



The Royal Crescent



No 2. The Royal Crescent



Making friends outside the Jane Austen Centre. Coco wanted to rescue his cousins who were desperate to escape from the window behind!



The Pump Room located outside Bath Abbey



The Roman Baths



On the door of Bath Abbey

## TRAVEL SUMMARY

**Destination:** Bath, Somerset—England

**Duration:** 2 days

**Date:** 29-30 December 2008

**Weather:** Cold! 2°C

**Travel:** 2 hours 15 mins by car.

**Activities:** Visiting family, playing games and eating too much!

### Interesting facts:

We have been to some of the places featured in the photos on previous visits to Bath.

**The Royal Crescent** The Royal Crescent is a residential road of 30 houses, laid out in a crescent. Designed by the architect John Wood the Younger and built between 1767 and 1774, it is among the greatest examples of Georgian architecture to be found in the United Kingdom and is a grade I listed building. Number 1 Royal Crescent is a museum, which shows how wealthy owners of the period might have furnished a house. The Royal Crescent Hotel occupies numbers 15 and 16. The Royal Victoria Park near the Crescent is a location for the launch of hot air balloons. Launches take place in summer, early morning and evening. The houses are very large, so many have now been converted into flats. Coco can be seen outside No. 2!

**The Roman Baths** The Roman Baths are below the modern street level. There are four main features: the Sacred Spring, the Roman Temple, the Roman Bath House and the Museum holding finds from the Roman Baths. The buildings above street level date from the 19th century. The water that flows through the Roman Baths is now considered unsafe for bathing, partly due to its having passed through the still-functioning original lead pipes. In 1979 a girl swimming in the restored bath swallowed some of the source water, and died five days later from amoebic meningitis. The water from the baths is really warm between 64-96°C, it is now used to heat the Roman Baths and Pump Room site in winter. You can drink the hot Spa water at the fountain in the Pump Room, which is a lovely restaurant. The spa water contains 43 minerals, is very warm and has a rather unusual taste. It is however safe to drink as it does not pass through the original lead pipes used by the baths. Spa water has been used for curative purposes for two thousand years. Originally treatments involved bathing in the hot waters, then in the late 17th Century drinking spa water also came to be a recognised treatment for certain conditions.

### The Jane Austen Centre

We didn't visit this exhibition however we plan to in the future, once Coco has read a few of her books. This is a permanent exhibition which tells the story of Jane's experience in the city between 1801 and 1806 and the effect that living there had on her and her writing.

**Opinion of destination:** Lovely city with some interesting things to do and see.

The Roman Baths

