

MIDSOMER

BY BOAT

EXPLORE THE
COUNTRYSIDE OF
DCI BARNABY'S
MIDSOMER

Spend a relaxing week on the beautiful River Thames taking in the sights and sounds of 9 Midsomer villages and 30 different filming locations.

Start and finish: Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

BOOK A BOAT: www.hobbsofhenley.com

PROVISIONING: Deliver direct to the boat through your favourite supermarket or large Waitrose in Henley

ROUTE: HENLEY – SONNING – GORING & STREATLEY – WALLINGFORD – DORCHESTER – MOULSFORD – MAPLEDURHAM – HAMBLEDEN – MARLOW – HENLEY on THAMES

DAY 1: HENLEY ON THAMES – SONNING



Henley is one of England's prettiest riverside towns, where the imposing Town Hall is unmistakable as Causton Town Hall in 'Last Year's Model' and as the Auction Rooms in 'The Black Book'. In 'Dead in the Water', Tom and Joyce Barnaby attend the Midsomer Regatta, an episode filmed at Henley Royal Regatta featuring a cameo by Olympic Rowing Gold Medallist, Sir Steve Redgrave. In 'Last Year's Model' DCI Barnaby meets Pru Plunkett in The Argyll pub, where it's often possible to pull a pint or sup the guest Midsomer Ale.

Sonning is Midsomer Stanton in 'Written in the Stars', an episode co-starring Maureen Lipman, where an amateur astronomer is killed by a meteorite. The Old Forge was used as the Head Office of The Midsomer Mercury and the village hall became the yoga hall in the episode of the same name.

visit-henley.com | shaundickens.co.uk | theargyllhenley.co.uk

thelittleangel.co.uk | informationbritain.co.uk

thefrenchhorn.co.uk | bullinnsonning.co.uk | millatsonning.com

southernoxfordshire.com/henley.php

Public moorings at Thames & Kennet Marina, Sonning

DAY 2: SONNING – GORING & STREATLEY

Moor up at Mapledurham and visit the manor house and the last working watermill on the Thames where you can enjoy scones baked with flour from the mill. Mapledurham Estate played host to filming of John Nettles, as DCI Tom Barnaby in 'Fisher King' and Neil Dudgeon as DCI John Barnaby in 'Dark Secrets'.



In Goring, the Leatherne Bottel becomes the interior of The Pike and Perch in 'Market for Murder' although the pub has since undergone refurbishment.

visitgoringandstreatley.co.uk | mountainmaniacycles.co.uk

pierrepointsgoring.co.uk | leathernebottel.co.uk

thejohnbarleycornpub.com | catherinewheelgoring.co.uk

theswanatstreatley.com | millerofmansfield.com

mapledurham.co.uk | southernoxfordshire.com/goring.php

Public moorings Cleeve Lock, Streatley. Daytime moorings at Mapledurham House



DAY 3: WALLINGFORD



Onto the original Causton, Wallingford is the best surviving Saxon fortified town in England, a political powerhouse during the Norman invasion and both English Civil Wars; and former home to Dame Agatha Christie.

Sit in Wallingford's Market Place and imagine actor Richard Briers as Reverend Stephen Wentworth in 'Death's Shadow' cycling across it past Wallingford Town Hall. After driving across Wallingford Bridge, Barnaby interviewed his daughter Cully in Market Place, asking about the theatrical director of Causton Theatre, which is Wallingford's Corn Exchange Theatre. Wallingford residents often appear in Midsomer Murders and the town choir performed as Midsomer Worthy choir with Joyce Barnaby as a member.

southernoxfordshire.com/wallingford ridesonair.com

chilternvalley.co.uk lemonrock.com/boathousewallingford

opowallingford.co.uk catherinescafe.co.uk

wallingford.co.uk

Public moorings at Wallingford Bridge

DAY 4: DORCHESTER ON THAMES

Moor up and venture through beautiful countryside into picturesque Dorchester, best known for the magnificent Abbey Church of St Peter and St Paul. It has three original coaching inns all filmed for the series.

Dorchester appears in early episodes, and more recently as Lower Crosby in 'The Ballad of Midsomer'. Locations on the village's Midsomer walking trail include Fletcher's Cross post office in 'Things that go Bump in the Night' and The Devington Arms in 'Masterclass'. The area outside Dorchester Abbey Museum was filmed in 'House in the Woods' where Joyce Barnaby meets the local conservation group and again in 'Night of the Stag' where it was set up for the market scenes.

It's possible to cycle, bus or taxi from Wallingford to Dorchester, or book a day to outlying Midsomer villages through Absolute Touring or SHO4Travel. Or take a taxi ride to Loddon Brewery, filmed in 'Night of the Stag'

loddonbrewery.com dorchester-on-thames.co.uk

lilystearoom.com dorchester-abbey.org.uk

thegeorgedorchester.co.uk white-hart-hotel-dorchester.co.uk

fleurdelys-dorchester.co.uk

sho4travel.com absolutetouring.co.uk/places/

DAY 5: WALLINGFORD – MOULSFORD

Spend the morning in Wallingford and prepare a picnic to stop off en route. Head to Moultsford where you cross the point, with the church spire in the background, where Barnaby and Scott row across the Thames to Clare Bonavita's house in 'Dead in the Water'. Moor up outside The Beetle & Wedge and stroll along The Thames Path before dinner.

Today and tomorrow represent 2/3rds of the longest reach on the River Thames. This is 'Three men in a boat' territory and an active rowing location for Oxford University.

Moorings booked in advance at The Beetle & Wedge, Moultsford or Sheridan Marina

DAY 6: MOULSFORD - WARGRAVE

Set off early, as there are seven hours of boating and seven locks to navigate on this beautiful stretch. Plan a picnic on board or peg out a mooring on a quiet stretch of the Thames.

stgeorgeanddragon.co.uk spiceloungeonline.co.uk

braksphear.co.uk/our_pubs/pub_page/35/bull

beetleandwedge.co.uk visitmidsomer.com/villages-and-hamlets

Mooring at Bushnells Marina, Wargrave

DAY 7: WARGRAVE – HAMBLEDEN (DETOUR TO MARLOW)

Heading back through Henley and onto Hambleden Lock, you will pass Greenlands, an impressive white mansion on the river, easily recognisable as the Belvoir Gym and Health Spa in 'The Flying Club'. Extend your stay on land with a Greenlands weekend Midsomer break.

Moor up at Hambleden Lock, seen in 'The Animal Within'. Option for 3 walks: Take a gentle stroll along the river to The Flower Pot; or cross the weir walkway and walk half an hour to pretty Hambleden Village where five episodes were filmed; or try Nordic walking in the hills for a couple of hours.

Alternatively, continue to the cosmopolitan riverside town of Marlow, another Midsomer Murders filming location that oozes character. Return to Hambleden Lock or Henley for overnight.

englandthisway.com/places/hambleden.php

thetagandhuntsman.co.uk afootinthechilterns.co.uk

mymarlow.co.uk henleyconferences.co.uk (Greenlands)

burgersartisanbakery.com thecoachmarlow.co.uk

Moorings at Hambleden Lock or Hobbs Boatyard, Henley

For more information and ideas:

- Hobbs of Henley hobbsofhenley.com
- Visit Midsomer visitmidsomer.com
- Henley visit-henley.com
- Southern Oxfordshire southernoxfordshire.com
- The River Thames visitthames.co.uk
- Midsomer Murders location 1hr walking trails visitmidsomer.com/town-walking-trails

Check all opening times and pre-book restaurants and moorings where possible.

