

It is so easy to ignore the local aspects of an area and just to keep moving onwards Here is a chance to **explore the great places to visit within an hour of Forest Edge.**

Andover Town on Market Day (Thursday and Saturday) has a great atmosphere. Additionally there are Farmers' Markets on: March 18th; April 16th; May 20th; June 17th; July 15th; August 19th; September 16th & October 21st.

The Andover Museum of the Iron Age (Free entrance) is well worth a visit.



Town Hall; Town Mills; Flower stall in the market; The Globe—an ancient coaching inn.

The typical Hampshire Villages.

Until very recently local communities built in whatever was available locally. In Hampshire walls were built of wood or cob (a mixture of compressed chalk, straw and dung) or locally made clay bricks with the addition of flints mined from the chalk. The older buildings will have a wooden timber frame filled with wattle (hazel) & daub (straw plus dung & clay). Roofs were covered in straw thatch or, later, Welsh slate. You will see all these styles on a short walk around any local village.

The village church will usually be open (free) and information leaflets available.

Suggested villages to explore: Longparish; St Mary Bourne; Wherwell and Longstock.

The small town of **Stockbridge** has much to offer: interesting shops; tea room & pubs; unusual wide street; walks.

Our magnificent Cathedral Cities

No one should leave this area without a visit to the cities of **Salisbury** or **Winchester**. Winchester is the more ancient, with Roman origins, and is the ancient capital city of England. Many English kings were both crowned and buried in the cathedral. Salisbury (Also called New Sarum) is comparatively new (1217!), having been moved from the cramped site at (Old) Sarum when the present cathedral was built.



Visitors to Winchester or Salisbury often miss the best bits! Around the cathedral are quite wonderful buildings and a great atmosphere. We offer you a self-guided (free) guide to get the best of your local tours.

The Hampshire Countryside

To the north of Andover lies an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (UK government designation), to the east is the proposed South Downs National Park, to the south The Test valley is a Special Conservation Area and beyond that lies The New Forest National Park. The River Test, that runs south from just near Forest Edge, is considered to be one of the best trout fishing rivers in the world and the long distance Test Way Walk is 'on our doorstep'. For people who require wilder locations, you could explore Salisbury Plain (a large upland chalk plateau).

Other great countryside locations to visit: Kennet & Avon **Canal** and its amazing flight of locks at Devises; the **steam-driven pumping station** at Crofton; **Gibbet** at Combe Gibbet; **Reptiliary** in the New Forest and the **eel catchers** at Longstock.

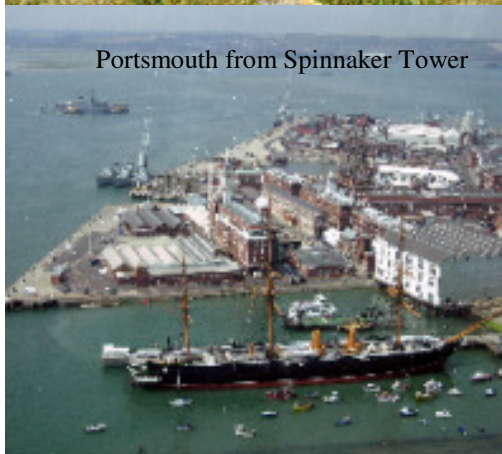




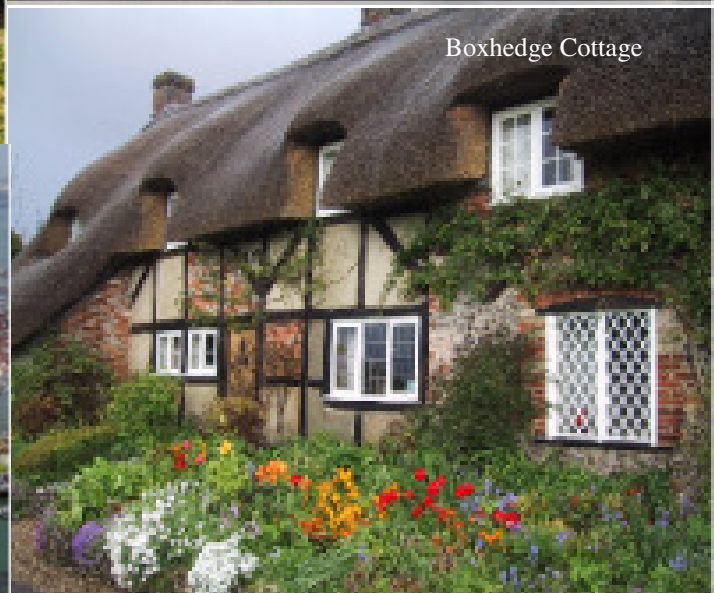
Amport House Gardens



Lacock Village



Portsmouth from Spinnaker Tower



Boxhedge Cottage



Eel traps At Longstock



Gun deck, HMS Victory

Just a few of the locations within an hour of Forest Edge

What to do on a dull or rainy day?

Naturally there is much to do if you do not wish to be outdoors

Museums: Iron Age in Andover; Museum of Army Flying; Milestones in Basingstoke; Whitchurch Silk Mill; Salisbury Museum; Winchester Museum. The wonderful 'Watercress Line' with live **steam locomotives** and train journeys or tour railway museums at Didcot or Swindon. **Indoor shopping** in Basingstoke and Southampton. How about visiting: **Theatres:** The Lights in Andover or stages in Winchester, Newbury, Basingstoke, Salisbury or Southampton. **Cinemas** are found in Andover, Salisbury, Winchester and Basingstoke.

Wildlife and Gardens

Just down the A303 is located The Hawk Conservancy, with flying displays three times a day. For children there is Finkley Down Farm Park and Cholderton Rare Breeds Farm. Marwell Zoological Park is a world class zoo; Longleat, with its safari park and house, is about 50 minutes drive and the Reptiliary in the New Forest is very different.

Forest Edge is surrounded by its own well-known garden and locally you'll find Amport House, Longstock Water garden, The Hillier Gardens & Arboretum, roses at Mottisfont and lots of small gardens open to the public at various times of the year.



And then there's Thruxton Racing circuit and a place called Stonehenge!

Oxford and Windsor Castle are about an hour away, London 1h10 by train.
Need more suggestions????