

## Excursion 4 – Saturday 6th July 2019 (All Day)

### Chepstow Town and Castle

Excursion Leader: Les Hayes

Phone: 01225 312510

e-mail: [havercroft@talktalk.net](mailto:havercroft@talktalk.net)

#### Summary

Our guide Geoff Sumner, a local historian, and other members of the Chepstow Historical Society will lead us on a two part walk around this ancient town and impressive castle. The castle was built in stone from the outset on orders from William the Conqueror in 1067 making it the earliest stone castle in the realm. It controlled the gateway to South Wales on the lowest crossing of the river Wye.

The Castle was held by two of the most powerful of the Norman magnates of medieval England - William Marshall and Richard de Clare and was finally decommissioned in 1685. It was one of the only Castles in Wales and the Marches not to be sacked by Owain Glyndwr in the early 15C.

The Town and port were encircled by a wall in the 13C and the Charter dates from 1294. The town was exempt from English taxes, which contributed greatly to its prosperity. The Port thrived on into the late 18C, handling more cargo (exporting timber and bark, importing wine) than Cardiff, Swansea and Newport combined!

#### Meeting Place and Time

**Remember to take the M48 to Chepstow** and there are **no** toll charges on either Severn Bridge!

We will meet in the Castle Dell car park (charges apply) NP16 5EY, at **10:15** and there will be a lunch break at **12:30** recommencing around **13:30** and aiming to finish by 15:30.

There are plenty of eating options in the town or you could bring a picnic.

The Castle is under the care of CADW, and English Heritage membership will ensure free entry.

***Please remember that you are responsible for your own safety and by joining this BACAS excursion you do so at your own risk.***

Maximum participants - **25**  
Members priority booking until **6<sup>th</sup> June**

Latest Booking Date: **23<sup>rd</sup> June**  
Cost: Members **£10** / non-members **£12**