

Knelle Dower Studio Bed & Breakfast



WELCOME GUIDE



**Knelle Dower
Studio B&B
Rye Road
Northiam
East Sussex
TN31 6NJ**

Thank you for your reservation.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you to the Studio at Knelle Dower.

We have always sent out a local restaurant list and provided a folder of local attractions in the Studio for our guests. However, so many of you mentioned that they wished they had known about the many things to see and do here in advance, when planning their visit.

So here it is the Knelle Dower Studio Welcome Guide, which we hope will help you to make the most of your time in this wonderful part of England.

Stayed with us before ? Look out for the latest additions



If you haven't confirmed your arrival time at the time of booking please advise us prior to arrival so we can arrange our afternoon or evening accordingly. You can text us on

0791 805 5327 or email knelledower@btconnect.com

We do appreciate it !

Best wishes

Bettina & Jonathan Wells



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Check in and Check out :

Check in is at 4pm and Check out is at 10:30am.

Get in touch if you would like to arrive a bit earlier and we will see what we can do. If you want to arrive later in the evening, no problem but do let us know in advance.

How to find us :

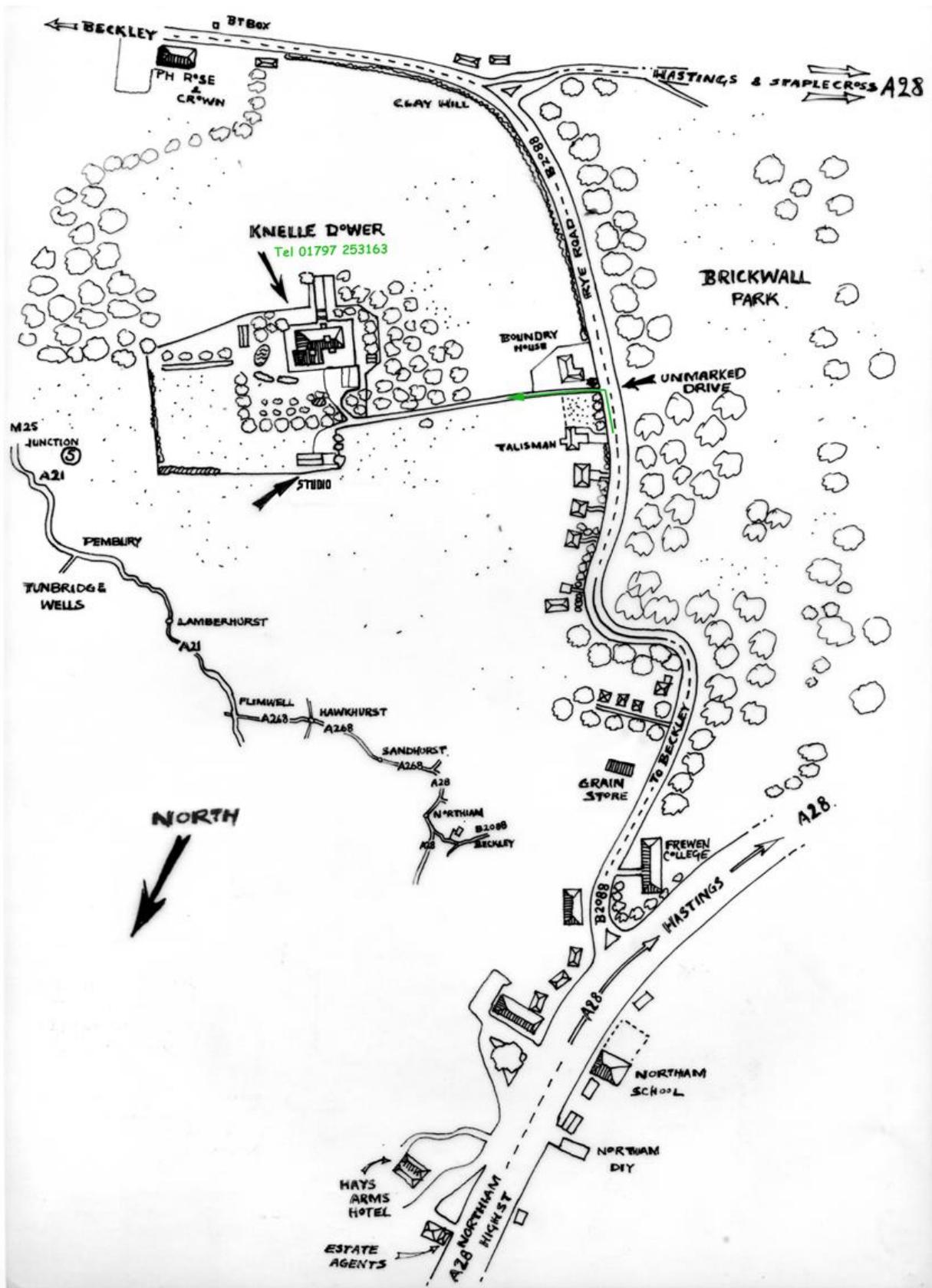
From London: on the M25 take the signs for the A21 to Hastings. Follow the A21 until you reach traffic lights and crossroads at Flimwell. Turn left onto the A268 towards Hawkhurst. Go through Hawkhurst and Sandhurst. Continue straight onto the A28 to Northiam. Go all the way through Northiam until you reach the Primary School on your right, almost directly opposite turn onto the B2088 to Rye. Continue around two sharp bends. The entrance to our drive will be found on your left between 'Talisman' and 'Boundary House'.

From Dover: on the M20 take the signs for the A28 (exit 9) to Ashford. Follow the A28, which will take you through Ashford, Bethersden, Tenterden and Rolvenden after which you will come to a T-junction with the A268. Turn left towards Newenden and Northiam. Go all the way through Northiam until you reach the Primary School on your right, almost directly opposite turn onto the B2088 to Rye. Continue around two sharp bends. The entrance to our drive will be found on your left between 'Talisman' and 'Boundary House'.

Delayed arrival : text us 0791 8055327 or call 01797 253163



Map to Knelle Dower :



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Restaurants and Good Pubs

For dinner on a Friday and Saturday night or Sunday lunch we strongly recommend that you make a reservation in advance. Most good restaurants or pubs will not have tables available at short notice in the peak season.

Sahebs – Station Road Northiam 01797 253 336

If you like Indian cuisine and don't want to venture far, why not visit Sahebs a favourite with our guests this year. The food is full of flavour but not over spiced and beautifully presented. The staff is friendly and attentive - well worth a visit.

The Mermaid Inn, Rye 01797 223065

The 600-year-old Mermaid Inn is a truly unique historic building, steeped in hundreds of years of smuggling history and its very own ghost (apparently !) The restaurant made it back into our guide thanks to the arrival of Head Chef Ben Fisher who is very focused on using quality, seasonal, local ingredients and cooking them perfectly. Drawing on his many years of experience in Michelin starred restaurant all over the country. Great place for a special occasion.



The George, Rye 01797 224065

Recommended by guests rather than us as the service can let it down at times. "The menu has Mediterranean influences and food is presented simply with slavish respect for fresh and seasonal ingredients, sourced from the local farms of Kent and Sussex. The bar offers a large range of wine by the glass, including those from vineyards in East Sussex and Kent and a good selection of beers"

Webbes at the Fish Cafe, Rye. 01797 222226

The second restaurant of Paul and Rebecca Webbe. Specialising in seafood. Located in an old warehouse with a bistro feel. The menu changes daily using fish from the local Rye fisheries.



Landgate Bistro, Rye. 01797 222829

The immensely likeable Landgate Bistro has established a reputation for honest, classy food based around local ingredients. One of our favourites.

Simply Italian, Rye 01797 226024

The Rye branch of Simply Italian is a real party place. Whenever we go it always seems to be really busy, noisy and fun. Pizza and pasta mainly, but some good chicken and fish dishes are always on the special menu. Portion size is good, overall good value for money and as it says, 'simply Italian'.

The Swan, Chapel Down Vineyard, Smallhythe 01580 761616

The Swan Collection was founded in 1999 and its first site in West Malling in 2000 and the second site at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre followed in 2007. Now since 2012 also at Chapel Down Vineyard near Tenterden.. <http://www.loveswan.co.uk/chapeldown>

The Wild Mushroom Westfield 01424 751137

The Wild Mushroom Restaurant, set in a converted Sussex Farmhouse, opened in 1998 under the ownership of Paul and Rebecca Webbe, who have since opened 2 further restaurants in Rye and Hastings. The menus reflect British style cuisine at a high standard with seasonal produce grown and reared by local farmers

Webbes, Rock-a-Nore, Hastings 01424 721650

Set in an enviable location opposite the net huts and boats of the historic fishing quarter. A tempting taster menu allows you to try a variety of exciting dishes.



The Great House , Hawkhurst 01580 753119

Our favourite and always reliable country pub.

This 16th century inn set in the heart of the Kentish weald just oozes character and history, with its wealth of exposed beams and a magnificent orangery overlooking the private garden. The Mediterranean style stone terrace is the ideal place to enjoy summer evenings. Serving traditional English cuisine, regional French brasserie style cuisine created by our French chef as well as local seasonal game. Details of 10 local walks are available, a perfect place to start or finish a walk through the countryside.

The Standard Inn, Rye

The most popular pub in Rye, after a full renovation which exposed many original features The Standard has the kind of feel and atmosphere you would expect of a traditional pub. The food is reliable and of tasty. No frills, order at the bar, blissfully easy going. We often go just for a simple bar snack after a walk on Camber beach.



The Standard does not take reservations !

The Bell Aparently, Ticehurst 01580 200234

The Bar and restaurant have been given an amazing makeover to make this a pub of great character. The Bell offers a modern British menu. Wonderful Pub with great atmosphere and locally sourced food!

The Pilot, Dungeness 01797 320314

A stone's throw from the sea and world famous for its fish and chips and only fish and chips ! Regular special nights such as scallop evenings in February.



The Milk House , Sissinghurst 01580 720200

Recently refurbished to a high standard this pub boasts a lively atmosphere. A gastro pub menu using quality, local produce to create an 'unfussy' classic bar menu. The restaurant menu is more adventurous and creative but equally as good. Quickly becoming a local favourite ! A perfect place to combine with a visit to Sissinghurst Castle Gardens.

The Fig , Rye

The Fig is an independent cafe serving fresh, healthy food and locally roasted coffee in a relaxed, contemporary environment.

The menu is based on healthy eating, using quality local ingredients and there is always a vegan cake on offer. Perfect for lunch on a day sightseeing or shopping in Rye.



The Fig does not take reservations !

Tuscan Rye, (formerly Tuscan Kitchen)

Tucked away on Lion Street leading up to St Mary the Virgin parish church, Tuscan Rye is established as one of the town's hidden culinary locale serving authentic Tuscan regional dishes. Owners Franco and Jen returned from Italy and repurchased their former restaurant much to the delight and nostalgia of local residents and loyal customers. Always busy, reservations are absolutely essential ideally 3-4 weeks in advance.



Local Beaches

We spend a lot of time on the local beaches, nowadays mainly in the winter walking the dog, but when the children were smaller it was a regular destination in the summer too. They are very special places with lovely sunsets and should be on your to-do list.

Camber Sands :

(About a 15-minute drive) Camber Sands is one of the most beautiful beaches on the south coast. 3 miles of vast sandy beach, with wind swept dunes together with a diverse nature reserve. When the tide is out the beach seems to go on forever.



Winchelsea Beach :

(About a 15-minute drive) Winchelsea Beach, a shingle beach but at low tide a large area of sand is exposed creating a firm base to walk on. Winchelsea is the more dramatic of the two beaches framed by picturesque sandstone cliffs and a photographers dream.



Good places to Shop

Rye, an ancient Cinque Port and one of the best preserved medieval towns in England, Rye is home to enchanting cobbled streets, medieval houses and the impressive Norman church of St Mary's, a rich selection of specialist shops, arts and crafts galleries and bric a brac shops, a truly great place for browsing and shopping.

Tenterden, has a broad High Street lined with Trees, Shops and dwellings nearly all with their original facades dating from Elizabethan to Georgian times. Tenterden is an associate member of the Cinque Ports, a confederation of Southern towns who organised themselves into a navy, to defend themselves against invaders from the continent.

The town boasts a vibrant High Street and adjoining lanes full of unusual shops, a Waitrose supermarket and a regular farmers market on Fridays. Apart from the few high street regulars, Tenterden enjoys many independent shops selling a variety of products ranging from fashion, to jewellery and stylish accessories for homes and gardens.

Cranbrook, sometimes called the Capital of the Kentish Weald, looks and feels much as it has done for centuries: a peaceful small town of weather boarded houses, surrounded by orchards and farmland. Cranbrook has a great deal to offer the visitor. The narrow medieval streets are lined with pretty old houses, every one different from its neighbour. There is a wide range of interesting and diverse shops and some great delis and coffee shops.



Gardens

A stay to this part of East Sussex and neighbouring Kent would not be complete without visiting some of its famous gardens. Even if you know nothing about serious gardening you can't help being impressed by their beauty and heritage.

The three obvious ones are listed below but there are many more, smaller and very individual gardens well worth a visit. The Kent and East Sussex National Gardens Scheme is in the Studio for your convenience.

Great Dixter, Northiam, was the family home of gardener and gardening writer Christopher Lloyd – it was the focus of his energy and enthusiasm and fuelled over 40 years of creating a garden which is unrivalled in style and horticultural extravagance. Now under the stewardship of Fergus Garrett and the Great Dixter Charitable Trust, Great Dixter is a historic house, a garden, a centre of education, and a place of pilgrimage for horticulturists from across the world.



Great Dixter can be reached from the Studio via the Sussex Border Path, a 45-minute to 1-hour walk across fields and meadows. A fantastic way to discover Dixter set in its local surroundings.

[Great Dixter House & Garden](#)



Sissinghurst, (25 minutes away) gained international fame in the 1930s, when Vita Sackville-West and Harold Nicolson created this magnificent garden. The garden is a riot of colour throughout the year. Divided into small garden rooms, each is very distinctive from the others. Don't miss the famous white garden and Vita's beloved rose garden.



Surrounding the garden is wonderful open countryside and dense woodland, perfect for strolling, picnicking and walking. There are some fascinating ancient trees and some of Kent's most wonderful native wildlife to spot.

[Sissinghurst Garden](#)

Pashley Manor Gardens (20 minutes away) offers a sumptuous blend of romantic landscaping, imaginative plantings and fine old trees, fountains, springs and large ponds.



Whatever month you choose to visit there is something to delight the senses. Events include: Tulip Festival, Plant Fair, Sculpture in Particular, Special Rose Weekend, Kitchen Garden Weekend June and Lily Time.

[Pashley Manor Garden](#)



Things to do and see locally

Further gardens

When we thought we had seen all the gardens around us, guests last year discovered Godinton House and Garden. What a gem, we loved the combination of visiting the stunning garden and a comprehensive tour of the house in one visit.



The scent of the rose garden in June is amazing, but our favourite is the Italian Garden with its beautiful symmetry.

A circular estate walk completes the day.

<http://godintonhouse.co.uk/>

[Hole Park Garden](#)

[Merriments Garden](#)

[Herstmonceux Castle](#)

[Great Comp Garden](#)

[Groombridge Place Garden](#)

[Hever Castle & Garden](#)

<https://www.greatbritishgardens.co.uk/england/category/gardens-to-visit-in-kent.html>





We are fortunate to be surrounded by so many amazing National Properties that it is really difficult to include them all. Some of our favourites are Bodiam Castle, Smallhythe Place, Batemans, Scotney Castle and Chartwell. More details and others can be found on

[Bateman's](#)

[Bodiam Castle](#)

[Chartwell](#)

[Emmetts Garden](#)

[Ightham Mote](#)

[Knole](#)

[Scotney Castle](#)

[Sheffield Park Gardens](#)

[Sissinghurst Garden](#)

[Sprivers](#)

[Wakehurst Place](#)

<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk>



ENGLISH HERITAGE

If you love medieval castles, this is the area for you. From the mighty Dover castle to Battle Abbey, Pevensey Castle and Camber Castle you will find a castle that fascinates you. For more information visit

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk>

[Battle Abbey \(site of Battle of Hastings\)](#)

[Downe House \(Darwin's home\)](#)

[Dover Castle and Tunnels](#)

[Lullingstone Roman Villa](#)

[Pevensey Castle](#)



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Golf

With no less than 10 gold courses in a 15-mile radius there bound to be one for you

www.sedlescombegolfclub.co.uk

www.dalehill.co.uk

www.hawkhurstgolfclub.org.uk

www.tenterdengolfclub.co.uk/

www.londonbeachgolfclub.co.uk/

www.hemstedforest.co.uk

<http://www.battlegolfclub.co.uk/>

www.ryegolfclub.co.uk

www.lamberhurstgolfclub.com

www.charthills.co.uk

Cycling

Rother Rides

A small family run E-bike tour company, just at the other end of the village offer several tours for both half and full days. There is no need for any specialist riding experience, just the ability to ride a normal bike. Oh, and if you are wondering whether you will be fit enough to take part on the tour, electric bikes iron out all of the hills for you, even the steep ones so everyone can take part.

<https://www.rotherrides.co.uk/index.html>

Bedbury Forest is ideal for cycling, walking, riding, picnics, adventure play and Go Ape. Visit the world's finest conifer collection in the National Pinetum.

<https://bedburypinetum.org.uk/home/activities/cycling/>

Sailing at Bewl Water

<http://www.bewlwater.co.uk/>



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Fishing

www.tenterden-trout-waters.co.uk

www.bewlwater.co.uk

www.hastingsflyfishers.co.uk

www.hartleylands.co.uk

www.lovelacefishery.co.uk

<http://www.hawkhurstfishfarm.co.uk/>

Bird watching

One of the most important conservation sites on the Sussex coast, Rye Harbour Nature Reserve has been recognised as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, a Special Protection Area for birds, a Special Area of Conservation under the EU Habitats Directive and a candidate Ramsar site that takes account of its importance as a wetland on an international scale.

<http://www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/reserves/page00010.htm>

Walking

Many of our guests have enjoyed the local walk to Great Dixter and asked for more information on other walks around us. We have been busy walking and creating easy to follow walking guides for our favourites. Including a walk to Rye.



Useful Links -Tourist Information

www.visitsoutheastengland.com

www.visitkent.co.uk

www.eastsussex.gov.uk/leisureandtourism

www.visitsussex.org/

www.cranbrook.org

www.visit1066country.com



Vineyards

Chapel Down

www.englishwinegroup.com

Biddenden Vineyard

www.biddendenvineyards.co.uk

Sandhurst

www.sandhurstvineyards.co.uk

Ridgeview Wine Estate

www.ridgeview.co.uk

Carr Taylor Vineyard

www.carr-taylor.co.uk

Sedlescombe Organic Vineyard

www.englishorganicwine.co.uk

Other Attractions

Kent & East Sussex Railway

www.kesr.org.uk

The Romney Hythe & Dymchurch Railway

Our website has details of local events and offers as well as further information www.knelledower.co.uk

We are always happy to help with any queries you may have just email us and we get back to you as soon as we can.

knelledower@btconnet.com

Dietary and allergy requirements are catered for. Please inform us at time of booking.

You can of course call us, but remember we are busy in the mornings making breakfast and looking after our guests.

Tel : 01797 2531563

