

Midsomer Murders Trail around the River Thames for groups



DCI Barnaby appears on television screens around the world, solving some bizarre murders, set in the midst of some of England's most beautiful and tranquil countryside. You can explore the real-life Midsomer Murders locations in towns and villages along the Thames.

DAY 1 Henley on Thames

Start in **Henley** with a one hour walking tour. Henley often stands in for Causton, the HQ of Inspector Barnaby and has some iconic filming locations that lovers of the show will be sure to recognise during the walking tour. Stop off and pull a pint at **The Argyll Pub**, where Barnaby & Jones meet up in 'Last Year's Model'. Close by is, **Gabriel Machin**, a butcher's shop since 1861, renowned for the quality of its produce. Retaining the façade it has had for over 60 years, it was the ideal location to become Anton Thorneycroft's butcher in 'The Magician's Nephew'.



Head down to the river, passing Henley's historic bridge which dates from 1786, connecting the counties of Oxfordshire and Berkshire. Take a Midsomer cruise with **Hobbs of Henley** and enjoy lunch or a traditional Afternoon Tea on board. In 'Dead in the Water' the locations from Henley Royal Regatta are transformed into the Midsomer Regatta. The opening shot shows the river in all its sunlit glory while local Olympic legend Sir Steve Redgrave played a cameo role in the episode. Barnaby and his wife Joyce also visit the Regatta for a picnic. The cruise passes several murderous locations along the beautiful River Thames.



Your cruise will end at the jetty for the **River & Rowing Museum**. Find out about the Thames, rowing, the history of Henley and the John Piper Gallery. John Piper was one of the most significant British artists of the 20th century.

Stay at **Henley Greenlands Hotel**, Henley Business School. The Business School was used as the Belvoir Hotel in the 2014 episode 'The Flying Club'.

Day 2 Henley to Marlow

Head off this morning to **Stonor**, just 4 miles from Henley which has featured in several episodes: 'Blue Herrings', 'A Worm in the Bud', 'Death & Dreams', 'Electric Vendetta', 'Bad Tidings' and 'Death & The Divas'. Visit Stonor Park one of the filming locations and discover the home of the Stonor family for over 850 years, it is one of the oldest family homes still lived in today - but it's no museum. A stroll through the house is a vivid walk through history. Enjoy lunch.

Visit **Chiltern Valley Winery & Brewery**, an old pig farm which became a gin distillery for the episode 'The Curse of the Ninth'. There's a popular Cellar Shop plus tours and tastings on most days. The tours take 1.5 - 2 hours in total. These exclusive tours are for a minimum of 10 people

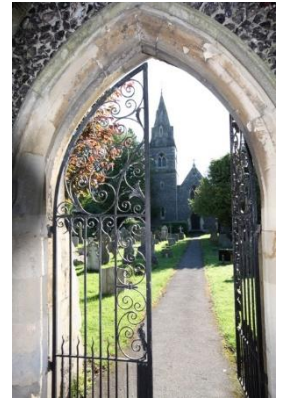
Take Afternoon Tea at **Danesfield House**, former site of the Royal Air Force Officers Mess, featured in two episodes: Joyce Barnaby stayed here with the other judges of the Perfect Village Competition in 'Judgement Day' and the great hall appeared as Lawnside Nursing Home in 'Blue Herrings'.

Overnight: Henley Greenlands Hotel – Dinner at a Brakspear pub: The Angel on the Bridge or The Bull on Bell St.

Day 3 Marlow

Start the day with a walking tour of Marlow, St. Peter's Street, **Two Brewers** pub and the church gate, appear in 'King's Crystal', where the son of the first murder victim becomes a victim himself. It's only when Barnaby is watching Cully rehearse Hamlet at the Midsomer open-air theatre that he realises the murdered son has left a clue in the play. The pub appears again in 'Sauce for the Goose', where the victim is famously squashed to death under a tower of toppling relish bottles!

Finish your tour in Institute Road for the final Midsomer filming location, Causton Library (**Marlow Library and Visitor Information Centre**)! In 'The Black Book', a rich American bids £400,000 for a Hogson, then receives a blackmail demand for £2m from the holder of the infamous black book, showing it as a forgery. The money is to be placed in a shopping trolley by desk three at the library. A man collects the trolley and is apprehended outside by the full force of Causton police, who find nothing but groceries. We see the blackmailer sloping off in the background with an identical trolley, switched at the library, under the very nose of DS Jones (Jason Hughes).



OPTIONS

- Walk the **Thames Path** from Henley Bridge to Hambleden Lock, follow the winding footpath to the lock where the lock-keeper's cottage and the marine basin have been filming locations. Take the metal weir path to follow directly in the footsteps of John Nettles and Jason Hughes, who find the body of Rex Masters caught in the weir, in 'The Animal Within'. Stop off on the way at **Remeneham**, which was used extensively as the village of Elverden in "Country matters". In the summer, arrange for Hobbs of Henley to pick you up from Hambleden Lock.
- Book local **Team Activity Group** to organise a Murder Mystery evening at the hotel.
- Book a Midsomer tour with local guide **Graham Horn, Tours 2 Order**, who can organise bespoke tours covering a wide range of Midsomer Murder locations, so if there are particular places you'd like to visit ask for details.

GROUP INFORMATION

- **Tours 2 Order** - Blue Badge Tourist Guide www.tours2order.com info@tours2order.com 07827 715353
- **Hobbs of Henley**, Henley on Thames RG9 1AZ – Midsomer Murders cruises with afternoon tea with the will take you past several murderous locations, join a public cruise or charters 6-125, 2hrs www.hobbsofhenley.com charter@hobbsofhenley.co.uk 01491 572035
- **River & Rowing Museum**, Henley on Thames RG9 1BF - www.rrm.co.uk Mary.Arkininstall@rrm.co.uk 01491 415619
- **Henley Greenlands Hotel**, Henley on Thames RG9 3AU – set within the 30-acre Henley Business School estate, the main Grade II Listed building is steeped in history dating as far back as 1480 www.hospitalityuor.co.uk/henley-greenlands-hotel/ conferences@henley.ac.uk 01491 571454
- **Stonor**, Henley on Thames RG9 6HF – a hidden gem and family home for 850 years with impressive art and treasure collection and Italianate gardens. www.stonor.com janelee@stonor.com 01491 638587
- **Chiltern Valley Winery & Brewery, Henley on Thames** RG9 6JW – Private tasting tours, min 10/max ?, 1.5-2hrs www.chilternvalley.co.uk enquiries@chilternvalley.co.uk 01491 638330
- **Danesfield House Hotel**, Marlow SL7 2EY - Set among 65 acres of wonderful landscaped gardens, between Marlow and Henley, with views across the Thames www.danesfieldhouse.co.uk enquiries@danefieldhouse.co.uk 01628 891010
- **Brakspear Pubs** - Brakspear has been running pubs for over 200 years and is passionate about great pubs. Over 80 pubs can be found within 10 miles of the River Thames. Be sure to visit Henley on Thames, where the first brewery was located. www.visitthames.co.uk/things-to-do/eat-and-drink/brakspear-pubs
- **Team Activity Group** – can organise activities on the river, along the river, indoors and evening entertainment at various locations along the Thames and works closely with many of the hotels www.tag-events.com events@tag-events.com 01189 402588

Checkout the places on the map www.bit.ly/midsomermap

For further information and other River Thames itineraries for groups visit www.visitthames.co.uk/traveltrade

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