

WORLD TEMPERATURES

Estimated at noon today. See Weather, page 2 for more

Algarve	Thunder	21C	70F
Amsterdam	Sun	11C	52F
Barbados	Thunder	30C	86F
L Angeles	Fair	19C	66F
Madeira	Showers	21C	70F
Miami	Fair	27C	81F
Moscow	Cloudy	3C	37F
New York	Fair	16C	61F
Paris	Sun	15C	59F
Sydney	Showers	24C	75F

Holiday

email travel@people.co.ukCHIPPER:
Campden's
stunning
high streetCotswolds gem
is streets aheadTRAVEL
SECRETS

THE Cotswolds town of Chipping Campden has frequently been praised for having the most beautiful high street in England – and with good reason, writes Dean Rousewell.

This charming former wool merchants' town is the perfect place to stay with marvellous architecture, pubs and walks. Seek out the award-winning 14th-Century Eight Bells Inn as a particularly good place to eat. Or try the bustling Volunteer Inn for a pint of ale with the locals.

There are many places to stay, but my favourite is Nineveh Farm, which is on the outskirts of Mickleton, a brisk walk from the town.

Hosts Michael and Alison Yardley are wonderfully attentive and it is the perfect base from which to strike out and explore the north Cotswolds. Chipping Campden high street is

lined with honey-coloured buildings, made using the local limestone known as Cotswold stone, and boasts amazing architecture.

At its centre stands the Market Hall with its splendid arches, built in 1627.

Other attractions include the grand medieval church of St James and the Alms Houses and Woolstaplers Hall, both monuments to silk merchant Sir Baptist Hicks.

The Court Barn near the church is now a museum celebrating the rich arts and crafts tradition of the area.

Since the early 17th Century, the town has been home to the Cotswold Olimpick Games, which are held every summer on Dover's Hill.

Peculiar to the games is the rather terrifying sport of shin-kicking. Hay stuffed down the trousers can ease one's brave passage to later rounds, or that's the locals' tip anyhow.

See www.chippingcampden.co.uk for more details. To book a room at Nineveh Farm, call 01386 438923.



BEAUTY AND BEASTS: Balboa Park's great gardens and zoo

New air route puts
America's finest city
within easy reach

Steam Museum
on track for funBRITISH
DAYS OUT

TRAIN MAD?

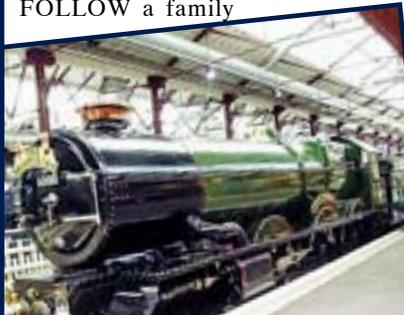
Steam Museum, Swindon

MEET the engine drivers and fire crews who worked on trains such as The Bristolian in Swindon Works' steam heyday. Staff will bring the period to life with their fascinating stories at an open day on Saturday. See www.steam-museum.org.uk.

HIBERNATION TRAIL

Lacock Abbey, Chippenham, Wiltshire

FOLLOW a family



BACK TRACK: Learn about The Bristolian

trail around the grounds of this National Trust property to learn how animals spend the winter. It runs until November 30, between 11am and 4pm. See www.nationaltrust.org.uk.

THOMAS LAND

Drayton Manor, Tamworth, Staffordshire

DRAYTON Manor's popular tank engine-themed park – and the 15-acre zoo – will reopen between 10.30am and 2.30pm today and next weekend. Thomas Land's rides and attractions include the Troublesome Trucks Coaster and Cranky the Crane Drop Tower. See www.draytonmanor.co.uk.

ILLUMINATED CARNIVAL

Weston-super-Mare, Somerset

A spectacular procession of illuminated floats will wend its way through the town centre at 7.15pm tomorrow. See www.northsomersetcarnival.co.uk.

GET SNAP HAPPY

London Transport Museum

TAKE a photo in the city on the theme of Children's London and put it into the museum's competition, which closes on December 1. Three winning entries will be displayed and successful snappers will get free entry tickets. See www.ltmuseum.co.uk.

SO CLASSY

by **Martin Coultts**

I'M a big, smokey city break kind of traveller – and always have been. The very thought of being trapped in a beach resort for 14 days in the Med destroys my soul.

So it came as a bit of a surprise to find that 'America's Finest City' sits neatly on the west coast.

I've travelled extensively across the States. I've even seen Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy – where Will Ferrell's character signs off: "Stay classy, San Diego."

But somehow I'd managed to miss this Californian jewel.

So, 10 hours after leaving Manchester Airport with a brief stopover in Heathrow, we were winging our way west.

British Airways only started the route this summer but, judging by passenger numbers, I wasn't the only one who'd found out about it.

Previously the quickest way to reach southern California from the UK was to fly into Los Angeles, then drive two hours south. Now things

are much easier. Getting through the airport was a breeze – BA has the only international flight into San Diego – and within two hours of landing we'd checked into the wonderful Paradise Point Hotel in Mission Bay, a 20-minute journey from downtown San Diego.

Paradise Point is a self-contained hotel on its own island and its emphasis is on family holidays.

There's loads to do, with plenty of fun activities, such as beach volleyball, to entertain the kids.

Beer

We stayed in one of the bungalows overlooking the bay, which was a great place to unwind.

The resort has two restaurants and a bar and there was live music when we were there.

We visited Balboa Park and the city's famous zoo, which has one of the finest collections of animals in the world. Its safari park means you can see some species in conditions as close to the wild as possible.

We also checked out SeaWorld, which has spectacular killer whale and sea lion shows. But by our third

day we were itching to see what downtown had to offer. So we checked into the luxurious Omni Hotel in the heart of the iconic Gaslamp Quarter. With stylish rooms, friendly staff and a restaurant that serves some of the best sushi on the face of the planet.

The Gaslamp Quarter stretches for more than 16 blocks and is the hub of the city's nightlife, with bustling bars and clubs to amazing restaurants and designer shops.

But the quarter also has a chequered past – it used to be the red light area, enjoyed by the many sailors who visited the city.

It's all cleaned up now but we took a So Diego's Brothels, Bites and Booze tour for £30 each to learn about its history, hear its funny stories and enjoy samples of local cuisine and beer.

San Diego is quite spread out, but in among that sprawl there's something for everyone.

One of the best ways to explore is to hire a Go Car, a go-kart-type vehicle that has a satnav to guide you round the city and highlight points of interest along the way. This