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# StockenBridge

## **THE RECTORY HOTEL, WILTSHIRE**

A Country House Bridge Break in The Cotswolds with your hosts Zebedee and Claudia Stocken.

*from* £419 pp including :

- 2 nights' stay in this charming Country House Hotel
- Full breakfast and 3-course dinner with wine
- Refreshments available during bridge play
- Reception with sparkling wine and canapés on the first evening
- All Bridge tuition, course notes and prizes



**Friday March 28th - Sunday March 30th 2014**

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## Our previous visits to The Rectory

We have already had two wonderful weekends at The Rectory and it is becoming a firm favourite. Guests love the friendly hotel ambience and good food.



*'Thank you all very much for such a splendid weekend. I really was impressed with the way your organised it so that everyone had a wonderful time. The Rectory is a total winner, so friendly and relaxed and great food'* Minty Clinch, Freelance Travel Journalist, November 2013

## The Rectory Hotel



The Rectory Hotel offers the perfect country escape plus a real foodie treat. With its pretty Victorian walled gardens, it is situated in the village of Crudwell in the beautiful Cotswold triangle of Tetbury, Malmesbury and Cirencester.

This hotel has been tastefully restored with a contemporary feel. The sitting rooms have comfy sofas in front of open log fires; the bedrooms all have a view over the gardens and decorated in pale, soothing colours.

*'The Uk's 20 Best Restaurants with Rooms'* (Sunday Times)

*'A real find: a new hotel that's as soothing as it is professional'* (Sunday Telegraph)

*'Unstuffy and relaxed...first-rate modern British food'* (Square Meal)

*'The Rectory is simple and homely, yet stylish and modern'* (The Week)



For more, see [www.therectoryhotel.com](http://www.therectoryhotel.com)

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## Bridge with Zeb & Claudia



Zeb Stocken has many years experience of teaching and hosting bridge events, and whether you come as a group, in a pair or on your own, you can be certain of an instructive and enjoyable game.

holiday and, as a keen and experienced bridge player herself, she will also be supervising bridge sessions.

The bridge programme will be a mixture of teaching, supervised play and some duplicate – all played in a fun and friendly environment.



Claudia – Zeb's sister – will be on hand to ensure the smooth running of your

We will be playing bridge in the conservatory, on the ground floor with doors leading directly on to the landscaped gardens, providing a peaceful and secluded setting. The tuition sessions will use CompassCards (set deals) and a fun topic tailored to the group.



This year we have added an extra bridge session on Friday afternoon if you are able to arrive a little earlier. This will be either duplicate or supervised play depending on the group.

During bridge play, there will be tea and coffee breaks to include home-made biscuits, water and cordials. All bridge sessions are optional and open to all standards of play.

## Non-Residents

If you live locally, you are more than welcome to join in some or all of our bridge sessions. Please contact us for details and prices.

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## Other things to do around and about

There will be an option of supervised bridge on Saturday afternoon, though you may prefer to explore the local surroundings.

The Cotswolds are famous for fine landscapes, gently undulating hills, picturesque villages with mellow buff stone cottages and an abundance of rivers and streams. There are some great local walks (maps available at the hotel) or you may prefer to travel further afield.

Here are a few ideas of places to visit and things to do:

**Tetbury:** A delightful market town, also houses Prince Charles' Highgrove shop (8 miles).

**Nailsworth:** A fair-trade Cotswold town lying in one of the Stroud Valleys (12 miles).

**Cheltenham:** England's most complete Regency town (25 miles).



**Westonbirt Arboretum (left):** One of the most spectacular tree collections in the world (10 miles).

**Cotswold Water Park:** 150 lakes set in 40 square miles of countryside (8 miles).

**Bath:** Designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, Bath is a unique experience, with stunning architecture, great shopping and iconic attractions (28 miles).

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## Fine Dining

You can't fail to enjoy Peter Fairclough's modern British menu of fresh, seasonal produce. The breakfasts are an absolute treat as well, with a huge choice from the buffet and a range of delicious hot breakfasts made to order.



Here are some examples of dinner menus:

*Fried duck egg, Duck Rilette, Leek and Bacon Puree, Girolles  
Crab cannelloni, Saffron sauce, wilted Spinach  
Salad of poached Autumn Pear and Roquefort, Caramelized Walnuts  
Seared Sea Bass, crushed potatoes, Mussel Veloute  
Goats Cheese Polenta Cake, Wilted Spinach, Roasted Root Vegetables  
Pan fried Venison, swede and carrot dauphinoise, blackberry jus  
Vanilla and tarragon panna cotta, poached plums  
Dark chocolate truffle terrine, Honeycomb Ice Cream  
Ginger and Saffron Crème Brûlée, Gingerbread Ice Cream*

Dinner will be accompanied by half a bottle of house wine per person.



Lunch on Saturday and Sunday is not included, but we highly recommend The Potting Shed (left) which is just across the road and is the sister pub to the Rectory.

From sandwiches to their à la carte menu, the locally-sourced, seasonal food is absolutely delicious, served in a fun and convivial atmosphere.

The pub was voted 'National Dining Pub of the Year' 2011 by the Good Pub Guide and has had very good reviews (booking required). Alternatively we can organise a lunch at The Rectory (approx £13.50 for 2 courses).

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## Accommodation

The 12 bedrooms at The Rectory are all individually designed and feature an eclectic mix of antique finds, updated with more contemporary pieces. All rooms come with Roberts retro radios, iPod docking stations, television and organic Bamford products. The six rooms below are on the first floor:



**Laverton** (£439 pp, double + shower)  
A light and airy double-aspect room overlooking the front lawn.



**Nimlet** (£449 pp, double + bath)  
This room enjoys side views of the garden from the window seat.



**Cleeve** (£479 pp, king/twin + bath)  
A lovely light room with window seats which have views to the side of the hotel.



**Sudeley** (£499 pp, double + bath)  
This newly decorated room overlooks the Victorian Baptism pool at the rear.



**Pennsylvania** (£499 pp, king/twin + bath)  
This is a large light room overlooking the lawns at the front of the hotel.



**Leckhampton** (£509 pp, king + bath)  
A bright airy room with window seats and lovely views. Plus separate shower.

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Together with hand sprung mattresses, fine Egyptian linens, bathrobes, deep baths and power showers, you can be sure of a relaxing stay. All rooms have en-suite bathroom facilities. The six rooms below are on the second floor:



**Nibley** (£419 pp, double + bath)

Small but cosy, this room has original beams and a view of the village church.



**Cam Peak** (£439 pp, double + bath)

Overlooking the croquet lawn, this room has lovely views over the front garden.



**Nympsfield** (£439 pp, king/twin + shower)

This room is light and bright with views over the front and side gardens.



**Belas Knap** (£469 pp, king/twin + bath)

This comfortable and cosy room has original beams.



**Randwick** (£469 pp, king/twin +bath)

Original beams give this cosy room plenty of character.



**Crickley** (£479 pp, king/twin +bath)

Double aspect windows make this room light and bright with views of the village.

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\* All rooms with baths, apart from Cam Peak, have showers over the baths, or separate shower.  
All prices are based on two people sharing. There is a single person supplement of £100 for all rooms.

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## Daily Schedule

### Friday

Duplicate or supervised play 3.30pm - 5.30pm  
Welcome drinks and canapés 7pm  
Three-course dinner  
After dinner supervised bridge

### Saturday

Bridge tuition 10am - 12.30pm  
Lunch (*not included*)  
Supervised play 2pm - 4pm  
Bridge tuition 5pm - 7pm  
Three-course dinner  
After dinner supervised bridge

### Sunday

Supervised play or duplicate 10am - 12.30pm

### Loyalty Discount

*We are offering a 10% 'loyalty' discount on the holiday price for all previous StockenBridge Breaks guests, provided that the holiday is booked before the 31st December 2013.*

*If you would like to share a room with a friend, even if they are new to Stockenbridge, the discount will apply to them too.*

*Bedrooms are available from 3pm and check out is 11am*

## Travel Details

Travelling to The Rectory Hotel is very straightforward. It is situated eight miles from junction 17 off the M4, not far from Malmesbury.

Alternatively, a fast rail service takes you directly from London Paddington to Kemble station in 70 minutes. We can arrange for you to be picked up from Kemble station, just 3 miles away.

The Rectory Hotel, Crudwell, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9EP

### *How to Book...*

*There is a deposit, payable on booking, of £100 per person. The full payment will be due by January 31st 2014. To book your holiday, please fill out the booking form - stating your room preferences - and post with a cheque (or an online transfer - see booking form) for the deposit to: **131a Stephendale Road, London, SW6 2PS.***

*Terms and conditions are on the booking form. See: [www.stockenbridgebreaks.com](http://www.stockenbridgebreaks.com) for more details or email: [zeb@stockenbridge.co.uk](mailto:zeb@stockenbridge.co.uk) or [claudia@stockenbridgebreaks.com](mailto:claudia@stockenbridgebreaks.com)*

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