Enjoy a leisurely walk around Wisbech. This guide brings to life many famous characters of Wisbech and the surrounding villages by the Peckover Family. The imposing clock tower contains a carillon which used to play tunes on the hour.

**Elgood's Brewery and Garden**
Traditional 18th Century family brewery with a 4 acre garden and many delightful features.
Tel: 01945 583 160

**Octavia Hill's Birthplace House**
The House is a Grade II* listed Georgian house, in which Octavia Hill, social reformer and co-founder of the National Trust, was born.
Tel: 01945 476 358

**Peckover House and Garden - National Trust**
The elegant Georgian Town House with 2 acre walled Victorian styled garden has summer houses, croquet lawns and licensed tearooms at the Reid Barn.
Tel: 01945 583 463

**Wisbech and Fenland Museum**
A purpose-built Victorian museum retaining the charm and character of the time. Exhibits include Fenland History, agriculture and geology.
Tel: 01945 583 817

**Merchant Trails:**
**Enjoy a leisurely walk around Wisbech.** This guide brings to life many famous characters of this town and tells you why Wisbech became one of the most prosperous ports in the country during the 18th and 19th centuries. Look on www.strideguides.com/wisbech

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**Places to visit**
For more information visit www.visitcambridgeshirefen.org
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The Brink Trail

The second trail takes you along the Brinks. North Brink and South Brink face each other across the tidal River Nene. North Brink is considered by many to be the most outstanding feature of Wisbech. In his ‘Buildings of England’, Nikolaus Pevsner described it as one of finest Georgian brick streets of England. It has been the backdrop to several period dramas including Martin Chuzzlewit, David Copperfield and Dean Sparky. As you proceed along North Brink there are many interesting properties to look at:

1. The Town Hall was originally built as a Corn Exchange and Reading Rooms in 1811 by Joseph Medworth who was responsible for developing the Castle and Crescent. The building was extended in 1858 and again in 1872 when the roof was raised creating the splendid Council Chamber where the Wisbech Town Council still meet.

2. Lloyd’s Bank was built in the 1920s in a Baroque style. Because of the architect’s meticulous attention to detail, it sits comfortably into the street scene alongside much earlier buildings.

3. The former Phoenix Hotel was previously known as the White Hart and was one of several coaching inns in the town.

4. Numbers 7, 8, and 9 are now the North Brink Doctors’ surgery. No. 7 dates back to 1662. The stone facade which was added later is an attractive contrast to the more prevalent brick. Records show that buildings to the rear included an oil mill and granary and later a brewing office. The house itself has a long connection with the medical profession.

5. No 12 and its adjacent warehouse testify to the commercial origins of Georgian wealth. The simplicity of the warehouse is a perfect foil to the house fronts of the Brink.

6. The next two houses are the finest in town. Both are Grade 1 listed and are part of the Peckover Estate, now in the care of the National Trust.

7. Continuing along North Brink, no 21 is the Friends Meeting House, opened in 1854 and designed by Algernon Peckover. The small garden behind the Meeting House is where the remains of many of the Peckover family lie.

8. Numbers 22 to 25 were also designed and built by the Peckovers. They have a fascinating array of architectural features. The gables are crow-stepped, there are mock Tudor chimneys, fish scale tiles, hexagonal slates and fish-scale ridge tiles. These types of embellishments were very popular in Victorian times, reflecting styles of earlier periods.

9. To the west of no 27 North Brink there is a late 19th century Summerhouse, probably based on the earlier one at no 54. These summerhouses were built by members of the Peckover family as viewpoints to overlook the busy river.

10. The Red Lion Inn at no 32 was built as a hostelry around 1764 and now a public house serving the locally brewed Elgoods ale. The Rose Tavern, a little further along the Brink, also serves real ale.

11. Wisbech Grammar School now occupies Horsecroft (nos 47 & 48) which was built in 1844 in the style of an Italian villa by Algernon Peckover, and was later the home of his son Alexander and his family.

12. Sibylia Holme, a large house along the North Brink beyond the Barton Road turn, was purchased and rebuit by Algernon Peckover at the time of his marriage in 1828. It was lived in continuously by his family for almost a hundred years before being divided into two prior to being sold.

13. Elgoods Brewery and Gardens is the final stopping off point on the North Brink Trail. One of the first classic Georgians breweries to be built outside London, it was established in 1795 from a converted oil mill and granary. It changed hands a number of times until 1877 when it was purchased along with 70 tied houses by John Elgood, a master of Godmanchester and Peterborough.

The first brew of Elgoods ale was mashed here on an autumn morning in 1878 and the family have continued to brew fine traditional ales ever since. Their visitor centre is an ideal place to stop for refreshment before continuing the trail back to town.

14. Retracing along North Brink, South Brink can now be viewed from across the river. Opposite the gazebo at No 27 North Brink is Ed’s Terrace where Georgian Wisbech ends and modern industry begins. Ed’s Terrace consists of seven Regency period houses with mansard roof, shallow bows at the ends and simple fanlights.

15. In contrast, No 15, formerly part of Wisbech Grammar School, is much grander in style. It has a charming cupola and a windows walk, so called because it formed a look out post for ships returning from sea.

16. Further along, No 12 formerly the Queen’s Hotel has a grand stone door case. It was built as a residence around the same time as Peckover House and has many similar internal features.

The Luxe Cinema

The Luxe Cinema is a stylish and independent film-lovers delight, offering a whole new experience where you can cozy up and relax on a leather arm chair or two-seater sofa. The elegant fully licensed bar provides an ambient setting for the pre and post film drinks and nibbles. Tel: 01945 588 808

The Angles Theatre

Built in 1793, The Angles Theatre is one of the oldest surviving Georgian theatres in the country. This remarkable community theatre is tucked away in Wisbech. Tel: 01945 474 447

Entertainment