

This map shows the parks, community gardens and other green spaces across Thornbury for you to discover and enjoy.

Most of the outdoor spaces highlighted on the map are free to enter and open to the public, except for the allotments. Most of the spaces are wheelchair accessible, with many offering suitable paths too.

We've marked out some possible walking routes on the map. Drop into Thornbury town hall to pick up specific walking route materials and find out about local events. For up-to-date information on local events, visit: [mythornbury.co.uk](http://mythornbury.co.uk)



# Discover Thornbury

## 1 THORNBURY CASTLE

Budding time travellers are well-advised to visit this stunning 16th century castle, which stands in 15 acres of regal splendour surrounded by vineyards and a Tudor garden. The castle started life as a manor but was given a major upgrade in 1511 by Edward Stafford, an English nobleman who became the 2nd Duke of Buckingham and whose subsequent accusation and execution are depicted in Shakespeare's Henry VIII. Thornbury Castle is now renowned for being one of the finest country house hotels in England – even if you are not a guest you can join the likes of Sophia Loren and Lawrence Olivier by visiting the hotel restaurant for some fine dining, or take a stroll through its historic landscaped grounds. Be sure to check the website for details of upcoming events – for more info, visit: [thornburycastle.co.uk](http://thornburycastle.co.uk)

## 2 THORNBURY MEDIEVAL FISHPONDS

Though ponds are a neglected historic feature of the national landscape, they once formed an integral part of the farming system. Some of the worst jobs in British history involved ponds: consider the poor leech collector, who had to use himself as a human trap, wading through ponds, bogs, and marshes to collect these blood-sucking worms for use in medicine. Ponds were also used to farm fish, ret cloth (the process of soaking hemp, flax, or other materials in water to soften and expose the fibres) and provide water for livestock and draft animals. Nowadays ponds are crucial for biodiversity – they support a huge diversity of life, including dragonflies, aquatic beetles, mayflies, caddisflies and other endangered amphibians such as the great crested newt.

Thornbury's medieval fishponds were constructed in the thirteenth century and form part of Thornbury's largest artificial wetland. In 2011 English Heritage announced that the Park Farm Medieval Fishponds were to be scheduled a "historic monument". The ponds are located on clay beds and fed by natural springs, and are an important habitat for local wildlife, including kingfishers.

## 3 COMMUNITY ORCHARD

Orchards are evocative places ripe for contemplation – synonymous with both human tradition and culture. Indeed, the latin noun malus can mean either 'apple' or 'evil', hence why the 'tree of knowledge of good and evil' in the Garden of Eden is often depicted as an apple tree (interestingly, the 'Eden' variety apple was developed in local Rockhampton). Moreover, the trees and plants you encounter in orchards have often been cultivated over hundreds or even thousands of years – they form part of our cultural treasure and are distinctly local.

This community orchard is a great place to visit – pop along at various times in the summer and autumn, and choose from a selection of apples, plums, blackcurrants, damsons, blackberries, and elderberries (just make sure you only take a couple, and leave enough for others). If you have little ones, this is a great way to teach them about different plants as you can bring them along and let them have a go at picking (and eating) some of the ripe fruits. When you sample some of the fruit in this orchard, consider that you are tasting the character of Thornbury – the literal fruits of its history, people, climate, soil, and water. Certainly food for thought!

## 4 THE CHANTRY

Lots of fun events take place at this beautiful listed building venue run by The Thornbury and District Community Association. Exercise classes, quiz nights, courses and clubs, murder mystery nights, plays, and Duke of Edinburgh are just a few examples of activities which have taken place here. Located at the bottom of Castle Street, The Chantry is one of the most easily identifiable buildings in Thornbury. You can hire its rooms (including six meeting rooms, two halls, and a walled garden) for meetings or functions, and the venue also offers a variety of audiovisual equipment, and a fully-equipped kitchen.

## 5 THE THORNBURY PUMP

This iconic pump would have once formed the centre of Thornbury town life, as locals gathered to collect their water. Though these community pumps are not widely used nowadays, we still use the expression 'parish pump' to describe places or forums where local matters are discussed.

## 6 THORNBURY TOWN CENTRE

Thornbury is known to be one of the best places to live in Bristol, and with its traditional shops and old-world feel it's not hard to see why this bustling market town is so sought after.

With a mix of traditional shops and High Street brands, plus a shopping centre and two supermarkets, Thornbury High Street has everything you need for a day's shopping. Be sure to visit the farmers market, which is held on the first and third Thursdays of each month between 9am and 1:30pm. Hungry visitors to the town are spoilt for choice, with a large selection of very good restaurants and cafes – from high quality pub fare, to Italian cuisine, there is something to suit all tastes and wallets.

Thornbury town also has a thriving community scene, which caters to a wide-range of interests – including over a dozen musical and drama groups, sports clubs, scouts, air, and sea cadets, plus history, charity, and social organisations. Thornbury also has a leisure centre, library, doctors, dentist, opticians and medical centre. There are ample opportunities to stay or get fit, with football, rugby, cricket, badminton, tennis, golf, buggy fit and a skate park.

The numerous musical and drama groups often perform in the Armstrong Hall near the town centre (seating 350) or the adjacent Cossham Hall (seating 140). Performances also take place in church halls and occasionally in the Leisure Centre.

Built in the 12th Century, St Mary's Church is the oldest surviving building in Thornbury, and is one of 7 churches in the area.

## 7 MUNDY PLAYING FIELDS

Grab your goggles, because Mundy Playing fields boasts a large open air water play area for children (and their adults) to splash around in. Bring a picnic rug and sit on one of the grassy bank slopes to get a good (and dry!) view of your children paddling in the splash area. The park also has a well-equipped children's play area, featuring a zip wire, embankment slides, roundabout, climbing frame, and balance bars. For those looking to get or stay fit, there is a range of adult exercise equipment, football pitches, a sports ground, and tennis courts. Located just off the High Street, you can easily pop to the shops for refreshments, but there is usually an ice cream van on site.

Mundy Playing fields were named after Violet Mundy, a local woman who generously bequeathed £6000 to Thornbury Parish Council in 1934 (an enormous sum, in those days) to create these much-loved playing fields.



## 8 THORNBURY & DISTRICT MUSEUM

If you are interested in local history, this is the place for you – with a comprehensive collection of exhibits and artefacts about life in Thornbury throughout the ages, this museum is the place to discover more about the history of your area. Take a peek into the lives of the local people long since gone – find out who they were, and how they lived. For little historians, there are a number of educational games and activities to enjoy, with a dedicated children's corner. To find out more about upcoming events and exhibitions, visit: [thornburymuseum.org.uk](http://thornburymuseum.org.uk)

## 9 THORNBURY COMMUNITY GARDEN

The English country garden can be traced back to the 19th century, when households grew medicinal and culinary herbs alongside strikingly coloured flowers in humble garden plots. From the Roman period and for hundreds of years subsequently, the English garden was characterised by grandeur, order, and formality, demonstrating man's skill and mastery over nature. In contrast, the humble 'cottage garden' with its overflowing borders, tangled vines, and riotous colour seemed natural, effortless, and in harmony with nature, despite being as carefully and artfully constructed.

This RHS award-winning garden is the perfect place to view the classic cottage style in all its abundantly planted glory. Bursting with herbaceous perennial plants and annuals, it is a haven for bees, butterflies, and small birds, and is a wonderful place to while away a lazy afternoon in relaxed contemplation. There are also plenty of things for little ones to do; whether learning about the beautiful plants, spotting the various animals who come and go, or playing on the mosaic hotpotch. This garden is open to everyone to enjoy, has good wheelchair access, and is kept in top condition by a group of committed volunteers.

## 10 STREAMLEAZE GREEN

This small play park is a great place to climb, bounce, slide, and swing. Suitable for children and big kids alike. Featuring a multi-play piece, trampoline, new springer, and swings, there is lots to keep little ones entertained.

## 11 FILNORE ALLOTMENTS

Keen gardeners need look no further, as these allotments are a great place to grow quality organic produce and plants, meet new people, and increase your knowledge. Welcoming beginners and experienced growers alike, this friendly community allotment hosts regular socials, plant and produce swaps, and work parties to improve the site. The area is fenced off, fitted out with a storage container, and communal water collection facilities. If you are interested in what they do, or think you would like a plot, get in touch at [allotments@sustainablethornbury.org](mailto:allotments@sustainablethornbury.org)

## 12 FILNORE WOODS

Woods are strange and magical places – the home to many of our folk traditions and the settings of stories. We have all heard tales about travellers who stray from the main path and find themselves deep in the woods, face-to-face with the unknown. Once upon a time, the boundaries of the mapped world ended at the edge of the woods – after that, stretched the unknown...

We know more about the woods now – we know that the flora, fauna and fungi are essential to local biodiversity and landscape. Filnore Woods is a Community Woodland maintained by passionate volunteers, which provides a diverse range of habitats for wildlife. It is a great place to visit and learn more about the natural world. Check the Filnore Woods blog for details of upcoming events and more: [filnorewoods.blogspot.com](http://filnorewoods.blogspot.com)

### WALKING ROUTES

- Streamsides Walk
- Heritage Walk
- Parish Walk

**Streamsides Walk** A 1 mile (approx. 20 minute) quiet waterside route linking the new neighbourhoods of Thornbury Fields and The Orchards to Thornbury Town Centre. Shaded by a huge variety of trees, including the community orchard, this wildlife corridor provides a peaceful habitat for all kinds of nature. Look out for frogs and sticklebacks in the pond, where you turn south towards the town centre.

**Heritage Walk** A 2.25 mile walk (approx. 50 minute), created by the Thornbury and District Heritage Trust as a Millennium project, the 'Heritage Trail' encompasses the town's historic buildings. There are forty way-markers indicating the route, which starts outside the town hall, in the town centre.

**Parish Walk** A 2.3 mile (approx. 45 minute) circular leisure walk around Thornbury Parish taking in lots of sights and green areas. The trail starts at The Plain facing the Town Pump. Mainly on surfaced paths.

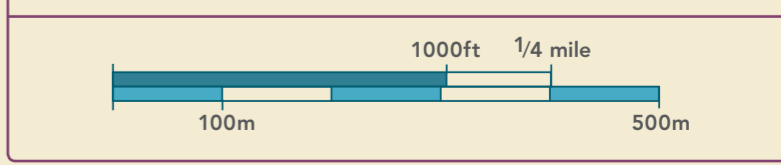
### CYCLING

On the map we have highlighted some of the local attractions that have lots of cycle parking available, but across the area there are lots of places to park your bike – the vast majority of local attractions, green spaces, amenities and schools have convenient cycle parking and lots more is being added all the time.



### KEY

- Places of Interest
- Grassland
- Woodland
- Paved routes (off-road)
- Unpaved routes (off-road)
- Bus stops
- Bike parking
- Car parks
- Electric vehicle charging point
- Shopping / retail
- Restaurants / eating / drinking
- Community Centres
- Post Office
- Schools
- Libraries
- Toilets
- Playgrounds



Every effort has been made to represent an accurate reflection of the area on this map. We apologise for anything we may have missed out. Information correct at time of printing June 2019.



Thornbury is bursting with places to explore. This fold-out map is packed with local knowledge about the best places to visit and includes the new developments of Thornbury Fields and The Orchards.

We asked you to share your favourite places with us, and your local gems are included in this map. Discover the best places to go for a walk, cycle, view nature, learn about local history, or just get from A to B. There are lots of fun activities for you to try, plus amazing facts about your area, beautiful local wildlife, and the best routes to walk, cycle, skate, or wheel around your way.

## GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD WITH THIS OUTDOOR GUIDE TO THORNBURY

### DISCOVER ONLINE

Want to view this map online? Visit [travelwest.info/aroundyourway](http://travelwest.info/aroundyourway) for travel information across the West of England and is funded by the four Local Authorities comprising the West of England: Bristol, South Gloucestershire, Bath & North East Somerset and North Somerset. The site is packed with useful information relating to public transport, walking, cycling, car sharing and electric vehicles as well as providing useful resources for schools, businesses and developers. However you like to travel, visit [travelwest.info](http://travelwest.info) to find the best ways to get around.

### TRAVELWEST.INFO

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## GET INVOLVED

### THORNBURY IN BLOOM

A group of volunteers planting all year round to enhance the town for residents, visitors, and businesses. Visit: [thornburyinbloom.co.uk](http://thornburyinbloom.co.uk)

### THORNBURY CYCLING CLUB

A cycle group sharing group rides, planned routes, and general cycling updates. Visit: [groups/ThornburyCyclingClub](http://groups/ThornburyCyclingClub)

### THORNBURY RUNNING CLUB

A friendly local running club, offering a variety of runs for beginners or experienced runners. They also organise 3 races per year, the Thornbury 10k road race, Oldbury Power 10 Miller and the Riverbank Rollik. Visit: [thornburyrunningclub.co.uk](http://thornburyrunningclub.co.uk)

### THORNBURY PARK RUN

A friendly group of people meeting at Mundy Playing fields at 9am every Saturday for a free timed run. The events are organised by volunteers. To register please visit the Park Run website: [parkrun.org.uk/thornbury](http://parkrun.org.uk/thornbury)

### THORNBURY RAMBLING CLUB

Organised walks for a range of experience and ability levels. The club has a very active social element and also organises walking holidays. Visit: [sites.google.com/site/thornburyramblers/](http://sites.google.com/site/thornburyramblers/)

### THORNBURY FIELDS

A facebook page for local residents at Thornbury Fields to share news, information, and informal chat. Search: [ThornburyFields](https://www.facebook.com/ThornburyFields)

## MY THORNBURY

Online information about events, businesses, and organisations in and around Thornbury. Visit: [mythornbury.co.uk](http://mythornbury.co.uk)

### SUSTAINABLE THORNBURY

A group of people in Thornbury looking to save energy, reduce re-use & recycle waste, grow food, improve the local economy, and promote sustainable travel. Visit: [sustainablethornbury.org](http://sustainablethornbury.org)

### THORNBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Representing the town, looking after local interests, and supporting the work of different community groups. Visit: [thornburycouncil.gov.uk](http://thornburycouncil.gov.uk)

### THORNBURY AND DISTRICT MUSEUM

The community museum for Thornbury and Seven Vale. Also see their community history website: [thornburyroots.co.uk](http://thornburyroots.co.uk) and archive: [thornburymuseum.org.uk](http://thornburymuseum.org.uk)

### LITTERBUSTERS IN THORNBURY

Friendly voluntary group helping to keep Thornbury litter free with regular litter-picks meeting at Turnberris Centre at 9.30am on the first Saturday of the month. Plus volunteering at local events. Visit: [litterbusters-in-thornbury.org](http://litterbusters-in-thornbury.org)

### THORNBURY MUSICAL THEATRE GROUP

A long established and successful local theatre group, organising 3 productions per year. Visit: [tmtg.org.uk](http://tmtg.org.uk)

## FURTHER AFIELD



KEY	
	T1 bus route
	T3 bus route
	T2 bus route
	Traffic-free routes

### PLAN YOUR JOURNEY

Use the Travelwest Journey Planner to plan your journey, where you can find the best routes for different modes of transport, and view real-time information about buses, cycling, park & ride and trains. This travel tool was designed specifically for the South West and contains comprehensive, regularly updated information relating to your area that you will not find in any other online map. Visit [travelwest.info/journeyplanner](http://travelwest.info/journeyplanner) to get your journey started.

### LIVE BUS TIMES

No more waiting around at the bus stop thanks to a range of bus checker apps – just install on your phone or tablet and you can get live information about when your next bus arrives. There are many bus checker apps available, and you can also use some of them to buy tickets. To find the best one for you, visit: [travelwest.info/bus/real-time-information-apps](http://travelwest.info/bus/real-time-information-apps)

### BUS SERVICES

Catching the bus from Thornbury to Bristol City Centre is now even easier with quicker journeys and better buses. The T1 service uses the new metrobus routes to reduce journey times to 45 minutes at off-peak and 55 minutes at peak times, whilst a fleet of improved buses across all the routes feature free wifi, USB charging ports and cleaner engines, meaning you can relax and enjoy your journey. For maps and timetables visit: [travelwest.info/routes](http://travelwest.info/routes)

### CAR CLUBS

If you don't want to own a car, but need one on demand, car clubs are a great option. For a monthly or annual subscription fee, a car club allows you to borrow a car on a pay-as-you-go basis – you will just pay for what you use, and won't be responsible for servicing or maintenance costs. It is easy to become a member of a car club – just fill in a short form online. To find your nearest car club, visit: [travelwest.info/drive/car-clubs](http://travelwest.info/drive/car-clubs)

### ELECTRIC VEHICLES

With a rapidly expanding network of public charging points available across the West of England region, there has never been a better time to make the switch to electric vehicles. There are discounts available to buy all types of electric and plug-in hybrid cars, vans and motorcycles, ranging from £1,500 to £8,000. To check out your nearest public charging points and the wider network, plus help with selecting the right car and calculating your cost savings, visit: [travelwest.info/drive](http://travelwest.info/drive)

### CAR SHARE

Sharing a lift is a great way to save money, reduce the stress of driving and make your journeys more social. There are a range of services to help you link up with other people making similar journeys to you. Find out more at: [travelwest.info/drive/car-sharing](http://travelwest.info/drive/car-sharing)



### MORE JOURNEY PLANNING TOOLS

There are a huge number of resources to help you plan and track your journeys. Here are just a few to help you get started:

#### PLAN JOURNEYS BY BIKE

Find the best route for your needs whether this is the fastest or the quietest route with the Better By Bike route planner. Visit: [cycleplanner.betterbybike.info/route-planning](http://cycleplanner.betterbybike.info/route-planning)

#### PLAN JOURNEYS ON FOOT

Find walking routes, create routes, track distances and calories, and take part in challenges. Visit: [mapmywalk.com/gb](http://mapmywalk.com/gb)

#### PLAN JOURNEYS BY TRAIN

Check live departure and arrival times and see how much your tickets will cost. Visit: [thetrainline.com/journey-planner](http://thetrainline.com/journey-planner)

#### FREE CYCLE MAPS

Find traffic-free routes, quiet roads, busy roads, contours and the national cycle network (NCT). Plus, the main destinations and other attractions in the area. Visit: [betterbybike.info/maps-and-rides/regional-cycle-maps](http://betterbybike.info/maps-and-rides/regional-cycle-maps)

### GET IN TOUCH

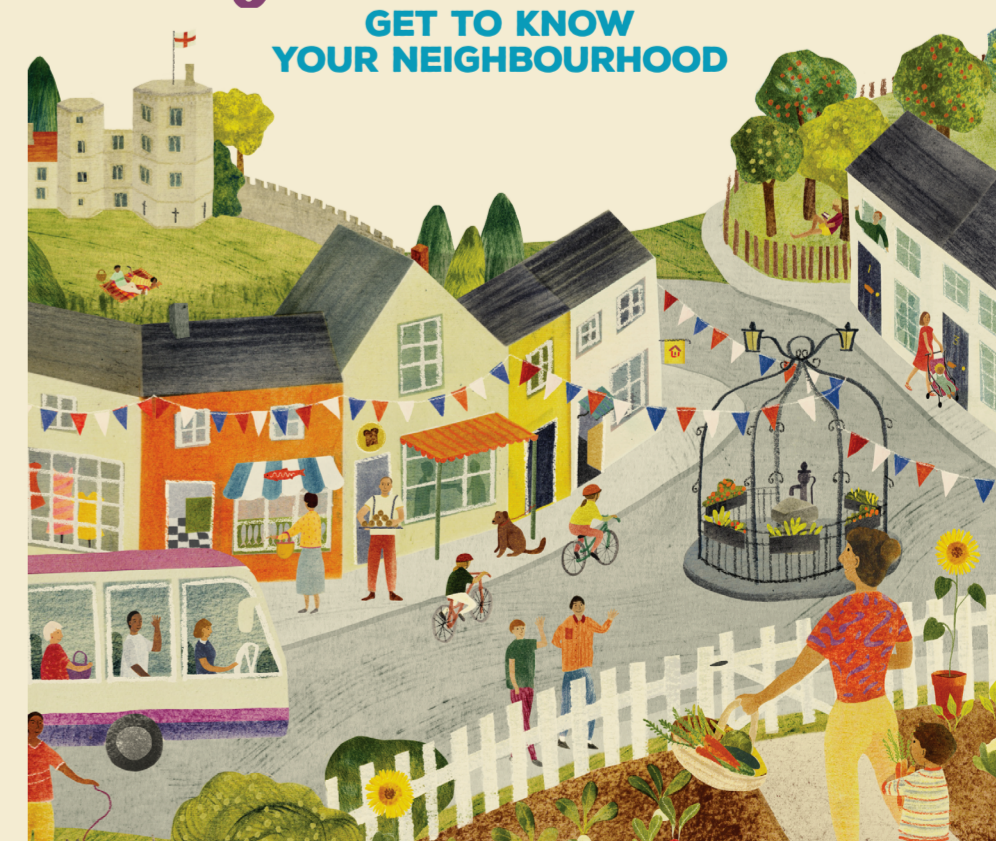
If you have any questions about transport in your area, or would like to learn more about the Around Your Way project, please email the Travelwest team at: [transport.policy@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:transport.policy@southglos.gov.uk)

We are also able to post printed copies of the latest bus timetable information and additional copies of this guide.

This map was produced by the Around Your Way project, which is here to help you discover the best of your area and the best ways to get around. Around Your Way is a completely free and impartial service provided by South Gloucestershire Council and Travelwest. The project is funded by the Department for Transport and contributions from your neighbourhood's developer.



## Discover Thornbury



Keep on exploring at [travelwest.info/aroundyourway](http://travelwest.info/aroundyourway)