

Blandford Forum is located in the heart of Dorset, with spectacular scenery stretching in every direction. Nestled in a wooded valley on the banks of the River Stour, surrounded by gently rolling hills, it is one of England's undiscovered treasures. The town's focal point is its grand Market Place fringed by outstanding Georgian architecture, unrivalled in the South West, with many independent and interesting shops. Blandford Forum was destroyed by fire in 1731 and rebuilt in the succeeding decades by two brothers, John and William Bastard. The Old House, which survived the fire, the Corn Exchange and the Great Fire Monument all contribute to the town's wonderful architecture. There are also museums, attractions and facilities to suit all interests and the dramatic Jurassic Coast is within easy reach.



Portraits of John Bastard and William Bastard BFTC©

Blandford Information Centre
 Riverside House, West Street
 Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7AW
 Telephone: 01258 454770
 E-mail: blandfordTIC@btconnect.com
 Website: www.visit-dorset.com
 Apr - Sept Mon-Sat 10am-4pm
 Oct - Mar Mon-Sat 10am-3pm

Visit the Information Centre for a warm welcome and comprehensive information on the town, its surroundings and Dorset for both locals and visitors. Now an independent Trust, the Centre has brochures and leaflets on a wide range of attractions and events and can help with travel information and accommodation bookings.

There is a car park next to the building and public toilets, which are managed by the Town Council.

Activities...

Blandford Leisure Centre & Swimming Pool

Milldown Road, Blandford Forum DT11 7DB
 Telephone: 01258 455566

Crazy Monsters Indoor Soft Play Area

8 Sunrise Business Park, Higher Shaftesbury Road, DT11 8ST
 Telephone: 01258 456688 www.crazymonsters.co.uk

Blandford Skate Park

Stour Meadows (behind the Brewery). Free to all.

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Blandford Forum



BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL

This leaflet has been compiled and printed by:
 Blandford Forum Town Council, Town Clerk's Office, Church Lane
 Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7AD
 Open: Monday to Friday 9.30 am—12.30 pm Tel: 01258 454500
 Email: admin@blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk
 Website: www.blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk

Public Toilets (WC)
 There is a 20p charge for the toilets, provided by the Town Council, which are next to the Information Centre on West Street and at The Tabernacle, next to the Post Office and Woodhouse Gardens (public gardens and pavilion).

Attractions...

Blandford Forum Town Museum

Bere's Yard, Blandford Forum DT11 7HQ
 Telephone: 01258 450388
 www.blandfordtownmuseum.org



Museum©

The Museum records the history of Blandford Forum and the surrounding area, from the Stone Age to the present day with exhibits ranging from the prehistoric to medieval to Victorian, to the 21st century. There is a fantastic model railway, and a shop with interesting replicas, books, cards and children's toys. Visitors can also spend time in the Victorian kitchen garden. Tea and coffee is available. Free Admission. Open Easter Weekend to October, Monday-Saturday 10.30am-4.30pm.

Blandford Fashion Museum

Lime Tree House, The Plocks, Blandford Forum DT11 7AA Telephone: 01258 453006
 www.theblandfordfashionmuseum.com



Fashion Museum

The collection dates from the 1730s to the 1970s and provides a unique history of fashion and accessories in a lovingly restored Georgian townhouse. Visitors can enjoy fascinating exhibitions and a friendly welcome in the museum and the traditional tearoom. Open Monday, Thursday to Saturday, Easter to September 10.30am-5pm. October—November 10.30am-4pm.

Hall & Woodhouse Brewery

The Brewery, Blandford St Mary DT11 9LS
 Telephone: 01258 486004
 www.hall-woodhouse.co.uk



Brewery©

The Brewery Visitor Centre tells the story of Hall & Woodhouse through the ages and offers a unique insight into the workings of this family-run brewery. Open Monday to Friday 9am—6pm, Saturday 9 am—5pm. Food available 10am—2.30pm Monday to Saturday.

Royal Signals Museum

Blandford Camp, Blandford DT11 8RH
 Telephone: 01258 482248
 www.royalsignalsmuseum.com



Signals Museum©

Dorset's fastest growing visitor attraction, for all the family. ENIGMA, Secret Agents, Spies, science and technology of communications, fun trails and much more. Open Monday to Friday 10am-5pm Feb—Oct. Weekends, Bank Holidays and Nov—Feb 10am-4pm.

Events...

Blandford Georgian Fayre

Telephone: 07500 135774

www.blandfordgeorgianfayre.co.uk

Attracting over 20,000 people, it is a great day out in the town centre for all the family with street stalls, traditional fairground entertainments and plenty of music and dance to enjoy. May Day Bank Holiday (biennial event—2016, 2018 etc.) 10am-5pm.



The Market Place

Great Dorset Steam Fair

Tarrant Hinton, Blandford

Telephone: 01258 860361

www.steam-fair.co.uk

Dorset's largest festival of nostalgia and steam, widely recognised as the leading event of its kind in the world with over 2,000 exhibits, 500 trade stands, traditional working demonstrations and rural crafts. Annual event at end of August/beginning of September. Special advance rate tickets are available from the Information Centre.



Steam Fair ©

Blandford Carnival— September

Colourful floats, music and costume.

Christmas Tree Lighting and Civic Reception

Friday 28th November at 6pm (Corn Exchange/Market Place).

Civic Christmas Carol Service in the Parish Church

Monday 15th December at 7pm

Blandford Yuletide Festival and lantern parade, with Christmas markets, music and fireworks! From 6pm to 9pm on Wednesday 10th December.

Market Days are Thursdays and Saturdays with Farmers' Markets on the second Friday (am) of the month. The Corn Exchange indoor market is every Thursday and a craft market is held in the Shambles on Fridays.

Town Walks

The Blandford & District Civic Society organise informative Town Walks throughout the year, which provide a fascinating insight to the town's heritage. Telephone: 01258 453550 for details.

The Parish Church...

St Peter and St Paul's Church, Market Place,

Blandford Forum DT11 7AS

Telephone: 01258 456260

www.bfpc.org.uk

You can visit this beautiful Georgian church located in the town centre between 9.30am and 12noon Monday-Friday and from 10am to 12noon on Saturday mornings.



Blandford Forum Parish Church

Events and projects planned in 2014 for the First World War Centenary

From 3rd August, painted poppy fields will be displayed in the Shambles. They were created over two weekends in July when local people came to the Corn Exchange to paint a poppy to remember. The project was funded by Howdens Joinery Blandford, Brewers Paint and fundraising by the 14-18 working group. Thank you to the local artists: Rachel Baines, Rachel Eveleigh, Mike Lofthouse and Mandy Eveleigh for their help in preparing the background.

August (TBC) - The siting of the memorial stone (near the Town Pump) in honour of Jack Counter VC of Blandford Forum.

2nd-3rd August - WWI exhibition in the Parish Church (Vigil on 4th August at the church to be confirmed).

3rd August - Town Museum's WWI exhibition opens 10am-4pm. A Civic Service to mark the Centenary of the start of the First World War will also be held at 3pm in the Market Place.

4th August - The British public are being urged to turn their lights off to mark the centenary of World War One. The Royal British Legion is asking people to use a single candle or light for an hour from 22:00 BST.

18th September - Blandford has been chosen to host the spectacular Periplum's 'The Bell' for this year's Inside Out Festival in the Market Place. Join us to watch the story of a warring clan in a warring land, devastated and razed in flames by invading forces. The show features dynamic promenade action, stilts, aerial performance, incendiary text and soaring music to create a potent tale of hope and redemption.

27th September - Trio Paradis Performance of Women of World War One in the Corn Exchange consisting of narrated excerpts from diaries, letters and poems, accompanied by music by female composers and a slide-show of contemporary images.



7th November - Poachers Moon Performance of 'Poppies Red and Cornflowers Blue' in the Corn Exchange.

9th November - Remembrance Parade at 2.30pm followed by church service at 3pm.

11th November - Two Minute silence in the Market Place at 11am.

30th-31st October 7.30pm, 1st November 2.30pm & 7.30pm Forum Drama presents 'Dreams of Home' in the Corn Exchange.

Please contact the Town Council for more information (contact details are overleaf).

1914



1918

Welcome to Blandford Forum



A Georgian Gem in the Heart of Dorset

WORLD WAR I CENTENARY



BLANDFORD FORUM COMMEMORATES

Special edition leaflet including
First World War centenary events and projects