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INSTANT WEEKEND

THE SWAN,
WEDMORE, SOMERSET

This elegant pub combines a lively atmosphere with elegant furnishings



With its mix of French painted furniture, smattering of vintage trunks and romantic wallpapers, The

Swan in the chocolate-box village of Wedmore makes for a fitting base for a weekend of antiquing. And, happily, it's only a 30-minute drive from the Shepton Mallet Antiques, Vintage & Collectors Fair, held on 13th-15th March (01636 702 326; iacf.co.uk).

The food is worth writing home about, too. During the day, homemade cakes, displayed on vintage milk-glass cake stands, can be tucked into in the buzzing bar, while the restaurant is all about English classics - think pig cheek scotch eggs and delicate custard tarts. The surroundings are equally tasteful, all chunky tables, Farrow & Ball hues and statement lights.

The best thing about staying in a pub with rooms (albeit very stylish ones) is knowing your bed is only a few steps away. The larger bedrooms feature free-standing baths and all come with a generous selection of south west-made Bramley toiletries so you can create your own spa experience.

Breakfast is a casual affair in the bar - and one that it's hard to drag yourself away from. Newspapers are there for the reading and the cakes make a welcome reappearance. Out on the charming streets of Wedmore, The Little Grey Rabbit (01934 710710; thelittlegreyrabbit.co.uk) is worth a peek for its selection of vintage enamelware and pretty eiderdowns.

From £85 for a small double room.

01934 710337; theswanwedmore.com