

MILDEN HALL 2024

Unusual self-catering accommodation options on an environmentally-friendly Suffolk farm



THE TUDOR BARN



Sleeps 25 in 4 bedrooms + open plan barn area

THE OLD BROODER



Sleeps 22 in 4 bedrooms
+ Shepherd's Hut adjacent

FARMHOUSE ROOMS



Sleeps 9+ 'overflow guests' in 3 bedrooms



MILDEN HALL

FRIENDS, FAMILIES, NATURALISTS, HISTORIANS . . .

Milden Hall is an unusual location, off the beaten track down our quiet Suffolk farm drive but within three miles of historic Lavenham. It is peacefully surrounded by ancient wildflower meadows, walled garden and hedged countryside, with beautiful Grade II* listed hall farmhouse, aisled barns and cartlodes. At Milden friends, walkers, cyclists, civilised hens or re-enactors can get together in spacious, beautiful, ancient and unspoiled surroundings, amidst our sensitively farmed landscape. Here, you can walk, run, hug trees, pond dip, read, lie about, play tennis or croquet, bike, draw, paint, sing, eat and be merry in 21st century style – and if you'd like to, dip one foot into the 16th century. And bantams scratch about amongst the herbs

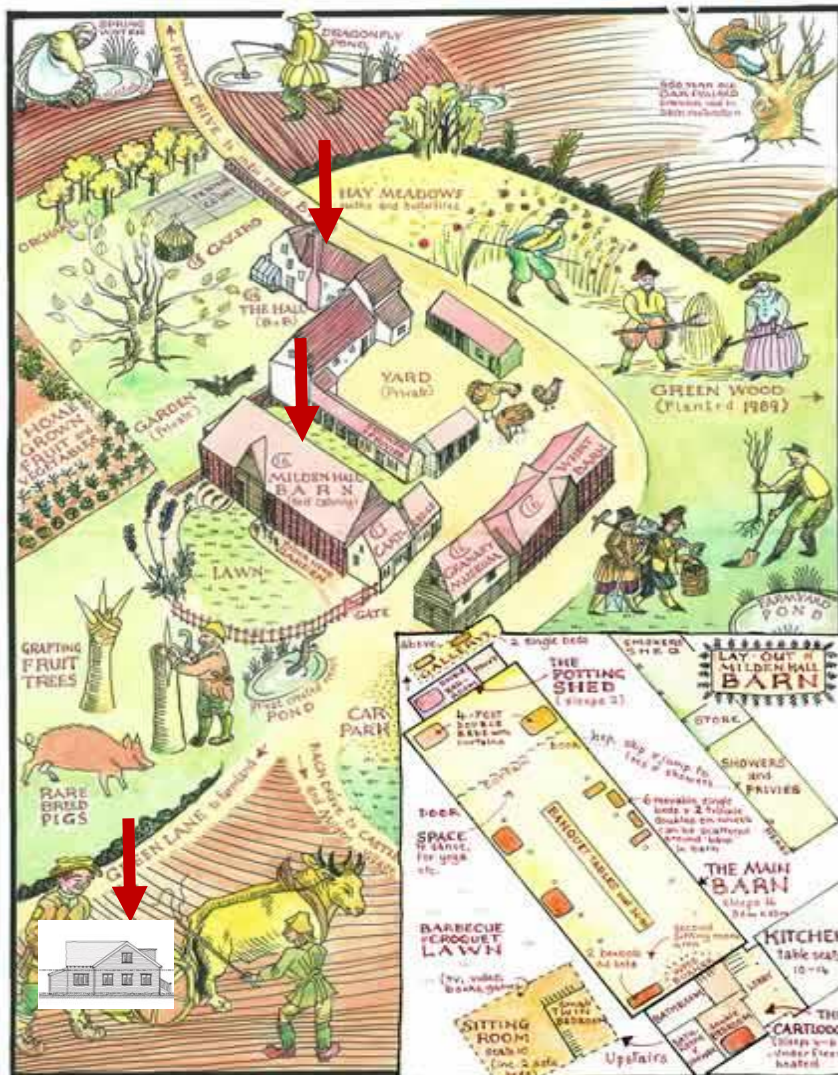
SEPARATE OPTIONS

Milden Hall has been the Hawkins family home and working farm for over 200 years and is definitely not a holiday 'complex'. The Tudor Barn and Old Brooder are 100m+ from one another and Farmhouse overflow rooms are in our home next door. For 30 years we have encouraged guests who can have a happy time whilst respecting neighbours' peace. Our newly kitted out and super-comfy bunkhouse is good for those who want stylish large group accommodation on a budget. Occasionally, we let out both properties together if reassured it will be a peaceful occasion.

The Tudor Barn (p3) with adjoining cartlodge sleeps one large group of up to 25 (+ travel cots). The barn layout and sleeping arrangements are complicated and quirky - and the vast open space of the barn suit the group who know each other well, and want to gather and feast together in Tudor style. Guests can use our Tudor costumes and tableware, 20+ adult road bikes and tennis court, table tennis, table football, croquet, BBQ etc.

The 'Old' Brooder (on an old site, p4) sleeps up to 22 guests in four bedrooms (2 x 2, 2 x 8) + the Shepherd's Hut (1 x 2). It seats 22 in the kitchen (BBQ + picnic tables outside), with a cosy upstairs sitting room and lots of showers and loos. 20+ adult bikes, table tennis, table football, croquet, BBQ etc.

Milden Hall Farmhouse rooms (p5) are sometimes available on a bed-only basis as overflow accommodation to either property.



ROWDY GROUPS

We welcome jolly-but-civilised groups (including hens), family celebrations and youth. However, we don't want to cramp anyone's style so we're sorry that both properties are unsuitable for groups who wish to be super-rowdy. Whilst rural, we have a few neighbours nearby, so anyone booking must vouch for everyone's good behaviour and adhere to our t&cs especially regarding noise. Unfortunately, early on, very rowdy and damaging occasions made us wary of wild 30ths and all-male groups. So please check the t&cs and reassure us! Any loud music /noise is by arrangement please.

BEING GREEN

We're deep green and proud of it - and ask you to join in! See page 11 for our **Green policy & Green Guest Challenges & Offers**.

THE TUDOR BARN



Self-catering sleeps 25 in 5 bedrooms

- 1 x double with ensuite bathroom
- 1 x double with ensuite loo & basin
- 1 x upstairs tiny twin accessed thru 1 x triple
- 16 in main **open plan barn** - 2 x four-poster king size, 2 x truckle doubles, 8 x singles
- 2 x full bathrooms + modern ladies & gents' shower block with 4 showers + 6 loos



SLEEPING & LIVING AREAS ... described by a guest as "*Magnificent but not stiflingly posh*". The Tudor barn with adjoining cartlodge provides space to be together and space to be apart. It is huge - a great space for gathering, celebrating, feasting, dancing, playing games around the woodburner in winter and in summer playing tennis or croquet in the herb garden or borrowing the barn's own fleet of 20+ bikes to explore the area.

The cosy underfloor-heated cartlodge has a ground-floor private double with bathroom, a second bathroom accessible to all and a huge, sunny kitchen with a big table (sits 14+). Upstairs there is a triple bedroom (with emergency TV!) *en route* to a second tiny twin.

The adjoining barn has banquet tables, a comfortable sitting area around the woodburner for 25 guests, and huge open plan sleeping arrangements for 16 in comfortable Suffolk-oak beds (four-posters, singles), and the adjoining '**potting shed**' double has its own loo and basin. A hop, skip and a jump away are the very modern showers and loos.

FEASTING & GATHERINGS... The large well-equipped kitchen has 21st century facilities - and we'll unpack your supermarket delivery, give you tips on the best local food and drink and if you'd rather not cook yourselves, we'll put you in touch with a local chef. Enjoy the barbecue and croquet on summer evenings. By arrangement, invite extra guests for a special gathering - we have tableware and seating for up to 80 guests (exceptionally more) - ask for details.

DRESS UP FOR A TUDOR BANQUET ... Borrow our period costumes, eat off wooden platters, drink ale from goblets and dance by candle-light to madrigals ...



THE OLD BROODER



Self-catering, sleeps 22

in 5 bedrooms

2 x 2 bunk beds

1 x 8 bunk beds

1 x 8 conventional beds

1 x 2 Shepherd's hut



The Old Brooder provides stylish, comfortable, but simple, accommodation for 22 guests who don't have a big budget. Joiner-made oak bunk beds (12), conventional beds (10) for those who don't like bunks (all have thick comfortable mattresses), ancient stained glass and artwork on walls, Mexican tiles, Indian sari bedspreads and views over hedged farmland.

Downstairs - two twin bunk bedrooms (sleep 2 in each) for those who want more privacy or for staff with a school group, and a long, thin dormitory that sleeps 8 in bunk beds. There are three showers and loos, including a wet shower room for less mobile guests. A kitchen-dining area provides simple seating for 22 at rustic tables and we will happily unpack a supermarket delivery for you or you can pre-book wholesome delivered meals.

The restored Old Shepherd's hut sleeps two (part of total 22) see pic right - effectively a third private twin room (one of beds is v small), just outside the Old Brooder back door.

Upstairs - a cosy sitting room with TV seats 22 (sorry no dancing), and large sunny bedroom sleeps 8, with loo and shower next door.

Outside - BBQ on a summer evening, breakfast on the terrace, play croquet, badminton, ping-pong or table football. Beyond, enjoy the farm trails and wildlife; adults can borrow the Old Brooder's fleet of 20+ road bikes to explore the local historic Wool Towns and pubs on the peaceful village roads of the South Suffolk Cycle Route; hire kayaks on the River Stour; or walk the local Long-Distance Routes or other lovely circular walks.

Schools may wish to house part of their group in the bunkhouse and others in the Tudor barn and all eat in the barn. In addition to providing accommodation for schools visiting Kentwell Hall or teams on tour, we also offer our own residential school programmes of environmental activities, art and crafts, history days (Tudor and World War II) when booked with our nearby Tudor Barn.



MILDEN HALL FARMHOUSE ROOMS FOR OVERFLOW GUESTS



Sleeps 7-9 adults - in 3 bedrooms
Bed-only basis ie without breakfast

Overflow guest rooms

£80+ per person per two-night stay based on minimum two guests per room as 'overflow' accommodation from the Tudor Barn or sometimes the Old Brooder.

- Rate based on a bed-only basis ie no breakfast included, no services ie bed-making or room cleaning
- Rate includes use of all barn/bunkhouse facilities throughout the day.
- Rate includes access to rooms throughout the day but as this is our home, we ask you to keep these rooms for adults only.
- There is no general access for any other barn/bunkhouse guests during the day.
- Please be considerate to us and other guests regarding coming in late quietly.
- Limited tea/coffee-making facilities and TVs!

Our three spacious guest bedrooms have spectacular views across ancient wildflower meadows, hedged Suffolk countryside and our walled garden.

Bedrooms contain period furniture, tapestries, beautiful pictures, books, magazines.

All bedrooms share one large private bathroom with bath, shower, loo plus another downstairs loo.

Sorry, there are no en-suites in this very ancient, listed house!

Very occasionally we let out our absent daughters' bedrooms to guests too.

The huge Adams Room double, sometimes family room, with basin

The room was designed in 1770 as an upstairs ladies' sitting room and then used in the 1800s by six Hawkins sisters as their sewing room. Enjoy a very comfortable **king-sized bed, and two singles**. It has a sofa and armchair – and still room to do cartwheels across the floor! The room overlooks the walled garden but, be warned, it is a trek to the loo and shared private bathroom – for which we provide dressing gowns. If you're the only guests, you simply take a short cut.



The large Gallery Room twin – next to shared private bathroom

Walls are covered with antique Suffolk maps and prints and a bookcase heaves with books. You can sit in the armchairs and enjoy views over Suffolk to

the north and the walled garden to the south. The twin beds are queen size ie bigger than a single, smaller than a double.



The twin Becker Room – next to shared bathroom

The walls are covered in artwork by Harry Becker, a Suffolk impressionist who drew the Suffolk countryside. The room overlooks the ancient wildflower meadow and Suffolk beyond. It is next to the shared private bathroom.



FACILITIES INC IN TUDOR BARN & OLD BROODER HIRE (no facilities shared!)

Bedrooms

- Made up beds with seasonal duvets
- Additionally, in the barn in winter: electric blankets, 15 tog duvets and hot water bottles in winter; extra blankets

Sitting rooms

- **TV & DVD player** – & assorted DVDs
- **Books** - history, children's, wildlife, cookery

Bathrooms

- **Towels in the Tudor Barn** - provided but for every towel not used, £1 is donated to Suffolk Wildlife Trust
- **Towels in Old Brooder** - BYO or @ £2.50pp
- **Loo rolls, hand & shower gel** provided
- **Cleaning materials** provided for your use to ensure those following you find it clean!

- **Heating in the barn:** Woolly sweaters and a sense of adventure is essential! Rest assured you will be warm
- Underfloor heating in cartlodge end (three bedrooms, two bathrooms, kitchen, upstairs sitting room). Heating in potting shed double and loo & shower block.
- Main barn has giant woodburner & firewood for day & night, & large blower heater in day. Electric blankets in winter.
- **Heating in the Old Brooder:** Centrally heated and well insulated throughout.

Kitchens & dining areas

- **Cookers:** Large electric cooker with 5 hotplates, 2 ovens, grill. **Microwave.** Barn - hot cupboard.
- **Basic BBQ** – charcoal provided for barn. BYO or buy charcoal for bunkhouse. BYO kebab sticks.
- **Dishwasher** – barn has two, the bunkhouse one
- **Barn** - large fridge + second fridge-freezer
- **Bunkhouse** - fridge-freezer & 2nd small fridge
- **Kitchen equipment:** saucepans, casserole pots, lasagne-type dishes, smallish food processor, hand whisk, blender, barn - large hot water urn
- **Tableware:** large serving plates & salad bowls, bread baskets, china, cutlery, beer/water/wine/champagne glasses, cafetieres, tea pots, thermoses, jugs, vases.
- **Tudor tableware in the barn only:** pottery goblets, wooden platters, pewter spoons etc
- **Washing up basics:** kitchen cloths/roll, tea towels, oven gloves, washing up liquid, dishwasher tablets
- **Cooking basics:** salt & pepper, spice rack, limited assortment of tea/coffee, flour, sugar, cooking oil, seasonal herbs from the garden (ask us ... seasonally Rosemary, mint, marjoram, thyme, tarragon)
- **Non-drip candles** provided - **please don't** BYO

WiFi - The Old Brooder has WiFi at rural speeds. The Tudor Barn has 4G hotspots – by arrangement borrow our 4G router.

EV charging point: Available by request in car park – bring cash as no card machine. Honesty price agreed when here.

Our tap water is great. Help to minimise one-use plastic and reduce your costs by NOT bringing bottled water!

Entertainment facilities at each property

- Use of fleet of 40+ adult road bikes ie 20 or so at each property (aged 16+yrs and, sorry, weight <15 stone – otherwise BYO). NOT for off-road use.
- Table football, table tennis
- Croquet & badminton
- Rough meadow with football nets, for rounders, Frisbee, sports day games
- TV, board games & playing cards
- Waymarked farm trails
- Family activity pack for the farm

Entertainment in addition to above, specific to the Tudor barn

- Small sound system with aux lead for iPod/iPhone (large sound system by arrangement for special occasions)
- Electric piano
- Tudor costumes for adults
- Assorted dressing up box for children
- Space for dancing/yoga/plays/choirs

Outdoor games and sport

- Hard tennis court - BYO rackets, balls

The Old Brooder

Tennis court – IF the barn guests definitely don't want to use, we can offer it to you
Dancing – hire the village hall one mile away as the carpeted sitting room is completely unsuitable.



ADULT ROAD BIKES

We have lovely planned circular routes (and our own Wool Town bike trail quiz) around local medieval villages on quiet country lanes. Both the **Tudor Barn** and the **Old Brooder** have their own fleet of 20+ adult road bikes each inc fee for those aged >16yrs and <15 stone) - NOT for off-road. **BYO helmets**– we’ve got some but your own might fit better! **BYO children’s bikes** for them to ride on hard farm tracks.



ACTIVITIES FOR GUESTS (we send you a full list of ideas with links)

There is something for pretty much everyone, in fine or wet weather, inside or outside on the farm, and space to roam, space to be alone or together. Many groups barely leave the farm for their entire stay!

The Tudor Barn provides a lovely huge space inside for small children to run around; for bigger children to delve in the dressing up box and put on a play; and adults can dress up in Tudor costume and have a banquet and Tudor quiz. Guests can play table tennis, table football, twister, board games, play charades or dance Tudor, ‘street’ or get in a caller for a barn dance. There is a *small screen* TV/DVD player in the upstairs triple bedroom that can be moved into the barn. Note there is no WiFi in the barn but you can get a phone signal and 4G but you have to walk about to find it!

Outside Tudor barn guests can enjoy a tennis tournament on our hard court, play croquet or badminton in the fenced off herb garden, a summer BBQ with mint for Pimms and fennel for the barbecued fish! Picnic tables for garden dining. Ask us about a Suffolk wine-tasting in our bell tent in the woods.

The Old Brooder has a cosy sitting room with TV and WiFi for those who can’t live without it, board games and books. Get a tutor in to weave willow baskets and spiral plant trainers, or for life drawing, painting or photography. **Outside** guests can enjoy croquet, badminton, table tennis, table football, cook on the BBQ – and enjoy the farm beyond. Guests can hire the village hall (£10+/hour) for dance or yoga.

Milden Hall Farm is a 500-acre working farm and with the farm map you can explore the ponds, ancient meadows and young woodland and find a nice spot for a **picnic**. Our **family activity pack** provides ideas for enjoying the countryside including seasonal scavenger hunts, tree hugging, leaf sewing, journey sticks, meadows in a matchbox, pond dipping, hedge dating, smelly cocktails and other delights. There are **rough** sheep-grazed/hay meadows (ask us how long the grass is if this is critical!) to **play a family game of rounders or football** with nets or have your own sports day.

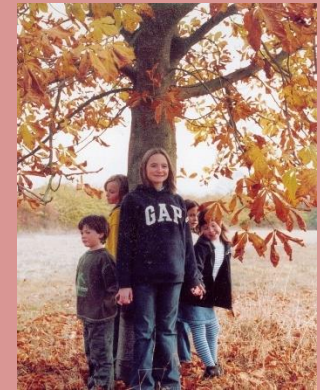
Beyond the farm you can take yourselves off locally for some action or culture. Go Ape in Thetford Forest for a high wire experience; kayak or canoe down the River Stour from Sudbury 15 minutes away. National Trust properties are well within an hour’s drive: Lavenham Guildhall and Melford Hall (10 minutes away), explore Ickworth House and parkland or the incredibly important Anglo-Saxon ship burial site at Sutton Hoo on the coast, or hire a boat at Flatford Mill. Antique hunt in Long Melford.

Walking & cycling – borrow our planned circular footpath routes or explore Sustrans’ Long-Distance Routes! Alternatively, bicycle around our lovely quiet country lanes - the South Suffolk Cycle Route goes past our drive and we have put together some gentle or more energetic circular routes and our own Wool Town bike trail quiz. Children can learn to ride on their new bike on the hard-surface tracks around the farm. **Bring your own bicycles or use our adult road bikes – we’ve got 40+ for those aged over 16!**



CHILDREN & SAFETY

We welcome well-supervised and well-behaved children.



A WORKING FARM

Please enjoy the farm tracks, woodland, ponds and meadows but children must not be left to unsupervised. There are ponds, farm machinery and buildings, electric fencing and other potential hazards. We ask that children are supervised for their safety and to respect our property and neighbours’ privacy.

Please use one of our meadows for rounders, football and other ball games – not in the garden!

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF HIRE OF THE TUDOR BARN OR OLD BROODER

Both properties are unsuitable for groups who wish to consume vast quantities of alcohol and be super-rowdy.

- 1. Restricted groups by special arrangement only.** We welcome well-behaved groups including civilised hen parties and want you to have a happy time! However, we don't want to cramp anyone's style and expectations and neither do we or our close neighbours want to be kept awake, worry about fire, safety etc. So, we hope you understand that to avoid really rowdy occasions, we only accept bookings for the following **restricted groups by special arrangement** with lots of reassurance that you can vouch for all members of the group sticking to our t&cs: **16th-30th birthday (or similar) celebrations other than hens where most guests are under 30, mixed hen & stags, stag/male-only groups, large group wedding guests; large combined Tudor barn & Old Brooder bookings.** Other t&cs may help you decide whether your group is a good fit for either property.
- 2. Noise.** We're not unreasonable (just realistic!) ... but when there is a large group in one place and alcohol involved, we KNOW how noisy it can get with music and excited yelps! Other than noise associated with an excited game of rounders, croquet or similar, loud noise (day or night) probably gives us more angst than anything else. **Noise must be kept to a reasonable level to ensure peace for neighbours and other guests however far away they may seem.** If in any doubt, please discuss what constitutes 'reasonable'. To that end: no BYO outside speakers; inside BYO speakers to be kept peaceful without thumpingly loud-base, and please be considerate if outside at any time of year but especially in the summer months. **Any loud music such as karaoke, daytime or evening party music is by arrangement with us and latest will be to end by 11pm/11.30pm.**
- 3. No dancing holding drinks.** Sorry to be so boring but this is not a club and it helps to minimise sticky spillages on coir matting which are costly to remove. Dancing in the Tudor Barn without a drink is absolutely fine!
- 4. No dancing in the Old Brooder.** There really is no room in the kitchen and the upstairs sitting room is carpeted.
- 5. Booking both barn & completely separate bunkhouse together.** As this effectively creates a large 'party' booking for up to 45+ guests, this is **by special arrangement only** for which we will agree t&cs depending on the event to include: parking, event finishing time, bands, caterers, serving of drink etc.
- 6. Extra guests** invited for the day or evening to be agreed – ie hire is for agreed number only and not for an additional party without prior agreement. If extra guests have stayed, we will deduct funds from your deposit.
- 7. Smoking.** There is a strict no smoking policy in all buildings but you are welcome to smoke outside.
- 8. Damage & safety.** No amount of financial compensation can compensate for the hassle factor of dealing with very drunk guests and the damage that may be caused - and the angst involved in worrying about your safety. To that end we require two named responsible people when you book: we expect these guests to ensure the safety of others and the property, and sensible behaviour, keeping noise at reasonable levels.
- 9. Supervision of children.** We welcome well-behaved children but we do expect parents to take full responsibility for ensuring they are properly supervised on this working farm, informed of hazards/no-go areas, asked to put games away properly, don't jump on beds, don't play football *in* the barn etc.
- 10. Damage to property including beds/bedding/mattresses** is charged at full cost of replacement.
- 11. Departure/leaving the property clean & tidy.** We do not expect miracles but equally we do not expect to find washing up, unsorted rubbish and other unsavoury surprises. We will deduct money from your deposit for unreasonable cleaning or damage to the property or any costs incurred as a result of your late departure.
- 12. Lost property.** Unclaimed items will be sent to a charity shop after two months of holding items.

PETS (accepted in Tudor Barn only, sorry never in the Old Brooder)

- 13. Pets.** We occasionally accept **one well-behaved adult dog** by **prior arrangement in the barn only** - please supply bedding/towels; keep dogs off all furniture; never leave them unattended or barking; do not let them foul the garden; keep them on a lead/ close control to protect nesting birds, chickens, livestock. No puppies please.

ADULT ROAD BIKES (>16yrs old, <15 stone – otherwise BYO)

- 14. Bikes.** We try to ensure our 40+ bikes are in safe working order but you use them entirely at your own risk. We provide helmets but cannot always accommodate every size, so we advise you to bring your own. You are responsible for bike safety and liable for damage/loss when in use.

BOOKING, DEPOSIT, PAYMENT

- 15. Complete booking form please.** **Receipt of booking fee ahead of booking form is seen as acceptance of our t&cs** - note any additional conditions in offer correspondence.
- 16. What is included in your booking** will be clarified in your offer as some things, such as heating arrangements, and arrival/departure times, vary throughout the year.
- 17. Booking, deposit and damages deposit.** We ask for a 50% non-refundable part-payment deposit to confirm your booking. One month before arrival we ask for the remaining 50% balance plus a £500 damages deposit which is returned the following day after you leave subject to no deductions for unreasonable extra cleaning or damage.
- 18. Payments** should be by bank transfer (ask for details) or cheque payable to GF Hawkins Ltd. No credit cards.
- 19. Cancelled bookings lose their deposits and any final payments that have been made.** Please consider taking out insurance to cover unforeseen events such as winter weather or Covid. Every attempt will be made to re-let and return your deposit minus a small admin fee. **If we have to cancel, such as government shutdown for Covid, our liability is limited to return of any sum paid by the hirer.**

gfhawkinsltd@outlook.com 01787 247235 office hours

<h1>SCALE OF FEES 2024</h1>	Range of fees inc VAT <i>Always ask for a quote, giving as much info as possible about occasion, guest numbers and ages.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Late availability/midweek one-night/small group discounts occasionally available. Note: no facilities are shared - except large overflow car park. 	Made up beds & towels 	Use of 40+ road bikes for >16yrs, <15 stone 	Use of Tudor costumes 	Use of tennis court 	We unpack food delivery 	Travel cots & high chairs 	Private bedrooms – these are complicated!
SELF-CATERING								
The Tudor Barn – self-catering sleeps 25 guests + cots/futons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrival <i>usually</i> 4pm Departure time <i>usually</i> 2pm (10.30am Fridays). Can occ arrive early/leave correspondingly early. For Tripadvisor click here and for For Instagram click here Facebook here	January – Ask for Eco-winter Tariff with reduced heating options for groups <12 guests Jan-Dec: £1,600 - £2,850 per 2-nt w/e £3,300 per 3-nt w/e £300 for 3hr extension on departure day - otherwise, prompt departure please Weeks/midweek stays – ask us! Prices are dependent on time of year, group size, occasion, length of stay. From £25pppn with min charges. Schools/scouts etc @ discounted rates.	Yes	Yes, 20+	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes, 2 cots & 2 high chairs	1 x ground floor double with bathroom ensuite 1 x ground floor double with loo & basin ensuite 1 x upstairs triple en route to 1 x tiny twin 1 x 16 in main barn (2 x king, 2 x double, 8 x single) + by arrangement 8 futons
The Old Brooder with Old Shepherd's Hut immediately adjacent – self-catering & sleeps up to 22 guests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrival <i>usually</i> 4pm Departure time <i>usually</i> midday (10.30am Fridays) Tripadvisor feedback here For Instagram click here Facebook page here	Jan-Feb: 2-nt w/e £1,400 for 15 guests + up to 7 extra guests to total 22 @ £85pp. March-Dec: 2-nt w/e £2,300 for up to 22 guests. Extra nts either side of w/e - from £500+ Week/midweek stays – ask us! Prices are dependent on time of year, group size, occasion, length of stay. From £25pppn with min charges. Schools/scouts etc @ discounted rates.	Yes. Towels @ £2.50	Yes, 20+	Can use free only if bunkhouse booked as part of a larger Tudor Barn booking. Or occasionally bunkhouse guests can be special arrangement.		Yes	Yes, 1 cot & 1 high chair	<i>Ground floor:</i> 2 x twin bunks sleeping 2 1 x 8 bunks sleeping 8 1 x wet-room 2 x loos, 2 x showers <i>Outside the back door:</i> Shepherd's Hut twin sleeping 2 (1 x 6'3", 1 x 5'4") <i>Upstairs:</i> 1 x 8 conventional beds 1 x loo/shower
Milden Hall farmhouse rooms – bed only - as overflow to The Tudor Barn - sleeps 9+ guests	£80-100 per two-night stay per person based on min two guests per room - and breakfast with your friends in the Tudor Barn or Old Brooder	Yes	Can use free only if booked as part of a larger Tudor Barn booking.		N/a	Yes, 1 cot & 1 high chair	2 x 2 1 x 4 + Put up bed + cot	
PARTY VENUE								
Ask for quote – fees vary depending on event, time of week etc. Give us as much detail as possible of your plans/ideas to quote.								

GALLERY OF PAST GUESTS & PLACES mostly ON THE FARM (Check out Facebook, TripAdvisor & Instagram for more reviews)



BEING GREEN - ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

SUMMARY <https://www.thehall-milden.co.uk/green-policy>

We aim to provide really attractive and comfortable farm stay accommodation, which promotes the environmental benefits of sensitively farmed Suffolk countryside and the real value of good local produce, provided with minimum adverse impact to the environment - and a positive message for guests to take away with them. In summary we aim to do the following.

- **Heating** - Our farmhouse and Tudor Barn are partly heated by **woodburners using well-seasoned wood that is rotationally, and traditionally, coppiced from our hedges and planted woodland** – a management technique that promotes good habitat for nesting birds such as blackcap.
- We **generate more solar energy than the electricity we use**
- We **give green incentives** to guests (see below) to minimise energy consumption in heating and travel.
- **We have an electric car charging point for use by guests.**
- We provide **40+ bikes** to encourage guests to use pedal-power when here.
- We provide **low carbon footprint local activity ideas** for guests using bikes, canoes, walking - to local historic houses, pubs, nature reserves
- We **recycle and re-use** as much as possible to save natural resources, save energy, reduce landfill, reduce disposal costs. We **buy fresh local** meat and produce, items made from **recycled materials**, durable/refillable goods with minimal packaging
- We use our own **compost** to reduce peat digging elsewhere
- We **save rain water** with water butts and **minimise water use** (eg non-power-showers) to save energy spent on purifying water and reduce pressure on water abstraction sites, and consequently habitat destruction.
- **Restoration of the barn used timbers** cut from an ancient pollard oak tree on the farm, and all 20 barn beds and tables, and bunkhouse bunk beds, were made by a local joiner using Suffolk oak and elm.
- We **minimise pesticide use** (we're not certified organic, just careful with our farm and garden pesticide policy)
- We **grow our own vegetables**, and eat pasture fed wild, sustainable farm game
- We manage our **archaeological, landscape and wildlife features** as sensitively as possible and create new features and habitats as appropriate to provide for long term habitat and landscape continuity of local, distinctive character.



GREEN GUEST CHALLENGES/OFFERS

Green Stay: One- or two-night eco-options available in the Tudor barn in December, January early February.

The eco-option includes underfloor heating in the well-insulated cartlodge end of the barn which houses the large kitchen, two bedrooms, two bathrooms and small sitting room but elsewhere it is a giant woodburner only that chugs away day and night with our own coppiced woodland fuel! These options usually suit groups smaller than 14 who are happy to eat around the large kitchen table in the underfloor heated cartlodge, gather around the warm giant woodburner in the main barn to while away the evening, cosy up in warm beds with 15 tog duvets, electric blankets and hot water bottles but forgo the full giant blower heater that heats the massive barn at great expense and difficult to justify on environmental grounds for smaller groups. If you're a group who are going to be out and about walking or cycling in the daytime, this option could work well, save you some money, and keep your carbon footprint down. Send us details of the group and ask for a Green Stay quote.

Green Guest Challenges

As an incentive to help you to help us, here are some options for your group to consider whereby you save energy and we donate money to local conservation projects via Suffolk Wildlife Trust. For every £1 donated to Suffolk Wildlife Trust, it can be multiplied by up to ten times during special fund-raising appeals, for example for local nature reserve land acquisition

Green Towel Challenge: Whilst we do provide towels in the Tudor barn, **if you decide to bring your own towel, we will donate £1 to Suffolk Wildlife Trust for each of our bath towels not used.**

Green Bike Challenge: If you arrive by bicycle rather than car (some form of proof required to show you didn't just drop it out of the car at the bottom of the drive!), **we will donate £5 per cyclist to Suffolk Wildlife Trust**

Green Train Challenge: **For every six guests** who arrive by public transport, such as train to Sudbury or Bury St Edmunds, and then onward journey by taxi or lift by a friend already here (we'll need train tickets here as proof of train journey), **we will give you a pound of our own very delicious, low-food mile sausages and we will donate £5 to Suffolk Wildlife Trust**