# Residents of Bibury express concerns over tourist influx



Residents of Bibury, a quaint village nestled in the picturesque Cotswolds, are expressing their frustrations regarding the overwhelming influx of tourists that has turned their peaceful community into a bustling hub of activity. This charming village, often celebrated as one of the most beautiful in the UK, is home to approximately 600 residents. However, reports indicate that during peak weekends, the number of visitors can soar to an astonishing 20,000.

The strain on local infrastructure is becoming increasingly apparent, prompting residents and members of the local council to seek solutions to the issue of overtourism. Speaking to the Express, Councillor Michelle Holt of the Bibury Parish Council articulated the concerns of the community, stating, “The sheer volume is just overwhelming for the local community and we just don't have the infrastructure to cope.” Councillor Holt further emphasised the urgency of the situation, noting that the current circumstances have reached a “tipping point”.

The surge in tourist numbers is not just a matter of overcrowding; residents have increasingly observed safety issues arising from the situation. Many visitors, when existing parking bays fill up, resort to unloading their vehicles wherever they can find space. This practice has led to hazards as narrow pavements become obstructed, forcing pedestrians to navigate busy roads.

As residents and local authorities contemplate strategies to alleviate the pressure posed by tourism, the challenge of preserving Bibury's charm while managing visitor numbers remains at the forefront of their discussions. The picturesque village, known for its numerous listed buildings and stunning scenery, continues to attract tourists, leaving the community in search of a sustainable balance between its cultural heritage and modern day footfall.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/cotswolds-bibury-tourists-climbing-walls-selfies-b2625650.html> - This article supports the claim that Bibury faces issues with overtourism, noting that tourists often cause disruptions and disregard for local property, contributing to the overwhelming influx of visitors in the village.
* <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/comment/cotswold-village-overrun-tourists/> - This piece highlights the challenges faced by residents in Cotswold villages like Bibury due to tourism, including intrusions into private spaces and the strain on local infrastructure, echoing the concerns about overcrowding.
* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-gloucestershire-61313620> - Although not found in the search results, typically, BBC News might cover local stories about the Cotswolds, including Bibury's efforts to manage tourism without explicit mention. In reality, this link does not match the instruction; thus, a correct URL isn't available from the search results.
* <https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/cotswolds-bibury-tourists-climbing-walls-selfies-b2625650.html> - Further explains the impact of tourism on Bibury's infrastructure and community, noting the lack of adequate parking and issues such as litter and aggressive behavior.
* <Not available from search results> - Due to the lack of specific information in the search results about Councillor Michelle Holt's statements or expressions of concern, a direct URL is not available to corroborate this detail.