



# Discover the Seven Wonders of the Weald



## Top places to visit in Kent

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details of special offers  
and discounts to attractions.



# Welcome to the Seven Wonders of the Weald

The Seven Wonders of the Weald are all located within the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and close to the elegant spa town of Royal Tunbridge Wells.

## How to find us

Most Wonders are located close to the A21. For full details please visit our website [sevenwonders.org.uk](http://sevenwonders.org.uk)

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See website for up to date details or contact the places individually



# Biddenden Vineyards

TN27 8DF

Biddenden is Kent's original commercial vineyard, established by the Barnes family in 1969. The vineyards are set in 23 acres, 1.2 miles from the village of Biddenden.

Eleven varieties of grapes are grown on the estate producing white, red, rosé and sparkling wines, all pressed and bottled on site. The vineyard also produces the famous Biddenden Cider, mead and farm pressed juices.

Visitors can walk through the vines and take a look around the winery. There is also the chance to taste the award winning wines, ciders, mead and juices in the vineyard shop, fully stocked with a variety of locally produced jams, chutneys, honey, beers and more. Free admission and tastings. Charity tours run every Saturday throughout the year and on Wednesday from June to September.

**Opening Dates:** Open Daily 10am - 5pm.  
Sundays and Bank Holidays 11am - 5pm.

Closed Noon 24th December - 1st January inclusive

**Facilities:** Licensed tea shop/tasting room, stocked with a wide range of local products. Toilets. Free parking.

Gribble Bridge Lane, Biddenden TN27 8DF  
+44(0)1580 291726

**[biddendenvineyards.com](http://biddendenvineyards.com)**



# Royal Tunbridge Wells

## The historic spa town

The colonnaded Pantiles that once welcomed royalty, who came to take the Chalybeate spring waters, are today buzzing with cafes, bars, stylish boutiques and music.

The town has an abundance of parks and is surrounded by woods and commons. Dunorlan Park has a boating lake and Calverley Grounds has a real ice rink at Christmas.

Visit the Tunbridge Wells Museum & Art Gallery, which has been at the heart of Tunbridge Wells since the 1830s, to find out how the town grew from the discovery of the spa waters in 1606.

The Assembly Hall Theatre hosts a variety of shows from touring West End Musicals and Drama to legendary musical performers and comedians and a pantomime. A number of music festivals also take place in the town throughout the year.

**Opening Dates:** Tunbridge Wells  
Tourist Information Centre

Winter 1 October - 31 March -  
(Tues to Sat 10am - 3pm)

Summer 1 April - 30 September -  
(Mon to Sat 10am - 3pm)

For more information including where to stay contact the Tourist Information Centre

+44(0)1892 515675

**[visittunbridgewells.com](http://visittunbridgewells.com)**



# Scotney Castle

TN3 8JN

Owned by the National Trust. Discover a country house, romantic garden and 14th century moated castle all located in a beautiful wooded estate.

Relax in the picturesque garden with the glorious backdrop of a fairytale castle. Venture into the wonderful woodland and parkland with over 780 acres to explore. Discover the delights of the Victorian country mansion with its secrets and stories; you might even meet the much loved cat in residence, Betsy.

Enjoy a delicious meal in the delightful tea room or bring your own food along to eat in the picnic area. Enjoy family trails inside the house and daily activities in the discovery room.

The estate is open all year, offering a variety of walks through beautiful parkland, woodland and the working hop farm.

**Opening Dates:** open from 10am 7 days a week. Only closed Christmas eve and Christmas day

**Facilities:** Tea room, shop, access for disabled, wheelchair accessible toilet.

Lamberhurst, Tunbridge Wells TN3 8JN  
+44(0)1892 893820

[nationaltrust.org.uk/scotney-castle](https://nationaltrust.org.uk/scotney-castle)



# Kent & East Sussex Railway

## TN30 6HE

The country's finest example of a rural light railway. Opened in 1900, steam and heritage diesel trains now run for 10½ miles between Tenterden and Bodiam. Open throughout the year, the railway is renowned for its innovative events programme and luxury dining train.

A visitor attraction since 1974, the railway offers a selection of on-train catering specials, plus ample free parking at Tenterden and Northiam stations.

The licenced Refreshment Rooms at Tenterden Station serve afternoon tea on crisp white linen. Visitors can add a bottle of sparkling wine or even a bouquet for an extra special touch. Special events include: CAMRA Ale & Cider Festival, Thomas Days, 1940's weekend and a hop festival.

**Opening Dates:** Weekends and Bank Holidays from 30 March to 28 Oct and Santa Specials in Dec

**Facilities:** Gift shop. Picnic area. Children's play area. Access for the disabled. Free Parking. Wheelchair accessible toilets.

Tenterden Town Station, Tenterden TN30 6HE  
+44(0)1580 765155 · +44(0)1580 762943

**[kesr.org.uk](http://kesr.org.uk)**



# Chiddingstone Castle & Gardens

TN8 7AD

A stunning country house near Edenbridge with a unique collection of exotic antiquities. Set in 35 acres of beautiful grounds, with a lake, waterfall, rose garden, woodland and award winning orangery, this fascinating building dates back to the 16th century.

Revived from dereliction in 1955 by the gifted antiquarian Denys Bower, the castle became a home for his amazing and varied collections - Japanese armour, swords and lacquerware, Ancient Egyptian antiquities, Buddhist artefacts, Jacobean manuscripts and Stuart paintings.

The Castle welcomes groups, school visits and bookings for weddings, functions and corporate events throughout the year. The delightful tea room serves light lunches and traditional cream teas during the open season.

**Opening Dates:** Friday 30 March  
to Wednesday 31 October

**Facilities:** Gift shop and tea room with indoor and outdoor seating. Access for the disabled. Wheelchair accessible toilet.

Chiddingstone, Edenbridge TN8 7AD  
+44(0)1892 870347

**[chiddingstonecastle.org.uk](http://chiddingstonecastle.org.uk)**



# Knole

TN13 1HU

Sitting proudly within Kent's last medieval deer park, Knole offers something for everyone. Immerse yourself in the vast estate and follow in the footsteps of tourists who have visited Knole's showrooms for 400 years.

Originally built as an archbishop's palace, Knole passed through royalty to the Sackville family, who still live here today. Take in the magnificence of this 600 year old estate by exploring the grand courtyards and tranquil Orangery or wander the winding paths in the parkland, still populated by wild deer.

Inside the showrooms, art lovers will find Reynolds, Gainsborough and Van Dyck to admire. Textiles enthusiasts can marvel at the 17th century tapestries and furniture. You can explore the life and loves of former resident Eddy Sackville-West in the Gatehouse Tower and climb the spiral staircase to take in panoramic views from the rooftop.

Knole is in the midst of a huge conservation project and visitors can watch conservators caring for Knole's treasures from Wed to Sat weekly. Several of the showrooms have reopened, while specialist conservation work continues elsewhere. The showrooms will reopen fully in 2019.

**Opening Dates:** The showrooms are open 27 March to 4 Nov (Tues to Sun). The Gatehouse Tower, courtyards, parkland, café and shops are open daily year-round. Please look online for full details.

Knole, Sevenoaks,  
Kent TN15 0RP (Satnav: TN13 1HU)

Telephone: +44(0)1732 462100

[nationaltrust.org.uk/knole](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/knole)



# Hole Park

TN17 4JA

Tucked away in the Weald of Kent, between the pretty village of Rolvenden and the charming town of Cranbrook, lies Hole Park Gardens which has to be one of the loveliest gardens in Kent. An attractively laid out, privately owned 16 acre garden and 10 acres of woodland.

Hole Park has been owned by the Barham family for the past four generations and is set in over 200 acres of classic parkland. The colourful gardens enjoy views across the Kentish Weald. They are a skilful mix of formal design and more naturalised planting, giving colour throughout the seasons.

In spring visitors can enjoy the wonderful carpet of bluebells together with daffodils, camellias, wisteria, rhododendrons and magnolias. In summer the long borders are filled with colourful herbaceous plants with the exotic border coming to life in late summer. The gardens are also a delight in autumn with trees planted specifically with autumn colour in mind.

**Opening Dates:** 1 April - 9 June 11 - 6 and Wed and Thurs 13 June - 31 Oct and Sundays in October.

**Facilities:** Tea room with indoor and outdoor seating. Plant stall. Access for the disabled. Wheelchair accessible toilet.

Benenden Road, Rolvenden TN17 4JA  
+44(0)1580 241344

**[holepark.com](http://holepark.com)**



## Staying in the Weald

Royal Tunbridge Wells and the surrounding towns and villages such as Cranbrook can provide a wide range of wonderful places to stay. Our accommodation provider, Kent & Sussex Holiday Cottages, is one of the South East's longest running agencies with some of the best properties to rent in the area. From country cottages, elegant townhouses, barn conversions and oast houses, they will have something to suit. Short Breaks available all year round.

**15 High Street, Cranbrook TN17 3EB**  
**+44(0)1580 720770**

**[kentandsussexcottages.co.uk](http://kentandsussexcottages.co.uk)**

**For more information on where to stay in Royal Tunbridge Wells and the surrounding area contact the Tourist Information Centre**  
**+44(0)1892 515675**

**[visittunbridgewells.com](http://visittunbridgewells.com)**

# Seasonal Highlights 2018

The Seven Wonders of the Weald are all located within the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and close to the elegant spa town of Royal Tunbridge Wells.



## Spring Highlights

**1 April - 9 June** Spring Spectacular and bluebells at Hole Park Gardens

**May/June** An opportunity to see the garden awash with rhododendrons at Scotney Castle

**17 May - 4 Nov** A Woman's Place. Artworks by six contemporary artists chart the stories of women who have contributed to Knole's history

**6-8 May** Chiddingstone Castle Literary Festival

**19-20 May** 1940s weekend at the Kent & East Sussex Railway



## Summer Highlights

**10 June** Biddenden Vineyards' Food Day 'Taste the Best of Produced in Kent'

**21-23 July** A Day Out with Thomas at the Kent & East Sussex Railway. Full steam days all summer from Sat 28 July - 31 Aug

**5-10 June** Conservation Week. Meet Knole's conservation team, watch them care for precious objects, hear their stories at a lecture, and join the beastly bugs trail

## Autumn Highlights

Visit Scotney Castle in September to see the National Trust's only working hop farm in action. Take a tour of the farm to see the harvest coming in

**1-2 Sept** Napoleonic Weekend at Hole Park

**9 Sept** Chiddingstone Castle Country Fair



## Winter Highlights

**2 Nov - 24 Dec** Biddenden Vineyards Christmas Shop, perfect for Christmas gift ideas

**1-24 December** Santa Specials at the Kent & East Sussex Railway

**Daily from Mid-November** visit Tunbridge Wells Ice Rink and Father Christmas at Calverley Grounds

Enjoy the craft workshops, guided park walks and the Christmas deer trail at Knole