

**COMING TO ASHFORD SUMMER 2018**

Check our website [visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk](http://visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk) for more details

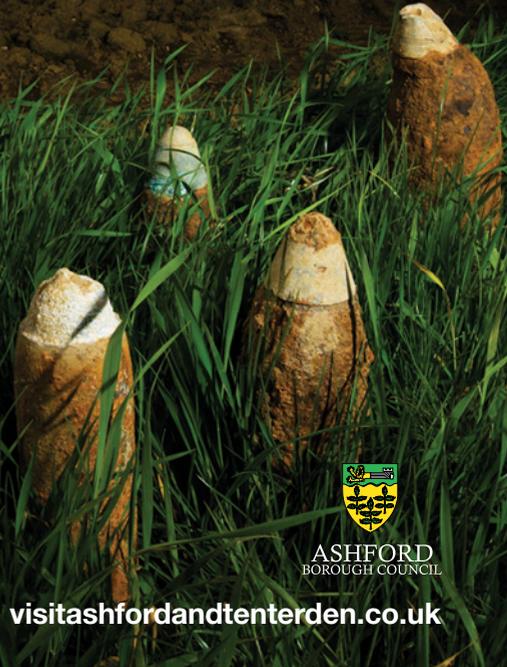
# Fields of Battle Lands of Peace 2018

A uniquely powerful  
pictorial commemoration  
of the First World War  
Battlefields 1914- 1918

PEACE & RECONCILIATION



©1918 Mike Sheil / Mary Evans Collection



ASHFORD  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

[visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk](http://visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk)

# Ashford & Tenterden Visitor Guide 2018

PLACES TO STAY & TO VISIT IN THE GARDEN OF ENGLAND

[visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk](http://visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk)



## ASHFORD TOURIST INFORMATION

Ashford Gateway, Church Road,  
Ashford, Kent, TN23 1AS

Tel: 01233 330316,  
[tourism@ashford.gov.uk](mailto:tourism@ashford.gov.uk);  
[visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk](http://visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk)

Open 10.15am – 3pm, Monday – Saturday, all year

- Accommodation bookings
- National Express & Euroline tickets
- Coach excursions, UK & Europe
- Local theatre bookings & London theatre tokens
- Souvenirs, maps & publications

## A large print copy of this guide is available

Produced and published by Ashford Borough Council, 2018. Designed by The Design Practice.

This brochure is designed to be a guide and anything featured in it does not constitute a recommendation. All the Accommodation and 'Must See, Must Do' listings are paid entries and Ashford Borough Council cannot be held responsible for the suitability, availability or fitness of any particular establishment or for any inaccuracies or recently changed information. Please check prices and opening times before booking.



ASHFORD  
BOROUGH COUNCIL





villages, it has a host of beautiful gardens, historic houses, National Trust properties, steam railways, award-winning vineyards and unique attractions all waiting to be discovered.

There's also a lot on offer for those who enjoy outdoor pursuits such as walking, cycling and golf as well as great places to relax for those preferring something less active. There are also many excellent places to eat and drink with plenty of delicious Kentish produce on the menu.

While Ashford and Tenterden couldn't be 'better placed' for visitors wishing to see all the sights of London or enjoy the English seaside, it's also an ideal base to discover the very best of the Garden of England.

Set amongst beautiful 'Darling Buds of May' countryside of oast houses and picturesque

Ashford's high-speed train service means London is only 38 minutes away. Ashford also boasts excellent motorway links (M20/M2) and is just a short distance from Dover, the Channel Tunnel and Canterbury. Why not combine your visit to the area with a trip by Eurostar to Paris, Brussels, Lille, Lyon or even further afield to Marseille.



Photo: Lewis J Brockway

## Contents

Warm Welcome	2	Time Out	13
Ashford & Tenterden	3	Must See, Must Do	16
Booking Made Simple	4	Events in 2018	24
Accommodation	5	Out & About	26

## Photo credits

With special thanks to Lewis J Brockway – [concertandstagephotography.com](http://concertandstagephotography.com) 077241 26035  
 Andrew Hardy, Phil Edwards, Caroline Edmunds, Martin Fagg, Graham Gillson, Gusbourne Estate, Ady Kerry ABIPP, Alexander Nightingale-Smith, Ros Orpin, Pixel Kitchen, Mike Shiels/Mary Evans Collection, The Big Cat Sanctuary, The National Trust.



## Ashford

Ashford – where the traditional market town meets the vibrancy of a modern international gateway and the old and new sit easily alongside each other.

Ashford's International Station, along with the town's busy street cafés and 'Shared Space' for pedestrians and vehicles, lends a truly continental feel. There are two town shopping centres, County Square and Park Mall and a Designer Outlet a short distance away. At night stay in town for ten-pin bowling or head to nearby Eureka Leisure with its 12-screen cinema and wide choice of restaurants



The narrow alleyways of Middle Row feature mediaeval, Georgian and Jacobean buildings, while the historic churchyard, surrounded by weather-boarded cottages, remains a tranquil green oasis. Here you'll find the local museum, built in 1635 to house Ashford's first Grammar School, and the 12th century church which hosts top international artists with its Revelation Ashford series. The town's rare World War 1 Mark IV female tank sits proudly in nearby St George's Square.

## Tenterden

Known as the 'Jewel of the Weald', Tenterden offers the best of all worlds – fascinating history, a wealth of architecture, family fun and excellent shopping – all within everyone's idea of a typical country town. It's also home to the steam trains of the Kent & East Sussex Railway.

At its centre are the tree-lined greens that distance you from the world going by. So you can shop at a relaxed pace, browsing in a range of quirky independent stores and experiencing shopping as it used to be – just the place to find that special gift or antique.

Historic Georgian buildings share the streets with tall Victorian houses and tiny cottages; brick and stucco blend easily alongside traditional Kent tile and weatherboard, creating a unique timeless air.

## Ease & Quality

For extra reassurance all the properties are either quality assured, are in the process of seeking quality assurance or are signed up to the Ashford Tourism Charter.

Being part of a quality scheme means that the accommodation has either been assessed through the star-rated National Quality Assurance Scheme or the Kent Accommodation Scheme (KAS). In both cases accommodation is visited annually by an independent assessor.

The national scheme, operated by Visit England and the AA, assesses the quality of the property and awards a one to five star rating.

The Kent scheme, operated by Visit Kent, checks legal compliance and the standard of cleanliness and maintenance.

The Ashford Tourism Charter is operated by Ashford Borough Council. While not an inspection scheme, the charter requires accommodation providers to confirm that they comply with all the relevant legislation such as planning and health and safety.

## Prices

Prices shown in the hotels and bed & breakfast section are for bed and full English breakfast (inc. of VAT, where applicable) per room per night unless otherwise stated. Prices for self-catering are per unit or per pitch per week and will vary dependent on the season.

## Booking

All the properties can be booked directly with the individual provider or by visiting or calling our Tourist Information Centre (TIC).

**Ashford TIC, Ashford Gateway,  
Church Road, Ashford, TN23 1AS.**  
01233 330316; [tourism@ashford.gov.uk](mailto:tourism@ashford.gov.uk)  
[visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk](http://visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk)

## Disabled Visitors

Some providers have received the Visit Britain Accessibility Grading – Mobility M1 to M4, Hearing H1 to H4 and Visual V1 to V4. Those that have not been assessed are still able to cater for visitors with particular needs – look for the wheelchair symbol and contact the provider before booking.

## Guide to Symbols

### Hotels and Bed & Breakfast

- Broadband
- Children under 12 welcome
- Conference facilities
- Cot available
- Credit cards accepted
- Disabled facilities (please check for details)
- Dogs accepted
- Euros accepted
- Ground floor bedrooms
- Kent Accommodation Scheme
- Locally produced food
- No smoking policy throughout
- Smoking permitted in bedrooms
- Parking facilities
- Rural location
- TV in bedrooms
- VisitBritain Accessibility Grading for: mobility impairment M1-M4
- Wi-fi



Visit Britain/AA gold, silver & breakfast awards



Official accreditation for cyclists & walkers



Green accreditation (gold, silver, bronze)

### Self Catering and Camping & Caravanning

- Bath
- Broadband
- Children under 12 welcome
- Cooking by electricity
- Cooking by gas
- Cot available
- Credit cards accepted
- Disabled facilities (please check for details)
- Dishwasher
- Dogs accepted
- Euros accepted
- Fixed shower
- Flush toilets
- Kent Accommodation Scheme
- Laundry facilities
- No smoking policy throughout
- Parking facilities
- Rural location
- Tumble dryer
- TV
- Video or DVD
- VisitBritain Accessibility Grading for: mobility impairment M1-M4
- Washing machine
- Welcome Pack
- Wi-fi

M1-M4 VisitBritain Accessibility Grading for: mobility impairment M1-M4

- Washing machine
- Welcome Pack
- Wi-fi

**ASHFORD Ashford International Hotel** AA ★★★★★ 1.2m from centre of Ashford, Ashford Int'l

**Simone Weil Avenue  
Ashford TN24 8UX  
Tel: 01233 219988**

**Email: [ashfordreservations@qhotels.co.uk](mailto:ashfordreservations@qhotels.co.uk) [qhotels.co.uk](http://qhotels.co.uk)**



Green Tourism Business Scheme – Gold Award  
Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence



**Open all year**  
\* Conditions apply



A perfect base from which to explore the Garden of England—from Leeds Castle to some of England's largest vineyards. Conveniently located for visitors travelling from all over the UK and Europe whether by road, rail, Eurostar or air! London is only 38 minutes away via the high-speed Javelin service.

**Bedrooms:** 179, En suite.

**Prices:** D/TW from £90, FAM from £125, SUITE from £135, D/TW for SO from £90.

**ASHFORD Eastwell Manor – A Champneys Spa Hotel** ATC (Ashford Tourism Charter)

**Eastwell Park Boughton Lees Ashford TN25 4HR**

**Tel: 0843 2241700**

**Email: [reservations@eastwellmanor.co.uk](mailto:reservations@eastwellmanor.co.uk)  
[eastwellmanor.co.uk](http://eastwellmanor.co.uk)**

**Open all year**

5m north of Ashford, Ashford Int'l



Eastwell Manor, a Champneys Spa Hotel sits in the heart of the Garden of England, five miles from Ashford International Station. Set among stunning grounds, the oak-panelled interiors and whimsical walled gardens are a fairy tale setting for English country weddings. Take afternoon tea by the cosy log fire, sample the finest local produce in the Manor restaurant (awarded two AA rosettes for Culinary Excellence) or slip on a robe and relax in the Champneys spa.



**Bedrooms:** 60, En suite.

**Prices:** D/TW from £125, FAM from £250, 4 POSTER from £200, SUITE from £380.

Single Room **S**; Double Room **D**; Twin Room **TW**; Triple Room **TPL**; Family Room **FAM**;  
Double/Twin for Single Occupancy **D/TW for SO**; En suite **Ens**; Private Bathroom **PB**; Shared Bathroom **SB**

## ASHFORD Holiday Inn Ashford North

★★★ 5m NW of Ashford, ⇨ Ashford Int'l

Maidstone Road Hothfield  
Ashford TN26 1AR  
Tel: 01233 713333

Email: [reservations@hiashford.com](mailto:reservations@hiashford.com)  
[holidayinnashford.com](http://holidayinnashford.com)

Located minutes away from the M20 motorway, Holiday Inn Ashford North A20 offers a warm welcome with contemporary interiors, comfortable spacious bedrooms, home cooked food and friendly efficient service. Wi-fi in public areas and bedrooms.

**Bedrooms:** 92, En suite. **Prices:** Single and Double from £82.



Open all year



3

## TENTERDEN Little Silver Country Hotel

AA ★★★ 1.5m from centre of Tenterden,

⇨ Headcorn/ Ashford Int'l

Ashford Road St. Michaels  
Tenterden TN30 6SP  
Tel: 01233 850321

Email: [enquiries@little-silver.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@little-silver.co.uk)  
[little-silver.co.uk](http://little-silver.co.uk)

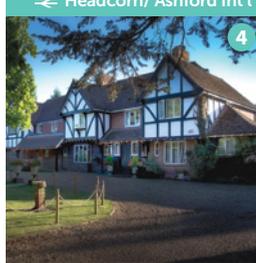
Elegant Tudor-style hotel retaining all the warmth and charms of its origin. Luxury bedrooms, some with spa baths. Bespoke mobility rooms. Excellent restaurant, ample parking, licensed for wedding ceremonies.

**Bedrooms:** 16, En suite.

**Prices:** D/TW £99, FAM £130, 4 POSTER £150, SUITE from £165, D/TW for SO £65.



Open all year



4

## TENTERDEN London Beach Hotel, Spa &amp; Country Club

★★★ 1.5m from centre of Tenterden,

⇨ Headcorn/ Ashford Int'l

Ashford Road St. Michaels Tenterden TN30 6HX  
Tel: 01580 766279

Email: [enquiries@londonbeach.com](mailto:enquiries@londonbeach.com)  
[londonbeach.com](http://londonbeach.com)



Open all year



5

Tenterden's premiere Hotel, Spa and Golf Club has large luxury en-suite bedrooms with balconies overlooking the magnificent parkland golf course. The Spa has excellent facilities including a large hydrotherapy pool. The hotel restaurant serves delicious meals, lighter snacks and cream teas throughout the day (7am-9pm). The head chef makes it a priority to source local produce whenever possible.

**Bedrooms:** 24, En suite.

**Prices:** All from: D £130, TW £150, TPL £185, FAM & 4 POSTER £185, D/TW for SO £95.

## EGERTON The Barrow House

ATC (Ashford Tourism Charter) 9m NW of Ashford,

⇨ Pluckley/ Ashford Int'l

The Street Egerton Ashford TN27 9DJ  
Tel: 01233 756599  
Email: [digin@thebarrowhouse.co.uk](mailto:digin@thebarrowhouse.co.uk)  
[thebarrowhouse.co.uk](http://thebarrowhouse.co.uk)



Open all year

The Barrow House is a village pub in Egerton with three beautiful bedrooms. The inn prides itself on its menu, prepared with seasonal local produce. Behind the bar there are local ales, craft beers and a wide selection of great wines by the glass.

**Bedrooms:**

3, En suite.

**Prices:**

D Ens from £100,  
TW Ens from £90.



6

Photo: Pixel Kitchen

## SISSINGHURST The Milk House

ATC (Ashford Tourism Charter) 7.5m NW of Tenterden,

⇨ Staplehurst/ Headcorn

The Street Sissinghurst TN17 2JG  
Tel: 01580 720200  
Email: [fresh@themilkhouse.co.uk](mailto:fresh@themilkhouse.co.uk)  
[themilkhouse.co.uk](http://themilkhouse.co.uk)



Open all year



7

Photos: Alexander Nightingale-Smith

The Milk House is a pub in Sissinghurst with four beautiful bedrooms. Spacious and light, these are relaxing and home-from-home with comfortable beds, luxurious en suite bathrooms and scenic views of the village and surrounding orchards. An overnight stay is completed with a hearty breakfast in the morning.

**Bedrooms:** 4, En suite.

**Prices:** D £80-£120, TW £100-£130, FAM £100-£160, 4 POSTER £100-£140. Prices change depending on the day of the week and the season.

**ELMSTED Elmsted Court Farm**

Silver & Breakfast Awards ★★★★★ 9m NE of Ashford,  
⇒ Wye/Ashford Int'l

**Elmsted**  
Ashford TN25 5JN  
Tel: 01233 750269  
Email: info@bandbcanterbury.co.uk  
bandbcanterbury.co.uk



Open all year, closed  
Christmas & New Year

14th century family farmhouse on working sheep farm in beautiful, peaceful rural Kent. Ideal location for exploring Kent or as a stopover for the Channel Tunnel. A warm welcome assured.

**Bedrooms:** 2, En suite.  
**Prices:** D/TW £90-£100, FAM from £120, D/TW for SO £60-£70.



8

**HAWKHURST Applebloom Bed & Breakfast**

★★★★ 10.5m W of Tenterden,  
⇒ Staplehurst/Ashford Int'l

**White Rose Cottage**  
Conghurst Lane Four Throws  
Hawkhurst TN18 5DZ  
Tel: 01580 753347



Open all year

Email: alectravers40@hotmail.com www.applebloom.co.uk  
Applebloom Bed & Breakfast is a quintessential Kentish cottage with lovely gardens set amidst acres of apple orchards in a quiet country lane, enjoying spectacular views over the Wealden countryside.  
**Bedrooms:** 3, 1 En suite, 2 Private bathrooms.  
**Prices:** D/TW (Ens) £80, D (PB) £75. Supplementary charge for one night stays. Discount for single occupancy and stays of three or more nights.



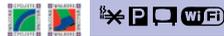
9

**TENTERDEN Little Dane Court**

★★★★ Town Centre, ⇒ Headcorn/Ashford Int'l

**1 Ashford Road Tenterden TN30 6AB**  
Tel: 01580 763389  
Email: littledanecourt@gmail.com  
littledanecourt.co.uk

Open all year – closed in February



Little Dane Court is located in the centre of Tenterden, minutes from the shops and K&ESR station. Five bedrooms including a cottage in the garden and a courtyard for al fresco breakfasts are features to enjoy.

**Bedrooms:** 5,  
3 En suite, 2 shared bathrooms.  
**Prices:** D (Ens)  
£140-£160,  
TW SB £120-£130,  
FAM (2 x TW rooms)  
£200-£220, Cottage  
Suite £175-£195.



10

Single Room **S**; Double Room **D**; Twin Room **TW**; Triple Room **TPL**; Family Room **FAM**;  
Double/Twin for Single Occupancy **D/TW for SO**; En suite **Ens**; Private Bathroom **PB**; Shared Bathroom **SB**

**TENTERDEN The White Cottage**

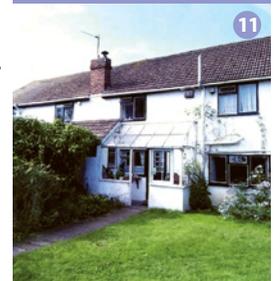
ATC (Ashford Tourism Charter) 2m N of Tenterden,  
⇒ Headcorn/Ashford Int'l

**Ashford Road St Michaels**  
Tenterden TN30 6SR  
Tel: 01233 850583  
Email: ruth@thewhitecottagebedandbreakfast.co.uk  
thewhitecottagebedandbreakfast.co.uk



Open all year

Guests lounge and entrance. We give you a key so that you can come and go as you please. Free parking and wi-fi, television in bedrooms plus tea-making facilities.  
**Bedrooms:** 2, 1 En suite, 1 Private shower room (PS).  
**Prices:** D Ens £73, TW PS £73, D/TW for SO £55.



11

**ASHFORD The Stable Cottage**

ATC (Ashford Tourism Charter) 6m S of Ashford,  
⇒ Hamstreet/Ashford Int'l

**c/o Coldblow Lodge**  
Woodchurch  
Ashford TN26 3PH  
Tel: 01233 860388  
Email:

carol@coldblowlodge.co.uk  
thestablecottage.co.uk  
The Stable Cottage, with its idyllic rural location and beautiful views, is conveniently located for visiting numerous historic houses, gardens and the coast. Visitors can relax in the summerhouse after a day's sightseeing. Free wireless internet and safe off-road parking. DIRECT BOOKINGS AND DISCOUNTS FOR TWO PERSONS ONLY OFFER EXCEPTIONAL VALUE.

One cottage – sleeps up to 4 (2 bedrooms).  
**Rent per week:** £335-£395.



12



Open all year

**MERSHAM Gill Farm Self Catering Cottages & B&B**

Gold Award 6m E of Ashford,  
⇒ Ashford Int'l

**Gill Farm Gill Lane Mersham**  
Ashford TN25 7HZ  
Tel: 01233 720345 07815 138877  
Email: jan@gillfarm.co.uk  
gillfarm.co.uk



Open all year

The Barn (4 guests) and Stable (2 guests) in idyllic setting. Ground floor accommodation with secure parking. Lovely gardens full of wildlife. Close to ferry ports, Kent coast and picturesque countryside. 'Gold and four star' awards. Linen, towels and wi-fi included. B&B also available.  
**Rent per week:** £310-£550. Short breaks from £90 per day (seasonal).



13

## CHILHAM Monckton Cottages

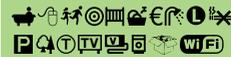
★★★★ 8m NE of Ashford, ⇨ Chilham/Ashford Int'l

## Heron Manor

Chilham CT4 8DG

Tel: 00 44 1277 730256 00 44 7789 431760

Email: hah.kirwan@gmail.com www.monckton-cottages.com



Open all year



Charming self-contained cottages in historic 15th century manor, listed Grade II by English Heritage set in four acres. Outstanding rural location, overlooking Chilham Castle park in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, right on the North Downs Way. Immaculate, well equipped, log fires/wood burning stove, free wireless internet. Ideal for relaxing and for walks. Two cottages sleeping from 2–8.

**Rent per week:** From £355–£840 depending on choice of cottage and season.

## SHADOXHURST Green Farm Barn

Gold Award ★★★★★ 5m SW of Ashford,

⇨ Ashford Int'l

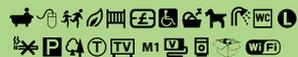
## Duck Lane

Shadoxhurst TN26 1LT

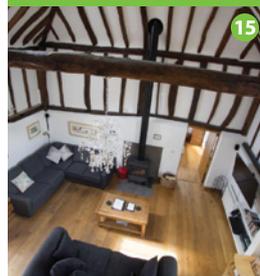
Tel: 01233 733997

Email: maryann@greenfarmkent.co.uk

greenfarmkent.co.uk



Open all year



A luxurious five bedroom barn on a farm in the delightful Kentish Weald. Accommodation for up to 12 guests (14 maximum). Wonderful for family get-togethers, multiple families holidaying together, special occasions and groups of friends!

**Rent per week:** Whole property £1,600–£2,750 depending on season. Short breaks are available.

# Looking ahead!

We're thrilled about some exciting projects coming to Ashford

*Ashford Snowdogs*

A magical public art experience, Sept to Nov 2018

*The Curious Brewery*

Opening late 2018

*New Picturehouse boutique cinema, hotel & restaurants*

Opening late 2018

*Ashford Designer Outlet*

£90m extension with up to 50 new designer stores and restaurants due to open Autumn 2019

## CRANBROOK Bramley &amp; Teal Holiday Cottages

3A Stone Street

Cranbrook

TN17 3HF

Tel: 01580 713669

Email: bookings@bramleyandteal.co.uk

bramleyandteal.co.uk

BRAMLEY & TEAL  
HOLIDAY COTTAGES

Bramley & Teal offer luxurious self-catering cottages across the beautiful counties of Kent & Sussex.

From unique railway carriages and shepherd's huts to stunning oast houses, barn conversions and luxury farmhouses, we have something to suit every taste and budget.

Call our friendly and knowledgeable team for holidays and short breaks.



## CRANBROOK Kent &amp; Sussex Holiday Cottages

15 High Street Cranbrook TN17 3EB

Tel: 01580 720770

kentandsussexcottages.co.uk

12 King Street Sandwich CT13 9BT

Tel: 01304 619444

Email: info@kentandsussexcottages.co.uk

We have cosy countryside cottages, stunning barn conversions, charming fisherman's cottages and splendid seaside houses. With 300 star graded self-catering holiday properties from the beautiful countryside of the High Weald to the dramatic and varied coast of Kent and Sussex, our local team will help you find the perfect place to stay.



KENT & SUSSEX  
HOLIDAY COTTAGES



**ASHFORD Broadhembury Caravan & Camping Park** AA 5 pennants ★★★★★ 3m S of Ashford, Ashford Int'l  
**Steeds Lane Kingsnorth** Ashford TN26 1NQ  
 Tel: 01233 620859  
 Email: [holidaypark@broadhembury.co.uk](mailto:holidaypark@broadhembury.co.uk) [broadhembury.co.uk](http://broadhembury.co.uk)

Open all year



Broadhembury offers 5\* holiday homes, glamping and camping and caravanning. Holiday in true comfort, whatever the season. Separate adults camping and family park with playgrounds and children's facilities. Award winning centrally heated amenities. Exceptional location for exploring Kent, Canterbury, London and Paris. The Kentish coast, world famous castles and gardens and vineyards are all within easy reach.

**No. of pitches:** 110. **Prices:** From £19–£30 per night per pitch (2 adults). Call for details.

# Cheers!

A guide to the Tenterden area's must-visit vineyards and breweries

Many leading winemakers are located in the Tenterden area – but it's not just wine. Conditions are also ideal for growing hops, apples and pears to make delicious beers, ciders and juices.

Each vineyard and brewery is unique and has something different to explore, so contact us for a free guide.

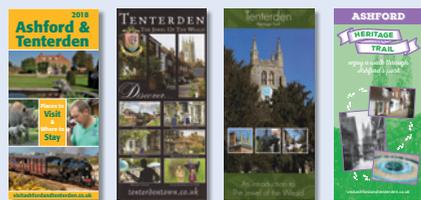
[visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk](http://visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk)

## Our Website & Brochures



Check out our website for all the latest news: [visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk](http://visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk)

If you've been inspired to visit Ashford and Tenterden, then why not contact us for a brochure: [tourism@ashford.gov.uk](mailto:tourism@ashford.gov.uk)



Places to Visit, Where to Stay | Discover Tenterden | Tenterden Heritage Trail | Ashford Heritage Trail

## Time Out

### Family Fun

Start in Tenterden and let one of the **Kent & East Sussex Railway's** steam trains take you on a nostalgic round trip to Bodiam. Here you can explore mediaeval **Bodiam Castle** and re-enact historic battles. The railway regularly hosts special events such as 'A Day Out With Thomas'.



Continue on to Woodchurch; there's fun, excitement and adventure at the **Rare Breeds Centre** with friendly farm animals, falconry and an exotic butterfly tunnel! **Port Lympne Reserve** is home to Kent's only authentic safari experience where in 100 acres of Kentish savannah giraffes, black rhinos and wildebeest roam free – there's also a variety of onsite accommodation including luxury glamping.

Nearby is the **Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Railway** which takes visitors on a wonderful journey on one third full-size steam and diesel trains between Hythe and Dungeness. Or get into the Christmas spirit at the **Capralama Reindeer Centre**, Bethersden.

### Historic Houses & Gardens

At **Beech Court Gardens** you'll find a true 'garden for all seasons' with an exceptional collection of acers, firs, oaks and pines. Head towards Ashford, pausing to admire the **Eastwell Towers**, an impressive gateway to the 300-acre Eastwell Park Estate. Nearby at **Godinton House** there's wonderful carving, furniture and porcelain and 12 acres of beautiful gardens set in tranquil parkland.

**Smallhythe Place** once belonged to Victorian actress Ellen Terry and now houses theatrical costumes and artefacts. There's also a traditional garden, barn theatre with regular shows, and theatre tearoom. Discover **Hole Park**, Rolvenden, where the garden is a riot of colour, whatever the season. Particularly spectacular are the endless carpet of bluebells, the rich mauves of the wisteria and the vibrant colour of the rhododendrons and azaleas. At **Great Dixter**, near Northiam there's the 'ultimate English Garden' created by gardening writer Christopher Lloyd.





## Food & Drink

Tenterden has a great choice of eating places including a whole host of independent restaurants, coffee shops and tea rooms. There's even fine dining aboard the Kent & East Sussex Railway's **Wealden Belle Pullman**. And just moments from the High Street and next to the Kent & East Sussex Railway, tours and tastings are on offer at the **Old Dairy Brewery**. At Small Hythe you'll find the renowned **Chapel Down Winery** with its fine food store and restaurant – **The Swan at Chapel Down**.



Biddenden is home to Graham Garrett's Michelin star restaurant, **The West House** and to award-winning **Biddenden Vineyards**, Kent's oldest commercial vineyard and the county's largest producer of ciders and apple juices.

The area really is becoming something of a destination for the discerning wine lover. **The Gusbourne Estate** at Appledore and the **Hush Heath Winery** in Staplehurst produce exceptional quality English sparkling wines, while the smaller vineyards at **Harbourne, Sandhurst, Westwell** and **Woodchurch** are well worth checking out.

## Village Charm

**Charing**, close to the Pilgrims' Way, is a village full of charm with its historic High Street, mix of independent shops, delightful tearoom and medieval Archbishop's Palace. It's easy to see why the perfectly preserved village of **Chilham**, with its traditional village square, church and castle, is a much sought after film location – the BBC's adaptation of Jane Austen's *Emma* and ITV's *Miss Marple* have both been set there. Nearby **Wye** houses the splendid mediaeval buildings of the former Wye College and is a good base from which to discover the Kent Downs.

**Pluckley** is well worth a visit too, it's reputed to be the most haunted place in Britain and was the setting for H E Bates' *The Darling Buds of May*.

Nearby **Smarden** has more than 100 listed buildings – many feature in the village's heritage trail. It's home to the **Wildlife Heritage Foundation Big Cat Sanctuary** where lions, tigers and leopards enjoy the Kentish countryside.



## Market Days

Visitors are spoilt for choice when it comes to markets. In Ashford there is a **Farmers' Market** on the first Sunday of each month with seasonal themes, chef demonstrations and plenty of delicious local produce to sample. A regular **Livestock Market** also takes place at Orbital Park just outside the town.

**Friday is Market Day in Tenterden** with stalls outside the historic town hall and in the new Market Square. The farmers' markets in **Rolvenden and Wye** are two of the very best in Kent.

## History & Heritage

Head to Woodchurch and visit the **Windmill** and the **Village Life Museum**. **Tenterden Museum** reveals the story of the town's 'Cinque Ports' connection, while close by at Rolvenden you'll discover the **CM Booth Collection of Historic Vehicles**. Windmill enthusiasts will find **Stocks Mill**, Kent's tallest post mill at Wittersham.

Celebrate Ashford's railway heritage at the **Borough Museum** or see corn being ground at **Willesborough Windmill**. Here you'll also find displays relating to the town's industrial heritage. At **Brook Agricultural Museum** there are wagons, reapers, ploughs and almost everything from the horse drawn age.

## Leisure Time

Enjoy the exciting leisure pools at **Ashford and Tenterden Leisure Centres** or get sporty at Ashford's **Julie Rose Stadium**.

For those that prefer to be pampered, excellent pool and spa facilities are on offer at **Eastwell Manor** and **London Beach** while **Green Farm**, in its tranquil rural setting in Shadoxhurst, hosts wellness weekends. Head to Challock for gliding or nearby **Headcorn Aerodrome** for parachuting.



**Ashford Designer Outlet TN24 0SD**



At McArthurGlen Designer Outlet Ashford you'll find your favourite brands at up to 60% less, all year round. There's something for everyone, from cafes, restaurants, a children's play area and more than 80 boutiques.

The centre is conveniently located just a five minute walk away from Ashford International train station and less than 30 minutes from Dover Port.



Our wide selection of stores range from iconic fashion brands such as Abercrombie & Fitch, Jaeger, Jack Wills, Kurt Geiger, Ted Baker, Fred Perry and Lacoste to athletic labels, such as Nike and Adidas, and high-street favourites, such as Guess, Levi's, Links of London, Superdry, French Connection and Molton Brown.

Treat yourself to a Pizza Express, wagamama or a snack from Patisserie Valerie. Sit down with Caffè Nero to relax and enjoy the beautiful surroundings.

**T:** 01233 895900 **E:** [guestservices@ashforddesigneroutlet.com](mailto:guestservices@ashforddesigneroutlet.com)

**W:** [ashforddesigneroutlet.com](http://ashforddesigneroutlet.com) **Situated:** Kimberley Way Ashford TN24 0SD

**Open:** Mon – Fri 10am – 8pm, Sat 9am – 8pm, Sun 10am\*-6pm \*Larger stores open 11am – 5pm.

**Biddenden Vineyards TN27 8DF**



Visitors are welcome to stroll around the 24 acre vineyard which has been owned and managed independently by the Barnes family since 1969. Tastings of the award-winning, estate-grown still and sparkling wines, Kentish ciders and juices are available in the vineyard shop which stocks a selection of local produce.



**T:** 01580 291726 **E:** [info@biddendenvineyards.co.uk](mailto:info@biddendenvineyards.co.uk) **W:** [biddendenvineyards.com](http://biddendenvineyards.com)

Find us on Facebook [f Biddenden Vineyards Ltd](#), or follow us on Twitter [@BiddendenVine](#) or Instagram [@biddendenvineyards](#) **Situated:** 1.5 miles from Biddenden village, just off A262. **Admission:** Free admission and tastings daily. Charity tours for families and private individuals, Saturdays, 10am all year, Wednesdays June – September. Private guided tours and group bookings for 15+ people can be booked in advance, call for details.

**Open:** Daily, Mon – Sat 10am – 5pm; Sun/Bank Hols 11am – 5pm, closed Sundays in January and February and from noon on 24 Dec – 1 Jan inclusive.



**County Square Shopping Centre TN23 1YD**



County Square in Ashford's town centre has over fifty stores including Debenhams, M&S, Next, H&M, River Island, New Look, Peacocks, Pandora and JD Sports.

Apart from fashion, there's a whole world of shopping, places to eat plus a soft play area for under 5s, along with a Shopmobility Scheme and NCP car park.

**T:** 01233 634001 **W:** [countysquashoppingcentre.com](http://countysquashoppingcentre.com)

**Situated:** In the heart of Ashford town centre.

**Open:** Daily 9am – 5.30pm, Sun 10am – 4pm. Closed Christmas Day and Easter Sunday.

**Godinton House & Gardens TN23 3BP**



Enjoy a tour of this delightful Jacobean house. Explore the 12 acres of beautiful gardens and parkland complete with tearoom serving homemade cakes. Free parking. Events throughout the year.

**T:** 01233 643854 **W:** [godintonhouse.co.uk](http://godintonhouse.co.uk)

**Situated:** Godinton Lane, off A20, W of Ashford (J9, M20).

**Admission:** House & Gardens: Adults £10, Gardens only: Adults £5, children under 16 free.

**Events:** Delphinium Week: 15 June – 24 June, Sculpture in the Gardens: 21 July – 12 August.

**Open:** Gardens: 1 March – 1 November daily, 1pm – 6pm. House: 6 April – 7 October (Fri, Sat, Sun & Bank Holiday Mons) 1pm – 5pm (last tour 4pm). Booked groups welcome Mon to Thurs.



**Green Farm Barn and Green Farm Spa TN26 1LS**



Relax, unwind, and experience indulgent ESPA treatments in our tranquil natural surroundings. Perfect to recharge and de-stress from everyday life. Guests can come for a single treatment, Spa day or Spa stay. Enjoy the tranquillity of our walled garden, the hot tub and sauna, by the log fire. Roam the farm, meet our animals and enjoy the wildlife. We also run retreats with art and yoga.

**T:** 01233 733997 **W:** [greenfarmkentco.uk](http://greenfarmkentco.uk)

**Situated:** 4 miles SW of Ashford, Duck Lane, Shadoxhurst.

**Open:** All year and by prior booking, Mon – Wed & Sun 10am – 5pm, Thurs and Fri 10am – 8pm, Sat 10am – 6pm.



Hole Park TN17 4JB



15 acres of private gardens in delightful parkland setting with far reaching views containing formal, meadow & woodland areas. Extensive yew hedge topiary, statuary, herbaceous borders, fine specimen trees & wisteria garden. Azaleas & rhododendrons in wooded valley beyond, bluebell walk & autumn colours.



**T:** 01580 241344 **E:** events@holepark.com

**W:** holepark.com **Situated:** 4m SW of Tenterden, midway Rolvenden & Benenden on B2068. **Open:** Spring: daily 1 April – 9 June. (Bluebell season late April/early May). Summer: Wed & Thurs 13 June – 31 Oct, Autumn: Sundays 7, 14, 21 & 28 Oct. **All openings 11am – 6pm.** Morning coffee, light lunches & afternoon tea. Group visits a speciality and offered outside of these dates and times with bespoke catering. Owner conducted tours. Prior booking essential for groups and tours.

Hush Heath Winery TN12 0HT



Visit the vineyards and orchards of the picturesque Hush Heath Estate and enjoy a free self-guided tour. Groups of 6+ can choose to book a guided tour with tasting from £15 per person. The shop and vineyard are open daily from 11am to 5pm.

**T:** 01622 832794 **W:** hushheath.com

**Situated:** Five Oak Lane, Staplehurst, Kent.

**Open:** Daily 11am – 5pm.



Tenterden & District Museum TN30 6HN



Dip into 1,000 years of history discovering architectural trends, house or family history. Find out more with our interactive screen and audio guides – all encapsulated in six rooms on two floors!

**T:** 01580 764310 **W:** tenterdenmuseum.co.uk

**Situated:** Station Road, just off the High Street.

**Admission:** Adults £1.50, Concessions (over 60s) £1, Under 18s & students with valid card FREE.

**Open:** Daily Easter to end of June, 1.30pm to 4.30pm.

July, August and September and 1st week of October, 11am to 4.30pm. Sundays and Mondays 1.30pm to 4.30pm, Bank holiday Mondays 11am to 4.30pm.



Kent & East Sussex Railway TN30 6HE



Photo: Andrew Hardy



Photo: Phil Edwards

Everyone can enjoy a fun day out at Tenterden's Steam Railway. Perfect to visit whatever the weather, the line gently winds its way from Tenterden – "The Jewel of the Weald" for ten and a half miles, through the unspoilt countryside of the Rother Valley, to terminate in the shadow of the magnificent National Trust castle at Bodiam. With carriages dating from the 1880s to 1960s everyone can enjoy a step back in time. Travelcards allow all day travel so hop on and off at any of the stations along the line.

**T:** 01580 765155 **W:** kesr.org.uk **Situated:** Tenterden Town Station, Tenterden, Kent, TN30 6HE. **Admission:** Advance booking online: Adult £16.20 Child £11.25, Family (2 adults & up to 3 children or 1 adult & up to 4 children) £34.20, purchasable up to 24 hours before travel. **On the Day:** Adult £18, Child £12.50, Family £38

**Events:** A Day Out with Thomas, February, July and September. Wartime weekend 19 – 20 May.

**Open:** See timetable or website for details.

Old Dairy Brewery TN30 6HE



The Old Dairy Brewery is nestled deep in the 'Garden of England', just moments from Tenterden's picturesque High Street. With glorious views over rolling countryside, the brewery is housed in two old WW II Nissen buildings next to the Kent & East Sussex Railway. One has been converted into a 30 barrel brewery, complete with shop & brewery tours. Production is focused on ODB's core beer range plus new, seasonal & speciality beers to satisfy the demanding palates of a growing fan base. With branding promoting the brewery's 'Garden of England' provenance, our core beers are nostalgically named: Red Top: a 3.8% abv 'classic' best bitter, Gold Top: a 4.3% abv golden pale ale, Blue Top: a 4.8% abv India pale ale.

**T:** 01580 763867 **W:** olddairybrewery.com **Situated:** Next to the Kent & East Sussex Railway in Tenterden (A28 between Ashford and Hastings). **Admission:** Shop hours, Mon – Fri 10am – 4pm, Sat 10am – 2pm; brewery tours Thurs 2.30pm & Sat 10.30am & 12.30pm (booking required).



Rare Breeds Centre TN26 3RJ



All year round fun! Friendly farm animals to meet and pet. Indoor Playbarn, Zip wire, Hill Fort, Tube Maze and 'Mysterious Marsh'. Creepy crawlies, daily Birds of Prey demonstrations, woodland walks, seasonal butterfly tunnel and pig racing. Trailer rides and various events throughout the year. Hot and cold food at great prices!

**T:** 01233 861493 **W:** rarebreeds.org.uk **Situated:** 9 miles SW of Ashford, take A2070 to Hamstreet and join B2067 to Woodchurch. **Open:** 1 April – 31 October daily, 10:30am – 5.30pm, 1 November – 31 March, 10:30am – 4:30pm, closed Mondays. Closed: 24 – 26 December and 1 Jan. **Admission:** Adult £10.75, Senior Citizen £9, Child 3-16 £9.50, Family (max 4) £35. Please note seasonal charges may apply.

Revelation Ashford TN23 1QG



Photo: Lewis J Brockway

Award-winning music/arts venue with a unique atmosphere, featuring international artists alongside Kent talent. Based in the awe-inspiring St. Mary's church in the town centre, it has excellent facilities and a licensed bar and free parking close by. Full programme details: revelationashford.co.uk or call 01233 663201.

**T:** 01233 663201

**Situated:** St. Mary's Church, Ashford Town Centre, TN23 1QG



Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway TN28 8PL



Photo: Graham Gillison

Visit the Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway for a day out with all the family. This world famous steam railway runs from the historic town of Hythe, through the seaside town of Dymchurch, whistling into the railway's headquarters at New Romney and steaming towards the shingle peninsular of Dungeness.

**T:** 01797 362353 **W:** rhdr.org.uk **Situated:** From the M20, leave at junction 11 and follow the brown tourist signs to Hythe or from Rye or Tenterden follow signs for New Romney. **Admission:** Romney Rover tickets cover the entire line, across all stations and are valid all day with complimentary entry into the Toy & Model Exhibition. Adult £18, Child (3-15 years) £9, Concessions £16, under 3 years travel free. **Open:** Trains run throughout the year. Seasonal variations apply. Office open 9am – 5pm.

Stour Centre



Julie Rose Stadium



Benefit from the widest range of leisure facilities in the Ashford area. With three swimming pools, athletics track, two fully equipped gyms, spin studio, over 140 group fitness classes weekly, plus a huge range of indoor activities such as squash, badminton, trampolining and football there is something for everyone. Both centres open all year except Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

For details on opening times, prices and facilities please visit [ashfordleisuretrust.co.uk](http://ashfordleisuretrust.co.uk)

**Stour Centre** TN23 1ET

**T:** 01233 663503

**E:** [enquiries@ashfordleisuretrust.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ashfordleisuretrust.co.uk)

**Situated:** 0.5m from Ashford Town Centre

**Julie Rose Stadium** TN24 9QX

**T:** 01233 613131

**E:** [enquiries@ashfordleisuretrust.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ashfordleisuretrust.co.uk)

**Situated:** 2.3m NE of Ashford Town Centre

Tenterden Folk Festival 2018

Partial P



Photos: Lewis J Brockway

Tenterden Folk Festival 2018 takes place from **Thursday 4th to Sunday 7th October** and will feature four days of folk song, music, dance, crafts and traditions. Free events include craft and street stalls, music and dance stages, dance displays, procession, song and music sessions, etc. Ticketed events include concerts, barn dance, workshops, folk clubs and more.



**W:** [tenterdenfolkfestival.org.uk](http://tenterdenfolkfestival.org.uk) **E:** [info@tenterdenfolkfestival.org.uk](mailto:info@tenterdenfolkfestival.org.uk)  
**W:** [tenterdencraftfair.org.uk](http://tenterdencraftfair.org.uk) **E:** [info@tenterdencraftfair.org.uk](mailto:info@tenterdencraftfair.org.uk)  
**Situated:** Various venues in and around Tenterden town centre.

The Chapel Down Winery TN30 7NG

Partial Q



Discover our fantastic wines and beers in the beautiful surroundings of our award winning visitor facilities. Enjoy our Wine and Fine Food Store, Restaurant and Terrace or take a walk in the Herb Garden and Vineyards. Our shop stocks a wide range of locally sourced food and drink, including

our range of Curious beers and cider. Wine tasting is always available. Join a guided tour (seasonal) to taste and learn how we grow vines and make wines in Tenterden. Gift Experience packages are available and we also cater for groups and corporate events. Families always welcome.

**T:** 01580 766111 **W:** [chapeldown.com](http://chapeldown.com)  
**E:** [bookings@chapeldown.com](mailto:bookings@chapeldown.com) **Situated:** In Small Hythe on the B2082 between Tenterden and Rye approximately 2.5 miles from Tenterden.  
**Admission:** Entrance free. **Open:** Seven days a week, 10am – 5pm.



The Big Cat Sanctuary TN27 8PJ

Partial R

The Big Cat Sanctuary is a centre for wild cats. Our objectives are welfare, breeding, education and conservation. The initiatives we undertake are a vital part in saving some of the most endangered and iconic species on the planet from extinction. Projects include co-ordinated breeding, contributions to frontline conservation strategies and the welfare of the sanctuary's resident cats who play an active ambassador role in securing a future for all wildlife and the natural world.

**T:** 01233 771915  
**W:** [thebigcatsanctuary.org](http://thebigcatsanctuary.org)  
**Situated:** Near the village of Headcorn, 11 miles west of Ashford.  
**Open:** All year by private appointment plus family open days once a year.  
 We offer personal big cat experiences – overnight stays, big cat encounters, photography, ranger days and adoptions.



**THE BIG CAT**  
SANCTUARY



WELFARE BREEDING CONSERVATION EDUCATION

PROTECTION IS OUR PASSION

UK Electric Bike Centre TN27 8DQ

S



Surrounded by beautiful countryside, the UK Electric Bike Centre offers a unique experience viewing Kent on an electric bike. Our self-guided tours take you to award-winning vineyards, castles, magnificent gardens and village pubs whilst cycling along pretty country lanes. Full day or half day hires available. Children must be 14 and over. Please call 07484 744200.

**T:** 01580 892259 **W:** [ukelectricbiketours.co.uk](http://ukelectricbiketours.co.uk) **E:** [info@ukelectricbike.co.uk](mailto:info@ukelectricbike.co.uk)  
**Situated:** Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden, 5m NW of Tenterden. **Open:** Summer (April – Sept) Thurs 11am -3pm, Fri and Sat 10am -4pm. Other days by appointment. Winter (Oct – March) by appointment. **Admission:** Full day hire £45 per bike (10am – 5pm), half day hire £35 per bike (10am-1pm or 2pm – 5pm). 10% discount for groups 7+. Trailers and tag-alongs and mountain bikes available.

Willesborough Windmill TN24 0QG



Take a guided tour of this working windmill to see how flour is made using the power of the wind and then visit The Barn Café for cream teas and light refreshments. For details of special



events held throughout the year please visit our website: [willesboroughwindmill.co.uk](http://willesboroughwindmill.co.uk). The Mill is also a licensed wedding venue and more information can be found at [windmillweddings.co.uk](http://windmillweddings.co.uk)

**T:** 01233 661866 **W:** [willesboroughwindmill.co.uk](http://willesboroughwindmill.co.uk)  
**Situated:** 1m east of Ashford. **Open:** April to end of October, 2pm – 5pm, Sat\*/Sun/Bank Holiday Mons and Wed during July/August. \*Please check our website before visiting on a Saturday as the Mill will be closed if there is a wedding.  
**Admission:** Free admission to mill site. There is a small charge for guided tours: Adult £3, Family £7, Concessions and Children over 5 years £1.50.

## Events in 2018

The diverse range of what's on in Ashford and Tenterden ensures there is something to suit most tastes and interests so here's a flavour of what's coming up. Head over to our website [visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk](http://visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk) where you will find a complete listing for the area.

24 – 25 March	Kent Big Weekend
9 – 13 April	Spring Week, Godinton House & Gardens
12 – 13 May	Steam & Diesel Gala, RH&DR*
10 June	Taste the Best of Produced in Kent, Biddenden Vineyards
30 June & 1 July	The Wealden Literary Festival, Woodchurch
21 July	Create Music Festival, Victoria Park, Ashford
26 – 29 July	The Big Cat Sanctuary Open Days, Smarden
18 – 19 August	Biddenden Tractorfest
1 – 2 September	Napoleonic Re-enactment Weekend, Hole Park
Sept – Nov	Ashford Snowdogs
4 – 7 October	Tenterden Folk Festival
Mid Nov – Dec	Reindeer Centre & Grotto, Bethersden
Various Dec Dates	Santa Specials, K&ESR* RH&DR*

For more events contact the **Tourist Information Service:** [tourism@ashford.gov.uk](mailto:tourism@ashford.gov.uk)  
[visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk](http://visitashfordandtenterden.co.uk)  
[tenterdentown.co.uk](http://tenterdentown.co.uk)  
[visitkent.co.uk](http://visitkent.co.uk)

\* K&ESR = Kent & East Sussex Railway  
 \* RHDR = Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway

# SNOWDOGS ARE COMING TO ASHFORD!



**GET READY, ASHFORD!**  
 SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2018

[ASHFORDSNOWDOGS.CO.UK](http://ASHFORDSNOWDOGS.CO.UK)

@ASHFORDSNOWDOGS



Come and relax in our garden. Ashford's countryside is full of contrasts, from the chalk grasslands of the Kent Downs with its carpet of wild flowers to the gentle rolling hills and wooded valleys of the Weald of Kent.

Take a walk along one of the historic footpaths such as the Pilgrim's Way or spend some time exploring Conningbrook Lakes Country Park.

Enjoy the unique atmosphere of the Romney Marsh, a landscape of rugged flat farmland and dramatic skylines. Visit Hothfield Heathlands, Kent's last remaining lowland peat bog home to Konik Ponies and Highland Cattle or stroll around the sculpture trail at Kings Wood.

There's also plenty to keep you active – numerous golf courses, including Chart Hills designed by Nick Faldo, gliding at Challock, fishing by the Royal Military Canal and many great cycle paths, including Route 18 that links Tunbridge Wells to Ashford via Tenterden.



- A** Ashford Designer Outlet
- B** Biddenden Vineyards
- C** County Square Shopping Centre
- D** Godinton House & Gardens
- E** Green Farm Barn & Green Farm Spa
- F** Hole Park
- G** Hush Heath Winery
- H** Tenterden & District Museum
- I** Kent & East Sussex Railway
- J** Old Dairy Brewery
- K** Rare Breeds Centre
- L** Revelation Ashford
- M** Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway
- N** Stour Centre
- O** Julie Rose Stadium
- P** Tenterden Folk Festival
- Q** The Chapel Down Winery
- R** The Big Cat Sanctuary
- S** UK Electric Bike Centre
- T** Willesborough Windmill

**PLAN YOUR VISIT – USE OUR MAP SHOWING ACCOMMODATION & 'MUST SEE, MUST DO' LOCATIONS**



Please note this map is just a visual guide, all locations are approximate and map is not to scale.

- 1** Ashford International Hotel
- 2** Eastwell Manor
- 3** Holiday Inn Ashford North
- 4** Little Silver Country Hotel
- 5** London Beach Hotel, Spa & Country Club
- 6** The Barrow House
- 7** The Milk House
- 8** Elmsted Court Farm
- 9** Applebloom Bed & Breakfast
- 10** Little Dane Court
- 11** The White Cottage
- 12** The Stable Cottage
- 13** Gill Farm Self Catering Cottages & B&B
- 14** Monckton Cottages
- 15** Green Farm Barn
- 16** Bramley & Teal Holiday Cottages
- 17** Kent & Sussex Holiday Cottages
- 18** Broadhembury Caravan & Camping Park