



Your guide to the historic town of Reading



town centre pocket map



positively appealing

READING UK  
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## Wonderfully Rewarding

There are few places to rival Reading for its energy and ambition. Reading is a major commercial centre, capital of the Thames Valley economic region - but also one of the most interesting and dynamic towns in the south east.

Anyone who has visited recently will tell you about the shopping, the restaurants and the nightlife. Talk to anyone who lives here and they will tell you about the beautiful stretches of river and the acres of parks and woodland.

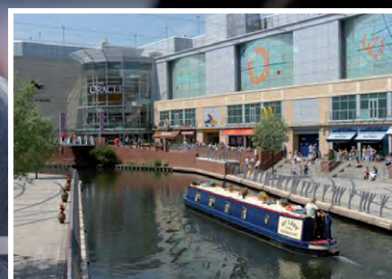
Famous as one of the UK's top ten retail destinations the heart of Reading offers so much more than superb shopping. The Forbury, a nationally acclaimed Victorian formal garden, is the town's floral heart, leading you to the ruins of Reading Abbey, an ancient monument dating from the 12th century. Wander through the ruins to the Kennet and Avon Canal, strolling past Reading Gaol and the Oscar Wilde gates.

There is so much to intrigue and inspire. Walk the canal, past the sites of Reading's industrial past and find yourself at Blake's Lock, in the shadow of luxury apartments. Explore the Riverside Museum and relax in a restaurant that started life as a Victorian pumping station.

Thanks to the town's superb location it's hardly surprising that some of the world's most famous companies have set up home here. But Reading is surprising in so many other ways: a world-renowned red-brick university; Michelin Star restaurants; over eight hundred listed buildings and monuments; boutique hotels; family friendly museums; two National Trails and two great rivers on our doorstep.

As the town moves forward it proudly acknowledges its remarkable history. From an influential position at the heart of monarchy in the middle ages, to its popularity as a thriving commercial centre under the Victorians, each new development has been embraced as part of a natural process of growth - and is about creating a town that its residents can feel proud of.

Our people reflect the energy and ever-changing face of the town. They come from all over the globe to be part of the exciting way of life in modern Reading. Together, people and place are moving forward, sharing an ambitious vision for a town that is recreating itself with imagination and heart.



## Reading UK CIC

Tel: 0118 900 1620



Main switchboard: 0118 939 0900  
www.reading.gov.uk



## Easily Exploring

The M4 has three junctions at Reading, with the M25, M40 and M3 within easy reach. There is plenty of good quality car parking in the centre, but to make life easy for you we also have two excellent park and ride services. The town is served by very regular rail services from locations throughout the UK (London Paddington is 25

minutes) and is on two national cycle routes. For more details visit [www.reading-travelinfo.co.uk](http://www.reading-travelinfo.co.uk)

Reading enjoys a pivotal location in the south east and the very best of England's heritage is within easy reach by road and rail. Explore the glorious countryside of Royal Berkshire with its picture postcard villages, enjoy the historic towns of Windsor and Henley, as well as the delights of the tranquil River Thames and the vibrant Kennet and Avon Canal. To discover more of Reading's surprising side visit [www.livingreading.co.uk](http://www.livingreading.co.uk)

## Uniquely Shopping

There are two major shopping centres in Reading. The Oracle enjoys a unique location and is home to famous brands from The Disney Store to Zara. Its Riverside is packed with restaurants and cafes, a 10-screen cinema and a beach in the summer! Broad Street Mall is home to lots of family favourites including Argos and TK Maxx - it's a great place to chase down a bargain or enjoy a leisurely browse.

You'll find an array of specialist and independent stores in the town's smaller streets and arcades. The Walk, St Mary's Butts, Queen Victoria Street, Chain Street and Harris Arcade offer a mix of small specialist shops.



Harris Arcade is well worth a visit to explore unique and quirky shops from antique clothes to soft toys, as well as the Reading Collector's Centre (the place for memorabilia and antiques).

Your trip to Reading will not be complete without a wander down Union Street (more famously known as Smelly Alley). This passageway sees grocers, butchers and fishmongers alongside internet cafes and cobblers.

"Few towns are less prepossessing at first glance than Reading ...but few towns better repay exploration."

Sir John Betjeman,  
*English Counties, Betjeman's Britain.*

## South Reading Business, retail and leisure venues



## Need to see a doctor? NHS

Located on the first floor inside the Broad Street Mall (turn right at the top of the main escalator), Reading Walk-in Health Centre provides access to general practice doctors, nurses and clinical team members seven days a week between 8am and 8pm with or without an appointment. Patients wishing to be seen do not need to be registered or even be from the Reading area.

Reading Walk-in Health Centre offers patients of all ages a wide range of medical services. A full list of the clinics and services available to both registered and unregistered patients can be found on our website: [www.readingwalkinhealthcentre.nhs.uk](http://www.readingwalkinhealthcentre.nhs.uk). Alternatively, please call the Centre for further information on 0118 902 8300.

## Reading Explorer

Reading Explorer is a pedestrian orientation and navigation system that will help you find your way around the town, while providing a glimpse of its fascinating past. Shown right is one of a network of information points that are situated at key locations across the town centre. On each of the units you will find:

- A direction signs,
- B a local area map showing all the streets and points of interest in the vicinity,
- C a Reading town centre map, showing the main streets, zones and attractions,
- D information about Reading, featuring some of its notable buildings as well as events, industries and people that have played a part in shaping the town.



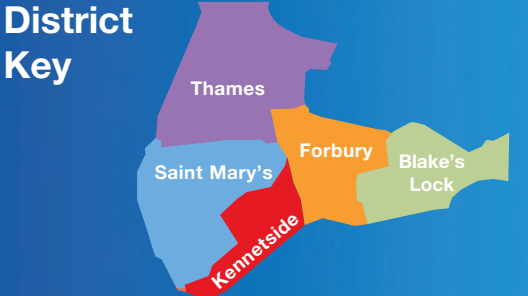
## Reading Town Centre Street Index

A		L	
Abattoirs Road	A2	Letcombe Street	D5
Abbey Square	D3	Livery Close	E5
Abbey Street	D3	London Court	D5
Abbot's Walk	E3	London Road	E6-F5-G5
Addison Road	A1	London Street	D5
Albion Terrace	F5	Lynmouth Road	C1
Alfred Street	A4		
Anglers Way	G4	M	
Anstey Road	A5	Mallard Row	B5
Arthur Place	G4	Maltings Place	B5
		Market Place	D3
		Meadow Road	A1
		Merchants Place	C3
		Mill Lane	D5
		Minster Street	C4
		Mundesley Street	C5
B		N	
Baker Street	A5	Napier Road	E2
Barry Place	A1	New Bright Street	B5
Betam Road	G4	North Street	A2
Blagrove Street	C2	Northfield Road	B1
Blakes Cottages	E4		
Body Road	A5	O	
Boult Street	F5	Orts Road	G4
Bridge Street	C4	Oxford Road	A4
Broad Street	B4-C3		
Butter Market	D4	P	
		Parthia Close	C6
C		Patriot Place	G4
Cardiff Road	A1	Princess Street	F5
Carey Street	A5		
Castle Hill	A5	Q	
Castle Street	B4	Queen Victoria Street	C3
Caversham Road	B2	Queen's Cottages	E4
Chain Street	C4	Queen's Road	E4
Chatham Street	A3	Queens Walk	A4
Chatham Place	A3		
Cheapside	B3	R	
Cheriton Court	B5	Reading Bridge	D1
Chestnut Walk	E3	Redlands Road	F6
Church Street	D5	Regent Court	A2
Coley Hill	A6	Rose Walk	B5
Coley Place	A5		
Crane Wharf	E4	S	
Craven Road	G6	Sackville Street	B3
Cross Street	C3	San Francisco Libre Wlk	B4
Crossland Road	D5	Seangate Road	E5
Crown Place	F6	Simmonds Street	B5
Crown Street	D6	South Street	D5
		Southampton Street	C6
D		St Giles Close	D6
De Montfort Road	C1	St John's Hill	F4
Deansgate Road	C5	St John's Road	F5
Duke Street	D4	St John's Street	F4
Düsseldorf Way	B4	St Mary's Butts	B4
		Stanshawe Road	B2
E		Star Lane	D4
Earley Place	C4	Station Approach	C2
East Street	E5	Station Hill	C2
Eaton Place	A3	Station Road	C3
Eldon Place	G5	Swan Place	B5
Eldon Road	G5	Swansea Road	A1
Eldon Square	G5		
Eldon Street	G4	T	
Eldon Terrace	G5	Talbot Close	B5
Erligh Road	G6	The Dell	F5
		The Forbury	D3
F		The Grove	F5
Field Road	A6	The Walk	D4
Fobney Street	C5	Thorn Lane	D4
Forbury Road	D2-E3-F3	Thorn Street	A3
Friar Street	B3-C3	Town Place	G5
		Tudor Road	B2
G		U	
Garrard Street	B2	Union Street	C3
Gas Works Road	F3		
Great Knollis Street	A2	V	
Greyfriars Road	B2	Vachel Road	B3
Gun Street	C4	Valpy Street	D3
		Vestern Road	C1
		Victoria Street	G4
H			
Harris Arcade	C3	W	
Henry Street	C6	Waterside Gardens	B5
High Bridge Wharf	D4	Watlington Street	F4-F5
High Street	D4	Weldale Street	A3
Hosier Street	B4	West Street	B3
Howard Street	A4	Willow Street	B5
		Wiston Terrace	C3
		Wolsey Street	B6
J		Y	
Jesse Terrace	A5	Yield Hall Lane	C4
		Yield Hall Place	D4
		York Road	A1
		Z	
		Zinzan Street	A4

Reading Explorer was designed and produced by Streetwise Orientation and Navigation Systems Ltd [www.streetwisesystems.com](http://www.streetwisesystems.com)

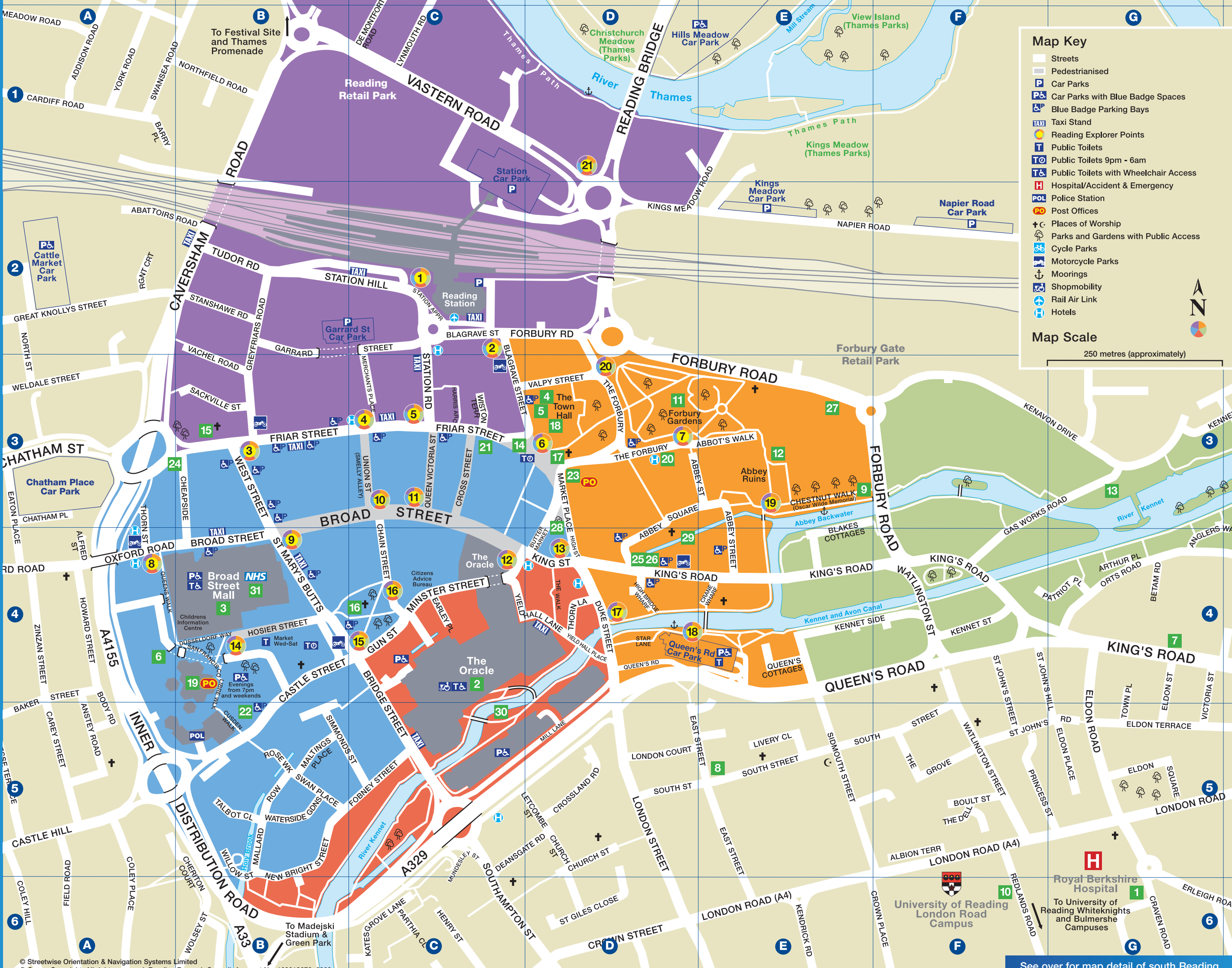
# Attractions & Information

- 1 Royal Berkshire Hospital G6
- 2 The Oracle Shopping and Leisure C4
- 3 Broad Street Mall B4
- 4 Concert Hall D3
- 5 Museum of Reading D3
- 6 Hexagon A4
- 7 Thames Valley University G4
- 8 South Street Arts E5
- 9 Chestnut Walk (Oscar Wilde Memorial) E3
- 10 Museum of English Rural Life F6
- 11 Forbury Gardens D3
- 12 Abbey Ruins E3
- 13 Riverside Museum at Blake's Lock G3
- 14 Queen Victoria Monument C3
- 15 Greyfriars Church B3
- 16 Minster Church of Saint Mary the Virgin C4
- 17 Saint Laurence's Church D3
- 18 Town Hall D3
- 19 Civic Centre B4
- 20 Crown Court D3
- 21 County Court C3
- 22 Magistrates Courts B5
- 23 Main Post Office D3
- 24 Job Centre Plus B3
- 25 New Directions D4
- 26 Library D4
- 27 HMP Reading (Prison) E3
- 28 Simeon Monument D3
- 29 Abbey Mill Arch D4
- 30 Oracle Riverside C5
- 31 Reading Walk-in Health Centre B4



# Reading Explorer Points

- 1 Railway Station C2
- 2 Blagrove Street C2
- 3 Friar Street/West Street B3
- 4 Friar Street/Merchants Place C3
- 5 Friar Street/Station Road C3
- 6 Town Hall Square D3
- 7 The Forbury/Abbot's Walk D3
- 8 Oxford Road/Queens Walk A4
- 9 Broad Street/Saint Mary's Butts B4
- 10 Broad Street/Union Street C3
- 11 Broad Street/Queen Victoria Street C3
- 12 Broad Street/Minster Street C4
- 13 King Street/High Street D4
- 14 Civic Centre B4
- 15 Saint Mary's Butts/Gun Street C4
- 16 Chain Street/Saint Mary's Minster C4
- 17 Duke Street D4
- 18 Queen's Road Car Park D4
- 19 Chestnut Walk E3
- 20 North West Forbury D3
- 21 Vastern Road D1



### Map Key

- Streets
- Pedestrianised
- Car Parks
- Car Parks with Blue Badge Spaces
- Blue Badge Parking Bays
- Taxi Stand
- Reading Explorer Points
- Public Toilets
- Public Toilets 9pm - 6am
- Public Toilets with Wheelchair Access
- Hospital/Accident & Emergency
- Police Station
- Post Offices
- Places of Worship
- Parks and Gardens with Public Access
- Cycle Parks
- Motorcycle Parks
- Moorings
- Shopmobility
- Rail Air Link
- Hotels

### Map Scale

250 metres (approximately)

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See over for map detail of south Reading