

Where to Stay Recommendations

by David Cottingham

Fly-ins suddenly became popular with my wife after I suggested it might be nice to stay on overnight and turn them into a mini break. The problem is or where to stay on such occasions?

Bolt Head

For Bolt Head the Cottage Hotel at Hope Cove with its stunning position overlooking Bigbury Bay is wonderful. Take the half-board accommodation as the dinner is both excellent quality and value. When booking ask for Sarah or William and tell them you are flying in and they will provide free transport to and from the airfield. Tel. 01548 561 555 email info@hopecove.com

Rosarrow

Following Tony Simpson's Rosarrow recommendation we set out from Branscome on Monday the 5th July along the south coast to Exmouth then via Okehampton and down the north coast from Bude. Spectacular coastlines and too good to rush!

We stayed at a lovely country pub at St. Minver which is about 2 miles South East of the golf club. Being outside of the coastal resorts of Polzeath and Rock you are more likely to be able to book accommodation at short notice, especially on Sunday nights.

Jamie, the owner of the Fourways Inn is again happy to pick up from the airstrip and return you the following day. The rooms are all en-suite and have just been refurbished to a very high standard. The food is excellent pub grub and at very reasonable prices.
Tel. 01208 862 384

Perranporth

Whilst it's not usually one of our fly-in venues, Perranporth is an excellent destination as the walk along the cliffs from the aerodrome is superb and only about two miles down to the Seiners Arms. This pub is superbly located on the beach at Perranporth. Again take the excellent value half-board accommodation and watch the tide sweep in past your feet whilst eating an excellent meal! Again the owners are very "aero-friendly" and used to give a 10% discount to visiting pilots but I think this has now been discontinued. Free transport back up the hill has always been provided to us. Tel. 01872 573 118 www.seinersarms.com

Lane Farm

Lane Farm, near Hay on Wye, is an ideal location for rest and recuperation and could help heal the rift between husband and wife - if she will get in the aircraft! Strut members John and Trish Kempton recently stopped over there and enjoyed an excellent day flying around the Welsh hills. Some of the dams nearby were used by the Dambuster Lancasters for training during World War 11. The strip and deer park are owned by John Bally, ex-CFI of The Black Mountain Gliding Club at Talgarth. The website address is www.lane-farm.co.uk Telephone 01497-851605 email jbally@btclick.com

Are there any more little gems out there which are both good destinations and have reasonably priced accommodation close by? Perhaps you would be willing to share them with us all?

More Recommendations of Where to Stay

by Mary Aston

Manor Farm, Collingbourne Kingston, Nr Marlborough

Manor Farm is run by James & Jackie Macbeth who offer excellent B&B in their Grade 2 listed period farmhouse on a working family farm, 9nm NW of Andover (N51.18.20; W001.40.00). Visitors are by strict PPO but there are free landing fees and collection from the 10/28, 600m x 30m grass strip, which runs along the top of Inham Down (643ft amsl). They have their own website www.manorfm.com and e.mail stay@manorfm.com. There are several excellent eating places within 100-150 metres of the house, e.g. The Barleycorn Inn Tel. 01264-850368.

Brick House Farm, Byton, Presteigne, Herefordshire (near Shobdon)

This farm, 2 nm west of Shobdon, has a self-catering holiday cottage with 2 double bedrooms and a twin plus 2 double rooms within the farmhouse, offering B&B (& evening meals). The business has just been taken over in the last month by Wayne & Sarah Poulter and they are willing to collect and deliver visitors from/to Shobdon.

info@brickhousefarm.ws Tel. 01544-267306, or
www.kc3.co.uk/chamber/brickhouse/index.html for details.

Chateau La Chassagne, F-21410 Pont-de-Pany, Dijon, Burgundy

This privately owned chateau was completely gutted and refurbished by Swiss-German pilot Michael Dresin 10 years ago. On arrival at the 800m strip (N47.18.71; E004.49.52) you are collected and driven to the chateau in a Rolls Royce! On the terrace at an agreed time you are enthroned as a member of the Confrerie du Cremant de Bourgogne, i.e. free bottle of champagne from the chateau opened with a champagne sabre. The use of all the facilities in and around the chateau are included in the room rate, e.g. bicycles, solex, electric golf karts, swimming pool & sauna, gym, table-tennis, croquet, outdoor chess and golf range. Extras include horse & carriage rides, cruises on one of their two luxury narrow-boats, wine tasting, hire of Smart cars at E25/day and balloon rides if weather is suitable.

Costs from 165 Euros per day for basic room and upwards to 350 Euros for the deluxe and super deluxe rooms! 50 Euros for half board include excellent full service breakfast. Dinner comes as 4 course, silver service gastronomique delight! 10 Euros gets you free landings for a week. All the chateau personnel were very pleasant and exceptionally helpful to two stranded pilots who got marooned for 3 days. What a sad & difficult way to celebrate that special birthday! The chateau is furnished as a hunting lodge and there is free use of the Internet for pilots' weather. The flag of your country is placed on the standard above the front door and on your table in the dining room.

Confirmation, PPR and room booking is required by fax. At our time of visiting, they were refurbishing the chateau chapel so anyone who brought an angel of any size or material got a 10% discount off the cost of their room. Altogether an ideal and very romantic stopover to be remembered for a long while!

Mail: info@chateau-chassagne.com internet: www.chateau-chassagne.com and
<http://www.aero-checkpoint-charlie.com/index1-gb.htm> tel. 0033-3.80.49.76.00
