



Location Overview

Bicester

www.mod.uk/hive

Bicester HIVE

c/o 15 Army Education Centre, Bicester Garrison, Bicester. OX25 2LD

Tel: Civ - 01869 256158 Mil - 94240 2158 E: bicesterhive@armymail.mod.uk

www.bicesterhive.blogspot.com

LOCAL AREA

Bicester is situated just north of the City of Oxford off the M40. It is surrounded mainly by small villages. Bicester town centre holds a weekly market along with a monthly Farmers Market and occasional French and Continental markets.

Bicester Village shopping complex is the UK's leading Outlet Shopping attraction. Another out of town shopping experience is Bicester Avenue which offers both Home and Garden shopping opportunities.

A wider range of shopping and entertainment facilities can be easily accessed in Oxford, Banbury, Aylesbury and Milton Keynes. London is also within an hours travelling either by car, train or coach.

The Tourist Information Centre is located within Bicester Village shopping complex. Information can be obtained about Bicester and the local area from:

www.visitnorthoxfordshire.com

UNIT OVERVIEW

Bicester Garrison is home to JSCS; 15 AEC; 16 Cadet Training Team; 79 Railway Troop; Bowman training Centre; LogNEC Prog; Supply Chain Integration Land (SCS(CS)Land); Defence Container Management Services (DCMS); DLO and supports all their military staff through the QM and RAO provision.

The main Regiment within the Garrison is 23 Pioneer Regiment whose main role is to provide labour and artisan support for the Army and consists of 4 Task and 1 HQ Squadron.

UNIT FACILITIES

The Place to Be is the dining centre for serving personnel in both St David's and St George's Barracks, it houses an internet café which has computer terminals priced at £1 for 30 minutes, TV screens showing the most popular sporting fixtures, a pool table and fruit machines. The facilities at St David's Barracks also include a Spar convenience store which stocks papers, magazines, snacks and a small amount of essential items, it also has a licensed bar selling hot snacks and sandwiches,.

PAYD (Pay as You Dine) this is offered on both St George's and St David's Barracks. There are a number of feeding options ranging from the core menu to the commercial menu The messes also have the PAYD facility. Dependants are also able to use this facility.

The Garrison Centre is located in Ambrosden and comprises the following facilities:

Spar Shop - open 7 days a week.

Garrison Gymnasium & Swimming Pool can be used by both serving personnel and dependants; the gym is very well equipped with both weights and cardio facilities. There are also various clubs that use the facilities for further details contact: 01869 256571 The swimming pool is open on a specific timetable with a variety of outside agencies offering swimming lessons. For further details contact: 01869 256577; the Pool Attendant will not answer the phone during times when the pool is occupied in these cases please contact the Garrison Gymnasium on: 01869 256571

The Families Centre houses the AWS CDW, 23 Pioneer Regt Unit Welfare Office, MOD Community Policeman, and Garrison Welfare Facilities Administrator. Both the Junior and Senior Youth Clubs take place in this building.

The Community Centre has various activities that take place here, Mum's & Tots, Brownies, Guides, Dance, Zumba. The weekly coffee morning also takes place every Wednesday morning between 10am & 12pm. The Community Centre is available to hire. For further details and a booking form please contact: 01869 256411

15 Army Education Centre is open to both serving personnel and dependants to use. Various courses either teacher led classroom or computer based are available including Levels 1 & 2 in Numeracy and Literacy. There is also an internet suite available to use for general browsing.

Bicester HIVE is located within 15 AEC

Bicester Elective Learning Centre (Formally Bicester Army Learning Centre) is open for both serving personnel and dependants offering a variety of computer based courses.

ACCOMMODATION

Service Families Accommodation (SFA)

There is one SFA location, and this is outside the camp boundary in the village of Ambrosden and has approx 290 military houses – 70 Officers and 217 Other Ranks. It is approximately 2 miles from 23 Pioneer Regiment RLC at St David's Barracks and approx 3 miles from HQ Bicester Garrison. The postcode for the Garrison Centre, which is in the middle of the SFA estate, is OX25 2LD

Single Living Accommodation (SLA)

There are 5 blocks of accommodation behind the wire at St George's Barracks and these are for those personnel who are on Bowman Courses and for Transit Accommodation. For further details contact The Bowman Training Centre on 01869 257880 Mil: 94240 3880

Accommodation for Junior Ranks posted to Bicester Garrison:-
Contact the QM's Dept on 01869 257738 Mil: 94240 3738

Bicester Garrison WO's & Sgts' Mess Civ: 01869 257711 Mil: 94240 3711
Bicester Garrison Offices' Mess Civ: 01869 256520 Mil: 94240 2520

At 23 Pioneer Regiment, St David's Barracks, the accommodation has been part of Project SLAM providing 139 en-suite rooms.

Junior Ranks should contact The Accommodation SNCO on 01869 259358 Mil: 94240 5358

23 Pnr Regt WO's & Sgts' Mess Civ: 01869 257081 Mil: 94240 3081
23 Pnr Regt Officers' Mess Civ: 01869 257089 Mil: 94240 3089

Local accommodation

There is a Contact House at Bicester - Bookings can be made by contacting: 01869 256135

The Almond Tree Hotel Tel: 01869 360629

www.almondtreehotel.co.uk

Best Western - The Jersey Arms Hotel Tel: 01869 342334

www.jerseyarms.co.uk

TRAVEL

By car: Unit Postcode for 23 Pioneer Regiment for Sat Nav is OX26 6HF,
Unit Postcode for Bicester Garrison OX25 1PP

- From the M40 leave at Junction 9 on the A41 towards Bicester.
- At the roundabout take the 3rd exit to A41 to Aylesbury. At the next roundabout; take the 3rd exit staying on the A41.
- You will see containers behind the wire on your right hand side if you are heading for 23 Pioneer Regiment the turning is the next on the right. Follow the road around to the main gate.
- For Bicester Garrison take the next turning signposted Ambrosden, follow the road through the village and into the next village of Arncott.
- At the mini roundabout take the 2nd exit passing the aeroplane on the left over the train lines and out through the village.
- After the speed humps the turning for St Georges Barracks and HQ Bicester Garrison is on the left.

By train: The main station is Bicester North. Trains arrive from London and Banbury. It is approximately 2 ½ miles to 23 Pioneer Regiment, St David's Barracks and nearly 6 miles to Bicester Garrison, St George's Barracks.

There is also Bicester Town railway station – the trains from here arrive from Oxford. It is approximately 2 miles to 23 Pioneer Regiment, St David's Barracks and nearly 5 miles to Bicester Garrison St George's Barracks.

National Rail Enquiries – for times and information call 08457 484950 or visit www.nationalrail.co.uk

Taxi:

Bicester North railway station has a taxi rank.

Apollo Cars Tel:01869 323236; AA Cars Tel:01869 248248;

Future Cars Tel: 01869 327711; 001 Alpha Cars Tel:01869 252552

HEALTHCARE

Service Personnel:

Station Medical Centre - Civ: 01869 257747. Mil: (9) 4240 3747

Station Dental Centre - Civ: 01869 257756. Mil: (9) 4240 3756

Dependants:

Medical – Ambrosden Surgery Tel: 01869 256336

Langford Village Medical Practice - this can be contacted out of Ambrosden Surgery hours, Tel: 01869 245665

Dental – There are limited NHS Dentists locally. Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust (PCT) will be able to help contact the Dental Helpline on 01865 337 267

NHS Direct will advise on dentists providing NHS care (see below for contact details).

The nearest hospital is the John Radcliffe Hospital, off Headley Way, Headington, Oxford. OX3 9DU Tel: 01865 741166

NHS Direct offers a 24-hour nurse advice and health information service, and provides

details of local healthcare services, such as doctors, dentists or late night opening pharmacies. NHS Direct - Tel: 0845 46 47 www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

SCHOOLS AND CHILDCARE

Ambrosden Village Pre-school (2-5yrs).

Tel: 0775 9755179

Located next to the married quarters estate.

Tiddlywinks Pre-school (18 months-5 yrs).

Tel: 01869 256555

Located within the Garrison Centre, Ambrosden

Five Acres Primary and Foundation Stage Schools (4-11yrs).

Tel: 01869 253193

Located in the centre of the village of Ambrosden and is within walking distance for all the MQ's

Bicester Community College (11-18yrs)

Tel: 01869 243331

Approximately 3 miles from the Married Quarter estate of Ambrosden. A school bus is provided by Oxfordshire County Council.

- Applications for school places are made through the Local Education Authority (LEA). The LEA for Ambrosden and Bicester is Oxfordshire LEA, www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/admissions
- Ofsted reports can be accessed at www.ofsted.gov.uk

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

To access a military number within Bicester from a military telephone: 94240 plus extension

To access a military number within Bicester from a civilian telephone:

01869 plus 256 and last 3 if extension begins 2*** or 257 and last 3 if extension begins 3***

These are the main Unit contact details. For any other Unit contact numbers please call the HIVE on 01869 256158		
	Mil	Civ
23 Pioneer Regiment Welfare Office	94240 2457	01869 256457
Guard Room: St David's Barracks	94240 3078	01869 257078
Guard Room: St George's Barracks	94240 3741	01869 257741
HIVE	94240 2158	01869 356158
Army Welfare Service CDW	94240 2135	01869 256135
Army Welfare Service		01962 887694
MOD Community Policeman	94240 2345	01869 256345
MOD Police Main Office	94240 2169	01869 256169

This is a brief overview of the area and facilities available at Bicester.
The HIVE holds further information and will research information on your behalf.