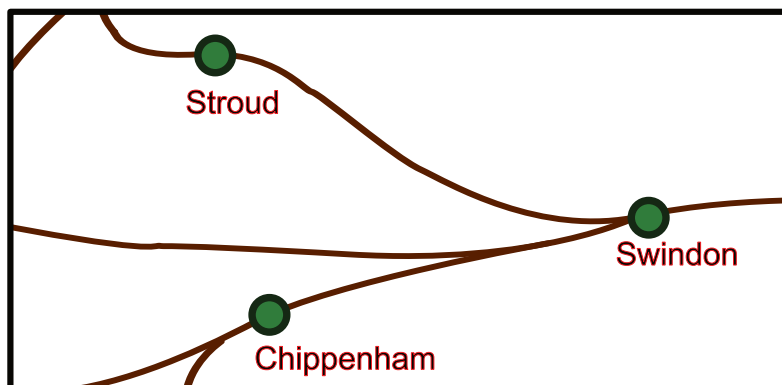


Day out in Stroud?



Stroud grew up as a cloth town, the mills being powered by the rivers and the wool coming from the local Cotswold sheep. The first church was built in 1279, Stroud dating from about then. The town has good communications - canal, railway and road. Woollen mills have now been generally redeveloped and the canal is undergoing restoration works. Stroud is a Fairtrade Town and supports weekly Farmers' and General Markets.

The town centre still has many independent and interesting shops (and places to eat and drink) and is up the hill from the station. The River Frome and the Thames and Severn Canal (with its visitor centre and café) are downhill.



On weekdays (first off-peak train 0856) and Saturdays catch any train to Swindon - xx56 is the most convenient - and change there for the hourly Cheltenham train - xx28. Stroud arrival time is xx57. On Sundays the xx56 trains don't run in the mornings so you wait nearly an hour at Swindon.

Sit on the right side (facing forward) for the best views going down the Golden Valley. Stroud is the second stop - but do look at the lovely station at Kemble on the way! At Stroud go over the footbridge, out through the station approach and you'll be in the town centre.

Weekday and Saturday return trains from Stroud are hourly, being about xx30. Change at Swindon where there's a 30min wait for the Chippenham train, the whole journey taking about 1hr15. Sunday return trains are similar, being half-hourly from Swindon in the afternoons.

The off-peak day return costs £20-10 (£13-25 railcard).

Timings apply until 09 December 2023.