

Redditch area guide

Postcode district: B97 & B98

Location

The Redditch postcode districts lie within or includes part of the following towns, counties, localities, electoral wards and stations: Abbey, Abbeydale, Alvechurch, Astwood Bank and Feckenham, Banks Green, Batchley, Bentley, Beoley, Brockhill, Callow Hill, Church Hill, Church Hill North, Crabbs Cross, Elcocks Brook, Greenlands, Ham Green, Headless Cross, Headless Cross and Oakenshaw, Hunt End, Inkberrow, Ipsley, Kingfisher Shopping Centre, Lakeside, Lodge Park, Mappleborough Green, Matchborough, Moons Moat North Industrial Estate, Oakenshaw, Park Farm Industrial Estate, Redditch, Riverside, Sambourne, Southcrest, Tanworth, Tardebigge, Upper Bentley, Warwickshire, Webheath, West, Worcestershire, Winyates, Winyates Green.



History:

Redditch has a long history that spans many centuries. What is now modern Redditch was once a small hamlet close to the great forest of Feckenham. In 1141, Cistercian Monks established their Abbey following the granting of a charter. The monks helped establish a strong community that was altered by King Henry VIII's decision to dissolve the abbey and have the property given to Lord Windsor.

Needle-making emerged as the leading industry in Redditch and dominated the area. Needle scouring mills sprang up all around the Redditch area, as early as 1639. Built in 1730, the Forge Mill is now the only remaining water-driven needle scouring mill in existence today. At one point, 90 per cent of the needles produced in the world were from the Redditch area. The town became a parish in 1855, the same year St. Stephens Church replaced the chapel in the town centre.



Industry thrived in Redditch with the arrival of spring making, fishing tackle, and cycle manufacturers. The New Town designation led to new housing estates and industrial centres throughout Redditch. The town centre was demolished and replaced by the Kingfisher Shopping Centre, new schools, and a road system.

Present day



Redditch today is a landscaped community located right in the heart of England. It has excellent parks and recreational areas, as well as laid out residential and industrial areas that are serviced by a unique and efficient road system. Within the last few years the town has seen a massive rise in industry, retail, and entertainment. Millions of pounds have been invested into the towns shopping areas, pubs, clubs, and leisure facilities.

The current population of Redditch is nearly 80,000—49,000 of whom reside in postcode district B98. The average house price in B98 is £125,000—well below the national average. The most common type of housing in Redditch is terrace, which accounts for nearly 40 per cent of the housing stock. One of the most expensive streets to live on in Redditch is Gorcott Hill, where detached houses sell for around £500,000. Wapping Lane offers rural detached homes that are worth around £490,000.



Less expensive property for sale can be found on Winyates Centre, where three bedroom flats are priced around £70,000. Other flats located near the heart of the town can be found on The Firs and are valued near £75,000.



Amenities

The Kingfisher Shopping Centre is the town's primary retail centre and is well known for the palm trees in the centre's Worcester Square. Aside from the many stores and shops, the centre has a variety of restaurants and a cinema. Battens Drive is the entry way for Arrow Valley Country Park, which incorporates Arrow Valley Lake and four beautiful marked trails used for walking and cycling. The Palace Theatre on Alcester Street is located in the heart of the community and is home to a variety of entertainment shows and performances.



Transportation services include buses and a railway station. The town's location is an ideal point of departure for destinations to the surrounding cities and towns. It is also known for its unusual and sometimes confusing road system, which was installed when it was designated as a New Town. It has one of only two cloverleaf interchanges and is dominated by a system of dual carriageways.



The Redditch educational system operates on a three-tier system, with students in Redditch attending the first school from the age of five, middle school from the age of nine, and then secondary school from the age of thirteen. A few of the secondary schools are Kingsley College on Woodrow Drive, Trinity High School on Easemore Road, and Arrow Vale High School on Green Sward Lane.

Who lives here:

- There are 14783 men and 14805 women in this postcode district.
- The average age in this area is 38.
- This area has a high percentage of married people at 27.1%.
- Average working hours in this area for men are 43 and for women are 32.
- This area has 5 people per square kilometre.
- The largest source of work in this area is Health & Social Work (23.8% of workers), followed by Wholesale & Retail (17.1%).

Redditch average current values

	B97	B98	B	National
1 Bedroom properties	£91,600	£82,100	£92,700	£154,100
2 Bedroom properties	£128,200	£116,700	£120,800	£162,400
3 Bedroom properties	£165,000	£130,100	£146,200	£189,000
4 Bedroom properties	£252,900	£203,700	£283,000	£342,600

5+ Bedroom properties	£310,600	£272,500	£409,600	£582,400

Redditch housing stock

	B97	B98	B	National
Total Detached	5,474	4,490	122,914	6,377,240
% Detached	38.13%	21.26%	15.309%	23.03%
Semi-Detached	4,788	6,788	282,766	7,904,201
% Semi-Detached	33.35%	32.13%	35.21%	28.55%
Terrace	2,701	8,391	289,465	8,669,481
% Terrace	18.81%	39.73%	36.04%	31.31%
Flat	1,395	1,455	107,980	4,736,208
% Flat	9.71%	6.89%	13.44%	17.11%

Home ownership

	B97	B98	B	National
Owner Occupied	8,922	13,056	471,993	14,911,858
% Owner Occupied	72.33%	65.74%	58.77%	66.19%
Socially Rented	2,050	5,048	170,127	4,155,391
% Socially Rented	16.62%	25.42%	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.