Living in Buckinghamshire

Buckinghamshire is an area of outstanding natural beauty and ranks as one of the top rural areas to live in the UK*. Stretching from the outskirts of London to the Midlands, the county offers a unique mix of bustling towns alongside the rolling Chiltern Hills and the River Thames. Country walks run between picturesque villages whilst the superb travel links give quick and easy access to the cities of London, Oxford, Milton Keynes and Birmingham.

Some of our local attractions
- Warner Brothers Harry Potter Studio Tour
- Close to Pinewood and Elstree film studios
- Wembley Stadium
- Windsor and Windsor Castle
- Around 15 National Trust properties, parks and monuments
- Indoor and outdoor ski slopes
- Stunning countryside for walking, biking, horse riding
- Roald Dahl museum
- Zoos and safari parks

Education
Schools in Buckinghamshire offer high quality education, preparing pupils for adult life. They are amongst the best schools in the country, consistently performing above the national average. Buckinghamshire is one of the few counties in England to offer grammar school education alongside comprehensive secondary education. Admission to grammar school is selective and based on results of the eleven-plus exam. In addition, Buckinghamshire is well-served by many independent schools for children from the ages of five to 18.

Well connected
Access to London, the Midlands and airports is very easy via the M40, M4 or M25 motorways.

- Just over 30 minutes by train from High Wycombe
- Around 40 minutes by train from Amersham
- Around an hour by train from Aylesbury

Heathrow Airport
- 20 miles from Amersham
- 21 miles from High Wycombe
- 38 miles from Aylesbury

Designer outlet shopping village
- 17 miles from Aylesbury
- 34 miles from High Wycombe
- 45 miles from Amersham

* Halifax Quality of Life Rankings 2012
The local area

**Aylesbury** is at the heart of the rural Vale of Aylesbury and is the county town of Buckinghamshire with a population of around 74,000. The Vale of Aylesbury has many pretty villages, historic towns, rolling countryside on the doorstep and family friendly attractions. Stoke Mandeville itself is a small parish within the town of Aylesbury and has its own railway station, primary school and local amenities. Aylesbury is a lively town with both modern shopping centres and traditional markets and has plenty to keep children and adults occupied with animal farms, countryside, a cinema and plenty of restaurants and pubs to chose from.

**Amersham** represents a fascinating blend of ancient and modern. It is a town made up of two parts; Amersham with a wide selection of cafes, shops and restaurants as well as the station linking the town to London and Birmingham, and the Old Town with its sweeping High Street, period cottages and designer shops. The beautiful Old Town has featured in a number of films and TV series.

**High Wycombe** is only around 30 minutes away from central London. It sits in a deep valley surrounded by the attractive wooded countryside of the Chilterns and is next to the M40, linking London to Birmingham. High Wycombe is Buckinghamshire’s largest town with a population of around 133,000. The heart of the bustling town centre is a wide pedestrian High Street which hosts a thriving street market and the modern Eden Shopping Centre with shops, a bowling alley, a 12-screen cinema, restaurants and cosmopolitan cafes.

**What our staff say:**

“Great for raising children. There’s lots for them to do and excellent schools.”

“You can have an outdoors lifestyle without being in the middle of nowhere.”

“The countryside is beautiful and peaceful but we’re still close to the bright lights of London. It’s the best of both worlds.”