

# EAT Local

Your guide to local eating and drinking

## Modern English

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come and enjoy live music throughout the week, at Rigsbys, and take advantage of our great set menus, they offer fantastic value for superb quality meals with a great atmosphere and gentle live piano music to compliment and relax your evenings mid week'.



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Tel: (01992) 537477



## English



### THE AXE & COMPASSES – Braughing

As a family run pub/restaurant, reaching fabulous milestone of 15 years, Brian & Sandra welcome all to enjoy the great ambience created not just by its owners but also by the families and friends who come and create this.

We are very pleased to announce that we have received the Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence 2015



**The Axe and Compasses**  
Braughing, Hertfordshire, SG11 2QR  
01920 821 610  
www.theaxeandcompasses.co.uk

Facebook – The Axe and Compasses – Braughing



This month, the Restaurant Spy went to Ashoka, in Hoddesdon

I don't normally check out the reviews of a restaurant before I visit for fear it may cloud my judgement.

But on this occasion, I wasn't familiar with where I would be dining, so I had a sneaky look to see what people were saying about Ashoka.

TripAdvisor has it ranked as the number three restaurant in the town and among the comments I read: "...best Indian in Hoddesdon..."

That's a pretty bold statement, and it wasn't from just one reviewer, so my expectations were high.

And that really isn't a good place to start a review, as the only way is down!

However, I am happy to report that Ashoka's previous reviewers had it spot-on. This is a great restaurant, with fabulous food, chic style and amazing staff.

One of the reasons I wasn't previously aware of the restaurant is its location. Understandably, most people will head for the town centre and Ashoka is not centrally placed.

It may suffer from a lack of passing trade, but as owner Abdul explained, once diners have been there once, they return – and they tell their friends.

So what makes Ashoka so special? Firstly, forget everything you ever knew about the stereotypical Indian restaurant with its flocked wallpaper and low lighting.

This Rye Road eaterie is bright and modern, with cream-seated booths as well as tables.

Pastel coloured artwork adorns the walls and there is ethnic music playing at a level that doesn't prevent conversation.

And with plenty of space between tables, that conversation can also be private.

The waiters were polite and helpful, courteous without being overbearing. Abdul, himself, waited until we had finished our meal before coming to chat with us, rather than interrupting our evening.

Naturally, we started with poppadums and sitting alongside the traditional mango chutney and lime pickle was a dip I hadn't seen before. It was sweet and coconutty and became an instant favourite.

We're not the most adventurous when it comes to spicy food, so after the



mushroom delight starter – mushrooms stuffed with spiced meat, covered in breadcrumbs and deep fried – my dining companion ordered her usual chicken korma.

I wanted to try something different and scanned the Ashoka speciality dishes, eventually opting for lamb molini, tender pieces of lamb cooked in Oriental spices in a highly-flavoured mild sauce.

Pilau rice and a garlic naan completed the order.

The molini had big pieces of meat and, while it wasn't spicy hot, there was lots of flavour, which I really enjoyed.

And my korma expert across the table gave her dish a big thumbs up too.

I tried a Bangla beer as well and it was a top choice, crisp and light, and the perfect accompaniment.

We did pass on desserts, as we were both comfortably full, but the menu featured a number of ice cream dishes to tempt anyone who did have room.

It was lovely to be able to sit and relax to enjoy the meal and although Ashoka isn't local to me, it's one of those places where you know you'll return.

And if you don't have time to stay to fully appreciate the welcome, a takeaway service is available with free home delivery on orders over £12 in a three-mile radius.

The Sunday buffet is also very popular and watch out for the Elvis night in May.

**ASHOKA**  
Indian Dining Experience  
www.ashoka.uk.com

109 Rye Road  
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Herts  
EN11 0JP

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Emma Wood on  
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RESTAURANT SHOWCASE

**BANGLADESHI**

**Tandoori Nights**  
At Tandoori Nights we offer the highest quality of home dining, serving the local community for over 14 years. Our core ethos has always been making sure our dishes are cooked to order and delivered piping hot to your door. Four time award winner Chef of the Year, **62 High Street, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, EN11 8ET.** Telephone 01992 446006.

**ENGLISH**

**The Old Mill Retreat**  
Broxbournes best kept secret, voted no 1 on TripAdvisor. Located in beautiful riverside location, we have an extensive menu, all prepared fresh to order. Our stunning new restaurant is now open in Cedars Park, Cheshunt. Come along with family and friends for a great day out. **The Old Mill, Mill Lane, Broxbourne, EN10 7AX.** Open daily 9am-6pm. 01992 460960. info@oldmillretreat.com  
**Cedars Park Café, Theobalds Lane, Waltham Cross, EN8 8RU.** Open daily 9am-6pm. 01992 628593. info@cedarsparkcafe.com

**The Anchor**

Our fantastic listed building is steeped in traditional charm. With nooks and crannies as well as larger seating areas, everyone is welcome to enjoy family meals or more intimate drinks, hidden away in this delightful English country pub. **Cambridge Road, Wadesmill, Hertfordshire, SG12 0TD.** Tel: 01920 462861. www.marstonstaverns.co.uk/Herts/Anchor

**INDIAN**

**Bollywoods**  
Bollywoods contemporary Indian cuisine has a recently refurbished party section and can cater for conferences/special occasions including stag and hen parties. **97-101 Fore Street, Hertford, Hertfordshire, SG14 1AS.** Tel: 01992 583430. www.bollywoodsrestaurant.co.uk

**Indian Restaurant.**

**Madina Indian Takeaway.** Established since 1996. Enjoy in the comfort of your own home with generous portions of takeaway food at affordable prices. Free Home Delivery minimum order £10.00 within 4 miles. Opening Hours: Open 7 days a week including bank holidays, Sun to Wed 5 till 11pm; Thurs to Sat 5 till 11.30pm. Tel 01992 466566/447777. 47 High Rd. Wormley EN10 6HT.

**ITALIAN**

**Amico Di Amici**  
Amico Di Amici is a cosy Italian restaurant set within the Red Lion Pub in Stanstead Abbots, Ware in Hertfordshire. The menu is very extensive and there is something for everyone to choose from our freshly prepared dishes. **1 High Street, Stanstead Abbots, SG12 8AA.** Tel: 01920 410056. Follow us on Facebook – Amico Di Amici Red Lion www.amicodiamici.co.uk

**STEAK HOUSE**

**Highland Restaurant**  
Take time out of your busy schedule to come and visit one of Broxbournes longest serving restaurants. We hold Greek Nights and Tribute Nights on a regular basis, call to book your table now. We also serve delicious Sunday Lunch with a choice of starter and Carvery for just £12.95 from 12 – 4pm. **The Precinct, High Road, Broxbourne, Hertfordshire, EN10 7HY.** For Bookings and Enquires please call 01992 466933 highlandrestaurant@gmail.com www.highlandrestaurant.co.uk

**TRADITIONAL CAFÉ**

**Cafe Lu Em**  
A family run business with a superb reputation, providing top quality food and drinks, including Traditional Pie and Mash. All at affordable prices. **9 Fawkon Walk, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, EN11 8TJ.** Tel 01992 451248 www.cafelem-hoddesdon.co.uk

To advertise on this page  
Please call 01992 526666.  
From £10 per week.

Modern English

The New King Harolds Head is a newly refurbished restaurant & bar in the village of Bumbles Green, Essex. Believed that King Harold himself had passed through Nazeing stopping at the New King Harolds Head pub for an ale, hence the name. Our food is freshly cooked every day using quality ingredients, we look forward to welcoming you.



01992 893110  
newkingharoldshead.co.uk

**King Harolds Head**  
King Harolds Head, Bumbles Green, Nazeing, Essex EN9 2RY

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Modern English

Finest Indian Cuisine in a modern outlook.  
**GinGer Bar & Restaurant**

The restaurant strives to offer an excellent all-around dining experience with first-class service coupled with top quality cuisine. A warm and romantic ambiance creates a heart-felt and inviting space where guests feel at home and comfortable. The trained staff provides courteous and knowledgeable service. In addition, dishes can be customized to the guests' requirements to ensure a perfect and utmost enjoyable experience at GinGer Bar and Restaurant.  
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**OPENING HOURS:**  
MON - SUN 5:00 pm to Late Night



86 Hornsmill Road, Hertford SG13 8HD  
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www.gingerrestaurant.co.uk

**GinGer Bar & Restaurant**

BRITISH

**MULTI AWARD WINNING PUB**

In the 2015 Hertfordshire food and drink awards The Fox and Duck won the award for outstanding service excellence, was voted Hertfordshires 2<sup>nd</sup> best Gastro pub and the 3<sup>rd</sup> best restaurant in Hertfordshire!

**SET** on a beautiful village green in the village of Therfield near Royston and Buntingford, The Fox and Duck is a fabulous venue where you can enjoy a delicious meal or just a pint or glass of wine from our carefully selected European Wine list.

**NEW SPRING A LA CARTE MENU OUT NOW**

Our new Spring a la carte menu will treat you to a mouthwatering fine dining extravaganza, with Fresh Dover Sole, Lamb duo of Shoulder and Rump, ham hock trio or Beef Fillet and faggot. Salads, ciabatta and sandwiches are available at lunch times too. Whole fresh lobster and Sunday roasts are extremely popular.

Our ever popular bar menu comprising of all your pub favourites including a foxy burger, trio of organic Sausages and our best seller - fresh haddock and chips also available.



WE ARE "tripadvisor RATED NO.1 IN THE ROYSTON AREA"

The Fox and Duck, The Green, Therfield, Hertfordshire, Nr Royston, SG8 9PN.

Tel: 01763 287246 • www.thefoxandduck.co.uk

