

Places to visit near Church Farm



CHURCH FARM, ARDELEY
A Free Range Experience



Community Interest Company
Church Farm, Ardeley, Stevenage, Herts, SG2 7AH

T: 01438 861 447 E: info@churchfarmardeley.co.uk W: www.churchfarmardeley.co.uk

Places to visit near Church Farm

Natural Encounters at Church Farm, Ardeley

Welcome to Church Farm, Ardeley, we hope you enjoy your stay.

We have heard many stories from delighted visitors of encounters with nature on the farm whilst wild camping here. Everything from **badger sightings**, witnessing our sows giving birth, to realising just how close they are to the farm animals sometimes sharing a field (with appropriate barriers of course)! At Church Farm expect an authentic and spontaneous experience. Did you know that we have a natural spring onsite which services the farm, and all the water is drink safe? There are 4 woods to explore, animals including rare breeds to engage with and feed, fun activities for the children and our award winning field to fork experience that does not cost the earth. We harvest from our fields three times a day to bring you fresh vital nutrients from the salads and vegetables. We have an onsite butcher who prepares our high welfare meat and a bakery with a delicious range of breads that is available in the Farm Store. Please do ask in the shop what is available for children as there are different activities such as egg collecting and tractor and trailer rides that can be booked.

Now that you are here and have explored the 175 acres of wood and farm land at Church Farm, there are many places of interest around locally that are fun to visit, some of which are listed in the following pages.

It is better to book Farm Café and pub reservations in advance as we are often full at busy times:

Church Farm, Ardeley 01438 861447
The Jolly Waggoner Pub 01438 861350



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Open Spaces

Hitchin Lavender

Walk through the fields and take home a bunch of lavender free. Gift shop and refreshments available in a 17th Century barn.

Cadwell Farm, Ickleford, Hitchin, Herts, SG5 3UA

01462 434343 http://www.hitchinlavender.com/home_english.html

Open to public: Saturday May 3rd - Sunday September 14th EVERYDAY (10am-5pm)

Flowering Season Mid June - Late August

Entrance to the field costs £4 per adult, Children under 14 are free

Fairlands Valley

Fairlands Valley Park consists of 120 acres of beautiful parkland situated within the heart of Stevenage. The park supports a varied selection of wildlife, and breeds of wildfowl can be seen on the established reserve. Activities can be booked, see website for details.

Six Hills Way, Stevenage, Herts SG2 0BL

01438 353241 <http://www.stevenage-leisure.co.uk/CentrenbspLocator/FairlandsValleyPark/tabid/314/Default.aspx>

Park open all the time. Aqua park open 10am-6pm

See website for various activity and course prices

Free Entry to the park

Aldenham Country Park

Wildlife, rare breed farm, woodland experiences, mixed farming, pony rides, nature walks and more.

Aldenham Country Park, Aldenham Road, Elstree, Hertfordshire. WD6 3BA

0208 953 9602 <http://aldenhamcountrypark.co.uk/>

9am until 6pm Car parking £4.50 or free on foot




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Open Spaces

Purwell Ninesprings

An open water reserve attracting a wide variety of bird species - one of the best places in north Hertfordshire for water voles. There is a circular walk, boardwalks and viewing platforms.

Purwell Ninesprings, Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG4 0NT

01727 858901 <http://www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/reserves/purwell-ninesprings>

Open all year round.

Pryor's Wood

Mixed woodland rich in wildlife with seasonal delights.

Pryor's Wood, Stevenage, Hertfordshire SG2 7QQ

01727 858901 <http://www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/reserves/pryors-wood>

Free entry all year round.



Left Purwell Ninesprings

Right Pryor's Wood

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Open Spaces

Stanborough Park

126 acres of award-winning parkland with lakes, activities such as boat hire and fishing, nature trails and something for everyone.

Watersports Centre, Stanborough Road, Welwyn Garden City, Herts, AL8 6DQ
01707 276276 <http://www.finesseleisure.com/outdoor-facilities/stanborough-park>

The park is open all year round at any time.

Car parking: £2.10 weekday, £3.10 weekend or £1.50 with a Residents Parking Permit

Letchworth Outdoor Pool

A 50m grassed pool with a sunbathing area, a toddlers pool, inflatables and floats, refreshments.

Norton Common, Icknield Way, Letchworth, Hertfordshire SG6 4UF

01462 684673 http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/leisure_and_culture/leisure_and_sports_facilities/letchworth_outdoor_pool.htm

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 7am - 6.30pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays 8am - 6.30pm, Weekends 8.30am - 6.00pm

Various prices. See website for further information.

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Museums and Exhibitions

The Henry Moore Foundation Perry Green

Exhibition Gallery, Studios, Tapestry Barn and Hoglands (former home) presents a unique insight into the daily life of one of the outstanding cultural figures of the twentieth century.

The Henry Moore Foundation, Perry Green, Much Hadham, Hertfordshire, SG10 6EE

01279 844104 <http://www.henry-moore.org/pg>

Thursday 1 May to Sunday 26 October

Wednesday to Sunday & Bank Holidays 11am to 5pm

See website for various ticket prices.

Stevenage Museum

Find out about the story of the Stevenage from the Stone Age, its development as the first New Town and to the present day.

Stevenage Museum, St George's Way, Stevenage. SG1 1XX

01438 218881 <http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/about-stevenage/museum/>

Opening times

Open Wednesday to Friday 10am - 4.30pm, Saturdays 10am - 5pm

Closed on Bank Holidays

Free entry. Some events are chargeable.

British Schools Museum

Historic school and classrooms to celebrate 200 years of heritage and 47,000 display objects. There is a Victorian lesson on the first Sunday of every month (March to November) at no extra charge at 2.30pm or 3.30pm.

41/42 Queen Street, Hitchin SG4 9TS

01462 420144 <http://www.britishschoolsmuseum.co.uk/>

Open from Tuesday the 18th of February to Tuesday the 25th of November at the following times. Tuesdays 10am – 4pm, Saturdays 10am – 1pm, Sundays 2pm – 5pm. See website for any additional opening times.

£4:50 for adults, £2:50 for children between 5 and 17 (under 5s free). Discounts are available for family groups.

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Museums and Exhibitions

Welwyn Roman Baths

Learn about how the Romans liked to relax with an elegant culture of bathing, and admire their creativity and style. The bath house remains are a scheduled ancient monument, ingeniously preserved in a steel vault under the A1(M) motorway.

Welwyn Bypass, Welwyn, Hertfordshire AL6 9FG

01707 357850 <http://www.welhat.gov.uk/museum>

The baths are open to the public from January to November but closed throughout December. Weekends and Bank Holidays 2 - 5pm, (or dusk if earlier)

Hertfordshire School Holidays 2-5pm (or dusk if earlier) except for the Christmas holidays when closed.

Children under 16 free. Adults £2.50

Mill Green Museum and Mill

An 18th century working watermill and museum with an attractive riverside setting and historic buildings. Rooms are packed with colourful displays of local art and exhibitions about the fascinating history. The Welwyn Hatfield Museum Service is based here and holds the social history collection for the district. Opposite is the Mill Green Jubilee Garden which was created in the style of the Tudors and is open the same time as the mill.

Bush Hall Lane, Mill Green, Hatfield, Herts. AL9 5PD

01707 357850 <http://www.welhat.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=723>

Tuesday to Thursday 10am – 5pm, Sundays and Bank Holidays 2pm – 5pm,
Friday/Saturday/Monday - closed

Children free, Adults £2.50, Entry to grounds free

Entry for one adult accompanying a child attending a paid activity (£3.00 or more) free



Welwyn Roman Baths



Mill Green Museum and Mill


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Museums and Exhibitions

Much Hadham Forge Museum

The Much Hadham Forge Museum features a local history gallery displaying collections from both Much and Little Hadham. Access to unique Elizabethan wall paintings and galleries devoted to the blacksmith in mythology, art and literature, the development of the craft and the Page family blacksmiths and beekeepers.

There is free access to a regular programme of temporary exhibitions and visitors can enjoy the tranquillity of the cottage garden with teas available from the café.

High Street, Much Hadham, Hertfordshire. SG10 6BS

01279 843301

<http://www.hadhammuseum.org.uk/index.html>

April - mid December, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays

11.00am - 5.00pm

Adults £3.50, Concession £2.50, Child £1.50, Family Group £7.00

Ashwell Village Museum

The museum is full of the everyday objects of life in the village and the surrounding countryside from the Stone Age to the present day.

Swan Street, Ashwell, Baldock, Herts SG7 5NY

01462 742 956 <http://www.ashwellmuseum.org.uk>

Open Sunday and bank holidays 2.30-5pm. Check website or call for other times.

£2 for adults and accompanied children free.

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Mills

Stotfold Mill

Explore the history and workings of the mill with the possibility for children to grind their own flour to explore the process. The mill is set in 8 acres of nature reserve to explore.

Mill Lane, Stotfold, Bedfordshire SG5 4NU

01462 734541 <http://www.stotfoldmill.com/>

The nature reserve is accessed via a free car park apart from two weekends a year. The mill is open 12.30-5pm daily usually with free entry. Please consult the website for specific open days which are chargeable.

Cromer Windmill

Hertfordshire's last surviving windmill restored by local efforts dates from 1681 .
Knebworth House, Knebworth, Hertfordshire, SG3 6PY

01763 271305 <http://www.hertfordshirebpt.org/Cromer%20Windmill.htm>

Opening times are 2.30pm – 5pm every Sunday; second and fourth Saturdays in each month and Bank Holidays. Group visits, including schools, are welcome at other times by arrangement with Robin Webb.


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Historic Buildings

Wimpole Estate

Wimpole Hall has been influenced by various designers and owners through history with a grade 1 listed park, 18th Century walled garden , woodland, with lots more to see and do

Arrington, Royston, Cambridgeshire, SG8 0BW

01223 206000 <http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/wimpole-estate/>

Various opening times and prices for different parts of the estate. See website.

Hatfield House

A historic stately home to the Cecil family for 400 years with gardens and grounds with events and activities. There is a sundial garden, fountains and the famous knot garden where Elizabeth I spent most of her childhood.

Hatfield House, Hatfield, Hertfordshire. AL9 5NQ

01707 287010 <http://www.hatfield-house.co.uk/index.asp>

Open 5 April – 28 September 2014

Various opening times and prices. See website for further information.


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Historic Buildings

Knebworth House

One of England's most beloved stately homes, Knebworth House is famous worldwide for its rock concerts and as the home of Victorian novelist Edward Bulwer Lytton. This beautiful gothic mansion is situated 29 miles north of London off the A1(M) at Stevenage. Knebworth Park offers a great day out for all the family, with fun activities for kids, and lots to do for all ages, including Adventure Playground, Dinosaur Trail, a walk through history in Knebworth House and Gardens and special events throughout the summer. Our licensed self-service restaurant offers a delicious selection of home-made and locally sourced lunch and teatime treats.

Knebworth House, Knebworth, Hertfordshire, SG3 6PY

0 1438 812661 <http://www.knebworthhouse.com/>

Various opening times, days and prices. See website for further information.




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Markets and Carboot Sales

Hitchin Market

General market Tuesdays, Fridays (antiques and collectibles), Saturdays and Sundays

Additional Bric-a-brac Fridays, riverside craft and Farmer's market last Saturday of every month and car boot sale on Sundays

20 Churchgate, Hitchin, Hertfordshire.

SG5 1DN 01462 456 202 <http://www.hitchinmarkets.co.uk/>

Carboot Baldock Saturdays

A popular event on a Saturday set amongst rolling hills.

A507 Buntingford Rd to Baldock.

<http://www.u-boot.co.uk/bootsale.htm>

Every Saturday morning 7am from Easter to October

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