

New Home, New Start, New Ways to Travel

# Travel Information for house hunters in Highworth



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# Introduction

## Looking to settle in Highworth?

The Parish of Highworth is situated in the extreme north-east of Wiltshire near the borders of Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire. The river Cole, a tributary of the Thames, defines the limit of the parish on the east as well as forming a natural boundary between Wiltshire and Berkshire. Beyond this river lies the Vale of the White Horse and there are spectacular views to the south-east of Highworth over White Horse Hill and the long range of the Berkshire Downs.

The Town of Highworth occupies a prominent position some 400 feet (120meters) above sea level, making it the highest town in Wiltshire. The town centre has a good selection of small independent shops, many pubs, a library and Churches.

Frequent bus routes link Highworth with Swindon, 6 miles to the southwest. From here, long-distance coaches or rail links connect to London, Reading and the West Country.

## Your travel, your choices...

Swindon Travel Choices exists to encourage the use of more sustainable forms of transport such as walking, cycling, public transport or car sharing. Travel choices are all about thinking about where you want to go in relation to where you decide to live, and how you are going to get there.

Please take a few moments to read this Travel Information brochure and consider how you can choose to make more sustainable travel choices.

# Walking

One of the easiest and cheapest ways to travel is to walk, particularly if your destination is within 2-kilometres of your new home. Walking is also a versatile mode of travel - there's no waiting around, no congestion and it's free!

Research shows that walking 10,000 steps a day will significantly improve your health. Putting one foot in front of the other can build stamina, burn excess calories and give you a healthier heart.

When hunting for your next home, think about what's within walking distance. Food shops? Places to drink and dine? Your job or work opportunities? Schools? Facilities such as libraries, doctors, dentists, hairdressers? The easier it is to reach these places on foot, the less we have to jump in the car and cause unnecessary stress, congestion and pollution.

## Useful websites

- <http://www.swindontravelchoices.co.uk/walk/>
- <https://www.ramblers.org.uk/go-walking-hub>

## Useful walking apps

- MapmyWalk
- NHS Active 10 Walking Tracker
- Pedometer
- OS Maps
- Wiltshire Walks (Free to download but subscription required)



**Top tip! - Scan the QR code to plan your journey on foot.**



# Cycling

Cycling is fast, convenient, healthy and cost-effective, and is a realistic way to travel from your new home, especially if your destination lies within 5-kilometres - a 20 minute pedal.

Whilst Highworth doesn't have many dedicated cycle routes, there are quiet streets and lanes through and around the town.

## Benefits of Cycling

- ✓ Improving wellbeing by relieving stress, improving fitness and burning calories
- ✓ Helps prevent chronic and life threatening illnesses
- ✓ Maintaining a bike for a year costs twenty times less than maintaining and driving a car
- ✓ Reducing congestion and pollution on our roads

## Useful websites

- [www.swindontravelchoices.co.uk/cycling/](http://www.swindontravelchoices.co.uk/cycling/)
- [www.swindoncyclecampaign.org](http://www.swindoncyclecampaign.org)
- [www.letsride.co.uk](http://www.letsride.co.uk)
- <https://www.cyclestreets.net/>

**Top tip! - Scan the QR code to see free Swindon cycle maps on offer.**



# Bike shops in this area

## E-motion (electric bikes)

373, Cricklade Road, SN2 1AQ  
<http://e-motionevc.co.uk>  
01793 251200

## Mitchell Cycles

27, Shrivenham Rd, Swindon,  
Wiltshire SN1 2QA  
[www.mitchellcycles.co.uk](http://www.mitchellcycles.co.uk)  
01793 523306

## Swindon Cycles Superstore

60a, Beechcroft Rd, Upper Stratton,  
Swindon, Wiltshire SN2 7QD  
[www.swindoncycles.co.uk](http://www.swindoncycles.co.uk)  
01793 700105

## Recycles (refurbished bikes)

1 Spring Close, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 2BF  
[www.recycles-swindon.co.uk](http://www.recycles-swindon.co.uk)  
01793 401834

## Farcycles

2 Bromsgrove, Farringdon SN7 7JQ  
<https://farcyclesbikeshop.com>  
01367 898068

## Useful cycling apps

- Strava
- MapmyRide
- CycleStreets journey planner



# Bus

Highworth is served by Stagecoach bus number 7, which travels between Highworth and Swindon town centre, and on to West Swindon, several times per hour. In addition, Pulmans 64 route between Witney and Swindon stops in Highworth 4 times a day. The bus map on page 8 shows you how the bus routes connect around the wider area.



# Rail

Swindon's railway station is connected to London Paddington, Reading, Chippenham, Bath, Bristol, Cheltenham and Gloucester. The TransWilts line is operated by the TransWilts Community Rail Partnership and has connections from Swindon to Melksham, Trowbridge, Westbury and beyond. Find out more at their website - <https://transwilts.org/>. Whether it's for commuting or a day out, Swindon really is well connected!

Rail times and tickets can be obtained from Great Western Railway <https://www.gwr.com/>. If you are travelling with a group of friends (3 to 9 adults), book together and save up to a third on the rail fare with Groupsave.

## Passenger Assist

If you have a disability, non-visible disability, or are elderly, you can pre-book journey assistance. This can be booked online through GWR or by calling 0800 197 1329.

## Useful websites

- [www.traveline.info/](http://www.traveline.info/)
- [www.stagecoachbus.com](http://www.stagecoachbus.com)
- [www.swindonbus.co.uk](http://www.swindonbus.co.uk)
- [www.swindontravelchoices.co.uk/plan-a-journey](http://www.swindontravelchoices.co.uk/plan-a-journey)
- [Gwr.com](http://Gwr.com)

## Useful public transport apps

- Stagecoach Bus App (Plan journeys, buy tickets)
- Clickit2ride (Swindon's Bus Company tickets)
- Bus checker (Find bus stops and track buses)
- GWR (Real time train information, buy and store tickets)





# Taxi

Taxis can form an important part of sustainable journeys.

Many taxis are hybrids or 'green' vehicles, which help to reduce the impact of car journeys on the environment. Utilising taxis could save you money and help to reduce your carbon footprint.

There are a number of private hire taxi operators local to the area, through which taxis can be pre-booked.

A taxi from Highworth to Swindon typically costs between £17 and £21. The journey takes about 12-13 minutes and covers a distance of 7 miles.

## Taxi companies in Swindon

Company	Telephone	App Available
Veales Wheels	07400 400 316	
Go Green Taxis	01367 850 850	✓
SWOOP	0800 090 3322	✓
Veezu (V cars)	01793 701701	✓
Cross Street Cars	01793 232323	✓
Connect Cabs	01793 238444	
GW Taxis	01793 236007	
1st Call Swindon taxis	01793 205121	



# Car sharing

Car Sharing is when two or more people travel together in the same car. Many of us already car share informally, but if you regularly make long trips in the car alone (to work, for example) it may make more sense to get another person (or two or three) in your car and help share your petrol costs.

## There are many benefits to car sharing;

- ✓ Opportunity to socialise
- ✓ Reduced fuel costs
- ✓ Less wear and tear on your car
- ✓ Useful for people with mobility difficulties (door to door travel)
- ✓ Time to relax without driving stress
- ✓ Provides a solution for travelling to and from areas not served by bus
- ✓ Reduces the number of cars on the roads, resulting in less congestion, less pollution and fewer parking problems

## Car Share Swindon

Over 2500 people who live or work in Swindon have registered with [www.carshareswindon.com](http://www.carshareswindon.com).

This is an online database that matches people together based on the routes and times that people travel. It's free and easy to register and chances are, you'll find someone going your way. Even if you only share once a week, you're helping to save money.



# Electric vehicles

If you drive an electric car, or are thinking of buying one in the next few years, think about whether you can charge it at home. Highworth has a handful of public chargepoints, and will provide more over the coming years, but houses with off-street parking will make it easier - and cheaper - to charge your car at home.

All new-build homes with garages or allocated parking have to be equipped for charging electric vehicles.

To check out your nearest public charging points and the wider network, plus help with selecting the right car and calculating your cost savings, visit:

[www.swindontravelchoices.co.uk/electric-vehicles/](http://www.swindontravelchoices.co.uk/electric-vehicles/)



# Shopping

With online shopping you can do your shop from the comfort of your own home and have it delivered at a time to suit you from as little as a £1 delivery charge. Or you can collect from the store when you're out and about anyway, so no need for a specific shopping trip.

The supermarket websites now allow you to save favourites, so putting your weekly shop into the virtual basket is just a few clicks!

## Benefits

- ✓ Save time, someone else is picking your items from the shelves
- ✓ Reduce stress, no trolley wars with other shoppers
- ✓ The groceries are dropped at your door

## Useful websites

- Sainsburys [www.sainsburys.co.uk/shop/gb/groceries](http://www.sainsburys.co.uk/shop/gb/groceries)
- Morrisons <https://groceries.morrisons.com/>
- Tesco [www.tesco.com/groceries/](http://www.tesco.com/groceries/)
- Asda <https://groceries.asda.com/>
- Waitrose [www.waitrose.com/ecom/shop/browse/groceries](http://www.waitrose.com/ecom/shop/browse/groceries)
- Ocado [www.ocado.com/webshop/startWebshop.do](http://www.ocado.com/webshop/startWebshop.do)

# Local contacts

## Government

Highworth Town Council  
[www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Swindon Borough Council  
[www.swindon.gov.uk](http://www.swindon.gov.uk)

MP for North Swindon  
Will Stone  
[www.willstone4northswindon.co.uk](http://www.willstone4northswindon.co.uk)

## Places of Worship

St Michael's & All Angel's Church  
[www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk](http://www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk)

## Health

Great Western Hospital  
[www.gwh.nhs.uk](http://www.gwh.nhs.uk)  
01793 604 020

Westrop Medical Practice -  
[www.westropmedicalpractice.nhs.uk](http://www.westropmedicalpractice.nhs.uk)  
01793 762 218

BUPA Dental Care -  
11 Sheep Street SN6 7AA  
01793 762 231

## Schools

Eastrop Infants School -  
[www.eastropinfantschool.org.uk](http://www.eastropinfantschool.org.uk)

Southfield Junior School -  
[www.southfieldjuniorsch.co.uk](http://www.southfieldjuniorsch.co.uk)

Highworth Warneford School -  
[www.warnefordschool.org](http://www.warnefordschool.org)

## Exercise Opportunities

Highworth Running Club - [www.highworthrunningclub.co.uk](http://www.highworthrunningclub.co.uk)  
Highworth and Swindon Walking Club - [www.highworthswindonwalking.com](http://www.highworthswindonwalking.com)  
Halo Highworth Rec Leisure Centre - [www.haloleisure.org.uk/centres/highworth-recreation-centre](http://www.haloleisure.org.uk/centres/highworth-recreation-centre)  
Highworth Town Football Club - [www.pitchero.com/clubs/highworthtown](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/highworthtown)  
Highworth Town Juniors Football Club - [www.highworthtownjuniorsfc.co.uk](http://www.highworthtownjuniorsfc.co.uk)  
Highworth Bowls Club (lawn green) - [www.highworthbowlsclub.org](http://www.highworthbowlsclub.org)  
Highworth Tennis Club - [www.highworthtennis.com](http://www.highworthtennis.com)  
Supermarine RFC - [www.pitchero.com/clubs/supermarinerfc](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/supermarinerfc)

## Playparks

There are 3 playparks in Highworth, as well as a Skate Park. You'll find the playparks at:

- Barra Close (upgrade in late 2025)
- Northview (Redeveloped to include inclusive equipment in 2024)
- Jubilee Park (The Rec)

The Skate Park is on the Lower Rec.

Parkrun - Weekly 5km routes - Lydiard Park and Sevenfields  
[www.parkrun.org.uk/lydiard](http://www.parkrun.org.uk/lydiard) • [www.parkrun.org.uk/sevenfields](http://www.parkrun.org.uk/sevenfields)  
Let's Ride - Programme of free guided rides in Swindon  
[www.letsride.co.uk](http://www.letsride.co.uk)

## Moredon Sporting Hub

Moredon Sporting Hub is Swindon's brand-new, state-of-the-art facility located off Akers Way. The hub offers a closed road cycle track with a range of training sessions, a BMX pump track, 3G allweather pitch, cricket pitches, croquet and softball diamonds, as well as fitness classes and a café. [www.centrawindonnorth-pc.gov.uk/moredon-sporting-hub](http://www.centrawindonnorth-pc.gov.uk/moredon-sporting-hub)

Wiltshire and Swindon Sport: Club Finder [www.wiltssport.org/activity-finder](http://www.wiltssport.org/activity-finder)

# Did you know?

Highworth's library is above the Co-op in the centre of Highworth. It's open 5 days a week and has PCS, wifi, courses and a great range of books (of course!)

Highworth has a buzzing market every Saturday between 8am and 2pm. It was granted a charter for its market back in 1206!

There is a Highworth Trail App that explores the historic High Street area. Download the app and explore the wonderful town.

Highworth is Wiltshire's highest town. It's usually the first to get snow!



## Travel Plans Team

Swindon Borough Council  
Wat Tyler House  
Beckhampton Street  
Swindon  
SN1 2JH

[Transportplanning@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:Transportplanning@swindon.gov.uk)

[www.swindon.gov.uk](http://www.swindon.gov.uk)

[www.swindontravelchoices.co.uk/newdevelopments](http://www.swindontravelchoices.co.uk/newdevelopments)

This document can be downloaded at:

[www.swindontravelchoices.org.uk/newdevelopments](http://www.swindontravelchoices.org.uk/newdevelopments)

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