Shropshire (Shire county guide)

by Lawrence Garner

BBC - Shropshire - Features - Shropshire facts Shropshire is England's largest inland county, covering an area of 1,347. J.R.R. Tolkien based his conception of The Shire region of Middle Earth on 20th-century Shropshire. The "shire" means "shire county" in Latin, and the name comes from the Old English words "scir" (district) and "hundred" (division). Shropshire is named after the county town, Shrewsbury, which was once a major river port. The county is divided into three parts - the north, east, and west - and contains many beautiful countryside areas, including the Shropshire Hills, which are home to some of the finest walking country in England.

Shrewsbury is a major town and market centre, and it was the capital of the kingdom of Mercia in the Middle Ages. The town is home to the famous Shrewsbury School, one of the oldest independent schools in the country.

Shropshire is also home to many historic villages and towns, including Alberbury, Clun, and Whitchurch. The county is known for its rich history and tradition, and it is a popular destination for tourists and visitors from around the world.

Please note: This text is a summary of the main points of the document and does not contain all the information. For more detailed information, please refer to the original text.