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# StockenBridge

## **Gliffaes Hotel, near Brecon, South Wales**

A luxury Autumn Bridge Weekend in the Brecon Beacons with your hosts Zebedee and Claudia Stocken.

*from* £621pp\* including :

- 3 nights' stay in this wonderful country house hotel
- A feast of a breakfast with hot and cold options including full Welsh
- Fabulous 3-course dinner with wine
- Refreshments available during Bridge play
- Reception with aperitif and canapés on the first evening
- Two afternoon guided walks in the grounds with the hotel's owner
- All bridge tuition and course notes

\*with 10% loyalty discount



**Thursday November 9th - Sunday November 12th 2017**

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## Gliffaes

A long private drive takes you through an impressive collection of over 100 specimen trees to reach Gliffaes, a former clergyman's house. This 19th-century Italianate building is set in 33-acre grounds in the shadow of the Black Mountains and on the edge of the River Usk in the Brecon Beacons National Park. The surrounding countryside is simply stunning with hills quilted with patchwork woods, hedges and sheep fields.



Now run by Susie and James Suter, Gliffaes has been beautifully restored with stucco-embellished ceilings, Delft tile-rimmed fireplaces, polished barley-twist wood, Lewis & Wood fabrics and antique chairs reupholstered in Welsh tweed. The oak-panelled drawing room with its roaring fire and large comfortable sofas is the perfect place to relax, looked after by a team of friendly and helpful staff giving unobtrusive yet excellent service, making you feel that you are a welcomed house guest in a luxurious country house.

## Delicious food

Talented head chef Karl Cheetham has been cooking fine food at Gliffaes for over 10 years. He takes pride in local sourcing and using only sustainable produce according to the season to create an interesting and delicious menu. Breakfast is a treat with homemade muesli, freshly squeezed orange juice, hand-roasted Reads coffee hand-roasted, and local eggs, maple-cured bacon, sausages and Black Mountain salmon. Dinner is a refined affair, with season-inflected dishes championing top-quality regional produce.



For more information, please visit the website: [www.gliffaeshotel.com](http://www.gliffaeshotel.com)

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## *MENU at GLIFFAES*

*Trio of salmon (cured, oak roast and roulade), saffron mayonnaise, corn bread  
Welsh rarebit tartlet with red onion marmalade and tomato salad  
Scallops with apple and pea cream  
Pan fried wood pigeon with blackberries, Welsh Perl Las blue cheese and endive  
Fillet of mackerel with brown shrimp and quail egg kedgeree*

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*Loin of Breconshire venison, pancetta mash, chestnut puree and savoy cabbage  
Smoked chestnut risotto with roasted vegetables, parmesan and roquette  
Fillet of sea bream with Parisian potatoes, mussels, chorizo and tomato nage  
Glanusk pheasant with squash, parsnips, Gliffaes quince membrillo and game chips  
Supreme of duck with duck hash, hen's egg, mushroom and thyme sauce*

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*Gliffaes orchard tarte tatin and damson ice-cream  
Trio of steamed puddings (chocolate, lemon and rum) with Gliffaes custard  
Mango cheesecake with chestnut crunch and yuzu sorbet  
A selection of local Welsh cheeses*



### Please Note

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

This is a sample menu and will vary according to the season and availability of produce.

There will be a choice of 3 dishes for each course, ordered in advance. Included in the price is a feast of a breakfast with hot and cold choices including a full Welsh breakfast.

Lunch is not included in the price of your holiday giving you the flexibility to eat at the hotel or eat elsewhere. The hotel serves a 2-course set lunch menu from £17 or there is a light lunch bar menu of soup and sandwiches. Any special diets can be catered for.

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## Accommodation

With antique dressers, floral drapes, retro Roberts radios, and carpets you can sink your toes into, the 23 bedrooms have a traditionally elegant look, all individually decorated enhancing beautiful period features.

Spread out over the main house and the adjacent cottage, they have stunning views of the surrounding

Welsh scenery. Rooms all have en-suite bathrooms and come equipped with digital radio, hairdryer, wifi, television, Noble Isle toiletries, bathrobes (*except the small doubles*) and tea and coffee making facilities.








Please note that there is no lift - please contact us for details on accessibility. *Bedrooms are available from 2.30pm and check out is 11am.*



*'Nowhere captures the soothing beauty of the Brecons and slows the pace like Gliffaes' – The Telegraph, 2016*

<b>Small double</b> ♣	Smallest in size and perfect for single occupancy. Standard double bed. Bath with a shower over, or shower only. On first or second floors of main house.
<b>Standard double</b> ♦	Larger in size with a double or king-sized bed ( <i>some can be twinned</i> ). Bath with a shower over, or shower only. Most on first and second floors of main house, though one room is in the adjacent cottage and is wheelchair accessible with an adapted bathroom with shower.
<b>Large double garden view</b> ♥	Larger with a king-sized ( <i>can be twinned</i> ) or 4-poster bed. Bath with shower over. On the first floor of the main house or in the adjacent cottage ( <i>accessed by external steps</i> ).
<b>Large double river view</b> ♠	Best rooms of the house with views over the River Usk. Large in size with king-size bed ( <i>some can be twinned</i> ). Bath or bath with shower over. First floor of main house.

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<b><u>Price per person</u></b>	 single	 twin	 single	 twin	 single	 twin	 single
Full Price	£790	£690	£860	£750	£950	£810	£1100
With 10% discount	£711	£621	£774	£675	£855	£729	£990

### *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 30th April 2017.

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

### *How to Book...*

To book your holiday, please fill out the booking form - stating your room preferences - and either scan and email to [claudia@stockenbridgebreaks.com](mailto:claudia@stockenbridgebreaks.com) or post to the address on the back page, together with the deposit of £150 per person. The full payment will be due by August 31st 2017. See booking form for Terms and Conditions.

### *Payment*

- where possible an on-line transfer is preferable for a speedy transaction that is easy to track.

#### On-line Transfer:

Account name: 'Stockens Ltd' Account Number: 27452468 Sort Code: 30-11-75

Please quote 'Gliffaes 17' or your invoice number if you have one

#### Cheque:

Please make cheques payable to 'Stockens Ltd'

#### Financial Protection

Your money paid to us is fully protected against the insolvency of StockenBridge Breaks, in compliance with the Package Travel Regulations 1992. In this unlikely event, you will receive a full refund of your money.





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## Other things to do around and about

There are no bridge sessions scheduled for Friday or Saturday afternoons, so this would be the perfect time to explore the local surroundings.

### Walking

There are some cracking walks from the hotel and Gliffaes's owner, James Suter, will be leading 2 afternoon guided walks in the grounds: a tree walk and a river walk. The Gliffaes tree collection includes ancient oaks, a magnificently gnarled Japanese maple (*renowned for its fabulous autumn colour*), a handkerchief tree and spectacular giant and coastal redwoods.



### Hay-on Wye (30 minute drive away)

This charming market town, world renowned for its bookshops, also has a good range of antique and high-quality art and craft shops, plus fashion boutiques and practical country wear shops, as well as an excellent Thursday market.

### Tretower Court and Castle (40 minute walk or a 5 minute drive away)

Discover the chequered history of Tretower Court and Castle which dates back to Norman times.

### Talgarth Mill (20 minute drive away)

Visit this fully restored 18th century water-driven flour mill for a delicious lunch and a fascinating guided tour.



### Brecon (20 minute drive away)

This attractive market town has a magnificent 11th century cathedral (*above*), housing the largest Norman font in Britain, and is one of the finest buildings in Wales. The South Wales Borderers Museum is one of the best military museums in the country, telling the story of a regiment that has participated in many of the great events of British History in the last 300 years, including the heroic defence of Rorke's Drift in the Anglo-Zulu war in 1879.

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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 adapted to your level.

Claudia – Zeb’s sister – will be on hand to ensure the smooth running of your 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. The tuition sessions will use CompassCards (set deals) and a fun topic tailored to the group.

All bridge sessions are optional and open to all standards of play, although we can only accommodate complete beginners if booked as a group of four. It is important to stress that our holidays are not aimed at the type of player who likes a serious 24-board duplicate every night. Our ethos is that bridge should be a friendly and social game where you can meet like-minded people, and our holidays reflect that. No partner is needed on a StockenBridge holiday.

### Bridge Schedule

#### Thursday

Duplicate or supervised play *3.30pm - 5.30pm*  
After dinner supervised bridge or Chicago

#### Friday and Saturday

Bridge tuition *10am – 12.30pm*  
Bridge tuition *5pm – 7.30pm*  
After dinner supervised bridge or Chicago

#### Sunday

Bridge tuition *10am – 12.30pm*



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## Travel Details

Gliffaes is situated in the east of the Brecon Beacons National Park, 3 miles from Crickhowell and 10 miles from Brecon.

### Travelling by car:

Gliffaes is a 3-hour drive from West London straight down the M4. From the Midlands or the North, Gliffaes is about 45 minutes off the M5.

### Travelling by train:

Gliffaes is an 8-mile taxi ride from Abergavenny station, which is just off the main London to Cardiff line. Trains leave from London Paddington roughly every hour and you need to change at Newport, South Wales for the short trip to Abergavenny. The whole journey should take no more than 2.5 hours. Abergavenny is also on the line between Manchester Piccadilly and Cardiff.

### Travelling by air:

The closest airport is Cardiff (*about an hour*), then Bristol (*about 1hr 20 minutes*).

Address: Gliffaes Hotel, Crickhowell, Powys, NP8 1RH

Telephone: +44 (0)1874 730 371

### For more details:

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