

There's more to Modbury...

Modbury today is a very pretty little market town, surrounded by the soft rolling countryside of the South Hams. As well as exploring its unique heritage take a little time to browse around its delightful shops or pause a while in one of the pubs or cafes.

Nearly all the shops in Modbury are small local independents so you can be guaranteed helpful service with a smile. You will find everything you need - from all those day to day essentials to unusual and attractive gifts, lovely homewares and hardware together with some gourmet delights. The town also offers a diverse range of services from hairdressing to flooring, interiors to fine art, handmade furniture and picture frames.

Modbury town centre is very compact and all the shops, pubs and cafes are just round the corner from the car parks.

Cashpoints

The Post Office, Co-op

Toilets

Lower end of Brownston Street
QEII Recreation Ground

Children's play

Under 12s play area behind the Memorial Hall, Back Street.
QE11 recreation ground - Multi
Use Games Area and Skate Ramps

Useful Numbers

Health Centre 01548 830666
Dentist 01548 830811
Optician 01548 830944
Post Office 01548 830201
Vet 01548 830210
Chemist 01548 830215
St George's Parish Church
01548 830260
St Monica's Catholic Church
01752 892606



MODBURY
HERITAGE MARKET TOWN

The Explorer's Guide to Modbury



HISTORY UNDER FOOT



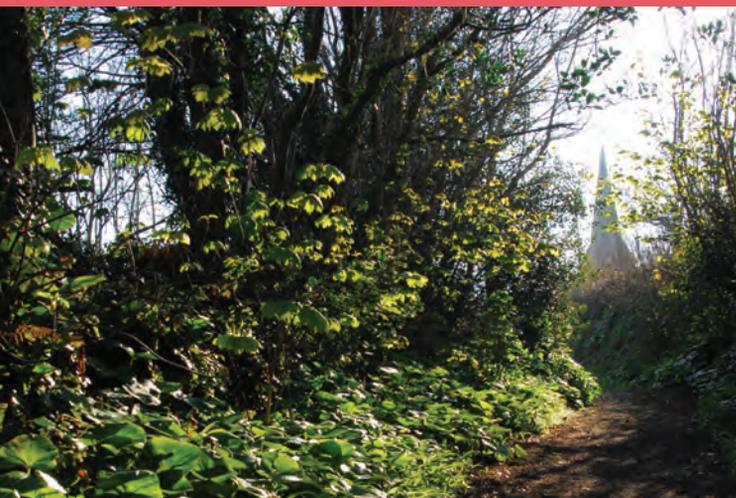
From Moot Burgh to Modbury and back

Once a Saxon meeting place, Modbury (Moot Burgh) has had a unique recorded history dating back to the Domesday Book. In the mid-nineties the Heritage Lottery funded a project to identify and promote many aspects of The Unique Heritage of Modbury, also a popular website.

Twelve specific Heritage Sites were identified and most of these, together with additional points of interest, are highlighted in the Modbury Heritage Town Trail.

There are also two information boards in the car park together with a rescued and restored Albion Corn Crusher which was once used in Modbury and is around 100 years old. We hope you enjoy exploring Modbury and uncovering its history.

This trail follows a circular route roughly within Modbury's conservation area. Although it minimises crossing roads, please be vigilant especially where there are no pavements.



1 Market Cross

Market Cross is a crossroads adjacent to the White Hart (built in 1827 and once infamous for its Cock Fighting and Bear Baiting). Look for the old fireplace lintel embedded into the edge of the road. This is thought to have come from Court House, the original home of the Champernowne family that stood at the top of the hill, due North of the Church.

Catherine Champernowne (born 1519), was the mother of Sir Humphrey Gilbert who founded the British Colony in Newfoundland. From a second marriage to Walter Raleigh she had a son - the famous Sir Walter Raleigh. Court House was destroyed in the Civil War and sold for building materials in 1705.

There was once a Round House in the centre of the road, where corn and yarn were sold, while meat from the abattoir was sold in The Shambles in Church Street.

 Head west up Church Street.

2 Water Conduit

Set in the wall, opposite the Devonshire Fine Art Gallery, this conduit was built for the town by the Lord of the Manor, Nicholas Trist in 1708.

 Continue to the top of the hill (past the Exeter Inn) and past the Baptist Church, built in 1806.

1

2



3 St George's Church

The church stands close to the site of a small Priory that was staffed by a Prior and just two Monks. The Priory was dissolved in 1467. The current church, with its medieval spire, was rebuilt in c1300 on the site of an early Saxon Church.

There is a small green lane behind the church aptly known as Runaway Lane - so called after retreating Royalist Troops used it as an escape route to Plymouth in 1643.

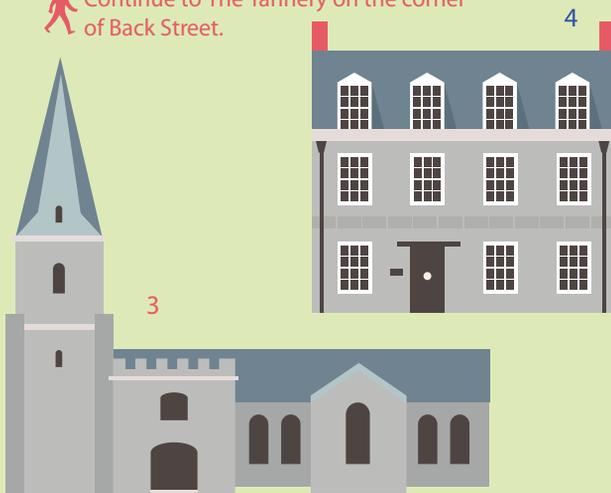
Adjacent to St George's is St Monica's Catholic church.

 Return down Church Street, turn left to ascend Brownston Street past the public toilets to Chain House on your left.

4 Chain House

This Grade II* listed building, with Jacobean Cottages behind, was erected during the Queen Anne period 1702-1714. During its restoration a skeleton and a dagger were found behind a walled up section. The name derives from chains which were placed across the road during markets and fairs for toll purposes.

 Continue to The Tannery on the corner of Back Street.



5 The Tannery

The Tannery was used to process hides and wool from the many cattle and sheep that were kept locally. Further down Back Street, were the pits used for treating hides and processing and dyeing wool.

6 Literary and Scientific Institute

The unique building opposite, with its Palladian style exterior was built for the town by Richard King, a native of Modbury, who emigrated to New York to seek his fortune. The centre provided the townsfolk with lectures on a wide range of topical subjects which continued right up to the 1950s. There was however one proviso: "That no discussion or lecture should include any subject that was likely to excite passion or a factious party spirit."

7 Brick House

Modbury, once the local centre of cloth making, used a number of water mills to pound the cloth and had a felt hat factory in Brick House. In the 17th century, at the peak of the woollen and serge industry, Christopher Savery, a very wealthy clothier established himself at Shilstone, an impressive country seat to the north of the town. There was a Saddler next to Brick House right up until the 1980s.





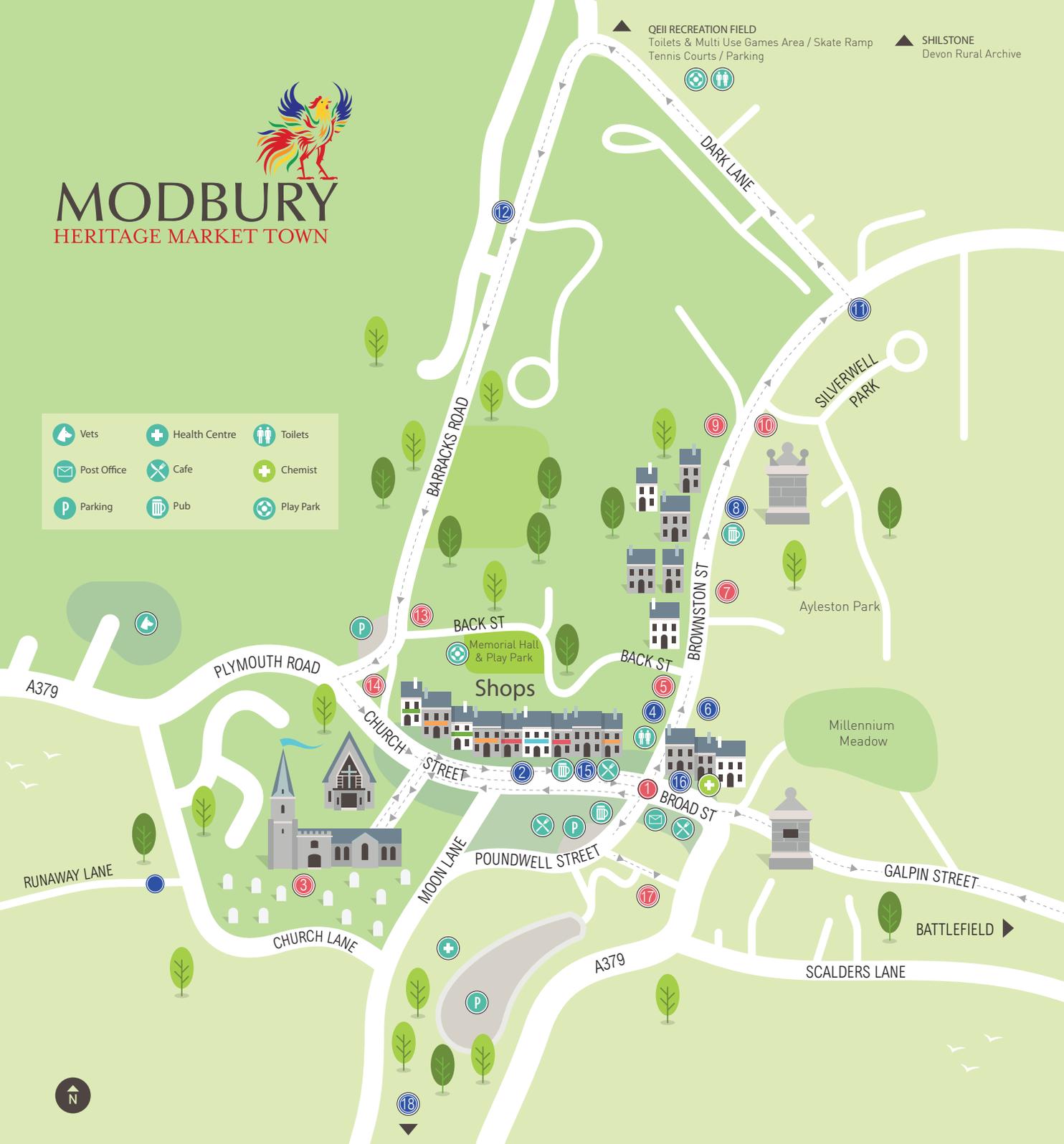
MODBURY

HERITAGE MARKET TOWN

QEII RECREATION FIELD
Toilets & Multi Use Games Area / Skate Ramp
Tennis Courts / Parking

SHILSTONE
Devon Rural Archive

Vets	Health Centre	Toilets
Post Office	Cafe	Chemist
Parking	Pub	Play Park



8 Water Conduit

One of three conduits in Modbury, this structure, constructed by Adrian Swete in 1708, was originally in the middle of the road. The fine spring water was stored in a reservoir but had previously been channelled through wooden pipes to the Abbey. There are other wells, one of which can be seen in the White Hart Inn.

 Continue up the street to Traine House on the left.

9 Traine House

With its distinctive columns, North, Middle and South Traine was built by the Revered John Swete in 1790 and added to in later years.

 Continue a few yards up the road.

10 Gateway to Old Traine

An ancient gateway, set into the wall on your right, bears the 1472 Swete family crest. It once opened onto a cobbled path leading to Old Traine, the home of the Lord of the Manor, Guy Swete.

A** Detour to Millennium Meadow through Silverwell Park for a peaceful rest beside a pretty brook.



 Continue up the road, to discover the old reservoir on your right.

11 Reservoir

Modbury's reservoir was constructed in 1708, by Adrian Swete to feed the three conduits in the town; it is fed by the Silverwell Spring.

 Turn left at the T-junction and walk to the end of Dark Lane. There are no pavements here so please watch the traffic.

B** Detour to QEII Recreation Field. Turn right at the end of Dark Lane and then right into the Recreation Field. It has a variety of sports facilities and a nice picnic area with spectacular views in all directions.

 Turn left into Barracks Road and follow the old Barracks wall for 300m – please be careful as there are no pavements here.

12 Barracks Guard House 1794

Troops from the Dragoon Guards, East Devon Militia, Surrey Fencibles and the North Gloucesters were billeted here for some 20 years to defend the south coast and Plymouth during the Napoleonic wars.



13 Modbury School 1881

The first charity school in Modbury was established in 1730 to teach twelve boys reading, writing and mathematics.

C** Detour to the Play Park, located behind the Memorial Hall next to the school.

 Join the main road at Palm Cross Green turning left onto Church Street.

14 Palm Cross Green

Members of the Court Leet assembled here in the early Middle Ages to commit to Frankpledge (a peace pledge). The last Frankpledge was conducted by the Portreeve, Mr Will Rogers in 1963.

15 Exeter Inn

The Exeter Inn, with a stream running under it, is the oldest Inn in Modbury and hosted the Royalist Troops in 1640.

 Continue over the cross roads into Broad Street. Above your head on the left there is an old bell which marks the site of the old Bell Inn.



16 Bell Inn

Originally a Church House, this is now the site of the Ceremony of the Glove, which takes place during the annual Modbury May Fair. The road that continues up the hill is known as Galloping Street shortened to Galpin Street. The Battlefield Site, at the top, is where the Civil War battles of 1642 and 1643 were fought.

 Retrace your steps turning left into Poundwell Street to the second car park

17 Poundwell House

Set behind a high wall, Poundwell House, one of 131 Grade II listed buildings was the local judicial centre and police station with cells or pounds, hence its name Poundwell.

This project has been funded by Modbury Tourist Information, Kingsbridge & Salcombe Chamber of Commerce and The Modbury Society.

