

## Berkshire

Tuesday, 29 January 2008

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Berkshire, or the Royal county of berkshire as it is often known is another ancient county which has survived the years.

It is often called the Royal County because of having Windsor castle within it's borders.

The county arms which were adopted in 1947 features two Norman Lions which signifies it's closeness to Norman Kings of the past but specifically to the legend of the Royal huntsman, Herne the Hunter The oak tree is the one on which he hanged himself, in the late 14th century, before it was struck by lightning. The white hart is one of the manifestations of his restless spirit. It is a variation of the Old Berkshire badge used at one time by the Royal Berkshire Militia and, according to Drayton's poem of 1627, a banner with this badge, or something very like it, was carried by the men of Berkshire at the Battle of Agincourt.

The commercially available flag shows the two lions along with the crown atop them.