



The Yorkshire Bridge Inn

Multi-award winning 4 star inn and country hotel at the heart of the peak district

Winter 2010 



The Yorkshire Bridge Inn wins back to back Gold

The best tourism businesses in the region were rewarded at the 2010 East Midlands Tourism Enjoy England Excellence Awards recently.

Organised by East Midlands Tourism, emda's tourism arm, the awards celebrate the commitment to excellence and quality shown by tourism businesses in the region. Categories ranged from Best Hotel and Best Bed and Breakfast to Tourism Event and Think Family with gold, silver and bronze prizes awarded in each category. The ceremony took place at the Roundhouse in Derby, and was attended by over 230 people.

The multi award-winning Yorkshire Bridge

Inn, Bamford, Derbyshire added a gold award for the second year running in the Pub Experience category.

Delighted with the top award, proprietor John Illingworth said; 'We were thrilled to win the gold award last year but to be awarded gold for the second year in succession is a fantastic accolade. The team work extremely hard and such a prestigious award is great recognition of their dedication and commitment. We receive super feedback about our staff, food and overall hospitality and we are delighted that the judges and mystery shoppers were equally impressed'.

The East Midlands Tourism Excellence

Awards are designed to identify the very best of the region's tourism businesses and to celebrate their commitment to excellence and quality. There are eighteen categories ranging from best Bed & Breakfast and Hotel to best Tourism Event and Visitor Attraction. The region covers Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Lincolnshire and Rutland.

In addition to winning a gold award in the Pub Experience, The Yorkshire Bridge Inn picked up a further two awards, a bronze for front of house member of staff Joan Walters in the Outstanding Customer Service category and another gold award for the self-catering arm of the business, La-





Derbyshire winners

dybower Apartments, in the Sustainable Tourism category.

Tourism Director at East Midlands Development Agency, Ruth Hyde commented "All the participants in the awards were very strong and it gets more difficult each year to choose a winner. It's a great achievement to get to the final stages given the quality of the entrants this year. The standard was such that mystery shoppers who visited each finalist were so impressed with what they saw they want to go back and visit some of the businesses as customers.



Use of local produce is now almost standard amongst all categories showing how far we have come as a region in using fresh local food, an area which the region excels in. All the finalists demonstrated a great understanding of their customers' individual requirements and how they are using feedback to improve their service. "

A number of the gold winners from the regional awards will go forward to the national Enjoy England Awards for Excellence in April 2011.

The 2009 national awards proved a great success for the East Midlands, when the region secured four national gold winners – more than any other region.

The full list of winners of the 2010 East Midlands Enjoy England Excellence Gold Awards are:

Pub Experience – The Yorkshire Bridge Inn, Bamford, Derbyshire

Think Family – Snibston Discovery Museum, Coalville, Leicestershire

Access for All – Hoe Grange Holidays, Brassington, Derbyshire

B&B/Guest Accommodation – Grayingham Lodge, Northorpe, Lincolnshire

Business Tourism – Highgate House, A Sundial Group Venue, Creaton, Northamptonshire

Caravan Park & Holiday Village – Milestone Caravan Park, Newark, Nottinghamshire

Large Hotel – Thoresby Hall Hotel and Spa, Thoresby, Nottinghamshire

Large Visitor Attraction – Chatsworth, Bakewell, Derbyshire

Outstanding Customer Service – Front of house team, East Lodge Hotel and Restaurant, Rowsley, Derbyshire

Self Catering – Stretton Lakes, Stretton, Rutland

Small Hotel/Townhouse – Hotel Maiyango & Restaurant, Leicester, Leicestershire

Small Visitor Attraction – Bosworth Battlefield, Sutton Cheney, Leicestershire



Sustainable Tourism – Ladybower Apartments, Bamford, Derbyshire

Taste of the Region – Hotel Maiyango & Restaurant, Leicester, Leicestershire

Tourism Event – Buxton Festival, Buxton, Derbyshire

Tourism Experience – Great Central Railway, Loughborough, Leicestershire

Tourist Information Service – Ashby Tourist Information Centre, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire

Outstanding Contribution to Tourism – Chatsworth, Bakewell, Derbyshire



Tea and Talks this Winter at Chatsworth

Chatsworth is staging an 'Elevenses' programme of weekly talks from its experts at the Stables to coincide with the opening of the shops and restaurant this winter. Visitors are invited to come along for coffee and meet the Chatsworth team every Friday at 11am from January 14 to March 4 2011.



One of the highlights will be the talk by the Duke and Duchess on 'What We Do At Chatsworth'. The 30 minute illustrated talk on Friday 28 January will look at the challenges of living at Chatsworth today and their ideas for the future of the estate. Tickets are £30 per person and include a two course lunch in the Burlington Room.

The other presentations and talks from experts working in the house, garden and collections teams range from winter jobs in the garden and curios in the kitchens, to rags to riches and wildlife in the woods.

The 40 minute talks will take place in the Hartington room at 11am priced £7.50 per person and can be pre-booked by contacting the Chatsworth booking team on 01332 565300.

House, garden, farmyard and adventure playground are open every day to 23 December 2010.

The park is open every day during daylight hours and the restaurants and gift shops will re-open on January 10 2011 from 10am to 4.30pm.



Westside
The quality magazine for Sheffield & North Derbyshire
October 10
Daisy

Country idyll

With the delights of Derbyshire on your doorstep, there's no need to head to the city.

The other night it took me just 16 minutes to drive from home in Fulwood to the Yorkshire Bridge Inn at Bamford.

That's quicker than it takes me to get to Meadowhall and not much longer than a drive into the city centre, and then I'd have to find somewhere to park.

This is why this pub is a perfect location for Westside people looking for a midweek night out, when you don't want to cook at home and instead relax in a proper country inn that sells excellent beer and food.

Owners John and Helen Illingworth are true catering professionals and with their staff they run their multi-award winning Inn like clockwork. No wonder the Inn's reputation has travelled far and wide. Recently it hosted an Aston Martin Members Club rally, and during our visit members of a bird watching group were discussing the day's sightings while enjoying their dinner.

The Yorkshire Bridge Inn has the typical Peak District charm and attracts locals happy to rub shoulders with visitors from Sheffield and tourists from further afield.

Its dining areas are extensive, well planned and atmospheric.

The Inn has no pretensions towards gourmet dining. The menu is made up of old time classics, and the ingredients, cookery, presentation and service is absolutely top drawer.

Choice for starters is a little restrictive, and I was easily led to the prawn cocktail, properly served with buttered brown bread and a nice salad garnish. My wife's dish – large chunks of field mushrooms in a garlic cream sauce – had a delicious aroma and she confirmed the taste was just as good.

The choice of mains is however extensive and you can spend several minutes pondering your options.

From the daily specials I picked trio of lamb chops served on a large plate with cauliflower, French beans, carrots, grilled tomato, onion rings and mushroom with a side dish of new potatoes. This was not for the faint hearted; those with huge appetites would be delighted.

Across the table an enormous dish containing steak and Stilton pie had arrived, with a puff pastry topping and was served with similar vegetables, chips, and like my dinner, was accompanied with an individual gravy boat.

Classic desserts, including local ice cream and a cheese board, are of equal proportions and you need a sturdy appetite to clean your plate.

The verdict – two well-cooked, hearty, great value dinners in surroundings that would easily entice us back.

For more ideas on where to eat, log on to www.regionalmagazine.co.uk



What we ate:

Starters

Prawn Cocktail, £5.95
Garlic Mushrooms, £5.95

Mains

Trio of Lamb Chops, £11.95
Steak and Stilton Pie, £9.75

Desserts

All £5.25

Drinks

Cafetiere of coffee and cream £2 each

Yorkshire Bridge Inn
Ashopton Road, Bamford, S33 0AZ
Tel: 01433 651361



Winter walking in a Peak District Wonderland

This walk takes you from the car park at Fairholmes Refreshments and toilets) out onto the open moorland of Derwent Edge.

Fairholmes Car Park at the top of Ladybower reservoir. a 5 minute drive from The Yorkshire Bridge Inn, can offer a starting point for a whole host of walks onto the moors directly or via Howden and Derwent reservoirs.

One of our favourite Peak District winter walks, especially after a cold spell and snow, turns to the right out of the carpark, past Derwent dam (of Dambusters practice fame) and along the reservoir road on the eastern (Sheffield) side of the water.

A short while after passing the site of Derwent village, which was drowned when the reservoir was constructed, follow a bridle path which rises diagonally across a field on the left as you reach a gate that bars your way on the reservoir road.

The bridle path has been conveniently paved. After a couple of hundred metres, it turns left up a steep sided small valley, taking you up to a conglomeration of barns.



The bridleway leaves the small yard through a gate on the right and you climb up through the last pastures, past a plantation and out onto the open moors.

Cross the moorland on an obvious undulating bridleway to reach a gate.

Turn right and follow the bridleway alongside the wall, ignore the paths leaving to the left (unless you wish to shorten the walk by missing out Whinstone Lee Tor.

Where the wall turns sharp right, so does this bridleway, eventually it takes you left and uphill, leaving the wall and bringing

you to the col below Whinstone Lee Tor. Turn left (uphill) and follow this path along Derwent Edge northwards, past the Wheelstones, the Salt Cellar and a variety of other weird and wonderful wind sculpted rock formations to Back Tor.

A lot of this path has been paved, however, rather than detracting from the walk it enhances it primarily because the path used to be a wide scar where people had spread out to avoid boggy sections. The vegetation has regenerated and a lot of the damage caused by walkers has been repaired.

From Back Tor, continue north west past Lost Lad (so called after a young shepherd went missing in a blizzard many years ago) and steeply down to the reservoir then follow the track southwards back to your starting point at Fairholmes.

For a longer day out, instead of going to Lost Lad, navigate north west to join the path down Abbey Brook. This is a worthwhile extension as the path is high up the side of this beautiful valley.

Peak District Legends: Bakewell Pudding

You should never make the mistake of calling the delicious, almond paste and puff pastry delicacy known as a Bakewell pudding a "tart", when you visit the pretty Wye-side town which gave it its internationally famous name. Here, they are more correctly known as Bakewell puddings – because puddings is exactly what they are.

Made to a recipe which is a still closely-guarded secret in at least three bakeries in the ancient market town, they are now exported all over the world.

It is believed that the original Bakewell Pudding came about as a complete mistake. Sometime in the mid-19th century, a flustered cook in the White Horse Inn (now the Rutland Arms Hotel) in the centre of town was charged by the owner, Mrs Ann

Greaves, to make a strawberry tart for some expected important visitors. Mrs Greaves explained that the egg mixture was to be stirred into the pastry, and the strawberry jam spread on top of the pastry.

But the panicking cook either forgot or misunderstood the instructions and didn't stir the egg mix into the pastry but poured it over the strawberry jam. So what was meant to be a tart turned out to be a pudding.

The accidental delicacy was so well received by Mrs Greaves' guests that she instructed her cook to continue making them in that way – and so the Bakewell pudding was born.

But at least three bakeries in Bakewell

claim ownership to the original recipe of the Bakewell pudding. Among these is the bow-fronted Olde Original Pudding Shop in The Square. The original owner, Mrs Annie Wilson, actually claimed to have been one of the guests at the hotel when the cook made her famous mistake and wrote down the recipe in pencil in a small notebook, which is now kept in a fire-proof safe. She saw the potential of the dessert and set up her own company from her home, which is the site of the current bakery.

One thing is sure, a true Bakewell pudding can only be found in the town of Bakewell. This fact is currently being defended by campaigners hoping that the EU will award the Bakewell "Protected Geographical Indication" status.

Enjoying Your Winter Walks: A Guide to Being Prepared

Walking in the Peak District in Winter can be magnificent. But many areas are remote and open to the elements.

If you prepare yourself for winter walking, you can have a really lovely walk. Here's a few tips to follow.

Dressing in Layers

Everyone always tells you to dress in layers. What does it really mean?

In order to feel comfortable as your body adjusts to the outside air and you "work up a sweat" from your exercising, you have to have clothing that can easily be shed if you start overheating.

Very heavy weight turtle necks or wool sweaters do not allow you to cool down enough while walking. Light weight long underwear under a light weight turtle neck, fleece and/or nylon outerwear works well until the temperature goes below freezing. Then a sweater or tee shirt also layered with the other clothes or a down vest will make up the difference.

A lot of winter walkers wear long underwear, sweat pants, turtleneck and tee shirt with some sort of down filled outerwear when it is really cold. Some add one of those scarves that has head covering built in as well as a ski headband, glove liners and mittens when they start. Usually the scarf and mittens come off once they warm up but they are still protected from the effects of the wind.

If the temperatures rise as they walk, they take the outerwear off and tie it around their waist while still warm enough in the other three layers. If long underwear is too warm for you, try tights or leggings under

unlined cotton sweat pants. The two layers cut the wind that will otherwise seep through one pair of pants or sweats. Don't wear denim jeans as they give zero protection from the cold.

Shoes and Socks

Good shoes and socks are also essential for winter walking. Shoes that stand up to snow and rain will keep you from the misery of damp cold feet that become cracked and sore.

Almost all winter walkers always use hiking boots in snowy weather even on paved surfaces.

They have found that walking shoes leak while good hiking boots keep your feet dry and they keep you from sliding in the snow and ice.

Invest in a good lightweight boot that is just a bit larger than your normal shoe size.

Wear a thin sock liner and a heavy pair of socks leaving a little room so your feet don't get cramped and they won't get cold. Never wear smooth soled walking shoes in wet or snowy weather as their traction is negligible on wet leaves or icy patches. You need lug soled shoes or you risk injury from falling.

The Well Equipped Bum Bag

Always take a bum bag with the following items: tissues, lip protection, a fold-up poncho, sunscreen (yes, winter sun is harmful), dry skin cream, sunglasses (to cut glare on snow and ice), and water if you are away from convenience stores as water fountains are turned off in the winter.

If the weather looks the least bit threatening carry a small travel umbrella hanging by a loop from the bag. Have change for pay phones or other machines.

You may need a larger than normal Bum Bag to accommodate all this, but better to feel much better prepared while walking.



If you love luxury, you'll absolutely love these.

If you are looking for luxury accommodation, you need look no further. Ladybower Apartments are superb 5-star self-catering holiday apartments located in the former pump house for Ladybower Reservoir.

Restored in 2004, the building sits in a truly unique position adjacent to the reservoir, amidst wonderful walking country, woodlands and a profusion of wildlife.

Against a magnificent backdrop composed from some of the most stunning scenery in the Peak District National Park, the Upper Derwent reservoir area is a truly spectacular location that is considered by many to be the jewel in the Peak District's crown.

The Ladybower Reservoir is the largest of the Derwent Dams, which are famed for the Dambuster training runs.

Guests will enjoy relaxing in these beautiful surroundings, strolling around the reservoirs, or taking in one of the many cycle trails. For the more energetic, there are numerous outdoor activities and some of the best walking in the country.

All three apartments - Bridge Park, Bridge-water and Bridge Suite - have each been graded as 5 Star by Enjoy England. The resident owners personally care for all three apartments.



What to see in the Peak District

Welcome to the Peak District & Derbyshire, a world class destination stretching from the dramatic moorland and breathtaking landscapes of Britain's first National Park to the ancient oaks of the National Forest in the south of the county.

With a fascinating historical and cultural heritage, this unique and diverse region is home to some of the country's finest stately homes, enchanting market towns and picturesque villages.

Established in 1951, the Peak District is visited by people from all over the world. They come to find peace, tranquillity and adventure, experiencing some of England's finest climbing, caving, walking and cycling.

A warm and genuine welcome

Right at the heart of England.

The Peak District's very special qualities are well known to the people who live in the towns and cities that surround the National Park but for visitors from further away, whether from Britain or abroad, the magic of the Peak District is just waiting to be discovered.

A short break, or longer holiday, will allow you to explore some of England's most spectacular scenery and in the towns, villages and hamlets - amongst the prettiest in the country - you will find a warm and genuine welcome wherever you go.

Whatever you want, we've got it.

The Peak District provides opportunities for many types of outdoor activity. An extensive network of public footpaths and numerous long-distance trails, over 1,800 miles (2,900 km) in total, as well as large open-access areas, are available for hillwalking and hiking. Bridleways are commonly used by mountain bikers, as well as horse riders. Some of the long-distance trails, such as the Tissington Trail and High Peak Trail, re-use former railway lines; they are well used by walkers, horse riders and cyclists. The Park authorities run cycle hire centres at Ashbourne, Parsley Hay and Middleton Top. Wheelchair access is possible at several places on the former railway trails.

The many gritstone outcrops, such as Stanage Edge and The Roaches, are recognised as some of the finest rock climbing sites in the world.

Beneath the ground, the potholer enjoys natural caves, the potholes and old mine workings found in the limestone of the Peak. Peak Cavern is the largest and most important cave system which is even linked to the Speedwell system at Winnats. The only significant potholes are Eldon Hole and Nettle Pot. There are many old mine workings, which often were extensions of natural cave systems. Systems can be found at Castleton, Winnats, Matlock, Stoney Middleton, Eyam, Monyash and Buxton.

Some of the area's large reservoirs, for example Carsington Water, have become centres for water sports, including sailing, fishing and canoeing, in this most landlocked part of the UK. Other activities include air sports such as hang gliding and paragliding, birdwatching, fell running, off-roading, and orienteering.

Experience the elements.

Earth, fire, water or air... you'll be in your element here by getting involved in one of the many special interest activities on offer or simply having a relaxing weekend at a luxury spa hotel

There's a great choice of activity and special interest break providers in the area, offering everything from canoeing, map-reading and navigation courses to the more traditional outdoor pursuits.

For something a little different, there's also a fascinating range of breaks, from painting, pottery and spinning courses to beekeeping and birdsong - they're a great way to learn a new skill, gain a new perspective or simply unwind.

Eating out

With an abundance of local organic farmers, butchers and bakers producing a superb range of authentic, goods including breads, cheeses, ales and our world famous local specialities, the Peak District & Derbyshire is a real delight for food lovers.

What could be better than to while away a relaxing hour or two in a village tearoom with a refreshing pot of tea and a piece of famous Bakewell pudding or Ashbourne Gingerbread?!

For a true taste of the Peak District and Derbyshire, don't miss the opportunity to sample traditional produce at the regular farmers' markets held throughout the area in market towns such as Belper, Bakewell, Buxton, Castleton, Chesterfield and Derby or take home some of the local delicacies to share with family and friends. For the more sophisticated palate, the area boasts renowned restaurants and award-winning chefs offering the highest quality food in superb surroundings.

