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Wedmore is the principal village on the Isle of Wedmore, a ridge of higher land rising out of the Somerset Levels. It is four miles from Cheddar and the Mendips; and eight miles from Wells and Glastonbury.



It has been a settlement since early times; recent discoveries have unearthed remains of the Bronze and Iron Ages. Several Roman sites have also been found, and in Saxon times Wedmore belonged to the Kings of Wessex.

The Parish Council
 Working for Wedmore
 Theale and Blackford
01934 713087

St. Mary's Church
 We welcome you to our historic church
 Open Daily

Produced by Sedgemoor Tourism Unit, Sedgemoor District Council & Wedmore Parish Council
 Text by Hazel Hudson
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welcome to **Wedmore**



a Sedgemoor village leaflet

Welcome to Wedmore

In 878 AD King Alfred the Great owned Wedmore. After a decisive victory over the Danes at Ethandune (Wiltshire) he brought Guthrum, the defeated Danish leader to Wedmore. During twelve days of feasting, Guthrum was baptised as a Christian and the treaty called the "Peace of Wedmore" was agreed between the Saxons and the Danes.

These ceremonies probably took place in a Saxon church where the parish church stands today. Alfred entertained his guests in his royal house, probably where the manor house is now, adjoining the church. St. Mary's church which overlooks the village is largely 15th and 16th century, with features from the 13th and 14th century and a mural of St. Christopher circa 1520.

The conservation area of Wedmore has an attractive blend of building styles with many listed houses. The Old Vicarage in Church Street is first documented in 1492 and is on a Roman site. The Post Office with its Georgian frontage was once the Bell Inn. In contrast the chemist's shop at the bottom of Church Street is a grand Italianate building of about 1830. In its heyday this was a widely known department store, and one of the largest fashion houses in Somerset.

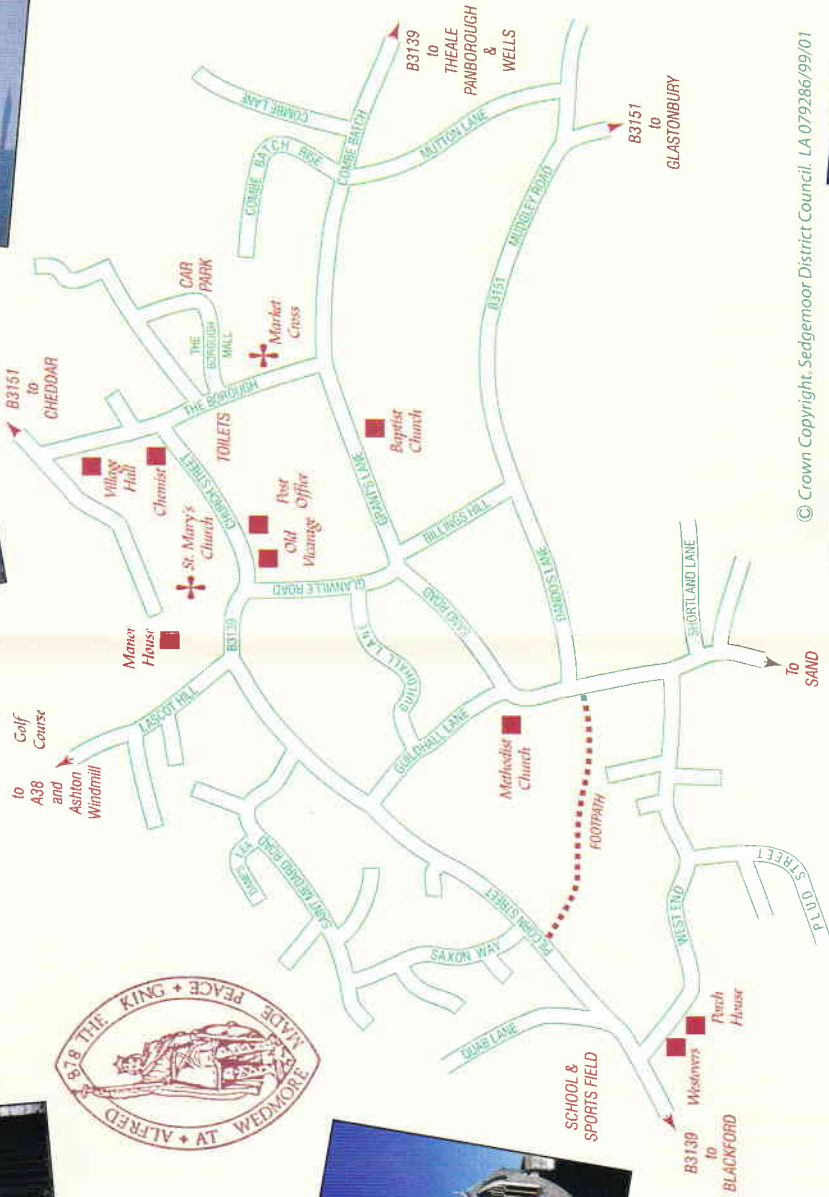
The main shopping street is the Borough, which was laid out in the 12th and 13th centuries as a market. The 14th century market cross originally stood in the centre of the widest part of The Borough.

At West End is Porch House with its 17th century porch room. Dr John Westover (1643-1706), the local chryurgeon (surgeon) lived here, running a busy village practice. In 1680 close by, he built a small asylum for in-patients, especially the mentally ill. It is now a private house, Westovers. He left a journal describing his work, patients and treatments.

Wedmore is a busy thriving village which still retains its essential character. Time can be spent in its large variety of shops, from butchers to boutiques, or in the many pubs, restaurants or coffee shops.

Wedmore Young Farmer's Club holds its annual show and sale on the fourth Friday in April; Wedmore Fair is usually the first Saturday in July and Wedmore Harvest Home with its procession and luncheon is on the third Friday in August.

Should you wish to explore further, village trail leaflets are on sale in the Newsagents and church guides are available in St. Mary's.



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