



Dear Guests

May we extend the warmest of welcomes to The Lion Hotel at Buckden, Cambridgeshire, one of the oldest coaching inns in England. Dating back to 1492, we continue to retain much of our wonderful charm, character and atmosphere.

Whether you are looking for a quiet drink with friends, a Sunday lunch with the family or a place to rest your weary legs, our team will be delighted to welcome you. You can rest assured your time at The Lion, however long, will be very enjoyable.

Located in the heart of Cambridgeshire, Buckden is a small village just off the A1 giving you excellent access to London and The North not to mention all the local places of interest.

If you are dining or staying with us, we recommend a reservation, however, this is not a prerequisite so please feel free to drop in at any time for a bite to eat, a place to stay or just a refreshing drink.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Chris and Sue Hudson

Managing Directors

Meet our Management Team

Gillian Brown
Jordan Picking
James Underwood
Claire Bill
Carole Lean
Helen Mitchell

Deputy General Manager
Assistant Manager
Head Chef
Head Housekeeper
Restaurant Supervisor
Restaurant Supervisor



CHECK IN

Check in is from 3.00 pm on the day of arrival.

Early check in can be arranged if required (additional charge).

Reception is located just off the main Bar Area.

All payment for accommodation is taken on arrival.

CHECK OUT

Check out is by 11.00 am on the day of departure.

Please return all keys to reception before departure.

Late departures can be arranged at an additional cost if required.

RECEPTION OPENING TIMES

Monday - Sunday 7.00 am – 11.00 pm

Outside these times please telephone **07847224384** to contact our night porter.

WIFI

Free wifi is available throughout the hotel.

Instructions:

Go to your wifi settings and click on “Lion WiFi”

The password is Lion1492

TAXIS

Buckden Private Hire 01480812929

Steve's Taxis 01480412333



BREAKFAST

Breakfast is served in the main restaurant.

Weekdays 7.30 am – 11.00am

Weekends 7.30 am – 10.30 am

RESTAURANT

LUNCH

Weekdays 12.00 pm – 3.00 pm

DINNER

Weekdays 6.30 pm – 9.00 pm

Saturday food is served from 12.00 pm – 9.00 pm

Sunday food is served from 12.00 pm – 7.00 pm

On Sundays we offer a carvery menu.

BAR

Our bar is open at the following times:

Monday – Saturday 11.00 am – 11.00 pm

Sunday 12.00 pm – 10.30 pm

Last orders are called 20 minutes before closing time. We ask customers to finish their drinks within 20 minutes after the Bar closes.

Residents are welcome to take drinks up to their rooms when the bar closes.



RESIDENTS INFORMATION

Each guest should have two keys, one for the main front door and one for their room. If returning to the hotel after 11.00 pm please can guests ensure that the front door is closed properly.

All rooms are equipped with a TV, kettle with tea and coffee facilities and hair dryer. An iron and iron board can be requested from Reception.

Each room has central heating but extra free-standing heaters can be requested from Reception if required.

For the comfort of all guests in the hotel we ask that noise is kept to a minimum when in rooms.

Guests are not able to make any charges to rooms for food and drink.

We ask that guests do not take food into the rooms.

We welcome pets to the hotel but do request that pets are kept off the furnishings.

Please contact Reception immediately should there be any problems during your stay at the hotel.

NON-SMOKING POLICY

The Lion Hotel Buckden Ltd operates a strict No Smoking Policy throughout the entire hotel. This includes electronic cigarettes.

This policy enables us not only to meet legal requirements, but also to create a comfortable environment for all our guests to enjoy.

Should we find that guests have been smoking in bedrooms or any other part of the hotel, a £100 fine will be charged for deep cleaning of our room and you may be asked to vacate the hotel without refund.



EMERGENCY INFORMATION

FIRST AID

There is a first aid box located in Reception, behind the Bar and in the Kitchen. There are 8 members of staff who are first-aid trained.

FIRE ALARM

Please consult the fire evacuation notices in each room.

A fire alarm test is conducted each Monday morning at 11.00 am.

HOSPITAL

The nearest Accident and Emergency Department is at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital, Hinchingsbrooke Park, Huntingdon, PE29 6NT.

DOCTOR SURGERY

The local doctor's surgery is Buckden Surgery, Mayfield, Buckden, PE19 5SZ.
Telephone Number: 01480810216.

CHEMIST

The nearest chemist is Buckden Pharmacy, 8 Hunts End, Buckden, PE19 5SU. Telephone Number: 01480810077.

DENTIST

The nearest dentist is Spire Dental Group Buckden, 35 Silver Street, Buckden, PE19 5TS.
Telephone Number: 01480812898.

VETS

The nearest Vets is Cromwell Veterinary Group, 36 St John's Street, Huntingdon, PE29 3DG. Telephone Number: 0148052222/0148052601.

LOCAL TRANSPORT

The nearest train stations are Huntingdon and St Neots. Both stations allow travel to Peterborough and London King's Cross.

The local bus service is run by Stagecoach with a bus to Huntingdon and St Neots. A bus stop is situated right outside the hotel. Please speak to Reception regarding the times of the buses.



ABOUT THE LION HOTEL

Established in 1492, The Lion Hotel is one of the oldest coaching inns in Britain. Situated on the original Great North Road in the vibrant village of Buckden. It started life as the guest house for the Bishop of Lincoln's Palace (Buckden Towers). It has in the past been called "The Lion and Flag" and "The Lion and Lamb".

One of the most impressive original features of the hotel can be found in the main bar. Near the fireplace if you look up you will see the unique five spoke ceiling with a carved central boss. The boss depicts a lamb and keys papal pennant along with the Latin words "Ecce Agnus Dei" (Behold the Lamb of God).

The fireplace in the main Bar is also an original feature of the hotel and with the comfy chairs and sofa is a perfect spot to sit in the winter to have a few drinks in front of the roaring fire.

Our oak panelled Restaurant is very popular and allows guests a beautiful setting for a meal. All our food is made fresh on the premises by our skilled chefs.

The Lion has had many famous guests over its long history. These have included: Henry VIII, Sir Thomas More, James VI of Scotland and I of England, Samuel Pepys, Oliver Cromwell, and George IV. A more recent guest on several occasions was the actress Wendy Richards, famous for playing Miss Brahms in *Are You Being Served?* and Pauline Fowler in *EastEnders*. She was well-known for leaving her tip inside the bible in her room. Another well-known visitor to the hotel is the singer Barbara Dickson.



LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

BUCKDEN

BUCKDEN TOWERS EST. 1086

Take a walk to Buckden Towers just next door and visit the icon of the village. Originally built in 1086 it was listed as a manor to the Bishop of Lincoln and valued with the church, the mill and a few cottages at £16.

Arguably the most royal visitor to Buckden Towers was Queen Catherine of Aragon. She was sent there by order from Henry VIII after the annulment of their marriage. The locals of Buckden were very loyal to Catherine who loved her residency in this village. This infuriated Henry VIII who then had her banished to Kimbolton Castle where she soon died. Buckden locals put up a stance against the army in the High Street. A garden next to the Towers has been made in her honour and is available to walk through with a key available from the Buckden Towers Reception.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH EST. 1086

A 2-minute walk down Church Street (street next to The Lion, adjacent to High Street) and you will visit St Mary's Church, dating back to 1086. The "Churchyard" grounds surrounding the church contains 383 gravestones. Guests are welcomed to tour the Church during open hours from 9.00am – 5.00 pm most days.



BUCKDEN MARINA

For a leisurely walk or scenic run there is a great path that leads to Buckden Marina. Walk outside the front of the Hotel and turn right, then right again onto Church Street. Cross the road and follow all the way down to the Marina. This will take approximately 30-40 minutes at a walking pace or 15-20 minutes at a leisurely run.



GRAFHAM

GRAFHAM WATER



A short 4-mile drive from the hotel will take you to the third largest reservoir in England, Grafham Water.

For over 30 years Grafham Water has been designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. On the western end there is a 280-acre nature reserve, with ancient woodlands, reed beds and populations of birds and amphibian species.

Grafham Water is a beautiful place for trout and predator fishing. It has a 9-mile track which is great for cycling and walking.

The Grafham Water Centre is perfect for those who are looking for something adventurous. The centre offers a wide range of activities including sailing, windsurfing, powerboating, paddlesports, climbing and archery.



HUNTINGDON

THE CROMWELL MUSEUM

The museum lets you explore the life of perhaps Huntingdon's most famous son, Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector.

The museum is housed in what was Cromwell's old school and can be found in the centre of the town.

The museum is open six days a week, closed on Mondays and guided tours can be arranged by contacting the museum for an additional cost.



HOUGHTON MILL



Located just outside of Huntingdon, Houghton Mill can be found on an island on the Great Ouse River. Discover the amazing survival story of a mill that faced demolition, was saved by the local villagers and restored to working order that allowed the tradition of milling on the site for over 1000 years to continue.

You can try your hand at making flour as well as enjoying the tranquility of the river setting.

The mill is closed from November to March, but the tea-room is open all year around.



HINCHINGBROOKE COUNTRY PARK

The park covers 170 acres of open grasslands, mature woodlands and lakes. It is a perfect spot for families, nature spotters, dog walkers and those looking to enjoy the great outdoors.

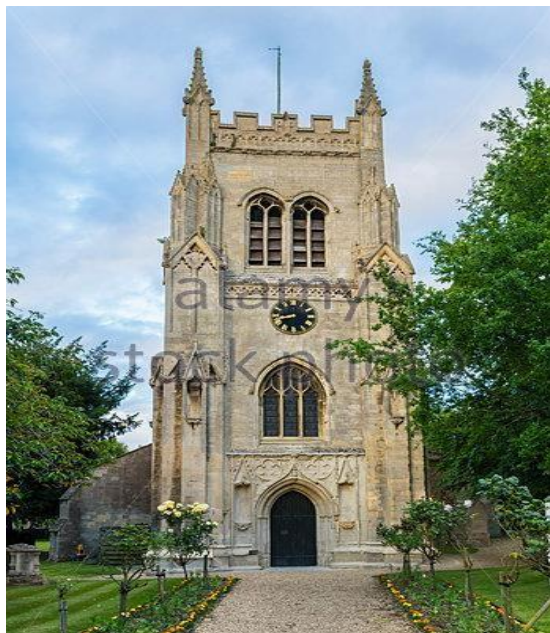
The park has a wealth of wildlife. You can see all three species of woodpecker, the nuthatch and marsh tit. If you are very lucky you might even spot an otter or kingfisher.

The park has a fenced in, dog free play park right next to the café.

The park also has its own honey bees and the viewing gallery is normally open from April to October.



ST MARY'S CHURCH



This Grade 1 listed building is said to be the “Mother Church of Huntingdon”. The present building was finished in 1620 after the original build fell down in 1609 when part of the tower fell into the nave.

The main features of the church include the tower doors and font which dates from the 13th century. The nave with wooden figures of St Stephen, Saint Bartholomew, Saint Jude and Saint Matthew that were placed in the church in 1930 having been saved from the Archdeaconry Library. There are also stained glass which dates to the Victorian era.

Services take place every Sunday from 10.30 am.



HUNTINGDON RACECOURSE

For those who like a flutter on the horses, this is a must visit. Located just outside Huntingdon in Brampton, the racecourse hosts 17 jump meetings spread over nine calendar months.

Huntingdon Racecourse hosts a Ladies Evening, rather than a Ladies Day, every May.

In addition to the racecourse, there is a Site of Scientific Interest called Brampton Racecourse. This is a 21.1-hectare site and has the largest population of green-winged orchids in Cambridgeshire.





ST NEOTS

ST NEOTS MUSEUM

Located in the old police station and law court just off the High Street, St Neots Museum presents the history of this busy market town from prehistoric times onwards.

Learn all about St Neot himself. The Civil War Battle of St Neots. Discover the history of the Great North Road that made St Neots an important staging post and how the railways changed the town. Discover what life was like in St Neots during the Victorian era and see the original 20th century gaol cells where prisoners were detained.



PAXTON PITS NATURE RESERVE

The nature reserve covers 78 hectares of lakes, riverside, meadow, reedbed, scrub and woodland and is a wide range of wildlife habitats. The reserve is situated in the Great Ouse valley between St Neots and Huntingdon.

Famous for its nightingales and cormorants, it is also home to a wide range of birds, insects, mammals and flora. There is a visitors centre which is open most days and the reserve itself is open every day.

XTREME 360 TRAMPOLINE PARK

This is the perfect place if you are looking for something more adventurous to do while in the area.

Just £10 for a freestyle session at the park. Jumpers are expected to arrive 20 minutes prior to their session to check in and watch the compulsory safety video.





CAMBRIDGE

KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL



Part of probably the most famous College at Cambridge University, the chapel is a must see on any visit to Cambridge. The foundation stone was laid in 1446 by Henry VI.

During the War of the Roses building of the Chapel continued but after Henry VI was killed in the Tower of London in 1471 very little work was done for the next 22 years under Edward IV. Work continued again under Richard III. It was left to the Tudor Kings, Henry VII and Henry VIII to finally complete the chapel.

The world-famous Choir was founded in the 15th century and its primary role is to perform at the daily services held in the Chapel. They also sing the A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve, which has been broadcasted on the BBC since 1928.

THE RIVER CAM

This is the main river that runs through Cambridge.

Any trip to the river must include some punting. Punting was introduced around 1902. It rapidly became very popular and today there are probably more punts on the River Cam than any other river in England.

There are several companies on the Cam that operate tours and hiring of punts to visitors. Most colleges have punts for the exclusive use of students, however, Trinity College have punts for hire to the public.





BOTANIC GARDENS



Belonging to Cambridge University, the botanic gardens was founded in 1846 and is a heritage listed garden. It has been designed to be enjoyed all year round.

The gardens have a number of trails and the Head of Horticulture selects plants each week that are at their best and these are included in the Plant Picks trail.

There is also a Glasshouse Range, which offers a refuge on a cold day. There is also a range of wildlife to be found in the gardens.

CENTRE FOR COMPUTING HISTORY

Looking for something different in terms of a museum, then this is the place for you. The centre hosts hands-on exhibitions, which makes the history of computing relevant and fun for all ages.

There are a number of exhibits for you to enjoy. These range from different types of personal computers to games consoles. This is the perfect chance to re-live some childhood memories.



AMERICAN CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL



This is the only WWII American Cemetery in the UK. The cemetery was opened in 1943. It is the final resting place of 3812 men and women who gave their lives during the Battle of the Atlantic.

The flag pole is a good point of orientation and is possible to view the entire site.

Entry is free of charge.



IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM DUXFORD

Walk through the same hangers and buildings that served as RAF Duxford. Step on board the test flight Concorde. Visit the Second World War control room to gain an insight into how RAF Duxford dealt with enemy planes over the skies.

You can also watch Spitfires take off from the runway. You can also pay to take a flight on a Spitfire.

Each July the museum holds air shows.



WIMPOLE ESTATE

Visit the largest country house in Cambridgeshire. You can marvel at the beautiful Yellow Drawing Room and unusual plunge bath. The estate also gives you a glimpse of life below stairs.

The estate also has 18th century pleasure grounds. You can explore the woodland and discover how they make their gardens even greener.

You can also visit Wimpole Home Farm. Here you can see Shire horses, rare breed sheep, cattle and pigs. There are daily farm activities and an adventure playground.





USEFUL WEBSITES

Buckden Towers	www.buckden-towers.org.uk
Grafham Water Centre	www.grafham-water-centre.co.uk
Cromwell Museum	www.cromwellmuseum.org
Houghton Mill	www.nationaltrust.org.uk/houghton-mill-and-waterclose-meadows
St Neots Museum	www.stneotsmuseum.org.uk
Kings College Chapel	www.kings.cam.ac.uk
Train Times and Fares	www.thetrainline.co.uk
Visit Cambridge	www.visitcambridge.org
Visit St Neots	www.visitstneots.co.uk
Bus Times and Fares	www.stagecoachbus.com