

Bromsgrove area guide

Postcode district: B60 & B61

Location

The Bromsgrove postcodes district lies within or includes part of the following towns, counties, localities, electoral wards and stations: Aston Fields, Aston Fields Industrial Estate, Beacon, Blackwell, Bromsgrove, Bromsgrove Technology Park, Burcot, Charford, Dodderhill, Finstall, Hanbury, Hillside, Inkberrow, Lickey End, Linthurst, Lower Bentley, Lydiate Ash, Marlbrook, Norton, Saxon Business Park, Slideslow, St Johns, Stoke Heath, Stoke Pound, Stoke Prior, Tardebigge, Tutnall, Worcestershire.

History:

Situated approximately half-way between Worcester and Birmingham, Bromsgrove has risen from humble beginnings to a thriving town with a population of around 30000. Bromsgrove was first granted the right to a market day in 1200, and in 1317 was given the right to hold a Tuesday market and three day fair every 29 August at the Decollation of St John the Baptist. Market day changed several times over the period, settling on Tuesday from 1792 onwards. Fairs were held twice yearly, in June and October by the eighteenth century, with the modern pleasure fairs originating from the June horse and pleasure fair.



In the later Middle Ages, Bromsgrove was a centre for the wool trade. Manufacture of cloth, particularly narrow cloth and friezes is first recorded in 1533. It fell into decline by the 1700s. By 1778, 140 hands (i.e., people) were employed in the manufacture of linsey and linen employed 180.



Present day

Bromsgrove is home to Grafton Manor which dates back to the 14th century. It has a rich history, with one of the daughters of John Talbot married to Robert Wintour, who was involved in the Gunpowder plot.

Bromsgrove has a municipal park, Sanders Park. Facilities include: basketball courts, tennis courts, a skate park, children's play area and football pitches. A bonfire night is held annually with a large fireworks display and fair ground rides. Other events are held such as big band afternoons featuring bands playing in the bandstand.

There is a large public leisure centre and sports centre in the town called The Dolphin Centre. It has two swimming pools and a large sports hall. Numerous activities and clubs are held here, such as the Bromsgrove Swimming Club. It is run by Wychavon Leisure and owned by Bromsgrove District Council.



The Worcester and Birmingham Canal which runs close to Bromsgrove, is a destination for leisure activities such as walking and coarse fishing and there are several narrowboat hire centres situated in nearby villages. The Tardebigge lock flight, with 30 locks, is the longest in the UK. The town's leisure venues include a nightclub featuring a mixture of styles, and pubs in the town centre include a Wetherspoons pub, a Slug and Lettuce pub and a number of traditional pubs.



Amenities

Avoncroft Museum of Historic Buildings has its home in Bromsgrove. This museum includes the National telephone kiosk Collection. Bromsgrove is intersected by the A38 which was bypassed to the east of the town in 1980, the M5 motorway borders the west side and the M42 motorway starts at the north of the town.

Bromsgrove railway station is situated to the south of foot of the Lickey Incline which is the steepest Incline mainline network meaning most freight trains require locomotive at the rear. Between 1919 and 1956 this purpose built locomotive known by drivers as Big frequent trains to Birmingham New Street, Worcester Hereford. On 4 May 2007, Network Rail announced would be built, to replace the existing structure, at a £10-12 million. There is also a bus station adjacent to Buses operate to a wide area of Worcestershire and



the town. It sits at the on the British assistance from a was operated by a Bertha. There are Foregate Street and that a new station cost in the region of the high street. the West Midlands.

Bromsgrove schools use a three-tier education system (first school, middle school, high school). Bromsgrove has 11 first schools in its district: Finstall First School, Charford First School, Dodford First School, Milfields First School, St. Peters Roman Catholic First School, Stoke Prior First School, Blackwell First School, Sidemoor First School, Catshill First School, Tardebigge CofE First School, Fairfield First School, Hanbury CofE First School and Meadows First School. There are five Middle Schools: Alvechurch Middle School, Catshill Middle School, Aston Fields Middle School, St John's Middle School and Parkside Middle School.



There are two high schools, North Bromsgrove High School and South Bromsgrove High School opposite Charford. South Bromsgrove is a specialist school in foreign languages and I.T, noted for its extensive use of information technology. A previous headteacher, Philip McTague, was heavily involved in political action to reduce the gap in funding between Worcestershire state schools and others across the country. North Bromsgrove High School has now been classed for a specialist status in media and

Creative Arts. They have both, very recently (August 2007), been rebuilt by BAM (formerly known as HBG).

Housing stock

- The property in this area caters well for retirees and young couples who do not have large families.
- A high proportion of property in this area is socially rented.
- A lower than average proportion of property in this area is owner occupied. This suggests that there is a very healthy rental market.
- The average price of a two bed property in this area is £147,000, significantly less than the national average of £162,400

Who lives here

- Total population in this area is 19175.
- This is one of the youngest places in the country, with an average age of 26.
- Single people make up 37.5% of the population in this postcode district.
- Average working hours in this area for men are 37 and for women are 31.

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- This is one of the most densely populated places in the country, with 45.7 people per square kilometre.
- This area has high unemployment at 9.5%. Those in work tend to find jobs in the Health & Social Work or Wholesale & Retail sectors.

Average Current Values

	B60	B61	B	National
1 Bedroom properties	£105,500	£100,100	£92,700	£154,100
2 Bedroom properties	£149,500	£146,500	£120,800	£162,400
3 Bedroom properties	£187,900	£169,700	£146,200	£189,000
4 Bedroom properties	£282,300	£286,900	£283,000	£342,600
5+ Bedroom properties	£431,300	£369,200	£409,600	£582,400

Bromsgrove Housing stock

	B60	B61	B	National
Total Detached	5,276	3,649	122,914	6,377,240
% Detached	43.29%	33.74%	15.309%	23.03%
Semi-Detached	3,572	3504	282,766	7,904,201
% Semi-Detached	29.31%	32.40%	35.21%	28.55%
Terrace	2,266	2,787	289,465	8,669,481
% Terrace	18.59%	25.77%	36.04%	31.31%
Flat	1,075	875	107,980	4,736,208
% Flat	8.82%	8.10%	13.44%	17.11%

Home ownership

	B60	B61	B	National
Owner Occupied	8,052	7,070	471,993	14,911,858
% Owner Occupied	78.75%	76.47%	58.77%	66.19%
Socially Rented	1,362	1,414	170,127	4,155,391
% Socially Rented	13.32%	15.29%	21.18%	18.44%

House prices last updated 1st December 2012. Housing stock notes: The data above illustrates the relative proportions of the differing types of property. Based on information collected in the 2001

census, the percentages provide an indication of how common particular types of housing are within the postcode district. It is important to note that as homes are demolished and built these percentages will fluctuate accordingly.