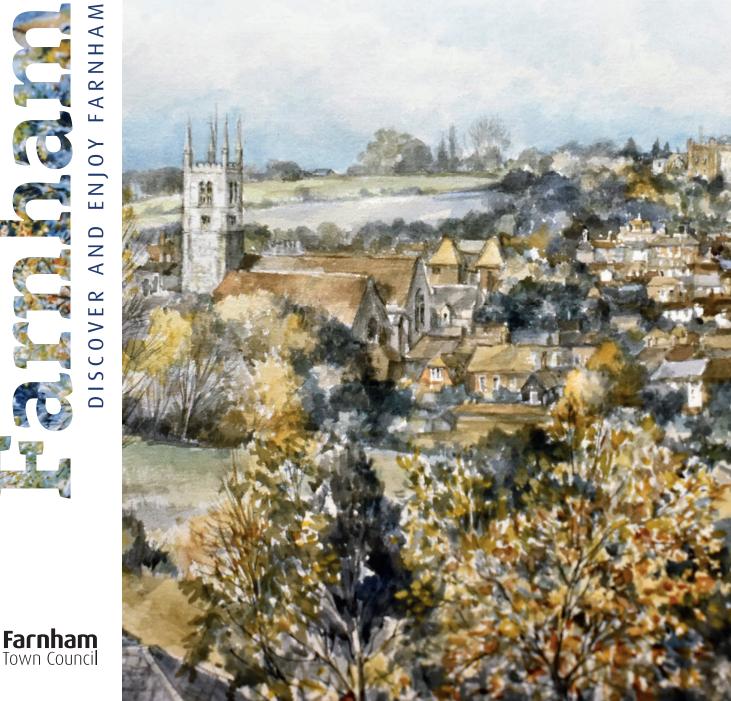


FARNHAM'S OFFICIAL VISITOR GUIDE





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Welcome to Farnham

Known for its Georgian streets, historic buildings and craft heritage, with easy access to the rural North Downs Way, Farnham is an historic market town nestled in the rolling Surrey Hills; offering visitors a chance to enjoy quintessential England, just an hour from the capital.



Whether you are looking for great locally produced food, beautiful green countryside, fascinating heritage or a wealth of independent and quirky shops, Farnham is the perfect place to visit.

But don't take our word for it, read on to discover what Farnham has to offer.



Farnham Town Council gratefully acknowledges the support of all it's advertisers, who have helped fund this guide. As a reciprocal gesture, Farnham Town Council would like to draw the readers' attention to these announcements. However, it does wish to make it clear that Farnham Town Council can accept to responsibility for the products or services advertised.

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Front Cover: Water Colour Painting - Charles Bone PPRI ARCA

Getting to Farnham



Farnham is perfectly located, one hour by train south of London and approximately one hour north of the south coast. Accessible by train, car, plane or foot, whichever your preferred method of transport you can reach Farnham easily.

By Air

London's Gatwick and Heathrow airports are both within one hour's drive of Farnham. From Heathrow, take the coach to Woking, Surrey and transfer to an Alton train for the short 20 minutes journey to Farnham. National Express runs a convenient service from London Victoria to Farnham, ideal for those arriving on the Gatwick Express from Gatwick.

By Rail

Farnham enjoys a direct service to and from London Waterloo and Alton every half an hour during the week. The train station is just 5-10 minutes' walk from the town centre, located just south of the A31. For details on train times call 0845 484950 or see **www.nationalrail.com**

By Bus

Farnham is served by a network of bus routes to and from surrounding towns and villages. For details of the routes and timetables call 0871 200 22 33 or see www.traveline.org.uk or www.stagecoachbus.com

By Car

Farnham is located just off the A31, A3, M3 and A287. There are nine pay and display car parks, with two park and ramble riverside car parks.

Parking for Blue Badge holders is available at all car parks. See map.

The car parks have the option for customers to use RingGo, a quick, easy-to-use mobile phone service, which lets you pay for your parking with a credit or debit card, rather than using cash at a machine. When you park your car in an area featuring the RingGo service, you simply contact RingGo by the smartphone app, calling, SMS or online, and pay for your parking by phone.

For more information visit **www.waverley.gov.uk**

By Taxi

There is a taxi rank at the railway station and on Castle Street. There are a number of local taxi companies available.

By Coach

For details on routes from London and Portsmouth to Farnham see **www.nationalexpress.com**. Free coach parking for groups is located off The Hart.

By Bicycle

Whether you travel the 10 miles North Downs Way from Guildford to Farnham by bike or explore the St Swithun's Way from Alton, there are miles of possible cycle routes to and from Farnham to enjoy.

Useful Contacts

Waverley Borough Council car parks 01483 523333 | www.waverley.gov.uk

Traveline | 0871 200 22 33 telephone service | 84268 text service

Visit Farnham Information

Plan your visit using this guide and for even more information visit www.farnham.gov.uk for up to date events, to find out what is happening locally and more. A directory of local restaurants, shops and places to stay will help you plan your trip plus links to special interest websites about Farnham and what is has to offer.



Follow Farnham Town Council on Twitter @FarnhamOfficial

and on Facebook to keep up to date with the latest information.



Farnham guides and trails to download or pick up a copy.

For more information about things to do in and around Farnham, call into our office to browse our large range of tourist information.

We are open Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm and Friday 9am to 4.30pm.

We can be found on South Street, Farnham, GU9 7RN. Alternatively, you can email us at customer.services@farnham.gov.uk.



History & Heritage

Farnham has a magnificent history, Stone Age, Roman and Saxon dwellings have been found here, the first Cistercian monastery Waverley Abbey was built here and the fine 12th century castle, standing above the town has welcomed visitors for the last 800 hundred years.

The origin of Farnham as a successful market town comes from its strategic position perfect for trading. Up to a thousand wagons filled with wheat would arrive in Farnham during the cereal trade in the 17th century. Later, wool would begin to arrive in Farnham and in the 18th century the growth of hops guaranteed the town's continued prosperity.

Farnham continued to change and develop with the arrival of the railway in 1849 and the construction of the army camp at nearby Aldershot in 1853.

Waverley Abbey

England's first Cistercian abbey was built near Farnham. The now ruins of Waverley Abbey are situated in a peaceful loop of the River Wey and still give an impression of the solitude experienced by the monks who founded a monastery here almost 900 years ago.

Mike Hawthorn, Britain's first Formula One World Champion racing driver died in 1958 and is buried in Farnham's West Street cemetery

Museum of Farnham

Visit the Museum of Farnham for a vast range of artefacts from the town, including a mammoth's tusk and the skull cap worn by Charles I during his stay at Vernon House, on his way to his trial and execution (now home to Farnham Library).

William Cobbett, considered the foremost political journalist of the age was born in Farnham and is buried in St Andrew's Churchyard. He repeatedly called for a radical reform of Parliament and the Church and his efforts were rewarded by the passing of the Reform Bill in 1832. Today, William Cobbett's birthplace is a public house of the same name.

A statue of William Cobbett upon his horse, designed by the late Sheila Mitchell, Fellow of the Royal British Society of Sculptors, was unveiled in 2016 at the corner of Longbridge and Downing Street.

Farnham Castle

Farnham Castle which was founded in 1138 by Henry de Blois, Bishop of Winchester, brother of King Stephen, sits above the town. Entry is free. If you want to find out more about Farnham Castle's former residents, you could book a guided tour of the Bishop's Palace on Wednesday afternoons call 01252 721194.

The Maltings

The Maltings, now an arts and community centre was once a brewery serving over 90 pubs that were in Farnham at the time. A restored sign for 'Farnham United Breweries' can be seen on the side wall of No. 2 Red Lion Lane, which until 1920 was the Red Lion pub.

By the late 1890s and early 1900s, the brewing and malting industries were a major source of income in Farnham. Local farmers produced hops and barley, which was passed on to local maltings, including the Farnham Maltings, to be roasted. Malting continued there until 1956, when newer methods made it uneconomic.

James Barrie author of 'Peter Pan' lived in Black Lake Cottage near Tilford and the adventures he and his sons had in the nearby woodland inspired the story. The Black Lake Pond became a South Sea Lagoon in the book.

For more information about the history of Farnham please visit the Farnham Town Council website www.farnham.gov.uk.



William Cobbett Sculpture



Willmer House - home to the Museum of Farnham

John Henry Knight's picture of Castle Street, Farnham



Farnham Town Council holds burial records dating back to the 1870s and can help with genealogy enquiries.

01252 712667 www.farnham.gov.uk

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Heritage Open Days

Every September volunteers across England organise events to celebrate our fantastic history and culture. A chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences – all of which are FREE to explore.

In Farnham, Heritage Open Days are co-ordinated by the Farnham Society and supported by Farnham Town Council.

An exciting programme of open venues, free events and talks are organised by a small group of volunteers from the Society providing visitors with four special days when the town shows off its splendid architectural heritage and tradition of arts and crafts.



www.farnhamsociety.org.uk | www.farnham.gov.uk

The Farnham Society

The Farnham Society is one of the largest and oldest conservation and amenity societies in the country. The original 'Old Farnham Society' was formed in 1911 by Charles E. Borelli and Harold Falkner.

The Society holds regular coffee mornings at outstanding local venues not normally open to the public and evening talks are on a variety of subjects of local interest.



For more information on events and the Society visit **www.farnhamsociety.org.uk**

Blooming Lovely...

Farnham in Bloom takes place throughout the year and involves local people and community organisations working together to make lasting improvements to the town and surrounding villages.

Farnham in Bloom

Farnham takes great pride in enhancing the streets and public spaces with beautiful floral displays.

Whatever time of year you visit, you will notice an abundance of cheery flowers in baskets, troughs and planters, which are mainly sponsored by local businesses.

To encourage community participation, events and initiatives are organised under the headings of Bloomin' Kids, Bloomin' Litter and Bloomin' Arts.

The initiative has even led to the introduction of a community toilet scheme. This involves a number of pubs and restaurants allowing members of the public to use their facilities without feeling obliged to make a purchase.

For more details and a list of participating businesses visit **www.farnham.gov.uk**





" Our Community Group is really proud of Farnham and we enjoy supporting the Council team and our "In Bloom" business sponsors in a joint effort to make the town look welcoming.

Farnham In Bloom brings together diverse groups of all ages and interests who really make a difference to the town's appearance. We plant, paint, dance and tidy our way around all year and share the pride in where we live"

Martin Billett



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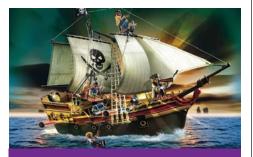
MENSWEAR



BEAUTY



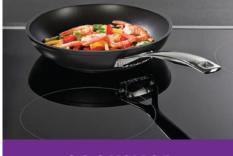
ACCESSORIES



TOYS



LINENS



COOKSHOP



CHINA, GLASS & GIFTS

ALSO VISIT OUR BED STORE at 2-3 West Street, Farnham. Tel 01252 728126

Andernach

Andernach is a beautiful town in Germany with a population of around 30,000 people. It is located in the Rhine Valley and is situated towards the end of the Neuwied basin.

A few hundred metres downstream of Andernach the Rhine valley narrows from both sides forming the northern part of the romantic Middle Rhine stretch. Andernach is 13 miles north of Koblenz and is one of the oldest towns in Germany. Farnham and Andernach have been twinned since 1991. Just across the river is the village of Leutesdorf, known for its excellent wine. Farnham and Andernach have been twinned since 1991.

Andernach is known as the edible city whether its strawberries, lettuce, or onions – the municipal administration lets people plant fruit, vegetables, and herbs everywhere and everyone can pick them! Here in Farnham you may spot some 'Incredible edible' planters in South Street and Hale – please help yourself!

Other Friends

Farnham is linked by Andernach's Friendship with St Amand-Les-Eaux (France), Dimona (Israel), Ekeren (Belgium), Stockerau (Austria) and Zella Mehlis (Germany). In 2014, Farnham celebrated the centenary of the founding of Woodland Park (formerly West Paterson) in New Jersey, USA, with a live web-linked joint meeting, in which a painting of Woodland Park was presented to the council. A tree planted by visitors from West Paterson in 1977 can be seen in Gostrey Meadow. Historically Farnham also had links with Haren in Holland and near the River Wey on South Street, Haren Gardens, commemorates the relationship and a visit from Haren in 1950.



surrey's HIDDEN TREASURE

The Surrey Hills have been hiding a secret...

We are a local industry that has been handcrafting exclusive, bespoke pottery for 60 years. In fact, we're one of the last working potteries in the South of England.

You can take a tour of our pottery and explore our heritage of producing commercial ceramics and giftware. We also have an intriguing Emporium of handmade and exclusive gifts for the home; there's an inspiring Studio Gallery which showcases the designs of our talented artists. And our tempting Kiln Café is a favourite with the locals, you'll wonder how we've kept our secret so long.

So come and discover a hidden local treasure:

Tel: 01428 604404 or go to www.grayshottpottery.com Grayshott Pottery | School Road | Hindhead | GU26 6LR

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England's Craft Town

The roots of Farnham's engagement with crafts can be dated back to the time when the town exported white clay to the Romans. In the 16th century, potteries in Farnham were major suppliers of pottery to London. Fast forward to today and Craft still sits at the heart of Farnham's distinctiveness and this special feature was acknowledged in 2013 when Farnham was designated as England's Craft Town.

The establishment of The Farnham School of Art in 1866 strongly promoted education in craft subjects as part of its curriculum. A powerful reputation was developed that has lasted throughout the 20th century and to the present day especially in courses in textiles and ceramics.

Craft courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels are offered at the University for the Creative Arts at Farnham, the successor institution to the Art School. Craft courses in jewellery, metalwork, glass as well as in textiles and ceramics offer today's emerging craft makers unrivalled opportunities in some of the best equipped studios and workshops in any specialist university in the country.

The opportunity to exhibit, sell and present contemporary crafts in Farnham is a significant feature of the town's creative programme. The emergence of the Farnham Maltings as an arts centre in the 1970s has been of especial importance to the cultural life of Farnham, and the crafts have very strongly featured in its contemporary programme: right at the heart of its diverse cultural offer.

There are year-round exhibitions featuring young as well as world class craft makers. There is a particular focus on the October craft fair, with an unrivalled series of events featuring everything from textiles to sugarcraft, drawing international audiences to the town and having a powerful and positive effect on the creative economy. Craft studios are established in the Farnham Maltings to sustain the craft infrastructure.

Craft is embedded into the fabric, the homes as well as the cultural life of Farnham.

Craft across the centuries can been seen and researched from Farnham Greenware in the town's museum through to the unrivalled collections of the Crafts Study Centre. The New Ashgate Gallery offers a diverse range of craft work for sale and is especially focused on creating opportunities for emerging makers.

The Farnham Pottery is one of the best-preserved examples of a Victorian country pottery in England and is home to three craft organisations



There are a remarkable number of major institutions who dedicate time, resources and creative energies to sustaining craft as one of the great defining features of Farnham. Every year throughout October, craft is celebrated in Farnham and these organisations open their doors and offer special exhibitions, classes, events and open days.

For more information on Craft Month visit www.crafttownengland.org.



FARNHAM CRAFT TOWN



Farnham Pottery

New Ashgate Gallery



New Ashgate Gallery - Kelly Munro Jewellery



Markets

Farnham is a market town at heart. Dating back to the Middle Ages, Farnham offered a weekly market and an annual fair which attracted visitors from all over Surrey and Hampshire to buy and sell goods.

Farmers' Market

Farnham has an award winning, certified monthly Farmers' Market which today has nearly 40 regular stallholders. Farmers' Markets give shoppers the chance to buy seasonal produce direct from the producer and food is noticeably fresher and tends to be tastier because it has been grown, raised, caught, baked, picked or processed all within 50 miles of the market. The Farmers' Market takes place in Central car park on the fourth Sunday of every month, between 10am and 1.30pm.

Food Festival

Once a year the Farnham Food Festival, a huge bustling market, takes place in Castle Street in September bringing together Farnham's local producers plus a variety of other culinary specialists. Read more on page 28.

Maltings' Monthly Market

For 40 years, the Maltings' Monthly Market has been an established part of the town's life. It has grown to encompass everything from antiques and jewellery, to craft and local handmade produce, restored furniture and unique cards. With the café open to provide hot food and drinks, it's the perfect way to spend the first Saturday of each month.

Christmas

Located in Castle Street in the heart of the town plus further stalls in The Bush Hotel and the Farmers' Market in Central car park, the Christmas Market has quickly become one of the biggest one day markets in the South East of England. Offering an array of traditional gifts, festive decorations and food and drink, the Christmas Market is the perfect way to get ready for the festive season on the second Sunday in December.

Visit www.farnham.gov.uk to make sure you don't miss out!

Daniel Defoe wrote that Farnham had the greatest corn-market after London, and describes 1,100 fully laden wagons delivering wheat to the town on market day.





01252 712667 customer.services@farnham.gov.uk www.farnham.gov.uk

Shopping

Farnham has a wealth of shopping opportunities; with a range of independent boutiques alongside diverse high street shops, you can find unique gifts, fashion brands or household essentials.



Lion and Lamb Yard

This lovely cobbled, pedestrian street has a perfect selection of luxury household shops, traditional country clothing, bespoke jewellery and a bookshop surrounded by excellent independent cafes for tasty treats and people watching.

Downing Street

This street is home to a butcher, baker and a candlestick maker! This charming street is also home to a traditional sweet shop, exquisite independent clothes shops, coffee shops, a delicatessen and a ceramics cafe.

West Street

Hosts a variety of quality retailers including the department store, Elphicks, founded in 1881 and one of Farnham's oldest buildings hosting Guitar Village.

The Borough

Is a thoroughfare of independent retailers and nationally branded shops, banks and restaurants. Look out for the entrance and access to Borelli's Yard with its niche shops and wine bar.

East Street

Offers a wealth of beauty options plus unique shops selling children's fun bunk beds, model hobby kits and specialist bikes.

Castle Street

The beautiful Georgian Castle Street offers a wonderful backdrop to a range of restaurants. You will be spoiled for choice when it comes to deciding where to go for your breakfast, lunch and dinner. www.farnham.gov.uk/view/shopping



Specialisms in Farnham

Antiques and vintage

Farnham is rich in antiques for sale in wonderful settings. The Antiques Warehouse is unique in its offerings from multiple sellers and collectors and makes an enjoyable afternoon. The Packhouse is a one-stop shop for customers in search of interior inspiration, seasonal gifts, furniture, lighting, upholstery and vintage and antique finds.

Household

From traditional stores to contemporary options Farnham offers a fabulous range of furniture, materials, luxurious lighting and accessory choices to browse and embellish your home.

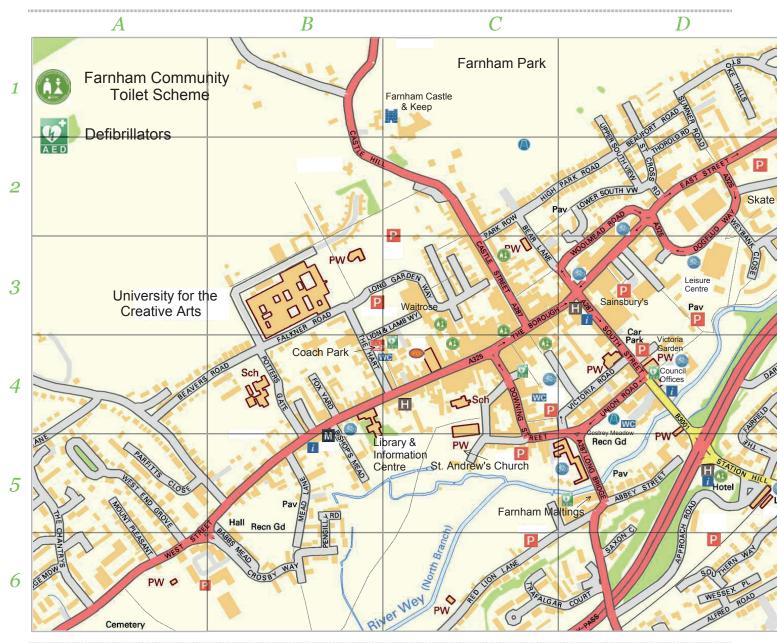
Local produce

To pick up local produce try the Country Market at the United Reformed Church on Fridays or visit the Farmers' Market in Central car park on the fourth Sunday of the month. For weekly shares of fresh, local vegetables from Farnham Local Food Co-Operative see www.farnhamfood.com or ring 0843 557 1569

Books

For the perfect page turner visit Waterstones in the Lion and Lamb Yard, Oxfam's second hand book shop on East Street or WH Smith.

Farnham Town Map



18 www.farnham.gov.uk

Places of Interest (In Town)



Adult Education Centre	Β4
Bishop's Meadow	C6
Borelli's Walk	С3
Craft Study Centre	С3
Farnham Castle	С1
Farnham Cricket Club	С1
Farnham Football Club	С5
Farnham Hospital	E1
Farnham Leisure Centre	D3
Farnham Library	B4
Farnham Maltings	С5
Farnham Park, The Avenue	C1
Farnham Skate Park	D2
Farnham Station	D5
Farnham Town Council Offices	D4
Gostrey Meadow	D4
Information Point (Mercure Farnham Bush Hotel)	D3
James Hockey Galleries	B3
Museum of Farnham	B4
New Ashgate Gallery	C5
North Downs Way Trail Start	D5
Post Office	C4
St Andrew's Church	C5
Funky Monkey Stay and Play	D3
Vernon House (Surrey County Council Registrar)	C4
United Reform Church	D3
University for the Creative Arts	A3
Victoria Garden	D4

Places of Interest (Out of Town)

North

Army Medical Services Museum, Aldershot Aldershot Military Museum Blackwater Valley
South Frensham Ponds, Frensham Grayshott Pottery, Grayshott Hindhead and the Devil's Punchbowl Hollycombe Steam Museum, Liphook Ludshott Common, Grayshott Rural Life Centre, Tilford The Sculpture Park, Churt
<i>East</i> Dapdune Wharf, Guildford Farncombe Boathouse, Farncombe Farnham Rugby Club Guildford Catherdral, Guildford Hogs Back Brewery, Runfold The Lightbox, Woking Waverley Abbey, Farnham Watts Gallery, Compton
<i>West</i> Alice Holt and Go Ape, Bucks Horn Oak Birdword, Wrecclesham Farnham Pottery, Wrecclesham Watercress Line, Alton

KEY to Map D d to Η WC Coach Park Μ ΞP i

Farnham Events...

Farnham Town Council and various community groups in the town organise a wonderful range of musical concerts, markets and charity events throughout the year. From the duck race in May to a Christmas lights switch-on, free music events in the summer months to Heritage Open Days each September there is something for everyone.

Carnivals

History shows that there was a Carnival Parade in Farnham as far back as 1923. The carnival we enjoy today has been a colourful highlight of the town's summer event scene for several decades, thanks to the community groups the Farnham Lions and Farnham Hedgehogs. As well as a fantastic procession through the town centre, a carnival fayre is held on Gostrey Meadow with children's activities, food and drink, musical entertainment and arts and crafts. The procession attracts around 50 entries from local schools, youth and charitable organisations, clubs, individuals and businesses.

For more information www.farnhamcarnival.org.uk

Farnham is lucky enough to have more than one carnival weekend, with Hale carnival taking place on the first weekend in July with a procession and a fayre and fireworks on Hale Recreation Ground.

www.halecarnival.co.uk

Sport

Farnham charity bike ride

The annual bike ride is organised by the Farnham Round Table on the first Sunday in July and is open to riders of all ages. There are different routes available with the longest route reaching 75 miles. www.farnhambikeride.org.uk

Running Club

The surrounding heath and common landscape is perfect for running. Farnham now hosts the cross-country Pilgrims' Marathon (www.farnhampilgrim.org.uk) once a year and other races such the Woodland Woggle 6-10k in Seale. However if you are looking for more structure and companions try a local running club.

www.farnham-runners.org.uk

For lots more ideas and inspiration visit www.farnham.gov.uk/thingstodo



Music in the Meadow



Village Green Stage - Weyfest



Music events

Weyfest

Held at the wonderful woodland setting of The Rural Life Centre in Tilford, this three-day music event goes from strength-to-strength with adventurous line-ups, welcoming atmosphere, friendly staff and smiling security! Weyfest is first and foremost a family festival, and each year more is done to cater for children (and young-at-heart adults) with an ever expanding Kids' Zone, more kids' events and interesting workshops.

The Rural Life Centre is a working museum, bursting with artefacts with bygone country life and craft displays throughout the venue. A stress-free weekend in the country, a great selection of food from the in-house cafe and the plentiful food stalls, fully stocked bars, a fascinating museum and a real mix of music. For details see www.weyfest.co.uk

Music in the Meadow

Farnham Town Council organises a programme of musical concerts on Gostrey Meadow, Union road. Should you be visiting in the summer months on a Sunday you might be lucky enough to catch one - bring along a picnic for an enjoyable lazy afternoon.

Community

1000105000

For nearly 30 years Farnham has been home to an annual duck race. Taking place usually at the end of April or beginning of May, it is a fantastic community event organised by the local Rotary Club with stalls and fairground rides.

www.farnhamweyside.org.uk

Bonfire Night

A traditional bonfire night, the Fireworks Extravaganza, organised by the Farnham Round Table takes place every year and includes a torch-lit procession which is led through the town by the Mayor of Farnham.

Christmas lights

Farnham is lucky to have a beautiful display of Christmas lights throughout the town and they are well worth a visit to Farnham for a spot of Christmas shopping! In November the annual big switch-on takes place in Gostrey Meadow, a true community event with performances from local school children, fun fair rides, a live Nativity, Santa's Grotto and more.

www.farnham.gov.uk/christmas

June 2017 sees the inaugural month of performance brought together as the Farnham Flash Festival. Look out for a wide range of theatre, dance, music and readings at a variety of locations.

Farnham Town Council Events...

For more information about Farnham Town Council events, visit www.farnham.gov.uk.

March June Big Pick week Farnham Farmers' Market 10am - 1.30pm, Central car park (Fourth Sunday of the month) (First Saturday of the month) Music in the Meadow 3pm - 5pm at Gostrey Meadow April Sunday afternoons Farnham Farmers' Market 10am - 1.30pm, Central car park Armed Forces Flag-raising (Fourth Sunday of the month) Council offices Bloomin' Kids' Gardening Workshops Easter Holidays Picnic in the Park 12pm - 5pm West Street greenhouses Gostrey Meadow May Farnham Farmers' Market 10am - 1.30pm, Central car park July (Fourth Sunday of the month) Farnham Farmers' Market 10am - 1.30pm, Central car park (Fourth Sunday of the month) Greenhouse Open Day West Street greenhouses *Music in the Meadow* Sunday afternoons Step into Spring – Walking Festival Farnham Allotment Show Farnham Maltings Around Farnham Spring Festival 2pm - 7pm Gostrey Meadow Auaust

Farnham Farmers' Market 10am - 1.30pm, Central car park (Fourth Sunday of the month)

Music in the Meadow 3pm - 5pm at Gostrey Meadow Sunday afternoons

September

Farnham Farmers' Market 10am - 1.30pm, Central car park (Fourth Sunday of the month)

Music in the Meadow 3pm - 5pm 1st Sunday of the month Gostrey Meadow

Farnham Feast of Food Throughout September Be the first to find out about the many food events that will be taking place in the lead up to the Food Festival by following us on Twitter or Facebook and visiting our website.

Farnham Food Festival 10am - 4pm Castle Street

October

Farnham Farmers' Market 10am - 1.30pm, Central car park (Fourth Sunday of the month)

Schools' Presentation and Farnham in Bloom Awards Evening Squire's Garden Centre

Autumn Big Pick Week Farnham town centre

Bloomin' Kids Gardening Workshops Half Term West Street Greenhouses

Craft Month Throughout Farnham

November

Farnham Farmers' Market 10am - 1.30pm, Central car park (Fourth Sunday of the month)

Remembrance Sunday Parade (Nearest Sunday to the 11th) Farnham town centre

Venison Dinner Farnham Castle

Christmas Lights Switch-On 1pm – 6pm (Third Sunday of the month) Gostrey Meadow

December

Farnham Farmers' Market 10am - 1.30pm, Central car park (Fourth Sunday of the month)

Christmas Market & Farmers' Market 10am – 4pm Castle Street and beyond

Civic Christmas Carol Service

Farnham in Bloom Winter Celebration Gostrey Meadow



Discover more...

If you want to explore Farnham there are a number of walks and trails to guide you. Whether you want to delve into the history of Farnham or discover its rich history of flora and fauna there is so much to do!

A number of ready-made trail leaflets are available to pick up from Farnham Town Council offices or download from www.farnham.gov.uk.

If you are in Farnham on the first Sunday of the month why not take part in a Farnham town walks and explore Farnham's hidden treasures while learning about its wealth of history. The walks start from a meeting point in Waggon Yard car park and cost £3 which is donated to charity.

On the circular walking Heritage Trail you can discover more about Farnham's historic treasures. Find out why groups of seven steps lead to the castle, see where King Charles I stayed on West Street and William Cobbett's tomb at St Andrew's Church.

A self-guided Tree Trail guides you around central Farnham identifying a mix of common native species and more unusual specimens. Starting in Gostrey Meadow in the centre of Farnham discover a huge range of beautiful trees.

In 2017, The Industrial Heritage Trail and Public Art Trail provide a unique insight into some of Farnham's hidden gems. Including a sculptural marker for the start of the North Downs Way, installed at Hickley's Corner.





The Boardwalk - Thursley Common Nature Reserve

North Downs Way

In the summer of 2015 the North Downs Way was captured by the Google Trekker; a panoramic Google Street View camera mounted on a backpack designed to go off-road. The North Downs Way was the first UK National Trail to be recorded to highlight the wonderful landscapes and communities the trail runs through.

The North Downs Way is one of only 15 designated National Trails in England and Wales with diverse appeal and many unique features. Starting in Farnham, passing through 153 miles of stunning and varied countryside, the North Downs Way goes through the protected landscapes of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and the Kent Downs AONB to Dover. This makes the trail a great place for a family day out, short walks or a life-changing long distance walk.

www.nationaltrail.co.uk

New for 2017 Farnham will be inviting everyone, of all ages and fitness levels, including wheelchair users, to discover historic Farnham and the beautiful surrounding area through a range of free walks. Leading into the Spring Festival in Gostrey Meadow.



Bishop's Meadow

Loved by those who know it, this is a place to enjoy and experience a greater diversity of British wildlife, the Meadows are 35 acres (14 hectares) of ancient hay meadow lying between West Street and the A31 bypass. A branch of the River Wey flows through them and a public bypass to Coxbridge and Wrecclesham runs right across the northern edge of the Meadow. The Meadows are now owned by the local Bishop's Meadow Trust for the people of Farnham.

www.bishopsmeadowtrust.org



Farnham Park

Farnham Park is a lovely asset to the town, situated just a few hundred metres from Castle Street. This 320 acre (130 hectare) medieval deer park, with green flag status and an impressive one kilometre tree lined Avenue offers tranquility, lovely walking paths, two excellent playgrounds, football pitches to hire, a golf course, a cricket pitch and a café and toilets.

For more information including wildlife and history leaflets Tel: 01252 717047 or visit **www.waverley.gov.uk/farnhampark**

...described by the Chairman of the Friends of Farnham Park , Mr David Havenhand as "This precious green jewel set at the heart of Farnham."

St Swithun's Way

St Swithun's Way is a 34-mile track running between Winchester, the capital of Saxon England, and historic Farnham. Whilst not tracing the original route of the Pilgrim's Way, as much of this is now the A31, St Swithun's Way starts at Winchester Cathedral and weaves its way east through the picturesque Itchen Valley along the path of the River Wey to reach Farnham.

"St Swithun's Day, if thou dost rain, For forty days it will remain: St Swithun's Day, if thou be fair, For forty days 'twill rain nae mair."

Exploring local churches.

Farnham and its surrounding parish villages offer numerous possibilities from the 12th century foundations at St Andrew's, now updated sympathetically by Architect Ptolemy Dean to the quaint chapel of St Martin's, on the Bourne Green, or beautiful parish churches in Hale, Frensham or Seale.



Following the River Wey

Gostrey Meadow, an attractive open plan park, links Farnham Maltings and the River Wey to the town centre with entrances at South Street, Union Road and Longbridge. The large grassed area has an excellent children's playground and access to paddling in the River Wey and the War Memorial. The bandstand hosts numerous musical events throughout the summer, making Gostrey Meadow a perfect spot to relax and spend a lazy afternoon. Follow the River Wey through Borelli Gardens towards the Shepherd and Flock and the North Downs Way: you might catch a glance of the resident ibis!

Discover more...

Victoria Garden

Right in the heart of the town centre, Victoria Garden is a hidden gem, which was created on the site of the former Victorian open-air swimming baths. The entrance through the archway off South Street reveals a wonderful planting of roses, clematis, lavender, herbs and sedums and the garden contains a giant chessboard, a mosaic hopscotch, and a mini-maze, that children love. The garden is managed by the Farnham Swimming Baths Trust with the support and help of a dedicated group of Friends.

Victoria Garden has been awarded 'outstanding' in the Small Parks category for South and South East in Bloom. www.farnhamvictoriagarden.org

Surrounding Farnham town centre are some quintessentially English village greens, with games of village cricket and fun summer fayres, including The Bourne, Hale and Rowledge to name but a few.

Farnham and its wonderful countryside, in particular the coniferous woodland of Bourne Woods near Tilford, has frequently been used as a film location, including the blockbusters: Gladiator (2000), Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince (2009), Robin Hood (2010) and War Horse (2011). Frensham Ponds provided the perfect backdrop for Snow White and the Huntsman (2012) and The Huntsman, the prequel to Snow White and the Huntsman (2015) and in 2016 Transformers: The Last Knight.

Waverley Abbey has also hosted filming and photography shots. The Greensand Ridge is lovely to stroll upon and admire local wildlife, such as woodlarks, the Dartford warbler and even a sand lizard if you are lucky.



The award winning Victoria Garden



The Devil's Punch Bowl

The National Trust

The National Trust own, manage and preserve much of the wonderful countryside and stunning scenery surrounding Farnham. Escape the rush and find the perfect walk, cycle route or picnic spot and explore our natural environment.

Why not admire the views from the Devil's Punch Bowl or across the Weald from Gibbet Hill in Hindhead, the wilds of the Surrey Hills or explore Witley and Milford Commons.

Frensham Ponds

Frensham Little and Great Ponds were originally created in the 13th century to supply fish to the Bishop of Winchester in Farnham Castle. Today they offer a sanctuary for wildlife and plenty to keep you busy, sailing, fishing, pond dipping, walking or just enjoying the beautiful local countryside. Both have cafés for refreshments.

Hindhead Commons and the Devil's Punch Bowl were one of the earliest acquistions for the National Trust in 1906. This was thanks to local Hindhead resident Sir Robert Hunter, who was one of the founders of the National Trust.

Home to theatre and craft makers & artists and a centre for the community in the heart of Farnham. With theatre, film, comedy, music and craft workshops & festivals, there is something for every taste and every age all year round.

farnham maltings



maltings monthly market First Saturday of the month



3 youth theatre groups for 8 - 25 year olds



film maltings screenings every Wednesday



Food

Farnham, famous for its high quality hops during the 18th century, once offered over 150 public houses. Today, Farnham still boasts a great number of pubs, but also a fantastic selection of restaurants and cafes. From Thai food, to Italian to Great British favourites, Farnham is a food lover's haven.

In 1901 there was "1 licensed house for every 155 of the population, which is largely in excess of any other parish in the country" Clerk to the peace for county of Surrey writing to the Farnham Magistrates.

Local food is good food and with fewer miles travelled, produce is as fresh as it can be. The monthly Farmers' market offering fresh seaonsal food all grown, produced or made within 50 miles of the market, Farnham is proud of its locally grown fare. For more information about the Farmers' Market see page 14

Farnham is home to the annual Feast of Food taking place over a fortnight every September. Farnham's local pubs, restaurants, cafes and bistros come together to celebrate food! A range of exclusive menus can be found plus fun activities and special events. The highlight of this culinary celebration is the town's Food Festival. Castle Street is closed to traffic and transformed into a bustling market place filled with the smells of tasty cuisine. With 100 stalls, live music and a packed schedule of cookery demonstrations from local chefs, this event is well worth a trip to Farnham!

Weekend lunches in one of Farnham's town or country pubs, are a wonderful way to spend your quality time with friends or family with menus changing with the seasons.

The Hogs Back Brewery is a small craft brewery situated just north of the A31 Hogs Back road between Guildford and Farnham.

Take a brewery tour and learn how they brew their beer. A visit to the Hogs Back Brewery is a fascinating experience. Booking in advance is required.



Visit www.farnham.gov.uk to find out more about the eateries Farnham has to offer.

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Family fun...

Farnham is a great stop for a family day out. With a whole host of family friendly attractions to enjoy all year round.

Birdworld

The 26 acre park is home to hundreds of unusual birds, a fabulous farm and an aquarium. With a busy schedule of daily events including two flying shows.

Alice Holt Forest

Come for a great day out in the woods! You can walk, cycle, play or have a picnic in these lovely woods. Experience life in the trees with Go Ape, take a relaxing break in the café or enjoy a quiet stroll in one of the more remote parts of the forest. Trails for children include the Gruffalo spotters trail.

Frensham Ponds

Frensham Little and Great ponds provide a wonderful local location to discover. A perfect place to run, walk dogs, build sandcastles, sail and even paddle in the summer months. Both have cafe facilities.

The Sculpture Park

The natural contours of the rolling Surrey Hills have provided the perfect haven for the display of over 600 sculptures, with over two miles of paths meandering through mixed heathland and woodland in a natural valley enhanced by three lakes fed by two natural springs.

Farnham Castle Keep

The impressive motte and shell keep of Farnham Castle was founded in 1138 by Bishop Henry of Blois is managed by Farnham Castle in partnership with English Heritage and is free of charge to visit.

The Museum of Farnham

The free museum is perfect for a visit any time of year. With its changing exhibitions, there are lots of activities for children of all ages, and a safe enclosed garden for children to explore.

The Rural Life Centre

A museum of past village life is set in over ten acres of garden and woodland and holds numerous events throughout the year from Donkey days out to Weyfest and Kids Activity Thursdays during the school holidays.

Farnham Park

Great for letting off some steam with two great play areas, as well as being an area of historic landscape value, a grade II historic park and garden and a local nature reserve, Farnham Park has been granted the prestigious Green Flag Award for three years running, all just off Castle Street.

The Mid Hants Railway Watercress Line Experience the golden age of steam. Special events include meeting Thomas the Tank Engine and his friends.

For rainy days – Local garden centres such as Squire's in Badshot Lea, Forest Lodge, Country Market and Frensham Garden Centre cater for kids with animals to view, play areas and great coffee.







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Farnham's Villages and nearby...

Farnham and its surrounding villages offer a classic English experience. With village shops and country pubs to discover, vibrant local communities with events and beautiful surroundings to enjoy, uncover village life at your own pace.

Badshot Lea

Located between Aldershot and Farnham the village of Badshot Lea boasts a fine church, a large garden centre with a popular café and Badshot Lea Ponds which offer some excellent fishing opportunities. Badshot Lea Nature Reserve, the former quarry, is an exciting new project and feature for the area after years of mineral working.

www.badshotleacommunity.co.uk

Bentley

Just five miles south of Farnham, Bentley offers a chance to visit a village which has not changed much in 50-100 years. With an attractive 12th century church, a country pub and a village fete every year in July. The hamlet shop has been in the same family for four to five generations and boasts having starred in its own reality television show "The Village".

The Bourne

The Bourne is the link between the protected, picturesque countryside south of the town and the town centre. For many centuries the Bourne was the common to the Manor of Farnham. It is bordered by woodland and common-land, with footpaths along the Bourne valley that provide an important network of corridors for both residents and wildlife alike.

Today the Bourne retains the feeling of a vibrant village. There are four shops, including a post office and a large village green. The annual Bourne Show is held on the third Saturday in July. It is a traditional show with stalls, competitions, dog shows, races for children, fancy-dress, vintage and classic cars, floral displays and refreshments

www.thebourneshow.com | www.bourneconservation.org.uk

Churt

Situated between Farnham and Haslemere, Churt is on the edge of some stunning swathes of heath and common land from Hankley Common to The Devil's Jumps and the Flashes.

Former Prime Minister, David Lloyd George, made Churt his home in 1921 and developed his estate in the village as he withdrew from the political scene.

The Sculpture Park in Churt now attracts thousands of visitors annually with its "most amazing collection of sculptures set in woodland and water settings" located opposite the Bel and Dragon pub.

An afternoon of fun, games and entertainment for the whole family takes place annually in June at the Churt Village Fete with tea and cakes from the WI and a game of Tug of War on the recreation ground.

www.churtfete.org | www.churt.org

Crondall

A typical Hampshire village, just north-west of Farnham with a lovely traditional village church and well preserved cottages.

Elstead

Regarded as a pretty little village, Elstead is surrounded on three sides by woods and heathland, on the fourth by the River Wey water meadows. There has been a settlement in this part of the Surrey Hills for hundreds of years, with links to the historical local economy and hops evident from the names of the pubs - 'The Woolpack', 'The Golden Fleece' and 'Elstead Mill'. Elstead Moat is the gateway to Thursley Common. The traditional Elstead marathon (a 5.4 mile race) takes place on the Friday closest to 1st July.

📕 Frensham

Frensham is famous for its Little Pond and Great Pond. Originally created in the 13th century, to supply fish to the Bishop of Winchester and his court, whilst visiting Farnham Castle, today the ponds and the surrounding area is a sanctuary for wildlife and is a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Look out for reed bunting, sedge warbler and great crested grebe, as well as nightjars and woodlarks. The Great Pond is used for sailing and fishing and is the setting for a hotel. The post office and village shop is community run and the village runs a fun annual scarecrow competition. Frensham Garden Centre is well worth a visit.

Hale and Heath End

North of the town centre, where Mesolithic settlements have been found is the area of Hale. With a successful annual Carnival each July and fayre on the recreation ground, this green space is a focal point for the village. There is a Scout Hut, the Hale Institute Village Hall and Working Men's Club. The History of Hale project holds regular coffee mornings on the last Saturday of the month, (except December) in Hale Village Hall, 10-12 noon, and all are welcome.

www.halehistoryproject.co.uk

As the army expanded in neighbouring Aldershot, the village of Heath End was formed. The area is home to pitches for the Aldershot and Farnham Hockey Club on Monkton Lane. The Rowhill Nature Reserve makes a natural boundary between the two towns. The ancient site is good for walking and provides a precious haven for wildlife and fauna.

Rowledge

To the south of Farnham, on the county border of Surrey with Hampshire, the village of Rowledge has gradually developed from the original open fields to an attractive settlement with a thriving centre made up of a butcher, post office and convenience store, newsagent, hairdresser, garage, and two public houses (one straddling the country border where Surrey meets Hampshire). The village green hosts a very popular fayre in on the second bank holiday in May.

www.rowledgevillagefayre.org.uk

Rowledge Village Hall also hosts a range of regular events including the very popular Friday morning Coffee Spot from 10-12 noon.

www.rowledgevillagehall.com/whatson.htm

This lovely village borders the fantastic Alice Holt forest.



Rural Life Centre - Tilford



Hale Institute Village Hall



Frensham Little Pond

Farnham's Villages and nearby...

Seale and the Sands

Situated on the Hog's Back in the beautiful landscape of the Surrey Hills, Seale and the Sands offers lots of sporting activities to enjoy, with a first class golf course, friendly bowling club and a range of activities such as Woodland Woggle, a spring run or walk at the Hampton estate Seale www.woodlandwoggle.com

Tilford

This picturesque triangular village green with its pub and village cricket is often used often in adverts for its idyllic portrayal of England. Sir Edwin Lutyens built the Institute, now used for sports and events. Two branches of the River Wey mean the village can boast two medieaval bridges, one at either end of the village.

The Rural Life Centre, the largest countryside museum in the South of England, attracts visitors to learn traditional crafts and country ways of life with exhibits covering 150 years of rural life, a regular programme of events and activities and with the Old Kiln Light railway on site, the museum is a popular family destination.

www.rural-life.org.uk

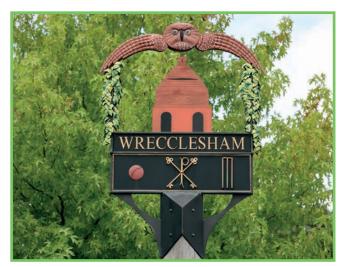
Thursley

Thursley is a walkers' paradise, just west of the A3. It is on the edge of a National Nature Reserve with areas of open dry heathland, peat bogs, pine and deciduous woodlands to explore, all within the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and close to the National Trust's Hindhead Commons and Devil's Punch Bowl. The Three Horseshoes pub makes the perfect resting spot and is not far from Sir Edwin Lutyens' childhood home.

www.surreyhills.org

Weybourne

Located to the east of Farnham, Weybourne was once home to John Henry Knight, inventor, engineer and local landowner. He was famous for building the first petroleum carriage for two people made in England in 1895 and other inventions.



Wrecclesham Village Sign

Wrecclesham

On the southern fringes of Farnham, the village of Wrecclesham has a recreation ground which hosts the annual Village Fair, held in late June, plus cricket, football, rugby and tennis clubs. The village also has a number of pubs. Wrecclesham Community Centre is the focal point for local events.

The village of Wrecclesham is best known for its pottery. Prosperity during the Roman period saw 60% of the pots used in London coming from the Alice Holt area and to this day Wrecclesham is home to one of the best preserved examples of a working Victorian country pottery in England. Farnham Buildings Preservation Trust began restoration having bought the site in 1998 and later sold it to Guy and Elaine Hains who have continued the restoration and expanded the range of traditional craft activities. Farnham Pottery has its own group of potters, West Street Potters, still producing pottery there today. www.weststreetpotters.co.uk | www.thefarnhampottery.co.uk



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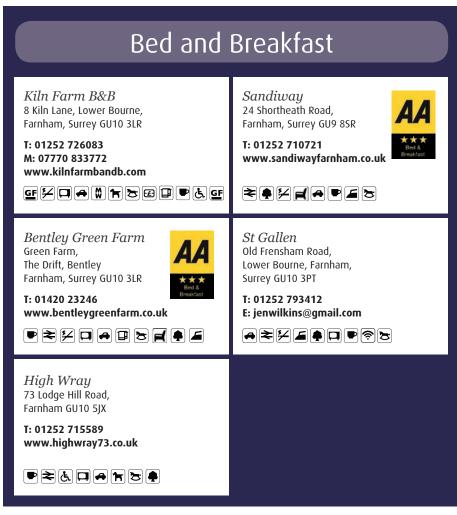
Where to stay...

Whether you are looking for a cosy bed and breakfast or fancy staying in an ancient inn dating back to the 17th century or a spa hotel, there is somewhere perfect for your requirements and to suit any budget.

As well as location, the quality of accommodation and its facilities are very important to any guest. The accommodation in Farnham has been officially star rated from one to five within the VisitEngland or AA National Quality Assessment Scheme or rated more informally on Trip Advisor.

Key to Symbols and Ratings

- 矧 🛛 No smoking
- Television in rooms
- Off street parking
- **D** Licensed for alcohol
- Some disabled facilities
- Garden for residents
- Evening meal by arrangement
- Major credit cards accepted
- Ground floor bedrooms
- **T** Dogs welcome by arrangement
- Children welcome (min age)
- Tea/Coffee making facilities
- 🛋 🛛 Lounge for residents' use
- teisure facilities/entertainment
- Railway station within five miles
- Laundry/ironing
- Cafe/restaurant
- Microwave
- Linen/towel provided/for hire
- **DW** Dishwasher
- 🔊 Wi-Fi



Details and rates were correct at the time of going to print. Farnham Town Council does not accept responsibility for any incorrect information

Hotels

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