

Down Hall

HOTEL | SPA | ESTATE



45

minutes from both central
London and Cambridge

110

acres of countryside

12

meeting spaces

220

largest function room capacity



EAST OF ENGLAND
Tourism
AWARDS **2022-2023**

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LARGE HOTEL OF THE YEAR

Down Hall

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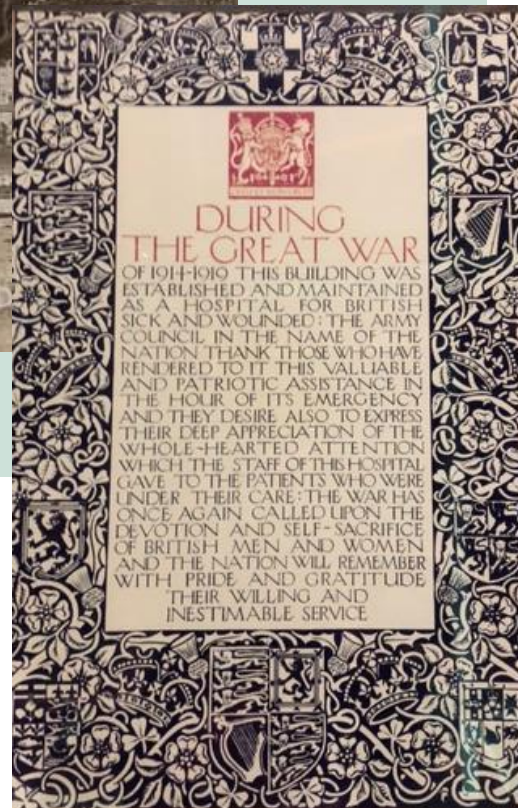


Down Hall's impressive historic mansion, intimate luxury spa and contemporary west wing is ideal for hosting meetings and events.



Set within 110 acres of outstandingly beautiful park and woodland and located just 45 minutes from both central London and Cambridge city centre.

History of Down Hall



1021 - We know from records that Down Hall was one of ten medieval manors in the Parish of Hatfield Broad Oak that were already considered ancient at the time

1323 - Robert Taper is the first person we can name as having been in possession of the manor of Down Hall in the early 1300s

1536 - At the beginning of the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1536, Hatfield priory was dissolved and all tithes and patronages, including that of Down Hall, were granted to Barking Abbey. Ownership transfers to William Glascock on purchase of a miscellaneous land lot.

1536-1720- Down Hall passes down the Glascock family line until it is sold to Matthew Prior with investment from Edward Harley.

1720 - Prior commissioned James Gibbs to design a new house and Charles Bridgeman to replan the garden. At the time of Priors passing the gardens have been complete by works on the house have not begun.

1741- Down Hall is purchased by William Selwin. On passing the property to his son Charles the Tudor dwelling and rebuilding it in a handsome, substantial manner albeit in a plain classical style. The total transformation of Down Hall was completed in 1777 though some original Tudor fireplace mantels and door surrounds from Prior's dwelling were retained and which can still be found at the hotel today.

1873 - To reflect the importance of Down Hall as being the administrative heart of the Selwin/Ibbetson kingdom, in 1871 Frederick Pepys Cockerell was commissioned to replace the existing mansion with a sumptuous new one in the Italianate style. At the time of completion in 1873, Down Hall was a particularly striking example of the best concrete work of the period.

1914 - At the start of World War 1, the house became a Red Cross Auxiliary hospital. In February 1919 the Hospital was closed and Down Hall returned to a family home.

1932 - Down Hall was sold in late 1930, possibly early 1931, and re-enters the annals of history in 1932 as Downham school, an upmarket boarding school for girls. Some notable ladies that attended Downham include: Pamela Harriman, Anne Clarissa Eden and Frances Shand Kydd - mother of Diana, Princess of Wales.

1973 In 1973, St Ouen Antiques had bought the property and announced an opening in early 1974 at 'Down Hall' with a display of English and Continental period furniture and fine art.

1986 - Down Hall is bought by Veladail Hotels, owners of the estate to this day. Over the ensuing years, they have invested millions of pounds in restoring the house to its former glory as well as sympathetically modernising and updating the property to create the contemporary, country mansion you see today. All the public rooms are named after some of the people contained in this timeline, so when you are walking around the hotel, or indeed the estate, we hope you will imbibe some of the unique and fascinating history of Down Hall that goes back over 1,000 years.



Location

- 45 minutes from central London
- 10 minutes from Sawbridgeworth station & 15 minutes from Bishops Stortford
- M11 Junction 7A, less than 10 minutes
- 15 minutes to Stansted Airport



Facilities

- 98 bedrooms from Classic to Suite
- Meeting facilities from 2 to 220
 - 110 acres for teambuilding
- Spa and four treatment rooms
- Tennis court, padel tennis court, giant chess, croquet and boules
 - Kitchen Garden



Dining options include

- The Garden Room
- The Fox Lounge and Bar
 - The Terrace
 - The Potting Shed
- Ornate private function rooms perfect for lunches, dinners and BBQs



Bridgeman Selwin Suite

Cabaret 136

Banquet 200

Dinner & Dance 150

Theatre 220

Private garden, foyer and cloakrooms



Oxford Belcamp

Cabaret 91

Banquet 104

Theatre 150

Adjoining West Wing Lounge and Bar
can be utilised for conference lunches,
pre-dinner drinks and entertainment



Prior Suite

Cabaret 42

Banquet 60

Theatre 100

Doors open up to the terrace and gardens.
Prior Terrace and horse box can be hired for
pre-dinner drinks and BBQs



Harley Suite

Cabaret 35

Banquet 50

Boardroom 24

U-Shape 27

Historic fireplace dating to Tudor period



Lyndhurst Suite

Boardroom or oval 18

Historic features & dual aspect views of
the grounds

Executive boardroom table



Rookwood Suite

Cabaret 14

Banquet 20

Theatre 30

Boardroom 18

Can be used as an adjoining syndicate to the
Prior Suite with interconnecting door





Gibbs Suite

Cabaret 14

Banquet 20

U Shape 12

Boardroom 15



Glasscock Suite

Boardroom 6

Ideal for intimate or informal meetings

Can be used as a Games Room
with pool table and playstation



Team building

We work with four recommended team building suppliers and can accommodate a host of activities in our 110 acre grounds from sports day to segways, archery and survival skills. Indoor activities such as bake off events, themed dinners and cocktail making are also available. We offer some of our own team building options for groups up to 20.



Accommodation

Classic Double Rooms

Executive Rooms including 10 dog friendly

Prestige Rooms

Feature & Deluxe Rooms

3 Suites & 1 Master Suite



Going "Green-er" at Down Hall Hotel, Spa, Estate

We are on a mission to become even more sustainable, we have set some bold objectives we aim to achieve by the end of 2023.

In-House Green Team

It all starts with the team. We have implemented a dedicated team to explore and actively implement CSR within the hotel. The green team meets on a regular basis to work on initiatives and schemes to ensure the hotel keeps moving forward with being sustainable, environmentally aware, community driven and charitable.

From seed to plate

We have developed a one acre kitchen garden which provides an abundance of fruit, vegetables and salad which is used by our team of Chef's. We change our menus as regularly as necessary in order to best utilise ingredients from the kitchen garden and work within the seasons. Any excess produce is given to team members to avoid waste.

Sourcing locally

We source as much of our ingredients as we can locally, using the very best produce from Essex, Hertfordshire and Cambridgeshire and Suffolk.





Water

We use recycled glass water bottles for our conferences and in-house guests, filled from our own in-house water plant. These are sanitised and refilled on site.

Recycling of Materials

We are zero to landfill. All waste materials including food, glass, paper and cardboard, metal are recycled or composted.

Single use plastics

We aim to eradicate all single use plastics by December 2023. We are currently converting all our bedroom toiletries into a refillable more environmentally friendly solution.

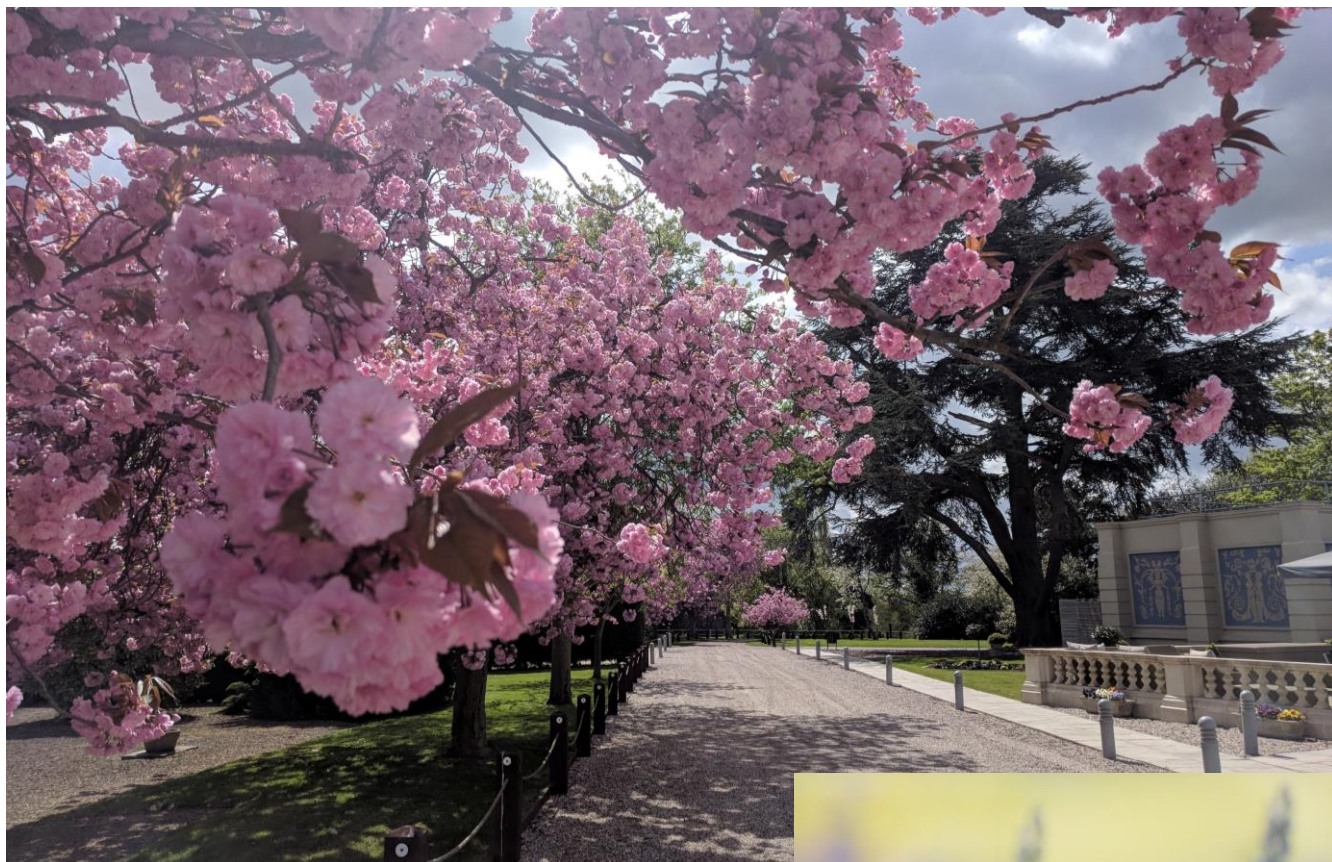
Led Lighting

All lighting has been converted to LED bulbs which are up to 80% more efficient than traditional lighting. 95% of the energy in LED's are converted into light and only 5% is wasted as heat. Lights are switched off in meeting rooms, bedrooms and back of house areas when not required.

110 Acres

We are set within 110 acres of woodland, parkland and formal gardens. We have developed a 5 year woodland management plan and are committed to stocking our grounds with additional trees, flora and fauna.





Facilities

Our facilities have been developed to ensure our guests don't need to leave the resort. The estate benefits from padel tennis, tennis, short-tennis and badminton courts as well as a trim trail through the woodland, fully equipped gym, French boules, giant chess, and a play park.

Charity

It's not all about us, we want to make a difference in the community too, our chosen charity is St Clare Hospice, we actively fund-raise to support this cause.

Our Ambitions for 2023

- Install electric vehicle chargers
- Generate our own energy on site
- Introduce e-bikes for our hotel guests
- Introduce beehives to the resort
- Create and bottle our own gin from produce foraged within the woodland
- Extend the kitchen garden
- Eradicate all single use plastics



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