



Welshpool in the district of Montgomeryshire in the county of Powys is a historic Mid-Wales market nestling in the verdant Severn valley four miles from the English border. It has been an important market town since it was founded by charter by the Welsh prince Llewelyn Gwynedd in 1263 sometime after he established his capital near by and was located to the west of the original settlement of Trallwng. Welshpool was an important centre in the wool trade in medieval times and later became a centre for the flannel trade. Today Welshpool Livestock Sales host the largest sheep market in the European Union.

Although agriculture remains an important industry and the visitor will observe fields of sheep and cattle as well as wheat, barley, maize and oil seed rape, tourism has become very important to the local economy. Welshpool sits astride the main Welsh North-South route the A483 and the main mid-Wales East-West route the A458. It not only serves the visitor who wishes to dally a little and explore the great range of local attractions but serves well the weary traveller who seeks respite from their journey. Whatever sort of journeyer you are the internationally praised Tourist Information Centre run by **Welshpool Town Council** is well placed to assist you, whether it be that special place to visit, a great place to eat or have a drink or to book you the perfect place to stay over. Their local knowledge and the range of local genealogical records they have for sale, has assisted many an ancestor hunter. Apart from lying at the junction of two major trunk roads Welshpool is well served by a two hourly train service (soon to be hourly) to Birmingham that connects directly into the London service, a total journey time to the capital is typically 3 hours and 20 minutes. If you are truly in a rush then why not take off from the Mid-Wales Airport situated on the edge of town, charter flights are available as are flying lessons.