

"Imagine the lasting impression you make on your clients when entertaining them in an establishment that cares as much about the environment as you do"

Great Hallingbury Manor – Green Policy

INTRODUCTION

Great Hallingbury Manor was expanded from a 14 bedroom bed and breakfast, set on several acres of land to a four star hotel and restaurant, managed according to strict eco-sensitive policies. The result is a property that consists of 47 bedrooms. It is managed by successful hoteliers, with several properties in the UK. It is the aim to offer high standard accommodation with the environment high on the agenda

Our Head Chef and Restaurant Manager share the joint ambition to run the restaurant with a sophisticated and relaxing countryside atmosphere. The menu contains locally sourced ingredients where possible.

From the very beginning, Great Hallingbury Manor Hotel and Restaurant have both been designed and constructed to comply with the demands of an increasingly eco-savvy society -- implementing measures that encompass all aspects of a modern hotel and restaurant and offering a superb product without compromising on its commitment to the challenges of preserving its green credentials.

BUILDING AND CONVERSION STAGE

The renovation of the original building was begun in 2007, and includes cutting edge technology with regard to heating, lighting, air-cooling, water and waste management systems. Extra insulation and custom designed double glazing have been installed to minimise heat loss and reduce noise pollution.

In addition to the use of low energy light bulbs in the hotel grounds, as well as the buildings themselves, motion sensors and time switches together with low energy boilers, showers and heating system ensure energy efficiency.

Low water usage is another important part of our green policy. Two of our suites have baths and all other bedrooms have exceptionally spacious and luxurious walk-in wet rooms with energy and water efficient showers.

FOOD SERVICE

40% of the main kitchen and 100% of the preparation kitchen have been equipped with comprehensive induction and electrical cooking ranges, which are highly efficient in the reduction of fuel consumption. Furthermore, behavioural patterns within the working environment are changing; equipment is switched on only when in use and fridges and freezers are opened less often. Induction training for all staff includes measures to educate our team to adopt energy-efficient practices.

The Lakeside Restaurant sources a large part of its ingredients from within 50 miles of the hotel. This includes locally produced game, meat, fish, eggs, breakfast jams, marmalade and honey. The stepped walkway to the restaurant's entrance is lined with planters of herbs specially cultivated for kitchen use.

Coffee, an essential to any restaurant, cannot be drawn from local suppliers. The Lakeside Restaurant buys its coffee from an organisation which prides itself on its commitment to the environment and is supported by Sir David Attenborough. Puro not only provides Fairtrade coffee, but working with the World Land Trust, protects threatened habitats in the Rainforest.

Bottled water has become an important issue for many, and at Great Hallingbury Manor, tap water is filtered and purified, bottled on the premises and served free of charge. This clearly has economic benefits with the reduction of costs regarding delivery, packaging and storage, but also recycles both water and bottles.

ACCOMMODATION

Johnson Diversey Eco friendly cleaning products are used throughout the hotel and in the bedrooms. Low energy lighting as well as low heating and water usage systems provide the entire hotel with water, heat and light.

LOCAL COMMUNITY PARTNERING

Another strength includes working with local suppliers, colleges, hotels and the local residents. This brings a network together, with reciprocal trading and a true sense of community.

AWARDS

The hotel has won several awards for its carbon neutral efforts including the HBAA Best Environmental Practice 2008 & 2009 and Best Small Hotel and most sustainable tourism in Essex 2009.

CONCLUSION

The journey to become a carbon neutral hotel has been exciting and occasionally frustrating, but it has helped bond people with a focus and a worthwhile mission. The investment was a real commitment to the future.

Guests are able to stay at Great Hallingbury Manor and dine in our restaurant, secure in the knowledge that, as they pamper themselves, every effort has been undertaken to ensure that there is minimal impact to the detriment of our environment.