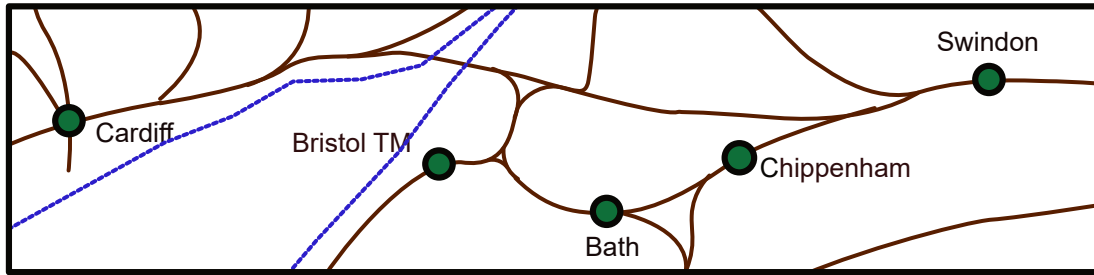


Day out in Cardiff?



The Cardiff area shows evidence of settlements dating from about 6000BC. The Romans established a fort here and some of its remains are incorporated into the present castle walls. The town's development took place from Norman times. It became a city in 1905 and the capital of Wales 50 years later. Docks were constructed during the 1830s and later expanded to handle the coal trade. Steelworks followed but that industry has now gone, to be replaced by lighter industries together with services and government.



The city centre, easily accessed from the station, is dominated by the Millenium Stadium to the west, and the Castle to the north.

As you exit the station (platform 1 side) the north-eastern quarter contains the pedestrian friendly city centre. Go straight across the pedestrian area by the BBC building to Wood St. Ahead, Westgate St leads to the Castle and Bute Park (past the stadium). The shopping area fans out on your right once you are through the small delivery areas. There are many small shops and eateries there, particularly in the galleried Arcades - well worth a visit.

You have a choice of ways to get to Cardiff, all approx half-hourly from Chippenham. To the east, change at Swindon to access the South Wales expresses from Paddington. To the west, change at Bath to access the hourly service from Portsmouth or go on to Bristol TM where you can, additionally, access the hourly service from Exeter. Do download a "personal timetable" from National Rail enquiries but remember that none of the connections shown is guaranteed.