**Shrewsbury Key Facts**

Shrewsbury is a town in [Shropshire](http://wiki.kidzsearch.com/wiki/Shropshire), a [county](http://wiki.kidzsearch.com/wiki/County) of [England](http://wiki.kidzsearch.com/wiki/England). It is the [county town](http://wiki.kidzsearch.com/wiki/County_town) of Shropshire.

The town is very old and dates back to around [700 AD](http://wiki.kidzsearch.com/w/index.php?title=700&action=edit&redlink=1). There is a [castle](http://wiki.kidzsearch.com/wiki/Castle) and the [town centre](http://wiki.kidzsearch.com/w/index.php?title=Town_centre&action=edit&redlink=1). The longest river in the UK, the [River Severn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River_Severn), flows through the town, forming a meander around its centre.[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shrewsbury#cite_note-VOB-11) The town is subject to flooding from the river.

The [population](http://wiki.kidzsearch.com/wiki/Population) of Shrewsbury is 75,000. It is the second largest town in Shropshire, after [Telford](http://wiki.kidzsearch.com/wiki/Telford).

Lord Hill's column, outside Shropshire County Council's headquarters at Shire Hall, Shrewsbury, is the tallest of its kind in the world. It stands at 133ft 6ins tall and is in the Doric style, as used by the ancient Greeks.

Shrewsbury is home to the world's first skyscraper. While it may not look much, Ditherington flax mill, on the outskirts of Shrewsbury, was the first multi-storey iron-framed building in the world - and therefore the forerunner of every skyscraper and tower block in the world. Built in 1797, it's currently awaiting redevelopment and is one of 660 listed buildings in the town.

Shrewsbury was the birthplace of [Charles Darwin](https://www.visitshrewsbury.co.uk/page/142/charles-darwin.htm). Shrewsbury is nearly islanded by a loop of the [River Severn](https://www.visitshrewsbury.co.uk/page/147/the-river-severn.htm).

Shrewsbury is home to the World's tallest town crier, Martin Wood.  At an impressive 7 feet, 2 inches tall, he really does stand head and shoulders above all the rest!  His unique claim to fame has taken him all over the World, including the USA, Canada and throughout Europe.  Martin has also appeared on TV and the silver screen, acting as a body double for Robbie Coltrane's Hagrid in the Harry Potter films.

Joe Hart started his professional football career in his hometown of Shrewsbury at Shrewsbury Town Football Club, before going on to become England and Manchester City goalkeeper.

Shrewsbury has a retail output of over £299 million per year.

The town suffered very little from the bombing runs in the [Second World War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_World_War) that did damage to many English locations.

In 2000 and again in 2002, Shrewsbury unsuccessfully applied for [city status](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/City_status_in_the_United_Kingdom).

The [climate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climate) of Shrewsbury is similar to that of the rest of Shropshire, generally moderate. Rainfall averages 76 to 100 cm.

The coat of arms of the former Shrewsbury Borough Council, and now the Town Council, depicts three loggerheads, with the motto Floreat Salopia, a Latin phrase that can be translated to "May Shrewsbury Flourish. 

According to the [United Kingdom Census 2001](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Kingdom_Census_2001), the population of the town of Shrewsbury was 67,126.[[57]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shrewsbury#cite_note-SCC_Population-57) The same census put the population of the wider (and now abolished) borough of Shrewsbury and Atcham at 95,850.[[57]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shrewsbury#cite_note-SCC_Population-57) In 1981 the population of the town was 57,731 and in 1991 the population of the town was 64,219.

The 2001 census also indicates that the population of the town consists of 51.1% females, and 48.9% males. The [ethnic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethnicity) composition of the town is largely [white](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_people), at 98.5% of the total population. The next largest ethnic group is [mixed race](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mixed_race), at 0.5% of the town's population. 0.4% of the population is Indian, [Pakistani](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pakistan) or [Bangladeshi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangladesh), and 0.1% of the population is [South Asian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Asian) or [British Asian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Asian). A further 0.1% is [Black](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_people), [Caribbean](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_African-Caribbean_community) or [African](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethnic_groups_of_Africa).

There on average 3.1million visitors to Shrewsbury each year.

Shrewsbury, being almost entirely encircled by the River Severn, has nine bridges [across the river](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_crossings_of_the_River_Severn) and many that cross the [Rea Brook](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rea_Brook).  