



Dorchester Quiz & Treasure Trail

Important notes – read before setting off

- Follow the red instructions carefully and answer the questions in black
- All the answers can be found without having to divert from the route
- The route is all on hard, flat and level surfaces, mainly roads and paths but just a little bit on grass (optional). It is just about 2.5 miles – depending on how much doubling back you do!
- Questions range from very simple to diabolical. There are a lot of them so you may need to be a bit selective if you want to finish in a reasonable time.
- If you have small children with you then look out for the painted flowerpots positioned next to the clues where shown. Almost every flowerpot has a letter inside it and the letters can be put together to make a word. Please leave the flowerpots where you find them.

Dorchester was once an important coaching stop between London and Oxford and the High Street was the main road before the by-pass was built in 1982. The village was largely self-sufficient in food and services and many of the trades reflected the needs of the main occupation – agriculture- and tourism. There were many more pubs in the village – most of them down the High St – see how many you can spot!

Start at the beginning of Bridge End next to the Bridge

1 In which country of the United Kingdom might you be _____

Proceed back towards the village centre staying on the left hand side.



2 What direction to go at the bus stop _____

Take the first left into Rotten Row

3 Pray for your Model T here _____

4 Where did Zebedee live _____



5 Who wrote about them progressing along here _____

Return to the High Street and continue into the village

6 You could get two pairs of shoes fitted here _____

The galleried yard of the George Hotel dates from 1495 and the building became a coaching inn much later

7 The Hotel was featured in three Midsomer Murder Episodes. Which building close by shares the same honour _____

8 Direction of a story _____


Pass the Co-op, Malthouse Lane and Beechcroft & stop at the War Memorial

 9 How many kings are named here _____

10 Probably needs a plumber to pacify the loo (he may be behind a wreath!) _____


From the Monument turn left and go down Watling Lane

11 What colour is the end of the roof _____

 12 Where could you have reasonably expected to see more wood _____

13 What is held on the wall by a button _____

14 Where the cruise ships arrive could be confusingly named. Why? _____

 15 Which Dorothy starred in Carmen Jones in 1954 _____

16 On which farm would you add an H to get Pete, the musician _____

Pass the allotments and follow the lane round to the left

The allotments were the site of the original Roman fort. Excavations have uncovered a stone town-wall and several buildings in addition to the fort

17 Where would Doris have been raised (and lowered!) _____

18 How much would this lane cost – in ‘new’ money _____

Continue past Samian Way

 19 How far to Wittenham – in feet _____

20 What should you not do at the two little ducks _____

As the road bends to the left follow the lane round to the right towards the green then keep to the left. At the bottom left corner of the green continue across a small public grassed area to reach the river bank

The Romans needed to build a bridge across the Thames to move their legions and the remains of it are still visible here to those in the know. But it was a complete failure.

 21 Why? _____

A later bridge was built here in the reign of Edward III and formed part of the main route through the village. It was demolished in 1816 when the current bridge was constructed.

Continue around the green and head back to Bridge End

22 A small duck of the Merganser group is clearly at home – but where _____

Continue towards the Abbey

23 Where could a crook be found _____


24 Where might you find the locals ‘sitting on the fence’ (or wall!) _____

 25 Could use this as a warning of an attack by toilets _____

Pass our starting point and cross over the High Street to the Toll House and continue up the right hand side of the High St

The octagonal toll house was built around 1820 and collected from those using the new bridge until 1873. It is now a private house

26 What date in the stonework of the Toll House shows high flood marks _____

 27 Which angry Billy, film director, lays below _____

Turn right through the Lych Gate and head towards the Abbey

If it's a weekend, Wednesday or Thursday you could stop now for tea and cake at the Abbey tearoom!



28 This lad seems to have too many Os _____

Have a look around the Abbey if you wish (no clues inside) but then go left between the tower & Guest House

29 Dangerous Peter's surname underfoot _____

Follow a short gravel footpath which eventually swings left into a tree-lined road.

30 What colour building has castellations _____

31 What might you send you in the wrong direction _____

At the end of this road turn right into Queen St

32 How long has the Star of David been there _____

33 Might get some apples here _____

34 A look down for yellow card for the H₂O perhaps _____



35 One way of keeping your kippers warm I suppose _____

Follow the road round to the left and when you reach the High Street turn right, cross over and walk a short distance away from the village centre



36 Cosy and warm on the farm _____

Turn around, cross back over and head back towards the village centre keeping on the left

37 Couldn't make chair legs here then _____

38 Name the four creatures featured on front doors _____

39 Who sung about the café – albeit of a different colour _____

Hooray! You made it to the end!

But have you got the answers right?

You can buy the answer sheet for £3 from the teas in the Festival tent – open all weekend days.

Thank you to The Rotary Club of Reading Maiden Erleigh for the quiz and to Dorchester St Birinus Primary School for painting such lovely flowerpots.

