

Cotswold Photography Tours

Tour Information 2021-2022

Thank you for your interest in Cotswold Photography Tours. We offer bespoke photographic tours of the Cotswolds which can be **driving tours**, **drive-walk tours** or **pure walking tours** for those of you who enjoy fresh air, great exercise and being surrounded by unspoilt landscapes with your camera!

As such we customise all our tours individually to each customer to ensure we meet your specific photographic and tour needs at a time that suits you.

The example tours below are provided simply to give you a flavour of the different areas of the Cotswolds that we cover and the photographic opportunities they offer. Some of these tours are based on our original walking photography tours but all of them can be adapted to suit different fitness levels or indeed to be done as driving or drive-walk tours.

Should have your own specific areas of the Cotswolds that you would like to visit and photograph, no problem, we specialise in organising bespoke photography tours of the area. Simply contact us at info@cotswoldphotographytours.co.uk giving us an idea of your requirements and we will be delighted to put together a tour tailored to your exact specification!

Thank you so much and we look forward to hearing from you!

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"Classic Cotswolds Tour" : Moreton-in-Marsh, Stow on the Wold, Bourton-on-the-Water, The Slaughters

Tour Type: Drive-Walk

Join us for a Cotswold Village day that has it all - the busy villages of Moreton-in-Marsh, Stow on the Wold and Bourton-on-the-Water with the river Windrush, the Bourton ducks (& tourists!) and classic Cotswold buildings. Follow this by exploring the smaller, but highly picturesque villages of the Slaughters with the river Eye running through, ancient churches and classic Cotswold landscapes. We finish the tour with a visit to a "mystery" village!

Itinerary:

- * 07.30 Pick up
- * 08.00 We start early to beat the crowds in the bustling village of Bourton-on-the-Water. Perhaps the most well-known (and consequently well visited) Cotswold village, Bourton is busy all year round but is well worth a visit for its charming buildings and the river Windrush that flows through the centre of the village. Visit one of the cafes here for a cream tea or coffee and watch the world go by!
- * 09.15 We drive about 8km north to the ancient village of Stow on the Wold for a look around this busy but very historic Cotswold village - the highest in the Cotswolds! Lots to photograph including the sizeable church.
- * 10.30 We head north again to arrive in Moreton-in-Marsh for a look around this classic Cotswold market village. If you book your tour for a Tuesday then the market will be on and offer some additional photographic opportunities (and the temptation to try some local delicacies!).
- * 11.30 We head back towards Bourton to the village of Lower Slaughter. Wander around this quintessential Cotswold village and absorb the photographic opportunities it presents.

We have the option to take the 1km each-way walk from Lower Slaughter to Upper Slaughter with some further fantastic photographs to be composed on the way.
- * 13.00 Head off by car for our final stop at a "mystery" village and a flavour of the slightly "quieter Cotswolds"!
- * 14.30 We head back by car dropping you off at your pick-up point

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"The Far North East Tour" : Broadway, Stanton, Stanway and Snowhill

Tour Type: Drive-Walk

Join us on this slightly more adventurous photographic day that will enable you to capture images of the Cotswolds that fewer others will have done. There is more country walking than on the "Classic" tour but we keep it to largely level ground with the option to do more if you so wish! The "Far North East" tour takes in four stunning villages and their surrounding Cotswold scenery. This will be a day to remember - and to capture with your camera!

Itinerary (timings other than pick up and drop off are approximate):

- * 08.30 Pick up
- * 09.00 Arrive at Stanway village for our first exploration and photographic opportunity as we take in the thatched cottages and ancient church of this little hamlet.
- * 10.00 We head north by car to the small village of Stanton approximately 2km to the north. We will spend about 45 minutes exploring this beautiful Cotswold village.
- * 11.00 We head north again but this time **on foot** towards Broadway, approximately 4.5km from Stanton. Along the way we pass by the village of Laverton and through the village of Buckland. Great scenery and a real flavour of being in the Cotswolds.
- * 13.00 We should arrive in Broadway around 13.00 where we offer you the chance to relax, have some lunch (there are several pubs in Broadway) and explore the village for a few hours.
Your guide will return to Stanton to collect the transport!
- * 14.30 We head east by car to Broadway Tower and take in some magnificent views across the Vale of Evesham - a great photographic spot. A small cafe here will provide us with a coffee break.
- * 15.30 We take the short hop to our final destination of Snowhill. This small, relatively isolated village has a beautiful church and is home to Snowhill Manor – which would be a good half day's visit on its own.
- * 16.30 We head back by car dropping you off at your pick-up point by around 17.00

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"The Hidden Cotswolds Tour" : Guiting Power, Kineton, Temple
Guiting, Ford and Cutsdean

Tour Type: Walking

Join us for this true Cotswold adventure! This is a walking tour that takes us off the tourist tracks and offers opportunities to see, and photograph, the "hidden" Cotswolds. Experience the magnificent Cotswold landscape in its true guise along with little known, but totally stunning, Cotswold villages. A real treat!

Itinerary (timings other than pick up and drop off are approximate):

- * 08.30 Pick up
- * 09.30 Arrive at our first stop - the very picturesque village of Guiting Power. Quintessentially Cotswolds and boasting a lovely church, we will spend some time exploring the area.
- * 10.15 We head north from Guiting Power **on foot** towards the little hamlet of Kineton approximately 2km away. On the way we pass through some stunning woodland / stream scenery as well as more open farming land of the "real" Cotswolds.
- * 11.15 From Kineton we head north again **on foot** towards the village of Temple Guiting another 2km away. The river Windrush passes through here and there are plenty of opportunities for some stunning photographs.
- * 12.30 We take the **short walk** (about 1.5km) from Temple Guiting to the tiny hamlet of Ford. Small it maybe, but it has a very nice pub where we can stop for lunch.
- * 14.00 We head off **on foot** to the north about 1km and the very small, but very beautiful, village of Cutsdean. Superb opportunities for some classic Cotswold images are to be had here.
- * 15.00 The last leg of our tour is a short (1.5km) walk to Stumps Cross. Here, high up on the escarpment, you can look out to the west and north over the Vale of Evesham for some very spectacular views indeed. A great end to the day!
- * 16.30 Pick up from Stumps Cross and head back home.

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NEW TOUR FOR 2021!

“Historic Cotswolds Tour” : Whithington and Chedworth Roman Villa

Tour Type: Walking

Join us for this fabulous tour in the heart of the Cotswolds taking in two great villages (Whithington and Chedworth) plus the historic Chedworth Roman Villa. This is a tour that has to be experienced on foot, so it's leg power all the way! The tour covers superb Cotswold landscapes including expansive wooded areas and more open country, both prime areas for wildlife. The Roman Villa at Chedworth dates back to the 4th century AD and is currently owned by the National Trust. The Villa is open from early March to the end of November. Time (and season) permitting we can explore the Villa in more detail (entry to non NT members is about £11).

Itinerary (timings other than pick up and drop off are approximate):

- * 08.00 Pick up
- * 08.30 Arrive at Whithington for the start of the tour. We spend some time exploring the village and it's striking church
- * 09.00 Head off by foot towards Chedworth via Whithington woods before emerging in to more open country. Some terrific landscape photography images can be had out here.
- * 11.30ish We should arrive at Chedworth village around lunchtime. There is a pub for refreshments and the village itself is worth exploring with your camera.
- * 12.30 We head north from Chedworth back up in to the high country and the 1.5km walk to the Roman Villa. Nestled within the Chedworth Woods the setting of the Villa makes for some lovely images. Time permitting you will have the option to go into the Villa for a closer look at the historic remains
- * 13.30ish From the Villa we begin the 4km wander back to Whithington, meeting up with the river Coln on the way. This part of the tour has varied scenery and landscapes as well as opportunity to see and photograph deer that inhabit the wooded areas around here.
- * 15.30ish Arrive back at Whithington to collect our transport and make our way home to take a look at those amazing images you've captured!

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NEW TOUR FOR 2021!

“Wild Cotswolds Tour” : The Rissingtons, Windrush and Sherborne

Tour Type: Walking

If you like landscape and wildlife photography then this is the tour for you! We go for an early start for the best light, heading out to the East Cotswolds - an area dominated by big skies, open landscapes and dotted with the fabulously photogenic small villages of Little and Great Rissington, Windrush and Sherborne (the location for the 2017 “Spring Watch” and “Autumn Watch” television programmes).

Itinerary (timings other than pick up and drop off are approximate):

- * 07.00 Pick up
- * 07.30 Arrive at our starting point – the small village of Little Rissington. We have a short time to photograph around the village before heading south on foot to the village of Great Rissington
- * 09.00 We spend some time exploring Great Rissington and getting some superb images of the village and village life. We can also get refreshments here.
- * 09.30 From Great Rissington we continue south on foot across the open country to the tiny but stunning village of Windrush.
- * 10.30 The village of Windrush offers a chance to capture some unique images of The “real” Cotswolds
- * 11.30 From Windrush we head west to the village of Sherborne and the Sherborne Estate with opportunity to see and photograph the area featured in the “Spring Watch” TV series.
From Sherborne we cross the river Windrush and head back towards Great Rissington where we then take a different route back to our starting point at Little Rissington
- * 15.00 Head back by car to your drop off and a well-earned rest!

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“The Ancient Cotswolds Tour” : Brockhampton, Winchcombe and Cleeve Hill

Tour Type: Walking

If you like history and finding out about the past then this is the Tour for you! We start by visiting the small, but very photogenic, villages of Brockhampton and Sevenhampton. The river Coln meanders its way through the villages making for some super scenic images. We then move on to the tiny hamlet of Charlton Abbots where we leave the car and take to the legs. The first stretch of the tour is straight forward as we follow the valley towards Winchcombe. Plenty of great photographic opportunities exist including old farm buildings, classic Cotswold sheep country, rolling hills and historic buildings including Sudeley Castle.

We spend some time in Winchcombe where we can get fed and watered. From there we head back towards Charlton Abbots by the “scenic” route – a climb out of the valley and up to the top of the escarpment to visit the large and historically significant long barrow of Bela’s Knap. If you enjoy walking and great scenery we guarantee you will not be disappointed by this tour!

Itinerary (timings other than pick up and drop off are approximate):

- * 07.00 Pick up
- * 07.30 Arrive at our first call point – the small villages of Sevenhampton and Brockhampton. Chance to obtain some lovely early morning images of these two very underrated villages
- * 09.00 We drive the short distance to Charlton Abbots where we leave the vehicle and make our way on foot towards Winchcombe. A great region for landscape and wildlife photography
- * 11.00 We have some free time in Winchcombe where there is plenty to explore and photograph and to have your lunch.
- * 12.30 We head out of Winchcombe and back towards Charlton Abbots, making the climb out of the valley and up to the long barrow of Bela’s Knap.
- * 14.30 We take a break at Bela’s Knap where there are plenty more opportunities for more great photography up here in the high country.
- * 15.00 We head back to Charlton Abbots via some superb open and woodland countryside.
- * 16.30 Return to the car and head back home!

Cotswold Photography Tours
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