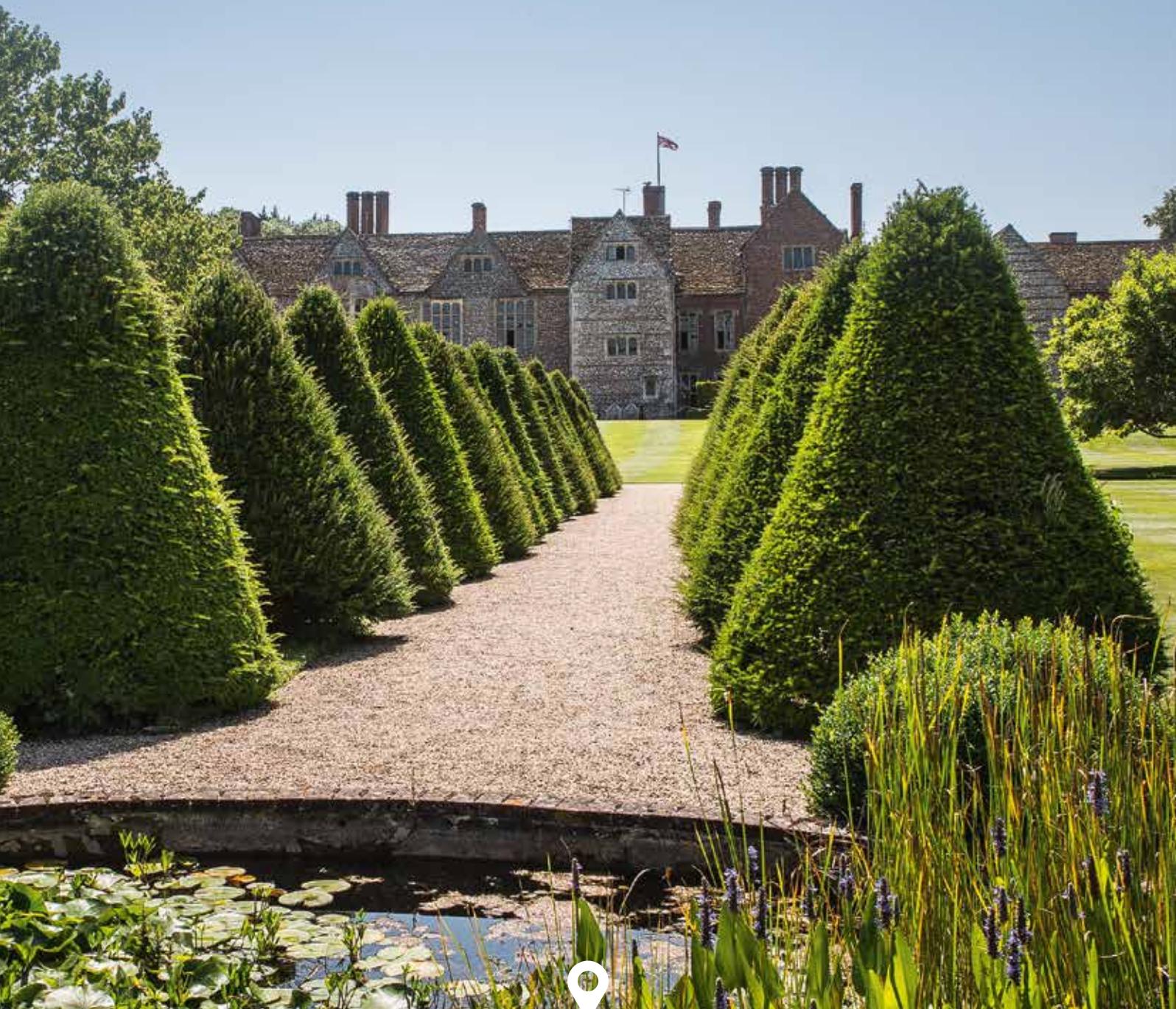




WARNERLEISUREHOTELS

# EXPLORE

WITH WARNER LEISURE HOTELS



**Littlecote House Hotel & Berkshire**

Discover our hotel and the outdoors

### **Places to visit**

Berkshire is home to a unique collection of places to visit, including shopping trips, horse racing, ancient monuments and... Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry? Lacock village, just one of our places to visit in Berkshire, is a planned town that has been used for the Harry Potter films thanks to its olde worlde feel. Or travel far back in time and visit the Neolithic stone circle at Avebury, steeped in ancient magic and mystery.

### **Things to do**

The ancient houses of Blenheim Palace, Ashdown House and Highclere Castle, represent some of the best things to do in Berkshire, boasting a wealth of history, expansive gardens, and of course now popular as the home of Downton Abbey too. With acres of open space to explore and a millennia of human activity to discover, these houses are perfect for a day out whatever the weather.



# THE BEST OF OUR GROUNDS AND GARDENS

Littlecote House has been inhabited through Roman times, the Tudor age, World War II and beyond. With so much history it's easy to find something interesting without leaving our grounds, and our team have picked out three of their favourite things to see nearby:

## **Roman mosaic**

Just a short walk from the hotel door you'll find the remains of the Roman villa at Littlecote. It dates back to 360AD and at its heart is the intricate Orpheus Mosaic, sheltered from the elements under a wooden roof.



## **Kitchen gardens**

First planted in the 16th century to provide culinary and medicinal supplies (as well as provide a home for friendly bees), these gardens are surrounded by historic walls and feature a Victorian greenhouse.

## **Ice House and woodland walk**

Make sure you've got your walking shoes on – the atmospheric woodland walk can often get a little muddy, but brave it and you'll be rewarded with a look at the 17th century Ice House, once used to supply the house and store food.



# PARKS AND STATELY HOMES

The parks, woods and lakes that surround Littlecote House make for a fantastic day out, and intrepid explorers can even make their way to Downton Abbey (otherwise known as Highclere Castle) or Blenheim Palace to enjoy a taste of the high life.

## Lydiard Park

Expansive parkland, two lakes, pockets of woodland, a six-section Georgian walled garden with fruit trees and colourful flowers, Lydiard Park is as big as 200 football pitches and home to roe deer, badgers, woodpeckers and tawny owls (amongst others).



SN5 3PA  
35-minute drive



7.30am – dusk



£4.40 all day  
parking



★ Warner Recommends ★



## Cotswold Water Park

Stretching out over 40 square miles (that's as big as 250 Vatican Cities) with 14 individual nature reserves and 170 lakes, this is a birdwatcher's paradise. 20,000 waterfowl winter in the park, often taking to flight en masse if one of the local peregrine falcons is hunting.



GL7 6FJ  
50-minute drive



9am – 5pm



Pay and display  
parking

## Blenheim Palace and Gardens

Built in the early 1700s during the short-lived English Baroque architectural period, Blenheim Palace's extensive grounds include the Formal Gardens with their majestic water terraces, private Italian garden, rose garden and more, as well as the beautiful lake and famous Grand Bridge.



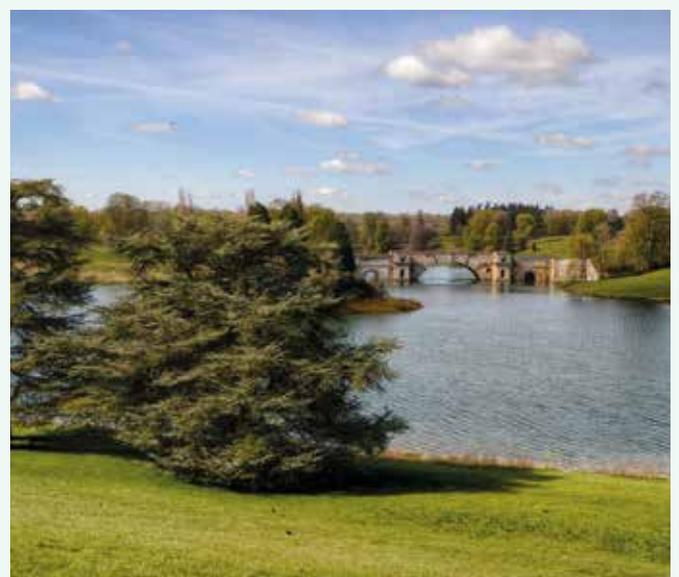
OX20 1UL  
1 hour drive



Check online for  
opening times



Free parking



## Highclere Castle

Also known as Downton Abbey, the Highclere Castle estate dates back to 749AD, with the present-day castle completed in 1842. Set within 1,000 acres of parkland and surrounded by six individual gardens, you could walk all day here.



RG20 9RN  
31-minute drive



Opening times  
restricted – please  
visit their website for  
details



Free parking



## Ashdown House

A 17th century Dutch-style house on the edge of Oxfordshire (it was officially ‘moved’ from Berkshire in 1974), much of the house is off-limits due to its tenant (Pete Townshend of ‘The Who’ fame), but the gardens and nearby Ashdown Woods provide walking routes with panoramic views of the countryside.



RG17 8RE  
28-minute drive



Opening times  
restricted – please  
visit their website for  
details



Free parking

# TOWNS AND VILLAGES

Market towns, famous racecourses, Neolithic monuments and a village that has remained unchanged for 200 years... the towns and villages around Littlecote House are utterly unique, each a cracking day out in its own right.

## Marlborough

Boasting one of the widest high streets in the UK, lined on both sides by characterful, historic buildings and an array of high-quality shops, Marlborough is ideal for a day's shopping. Visit on Wednesday or Saturday for market day.



SN8 1HD  
24-minute drive



Pay & Display  
readily available



## Newbury

The historic market town of Newbury is well known for its racecourse, canal, shopping and castles (more on them later). With plenty of walking and cycling routes nearby (most featuring a pub or two on the way), it's perfect for a day of exploring.



Pay & Display  
parking



RG14 1AY  
23-minute drive

## Lacock

Unique in that the National Trust owns most of the village, Lacock looks the same now as it did 200 years ago. This medieval planned village has featured in 'Pride and Prejudice', 'Cranford' and the 'Harry Potter' films.



SN15 2LG  
54-minute drive



Opening Times  
vary – please visit  
their website for  
details



## Avebury

Surrounded by the world's largest Neolithic stone circle, the earliest part of the Avebury monument dates to around 3,000BC.

Walking routes take in various landmarks, from Windmill Hill to the mysterious structure of 'The Sanctuary', approximately 4,500 years old.

**Pre-booking is recommended for weekend visits**



SN8 1RD  
31-minute drive

