

The three counties in which most of the action of the novel occurs:-

(The **counties** of the United Kingdom are subnational divisions of the United Kingdom, used for the purposes of administrative, geographical and political demarcation. The older term, shire is historically equivalent to county. By the Middle Ages, county had become established as the unit of local government, at least in England. By the early 17th century, all of England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland had been separated into counties. In Scotland shire was the only term used until after the Act of Union 1707.

Since the early 19th century, counties have been adapted to meet new administrative and political requirements, and the word county (often with a qualifier) has been used in different senses for different purposes. In some areas of England and Wales, counties still perform the functions of modern local government. In other parts of the United Kingdom, especially within large metropolitan areas, they have been replaced with alternative unitary authorities, which are considered 'county level' authorities. Today, these have largely replaced the historic county corporate entities granted self-governance with county government powers. Today, in addition to local government counties, every part of the United Kingdom lies within the historic counties which have formed geographic and cultural units since the Middle Ages.)

Hertfordshire:-

Imaginary places:

Longbourn (residence of the Bennets), Netherfield Park (residence of the Bingleys), Lucas Lodge, the residence of the Lucases, and the village of Meryton, where the militia regiment is quartered for a time. Less important places in the vicinity are Oakham Mount (to which Darcy and Elizabeth walk on the morning after their *éclaircissement*), the memorably-named town of ---- (where the London coaches stop, and the George Inn is located), and the houses or estates of Ashworth, Haye-Park, Purvis Lodge, and Stoke (all of which Mrs. Bennet considers as possible residences for Lydia and Wickham).

Derbyshire:-

Imaginary places:

Pemberley (residence of Mr. Darcy) and the villages of Lambton (former residence of Mrs. Gardiner) and Kympton (where Wickham was to be the clergyman).

Real places:

Scenic and touristic locations in Derbyshire mentioned in connection with Elizabeth and the Gardiners' tour are Bakewell, Chatsworth, Matlock, Dove Dale, and the Peak.

On their itinerary from Hertfordshire to Derbyshire, they took in Blenheim (the estate of the Duke of Marlborough) and Oxford, in Oxfordshire; and Warwick, the famous ruined castle of Kenilworth, and the city of Birmingham, in Warwickshire.

Kent:-

Real places:

The black dot on Kent is placed in the approximate location of Westerham, in northwest Kent near London. Ramsgate is a sea-side resort, where Georgiana Darcy stayed for a summer.

Imaginary places:

Rosings (the residence of Lady Catherine) and Hunsford (where Mr. Collins is rector) are near Westerham.

Sussex:-

Real places:

On the southeast coast the town of Brighton is the fashionable sea-side resort, with a temporary military camp, where Lydia goes. In real life it was the hangout of the Prince Regent and his decadent coterie; in a letter of January 8th 1799 to Cassandra, Jane Austen wrote "I assure you that I dread the idea of going to Brighton as much as you do, but I am not without hopes that something may happen to prevent it". Eastbourne is another seaside town on the Sussex coast, to the east of Brighton.

"Here I am once more in this scene of dissipation and vice, and I begin already to find my morals corrupted."

-- Jane Austen, letter of August 1796.

London:-

London is not marked on the map, since there was no room to do so (it is southeastern Middlesex). The London area had over a million inhabitants (the first city in Europe to do so), and was several times larger than any other city in Britain; London was often associated, in the imagination of Jane Austen's day, with loose morals in both low life and high society -- a scene of fashionable dissipations and a dangerous example to the rest of the country (thus the opportunistic and amoral Lady Susan says "London will always be the fairest field of action, however my views may be directed").

Bromley is between Westerham and London, Epsom is on the southern-eastern approaches to London, and Clapham is a neighbourhood on the south side of the Thames (across from the 'City' proper). Cheapside, where the Bingley sisters accuse Mr. Gardiner of living (he actually lives in Gracechurch Street, further east) is an unfashionably commercial neighbourhood in the 'City', near St. Paul's. Grosvenor street, where Mr. Hurst and Louisa live, is in a much more fashionable neighborhood towards the West End.

Barnet and Hatfield are coaching stations to the north of London, through which Lydia and Wickham would probably have passed if they had been going to Scotland.

The Lake country (rugged, scenic, and with literary associations) is in the far northwest of England; and Newcastle (where Wickham is stationed after his marriage to Lydia) is in Northumberland in the northeast.

Gretna Green, just over the Scottish border, was the Nevada of its day (taking advantage of the laxer Scottish marriage laws during the 1754-1856 period) -- quickie marriages, minors don't need parental permission, few questions asked. According to Caroline Norton, "Gretna" was "not... of itself a city sacred to Hymen, but the nearest village across the boundary of England, that could be reached by enamoured couples".

