

TOP 10 castles with accommodation

1. Hartwell House & Spa - Buckinghamshire

Hartwell House, situated within the Vale of Aylesbury is a grade 1 listed country house hotel, restaurant and spa standing within 90 acres of parkland. The tradition of courtesy and service within the elegant drawing-rooms - ideal for morning coffee and afternoon tea and excellent dining rooms - offers the finest of cuisine. Bedrooms include Royal Four Poster Suites in addition to Gallery Suites within Hartwell Court.

www.hartwell-house.com/accommodation/



2. Hampton Court Palace - Surrey

One of the UK's great palaces, Hampton Court Palace is a mix of Tudor and Baroque architecture. The gardens offer some fantastic riverside walks, immaculate flower arrangements and beautiful views. The famous Hampton Court Maze, planted in the 1690s, is the oldest hedge maze in the world. Stay at The Fish Court, once used by the Officers of the Pastry, or at The Georgian House, the gardener and clerk of works' house.

www.hrp.org.uk/HamptonCourtPalace/planyourvisit/accommodationinthe palace

3. Leeds Castle - Kent

Just 4 miles south of Maidstone, Leeds Castle is one of the best preserved historic castles in South East England, as well as one of the most iconic. It is set in over 500 acres of lush green parkland and is ideal for long relaxing strolls and picnics. From a cottage, to a stable courtyard or even luxury tents, the Leeds Castle Estate offers amazing self-gathering properties for everyone.

<http://www.leeds-castle.com/accommodation>



4. Highclere Castle and Gardens - Berkshire



Highclere Castle has a fascinating ancient Egypt Exhibition with which the castle's history is connected. Walk across the splendid surrounding grounds and gardens. Highclere Castle has also become the location of Downton Abbey. The hugely successful drama series has over 11 million viewers in the UK and is now shown in over 100 countries around the world. Stay in the spectacular Georgian entrance lodge to Highclere Castle.

www.highclerecastle.co.uk/highclere-estate.html

5. Hever Castle - Kent

Hever Castle is a historical castle, most famous for being the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, one of Henry VIII's ill-fated wives and mother of Queen Elizabeth I. Stroll around the award-winning gardens, lake and parkland. Stay in the luxurious Medley Court or in Hever Castle Luxury B&B, voted 9 out of 10 by The Telegraph Travel Section's Hotelwatch Review - June 2012.

www.hevercastle.co.uk/holiday-lets-kent.aspx



6. Dover Castle - Kent



Situated above the White Cliffs, discover the 2000 years of Dover Castle's history. Step inside the Great Tower and immerse yourself in the royal court of King Henry II. Learn more about the drama of the Dunkirk evacuation in the tunnels. Stay at Pevensey's Tower Holiday Cottage, a 13th-century buttress of defence, where you can have spectacular views, or at The Sergeant Major's House, an elegant and spacious Georgian building.

www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/dover-castle/

7. Cliveden - Buckinghamshire

Relax in the informal splendour of Cliveden's stunning gardens and enjoy exploring the peaceful woodlands and Thames riverbank. Discover a garden that delights through the seasons with colourful planting schemes, miles of walks and breathtaking views as well as a giant maze that will entertain all ages. You will be amazed by the exquisite furnishings and priceless antiques of your room at Cliveden.

www.clivedenhouse.co.uk/rooms/



8. Sissinghurst Castle Garden - Kent



The garden laid out by novelist Vita Sackville-West and diplomat Harold Nicolson is just as beautiful today. Visit Sissinghurst to experience their vision. Stay in the pretty Priest's House cottage in the heart of the white garden.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/sissinghurst-castle/places-to-stay/

9. Amberley Castle - West Sussex

The medieval Amberley Castle is now a luxury hotel located in the picturesque village of Amberley, set on the River Arun with an impressive bridge and superb views. It is known for the Amberley Museum & Heritage Centre with its narrow-gauge railway and vintage bus collection.

www.amberleycastle.co.uk



10. Herstmonceux Castle - East Sussex

Herstmonceux Castle is a magnificent 15th century moated castle, set in superb Elizabethan gardens. Stay in the Bed & Breakfast accommodation located on the 600 acre Estate of Herstmonceux Castle.

www.herstmonceux-castle.com/section.php/18/1/b_b_accommodation_on_the_estate