

Britain's 30 greatest villages – all untouched by mass tourism

Our experts across Britain reveal their favourite unspoilt villages, from salty Scottish ports to bucolic English beauties

14. Ombersley, Worcestershire

Absolutely nobody goes to Ombersley. It's a backwater – literally, the River Severn meanders nearby – in the pastoral no-man's land between the Cotswolds, the Malverns and the Shropshire Hills. But while it may not be designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, this pocket of Worcestershire is certainly pretty, and Ombersley is its best-looking village. It's a drowsy enclave of black-and-white, wattle-and-daub buildings, listed and listing, including various ancient inns (medieval King's Arms is an old-school boozier; Georgian coaching inn Crown and Sandys has local ales on tap) and Tudor cottages and houses – which, this being Worcestershire, remain very much lived-in. A handsome Gothic Revival redbrick, [Checketts](#) country deli is a relative newcomer to the village – it opened in 1902 – where you can buy quality produce from the surrounding farms and orchards. A stroll down the lane brings you to Holt Fleet on the River Severn, and a pub of the same name serving drinks on the lawn overlooking the water.

Where to stay

In the village, rent the enchanting [Parsonage](#), whose acreage includes a magical topiary garden, orchard, parkland and an arboretum. Sleeps up to 12.

