

time
for us

48 hours in...

Wealden, Sussex

.....Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.....

It is hard not to be captivated by Wealden. Located in the heart of Sussex you can explore dramatic landscapes, idyllic forests and scenic coastline containing one of the most iconic views in the UK, the white cliffs of the Seven Sisters. The South Downs National Park offers unrivalled views and opportunities to unwind and recharge with simply excellent walking and cycling. There are vibrant, historic market towns and picturesque villages to visit for inspirational shopping, great places to eat and drink, exquisite arts, literary connections and days out. So, leave the rat race behind for a while and take a romantic break in Wealden. Enjoy Sussex, visit Wealden, and start a love affair that will last a lifetime.

Getting to Wealden by car

Sussex is easily accessible by car from London and the north by the M25/A21 and A22, from the east via the M20/M26 and from the west via the A27 and A272. Wealden, located in East Sussex, can be reached in just over an hour from central London.

Wealden has many free car parks located in its market towns and villages, all of which offer great opportunities for touring, exploring and staying over at accommodation to suit all tastes.

Top 5 must see places

The South Downs National Park and **Seven Sisters Country Park**. Visit one of the UK's most famous views – the Seven Sisters. **Friston Forest** offers great walks and particularly good off-road cycling.

www.southdowns.gov.uk www.sevensisters.org.uk

South Downs National Trail. For those wishing for a longer walk.

www.nationaltrail.co.uk/southdowns

Herstmonceux Castle Gardens and Grounds and the **Observatory Science Centre**. A moated castle and garden plus hands-on science and discovery at the world famous observatory.

www.herstmonceux-castle.com

www.the-observatory.org

Bluebell Railway. Enjoy a romantic meal and a trip on board a steam train at one of the UK's best heritage railways.

www.bluebell-railway.co.uk

Sheffield Park and Garden. A magnificent informal landscape garden laid out in the 18th Century by 'Capability' Brown.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/sheffield-park-and-garden

the Beautiful South

48 hours in Wealden, Sussex



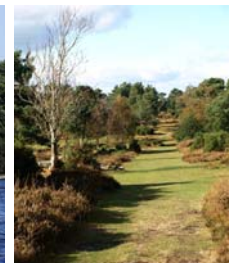
Day one

Very much one of the UK's best places for a romantic rural break, Wealden offers not just fantastic walking and cycling in all seasons, but variety in abundance. From gentle strolls across the South Downs to energetic cross country cycling that will get you and your partner's hearts racing. All reveal outstanding views and inspiring places to visit that will never be forgotten, such as the Bluebell Walk at Arlington, and the Long Man of Wilmington, the mysterious chalk figure, guardian to the South Downs.

Nearby Michelham Priory is a beautiful historic property; it has a working watermill and plays host to many varied events. Alfriston Clergy House, the National Trust's first ever property is set in one of England's finest villages, with great places to eat, shop and stay. At the English Wine Centre, you can choose from more than 140 wines, many award-winning but without exception, all of excellent quality. Another quintessentially 'English' village is East Dean, which plays host to a thriving rural market, excellent accommodation and a real sense of relaxation. For those with a love of literature a visit to Charleston, home of the Bloomsbury Set, is an absolute must.

Day two

To the north of the region lies Ashdown Forest, home to Winnie-the-Pooh and an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty with tranquil open heathland, hidden retreats and real character. Nearby, the Bluebell Railway offers gourmet meals and steam train rides whilst Sheffield Park and Garden offers a perfect day out. Wilderness Wood is great for tea and a stroll, or, take a leisurely cruise on Bewl Water. For something different how about a visit to the home of wild crafting at Forest Garden, Shovelstrode. A trip to the attractive market towns in the area is also a must. Crowborough has literary connections to Conan Doyle and Sherlock Holmes, Uckfield has an old-style Picture House that dates from 1915 and to the east lies the High Weald town of Heathfield, which hosts regular Farmers' Markets. Linked by the Cuckoo Trail, there's a chance to explore more with a trip to the Charter Market town of Hailsham, nearby Pevensey Levels and Polegate, which sits between the Low Weald and the South Downs.



Where to Stay

The Tiger Inn. Luxurious rooms, good food and a warm welcome. East Dean.
www.beachyhead.org.uk
01323 423209

Holly House. Ideally located for Ashdown Forest. Chelwood Gate.
www.hollyhousebnb.co.uk
01825 740484

Deans Place Hotel. Beautiful country hotel. Alfriston.
www.deansplacehotel.co.uk
01323 870248

Little Marshfoot. Rural location adjacent to Pevensey Levels. Hailsham.
www.littlemarshfoot.co.uk
01323 844690

South Paddock. Quiet and comfortable overlooking 3.5 acres of gardens. Maresfield.
01825 762335

Where to Eat

Barnsgate Manor. Restaurant, tea room and llamas.... Herons Ghyll.
www.barnsgate.co.uk
01825 713366

Buxted Inn. Excellent locally sourced home-made food. Buxted.
home.btconnect.com/thebuxtedinn
01825 733510

Marco Pierre White's Wheeler's of St. James's at The Chequers Inn. Maresfield.
www.the-chequersinn.co.uk
01825 763843

The Plough and Harrow, 17thC ale house with dining rooms nestled in the South Downs. Litlington.
01323 870632