

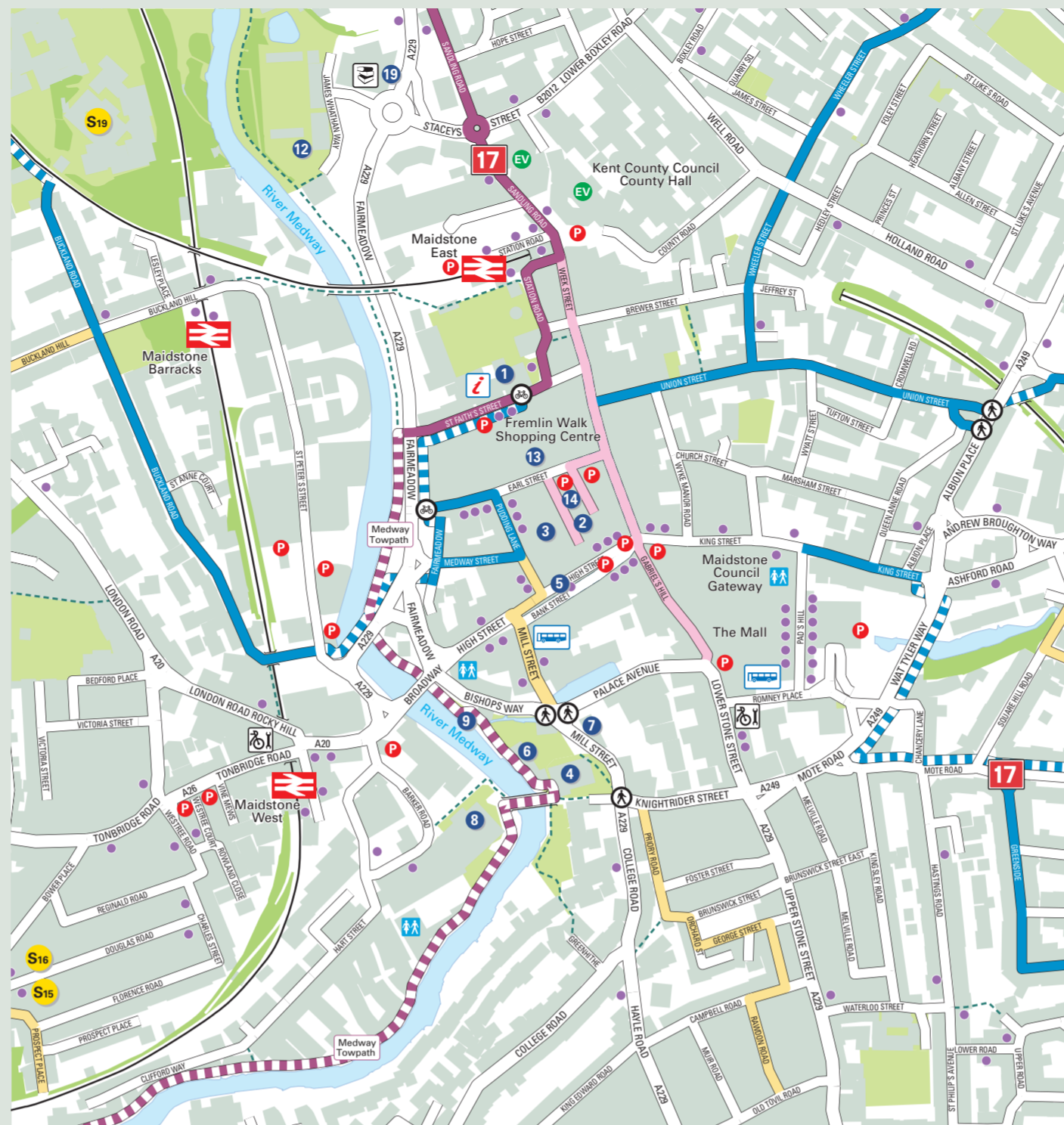
Maidstone is the County Town of Kent and offers its residents and workforce an enviable quality of life, with beautiful downland countryside, two rivers, award winning parks, a bustling nightlife, thriving retail environment and a growing business economy. Not to mention nearby Leeds Castle – “the most beautiful castle in the world”.



Maidstone has a strong, thriving economy which is ready to welcome visitors but is also great fun for the people who live here. It has become the Event Capital of Kent with its wide and varied programme, which runs through all the seasons and offers a great selection of venues. The River Medway, which runs through the town centre, takes you straight out to the countryside along a traffic free, green corridor.

Maidstone has a long and colourful history with famous battles, courageous people and trade being key. Fresh produce, from the Garden of England, travelled from here to London to feed a city of people. Maidstone is particularly famous for paper, print, sweets and gin production.

Mote Park is the largest park in Maidstone with a glorious lake, stunning wildlife and green corridors linking it to the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Beyond this there are many other good parks and wildlife areas worth exploring.



	Signed on-road cycle route
	Traffic-free - Surfaced Includes Bridleways, Restricted Byways and Byways Open to All Traffic
	Unsigned routes – useful to link up your cycle journey
	Promoted route – on-road *
	Promoted route off-road – surfaced *
	* Guides available for download from <b>explorekent.org</b>
	Pedestrianised roads
	Footpath
	School Named and numbered
	Place of interest Named and numbered
	Bus stop
	Visitor Information
	Library
	Bus station
	Railway with station
	Toucan crossing
	Pelican crossing
	Bike shop
	Electric vehicle charging point
	National Cycle Network route number
	Cycle parking
	Toilets



## PLACES OF INTEREST

- 1 Maidstone Museum
- 2 The Maidstone Distillery
- 3 Royal Star Arcade
- 4 All Saints Church
- 5 Maidstone Town Hall
- 6 The Archbishop's Palace
- 7 Carriage Museum
- 8 Lockmeadow Entertainment Centre
- 9 Kentish Lady River Cruises
- 10 Maidstone Leisure Centre
- 11 Mote Park
- 12 Maidstone United Football Club
- 13 Fremelin Walk
- 14 Hazlitt Theatre
- 15 Kent Life - Heritage Farm Park
- 16 Whatman Park
- 17 Clare Park
- 18 Cobtree Manor Park
- 19 Kent Library & Archives
- 20 Teston Bridge Country Park
- 21 Tyland Barn Nature Park

## GET OUTDOORS AND ACTIVE



### PILGRIMS CYCLE TRAIL

The Pilgrims Cycle Trail runs from Rochester to Canterbury passing the outskirts of Maidstone at Sandling, Bearsted, Hollingbourne, Harrietsham and Lenham. This runs through the AONB of the North Downs, and lining the route you will find interpretation boards explaining the landscape and history, spectacular views and lovely local pubs where you can relax.

### RIVER MEDWAY TOW PATH

The River Medway Tow Path runs from Aylesford to East Farleigh, mainly following the watercourse. You are spoilt for choice for cafés along the route, some are immediately adjacent to the river with lovely views and provide interesting places to sit and watch the wildlife or simply enjoy the shade under the weeping willow trees. Beyond the end of this route are some lovely country lanes and places to explore, including the villages of Yalding, Laddingford and Watlington.

To find detailed guides for these routes visit **ExploreKent.org**

### RAIL TRAILS

Explore Kent have put together a group of trails that follow the paths of railway lines in and around Maidstone. These walks will take you through the town, along the river and past many local pubs and attractions you can take in along your way. You can find the full selection of walks at **explorekent.org/rail-trails**.

## GETTING AROUND

**Maidstone has an excellent public transport network with three train stations: Maidstone East and Maidstone West in the Town Centre and Maidstone Barracks just outside.**

Maidstone West Station joins to the Paddock Wood line and there are a number of stations along the route allowing for exploration along the river and return by train for tired legs. From Paddock Wood you can reach Marden, Staplehurst and Headcorn all with great opportunities to explore the countryside of Kent.

National cycle route 17 extends through the town centre, linking Maidstone with the Medway Towns to the North and Ashford to the South. This route takes you right past the Kent Wildlife Trust visitor centre at Tyland Barn off the A229.

Leaving the car at home for some trips will save you money and reduce emissions. It also allows you to be active as part of your daily routine, helping you to stay fit and healthy. Take a close look at the map and see how easy it is to walk or cycle from your home to the station, school, or town centre.

Download the Kent Connected mobile app to help plan your journey. View local cycling and walking routes, bus and train times and all other information on travelling in Kent.

**kentconnected.org/our-app**



## THINGS TO DO

**Mote Park** is an award-winning park covering 450 acres complete with a huge lake. The park is now home to a Watersports Centre and other activities like a climbing wall and high ropes.

**Maidstone Museum** has a wealth of information on local history but also collections of international importance.

**Kent Life Farm Attraction** has a collection of historical buildings, owlery, vintage tea room, shop, farm animals and children's play areas.

**Maidstone River Park** stretches 12km along the River Medway through town and parks. Discover the new nature trail with 20 posts to find, each to help you learn more about the animals living here.

**The Hucking Estate** is run by the Woodland Trust and can be found on the top of the North Downs near Maidstone. It has excellent trails, information about this special environment, has wood crafted sculptures and is fun to explore.

**Leeds Castle** with 500 acres of parkland and gardens is a little way out of town but a great day out by bicycle.

For more information on attractions, places to eat, and things to do in the area check out Visit Maidstone.

**www.visitmaidstone.com**  
**@Maidstoneinfo**  
**Facebook.com/VisitMaidstone**

# WHY NOT *Advertise* YOUR BUSINESS

## IN THE NEXT VERSION?

**CONTACT EXPLORE KENT TO FIND OUT HOW?**  
Email: [explorekent@kent.gov.uk](mailto:explorekent@kent.gov.uk)



Explore Kent  
Invicta House,  
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX  
Email: [explorekent@kent.gov.uk](mailto:explorekent@kent.gov.uk)

If you require this guide in  
another format or language  
please email  
[explorekent@kent.gov.uk](mailto:explorekent@kent.gov.uk)

Cartography:  
© FourPoint Mapping



## CYCLE TO SCHOOL

- |     |                                            |     |                                                  |
|-----|--------------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------------------|
| S1  | Aylesford School                           | S23 | Maidstone & Malling Alternative Provision Centre |
| S2  | Valley Invicta Primary School at Aylesford | S24 | Maidstone Grammar School                         |
| S3  | Ditton CEJ School                          | S25 | South Borough Primary School                     |
| S4  | Ditton Infant School                       | S26 | Archbishop Courtenay Primary School              |
| S5  | Allington Primary School                   | S27 | Park Way Primary School                          |
| S6  | Palace Wood Primary School                 | S28 | Loose Primary School                             |
| S7  | Barming Primary School                     | S29 | Tiger Primary School                             |
| S8  | Bower Grove School                         | S30 | Five Acre Wood School                            |
| S9  | Jubilee Primary School                     | S31 | Oaks Primary Academy                             |
| S10 | West Borough Primary School                | S32 | Molehill Primary Academy                         |
| S11 | St Francis Catholic School, Maidstone      | S33 | Tree Tops Academy                                |
| S12 | St Simon Stock Catholic School, Maidstone  | S34 | The Holy Family R C Primary School               |
| S13 | St Augustine Academy                       | S35 | Senacre Wood Primary School                      |
| S14 | Oakwood Park Grammar School, Maidstone     | S36 | Greenfields Community Primary School             |
| S15 | St Michaels CEJ School, Maidstone          | S37 | Madginford Primary School                        |
| S16 | St Michaels CEJ School, Maidstone          | S38 | Thurnham CEJ School                              |
| S17 | Brunswick House Primary School             | S39 | Roseacre Junior School                           |
| S18 | The Maplesden Noakes School                | S40 | St Johns CEP School, Maidstone                   |
| S19 | Maidstone Grammar School for Girls         | S41 | Valley Park School                               |
| S20 | North Borough Junior School                | S42 | Invicta Grammar School                           |
| S21 | St Pauls Infant School                     | S43 | Valley Invicta Primary School at East Borough    |
| S22 | Sandling Primary School                    | S44 | East Farleigh Primary School                     |

## KEY

- Signed on-road cycle route
- Traffic-free - Surfaced
- Includes Bridleways, Restricted Byways and Byways Open to All Traffic
- Unsigned routes - useful to link up your cycle journey
- Promoted route - on-road \*
- Promoted route off-road - surfaced \*

\* Guides available for download from [explorekent.org](https://explorekent.org)

- Pedestrianised roads
- Footpath
- School Named and numbered
- Place of interest Named and numbered
- Bus stop
- Hospital
- Visitor Information
- Library
- Bus station
- Railway with station
- Level crossing
- Toucan crossing
- Pelican crossing
- Bike shop
- Electric vehicle charging point
- National / Regional Cycle Network route number
- Toilets
- Cycle parking

In the city centre area cycle parking and toilet facilities are only shown on inset map overlay

