



Howard's House Hotel, Wiltshire

A beautiful country house hotel surrounded by history and art

by Alice Norman

The term 'nestles' can be overused, but it does well to describe the charming Howard's House Hotel which truly 'nestles' in the tiny village of Teffont Evias in Wiltshire.

Independently owned, the multi-award winning hotel is a classic country retreat - but it is not pretentious in any way. Rather it is delightfully cosy, with welcoming and attentive staff. The sitting room, complete with open fire, is the perfect place to have your afternoon tea or pre-dinner drink. And if the weather is kind, then the garden is a most delectable place to sit and enjoy the tranquillity that abounds.

One reason the hotel feels like a home is that it only has nine bedrooms, all en suite. They are a generous size, many complete with sofa, and have a luxurious feel with lovely views of either the garden or the village.

The restaurant is well utilised by the locals, as the chef, Andy, is known for his innovative and tasty cooking. Using produce from the hotel's own garden or locally sourced ingredients, the menu changes seasonally and puts together unusual and exciting flavours. On offer are starters such as crottin of goat's cheese in hazelnuts with watercress, parsnip crisps, and juniper berry balsamic glaze

or smoked duck breast with wild rocket, beets and orange. Main courses could be by a fillet of sea bass with herb crushed potatoes, tender stem broccoli, braised fennel and brown shrimp and saffron sauce or a loin of Wiltshire lamb with pommes anna, aubergine caviar, garden baby courgette and rosemary jus. Desserts include bitter chocolate tart with salted caramel ice-cream or seasonable berries.

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for exploring all the wonderful archaeology, history and art in the surrounding area. Just four miles away, in the village of Tisbury, is an old 12th-century tythe barn filled with art, while 13 miles away is the UNESCO World Heritage site of Stonehenge. Go east and you will find the city of Salisbury, home to the largest Cathedral spire in the whole of England and if you head west you will find the beautiful Georgian city of Bath.

Howard's House is truly one of those special places where you can enjoy the best of everything: service, food, and hospitality whilst exploring all that is on offer nearby.

Howard's House Hotel
Teffont Evias, Wiltshire
www.howardshousehotel.co.uk

Above, left: The hotel nestles in the Wiltshire countryside. Above, right, from top: Afternoon tea in the garden; The village of Teffont Evias with hotel on left and church on the right; Horse sculpture at Messums, Wiltshire; Chef Andy in the hotel garden; One of the luxurious bedrooms