

THE OLDE BELL INN

‘One finds one’s best welcome at an Inn’

A family of modern day coaching Inns, all in historic framed buildings. Using locally sourced food, cooked simply: **eating, drinking and lodgings.**

The Olde Bell Inn, The High St, Hurley, Berkshire, SL6 5LX
T: 01628 825 881
www.coachinginn.co.uk

THINGS TO DO:

OUTDOORS

LOCAL WALKS: The Thames Path, a new National Trail, passes through nearby Marlow. The path follows the River Thames, mostly along the old Thames towpath, from its source in the middle of a Cotswold meadow near Cirencester to the Thames Barrier in London. The Thames route is the first to follow a river for its entire length and pass through the heart of dense urban areas. A combination of level going and easy access by public transport makes it family-friendly.
www.thames-path.com

The Chiltern Hills are just to the north. From the ‘Time Out Country Walks near London’ book you can choose to complete the whole ‘Marlow Circular’ of a short or medium length version. The guide gives some historical background as well as spots of natural interest. A description of the Henley walk can be found at:
www.walkingclub.org.uk

The Ashbridge Estate is on the Herts and Bucks border, between Aylesbury and Hemel Hempstead. Vast swathe of woodlands and chalk downland at the north end of the Chiltern Hills. Including panoramas from Ivinghoe Beacon and the Duke of Bridgewater Monument, with extensive networks of footpaths and bridleways to explore, including easy access trails, a rich variety of wildlife to spot, like red kite and fallow deer, ancient woodlands with carpets of spring bluebells and fine autumnal displays and the historical remains from Iron Age to Victorian era.
Ashridge Estate Visitor Centre, Moneybury Hill, Berkhamsted
Hertfordshire HP4 1LX
T: 01442 851227 (Visitor centre and box office)

BIKES: We have a number of Ridgeback Mountain Bikes which overnight guests can take out for bike rides along the river or one of the many cycle routes in the local area. Please speak to reception about reserving your bike.

GARDENS: The Savill Garden is a mile from Englefield Green and 4 miles from Windsor Castle. It is open all the year round, except Christmas Day. Part of the Royal Landscape, the Savill Garden is one of Britain’s greatest ornamental gardens, enjoyed by horticulturalist and enthusiasts alike. Set in 35 acres, the garden mix native and exotic species and has bred many important garden hybrids. www.theroyallandscape.co.uk

INDOORS

The **Hughenden Manor**, part of the National Trust properties is the perfect escape on a rainy day. It was the country home of the Victorian statesman Benjamin Disraeli, Queen Victoria's favourite prime minister, and houses memorabilia, personal belongings, furnishings and paintings. The original colourful gardens designed by Disraeli's wife Mary Anne have been recreated, and the grounds include an riverside park and woodland trails with views over the Chilterns. 'Tracker Packs' can be provided for children to bring the history to life.

The Hughenden Manor, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP14 4LA
T: 01494 755565

Claydon House offers 18th-century English interiors in an idyllic country setting. It is a Georgian country house, with fine Chinoiserie and rococo decorations, intricate wood carvings and spectacular parquet staircase. Florence Nightingale, who was once a regular visitor. All Saints Church in the grounds is also open to the public.

Middle Claydon, nr Buckingham, Buckinghamshire MK18 2EY
T:01494 755561

Enid Blyton's House is open for visitors from May 26th – August 27th, on Saturdays and Sundays from 11am – 5pm. A lovely lace to enjoy tea and home-made cakes.

Old Thatch, Coldmoorholme Lane, Well End, Bucks, SL8 5PS
T: 01 6285 2718

The Stanley Spencer Galley displays work by this official war artist, who loved his home; the village of Cookham where he exiled in drawing and painting. The gallery space is a former Methodist Chapel, with two exhibitions held each year.

Opening times: Summer: March 21st - November 2nd 2008
Daily 10.30 - 5.30

Winter: November 3rd - April 5th 2009

Weekend and bank holidays only 11.00 - 4.30

The Kings Hall, High Street, Cookham, Berkshire, SL6 9SJ

T: 01628 471 885

www.stanleyspencer.org.uk

CHILDREN

Odds Farm Park

Get close up to animals. All year round activities including piggy's tea time, milking demonstrations to sheep racing. Outdoor activities include pedal go karts, sand pits and diggers to tractor and trailer rides. If it's chilly, there's a heated play barn.

Open 7 days a week

Wooburn Common, Wooburn, High Wycombe, Bucks., HP10 OX

01628 52018

www.oddsfarm.co.uk

Bagatelle Toys

Good toy shop if the children need bribing.

63 Bell Street, Henley on Thames, Oxfordshire RG9 1UP

T: 01491 576 559

FOOD AND WINE

Brown Sugar is a deli and bakery using traditional methods with no preservatives or additives.

3 London Road, Twyford, Berkshire, RG10 9AB

T: 0118 934 4200

www.brownsugarfood.co.uk

Gabriel Machin Butchers is an excellent butchery with on site smokery and specialist sausage makers. Knowledgeable staff more than willing to advise on cuts of meat.

7 Market Place Henley on Thames Oxfordshire RG9 2AA

T: 01491 574377

www.gabrielmachin.co.uk

The Vanilla Pod's discreet dining room is tucked away behind an elegant black door in Marlow's West Street. It was once home to T.S. Eliot and was described by Gordon Ramsay as 'using exceptional ingredients' and 'cooking from the heart.'

31 West Street, Marlow, Buckinghamshire, SL7 2LS

T:01628 898101

For further information on the surrounding area:

www.chilternsaonb.org