

FREE



Wadebridge

Official Town Guide

What's on

The secret success of
Wadebridge's events

In the past

The story of this
14th Century town

On the Camel Trail

Coasting, ambling
and wildlife watching

Map & listings

Where to eat, stay,
shop and celebrate





Welcome

Make yourself at home



Welcome to our town — thanks for dropping in.

You'll find everything you need here, from green **space** straddling the **Camel River** to boutique **shopping**, fine **food** and an assorted **events** schedule.

We've been here for a while (since the 14th Century to be exact); our **history** is embedded in trade routes and our heritage crammed with the stories of our people.

We share the tranquility of the **Camel Trail** with our neighbours — a place where **wildlife** flourishes, **ramblers** amble and **cyclists** just coast.

And at the heart of it all you'll find us, the 'Bridgers' — a proud, welcoming community some 8,000-strong.

Come on in, see what we've done with the place, and let us guide you through the streets of Wadebridge.



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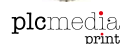
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A buzzing collective of independent and inventive shop owners with a loyal following await you in the town centre, where an old-fashioned community spirit prevails.



What's on

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10 Things to do



You could go shopping or cycle (or walk) along the Camel Trail, but, really, Wadebridge has so much more to offer. Here are 10 things to do in this ancient market town.



1 Get cultured

Enjoy live broadcasts of West End plays and musical performances at The Regal

Cinema in the heart of Wadebridge. The cinema, on The Platt, has two screens which also show the latest movie releases, but the live broadcasts are a breath of fresh air. For more information visit: www.wtwcinemas.co.uk or call 01208 812791.

2 Poetry, yoga and a tea dance

The John Betjeman Centre on Southern Way, which was formerly the railway station and ticket office, is now a community centre where weekly yoga, dance and art sessions take place, as well as a tea dance. For poetry fans there's also a memorabilia room dedicated to the life of John Betjeman. For more information visit www.johnbetjeman.org.uk or call: 01208 812392.

3 Go to market

The Wadebridge Country Market on a Thursday morning in Wadebridge Town Hall sells local produce such as fish, meat, cakes, pastries, jams, honey, eggs, plants, seasonal fruit and vegetables, plus various arts and crafts. During the week, you can also visit independent retailers long-lost from many Cornish towns, but which remain a mainstay of Wadebridge, including: butchers, a greengrocer, bakeries, a fishmonger, fudge seller, wine shop and delicatessens — that's a picnic waiting to happen.

4 Step back in time

Visit the museum at Trebur House, on the corner of Cross Street and Chapel Lane, to learn about Wadebridge's past which stretches back more than six centuries. Opening hours are 11am-3pm, Monday to Saturday.



5 Playtime

Wadebridge has a wealth of green open spaces for picnics, sports or just reclining next to the river. It has three council-owned parks and playing fields. Egloshayle Park has two playgrounds, one for under-fives, the other for under-14s. This is also where the bowls, tennis and cricket club are based and the town's war memorial can be found. Jubilee Field has a large grassy area for games along with benches for picnics. A wooden play park sits alongside the town council's car park, also next to the river. There's a skateboard ramp and grinding rails, a basketball area and graffiti wall. To get to Coronation Park — which has fantastic views over Wadebridge to Bodmin Moor — take the zigzag footpath from Polmorla Road (or travel by car from Whiterock Road).

6 Get on the ball (or not)

The Wadebridge community runs clubs in bowls, cricket, tennis, rugby and football. But if ball sports aren't your thing, try floating down the River Camel in a canoe (with the canoe club)



or on a stand-up paddleboard. If you prefer to exercise indoors, the leisure centre has a modern gym, squash courts, a 25m pool and sports hall running classes in everything from badminton to martial arts.

7 Beer, wine and live music

Wadebridge attracts local musicians who sing and play in pubs and bars around the town, from the Bridge on the Wool pub to Hewitt's Bar and Kitchen. There's a monthly folk night at The Ship Inn and an open mic night called Spot The Dog at Hewitt's.



8 Let your voice out

Singing is great for the soul; the town has four choirs: Wadebridge Choral Society (a mixed choir which has been running for more than 30 years), Wadebridge Male Voice Choir (formed in 1920), InTune (a ladies' choir which rehearses in four locations across Cornwall) and Moor Harmony (a ladies' barbershop chorus). Wadebridge Choral Society performs three times a year and runs a November choral workshop. wadebridgemalevoicechoir.org.uk wadebridgechoral.org.uk intunechoir.co.uk/wadebridge facebook.com/moorharmonychorus

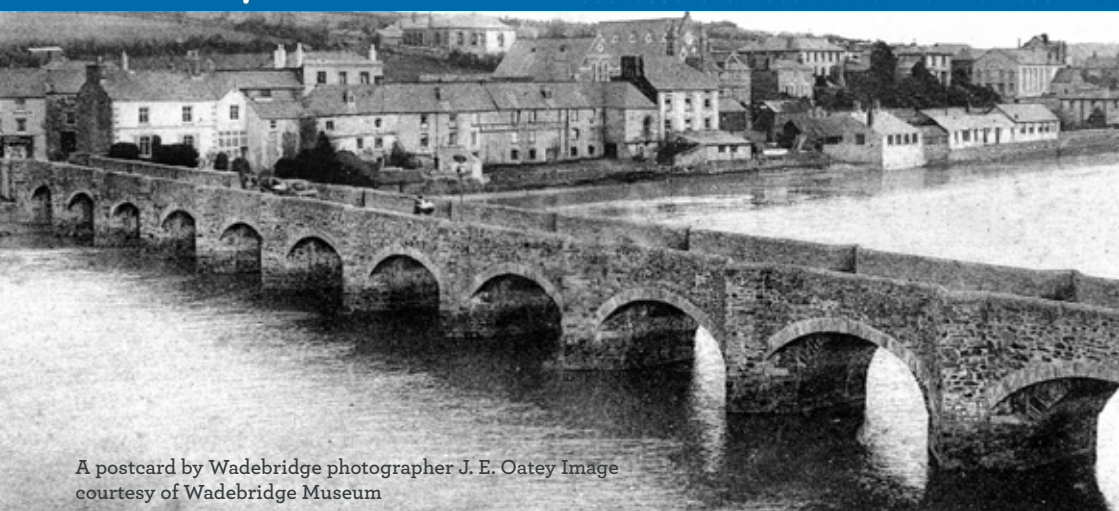
9 Take a walk or get on your bike

Oh, go on then. Walking and cycling are two of the top activities around Wadebridge, so this needs to be in the top 10, but there are more walking routes worth exploring which take you far above the Camel Trail. See pages 24-25 for more routes.

10 Eat and shop

Shopping and dining in Wadebridge is a dream. Boutique stores, local produce and regular events combine to make for a perfect day out.

In the past



A postcard by Wadebridge photographer J. E. Oatey Image courtesy of Wadebridge Museum

From its origins in the 14th Century, Wadebridge has had a fascination with bridges and a strong link with the railway. It also drew attention from Cromwell during the English Civil War and is surrounded by pre-historic structures and medieval churches.

What's in a name?

Wadebridge was once a thriving port, a centre for trade and a market centre, but not until the 'Bridge' was added to the 'Wade'. The first settlers named the town Wade (the first mention was in 1382) because of a ford in the River Camel, which had a chapel on each side — people prayed for a safe crossing at one chapel before giving thanks in the other after wading across at low tide. But it was a treacherous crossing, and the vicar of Egloshayle, who was concerned about the number of deaths, planned a stone bridge, which was added in the 1460s. Then the town became Wadebridge.

Bridging the gap

The bridge brought the town to life, transforming it into a busy port, a trading route and market centre. Schooners sailed up the Camel Estuary to discharge and reload their cargoes and barges made their way up to Clapper, Egloshayle, with sand taken by horse and cart to neighbouring farms.

Strategic position

The town prospered, and, by the 17th Century, it was in such an important strategic position that Oliver Cromwell reportedly sent more than 1,000 infantrymen to 'take the bridge' during the English Civil War (1640s).

One of the first railway lines in the country

With the arrival of the Bodmin and Wadebridge Railway in 1834 the town received another trading boost by becoming a pivotal transport link for stone, china clay and other heavy goods. This was only the sixth railway to open in the entire country — before any London lines — and the Camel locomotive was one of the first to carry passengers, all 400 of them. It was connected to the Great Western and North Cornwall lines in the late 1800s, and, in 1899, the line was extended along the Camel Estuary to Padstow.

Typhoid leads to town council

By the end of the 19th Century, Wadebridge was thriving, yet it still had no town council. It took a serious outbreak of typhoid fever, in 1897, to correct that. After drinking water became contaminated, the townspeople called for a cleaner water supply and better disposal of sewage — the town council was created to oversee this, which led to the building of a new reservoir on the hill to the south of the town in 1900.

'The most beautiful train journey I know'

The drastic reorganisation of the national rail network in the Sixties led to the closure of the Wadebridge line by 1978. The disused station buildings became the Betjeman Centre (for activities and exhibitions), celebrating the former poet laureate, Sir John Betjeman, who famously wrote that the five-mile section of line beside the Camel from Wadebridge to Padstow was "the most beautiful train journey I know." Despite the end of the railway, and the closure of the cattle market around the same time, the town evolved by tapping into Cornwall's growing tourism market. Read more about the Camel Trail on pages 18-21.

Clearing the bottleneck

Wadebridge was an arterial route through Cornwall, and the town became gridlocked during the peak tourist season. The bypass was built in 1993, and despite worries that it could be the death knell for retail trade, Wadebridge prospered once more. Read more about how the bypass affected retailers on pages 12-13.

Shouting about our history

Wadebridge and District Museum, which opened in 2007, is a valuable resource for visitors, schools and local people. The museum closed for a while, reopening in 2013. It's on the corner of Cross Street and Chapel Lane; opening hours are 11am-3pm, Monday to Saturday.
www.wadebridgemuseum.btck.co.uk



A 'challenging' celebrity link

In 1991, the town's fascination with bridges was re-lived when green space on the Egloshayle side of the river, with children's play areas and sports fields (including facilities for cricket, tennis and bowls) was linked to the town centre by a new pedestrian bridge. Anneka Rice, famous for the BBC programme *Challenge Anneka*, accepted the task of constructing the bridge in a single weekend. To this day it is known locally as Anneka's Bridge, although its official name is Challenge Bridge.



The best place to live

In recent years Wadebridge has been cited among the best places to live in the South West. According to the annual Sunday Times' Best Places to Live guide, in 2013, it was number one (out of 50) and received further mentions in the following years' editions.



© Adrian Langdon

The secret to Wadebridge's event success

From the oldest events which keep the town's heritage and history alive, to the newest, Wadebridge has harnessed the power of its people and businesses to build the most successful series of happenings in its history, which are often the envy of other towns.

What's the secret?

Within the last decade, Wadebridge has been slowly building up a critical mass of event organisation. Community spirit has always been strong in the town, but, since 2005, the event schedule has been filling out nicely.

The town hosts events showcasing agriculture, local produce, handicrafts, and grand celebrations of music and dance, from folk to jazz, swing and big band. In recent years the river has also become the focal point for a festival of its own.

"We get calls from other town chambers asking us the secret to building so much engagement," says Dominic Walford, from the town's chamber of commerce, which organises some events — Christmas late-night shopping, Camel River Festival and Big Lunch — and helps to promote many others.

"There's no secret," he adds. "Wadebridge is a community town no doubt about it. We have a great community which is willing to organise things like this. We engage with the people and businesses support it, which makes it all possible."



© Simon Stuart-Miller



© Wadebridge Chamber of Commerce



© Stuart Firth

Big changes

There have been some additions to the event schedule in recent years, like Bike Lights (a winter, nighttime parade under pedal power), Big Lunch (where Molesworth Street turns into a dining room) and Camel River Festival (which attracts up to 3,000 people).

From the oldest events, like the carnival, folk festival, garden produce show and a traditional festival harking back to the harvesting roots of this ancient market town, to some of the more recent shindigs, the town hosts more than 20 annual affairs. That's not to mention one-off events based around charity and educational causes.

Keeping Cornwall's heritage alive in music

One of the oldest events in the town, dating back to 1925, is the annual Festival of Music and Speech. Chairwoman, and former head of music at Wadebridge School, Janet

Townsend, says: "Almost every town in Cornwall had a festival like this at one time — music is part of our culture.

"But, while many have died out, ours has kept going, and it keeps growing in numbers. Its success is down to the people, as Wadebridge is attracting lots of older people who are willing to help, and the school children, choir singers and other performers who enjoy the opportunity to compete."

One of the three choirs in the town, Wadebridge Choral Society, also holds regular annual events, like its Spring, Summer and Christmas concerts.

Wadebridge Lions runs an annual musical extravaganza at Pencarrow House, which, in recent years, has inspired the townspeople to dress up in 1940s outfits and dance the night away (it started out as a jazz festival and the theme is always changing).



© agripicture.com/ Royal Cornwall Show

A Royal Cornwall affair



Organisers on the outskirts of the town have also upped their game. The Royal Cornwall Events Centre (formerly the Royal Cornwall Showground) hosts more than 300 events each year, from large-scale exhibitions and festivals — like Royal Cornwall Show (RCS), Creation Fest and Wadebridge Wheels — to dog shows and small meetings.

The RCS itself attracts more than 100,000 visitors each year from across the South West and beyond, with 1,000 trade stands from a wide range of British retail sectors. It's also Cornwall's biggest annual event, full of exhibits, entertainment, competitions and all the best in food and farming.

A 'critical mass'

Adrian Jones, from the Chamber of Commerce, agrees with Dominic that the secret is the community: "We are all bouncing off each other's energy and it's reaching a

We are a vibrant, buzzing town punching above our weight to deliver across-the-board family entertainment — you might not expect a small town to lay on so much.

*Adrian Jones
Wadebridge Chamber of Commerce*

critical mass of sorts: the more people we engage, the more people want to get involved."

Adrian is also a big fan of the Regal Cinema's live broadcast series. "I can walk out of my house and straight into the West End — it's great."

For a list of Wadebridge's main annual events, turn to pages 28-29.



Wadebridge's retailers have survived the threat from out-of-town supermarkets, online shopping, the end of the rail link and a new bypass. What remains is a buzzing collective of independent, resilient and inventive shop owners with a loyal, local following and an old-fashioned community feel.

Traditional retailers

Wadebridge is one of the few Cornish towns with a butcher, greengrocer, fishmonger and bakery. Most small towns have suffered at the hands of supermarkets and other chain stores buying in bulk and slashing prices (as well as other market pressures and consumer trends).

But no, not in Wadebridge. The retail environment in the town is booming. From new boutique clothing stores, to the stalwarts of the town, like cookware and lighting shop, Glanvilles, and bakery, Barnecutts (both established in the 1930s), the range is phenomenal for such a small population (around 8,000).

As well as the Wadebridge Country Market on a Thursday morning in the town hall, where traders sell local produce and crafts, there's a fudge-seller, independent wine merchant and delicatessen.

Clothing stores, including shops offering specialised services, like Mish (where you can get a bra fitting), are dotted around the town, covering every possible occasion, from surfing to evening wear; with a shoe to fit every foot, from the likes of J Shoes, which has been in the town since 1978.

There are even shops selling antiques and books, arts, crafts, games, stationery, fabrics, sports equipment, nursery equipment, homewares, hardware, electrical goods, carpets, musical instruments and...the list goes on and on.

The layout is also compact, but interesting. As well as Molesworth Street and The Platt, there are lots of interesting alleys and arcades, like Palmorla Walk.



Bravo

Michele Poynter, who set up specialist lingerie and swimwear store, Mish, in late 2015 on Eddystone Court, says she was attracted to the town

for the community feel, the number of independent retailers and the footfall. "The real pull for Wadebridge is the fact that it's a self sufficient town," she says. "You can go shopping there and buy absolutely everything you need — it genuinely is a town that has it all.

The sheer number of independents means it has a positive impact. Also we compliment each other with our offerings too. Everyone is just really friendly, and there's a real sense of community feel.

Michele Poynter - Mish

Jewel in the crown

It's a feeling echoed by Stuart Robertson, who has run the jewellers on Molesworth Street since 1998 (and owned it since 2003): "Shopkeepers take a great pride and effort in their shops and are passionate about what they do. Most are independent and employ local people. We also take care not to cross



over on stock, and we signpost customers to each other. I think that works incredibly well.”

But it was not always this prosperous. “Before the bypass was built in 1993, Wadebridge was the arterial route through Cornwall, and Molesworth Street was the main trunk road through the town,” he adds. “As a result, Wadebridge suffered dreadfully — people passed through and didn’t stop. But, since the bypass, it’s been fantastic.” Bill Frisby, who has been running

Countrywise (an outdoor clothing and equipment shop), on Eddystone Road, for more than three decades, adds: “Wadebridge does seem to be bucking the trend. In many ways, we are one of the few towns which can say that the bypass actually did us a favour. One of the reasons is that we have some terrific retailers and we have a tremendous local following. We are also very fortunate — we sit in a very good position on the Cornwall map.”

A window into a welcoming community



Richard Hamm (or ‘Mr Lambray’ as he’s known in the town) moved into Wadebridge in the Seventies. Here he talks about his ‘controversial’ past, his faith and the strong glue that binds Bridgers together.

Open arms

Originally hailing from Hampshire, Richard moved to Wadebridge as an auctioneer’s apprentice with Button, Menhenitt and Mutton when he was just 17 – that was in 1973. “I was welcomed with open arms by the community and did my training there,” he says.

“Back then Wadebridge was very intimate and structured by a lot of families who had lived here for many generations. There

were lots of small independent shops and everybody knew each other.”

Before long Richard was starting to make a name for himself as an auctioneer and “outspoken” town councillor (the youngest at 21, still a record today). He married a local girl, Rosie Glanville, whose shop has been in the town for almost 100 years, and set up Lambrays Auction Rooms in Polmorla Walk, holding sale days on a Monday.

Going once, going twice

"The auction used to be on market day when Wadebridge had a cattle market, so all the farmers' wives would come in; it was a great social thing," says Richard.

"The cattle market

was really important to Wadebridge. The wives would come shopping, the farmers would go to the market and have a pint or two — and there was a buzz about it. It was good for local traders too as it brought new people into town."

He admits his auction house was somewhat unorthodox, "pushing the boundaries" by displaying controversial art work, for example, by pop artist, Peter Blake, Plymouth painter, Robert Lenkiewicz, and a copy of Tate Modern's *The Bricks* ('Equivalent VIII' by Carl Andre), asking: 'Offers please?'

"I love art," he says, "so we were introducing other people to art as they walked past. It was for publicity mostly, and very tongue-in-cheek."

But, after 24 years, Lambrays closed — "I miss it like crazy," he says — and the art lover/auctioneer, started freelancing for other auctioneers around the South West.

On the silver screen

During his time in the town Richard started a film club at the cinema: "I used to get to choose my own films, it was great. The cinema owner realised there was a great audience for people who watched art and minority films, and, 30 years later, the Regal is still keen to show these films alongside the live broadcast schedule."

Putting something back

In 2008, he helped set up Wadebridge Youth Project under the umbrella of Wadebridge Churches Together. In 2010 he joined the team at Wadebridge Foodbank and StoreHouse, and, in 2015, he helped set up a community cafe, Loaves and Fishes, which helps feed people who are on low incomes or in need of companionship.

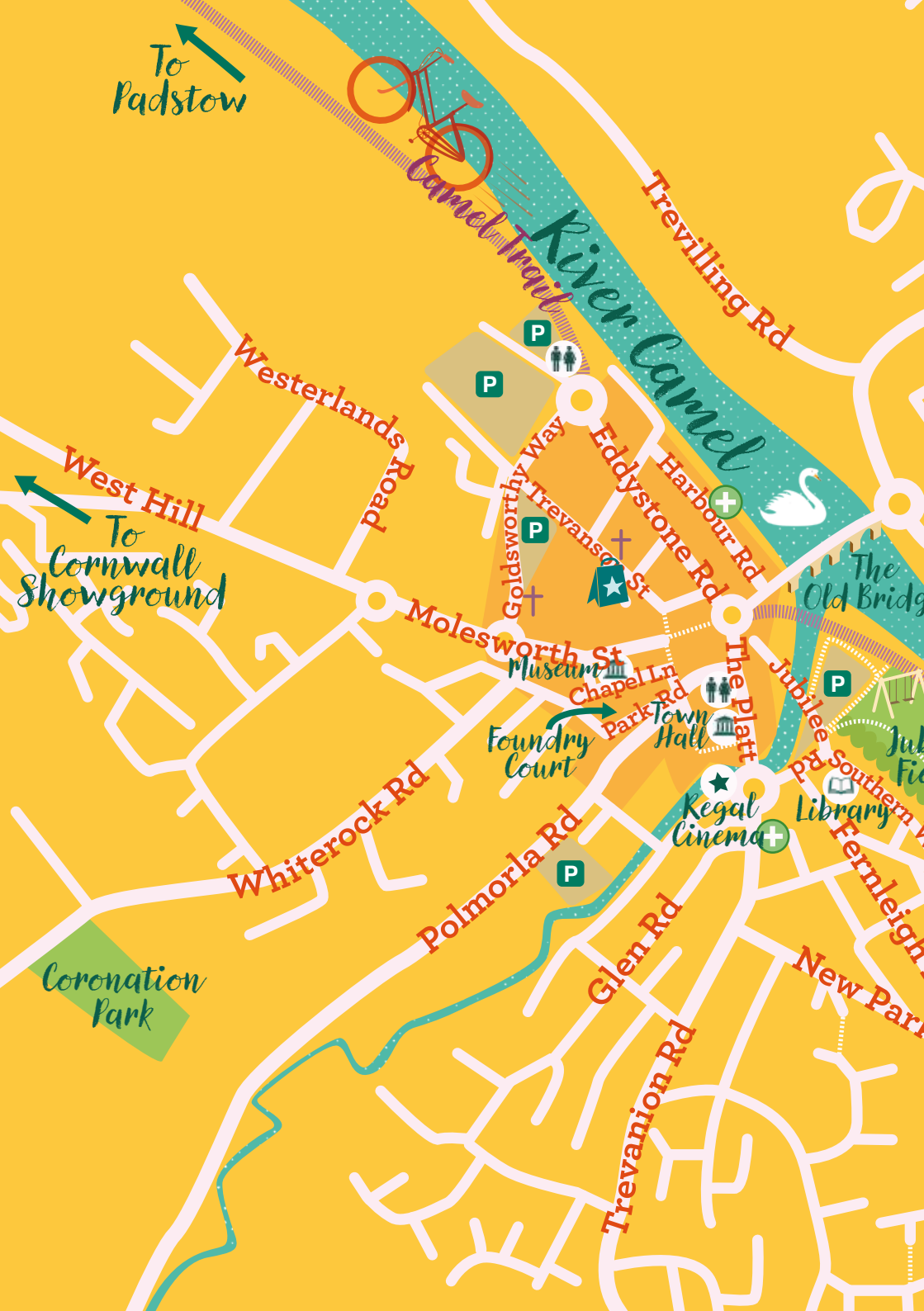
When I first came to Wadebridge as a teenager, it was like Wadebridge cared for me, adopted me, so by putting something back in I'm caring for the community in return.

Being a Bridger

Richard's always been interested in learning about art and social history for his career, to make valuations more interesting: "It's a bit like becoming a detective, finding the stories of real people behind the pieces to make them come alive."

He's at one with himself when he's cooking, watching a Harrison Ford movie (or a French period drama film like *Jean de Florette*) and reading (John Grisham or Lee Child are his favourites).

But, overall, contentment for him is just being in the town he loves: "Living in Wadebridge and being surrounded by a town family, you feel you belong. It's the greatest compliment to be accepted as a 'Bridger.' I travel a lot out of Cornwall, and, when I come back I always think, 'yes, this is the place.'"



To Padstow

To Cornwall Showground

River Camel

Camel Trail

Coronation Park

P

P

P

P

P



Regal Cinema

Library

Foundry Court

Museum

Chapel Ln

Town Hall

The Old Bridge

Jubilee

New Park

Southern

Fernleigh



To
Sports Centre &
Swimming Pool

B3314

Gonvena Hill

St Matthews Hill

Trenant Vale

Bowling Club
Tennis Club and Courts
Cricket Club
Brilliant children's play
areas
Picnic benches

Egloshayle Road

Higher Trenant Hill

Challenge
Bridge

P

Egloshayle
Park

Egloshayle
Church
+

Rugby
Ground

Camel Trail

To
Bodmin

15 mins walk to
town centre

On the Trail



© David Ortiz

Once a railway line, the Camel Trail is now a tranquil sanctuary for peace-seekers, amblers and cyclists, but so much more lies off the beaten track for wildlife-watchers and ramblers.

Romantic railway to a serene trail

“The next five-and-a-half miles beside the broadening Camel to Padstow is the most beautiful train journey I know.” The words of British poet laureate, John Betjeman, are immortalised in his 1984 book, *Betjeman’s Cornwall*.

Decades since the railway was replaced by a walking and cycling trail, the romance and magic of this route remains. While much of the county has changed far beyond Betjeman’s Cornwall, the Camel Trail has not. Instead it has been transformed into an entirely different, and highly valued, natural resource for visitors and locals alike.

The ‘perfect’ trail

“If you were going to design the perfect walking and cycle route, with viewpoints and environmental aspects, the Camel Trail

would be it,” says Nigel Wiggett, from Bridge Bike Hire, who started the phenomena of hiring bikes for riding on the trail in the late Seventies. “It’s totally unique. Part of its success is the duration: five miles to Padstow is manageable for everyone.”

When the Bodmin railway line was decommissioned in 1978, Nigel, who was running a car exhaust centre on Eddystone Road, hit upon the idea to hire bikes. “I refurbished bikes as a kid for pocket money, and I know a fair bit about mechanics,” he says. “Pretty soon 10 bikes turned into 50, which turned into 100; we never had enough — it was fairly obvious this was becoming serious business.”

So, in 1983 he sold his family home to fund what would become one of the first bike hire depots in the country, and moved into the property above. Today he has 400 bikes, and other cycle hire companies have followed



suit all along the trail. He adds: “I think the success of it has taken everybody by surprise, including the council.”

According to John Pomeroy, chairman of the Camel Trail Partnership, regular automatic counts take place at various locations on a regular basis under the control of Cornwall Council. “The current view is that the Trail has approximately 500,000-plus visitors a year, which gives a good idea of how it impacts on the local economy,” he says.

Off the beaten track

To really explore the beauty of the Camel Trail, you need to leave it. The best way to do that is on foot. For more intrepid walkers, there are quite a few walking routes in every direction off the trail, taking you through forests, along the riverside, over fields and moorland and even past Cornwall’s most famous vineyard (Camel Valley).

A walk from Polbrock Bridge car park, just off the Camel Trail, takes you via Bishops Wood, Burlawn, Hawkes wood and Hustyn Mill.

“If you were going to design the perfect walking and cycle route the Camel Trail would be it.”
Nigel Miggott - Bridge Bike Hire

According to Hilda Blacklaw, chairwoman of the Camel Ramblers (the Wadebridge district of the Ramblers Association), this seven-mile route is “very pleasant,” adding: “Wadebridge is well known as the town on the Camel Trail between Padstow and Bodmin but not everyone knows there are many paths off the trail that make interesting and varied walks.”

There’s a six-mile route along the famous old railway trackbed and through less-visited woodlands, recommended by the AA. Another route takes you to Trevanson and St Breock Church, returning through Polmorla valley. For more routes, turn to pages 24-25

On the Trail



Image courtesy of Bridge Bike Hire



© David Orm



Wildlife watchers

Walking brings you up close to wildlife, and there's so much wildlife in this area which you wouldn't see if it wasn't for

the accessibility of the Camel Trail. The sandbanks and mudflats of the estuary at low tide are perfect bird habitats, and the trail is the best place to see all sorts of nature, according to Adrian Langdon, a born-and-bred Wadebridge wildlife photographer, and a warden of the Walmsley Sanctuary bird reserve.

"The estuary houses huge populations of wintering birds," he says. "It's also one of the best places in the UK to see otters. You can also see deer, stoats, weasels, badgers and foxes. Lots of work has been done to preserve the wildlife along the Camel Estuary and it's a huge draw for wildlife enthusiasts."

There are several good bird watching habitats in and around Wadebridge: Clapper Marshes (by the rugby pitches), Treraven

Marshes (toward Bodmin on the trail) and Walmsley Sanctuary (less than a kilometre inland from the Camel Estuary).

That's not to mention the easy access to the marine wildlife on the coast and the moorland habitats of Bodmin Moor towards either end of the Camel Trail.

Magical and mystical

For Camel Trail cycling pioneer, Nigel, the draw of this flat route remains the same as it was almost four decades ago: "I ride the trail all the time. It's constantly changing, from the weather and cloud formations to the flora and fauna; the wildlife; the contrast of the forest and river. It's magical and mystical."



On the Trail



Work on the marshes opened up green space for cricket, bowls and rugby, among other sports. The surrounding countryside is full of walks and cycle routes, and the Camel River offers plenty of opportunity to mess about on the water in a canoe. Indoors, there's the leisure centre, gym and swimming pool, which also houses a host of fitness clubs from martial arts to badminton.

Sports Clubs & Centres

Camel Ramblers

The Wadebridge group of the Rambler's Association, covering the Camel Estuary, rugged moorlands, hidden valleys and attractive villages, and breathtaking views along the coastal fringes.

01208 75350

www.ramblers.org.uk/camel-district-wadebridge

Wadebridge Bowling Club

Since the 1920s the club has played on three different greens within the town, settling in its current location next to Egloshayle Playing Fields, with a bistro, bar, kitchen and roof terrace. The club welcomes visitors and locals, both beginners and seasoned players.

07531 175044

Egloshayle Road

www.wadebridgebowls.co.uk

Wadebridge Camels Rugby Football Club

The town's RFC runs teams and coaching sessions for under-7s up to seniors, playing against other teams in Cornwall and the South West from its base on Molesworth Field.

01208 815311

Egloshayle Road

www.pitchero.com/clubs/wadebridgecamels

Wadebridge Canoe Club

The club delivers training, coaching sessions and events while exploring the waterways and learning more about the local natural environment and history. During British Summer Time the club meets every Tuesday evening for a paddle. Details can be found on the club calendar on the website. New paddlers are always welcomed, with up to four

free sessions before needing to join the club.
01208 814980

wadebridgecc@gmail.com

www.wadebridgecanoecub.org

Wadebridge Cricket Club

The club has three adult sides playing in the Cornwall Cricket League and a women's team, which plays in the Cornwall Women's League, plus a successful youth section for boys and girls aged six years and above. The clubhouse at the Egloshayle Playing Fields has a licensed bar with Sky Sports, and the club is always seeking new members.

07813 780765

Egloshayle Road

wadebridgecricket@gmail.com

www.wadebridge.play-cricket.com

Wadebridge Leisure Centre and Swimming Pool

This is the heart of Wadebridge's indoor sports, with a gym, fitness classes, glass-backed squash courts, sports hall, 35m swimming pool (and toddlers pool). The centre is used by sports clubs, from netball and surf life saving to roller hockey, as well as local schools.

01208 814980

Bodieve Road, PL27 6BU

www.tempusleisure.org.uk/wadebridge-leisure-centre

Wadebridge Swimming Club

Wadebridge ASC runs weekly training for children and adults at Wadebridge Leisure Centre, offering two free trial sessions for children and two discounted trial sessions for adults.

www.wadebridgeasc.co.uk



Wadebridge Tennis Club

The town's tennis club has five all-weather hard courts which are available for the whole community and visitors. The volunteer-run association delivers junior and adult coaching sessions, plus competitions and events.

Egloshayle Road

01208 815975

www.wadebridgetenniscub.co.uk

Wadebridge Town Football Club

Founded in 1894, the 'Bridgers' runs teams for under-8s up to senior level, including a Mini Soccer School for boys and girls aged 5-11 and Soccer Tots (4-6-year-olds).

01208 812537

Bodieve Park

www.pitchero.com/clubs/wadebridgetown

Cycle Hire

Bridge Bike Hire

This bike hire depot is right on the edge of the Padstow-bound section of the Camel Trail, offering traffic-free access to the trail. With more than 400 bikes for hire and 20 staff, they have a bike for everyone, young or old.

01208 813050

www.bridgebikerehire.co.uk



Camel Trail Cycle Hire

A family-run cycle hire business opposite the beginning of the Wadebridge-to-Padstow Camel Trail cycle route with free, on-site parking and an early-morning reservation service, from 8.30am, if you call in advance.

01208 814104

www.cameltrailcyclehire.co.uk

Bike Smart

Despite having more than 200 bicycles for hire, Bike Smart advises booking in advance during peak periods, which you can do on their site. The hire shop is set back from the Padstow-bound end of the trail on Eddystone Road.

01208 814545

www.bikesmart.eu

A walk on the wild side

Most people see the Camel Trail

as the main walking route in Wadebridge, but, if you dig deeper, routes stretch out in every direction, taking you along the estuary, over moorland, deep into hidden valleys and through attractive villages.



Start with what you know

As well as the Camel Trail, which offers a level route for five miles to Padstow and 7 miles to Bodmin (and beyond), Wadebridge has a range of lesser-known walking routes for more adventurous rambles, hikes and treks.

Using the Trail as a starting point, our featured circular route (see map, opposite) takes you from Guineaport Road (the start of the Bodmin-bound trail) up into Treraven Farm, part of the Camel Special Area of Conservation and Site of Special Scientific Interest. The 170-acre site — owned by the Cornwall-based conservation charity, Gaia Trust — borders the Camel Trail and includes 35 acres of ancient, semi-natural woodland and saltwater meadows.

Meg Lamond, who manages Treraven Woods on behalf of the Gaia Trust, says: “This route takes you through ancient, semi-natural woodlands (with lots of tall old oak trees, hazel, coppice, bluebells and badger paths); there are often bats hunting insects along the path at nighttime too.

“You can sit on a bench near the top of the hill to watch birds over the estuary and the salt marshes. The path back down to the Camel Trail was used by dairy farmers, from Burlawn,

who took carts of milk churns down to meet the trains, so we call it the Milk Track.”

For a six-mile route along the old railway trackbed of the trail, which circles around Treraven Farm and takes you through less-visited woodlands, the AA has a recommended route with directions and descriptions of places of interests along the walk.

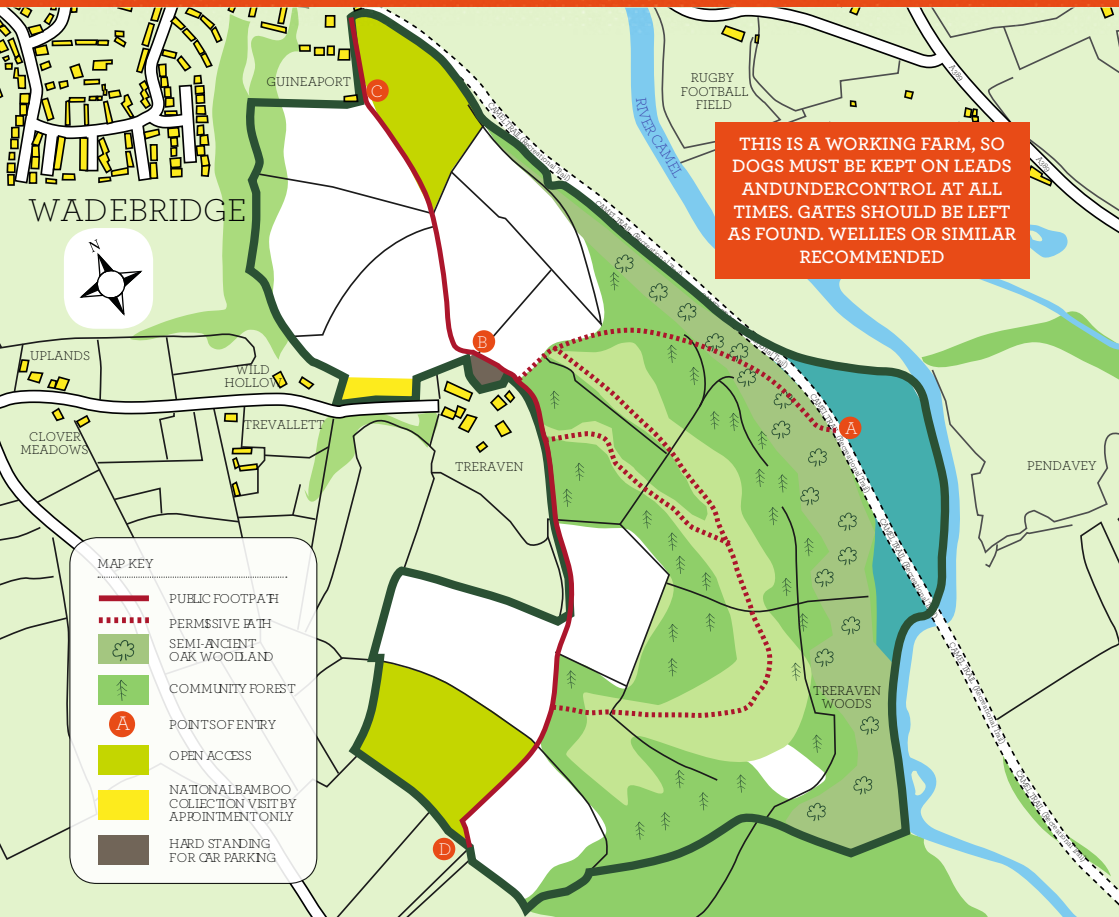
Heading out in all directions

For walks which head out from Wadebridge in other directions, the best place to look is on the [iwalkcornwall](http://www.iwalkcornwall.co.uk) website, which has 11 carefully chosen tracks around the Wadebridge area with detailed and double-checked directions, route maps, photos and information about the places of interest.

These recommendations come from the Camel Ramblers (the Wadebridge district of the Ramblers Association), which organises outings around the whole area, from breezy coastal routes to hidden, valley villages. Walk leader, Libby Bennett, who is well-known for her knowledge of all the local routes, says: “Joining the ramblers and getting walking was one of the best things I’ve ever done.”

To contact the Wadebridge Ramblers: www.ramblers.org.uk/camel-district-wadebridge or call 01208 75350.

For 11 walks around Wadebridge: www.iwalkcornwall.co.uk/walks/near/wadebridge
Treraven Farm walk: www.gaiatrust.org.uk/properties/treraven-farm/map
The AA-recommended route along the old railway trackbed: www.theaa.com/walks/along-the-banks-of-the-river-camel-at-wadebridge-420165



A 40-minute circular walk through semi-ancient forest

Starting at the end of Guineaport Road, take the Camel Trail towards Bodmin. After 10-20 minutes, when you pass a metal direction signpost (on your left), you'll see a gate to a track heading up into Treraven Woods (A).

Follow the straight path uphill. At the top you'll come out of the woods. Follow the path, bearing right, past two sheds on your left (B). As you pass through a gateway take the immediate narrow path to your right.

Continue downhill, go through the gate and walk through the field to the gate on the far end (C). Exit the field and follow the lane downhill until you are back on Guineaport Road. The route takes 40 minutes at a slow pace.

You can go around the world and back during a lunch hour in Wadebridge - with cafes, restaurants, take-aways and street food vendors proffering everything from Cantonese, Bangladeshi and Thai, to Italian and English mainstays. The town also boasts an award-winning pub, a nationally acclaimed wood-fired pizza van and a British champion barista who runs his own cafe. Welcome to foodie heaven.

RESTAURANTS

Bridge Bistro

Relaxed bistro and bar serving seasonal, local produce.

01208 815342

4 Molesworth Street, PL27 7DA

www.bridgebistro.co.uk

The Glasshouse

Cafe/bar/restaurant serving Italian cuisine, tapas, and traditional English dishes, including fresh local seafood.

01208 814800

The Piazza, Eddystone Road, PL27 7AL

www.glasshousewadebridge.co.uk

Little Plates

A bar and eatery with a menu based on small mediterranean dishes.

01208 816377

Polmorla Road, PL27 7ND

www.littleplatesbar.co.uk

Warnes

Modern British food with some international influences.

01208 814332

Polmorla Mews, PL27 7LZ

www.warnesbarandrestaurant.co.uk

RESTAURANTS/TAKEAWAY

The Dancing Taipan Restaurant

Cantonese and Chinese dishes, both eat-in and take-away.

01208 816623

The Platt, PL27 7AD

www.dancingtaipan.co.uk



The Raj

An Indian restaurant, bar and take-away on the side of the River Camel.

1, Commissioners Quay,

Eddystone Road, PL27 7AL

www.therajwadebridge.co.uk

Sagor

Overlooking the River Camel, Sagor is a family-run Tandoori restaurant and take-away.

01208 812500

www.sagor.co.uk

CAFES

Carraways

Coffee, cake, plus sandwiches, soups and breakfasts.

01208 814343

14 Polmorla Rd, PL27 7NS

The Granary

Serving full, Cornish breakfasts, soup, traditional roasts and 'hearty' evening meals.

01208 815530

34 Molesworth Street, PL27 7DP

www.thegranarywadebridge.co.uk

Hewitt's

Coffee house, wine bar and music venue with food served all day/evening.

01208 368191

33, Molesworth St, PL27 7DH

Mad Hatters

Cornish breakfast, artisan coffee, lunch and snacks; homemade cakes, Cornish cream teas, smoothies and Cornish ice cream.

07808 198820

The Platt, PL27 7EA



The Old Tea House

6, Polmorla Rd, PL27 7ND
01208 813331

Relish

A cafe and deli run by Hugo Hercod (British Barista Champion 2008) who also runs coffee-brewing courses.
01208 814214
Foundry Court, PL27 7QN
www.relishcornwall.co.uk

The Shed

Cosy cafe famous for its brunch offerings, from Eggs Benedict to Welsh rarebit.
07870 543199
1 Trevanson St, PL27 7AW

Tim's Place

Cafe, open seven days a week, for breakfast and lunch
01208 812550
1, Foundry St, PL27 7NW

Wood and Green café

Coffee and 'creative happenings,' plus burgers, seasonal specials; gluten-free and vegan diners well-catered for.
07547 586105
Eddystone Road

PUBS AND BARS**Bridge on Wool**

01208 812750
The Platt, PL27 7AQ
www.bridgeonwool.com

The Earl of St Vincent

01208 814807
www.earlofstvincent.com

Molesworth Arms

01208 812055
Molesworth St, PL27 7DP
www.moleswortharms.co.uk

The Falcon

01208 368587
falconpub.co.uk

Churchill Bars

Molesworth St,
PL27 7DP

The Ship Inn

This 16th Century coaching inn on the river won the Gold Award for Best Pub at the Cornwall Tourism Awards 2015.
01208 813845
Gonvena Hill, PL27 6DF
www.shipinnwadebridge.co.uk

Slades House

01208 812729
Sladesbridge, PL27 6JB

The Swan Hotel

01208 812526
9, Molesworth St, PL27 7DD
www.staustellbrewery.co.uk/
pub/wadebridge/swan-hotel

TAKE-AWAY**Barny's**

Fish and chip takeaway in the centre of town
10 Molesworth St, PL27 7DA
01208 812389

Le Snack

Sandwich bar and take-away.
01208 815353
4, Foundry Street, PL27 7NW
www.lesnack.net

Spice Guru

Bangladeshi and Indian cuisine
01208 895333
3 Polmorla Rd, PL27 7ND
www.spiceguruwadebridge.co.uk

**Jon's Fish and Chips**

Up the hill from Lidl with ample customer parking
1, Goldsworthy Way,
Wadebridge PL27 7FL
01208 813558

Wai Kui

Chinese Takeaway
01208 814165
56, Molesworth St, PL27 7DR

Yummies

Pizza, chicken, kebabs and burgers
01208 816699
9, Commissioners Rd, PL27 7AS
www.yummieswadebridge.co.uk

STREETFOOD**Wild Bake**

Mobile wood-fired pizza van, listed in the Sunday Times Dish magazine's top 25 wood-fired pizzerias in Britain, 2015, and visiting Wadebridge on Monday evenings, 5-8pm (except school summer holidays) opposite Lidl.
07707 08 24 15
www.wildbake.co.uk

Tiny Thai

Pop-up Thai food restaurant in and around Wadebridge, with a regular pitch outside the Pop Gallery on Trevanson St, PL27 7AW.
07821 651366
www.thetinythai.co.uk



Events

March

Annual Festival of Music & Speech

Running since 1925, this festival attracts more than 1,000 instrumentalists, singers, speakers and choirs of all ages and every ability to the town hall for six days of competition and 150 classes, with a gala concert.

01208 880505

April

Wadebridge Choral Society Spring concert

Formed in 1986, Wadebridge Choral Society is a mixed-voice, adult choir which encourages singers from the town and its surrounds to take part in musical activities. Its Spring concert is usually in April at Wadebridge School.

01208 815322

www.wadebridgechoral.org.uk

May

May Play

Two days of fun and play with circus skills, theatre, dance, crafts, storytelling, workshops, performances and forest school activities.

June

Royal Cornwall Show

The annual event of the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association, which has been running since 1895; it is held at the Royal Cornwall Events Centre.

01208 893089

royalcornwallshow.org

For 300 other events on the same site, visit: royalcornwallshow.org/other-events

Big Lunch

Free open-air street party in early June for all residents and visitors. Pack a picnic, pull up a chair, sit down and say 'hello'. Plenty of live music and kids activities. From 12pm on Molesworth St.



Wadebridge Lions Beer Festival

Live music, barbecue and 20 ales, plus cider and wine.

e-clubhouse.org/sites/wadebridge

July

Rock Oyster Festival

A two-day event (at Dinham House on the Camel Estuary) including food, music, kids workshops and dance.

www.rockoysterfestival.co.uk

Wadebridge Wheels

A classic car rally in mid-July organised by the Rotary Club of Wadebridge, held at the Royal Cornwall Events Centre.

www.wadebridgewheels.co.uk

Wadebridge Choral Society Summer concert

St Minver or Egloshayle Church

August

Camel River Festival

A weekend of music, food, drink and family activities based around the Camel River; including water-based competitions and demonstrations (including the famous raft race).

www.camelriverfestival.co.uk



Wadebridge Carnival

Floats, walkers and carnival queens parade through the town before a firework display and live music in Jubilee field.
www.facebook.com/wadebridgecarnival

Creation Fest

Christian music festival and bible week held at the Royal Cornwall Events Centre.
www.creationfest.org.uk

Music & dancing at Pencarrow House

This event has run since the Nineties in the gardens of the 500-year-old manor house. Recent years included a jazz theme and a 1940s-themed evening for the whole family.
www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/wadebridge

Cornwall Folk Festival

Running since the 1970s, this is the main event for Cornwall's folk scene. A three-day celebration of music, dance and street entertainment with special children's events spread out over the August summer bank holiday period.
www.cornwallfolkfestival.com

September

Crying the Neck

A traditional harvest festival attracting a large crowd to see the last of the harvest cut, with blessings in Cornish and a service at Eglosayle Church, followed by pasties and

a singsong. Organised by the Old Cornwall Society
www.oldcornwall.net

October

Bike Lights

A magical night-time procession of lit-up bicycles, prams, pushchairs and tricycles; tandems, carts, wheelchairs and unicycles, organised by Wadebridge Creative Hub and involving local schools.
wadebridgecreativehub.co.uk

November

Wadebridge & District Garden

Produce Association Show

Running since 1942, this showcases vegetables, flowers, arts, cookery, preserves, handicrafts and photography and takes place in the town hall.

December

Christmas Shopping Weekend

A series of late-night shopping evenings with free car parking and events, including live music on the streets, a Santa's Grotto, craft fair, firework display, Christmas lights switch-on and Santa Fun Run.
www.wadebridgechristmasweekend.co.uk

Wadebridge Choral Society

Christmas concert

St Minver Church

New Year's Eve Fireworks

The best viewing spot for fireworks in the town is the old bridge; fireworks are let off from the river bank.



HOTELS AND PUBS

Bridge on Wool

A bar, restaurant and bed & breakfast with live music on Friday and Saturday nights.

01208 812750

The Platt, PL27 7AQ

www.bridgeonwool.com

The Molesworth Arms

Restaurant and bar with rooms, since 1901, including the Zoo Bar and Zoo Lounge, a private function room.

01208 812055

Molesworth St, PL27 7DP

www.moleswortharms.co.uk

The Swan Hotel

On the corner of Molesworth St, Eddystone Rd and The Platt, serving food and local ales.

01208 812526

9 Molesworth Street, PL27 7DD

www.staustellbrewery.co.uk/pub/wadebridge/swan-hotel

Travelodge Wadebridge Hotel

West Hill, PL27 7HR

0871 984 6452

www.travelodge.co.uk

BED & BREAKFAST

Brookdale B&B

Edwardian guesthouse on the corner of Brook Rd and Trevanion Rd.

01208 81542

Trevanion Rd, PL27 7PA

www.brookdalebandb.co.uk

Little Brook

In the parish of Egloshayle; a short riverside walk into Wadebridge.

01208 814267

Mill Close, Egloshayle, PL27 6HA

Spring Garden B&B

A former 16th Century merchant's house, with rooms and an adjoining self catering cottage.

01208 813771

Bradfor's Quay, PL27 6DB

www.spring-garden.co.uk

The Hawthorns B&B

01208 479129

Trevanson Rd, PL27 7HD

Wadebridge Bed and Breakfast

AA 4-Star Gold guest accommodation in a quiet residential area close to the town centre.

07740 255092

Orchard House, Elmsleigh Road, PL27 7HA

www.wadebridgebedandbreakfast.net

OTHER

Trevanion House Holidays

Supported holidays for adults with learning difficulties.

01208 814903

www.trevanion.co.uk

Useful numbers

Wadebridge Police

General enquiries 08452 777444
Crimestoppers: 0800 555111

Wadebridge Town Council

01208 812643
Town Hall, The Platt

Padstow Tourist Information centre

01841 533449

Dentists

No. 65 The Dental Surgery
01208 812711
65, Molesworth St

Temple and Higgs Park
Chambers Dental Practice
01208 812450
61, Molesworth St

Wadebridge Dental Care
01208 813816
8, Park Place, Whiterock Road

Vets

G & PJ Nute
01208 813258
Trenant Industrial Estate

Harleigh Vets Ltd
01208 812530
4, Park Road

Doctors' surgeries

Bridge Medical Centre
01208 812342
Harbour Road

Wadebridge and Camel Estuary Practice
01208 812222
Brooklyn

Hospitals

Royal Cornwall Hospital Treliske
01872 250000
Truro, TR1 3LJ

Bodmin Hospital (minor injuries)
01208 251300
Boundary Road, Bodmin,
PL31 2QT

Chemists

Boots Pharmacy
01208 812505
4, New Court House, The Platt

Day Lewis Pharmacy
01208 812760
Jubilee Road

OTHER USEFUL INFO

Library

On the corner of Southern Way
03001234111
www.cornwall.gov.uk/library

Museum

Chapel Lane
www.wadebridgemuseum.btck.co.uk

Car parks

Jubilee Car Parks — by Co-Op
Goldworthy Way — near Lidl
Piggy Lane (long stay) — off
Goldworthy Way
Polmorla Road (long stay)
Egloshayle Road
Commissioners Quay

Bus services

Timetables are available in the
foyer of the town hall and online:

City Bus
www.plymouthbus.co.uk

First Bus:
www.firstgroup.com/cornwall

National Express
08717 818181
www.nationalexpress.co.uk

Stagecoach

www.stagecoachbus.com/about/south-west

Rail services

Nearest train station: Bodmin Parkway (10 miles away) for mainline services east and west.

Banks

You'll find Barclays, Lloyds, HSBC and NatWest along Molesworth Street.

Dog warden

0300 1234 212 (Cornwall Council)

Age Concern

01872 266388 (Head Office)

Places of worship

There are five centres of worship. More information: wadebridgeparish.org.uk

Egloshayle Church, PL27 6AD

St Michael's Catholic Church, Trevanson Street, PL27 7AW

Wadebridge Christian Centre
01208 813110
Molesworth Street

John Betjeman Community Centre
01208 812392
Southern Way, PL27 7BX

Wadebridge Methodist Church
01208 895157
Coffee Corner, Trevanion Road



*Thanks for dropping by,
see you again soon.*



