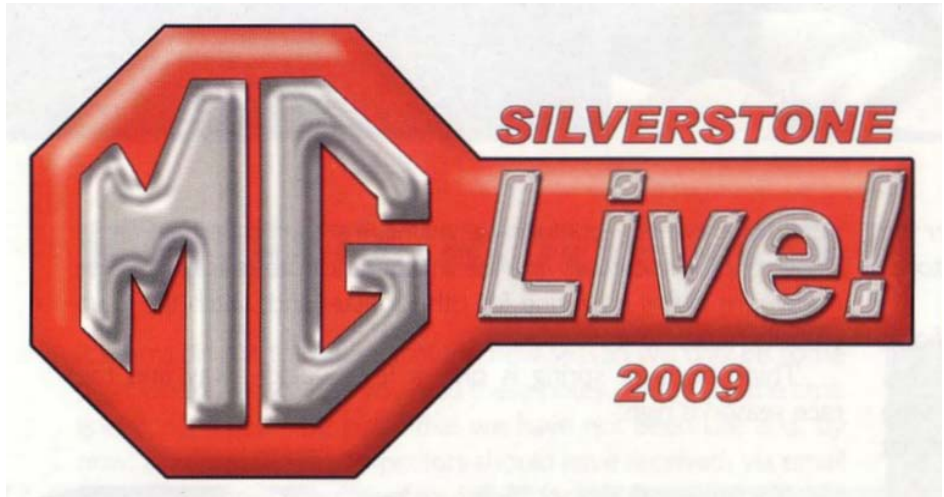


# Tour de Silverstone 2009

The 2009 the Tour builds on the successful introduction of a Road Run to the programme of events at the Silverstone International MG Weekend in July 2008. Encouraged by the response to last years event the organisers felt that a further Tour should be run again this year, with the objective of it becoming a permanent fixture. This year the Club's annual meeting is renamed MGLive! Silverstone 2009 with a weekend of activities.

The Tour will have a new format for 2009 – it will have four starting points, roughly North, South, East and West of Silverstone. This means that the participants of the Tour will be able to travel a shorter distance from their homes to the starting point and then complete the journey to Silverstone, by way of the Tour. Motor museums and other related venues have been chosen for the start venues and the participants will have time to visit the museum before commencing the run. The entrance fee to the museum will be included in the cost of the Tour.



As last year, the route winds its way through attractive countryside and delightful villages, using primarily unclassified roads, with each route totalling approximately 80 – 100 miles. It is expected the Tour will take some 3 – 4 hours to complete, with a scheduled arrival at Silverstone around 4.00pm. To round off the afternoon, the participants on the Tour will then be able to drive two parade laps on the famous International Circuit.

Entry to the Tour will be by advance booking only. Further detailed information of the runs, times, dates, costs and an application form can be obtained by visiting [www.mgcc.co.uk/events/tourdesilversone](http://www.mgcc.co.uk/events/tourdesilversone)

**Tour de Silverstone 2008 route** - copy of the route is available at: <http://www.v8register.net/mmgr/MMGR4%20SF%20November%202008.pdf>

## MEMORABLE MG ROUTES

### Plans to visit

**Silverstone Motor Racing Circuit**  
The circuit was established in 1948 and is the only one of its kind in the world. It is a 3.75 mile track with a number of historic buildings. The Royal Automobile Club sponsored the first race on the circuit in 1950, and since then it has become a major event in the British motorsport calendar.

### Stowe

The Stowe House was built on the site of a palace in the 17th century and is one of the finest examples of 18th century architecture in the UK. It is a Grade I listed building and is open to the public. The house is surrounded by a park and is a popular destination for visitors.

### The Oxford Canal

The Oxford Canal is a 130 mile long canal that runs from Oxford to Banbury. It is one of the longest canals in the UK and is a popular destination for boaters. The canal is surrounded by a park and is a popular destination for visitors.

### Blaydon Castle

Blaydon Castle is a 12th century castle that was built on a hill overlooking the River Tyne. It is one of the best preserved castles in the UK and is a popular destination for visitors. The castle is surrounded by a park and is a popular destination for visitors.

### Upton House

Upton House is a 17th century house that was built by the Duke of Devonshire. It is one of the finest examples of 17th century architecture in the UK and is a popular destination for visitors. The house is surrounded by a park and is a popular destination for visitors.

### Barnet District Country Park

Barnet District Country Park is a 100 acre park that was created in 1974. It is a popular destination for visitors and offers a variety of activities. The park is surrounded by a park and is a popular destination for visitors.



This Memorable Route was used as the 2008 'Tour de Silverstone', which took place in June as part of the Silverstone International weekend. A circular tour of 80 miles starting at Silverstone, journeying to the Heritage Motor Museum at Gaydon and returning, by a different route, to the home of British motorsport.



The route leaves Silverstone Circuit, heads in a south-westerly direction through the villages and gently rolling countryside of Buckinghamshire, crossing at Taylor four generations of transport systems: the River, the Canal, the Railway, and the Motorway. Starting Banbury, passing through Milton Keynes, then swinging northwards through the attractive lanes of Oxfordshire and Warwickshire to the halfway point and a lunch stop at the Heritage Motor Museum at Gaydon. Re-crossing the M40, the return route proceeds westwards through the green and pleasant fields of Northamptonshire, with both Canon Airfield and Sulgrave Manor on the route, before returning to our base at Silverstone.

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## MEMORABLE MG ROUTES



Onward through Milton and Bloxham our route winds its way to Broughton and, after passing the Swan & Salt Arms, we come to the castle itself. Sadly, it is not actually visible from the road, but that is a further incentive to stop and explore.

The road, now very narrow with grass growing in the middle, divides and winds its way over a ridge with stunning views to the distant horizon.

Continuing through pleasant lanes we leave Oxfordshire and enter Warwickshire, dropping down into the villages of Upper & Middle. These lanes complete with attractive houses, pubs, a village green and church, then onwards to the steep slope of the Edge Hill ridge.



Although not on our route, a short (15 mile) detour takes us to Sutton House, a National Trust property with, motoring connections, being the former home of Viscount Bessford, the Chairman of Shell from 1921-46.

Back on our route, the road leaves the ridge of Edge Hill where, tanking glimpses of the plain below can be had through the screen of trees, past the Castle Inn, with its striking octagonal tower built in 1342 to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Civil War battle of Edge Hill. Now rising above the trees, the road descends onto the plain where the actual battle took place and past the memorial car to the roadside and onto the village of Kineton. In a further five miles we reach our halfway stop, the Heritage Motor Museum at Gaydon.

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The collection here, is the world's largest of British cars including some 21 or so MGs, from the very first MG Chaffin, 1, to a 2005 MG SV together with several recent models.

Being refreshed and amazed by the MG exhibits we begin the second half of our route, which soon crosses the M40 heading Eastwards and, in a few miles, we come across the Burton Duncett Country Park. The remains of a windmill sit upon the crest of a hill (200m) peppered with quarry workings, and stunning views over four counties, where on a clear day you can see the M25 and M40.

Dropping down through Fenny Compton, we traverse the A421 and immediately cross the Oxford canal for the second time on our route at Wormington. Here the interesting geolocal as you drive to.

The attractive villages of Froce Harwick and Froce Marston are passed through before entering Northamptonshire with pleasant countryside and quiet roads which lead us on to Canon Ashby.



The house and its grounds are a delight, together with its attendant church, which is all that remains of the 12th-century Augustinian Priory, where the house gets its name.

Soon we come across Sulgrave, this delightful Northants village displays a variety of charming cottages and grand houses, a fine pub, together with the fabulous Sulgrave Manor. Built in circa 1500 this is the ancestral home of George Washington, first President of the USA.

A further 10 miles takes us through the villages of Helmdon, Walsingham and Ashby where we finally to Silverstone, and on to our finishing point back at the circuit.

### English and the English Civil war

The King Charles I believed strongly in the right of the monarch to rule by divine right and to be unaccountable to his subjects. This led to the English Civil War, which began in 1642 and ended in 1651. The war was fought between the Royalists and the Parliamentarians, and resulted in the execution of King Charles I in 1649.

### Heritage Motor Museum

The Heritage Motor Museum is a museum dedicated to the history of British motor vehicles. It is located at Gaydon, Warwickshire, and is one of the largest museums of its kind in the UK. The museum houses a collection of over 100 vintage cars and motorcycles, and offers a variety of activities for visitors.

### Canon Ashby

Canon Ashby is a village in Northamptonshire, England. It is a popular destination for visitors and offers a variety of activities. The village is surrounded by a park and is a popular destination for visitors.

### Sulgrave Manor

Sulgrave Manor is a 16th-century manor house in Northamptonshire, England. It is one of the finest examples of 16th-century architecture in the UK and is a popular destination for visitors. The manor is surrounded by a park and is a popular destination for visitors.

### Pain

Pain is a common experience that can be caused by a variety of factors. It is a natural response to injury or damage to the body. Pain can be acute or chronic, and it is important to seek medical attention if it is severe or persistent.

### Reveries

Reveries are thoughts or daydreams that occur spontaneously. They are often pleasant and can be a source of inspiration. Reveries can be triggered by a variety of factors, including stress, boredom, or fatigue.