

BLOSSOM TRAIL

2022

A delightful year round journey
throughout the Vale of Evesham



www.valeandspa.co.uk/blossom



@Vale_and_Spa



@ValeandSpa



WORCESTERSHIRE'S
VALE & SPA

SPRINGTIME IN THE VALE

The Vale of Evesham and its neighbouring area has been famous for its fruit and vegetable growing since Medieval times and is known to be some of the most productive horticultural land in the country.

For a few weeks between mid-March and mid-May the roadsides along the 50 mile AA signposted Blossom Trail are ablaze with colour.

The spring Blossom Trail can be enjoyed in many ways – as an adventure in your own time or as a fun-filled organised day out. To enhance your experience further, this publication focuses on the horticultural highlights the area has to offer throughout the rest of the year – award-winning parks, garden centres, nurseries and farm shops (many with cafes) selling outstanding local produce and home cooked delicacies. From April to June this will also include the famous Vale of Evesham Asparagus – whose prestige has gained it PGI European Protected Food named status.

Be sure to read about the blossom as it will provide you with information as to when each type can bloom, as well as an interesting fact about each type that can be found along the trail.

ABOUT THE BLOSSOM

For almost four decades the Vale of Evesham Blossom Trail has been recognised as one of the top 'wonders of spring' and can be experienced on foot, by bike, car or coach.

The term Blossom is given to a cluster of flowers that bloom on any plant – this can include magnolia, hawthorn, blackthorn and ornamental cherries.

Blossom trees however, tend to be associated with the fruiting (Prunus genus) varieties – these include cherries, plums, apples, pears, peaches and crab-apples.

Blossom provides pollen to pollinators such as bees who initiate the cross pollination necessary for the trees to reproduce by producing fruit. The colour of the blossom that can be seen throughout the Vale of Evesham range from the delicate white of pear, plum, orange, some cherry and most almonds; to the variable degrees of pink via apple, peach and cherry.



Throughout the Blossom Trail you will find there are many different varieties of blossom, below are some of the different types you can find during spring time in Worcestershire's Vale & Spa.

The blossom of apple is usually tinged with pink and an apple orchard in May is surely the most beautiful site in the farmed landscape. Apples are pollinated by all sorts of insects including long-horn beetles, malachite beetles, butterflies and solitary bees.



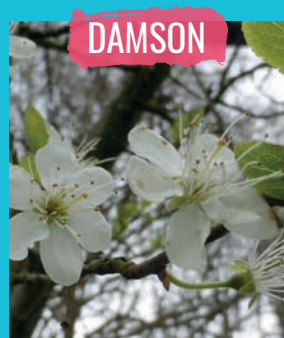
The pure white plum blossom is on show for a very short period in April and attracts an assortment of pollinators including hoverflies, dagger-flies, bee-flies and small beetles. Plum orchards once dominated the landscape around the Vale but only a few of these special places now remain.



Large old pear trees can be seen along roadsides and in hedgerows dotted through the Vale. The majority of these big trees produce small pears used for making perry. The bark of a pear tree divides into small rectangular sections making it quite distinctive.



The delicate blossom is not such a common sight in the Vale nowadays, being mostly restricted to hedgerows and along water courses. All of the old Damson trees in the Vale are infected by a fungus Taphrina insitiae which causes twiggy growths known as Witches' Brooms.



The first fruit blossom of the year. Often planted as hedgerow shrubs or as small trees in orchards. An important early nectar source for honeybees which will have used up their stored honey over the winter.



A common shrub turning hedgerows white in early spring. The abundant blossom attracts many pollinators including hoverflies and bumblebees.



For more information visit:
www.valeandspa.co.uk/blossom

THE VALLEY



Looking for a family shopping experience with a difference? Look no further than The Valley – just 2 miles from Evesham, Worcestershire.

Green-fingered visitors can indulge at Blue Diamond Home & Garden 1. Fashionistas can pick up some new threads at Outdoor and Country and Fat Face and if home interiors are your thing, a visit to ProCook is a must.

Board the Evesham Vale Light Railway and chugg through picturesque countryside before stopping off to set the little ones free at The Valley Castle Adventure Playground.

If all that fun has worked up an appetite, you will be spoilt for choice at The Applebarn Restaurant, Coffee #1 or The Crafty Cuppa.

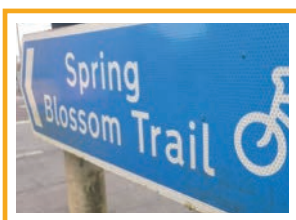
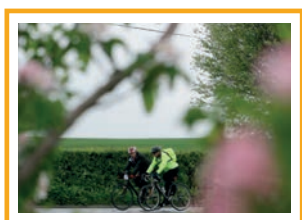
The Valley is the perfect place to shop-till-you-drop and relax, plus with free parking all week, there's no reason not to pay a visit.



A delightful year round journey throughout the Vale of Evesham

2022
BLOSSOM
TRAIL

EXPLORING THE BLOSSOM TRAIL



Cycling

Cycling around the Blossom Trail couldn't be easier. The National Cycle Route 442 is perfectly situated to enjoy the blossom – the route travels from Worcester to Evesham via Pershore, taking you through quiet villages and country lanes. It really is the best way to get close to nature.

To help you get around the route, there are a number of blue Spring Blossom Trail signs to look out for on junctions. To assist, a GPX file of the route is available to download from our website – www.valeandspa.co.uk/cycling

Coach Tours

Having your own tour guide is another great way to experience what the Vale has to offer. They will be able to give you fascinating historical and entertaining facts about blossom, as well as the area, which is famous in more ways than you might think. This tour will pick up from various points throughout the county on Wednesday 20 April 2022.

Booking is essential. For details call
Royal Motorways -
01527 376 204

Royal Motorways

Walking

If you would like to enjoy the wonderful countryside by foot then Worcestershire's Vale & Spa makes an ideal location. By offering a range of routes, from long, short, easy or difficult, there is something that allows everyone to enjoy the views. Many of these routes are signposted and can be easily found and followed to allow you to take in the wildlife without getting lost.

The walking routes are easily accessible and can be located all around the trail – marked by a black walking sign. From here, you can follow the arrows and signs that will take you over stiles, along bridleways, through stunning fields of blossom and orchards filled with colour.

Along the way you'll cross many other trails which you could find yourself exploring, including:

- The Wychavon Way
- The Shakespeare's Avon Way
- The Millennium Way
- The Cotswold Way

For more information visit:
www.valeandspa.co.uk/walking



A GPX file of the route is available to download from our website for use with a Sat-Nav or smart phone. It allows you to follow the route accurately whichever method you choose to explore the trail.

DISCOUNTS

This year we are pleased to announce that some of our tourism businesses are offering discounts upon production of this leaflet.

The Valley 1

Present this leaflet at The Valley Management office to redeem a discount booklet.

The Real Flower Petal Company 5

10% discount on your confetti petals when you order online! Please enter the code BLOSSOM at checkout.

Pershore College 6

10% off full-priced plants.

Birlingham Nurseries 7

10% discount on all full priced plants.

Mill Lane Nursery 9

10% off full priced trees.

Ellenden Farm Shop 12

Free entry into our "Blossom" Prize Draw on production of this advert – win a selection of our orchard produce.

For full terms and conditions relating to these discounts please visit our website - www.valeandspa.co.uk/blossom

PARKS



Whilst enjoying your visit to the area to experience the Blossom Trail, a trip to one of the award-winning parks is a delightful addition to your itinerary. Located in the centre of Pershore and Evesham, the Green Flag parks are bursting with colour when in full bloom.

- Children will be entertained with an exciting variety of play equipment and splash pads
- Look out for the unique art pieces
- Simply chill out and relax in the idyllic surroundings
- Marvel at the majestic historic buildings

For more information on our parks and their facilities – including those not on the trail, visit www.valeandspa.co.uk/parks

General Information

Tel: 01386 565373
Email: info@valeandspa.co.uk
www.valeandspa.co.uk

Tourist Information Centres

Broadway
Tel: 01386 852937
Email: info@visitbroadway.co.uk

Droitwich Spa
Tel: 01905 774312
Email: heritage@droitwichspa.gov.uk

Evesham
Tel: 01386 446944
Email: tic@almonry.ndo.co.uk

Pershore
Tel: 01905 843896
Email: tourism@persnore-tc.gov.uk



Where to find us:

The M5, M42 and M50 motorways are on the doorstep, as are mainline rail links from London, Paddington and Birmingham. Overseas connections are well catered for, with nearby airports including Birmingham, East Midlands and Bristol.

01386 565373
info@valeandspa.co.uk

Designed by
WYCHAVON DISTRICT COUNCIL
good services, good value



COME & DISCOVER
YOUR LOVE FOR...

THEVALLEYSHOPPING.CO.UK

ONLY 2 MILES FROM EVESHAM



Clive's of Crophorne

The Heath, Main Road, Crophorne, Pershore, WR10 3NE

With fantastic views of our fruit trees in blossom from our farm shop & Café, Clive's of Crophorne is perfect for all visitors. Whether you're looking to relax with a coffee and slice of homemade cake, sample our delightful homemade breakfasts and lunches or shop locally sourced produce in our farm shop and butchery we have something for everyone.

Open Tuesday – Saturday 9am – 5pm
Sunday 10am – 4pm (closed Monday)

T: 01386 860439

Broadway Tower

Broadway Tower, Middle Hill, Broadway, WR12 7LB

Restored and Refurbished!
We are a privately owned Cotswold destination set within 200-acres.
Step back in time to enjoy the recently restored and refurbished Tower museum, where you can rediscover the history and love stories of your local landmark.

Enjoy a memorable day walking our grounds, exploring the Tower museum, observing the herd of red deer, unwinding with lunch and refreshments and browsing our shops.

Morris & Brown cafe 9am-5pm
Broadway Tower 10am-5pm
The Tower Barn 9.30am-5pm
www.broadwaytower.co.uk

Ellenden Farm Shop & Café

Evesham Road, Harvington, WR11 8LU

"A farming family with a passion for quality, price and service"

Come and enjoy a handmade cake or a meal in our Café using produce from our own farm and other local family businesses. Beautiful views of the blossom in our traditional apple, pear & plum orchards. Our shop stocks a range of locally produced food and drink, including our own highly regarded beef and lamb, local asparagus, eggs laid by our free range hens, and milk direct from the dairy farm. We are proud to introduce our new on-site butcher to enhance our highly reputable meat products.
Shop open daily 9am - 6pm; Café from 10am – 4pm.

T: 01386 870296 | E: shop@EllendenFarmShop.co.uk
www.ellendenfarmshop.co.uk

- 13 Station Garden Nurseries, Blackminster T: 01386 832698
- 14 W. J. Rowlings Nurseries, Crophorne T: 01386 860793
- 15 Wayside Nurseries, Elmley Castle T: 07816 053887
- 16 Four Acres Nursery, Great Comberton T: 01386 550357
- 17 Three Springs Garden Nursery, Pershore T: 01386 555476
- 18 The Secret Garden Centre, Pershore T: 01386 552648
- 19 Three Springs Garden Nursery, Pershore T: 01386 555476
- 20 Walsgrove Farm, Spetchley T: 01905 345371



Wayside Farmshop

50 Pitchers Hill, Wickhamford, Evesham, WR11 7RT

A family run business that has been built around our simple ethos 'Fresh Local Produce Daily'. Selling you the best of what the Vale has to offer, alongside our renowned homemade cakes, preserves,

pickles, sausages and cider.
NEW FOR 2022 - THE CIDER SHED, enjoy a cider and a ploughmans lunch with a view, from our new cider shed. OPENING EASTER 2022

Follow us @waysidefarmshop on Facebook and Instagram
T: 01386 830546
www.waysidefarmshop.com



Revills Farm Shop and Farmhouse Café

Bourne Road, Defford, WR8 9BS

The best home grown asparagus. Local produce and goodies from further afield!

Great café, seasonal menus, coffee, tea,

all day breakfast, lunch, homemade cakes, scones. Winter months sit by the fire. Summer sit outside and admire the views.

Enjoy a beer, cider or glass of wine. Come out for a bike ride. Friendly staff, ample parking. All you need in one place.

T: 01386 750466 | www.revillsfarmshop.co.uk

Mill Lane Nursery

Mill Lane, Drakes Broughton, Pershore, WR10 2AF

A family run, traditional nursery growing and selling a variety of plants and garden essentials.

We have an extensive range of shrubs, trees, perennials, bedding and basket plants, pots and compost for all seasons to keep your garden looking great.

We have a helpful team who can provide quality service and advice to ensure your plants will thrive in your own garden. Why not pop into Mill Lane Nursery? The place for plants!

Opening hours: Monday-Saturday 9am-5pm; Sunday: check website for seasonal opening times.

T: 01905 841650 | www.milllanenursery.co.uk



Birlingham Nurseries

Upper End, Birlingham, Nr Pershore, WR10 3AA

Not just a garden centre!

We are a local friendly family run business. Home grown asparagus, usually the earliest in the Vale.

Birlingham Nurseries - Variety of perennials, shrubs, herbs, seasonal bedding, summer vegetable plants, compost, seeds, stoneware and wooden garden furniture.

Vale Vintage - Unique gifts, house and garden items. Old, new, shabby chic and reclaimed.

Pershore Log Cabins - Complement any garden guest /play room, office, workshop or man cave. Display models on site. Top quality Nordic spruce.

Open Monday - Saturday 9.30am-5pm
Sunday 10am-4pm

T: 01386 750668 / 07973 500921



Chadbury Farm Shop & Café

Worcester Road, Evesham, WR11 4TD

Chadbury Farm Shop & Café is a family run business with our own home grown plums & locally sourced produce from the Vale of Evesham.

You can relax in our café with fantastic views and enjoy our seasonal menus. Breakfast, lunch, choice of homemade cakes, scones and tea cakes with vegan, vegetarian and gluten free options available.

We also have a large selection of local wines, beers, ciders, spirits and juices.

Ample parking for cars and coaches.

T: 01386 446705 | E: chadburyfarmshop@btconnect.com



The Real Flower Petal Confetti Company

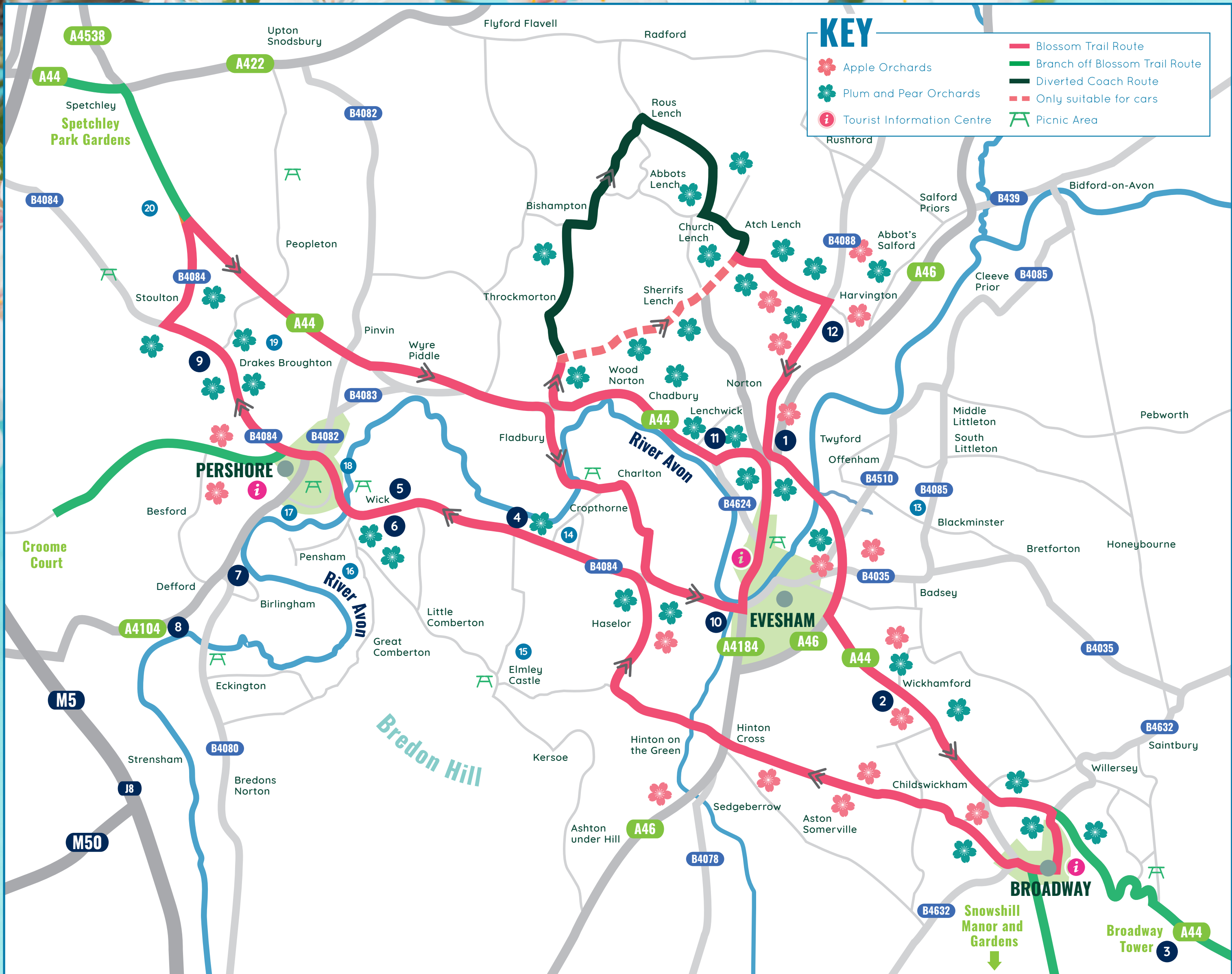
Wyke Manor, Wick, Pershore, WR10 3NZ

Visit the colourful Confetti Flower Field!

Over 20 acres of delphiniums bloom on the farm for a few days each summer. It is a spectacular sight! The flowers are grown to become wedding confetti, but before they are harvested you can come and walk around the blooms, soak up the colours, beautiful views and enjoy tea and cake in our pop-up café. This unique spot is also perfect for photographers.

Open for just 10 days at the end of June / early July. Tickets must be purchased online in advance. Please check our website for this summer's dates, full visiting details, and directions.

T: 01386 555045
www.confettidirect.co.uk/flowerfields



Pershore College

Avonbank, Pershore, WR10 3JP

We are a national centre for horticulture as well as a thriving local further education college. On our 60 hectare site we have courses for young people and adults in subjects that include horticulture, sport, animal welfare, health & social care and

supported learning. We also offer degrees and train up many apprentices in land-based professions. open 7 days a week for much of the year, to both the public and trade. For many, a visit to Pershore College Garden Centre & Nurseries is a must and we are open 7 days a week for much of the year, to both the public and trade.

www.wcg.ac.uk/pershore



The New Hampton Farm Shop and Café

Pershore Rd, Evesham, WR11 2NB

Traditional green grocers of the highest quality. Specialising in the finest, fresh local fruit and vegetables, pies, cakes, bread and milk,

sausages, bacon, cold meats, cheese, plants and a selection of gifts. Café selling fantastic 'Tunk' coffee, tea and freshly made cakes.

Open seven days a week.

T: 01386 41540
www.hamptonfarmshop.com/the-cafe