



GP Training In Swindon

A doctor's guide to training and living in the area



Well done!



Congratulations on obtaining a GP training post in Swindon

For the next three years you will rotate through a number of hospital and general practice posts

Locations on the scheme include **Swindon**, and the surrounding towns of Cirencester, **Chippenham**, **Wootton Bassett**, and Devizes

Our training practices are spread across **Swindon, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire and Berkshire** and ensure trainees have a mix of urban and rural general practice during their training

These slides contain information for those living and working in the area



Swindon- The Town

- Swindon is a large town situated between Bristol and London.
- It is a self contained urban area with all the amenities that you would expect for a town of its size, but it is surrounded by the beautiful countryside of Wiltshire, Oxfordshire and the Cotswolds.



- Many doctors that work in Swindon live in the 'Old Town' quarter of town or the neighbouring 'Lawns' area. Others choose to have a short commute from one of the many beautiful villages nearby.

In And Around Swindon



- Swindon abounds with green spaces and parks including:
- **The Town Gardens**
- **Coate Water Park**
 - Lawns Park
 - Queen's Park
- **Stanton Country Park**
- **Shaw Ridge Linear Park**



- **Lydiard Park** is a beautiful historic estate on the western edge of Swindon, with a church and walled garden, set in 260 acres of parkland.
- It is open all year to the public, and a great place for a day out
- The house is also a conference centre and is used for some of the educational events on the GP training program.

In And Around Swindon



The Wyvern Theatre



Swindon Steam Museum



Swindon Designer Outlet



The Oasis Centre



The Link Leisure Centre



The Ridgeway, an ancient road/
bridleway which runs past Swindon

The Great Western Hospital

The Great Western Hospital (GWH) is a modern hospital built in 2002 and part of the GWH NHS Foundation Trust. It is located on the East side of Swindon.

Most hospital training posts on the scheme are based here

We are lucky in that **Swindon GPVTS rotations** include a really outstanding balance of what we consider to be the core specialties (A&E, Medicine, Obs & Gynae, Paediatrics) alongside some innovative, community and other specialty posts.



Some GP Practices On The Scheme



Taw Hill Medical Practice, Swindon



The Lodge Surgery, Chippenham



Hilary Cottage Surgery, Fairford



Ramsbury Surgery, Wiltshire



Merchiston Surgery, Swindon



Malmesbury Primary Care Centre, Malmesbury

For more details of the training practices on the scheme, please visit our website
www.swindongpeducation.co.uk

About The Scheme - Teaching

- All trainees become members of **Swindon Education Trust**, allowing them to attend regular education days and evenings which cover a wide range of **specialties** and are mainly facilitated by **local consultants**.
- There is a **monthly GP teaching** session for ST1s and ST2s (**fortnightly** for ST2s in general practice) as well as **departmental teaching**, days at their ST3 teaching practice, and **group tutorials** for trainees in general practice.
- ST3s have **weekly half day release** teaching, and a one week attachment at the local hospice.

Where To Live

- When working in Swindon you will have a choice of urban or rural living
- The following slides detail some areas to consider when looking for somewhere to buy or rent



- Some trainees on the scheme choose to live in Bristol, Bath or even further afield: this is possible but we do not recommend it. Either location entails an hour-each-way commute to Swindon, and over the course of 3 years many trainees start to struggle with this, as well as the cost of petrol!



Old Town / Lawn

The traditional heart of Swindon, Old Town and the neighbouring Lawn area boast many restaurants and bars, green spaces including the Town Gardens and public tennis courts, and surprisingly affordable property.



Lawn Lakes



The Town Gardens

**SWINDON
ARTS
CENTRE**



Old Town Railway Path



Coate Water Country Park



Summer concerts at the Old Town Bowl

Other Areas In Swindon



East Swindon is a rapidly developing part of Swindon with numerous new retail parks, restaurants and leisure facilities including the Delta tennis centre.



Wanborough is on eastern side of Swindon but is separated by a strip of countryside and has retained its village character. It has a post office, shop primary school and several excellent pubs.

Cirencester & Around

The 'capital of the Cotswolds' Cirencester is a thriving market town North West of Swindon on the A417 to Gloucester. A bustling town centre, several schools and a pleasant commute make this an excellent base for those training or working in Swindon.



Cirencester Market



Bibury



Westonbirt Arboretum



Boat on Thames



Cirencester Park



The Thames Path



Cotswold Water Park

Royal Wootton Bassett

Wootton Bassett lies just South West of Swindon and near to junction 16 of the M4. It is well located for accessing Swindon or exploring rural Wiltshire, and its secondary school has an excellent reputation



The Town Hall



The High Street, Nov 2014



Wootton Bassett Academy -

'Outstanding' (Ofsted)

Jubilee Lake



Purton and Cricklade

Two historic villages situated west of Swindon and within an easy cycle or drive of the town. Excellent primary schools in both, and Cricklade also houses two independent schools.



famous 'Pear Tree' Hotel in Purton



Bridleway and countryside near the villages



Cricklade High Street



St. Mary's Church and Purton Manor House



One of the many public houses in Cricklade

Marlborough

A charming and historic market town 7 miles South of Swindon, Marlborough has thriving high street (the 2nd widest in the UK), and a vibrant arts scene. It is an ideal place from which to explore rural Wiltshire.



Marlborough Downs



Savernake Forest



Marlborough Town Hall



The Jazz Festival



Marlborough High Street



Marlborough College



The Polly Tea Rooms

Highworth, Shrivenham and Faringdon



Highworth is an ancient Cotswold market town lying just North of Swindon, notable for its Queen Anne and Georgian style buildings.



Shrivenham is a large but homely village lying 10 minutes drive from Swindon and near the A420 to Oxford.



Faringdon is an attractive market town lying equidistant from Swindon and Oxford.

Malmesbury

Malmesbury is a picturesque and historic town west of Swindon and near to Chippenham. It is a pleasant 20 minute commute from West Swindon, has an academy school with an 'outstanding' Ofsted rating, and is surrounded by countryside and Cotswold villages.



Annual WOMAD Festival,
Charlton Park



The Abbey House and
Gardens



The High Street



Malmesbury Abbey



Find out more

- To find out more about GP training in Swindon visit our website www.swindongpeducation.co.uk or follow the link from the Deanery or Recruitment web pages
- Any specific questions can be directed to Siobhan Timms or Mary Tilling in the Medical Education Office at the Academy, The Great Western Hospital
- 01793 604424 Siobhan.Timms@gwh.nhs.uk
- We look forward to seeing you soon!
- The GP Education Team, Swindon