



Welcome to OSWESTRY

Where Shropshire meets Wales

Where is Oswestry? Where is Shropshire? Is Oswestry in England or Wales? We invite you to discover the ancient market town of Oswestry in Shropshire. Oswestry is almost surrounded by Wales but it sits comfortably in north west Shropshire which gives our visitors the chance to discover exactly where Shropshire meets Wales.

Friendly, historic and surprising - that's Oswestry.



Friendly - Oswestry is a friendly and traditional market town. It is well known for its lively street markets, independent shops and year round events. Summer highlights are the unique Oswestry hot air balloon carnival and July's free food and drink festival.



Historic - Sitting so close to the Welsh border, Oswestry and the Borderlands have a fascinating history. Sometime English, sometimes Welsh, Oswestry has a fascinating history. You can follow a trail of ancient border castles from Powis to Chirk to Whittington. Discover our industrial heritage. It's a fascinating mix of heritage railways, scenic canals and the awesome Pontcysyllte Aqueduct - a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Surprising - Our visitors say it's surprising how many things there are to do in Oswestry and so many fantastic places to visit near here. Are you ready to explore Oswestry and the Borderlands?

You will be welcome!



Oswestry Tourist Information Centre
Castle View Oswestry SY11 1JR

T: 01691 662753 www.visitoswestry.co.uk
Scan the code to find out more and enter the prize draw



Front cover images:
Oswestry Town Market, Chirk Castle, Old Oswestry Hillfort



See more of the Borderlands where Shropshire meets Wales - Let's explore...

Friendly, historic and surprising - that's Oswestry. Are you ready to make new friends, be intrigued by our unique history and be surprised by what you find? Take a different direction every day and explore Oswestry and the Borderlands - where Shropshire meets Wales.

Awesome North East Wales

Take a step over the Welsh border into North East Wales to visit 12 miles of awesome industrial heritage at the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Pontcysyllte (1) and Chirk Aqueducts (2). Along the way visit Chirk Castle (3) and Llangollen (4) for a slow cruise on a horse drawn boat or a ride on a heritage steam train. Visit Erddig House (5) for a fascinating glimpse of an 'upstairs - downstairs' lifestyle. Then on to Pistyll Rhaeadr (6), higher than Niagara, this waterfall is one of the Seven Wonders of Wales.



Tranquil North Shropshire

Oswestry nestles into a quiet corner of North Shropshire and it is the ideal starting point to explore Ellesmere and Shropshire's Lake District. Don't miss the award winning Park Hall Countryside Experience (7). It's a fabulous family fun day with everything from pig racing to tractor rides, museums and more. Take a break at the semi-ruined Whittington Castle (8) in the quintessential English village of Whittington. Travel on to the market town of Ellesmere (9) and wander around the picturesque meres or lakes.



Darwin's Shrewsbury and metal mayhem

Darwin's Shrewsbury is another great day out. First stop is the unique British Ironwork Centre (10) with its Spoon Gorilla and metal animal safari. Stunning views over to Wales reward a climb up Nesscliffe Hill (11) and a small detour takes you to the village of Melverley to see the 14th century timber framed church (12). Shrewsbury (13), birthplace of Charles Darwin is Shropshire's county town and a delight of black and white Tudor buildings arranged within a loop of the River Severn.



Majestic Mid Wales

Wander along the Welsh and English border from Oswestry to Welshpool (14) and discover ancient limeworks and the Montgomery canal. Climb to Rodney's Pillar (15) for impressive border landscapes. Visit Powis Castle (16) with its majestic gardens and don't miss a steam train ride on the Welshpool to Llanfair Railway (17). A detour to the quirky Andrew Logan Museum will certainly surprise you! Wander along quiet roads as you head to Lake Vyrnwy (18). It's a walkers delight with 11 miles of gentle tracks around the lake.



Friendly - Historic - Surprising

OSWESTRY

Where Shropshire meets Wales

MINI GUIDE AND FREE TOWN MAP



Further Information

Oswestry Tourist Information Centre
Castle View, SY11 1JR
T: 01691 662753
www.visitoswestry.co.uk

Oswestry Markets
T: 01691 680222
www.oswestrymarket.co.uk
Market days: Weds, Fri, Sat.

Oswestry Town Council
T: 01691 680222
www.oswestry-tc.gov.uk

Oswestry Business Improvement District
One Oswestry
T: 01691 700365
www.oneoswestry.co.uk



Ancient beginnings

This is where Oswestry began. Old Oswestry, the 3000 year old hillfort, is considered one of the finest in the country and is known as the Stonehenge of the Iron Age. Legend even has it that King Arthur's Guinevere was born here. Stroll to the top to see views over Shropshire, Powys and Cheshire and the town of Oswestry. It's a wildlife haven and spring brings a carpet of bluebells.



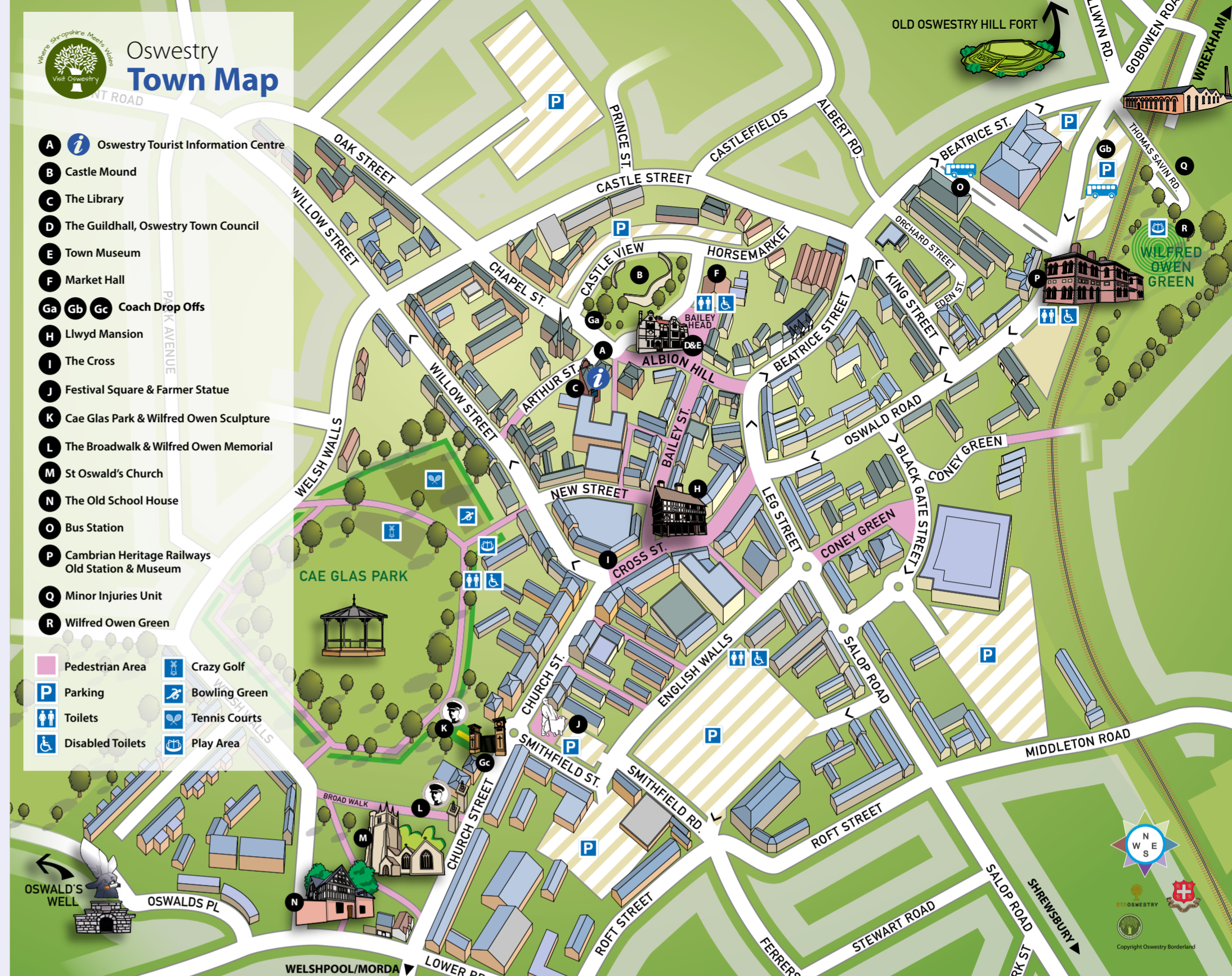
Industrial heritage

From the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Pontcysyllte and Chirk Aqueducts to the hidden canals that wander through these Borderlands, there is a soft echo of The Industrial Revolution in and around Oswestry. Heritage railways remind us of the great days of steam and you can even take a leisurely 'cruise' on a horse drawn barge at Llangollen.



Border castles

Visit fairytale Whittington Castle with its moat and swans or spend a day at Chirk, the impressive Marcher castle that has guarded the borders since medieval times. National Trust Eddid House is a fascinating mix of upstairs/downstairs living and Powis Castle and gardens at Welshpool are just stunning.



Border waterways

Follow the Llangollen and Montgomery canals as they wander through Shropshire into Wales. Dare to walk across the 'stream in the sky' at Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and don't miss Llanhaeadr Waterfall, higher than Niagara Falls. Then stroll around Ellesmere's beautiful meres or cycle around Lake Wyrnwy in Mid Wales.



Family days out

Do you want to feed a lamb at an award winning farm attraction or a take a trip on a heritage train? How about going on a safari? There's a larger than life metal safari which is unique! There's even a beach for one summer weekend. Sandcastle fun in the centre of Oswestry!



Active borderlands

This is walking country! Enjoy exploring a quieter part of Shropshire and the Welsh Borders. Offa's Dyke Path wanders along the border with breath taking views over Shropshire and Wales. Canal towpaths beckon for a stroll or gentle bike ride or for more of a challenge, bring your mountain bike or your paddle board.



Stay near here

Stay in Oswestry town and enjoy market days, independent shops and the lively pub and restaurant scene. Or get away from it all and stay in quiet countryside with stunning scenery right on your doorstep. From Georgian coaching inns to cosy cottages and some exciting glamping and camping experiences, Oswestry and the Borderlands are a great place to stay.



Eat, drink & enjoy

Get to know the local flavours - café culture in town, afternoon tea in quirky country settings, elegant restaurants and the best pubs around. Friendly places to eat and drink serving the best local produce. There's even a local brewery and distillery that you can get to on Oswestry's own heritage railway or how about a visit to a vineyard in nearby Ellesmere?



Border arts & events

Oswestry & the Borderlands are renowned for our unique events. Don't miss the highlights of Oswestry's year with the Food and Drink Festival and the Hot Air Balloon Carnival. Check out the online calendar to see what's on next.

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| <p>All Year
Oswestry Town Market Street Market - Wednesday and Saturday. Indoor Market also Friday. Speciality and Artisan markets on last Friday of each month.</p> <p>February
Love Oswestry Oswestry's art festival with a finale lantern parade.</p> <p>Easter
The Street Circus comes to town. Easter Fun day at the market. Cambrian Heritage Railways trains begin running.</p> <p>May - Late Spring Bank Holiday
The beach comes to Oswestry three days of seaside fun on Festival Square.</p> <p>July
Oswestry's fab, free and fun 2-day Food and Drink Festival.</p> <p>July and August
Summer Sundays Music in the park.</p> | <p>August
Oswestry Show, a one day extravaganza of all things rural. Oswestry Hot Air Balloon Carnival, a fun filled weekend with live take offs from the park and a magical night glow (weather permitting).</p> <p>September
Heritage Open Days England's biggest free history festival.</p> <p>October
Apple Day</p> <p>November
Christmas Lights switch on with live music in the market square</p> <p>December
Christmas Live for one night only. Fairground rides, live bands. Christmas market Christmas Parade with decorated floats, vintage vehicles and more. Santa Run.</p> |
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Scan the QR code to see the latest events.

This is Oswestry

This quintessential border market town is a perfect base to explore more of the fascinating borderlands between Shropshire and Wales. From the iron age Old Oswestry Hillfort, to the first markets in the 13th century and on to the Industrial railway age, Oswestry's history has blended to create the friendly market town you will find today.



A railway town

There are some great heritage railways near Oswestry and right in the heart of town is Cambrian Heritage Railway. This little gem of a railway runs trains from Easter through the summer on a short trip to Weston Wharf on the edge of town.



A border market town

Oswestry has been a market town since 1262 and our markets are still a vital part of the town. No wonder the indoor market has been awarded highly commended in the Great British Market Awards. Markets and independent shops go hand in hand. Enjoy our independent and original shops, and you get to know a true border market town.



Tastes of Oswestry

Food and drink in Oswestry is especially tasty. There's a great mix of cafes and restaurants that celebrate local food and drink and our very special award winning patisserie. And pubs! An eclectic mix of traditional market town pubs including the Shropshire CAMRA market town pub of the year 2022 and lively bars for a great night out. Don't miss our two day fun and free Food and Drink Festival in July.



Dogs are welcome

A day out or a few days away with your dog? No problem. We have put all the best places together where you and your dog will be welcome. Visit our web site to find the best places to stay, eat and drink and visit with your dog or call the Tourist Information Centre and our friendly staff will help. Scan the QR code to watch our Dogswestry! video



Want to see more of Oswestry? Scan the code to watch our video.



Ready to visit? Scan to find out more and enter our prize draw.

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Birthplace of Wilfred Owen

Wilfred Owen the war poet was born in Oswestry in 1893 and lived in Oswestry until he was four. Explore the reminders of his Victorian Oswestry by following The Wilfred Owen Trail available online or from the Tourist Information Centre.