



COTSWOLD ALFA DAY 2008



The scenic tour and quiz

The route of the tour is simply an interesting way to get you to Broughton Castle, the venue for this years COTSWOLD ALFA DAY. It is designed as a leisurely drive, not a race. The route uses a combination of B roads and lots of typically narrow and often bumpy, Cotswold country lanes.

Included to add a little extra interest are a series of observational questions for you to solve. All the answers can be found along the route and you don't even need to get out of the car to find them. Answer them all correctly and you could win a prize!

The entire tour is around 55 miles in length and can be completed in about 2 hours if done non-stop. But please take your time. Have a go at the quiz, or stop en route to explore some of the beautiful and interesting places that the Cotswolds has to offer. But above all enjoy driving your Alfa!

The Alfa Romeo Owners Club expects all members following the tour to drive sensibly and legally. Please obey the speed limit at all times. All cars taking part must be road legal.

Information and questions

The Fosse Way is one of Britain's longest Roman roads. It links Lincoln with Exeter.

The name Slaughter conjures up an image of fearful bygone carnage. But in fact it is said to originate from the name of a Norman knight, Philip de Sloitre, who was granted land in the area by William the Conqueror. The name proved too much of a 'tongue twister' for the locals who corrupted it to 'Slaughter'.

The Old Mill at Lower Slaughter houses a small museum, gift shop, tea room and ice cream parlour.

QUESTION 1

Near Lower Swell there is a farm that is very proud of it's herd of pedigree Holstein Friesians. What is the name of the farm?

In the early 19th century there was an attempt to develop Lower Swell into a spa resort.

The route (all distances quoted are approximate)

STOW to SNOWSHILL Approx. 19 miles, on narrow lanes, through pretty villages and wooded valleys to the stunning purple fields of Snowhill.

- 1 Starting from the Roman Court Hotel turn left out of the gate.
- 2 Turn left at the traffic lights on to the A429 Fosse Way.
- 3 After about 2 miles turn right just after the Texaco garage. It is sign-posted to the Slaughters. We're heading for Lower and Upper Slaughter.
- 4 Follow the road into Lower Slaughter. After a couple of sharp bends you will find yourself alongside the River Eye. The river will be on your left.
- 5 Turn left over the bridge, sign-posted to Upper Slaughter and follow the road as it curves gently alongside the river. On the right across the river is the Old Mill.
- 6 About 1/2 mile after the Old Mill the road bends sharp right. It is sign-posted to Upper Slaughter again. Pass the gates to Upper Slaughter Manor on your right.
- 7 200 metres beyond the manor gates take the right turn, sign-posted to Upper Slaughter and Lower Swell.
- 8 Follow the road as it winds through the village and crosses the stream. As you leave the village there is a sharp left-hand bend on a hill. Lower Swell is our next target.
- 9 Stay on this road, following signs for Lower Swell and ignoring all side turnings.
- 10 After about 1 1/2 miles turn left at the t-junction, sign-posted Lower Swell. **See question 1**
- 11 Turn right at the t-junction in Lower Swell.
- 12 Then turn immediately left by the 'phone box.
- 13 Within 20 metres you will come to a crossroads. Go straight on up the hill. It's sign-posted to Upper Swell. You will soon pass St Mary's church on your right.

Donnington brewery was founded in 1865 by Richard Arkell has remained in the Arkell family ever since. Donnington's traditional beers use water drawn from a spring beside the mill pond. And the mill itself stills supplies power for some of the breweries machinery. Unfortunately the brewery is not open to the public.

QUESTION 2

The pretty little church in Condicote is dedicated to Saint _____
(fill in the blank)

The Roman road Ryknield Street runs from the Fosse Way at Bourton-on-the-Water to Rotherham in Yorkshire.

Snowhill Lavender planted their first seedlings back in 2000. That was just a few hundred plants put in by hand. Now there are over 250,000 plants spread across 53 acres. That's about 70 miles of rows!

Once harvested the crops are steam distilled on the farm and made into a range of toiletries including soap, shower gel, bath oil, balms and many more gifts. All are available in their gift shop. There is also a tearoom here if you fancy a break.

QUESTION 3

Here's an easy one for you. What's the colourful crop in the fields here?

The ancient sign-post at Cross Hands crossroads is in fact a modern replica. The original is hanging in the old court room above the tourist information centre in Chipping Campden. Here's a clue to question 4. The 4 hands are pointing to the county towns of the surrounding counties.

QUESTION 4

At the Cross Hands crossroads on the A44 is an old sign-post. As you approach it where is the right-hand arm pointing?

- 14 After 1¹/₄ miles you will reach a t-junction in Upper Swell. Turn left, sign-posted to Ford and Tewkesbury.
- 15 After just 20 metres turn right. It is sign posted to Donnington Brewery and Longborough.
- 16 Soon the road crosses the River Dikler and then passes Donnington Brewery.
- 17 300 metres beyond the brewery turn left at the t-junction, sign-posted to Condicote, our next target.
- 18 Follow this road. You will pass Donnington Trout Farm (closed on Sundays) on the left. ³/₄ mile further on you will see a left turn which you should ignore.
- 19 300 metres beyond the left turn, you should turn right. It is sign-posted to Condicote and Hinchwick.
- 20 As you enter Condicote you need to turn left at the t-junction. It is sign-posted to Condicote (even though you've already entered the village) and Hinchwick.
- 21 At the village centre take the first right turn. This will lead you around the green and past the church. **See question 2.**
- 22 At the junction by the 'phone box turn right. It is sign-posted to Hinchwick.
- 23 Follow this road out of Condicote. There are a couple of tight bends before you reach a straight section of road. This is part of the Roman road Ryknield Street. The straight section doesn't last long and the road soon becomes quite meandering.
- 24 Eventually you will pass Hinchwick Manor and arrive at a t-junction. Turn right, sign-posted to Bourton-on-the-Hill and Broadway.
- 25 Follow this road through the woodland of Sezincote Warren.
- 26 After 2 miles you will reach a crossroads. This is the A424. Turn left.
- 27 After around ¹/₃ of a mile turn left at the crossroads. It is sign-posted to Snowhill.
- 28 1¹/₂ miles further on bear left at the junction, staying on the 'main' road. It is sign-posted to Stow and Bourton-on-the-Water.
- 29 Follow this road for 2¹/₂ miles. The last mile or so is through woods.
- 30 Eventually you'll come to a crossroads. Turn right sign-posted to Snowhill and Broadway. Straight on is just a dirt track.
- 31 1¹/₄ miles further on follow the road as it bends left towards Snowhill. Ignore the right turn on the bend.
- 32 After a mile or so go straight across the crossroads.
- 33 At the next crossroads on the very edge of Snowhill village you need to turn right. It is sign-posted to Broadway Tower and Chipping Campden. Having turned right, if it's a clear day, you should have a fine view across the Vale of Evesham on your left. This spot is about 270m above sea-level.
- 34 At the next crossroads turn left. **See question 3**

SNOWHILL to ILMINGTON *Approx. 17 miles, through one of the Cotswolds loveliest towns, past a famous garden and across the 'top' of the Cotswolds.*

- 35 Leaving the purple stuff behind, you will come to a t-junction where you need to turn left. It is sign-posted to Broadway Tower.
- 36 Now stay on this road for around 2 miles ignoring all side turnings.
- 37 You will arrive at a crossroads on the A44 known as Cross Hands. **See question 4** Go straight across onto the B4081 sign-posted to Chipping Campden.

Lapstone is a shop selling exclusive gifts and homewares. It also has a cafe, recently voted the 13th best café in the UK by readers of The Independent!

QUESTION 5

Did the road go under or over the railway?

Hidcote is one of England's great gardens. Designed and created by the horticulturist Major Lawrence Johnston in the Arts and Crafts style, it is made up of a series of garden rooms, each possessing its own special character.

Ilmington Downs is the highest point in Warwickshire at 261m above sea-level.

Ilmington had its moment of history on Christmas Day 1934, when the first radio broadcast by King George V was introduced by Walton Handy, the village shepherd, and relayed to the world from Ilmington Manor.

QUESTION 6

When you bear right in Ilmington the left turn is sign-posted to Mickleton and where else?

The 'henmarsh', meaning bog land where wild birds could be found, is a lowland area between the Cotswold escarpment to the west and the Oxfordshire ironstone hills to the east. Out of this area run tributaries of both the Rivers Severn and Thames. During the 17th and 18th centuries improved drainage dried the area out. The name of Moreton-in-Marsh is a corruption of Moreton Henmarsh. By the way if you want to annoy the locals call Moreton, Moreton-in-the-Marsh.

The word 'Fosse', as in Fosse Way, is derived from the Latin Fossa meaning 'ditch' and it is possible that the ditch formed the western frontier of Roman Britain in the decades following the invasion of Britain in AD43.

- 38 After a mile or so you will pass Lapstone on your right. Continuing on the route there are fine views as the road descends to Chipping Campden.
- 39 The road into the town winds past thatched cottages and an Elf filling station before it reaches the High Street at a t-junction where you should turn right. It is sign-posted to Mickleton, Broadway and Stratford.
- 40 Pass the famous Market Hall on your left and the Lygon Arms Hotel on your right.
- 41 Stay on this road. Ignore all the side turnings.
- 42 1/2 mile outside of Campden, just after a right-hand bend, turn right in front of a red brick cottage. This is the B4081 again and it is sign-posted to Mickleton, Hidcote and Stratford.
- 43 Stay on this road. Ignore the side turning. After 1 mile you will pass a railway bridge.
See question 5
- 44 Another 3/4 mile brings you to the edge of Mickleton. Turn right sign-posted to Hidcote.
- 45 At the t-junction at the top of the hill turn right, sign-posted to Hidcote Boyce and Ebrington. *If you'd like to visit National Trust property Hidcote Manor with its beautiful gardens you should turn left here and then rejoin the route at this junction when you've finished your visit.*
- 46 Having turned right at the junction follow the road as it bends left.
- 47 Stay on this road for roughly 1 1/2 miles. You'll pass a left turning for Hidcote Boyce and Ilmington, and a crossroads signed right for Chipping Campden and left for Ilmington. Ignore all of these and just keep straight on.
- 48 You'll eventually come to another crossroads, signed right for Chipping Campden and left for Ilmington, and you should turn left.
- 49 Stay on this road for around 3 miles. This is a slightly faster road than some of the others we've been on. It takes you up across Ilmington Downs and into Warwickshire.

ILMINGTON to BROUGHTON *Approx. 19 miles, along the Warwickshire/Gloucestershire border, down the Fosse again, and into the ironstone country of 'Banburyshire'.*

- 50 In the centre of Ilmington bear right. **See question 6.** Follow the road past the sloping green. There is a memorial high up on the green and a 'fountain' next to the road.
- 51 At the end of the green take the 2nd right turn. The road is called Foxcote Hill and the timber framed village hall is on the corner.
- 52 Head up the hill. You'll pass a sign saying 'gated road to Charingworth' There are excellent views over the 'henmarsh'. Ignore the side turnings. As the road begins the gentle descent back into Gloucestershire it becomes narrower and the road surface deteriorates significantly, so take care. Keep going until you reach a t-junction.
- 53 When you reach the t-junction turn right and then immediately left down the hill.
- 54 After 1/4 mile you reach the B4035 at a t-junction. Turn left, sign-posted to Shipston-on-Stour.
- 55 Now stay on the B4035 for around 2 1/2 miles.
- 56 At the crossroads with the A429 Fosse Way turn right. It is sign-posted to Stow, Cirencester and Moreton. This junction is a notorious accident black-spot so please take care.
- 57 Around 2 miles down the Fosse take the left turn, sign-posted to Todenham and Great Wolford. The turning is just past the Paxford turn. Both Todenham and Great Wolford are on our route.
- 58 This is another bumpy road. There is a hump-backed bridge over the Knee Brook.
- 59 You'll soon reach Todenham and you should turn right. It is sign-posted to Great Wolford and Moreton
- 60 Then turn left, sign-posted to Great Wolford and Barton-on-the-Heath.

QUESTION 7

In the centre of Little Wolford there is a white sign on the righthand side of the road. What does it say on it?

In Little Wolford look out for the 15th century Manor. It is hidden away behind wrought iron gates. When it was restored in the 1930s, the blood-stained stairs - said to date back to the battle of Edgehill in 1642 - were retained.

Whichford Pottery specializes in producing traditional handmade terracotta flowerpots. The pottery and it's shop are open today.

QUESTION 8

In Whichford you'll pass the Norman Knight Pub and then the road will bend right. Now keep an eye out for a house named after a climbing evergreen or is it the name of the female owner of the house. What is this name?

Traitor's Ford. No one seems to know how this crossing of the River Stour acquired it's name. Sorry!

Swalcliffe Barn was constructed between 1401 and 1407. It is perhaps the finest half-cruck (roof support) barn in England. It measures 128 ft by 23ft and it's walls are 3ft thick. It is open today and entry is free.

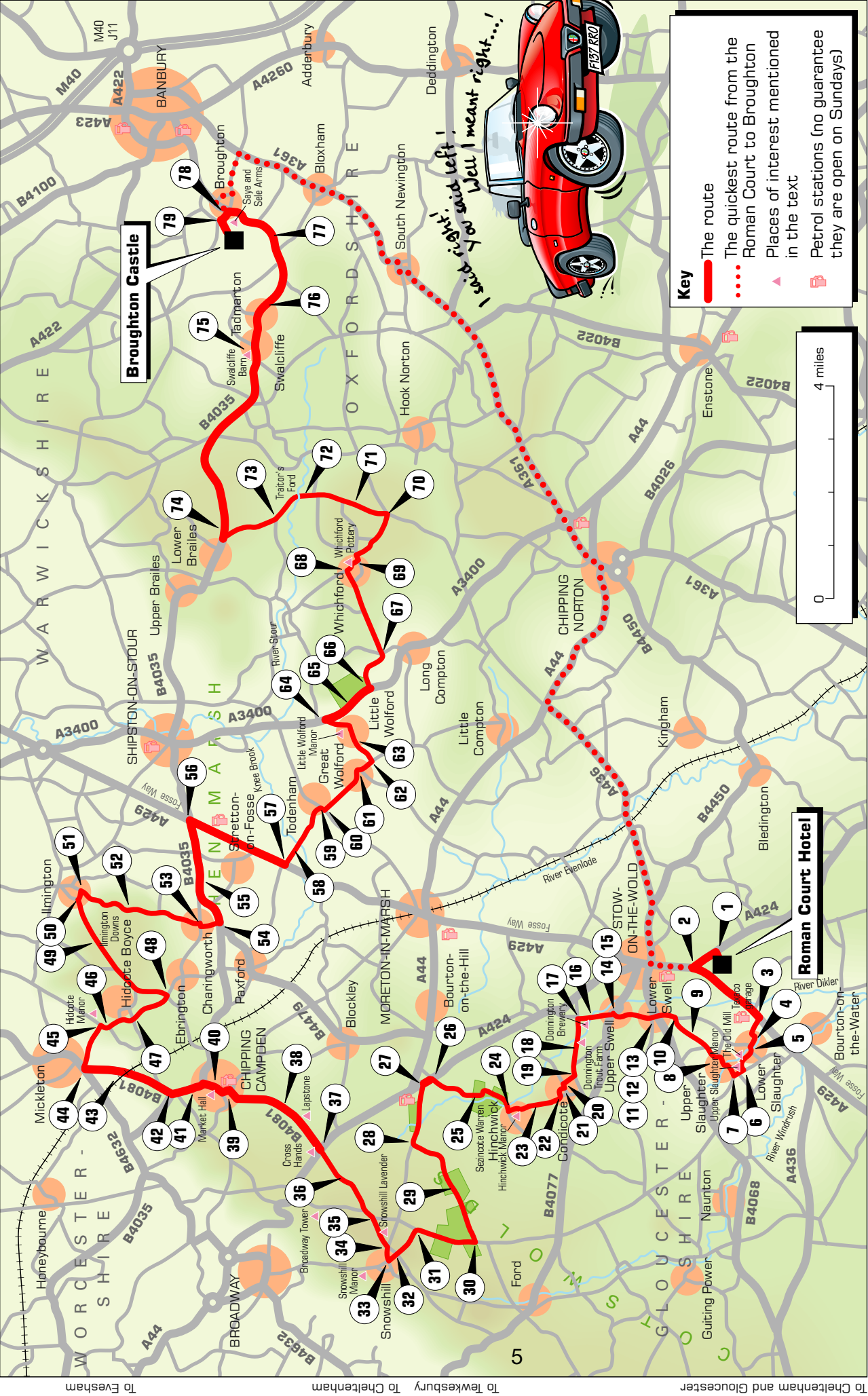
- 61 When you enter Great Wolford you have to bear sharp right. It is sign-posted to Little Wolford, Barton, and Shipston. We're aiming for Little Wolford.
- 62 Just after Great Wolford the road bends sharp left towards Little Wolford.
- 63 Go straight through Little Wolford. **See question 7**
- 64 When you reach the t-junction turn right. This is the A3400.
- 65 After $\frac{3}{4}$ mile you'll notice woodland on the left.
- 66 At the end of the woodland take the left turn. It is sign-posted to Whichford and Ascott.
- 67 Follow the road up to a crossroads next to a gatehouse with a white picket fence. You should go straight on.
- 68 After almost 2 miles you will come to a t-junction on the edge of Whichford. Turn right.
- 69 You'll soon pass Whichford Pottery. Follow the road through the village. Stay on the 'main' road and follow signs to Hook Norton and Banbury. **See question 8**
- 70 Now follow the road out of the village and up the hill. After about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles you will reach a crossroads. Take the first left, sign-posted to Traitor's Ford and Brailes.
- 71 Having turned left follow this road downhill for about $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles.
- 72 At the bottom of the hill you'll find Traitor's Ford. It is very shallow and should cause you no problems. It's the River Stour by the way.
- 73 1 mile after the ford keep right at the junction. It is sign-posted to Upper and Lower Brailes.
- 74 After a further mile you'll come to a t-junction with the B4035. Turn right. You now have a nice run of 4 miles along this B road which includes some nice sweeping bends.
- 75 Eventually you come to Swalcliffe. Follow the road through the village. Note the famous Barn on the left.
- 76 Another mile brings you to Tadmarton and you continue to follow the B4035 through the village.
- 77 2 miles later as you approach Broughton you should be able to glimpse the castle through the trees on your left.
- 78 In Broughton take the left turn, indicated by a brown sign, to Broughton Castle. The turning is just after the bend next to the Saye and Sele Arms.
- 79 Follow the road for 100 metres and the entrance to the castle grounds is on the left.

You made it! Well done. Enjoy the rest of the day.

If you've had a go at the quiz turn to page 6

To Daventry To Milton Keynes To London To Buckingham To Bicester/M40

To Warwick To Birmingham To Coventry To Stratford To Stratford To Warwick To Stratford To Stratford To Cirencester To Cheltenham and Gloucester To Tewkesbury To Cheltenham To Evesham



To Oxford To Witney To Burford To Burford To Cirencester

The quickest route from Stow to Broughton is along the A436 and the A44 to Chipping Norton and then the A361 towards Banbury. Just after Bloxham turn left, sign-posted to Broughton.

Just in case you get lost or breakdown here are the phone numbers of the Cotswolds Section Committee members who may be able to help you.

- Mark Grimshaw 07770 931759
- Matthew Willmott 07740 595793
- Richard Morris 07773 257671
- Richard Rees 07791 325103

ANSWER FORM

Your name

Your cars details: model reg no

Did you answer every question? If you did you'll have 8 answers. Write those answers down here;

Answer to question number;

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

6 _____

7 _____

8 _____

Now take the first letter of each answer and rearrange them to form (and here's a massive clue) the name of an Italian hero with a long and distinguished association with Alfa Romeo. Write the solution to this anagram below;

9 _____

You now have 9 answers.

Post your completed answer form in the box in the gazebo by 2.30pm.

Forms containing 9 correct answers (that is 8 correct answers to the quiz, plus the anagram) will be entered into a prize draw. One lucky winner will be drawn 'out of the hat' and will receive a prize!