



# 48 HOURS IN WINDSOR & ETON



It may seem surprising, but the town of Windsor is considerably older than the castle. It dates from the 7th century with royal ownership probably from the 9th century. Eton sits on the opposite bank of the River Thames from Windsor and is connected by a footbridge. It is most well-known for its famous public school, Eton College.

## Day 1 AM Explore the Town

### Windsor Guildhall

Designed by Sir Thomas Fitz and built in 1691. Watch the Changing of the Guard from here. [windsor.gov.uk/tchanging-the-guard-p264351](http://windsor.gov.uk/tchanging-the-guard-p264351)

### Guildhall Island

Market stalls were replaced by permanent shops in the 13th century in the area now known as Guildhall Island.

### Windsor & Eton Central Station

Station; fabulous shopping and eating in the Grade II listed Victorian railway station, with the replica of the GWR 3031 steam locomotive The Queen. [windsorroyalstation.co.uk](http://windsorroyalstation.co.uk)

### Golden Tours Hop-on Hop-off Open Top Tour of Windsor

24 hour hop-on, hop-off ticket covers 11 stops along the route through Windsor, Eton and Datchet. [goldentours.com/windsor-castle-tours](http://goldentours.com/windsor-castle-tours)

## Day 1 PM Visit the Castle

### Henry VIII Gateway

The symbolic link between castle and town. Henry VIII built his gateway in about 1511.

### Queen Victoria Statue

The statue was presented to the town to mark her Golden Jubilee in 1887. Windsor Castle was a favourite residence of Queen Victoria.

### Windsor Castle

Founded by William the Conqueror in the 11th century, it is the oldest and largest occupied castle in the world and since then home to 40 monarchs. It was Queen Elizabeth II's favourite weekend home. [rct.uk/visit/windsor-castle](http://rct.uk/visit/windsor-castle)

### Attend Evensong at St George's Chapel

The service lasts approximately 45 minutes, sung by the Chapel Choir. They perform Evensong at 5.15pm (sung daily except Wed). [stgeorges-windsor.org](http://stgeorges-windsor.org)

### Evening Entertainment

Theatre Royal – [theatreroyalwindsor.co.uk/](http://theatreroyalwindsor.co.uk/)  
The Old Court Arts Centre – [oldcourt.org](http://oldcourt.org)



## Lunch Stop

### Windsor

**Windsor Grill** – Famous for its Beef, a short stroll from the Castle. Max 50. [windsorgrill.co.uk](http://windsorgrill.co.uk)

### Eton

**Gilbey's Bar & Restaurant** – Serves a 'Modern British' menu. Group bookings up to 60. [gilbeygroup.com/restaurants/gilbeys-eton/](http://gilbeygroup.com/restaurants/gilbeys-eton/)

**The Eton Mess** – restaurant and bar in the centre of Eton. Max group size 20. [theetonmess.co.uk](http://theetonmess.co.uk)

**The Flaming Cow** – American style diner restaurant. Max group size 20. [flamingcow.co.uk](http://flamingcow.co.uk)



01

## Day 2 Explore Eton and beyond

### The Eton Walkway

A 2 mile, circular walking tour connecting 18 points of interest celebrating Eton's rich heritage. Free guides are available from the Visitor Information Centre. [windsor.gov.uk/the-eton-walkway-p1405401](http://windsor.gov.uk/the-eton-walkway-p1405401)

### Red Post Box, Eton High Street

A rare pillar box from 1856, still used today. Its vertical slot for posting and fluted Doric decoration is where the name "pillar" came from. Eton was the first village in England to have a post office.

### The Herschel Observatory, Eton

Sir William Herschel, King George III's astronomer, correctly described the spiral structure of our Milky Way Galaxy. He lived in Datchet, Old Windsor and Slough.

### Dorney Court, Dorney

The Estate has been the home of the Palmer family for over 600 years, passing from father to son. It is a Grade 1 listed building. Private group visits are available. Max 60. [dorneycourt.co.uk](http://dorneycourt.co.uk)

### Afternoon Tea Cruise and Maidenhead Heritage Centre

Take a French Brothers Lunch or Afternoon Tea Cruise to Maidenhead and visit the Maidenhead Heritage Centre. Fly their amazing Spitfire flight simulator. [frenchbrothers.co.uk](http://frenchbrothers.co.uk), [maidenheadheritage.org.uk](http://maidenheadheritage.org.uk)

## Accommodation

### In Windsor

**Castle Hotel** – Georgian boutique premium hotel, opposite the castle, with a rich and fascinating history. [castlehotelwindsor.com](http://castlehotelwindsor.com)

**Macdonald Windsor Hotel** – Two minutes walk from the Castle with 120 luxury contemporary bedrooms. [macdonaldhotels.co.uk/windsor](http://macdonaldhotels.co.uk/windsor)

### Nearby

**Fairmont Windsor Park** – beautiful hotel set in the English countryside where history and elegance merge. 4.9 miles, 12 mins. [fairmont-windsorpark.com](http://fairmont-windsorpark.com)

### Near Heathrow

**Holiday Inn Express T5 Heathrow** – just off the M4 motorway, with easy access to London and Windsor. 3.8 miles, 11 mins. [ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/gb/en/slough/lontf/hoteldetail?cm\\_mmc=YextLocal\\_-\\_EX\\_-\\_GB\\_-\\_LONTF](http://ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/gb/en/slough/lontf/hoteldetail?cm_mmc=YextLocal_-_EX_-_GB_-_LONTF)

**Mercure London Heathrow** – The hotel is the ideal choice for business and leisure travellers alike. 8.6 miles, 18 mins. [all.accor.com/hotel/9651/index.en](http://all.accor.com/hotel/9651/index.en)

01 Dorney Court, Near Windsor  
02 Castle Hotel, Windsor

## Add a special tour:

**Frogmore House** – Surrounded by gardens, the house (1680s) was purchased for Queen Charlotte in 1792. She laid out the garden with many rare and unusual plants. Private pre-booked Guided Tours for groups in August. [rct.uk/visit/frogmore-house](http://rct.uk/visit/frogmore-house)

**Windsor Castle – Fire and Restoration:** Learn more about this devastating event and the castle's restoration. Platinum Jubilee: The Queen's Coronation. Book an Exclusive Evening Tour, a behind the ropes experience in the State Apartments (Aug/Dec). [rct.uk/event/private-guided-tour-of-windsorcastle-for-groups-2022-01-2022#/](http://rct.uk/event/private-guided-tour-of-windsorcastle-for-groups-2022-01-2022#/)



02

## Coach Parking

**Windsor** – Coach Park, Alma Road SL4 3HY. Pay & Display for 74 coaches. [rbwm.gov.uk/home/transport-and-streets/parking/car-parks-and-parkand-ride/car-park/coach-park](http://rbwm.gov.uk/home/transport-and-streets/parking/car-parks-and-parkand-ride/car-park/coach-park)

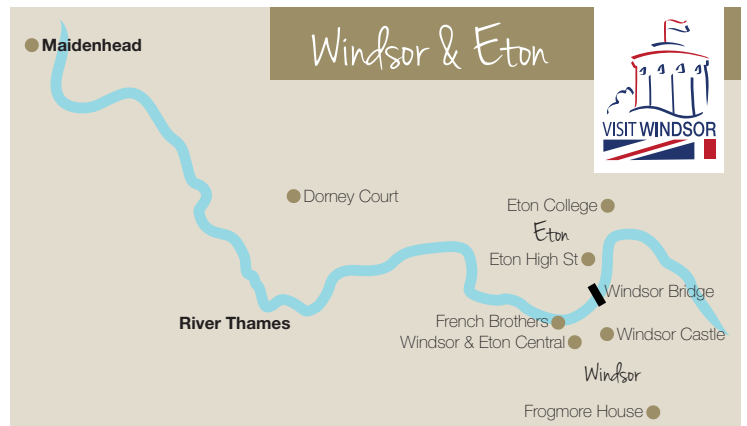
**Maidenhead** – Riverside Car Park SL6 8NP – Coaches must ring 01628 621721 to book.

### Distances are from Windsor Castle:

**Day 1:** All the places are a few minutes walk from each other.

**Day 2:** Eton Walkway starts at Windsor Bridge (0.4 miles, 8 mins). The full Walkway is 2 miles.

**Dorney Court** is 7.1 miles, 16 mins. To join a **French Brothers Boat**, cross back over the Bridge to Windsor and it is a 2 minute walk along the Promenade. **Maidenhead Heritage Centre** 7.1 miles, 18 mins. Frogmore 2.3miles, 7 mins.



## GUIDED WALKING TOURS

**Book with:** Windsor Tourist Guides Ltd - [windsortouristguides.co.uk](http://windsortouristguides.co.uk), Visions of History - [visionsofhistory.co.uk](http://visionsofhistory.co.uk)  
WE Tourist Guides - [windsoretontour.com](http://windsoretontour.com) or Spirit of England Tours - [spiritofengland.net](http://spiritofengland.net)