramatic silhouette of Hatherop Castle standing above the river is now seen ahead. The building is now used as a school. It was originally an Elizabethan manor house and was rebuilt in 1850.*

*The road climbs up to the village. Look for a little covered gateway to the right just before a telephone box. A path leads to the church from here. It is well worth the five minute stroll to see the elaborate French Gothic interior of the church. This is the work of William Burges in 1855. There is a particularly beautiful mortuary chapel, and the stained glass by O'Connor is very colourful. Be warned, the clock bell chimes loudly and resonates in the building for at least a minute!*

Turn right at **Hatherop** village green towards **Fairford** and then take the first left to **Eastleach**.

Turn left at a T-junction and then right, following the sign to **Eastleach** and **Southrop**. Descend past the war memorial into **Eastleach**.

*A lovely place of well-scattered houses and two churches, one on each side of the river. St Andrew's, with its saddleback tower, is situated in Eastleach Turville, on the west side of the river. It has incredible Norman carving in the porch. St Michael and St Martin's (a puzzling twin dedication since the saints have little in common) is on the other side of the River Leach. It is less used than its neighbour. However, it survives, being supported by the Historic Churches Trust. The interior presents a vision of simple beauty and tranquillity. John Keble was curate here from 1815 to 1825. The little clapper bridge over the river is still known locally as Keble's bridge'.*

The route continues by following the road round to the left after the bridge. The road follows the valley north eastwards at first. Keep straight on over two

crossroads and then bear right when a lane leaves to the left.

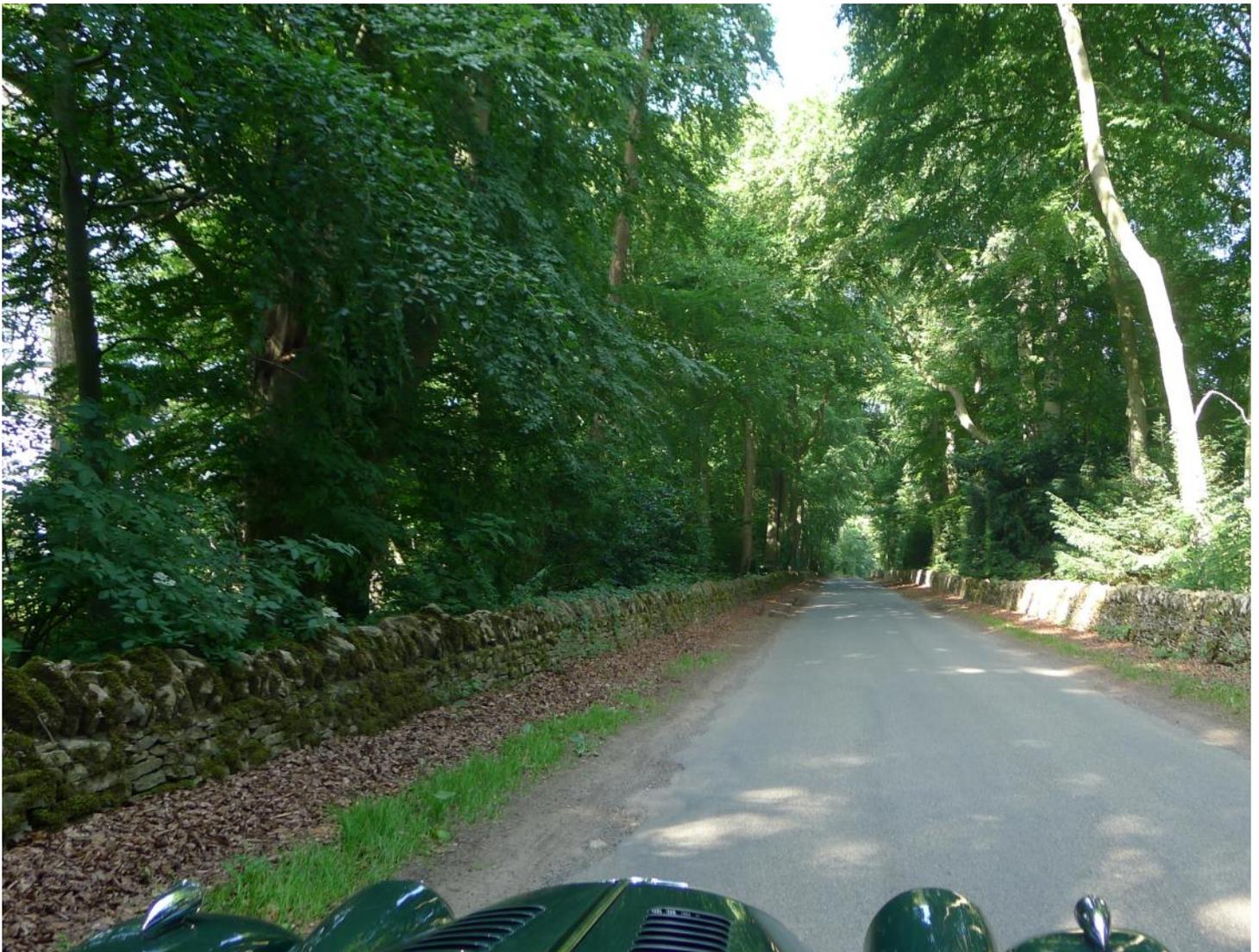
*This takes you through a lovely avenue of limes.*

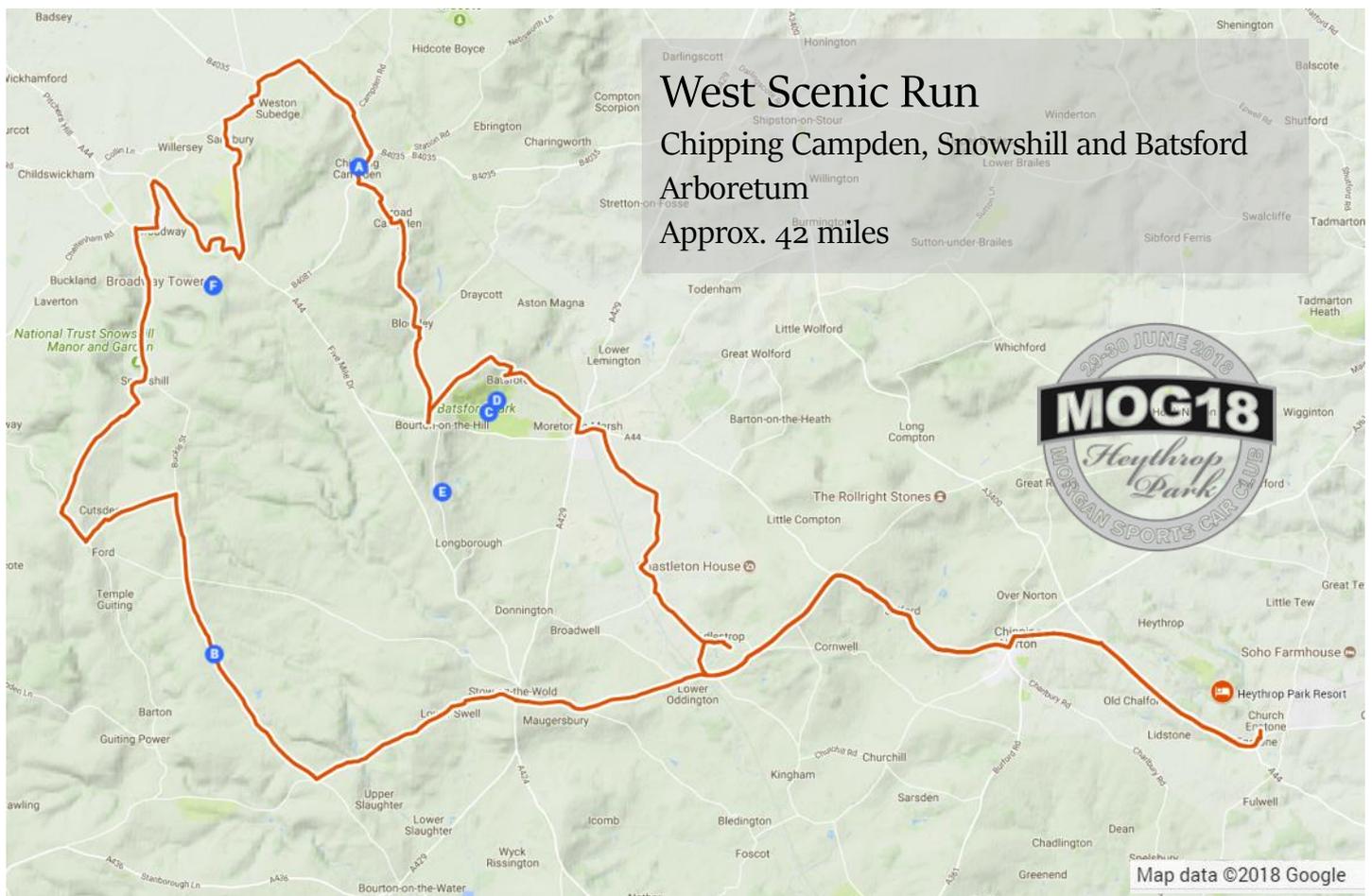
When you reach the **A361**, by the **Cotswold Wildlife Park**, turn left towards **Burford**.

Cross the **A40** and descend the hill into the main street is lined with an interesting array of shops, tearooms and pubs.

*The car park is towards the bottom of the town.,this is reached by a lane to the right, opposite the Bear Court shops, just where the road levels before the bridge.*

Cross the bridge and then go right at the roundabout through Fulbrook, still on the **A361**. Then return to **Chipping Norton** through **Shipton-under-Wychwood** a very pleasant drive. The main road runs along a ridge allowing wide views over the countryside. Continue along the **A361** towards **Chipping Norton** and retrace your route back to Heythrop Park via **Chipping Norton** and the **A44**.





## PLACES OF INTEREST

### Chipping Campden ①

This is the Cotswold wool town par excellence, its prosperity coming late in medieval times. This is reflected in the architecture of the church which was begun in 1450 and completed fifty years later. The long high street has a wonderful array of buildings of all shapes and ages. The only consistent thing here is the building material, a warm-hued Cotswold stone. There are few lovelier streets to be found in England. The oldest building here is Grevel House. It was built at the end of the fourteenth century for a wealthy wool merchant. It has a doorway with an unusual high arch. It was designed to allow pack-horses to pass through, burdened with their high loads of fleeces. A later tycoon was Sir Baptist Hicks. He was so wealthy that James I borrowed money from him, as did many of his court. Thus, Hicks was made Lord Campden. He built himself a wonderful mansion by the church. This was burned down by the Royalists at the end of the Civil War. Only the garden lodges and a gatehouse survive. Hicks was a great benefactor of the town. He built the almshouses by the church as well as the Market Hall.

### Cotswold Farm Park ②

Situated in open countryside near Guiting Power, the park is the premier rare breed survival centre in Britain. Lambing, sheepshearing, bee-keeping, spinning and weaving are amongst the seasonal events.

Open Daily April—September 10.30-5 (6 in July and August). Telephone: (01451) 850307.

### Batsford Arboretum ③

The Arboretum was established in the 1880s by the first Lord Redesdale on his return from a diplomatic posting in Japan. He incorporated many Japanese features in the park. These include a large bronze Buddha and bronze deer which graze in a lifelike manner in the clearings. In the last thirty years Lord Dulverton has planted more trees, including maples and magnolias, to ensure there is colour throughout the year. The higher part of the garden gives views over the Evenlode valley. Open daily March—early November 10-5. Telephone: (01608) 650722 or (01386) 700409 at weekends.

### Cotswold Falconry Centre, Batsford Park ④

Watch daily demonstrations in the art of falconry with special emphasis on breeding and conservation. Visitors can see eagles, hawks, owls

and falcons, many of them in flight Open March—November 10.30-5.30. Telephone: (01386) 701043.

### Sezincote (E)

The unique combination of a house built in Indian style in a landscaped park in the middle of the Cotswolds makes Sezincote an essential place to visit if you have an interest in architecture or gardens. House is only open May—July and September, Thursdays and Fridays 2.30-5.30. Garden open all year except December, Thursdays, Fridays and Bank Holiday Mondays 2-6 or dusk.

### Broadway Tower & Country Park (F)

Ideal for a visit to see the glorious view from the escarpment looking down to Broadway. The Tower built as a folly is worth a look. If you have the time check out the 'Nuclear Bunker' hidden besides the Tower to appreciate the scary times of the original 'Cold War'. Parking is refunded if food is purchased at the excellent café.

### ROUTE DETAILS

Starting from Heythrop Park hotel go down the drive to the T junction, turn right and right again onto the **A44** to **Evesham, Chipping Norton and Stratford**. At the traffic lights turn left to **Chipping Norton A44** and at the roundabout go left into the town centre. Follow the **A44** up the High Street and go right towards **Salford** and **Morton in the Marsh**.

Turn left onto the **A436** towards **Stow on the Wold**. Just after the turning on the left to Daylesford take the turning on the right to **Adlestrop** and **Evenlode**. This is quite an acute turn. At a T junction turn right into **Adlestrop**. Bear right at the old sign board for the station.

*Adlestrop Station was immortalised by Edward Thomas in "Yes, I remember Adlestrop..." "The poem is on a plaque on the seat there. The church, at the end of a cul-de-sac, is mainly interesting for its association with Jane Austen. She worshiped here when she visited the Leigh family at Adlestrop Park.*

Return to the junction and continue on the road signposted to **Evenlode**. Turn right at the next road junction to reach **Evenlode**. The church is to the left before the main part of the village.

*The road between Evenlode and Moreton-in-Marsh is pleasant, passing through woodland and lovely countryside.*

At the **A44** turn left into the town to reach the market hall. Turn right on to the **A429** (Stratford road). At the end of the town turn left towards **Batsford**.

*Detour left into the village down a beautiful lime avenue, signposted to Batsford village only. You will see the stable block to the right with its clock tower. The Victorian church is full of memorials to various members of the Redesdale family, who still own Batsford. The Mitford girls, daughters of Lord Redesdale, lived at Batsford. Jessica wrote of their lives here in Hons and Rebels.*

Leave the church, but turn left before the lime avenue to reach a crossroads. Turn left again here to head towards **Blockley**. The road follows the estate wall.

*If you wish to visit the **Arboretum**, adjacent **Falconry Centre**, or **Sezincote**, Turn left on to the **B4479** and then left once more on to the **A44**. For the arboretum, go through the village of **Bourton-on-the-Hill** to reach the entrance driveway. For **Sezincote** take the first turning to the right off the **A44** signposted to **Longborough** just as the road begins its descent into the village.*

To continue the route, without these detours continue and turn right onto the **B4479** to follow the sign to **Chipping Campden** and thus reach **Blockley**.

*This is a fascinating place, which is part Cotswold village and part mill village. Terraces of houses rise above its rushing stream, which once powered six silk mills. One of these was converted to generate electricity in 1887. The village claims to be the first in the country to have electric light.*

Turn left into the village centre if you wish to visit the fine church, otherwise, turn right towards **Chipping Campden** to continue the tour. This is an attractive road passing through the estate of Northwick.

*The grand mansion dates from 1686, and was remodelled to designs by Lord Burlington in 1732. There is a view of Chipping Campden (and a seat to enjoy it from) as the road suddenly dips into Broad Campden.*

Turn left at a T-junction to pass the pub and come to **Chipping Campden** where you meet the **B4081** at a corner.

Turn right at the T junction with the High Street to reach the centre of **Chipping Campden**. Continue

on this road **B4035** to pass the famous **Woolstaplers Hall** on the left and the church to the right. Keep to the main road, ignoring others, which leave to **Shipston, Broadway** and **Stratford**. At the **B4632**, after **Aston Subedge**, keep straight on towards **Broadway**. As you come into **Weston-sub-Edge** the Cotswold escarpment is to the left. Stay on the main road here and continue through the village. (Between the two bends you are on the Roman Ryknild Street).

About 1/2 mile after this there is an ancient cross to the right and a lane on the opposite side. Turn left here and climb the hill to Saintbury.

*This is one of the prettiest of Cotswold villages. Take the time to visit the church, to the right. There is a lovely view from the porch. Note the intricate Norman carving above the north door. The banked road climbs steeply out of the village beneath a canopy of trees. There are inviting-looking bridleways and footpaths here. Parking places can be found halfway up the hill. There is a wonderful view to the left as you come to the first crossroads, and it is worth pausing to enjoy this.*

After the crossroads the road continues to climb through a beech wood. There is a golf club before the top of the hill and the Dormey House Hotel is at the crest. Just before the lane meets a main road turn right onto a road unsuitable for heavy vehicles, following the sign to **Broadway**. This road drops very steeply and then joins with another coming from Farmcombe House. There are places here to park. Footpaths lead down to **Broadway**. The village can be seen below with the Vale of Evesham beyond.

At the **A44** take care when turning right and then leave the main road at the first roundabout, turning left into **Broadway**. Turn right to drive through the village.

It has a delightful variety of houses, all of the distinctive Cotswold stone. With its wide greens, it is easy to see why the village got its name. Turn left, just beyond the war memorial, towards the car park and **Snowhill**. The car park is to the left just before the church, but the route continues towards **Snowhill**. About 1 mile along this road you reach **St Eadburgha's**.

*This was Broadway's original parish church before the Victorian's built one in the centre of the village. It is a delightful little building, a mixture of Norman with medieval. There is a fine view from the*

*churchyard. St Eadburgha was a child saint who, apparently, was known for her tiresome insistence on washing other people's socks!*

*There are lovely vistas from the Snowhill road as it reaches open countryside, though tall hedges hide the views near the top.*

Pass the National Trust car park to the right and bear right down to the village. Head for **Ford** when the road divides. Pass **Snowhill Manor** on the right and then the church on the left. After the church the road begins to climb out of the village.

At a T-junction turn right towards **Ford** and **Stanway**. This road crosses one of the wilder parts of the Cotswolds. Continue to reach a T junction and turn right towards **Ford** and **Stow**. Continue until you meet the **B4077**. Bear left onto this road and continue for about 1/2 mile. Then take the turning left to reach **Cutsdean**. Go straight over a crossroads. The little church is in a farmyard to the right of the road. The farmyard itself is very attractive with barns, granary, stables and a fine farmhouse.

At the T-junction turn right towards **Stow**.

*This is a very pleasant road over the Wolds, fringed by trees to the left and with wide views to the right.*

Cross straight over the **B4077** heading towards the **Slaughters**. Pass the **Cotswold Farm Park** to the right, the home of rare breed conservation.

Half a mile after this you will come to a crossroads. Turn left here to **Stow** and **Lower Swell**.

*Old quarry workings can be seen to the right.*

The road soon descends into woodland. Pass a turning to the left to **Condicote** and carry on towards **Lower Swell**. Here there is a green with a little reading room overlooking it. Opposite a memorial, turn left on to the **B4068** signposted to **Stow-on-the-Wold**. Pass the Old Farmhouse Hotel on the left and the Golden Ball on the right. Cross the **A424** at the traffic lights, heading towards **Chipping Norton** and **Adlestrop** on the **A436**. Stow church and the market square are to the left. There is a car park just before the Bell Inn. *\*\* Here you can join the South Scenic Run by returning to the Foss Way traffic lights*

Otherwise continue back to the hotel via the **A436** to **Chipping Norton**. Turn right onto the **A44** through **Chipping Norton** turning right at the roundabout and right again at the traffic lights continuing to follow the **A44** to the hotel.



This is the original route of the MOG88 Scenic Run. See if anything has changed from 1988!!

The original route started from the Campsite opposite the Cotswold Wildlife Park & Gardens, the 'Base' for MOG88. We will join it before we reach Burford. Navigate to Burford via the B4022 to Charlbury, B4437 /A361 through to the mini roundabout with A424 **BEFORE** you cross the bridge to Burford.

Here is the original text...

...follow the **A424** but proceed straight on to **Taynton** and **The Barringtons** when the **A424** turns off to the right.

**Taynton** - Classic Cotswold village, worth a wander around before proceeding into Gloucestershire.

**Great Barrington** Norman Church with interesting C18th brasses.

*Navigational note: Bear LEFT at the stone cross in Great Barrington. Turn RIGHT immediately after the Fox Inn, an attractive Cotswold pub by the bridge over the River Windrush.*

**Windrush** Keep to the right on passing the Norman Church.

**Sherborne** Watch for the left turn into the village.

Old manor house. Post Office and Stores. Morris dancing *note: Sherborne dances are distinctive in that the rhythm is one-hop-two-three, rather than the usual one-two-three-hop.*

The next three right turns are pretty obvious from the map. **Clapton-on-the-Hill** Smallest church in Cotswolds, c.1200

*Navigational note: The left turn just after Clapton-on-the-Hill is marked as 'Unsuitable for Motors', don't be put off although it is rather rough for a short distance before the New Bridge.*

Two more left turns then watch for the main car-park on the left as you enter Bourton.

**Bourton-on-the-Water** is definitely best explored on foot. Popular tourist village with a great many attractive stone houses and cottages of various ages. Interesting church. **Cotswold Motor Museum:** Motor-cycles & vintage racing cars in C18th water mill. Village Life Exhibition. Model Railway (400 ft<sup>2</sup> of 00 & N gauge), **Birdland:** Tropical birds, exotic plants, art gallery and museum. **Perfumery, Trout Farm, and Model Village.** Pubs, Tea Rooms etc.

*Navigational note: The recommended route is the easiest way to cross the A429 (Fosseway - Roman Road linking Exeter to Lincoln) if it is at all busy. The right turn into the minor road is sign-posted*

'Naunton 4'. Turn right for the 'Slaughters' after 200 yards, then the next right into Lower Slaughter is in the bottom of a dip. Turn right when you get to the River Eye in the centre of the village, bear slightly left after crossing the bridge.

**Lower Slaughter** (name comes from 'place of sloes') Largest Dovecot in Gloucestershire c.1500

Half a mile out of **Lower Slaughter** watch for a very sharp left turn to **Upper Slaughter**.

**Upper Slaughter** Interesting church, C16th Manor House, Elizabethan, remains of C15th Priory, superb Jacobean porch.

*If you want another rinse under the wings, turn right in the village (marked Unsuitable for Motors) and cross the River Eye, turn right on re-joining the main road.*

Turn right at the T junction after leaving the village. Left on to the B4068 and right at the cross-roads, (unless you want to go via Harford Bridge to Notgrove via a deep ford). Turn left to circumnavigate **Naunton** along a tree-lined road, as you head down the steep hill at the end you have to make two left turns. Left at the Fox Hill Inn on to the **B4068** and right at the cross-roads. Also the **Cotswold Farm Park** - rare breeds of British farm animals in beautiful setting high in Cotswolds, with cafe, toilets.

**Aylworth** pass carefully through the farmyard.

**Notgrove** name from 'nala-graef' = "natas' trench", a nearby long barrow. C9th Norman church with C14th transept, look for carving on east wall and bell flower ornament in transept window. Folly Farm conservation centre for domestic poultry.

After **Turkdean** Turn right on to **A429**, straight over the roundabout to cross the **A40**.

**Cotswold Countryside Collection** on right-hand side of **A429** just before **Northleach**. Little Chef next door. This village police station and 'country prison' built by Sir O. Paul in 1790, contains the Loyd-Baker collection of agriculture in the horse-drawn age. Tourist information centre and café (*recommended in 2018!*).

**Northleach** C13th wool town, C15th church with fine brasses. **Museum of Mechanical Music**. Pubs etc. Parking is limited so it's probably best to walk from the Cotswold Countryside Collection.

Take any of the minor roads south out of the square, i.e. turn right. Follow the signs for **Bibury**. Turn left on to Salt Way the medieval route for carrying salt from Droitwich and coastal salt towns, used to preserve meat.

**Ablington** C16th Manor House, late C17th house.

**Bibury** Pretty village by River Coln, many tourist amenities. Renowned for horse-racing in era of Charles II. Saxon church with Norman additions, superb table tombs. Late C17th hotel. **Trout Farm**.

**The Mill**, (now closed—2018), is mentioned in Domesday Book. Arlington Row originally monastic wool barns, C17th barn conversion! 'to weaver's homes, overlooks Rack Isle a 4-acre water meadow where cloth was hung to dry.

Continue on through the village following the main road (**A433**) for a few hundred yards until you come to the fork for **Coln St.Aldwyns** off to the right. Turn right at the T junction when entering **Coln St.Aldwyns**. Follow the road round to the left in the village square.

**Coln St.Aldwyns** Norman Church, large house built for Sir M. Hick-Mead sometime Chancellor of the Exchequer. Macaroni Farm named after rich play boys who went to the races at Bibury.

Alternative routes home include turning left at **Hatherop** (the castle is a private school) and driving along part of **Akeman Street**, another Roman Road, OR, passing through **Quenington** (former dwelling of Knights Hospitallers) which offers another couple of hostelrys.

**Eastleach Turville** Victoria Arms renowned as venue of OxMog (*circa 1988*) Friday night's Noggin. The road through the village is rather tortuous, follow the 'through' route as suggested by the road markings at all the junctions.

**Eastleach Martin** named after the Norman church. Look right for Clapper Bridge, ancient pack-horse bridge.

Return to **Burford**, passing back into Oxfordshire. Beware roads that have right of way across your route.

Drive past the entrance to the Cotswold Wildlife Park and the entrance to the original MOG88 Campsite, and proceed carefully across the **A361**.

**Shilton** Go through the village and at the bottom of the steep hill you will see the ford on the right. *It is quite shallow, it only comes halfway up the ducks.* The alternative is to keep to the main way through the village, by the Rose & Crown. *Incidentally, the left turn on to the B4020 is easier if you take the road through the ford.*

An easy left turn on to the A40, turn right at the roundabout.

**Burford** - One of the main towns in the area, a maze of side-streets with many shops, pubs, eating places, petrol, toilets, tourist information. Historic wool and coaching centre. **Tolsey Museum** (Free Entry even in 2018!). Norman Church remodelled in C15th with 'wool' money, outstanding spire and porch, peaceful spot by River Windrush. C15th Almshouses, C16th School.

.....Back into 2018...Leave Burford over the bridge and return to hotel via the route you came.  
*We hope it brought back some great memories!*