



Why Swindon?

Don't believe all you hear. Some might talk Wiltshire's biggest town down, but there are 101 reasons that make Swindon a wonderfully special place to live and work.

The town

Signs of Swindon's industrial boom-times are everywhere - nowhere more than around the [Railway Village](#), with its nineteenth century public baths, workers' cottages and community buildings. Many of these have been re-purposed - former train sheds are now home to the [Designer Outlet](#), the Steam Museum, Workshed business incubator, and the Royal Agricultural University's Cultural Heritage Institute.

Heading up the hill from the downtown shopping area is Swindon's Old Town, where bars, pubs and eateries offer something for everyone. Between cocktail bars, hipster pubs and traditional boozers you'll find food from Spain, the Caribbean, Korea, India and Nepal, Italy, Greece, and the Middle East. Fish'n'chips, chicken nuggets and kebabs - it goes without saying.



Quality and cost

Swindon has wonderful countryside, low crime levels and good life expectancy. Surveys, studies and focus groups, they will tell you why Swindon is such a great place to be:

House prices - property prices are [significantly cheaper](#) than anywhere else in the South West and along the M4 corridor.

Safety - with a [low crime rate](#), at 80% of the national crime rate.

Transport - easy to get to, easy to get away, Swindon sits on junctions 15 and 16 of the M4 motorway, as well as bang in the middle of the mainline from London to Bristol - less than an hour to London, under 40 minutes to Bristol, and just 22 minutes to lovely Bath. And Swindon is home to the Magic Roundabout - what else needs to be said?

Celebrities - according to the [Swindon Advertiser](#), celebrities hailing from the town include model and TV presenter Melinda Messenger, Doctor Who star and singer Billie Piper, and The Apprentice legend Nick Hewer. Who knew? (Who cares?)

The sector

Swindon's voluntary sector is thriving, well connected and incredibly community orientated. With over 400 charities and community groups across the borough, Voluntary Action Swindon provides support and a thread to bring people and organisations together, promoting collaboration and filling the gaps.

Often working closely with the local council, Swindon's voluntary sector has been at the heart of community activity that makes this place great - Compassionate Swindon, Warm & Welcome Spaces, Feeding Swindon Partnership, Swindon Community Hub, and the Swindon Equality Coalition ...with too many more to list.

Arts & culture

Swindon's got an Art Centre, Film Society, Wyvern Theatre, IMAX cinema, Philosophical Society, MECA entertainment centre, and [pubs all over](#) with live music. And festivals ...Cheese and Chilli festival, My Dad's Bigger Than You Dad, Festival of Literature, Pride, Oktoberfest, Beer Fest, Mela, PaintFest, Independent Film Festival, Folk & Blues Fest, Small Change Fest ...off the top of my head.