



Ride Kent

relax refresh explore relax refresh explore relax refresh explore relax refresh explore



Ride Kent

Discover and explore cool Wealden woodland, tranquil summer farmland, intimate river valleys, breathtaking views from the edge of the Kent Downs, empty beaches, dramatic cliff tops or snug Kentish villages.

Whether a complete beginner or an experienced rider, Ride Kent is the perfect guide to help you and your companion discover the charms of the Kent countryside.

Riding isn't just a fun and invigorating way to explore Kent, it is good for the mind and body too. Horse riding is a great form of physical exercise which helps keep your heart and muscles healthy. Surprisingly, an hour's riding can burn similar calories to that of a 30-minute jog at 6mph or cycle ride at 9mph. After your first ride you may feel muscles that you never knew you had!

Horse riding is also excellent for a healthy mind. Simply being outdoors and enjoying the countryside will boost your general well-being and act as a great stress buster.

There is a real sense of exhilaration and freedom when you ride, a feeling that is second to none. Furthermore, developing a relationship and sense of trust between yourself and your horse is highly rewarding. Learning to control and care for an animal much larger than yourself can have a profound affect on your confidence, it really is a great feeling.

So if you have your own horse or would like to learn to ride, Ride Kent will help get you started and highlights some of the best riding opportunities in the county.

Relax, refresh, explore.... Ride Kent!

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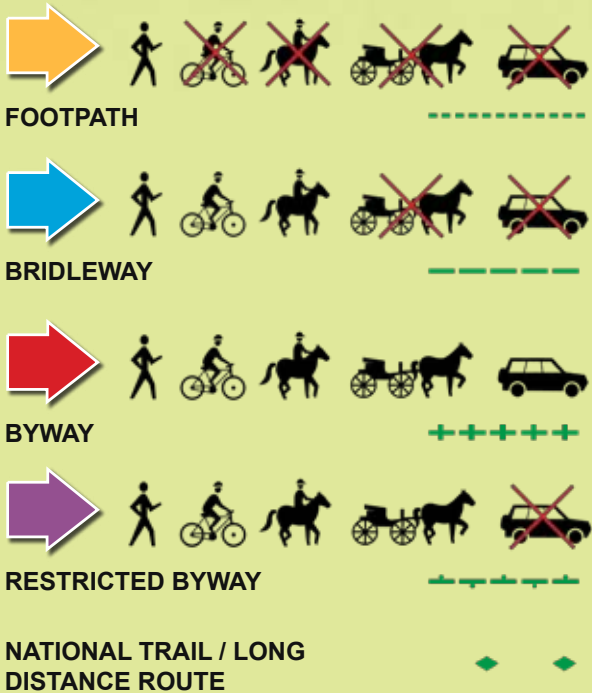


Getting you started

There are 665 miles (1072km) of rights of way in Kent to explore with your horse – a fantastic resource to enjoy and a great way to explore Kent.

Horse riders can use bridleways, restricted byways and byways and carriage drivers can use restricted byways and byways. The route will be marked where it leaves the metalled road and most are waymarked along the route using the colour coding shown here.

Kent County Council has an informative website where you can find routes either close to home or somewhere new. Choose the interactive map at www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent, plan your route and off you go.



This map shows the location of the riding opportunities listed on pages 6, 7, 8 and 10



Safety whilst out and about

Safety is an important consideration for everyone. During most rides in the countryside it is necessary to use or cross roads at some point.

Listed here are some basic safety tips, but you are advised to visit the British Horse Society website at www.bhs.org.uk for more detailed safety information. You can also train for and take the British Horse Society Riding and Road Safety Test.

- Leave details of your intended route and estimated time of return with a responsible person.
- If riding alone take a mobile phone with you just in case of an emergency.
- Have knowledge of the Highway Code, especially rules 35 to 41, and always follow the code.
- Ride on the left hand side of the road even when preparing to turn right. Do not ride more than two abreast, use clear and accurate hand signals and be courteous to other road users.
- Avoid busy main roads whenever possible.
- Wear high visibility fluorescent clothing on roads. Avoid riding in fog, failing light or darkness but if you have to, kit you and your horse out with reflective equipment.
- Wear correctly fitted protective headgear to current approved standards (May 2007 standards BS EN1384, PAS015 or ASTM F1163), a boot with a small heel and instep and consider wearing a BETA standard body protector.
- Check your tack for weak stitching, wear and cracking.

Riding through the Kent countryside

There are rights of way across the county which horses can use, but some areas of Kent have particularly good provision.

Areas with many routes

If you would like to try somewhere new to ride here are some ideas.

Find maps for these and other areas on the Explore Kent website www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent and select 'Riding'.

Wye and Crundale

Ride through the iconic landscape of the Kent Downs above Wye. These routes have stunning views all the way to Romney Marsh and extensive riding.

Freedown

Close to the coast between St Margaret's at Cliff and Kingsdown, these routes criss-cross the Free Down, a historic area which was once owned in common by the village community.

Dry Hill

Located within the High Weald Area of Natural Beauty near Edenbridge, this area offers off-road routes and beautiful scenery.

Country Parks

Kent County Council Parks

Lullingstone Country Park, Oldbury Hill Picnic Site, Shorne Wood Country Park and Trosley Country Park all offer off road riding routes and are managed by Kent County Council. Contact the parks via email on country.parks@kent.gov.uk or for more information, visit www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent.

Lullingstone Country Park

Kingfisher Bridge, Castle Road, Eynsford, Kent DA4 0JF
Tel: **01322 865995**

There is no facility for box parking at this site.

Lullingstone Country Park is set in the Darent Valley, between Eynsford and Shoreham, and has wonderful open grassland that fills with wildflowers in spring. There is a permissive route within the park.

Oldbury Hill Picnic Site

Near Igtham Common, Kent
Landranger grid reference TQ578559
Tel: **01732 823570**

There is no facility for box parking at this site.

This delightful site comprises a mix of woodland and has strong, visible links to the past. There is a 2½km circular route using rights of way and permissive routes.

Shorne Woods Country Park

Brewers Road, Gravesend, Kent DA12 3HX
Tel: **01474 823800**

Box parking by prior arrangement only.

A large ancient woodland site with a new, modern visitor centre, Shorne Woods Country Park is a great place to explore. There is a lot to see and do at this extremely popular site including a 4km permissive horse riding route, shared with cyclists and other park users.

Trosley Country Park

Waterlow Road, Vigo, Meopham, Kent DA13 0SG
Tel: **01732 823570**

Limited parking for boxes may be available by prior arrangement only.

Once part of Trosley Towers Estate, Trosley Country Park covers 170 acres of beautiful woodland and chalk downland. A riding route circles the boundary of the park and is shared with cyclists and other park users. In part, it follows the Pilgrims Way. Access to the route is from the outside of the park.

Riverside Country Park

Lower Rainham Road, Rainham, Gillingham, Kent ME7 2XH
Tel: **01634 337432**

E: riversidecp@medway.gov.uk

Box parking by prior arrangement only.

Riverside Country Park covers 100 hectares alongside the Medway Estuary. There is a short, 1.5km riding route in the park. For more information on the park visit

www.medway.gov.uk, select 'Environment' and then 'Countryside'.

Capstone Farm Country Park

Capstone Road, Gillingham, Kent ME7 3JG
Tel: **01634 812196**

E: capstonefarmcp@medway.gov.uk

Box parking by prior arrangement only.

Capstone Farm Country Park near Chatham covers 114 hectares of former farmland set on the North Downs. There is a 3km riding route in the park. For more information on the park visit www.medway.gov.uk, select 'Environment' and then 'Countryside'.

Mote Park and Cobtree Manor Park

Parks and Open Spaces Department
Environmental Services
Maidstone Borough Council
Kings Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ
Tel: **01622 602188**

E: parks@maidstone.gov.uk

Permits are required for entry into these parks. Within Maidstone Borough Council permits cost £40.50, otherwise £48.50. For more information on these parks visit www.maidstone.gov.uk/environment/parks__open_spaces.aspx

Forestry Commission routes

The Forestry Commission woodlands, including Bedgebury Forest near Tunbridge Wells, Covet and Covert Woods near Canterbury, Hemsted Forest near Tenterden and Lyminge Forest near Hythe, have bridleways within them which riders can use. However, you must not stray from the public rights of way without a permit. Permits for further access to Forestry Commission woodlands can be obtained from TROT.

For information on Bedgebury Forest visit www.forestry.gov.uk/bedgebury

Jeskyns

Situated between Gravesend and Cobham in north Kent, Jeskyns is 360 acres of green space that has been created by the Forestry Commission.

There is an 8km (approx) grass horse trail which follows a circular route around the site. Entry is free, but please note that for safety reasons, horses are not permitted to canter or gallop on site and must stay off the surfaced paths, except at essential crossing points.

At present there is no box parking facility at Jeskyns, however the nearby Shorne Woods Country Park offers

limited parking, by prior arrangement only. You can access Jeskyns from here by following part of the Darnley trail, which is waymarked. Please be aware that this involves some road work, crossing a bridge over the A2. You can contact Shorne Woods Country Park on 01474 823800.

A map and guide of the riding route is available from www.forestry.gov.uk/jeskyns or by calling 01474 825118.

Jeskyns
Forestry Commission Care of: Shorne Woods Country park, Brewers Road, Shorne, Kent DA12 3HX

Permitted routes on farmland

Some farmland entered into the Countryside Stewardship and Environmental Stewardship grant schemes allow free permissive access. To search for routes with horse riding access, visit the DEFRA website, cwr.defra.gov.uk, and select 'Search for a walk or ride'. Then enter your search criteria but don't forget to select the option 'Bridle Path'.

Riding on the beach

Horse riding is allowed on certain beaches including Minnis Bay at Reculver, Westbrook near Margate and Joss Bay at Broadstairs. Local byelaw restrictions should be observed and often include restrictions on times and dates of access for reasons of public safety and to avoid the disturbance to wildlife.

TROT - Toll Rides (Off-Road) Trust

TROT administers a permit scheme for off-road riding and carriage driving in Kent. The charity also manages the permit system for some of the Forestry Commission woods and forests in the South east. Established in 1990, with an aim to increase the provision of off-road routes for riding,

TROT has a total of over 90 routes nationwide.

These include 34 farm routes and seven forestry routes in Kent alone.

Riders pay membership fees according to how many miles of toll routes are open in their 'hackable' radius. Depending on the type of membership, riders and carriage drivers can use all farm and forestry routes or forestry routes alone. Visit the TROT website for an up to date list of routes.

Toll Rides (Off-road) Trust
Coldblow Farm, Coldblow Lane, Thurnham, Maidstone, Kent ME14 3LR

Tel: **01622 735599**
E: info@tollrides.org.uk
www.tollrides.org.uk

This route, within the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, is a journey of contrasts. It explores secluded woodland and open farmland, passes close to a Bronze Age burial mound and follows the route of the very modern Channel Tunnel Rail Link.



Bluebell Hill ride

The ride offers panoramic views over the River Medway and beyond. The river was an important transport route, being navigable since Roman times and later serving the quarrying industry of the valley. The legacy of the quarrying, past and present, can be clearly seen across the valley.

The area is very rich in wildlife, with many nature reserves and sites protected for their nature conservation interest. Indeed many of the disused quarry pits are now nature reserves. The route passes Shoulder of Mutton Wood high on the crest of the downs, now owned by the Woodland Trust. The wood was devastated in the storm of 1987 but is now regenerating well.

This route is not recommended for novice riders or for horses which are not regularly ridden out. The route passes adjacent to the Channel Tunnel Rail Link where trains appear suddenly and travel at high speed. Please consider whether your horse would find this disturbing before embarking on the route.

If you would like to extend your ride, you can continue along the North Downs Way from the Robin Hood pub for some spectacular views from the downs.



ABOUT THE ROUTE AND HOW TO GET THERE

The route is approximately 4½ miles (7¼km). Allow 1½ hours.

There are two parking areas, Keepers Lodge Stables, tel: **01634 666419** and the Robin Hood Public House, tel: **01634 861500**. It is essential you call before travelling to arrange parking.

To locate Keepers Lodge, Hill Road using www.multimap.com or www.streetmap.co.uk enter landranger grid reference TQ726634 and to locate the Robin Hood Public House, Common Road enter TQ734628

MAPS AND GUIDES

Ordnance Survey: Explorer Map Sheet 148 covers Maidstone and the Medway Towns, scale 1:25 000 and Landranger Map Sheet 178 covers the Thames Estuary, Rochester and Southend-on-Sea, scale 1:50 000

Please telephone **08458 247600** or email env.publications@kent.gov.uk to order copies.

To download a map and route description of this ride please visit www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent

	Public House
	Horse box parking





Riding clubs

There are riding clubs throughout Kent and wherever you live there will be one near you. By joining a club, you can benefit from entering a wide range of competitive events, improve your riding through training clinics and meet other riders. Many have active social sections and also provide for young riders.

Some of the clubs listed are affiliated to the British Horse Society (BHS). Together these clubs form a group with a shared identity called British Riding Clubs (BRC). If there is no phone number listed for a riding club here, you can contact the club through the British Horse Society on **0844 848 1666**. More information on British Riding Clubs can be found on the BHS website at www.bhs.org.uk.

Appledore and District Riding Association BRC

Contact: Brenda Fazzani
www.freewebs.com/adra/
E: appledoreriding@aol.com

Bradbourne Riding Club BRC

Contact: Gill Cufley
www.bradbournriding.co.uk
Tel: **01732 453592**
E: contact@bradbournriding.com

Canterbury Riding Club BRC

Contact: Val Oki
www.canterburyridingclub.co.uk
E: members@canterburyridingclub.co.uk

Chislehurst & District Riding Club BRC

Contact: Sylvia Singleton
www.chislehurst-riding-club.co.uk
Tel: **0208 857 3548**
E: sylvia.singleton@bt.internet.com

Dartford & District Riding Club BRC

Contact: Clare Drury
www.dartfordanddistrictridingclub.com
Tel: **07958 617648**

Faversham Riding Club BRC

Contact: Anne Ball/Karen Griffiths
www.favershamridingclub.co.uk
Tel: **01795 877039/01795 435241**
E: secretary@favershamridingclub.co.uk

Fawkham and District Riding Club BRC

Contact: Jackie Hawkes
www.fdrc.org.uk
E: fawkhamrc@yahoo.com

Folkestone Riding Club BRC

Contact: Abby Bourn
www.folkestoneridingclub.co.uk
E: folkestoneridingclub@hotmail.co.uk

Hadlow Riding Club

Contact: Caroline Harvey
www.hadlowridingclub.co.uk
Tel: **01622 817365**
E: hadlowri@hadlowridingclub.co.uk

Ingleden Park Equestrian Club BRC

Contact: Dawn Deamer
www.ingledenparkec.co.uk
Tel: **01580 765919**

Invicta Riding Club BRC

www.invictaridingclub.org.uk
Contact: Diana Burford
Tel: **01233 812433**
E: jane@invictaridingclub.org.uk

Joydens Riding Club BRC

Contact: Mike Barnes
www.oldbexley.co.uk/riding_club.html
E: oldbex@aol.com

Maidstone and District Riding Club BRC

Contact: Karen Newman
www.maidstoneridingclub.co.uk
Tel: **01622 859971**
E: karenan71@hotmail.com

Moat View Riding Club BRC

Contact: Jo Cocker
www.moatviewrc.co.uk
Tel: **07751 238204**
E: jo@moatviewrc.co.uk

Rother Valley Riding Club BRC

Contact: Shane Petkovic
www.rvrc.org.uk
Tel: **07711 919776**
E: baldwin@dellfarm.demon.co.uk

Royal Oak Riding Club BRC

E: jaynethevasagyam@pfizer.com

Rushmore Equestrian Club BRC

Contact: Karen Phillips
www.freewebs.com/rushmoreequestrianclub/index.htm
Tel: **01689 818827**
E: kphillips@deloitte.co.uk

Sevenoaks Riding Club BRC

Contact: Joanna Comer
www.sevenoaksrc.co.uk
Tel: **01732 461462**
E: joannacomer@btinternet.com

Tunbridge Wells Riding Club BRC

Contact: June Punyer
www.twridingclub.org.uk
E: chairman@twridingclub.org.uk

Valley Riding Club BRC

Contact: Cassy Potter
www.valleyridingclub.co.uk
Tel: **01303 840062**
E: info@valleyridingclub.co.uk

Wrotham and District Riding Club

Contact: Frances Moore
www.eaglesfieldresults.homestead.com/wrotham.html
Tel: **01474 706143**

Pony clubs

Whether you have your own pony or not, the Pony Club is a good place to start for all children who want to learn how to ride. The Pony Club offers fun, friendship, training, events and competitions. You can take part in dressage, eventing, mounted games, polo, polo crose, show jumping and more. For more information on the Pony Club visit www.pcuk.org.

If you do not have internet access you can also find the details of your nearest Pony Club through the Pony Club head office on **02476 698300**.

Ashford Valley Hunt Branch

www.pcuk.org/ashfordvalley
Visit website and choose contacts page for up to date contacts or call Pony Club head office on **02476 698300**.

East Kent Hunt Branch

www.pcuk.org/eastkent
Visit website and choose contacts page for up to date contacts or call Pony Club head office on **02476 698300**.

Herne Branch

www.pcuk.org/herne
Visit website and choose contacts page for up to date contacts or call Pony Club head office on **02476 698300**.

Isle of Sheppey Branch

www.isleofsheppeyponyclub.co.uk
E: emmac@isleofsheppeyponyclub.co.uk

Kent Border Branch

www.pcuk.org/kentborder
E: kentborder@pcuk.org

North West Kent Branch

www.pcuk.org/northwestkent
E: northwestkent@pcuk.org

Romney Marsh Branch

www.pcuk.org/romneymarsh
E: romneymarsh@pcuk.org

Tickham Hunt Branch

www.pcuk.org/tickham
E: tickham@pcuk.org

West Kent (Sevenoaks) Branch

www.pcuk.org/westkentsevenoaks
E: westkentsevenoaks@pcuk.org

West Kent Hunt (Meopham) Branch

www.pcuk.org/westkentmeopham
E: westkentmeopham@pcuk.org

West Street Branch

www.pcuk.org/weststreet
E: weststreetsouth@pcuk.org

Carriage driving clubs

There are four driving clubs in Kent, all affiliated to the British Driving Society (BDS), as well as a Kent branch of the society. The British Driving Society and its branches can provide information and assistance whatever your interest in driving; for pleasure or competing, singles, pairs or multiples.

To find out more about the British Driving Society visit www.britishdrivingsociety.co.uk
Tel: **01473 892001**
E: email@britishdrivingsociety.co.uk

The Kent branch can be found at www.kent.britishdrivingsociety.co.uk
Tel: **07961 314941**
E: showe45951@aol.com

Bradbourne Carriage Driving Club BDS

www.bradbournecdc.co.uk
Tel: **01732 865782**
E: ann.davey@bradbournecdc.co.uk

Shepway Harness Club BDS

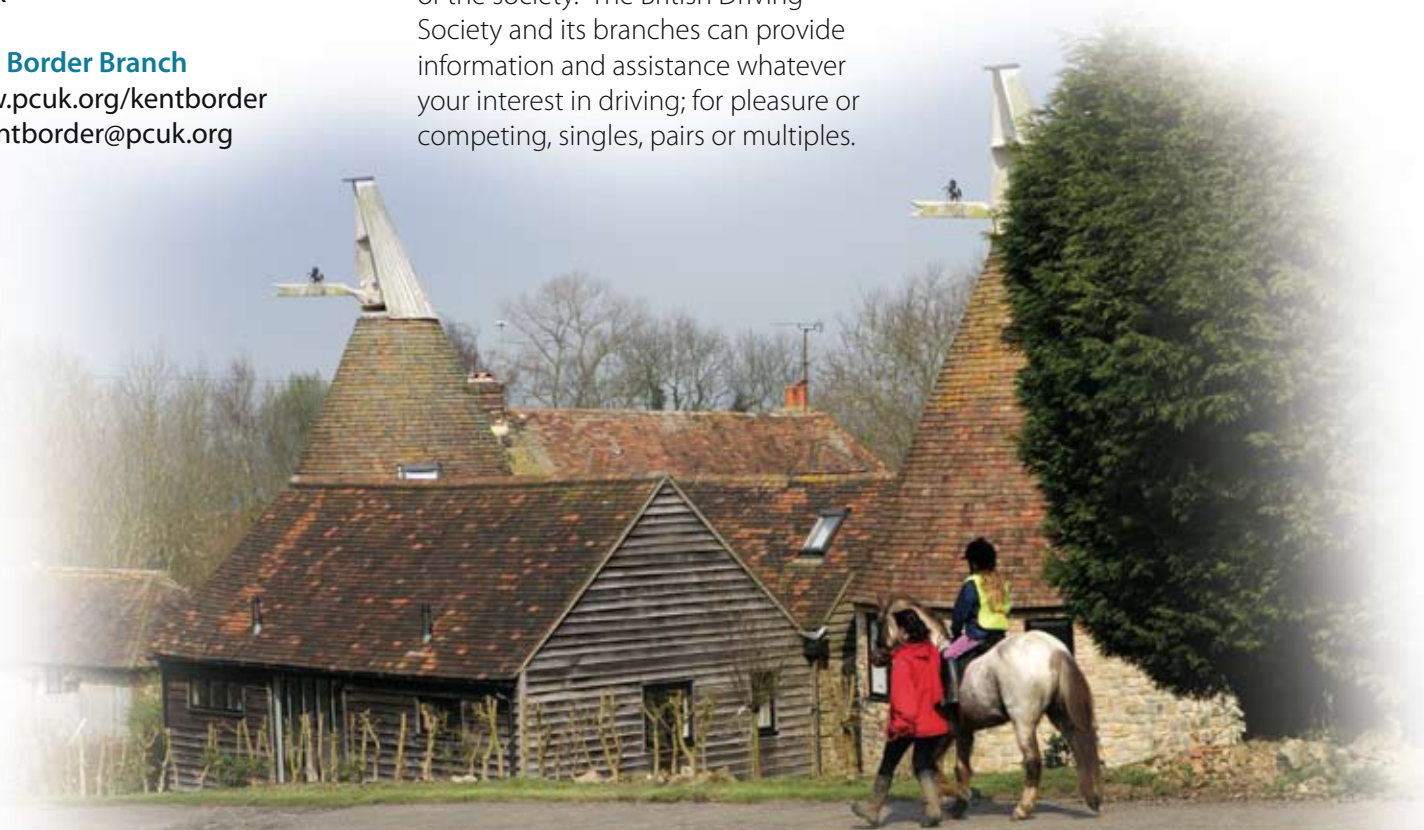
www.shepwayharnessclub.org.uk
Tel: **01233 750280**
E: mcvp@ashenfield.wanadoo.co.uk

Weald Harness Club BDS

www.whc.org.uk
Tel: **01424 773077**

Stour Valley Harness Club BDS

Tel: **01304 617309**





Learning to ride

Riding schools are perfect for the rider who doesn't have their own horse or pony. Some of the riding schools listed here are affiliated to the British Horse Society (BHS) or the Association of British Riding Schools (ABRS).

All BHS approved establishments are inspected at least once a year and establishments only pass if they have met the most stringent standards of instruction, safety and horse care. Visit www.bhs.org.uk for more information.

The ABRS assesses riding schools to ensure that good riding instruction can be obtained at the establishment. Visit www.abrs-info.org for more information.

Appletree Stables BHS
Starvenden Lane, The Common, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 2AN
Tel: 01580 713833
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping*
Other: *Dressage events, jumping events*

Bedgebury Park Equestrian Centre BHS
Bedgebury Road, Goudhurst, Nr Cranbrook, Kent TN17 2SH
Tel: 01580 211602
E: office@bedgeburyparkec.co.uk
www.bedgeburyparkequestriancentre.co.uk
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping*
Other: *Dressage events, jumping events*

Bitchet Farm Riding Stables ABRS
Bitchet Green, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0NA
Tel: 01732 762196
E: jean.thomson@btinternet.com
Tuition: *Novice/Int, children, adults*

Bradbourne Riding Centre BHS
Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 3DH
Tel: 01732 453592
E: contact@bradbournriding.com
www.bradbournriding.co.uk
Tuition: *Novice/Int, children, adults, dressage, jumping, carriage driving*
Other: *Dressage events, jumping events*

Braeside Equestrian Centre BHS
Nelson Park Road, St. Margarets-at-Cliffe, Dover, Kent CT15 6HL
Tel: 01304 852959
E: info@braeside.co.uk
www.braeside.co.uk
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping*
Other: *Dressage events, Jumping events*

Bursted Manor Riding Centre
Pett Bottom, Bridge, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6EH
Tel: 01227 830568
E: email@burstedmanor.co.uk
www.burstedmanor.co.uk
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping*
Other: *Dressage events*

Callum Park Riding Centre BHS
Basser Hill, Lower Halstow, Nr Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 7TY
Tel: 01795 844258
E: riding@callumpark.com
www.callumpark.com
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping*
Other: *Dressage events, jumping events, birthday parties, facility hire, corporate events, 2012 Olympic centre*

Chaucer Riding & Livery Stables BHS
Kake Street, Waltham, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT4 5SB
Tel: 01227 700396
Tuition: *Novice/Int, children, adults, dressage, jumping*

Other: *Dressage events, jumping events*
Chelsfield Equestrian Centre BHS
Church Road, Chelsfield, Orpington, Kent BR6 7SN
Tel: 01689 855603

Chequer Tree Equestrian Centre ABRS
Chequer Tree Farm Road, Lower Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 7HL
Tel: 01233 720520
E: barnestony@aol.com
www.chequectreeequestrian.co.uk

Coombe Wood Riding School BHS
Coombe Wood Lane, Hawkinge, Folkestone, Kent CT18 7BZ
Tel: 01303 893332
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, jumping*
Other: *Fun days*

Cornilo Riding BHS
Sutton Court Farm, Sutton by Dover, Kent CT15 5DF
Tel: 01304 380369
E: alicelinington@btinternet.com
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping, polo*
Other: *Dressage events, jumping events*

Eaglesfield Equestrian Centre ABRS
West Yoke, Ash, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 7HT
Tel: 01474 872242
E: eaglesfield.jean@btinternet.com
www.eaglesfield.net
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping, side saddle*
Other: *Dressage events, jumping events, pony club, riding club*

Hadlow College Equestrian Centre BHS
Hadlow, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 0AL
Tel: 01732 853241
www.hadlow.ac.uk

Hempstead Equestrian Centre
Chittenden Farm, Golford Road, Benenden, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 4AJ
Tel: 01580 240086
E: info@hempsteadequestrian.co.uk
www.hempsteadequestrian.co.uk
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping*

High Elms Equestrian Centre
Hicksforstal Road, Hoath, Canterbury, Kent CT3 4NA
Tel: 01227 713324
E: info@highelmsec.co.uk
www.highelmsec.co.uk
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping, cross-country*
Other: *Jumping events, pony club*

Ingleden Park Equestrian Centre ABRS
Swain Road, St Michaels, Tenterden, Kent TN30 6SL
Tel: 01580 765160
www.ingledenparkec.co.uk
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping*
Other: *Dressage events, jumping events, event centre for show jumping, dressage and cross-country*

Horsehoes Riding School BHS & ABRS
Dean Street, East Farleigh, Maidstone, Kent ME15 0PR
Tel: 01622 746161
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping*

Knights Place Farm Livery and Riding School
Cobham, Rochester, Kent ME2 3UB
Tel: 01474 824333/07782 646532
E: enquiries@kpfriding.co.uk
www.kpfriding.co.uk
Tuition: *Novice/Int, children, adults, dressage, jumping*
Other: *Childrens club*

Limes Farm Equestrian Centre Ltd BHS & ABRS
Pay Street, Hawkinge, Folkestone, Kent CT18 7DZ
Tel: 01303 891222
E: office@limesfarmequestriancentreLtd.co.uk
www.limesfarmequestriancentreLtd.co.uk
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping*
Other: *Dressage events, jumping events*

Mannix Equestrian Centre BHS & ABRS
Nightingale Farm, Whiteacre Lane, Waltham, Canterbury, Kent CT4 5SR
Tel: 01227 700349
E: terri@mannixstud.com
www.mannixstud.com
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping*
Other: *Dressage events, jumping events, pony club and children's riding club, competition training*

Manston Riding Centre ABRS
15 Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 5BX
Tel: 01843 823622
E: le@btinternet.com
www.manstonridingcentre.co.uk
Tuition: *Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping*
Other: *Jumping events*

Mayfield Riding Stables BHS
Mayfield, Ricketts Hill Road, Tatsfield, Kent TN16 2NG
Tel: 01959 571059
E: info@mayfieldhorses.co.uk
www.mayfieldhorses.co.uk





Mount Mascal Stables Ltd BHS
Vicarage Road, Bexley, Kent DA5 2AW
Tel: 020 8300 3947
E: info@mountmascalstables.com
www.mountmascalstables.com
Tuition: Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping, cross-country
Other: Dressage events, jumping events and cross country

Nelson Park Riding Centre BHS & ABRS
St. Margaret's Road, Woodchurch, Birchington, Kent CT7 0HJ
Tel: 01843 822251
E: email@nelsonpark.co.uk
www.nelsonpark.co.uk
Tuition: Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping, cross-country
Other: Dressage events, jumping events

Owl House Stables BHS
Station Road, St Margaret's at Cliffe, Dover, Kent CT15 6HN
Tel: 01304 852035
www.theowlhousestables.co.uk

The Paddocks BHS
76 New House Lane, Canterbury, Kent
Tel: 01227 451721

Park Farm Riding School ABRS
Park Road, Preston, Canterbury, Kent CT3 1HD
Tel: 01227 728349
Tuition: Novice/Int, children, dressage, jumping
Other: Dressage events, jumping events, childrens activities

Queensdown Equestrian Centre
Castlemayne Avenue, Woodchurch, Birchington, Kent CT7 0HQ
Tel: 01843 825352

Riding Farm Equestrian Centre BHS
Riding Lane, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9LN
Tel: 01732 838717
E: ridingfarmec@aol.com

Rooting Street Farm Riding and Training Centre BHS
Rooting Street, Little Chart, Ashford, Kent TN27 0PX
Tel: 01233 840434
Tuition: Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping, cross-country
Other: Dressage events, jumping events

Rye Street Farm Equestrian Centre ABRS
Rye Street, Cliffe, Nr Rochester, Kent ME3 7UD
Tel: 07703 312425/01634 221030
Tuition: Novice/Int, children, adults, dressage, jumping
Other: Dressage events, jumping events

Tanzor Riding Establishment
Poot Lane, Upchurch, Kent ME9 7HL
Tel: 07976 717399
Tuition: Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, jumping

Timbertop Equestrian Centre BHS
Timbertop Farm, Maidstone Road, Sidcup, Kent DA14 5AR
Tel: 0208 300 8506

Trenley Park Liveries BHS
The Old Wood Yard, Stodmarsh Road, Fordwich, Canterbury, Kent CT3 4AR
Tel: 01227 789179
E: info@trenleyparkliveries.co.uk
www.trenleyparkliveries.co.uk
Tuition: Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping
Other: Dressage events, jumping events

Udimore Farm Riding Centre BHS
Chapel Row, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9AQ
Tel: 01732 882622

Uplands Riding School
Uplands, Waterditch Road, Warren Street, Ashford, Kent TN27 0HJ
Tel: 01233 712289
Tuition: Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping

White Horse Riding Centre
White Horse Lane, Pond Farm, Meopham, Gravesend, Kent DA13 0UE
Tel: 01474 816555
E: white_horse@btinternet.com
Tuition: Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping
Other: Dressage events, jumping events, birthday parties

Whiteleaf Riding Centre BHS
Lower Road, Teynham, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 9LE
Tel: 01795 522512

Willow Farm Equestrian Ltd
Hansletts Lane, Ospringe, Faversham Kent ME13 0RS
Tel: 01795 533669
E: willowfarmkent@yahoo.com
www.ridewithwillow.co.uk
Tuition: Novice/Int, advanced, children, adults, dressage, jumping
Other: Dressage events, jumping events

Riding for the Disabled

Riding for the Disabled (RDA) brings together member groups to provide people with disabilities the opportunity to experience horse riding and carriage driving. This enables people to improve their health and wellbeing and deliver lasting therapy, all whilst having fun.

There are several RDA groups in Kent, as well as other establishments offering services. For more information on RDA visit www.riding-for-disabled.org.uk or the south east region website at www.rda-southeastregion.org.uk

Arrow Riding and Carriage Driving Centre RDA
Darenth Park Avenue, Dartford, Kent DA2 6LZ
Tel: 0845 241 1348 or 01322 294390

Ashford Valley Group RDA
Blue Barn Equestrian Centre, Great Chart, Nr Ashford, Kent TN23 3DH
Tel: 0845 241 1351
www.ashfordvalleyrda.org.uk

Bradbourne Group RDA
Bradbourne Riding and Training Centre, Bradbourne Vale Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 3DH
Tel: 0845 241 1386/07914 273610
E: contact@bradbourn-rda.org.uk
www.bradbourne-rda.org.uk

Chalkdown Group RDA
Maidstone, Kent TN12 0JW
Tel: 0845 241 4322

Cobbes Meadow Riding and Driving Group RDA
Chartham, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT4 7TU
Tel: 0845 241 4338
www.cobbesmeadowgroup-rda.co.uk

Cornilo Group RDA
Sutton Court Farm, Sutton by Dover, Kent CT15 5DF
Tel: 0845 241 4342

Ingleden Park Driving Group RDA
Nr High Halden, Kent TN26 3QU
Tel: 0845 241 5369

Rye Group RDA
Tel: 0845 450 6744

Leybourne Grange Riding Centre
Birling Road, West Malling, Kent ME19 5HZ
Tel: 01732 872844

The Paddocks Riding for All
Contact: Jean Sharratt
76 New House Lane, Thanington, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT4 7BJ
Tel: 01227 451721

Thanet Disabled Riding Centre
Maurice House, Callis Court Road, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 3AH
Tel: 01843 863481
E: ali@tdrc.org.uk
www.tdrc.org.uk



Riding away from home

Why not explore a different corner of Kent – and take your horse too! There are several bed and breakfast or self-catering establishments to choose from.

Alkham Court B&B

Contact: Wendy Burrows
Farmhouse Bed and Breakfast,
Meggett Lane, South Alkham, Dover,
Kent CT15 7DG
Tel: 01303 892056
E: wendy.burrows@alkhamcourt.co.uk
www.alkhamcourt.co.uk

Alkham Court is a working family farm with sheep and horses and is close to Dover's famous castle and white cliffs. Bed and breakfast accommodation with stabling is available.

Brenley Farm B&B

Contact: Maggie Berry
Brenley Lane, Boughton, Faversham,
Kent ME13 9LY
Tel: 01227 751203/07860 505359
E: info@brenley-farm.co.uk
www.brenley-farm.co.uk

Grass livery available (occasionally full livery). Wonderful hacking on the farm and in the surrounding countryside. Escort if required or maps available, equi-sand arena, jumping clinics and dressage training available.

Coldblow Farm SC

Contact: Dora or Jeff Pilkington
Coldblow Lane, Thurnham,
Maidstone, Kent ME14 3LR
Tel: 01622 730439
E: coldblowfarm@homecall.co.uk
www.coldblow-camping.co.uk

Situated on the Kent Downs to the north east of Maidstone.

Camping style barns provide shared accommodation for individuals or groups. Camping and a self catering cottage is also available. There are several circular rides from the farm, including toll rides and maps for loan. Grazing is available.

Honeychild Farm B&B

Contact: Steve or Val Furnival
St Mary in the Marsh, Romney Marsh,
Kent TN29 0DB
Tel: 01797 366180/07951 237821
E: honeychild@farming.co.uk
www.honeychild-farm-bnb.co.uk

A comfortable Georgian farmhouse just outside the village of St Mary in the Marsh on Romney Marsh with stabling for up to three horses.

Potters Farm B&B

Contact: Lynne Anderson
Brissenden Green Lane, Bethersden,
Ashford, Kent TN26 3JX
Tel: 01233 820341
E: pottersfarms@aol.com
www.pottersfarm.co.uk

Bed and breakfast for horse and rider with grazing, stables and arena. Quiet location with plenty of parking for trailers or lorries. Direct access to TROT Brissenden route, a beautiful 7 mile ride around the neighbouring farms or try your horse in the sea or on the beach (25 minutes away by road).

Three Chimneys Farm Holiday Cottages SC B&B

Contact: Marion Fuller
Bedgebury Road, Goudhurst,
Cranbrook, Kent TN17 2RA
Tel: 01580 212175
E: marionfuller@threechimneysfarm.co.uk
www.threechimneysfarm.co.uk

Set amidst glorious countryside, Three Chimneys Farm is a perfect hideaway for a relaxing country holiday. Five self-catering cottages sleep from two to seven people or bed and breakfast is also offered. Stabling and grazing available.

Riding holidays

Whether you want to take a break to improve your riding or just to explore a new area, either with or without your own horse, there are riding centres to meet your needs. Many provide holiday camps and breaks for children.

Have Horse Will Travel

PO Box 246
Hythe, Kent CT21 4WP
Tel: 01303 862996
www.hhwtravel.co.uk

Bring your horse on holiday to the Have Horse Will Travel yard, nestled below the North Downs and enjoy three different day rides during your stay. Accommodation is arranged at local guesthouses while your horse stays on site.

Bedgebury Riding Centre

Bedgebury Park, Goudhurst,
Kent TN17 2SH
Tel: 01580 211602
E: office@bedgeburyparkec.co.uk
www.bedgeburyparkequestriancentre.co.uk

Holiday courses throughout the year are tailored to meet individual requirements, with or without your own horse. Overnight accommodation is in nearby establishments. Children are placed with carefully selected host families and are transported to and from the centre.

Callum Park

Basser Hill, Lower Halstow,
Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 7TY
Tel: 01795 844258
E: riding@callumpark.com
www.callumpark.com

Callum Park offers holiday camps for four days and nights of adventure and riding.

Limes Farm Equestrian Centre Ltd

Pay Street, Hawkinge, Kent CT18 7DZ
Tel: 01303 891222
E: office@limesfarmequestriancentreLtd.co.uk
www.limesfarmequestriancentreLtd.co.uk

Limes Farm offers a full range of facilities including a large outdoor school, an indoor international size arena, British Show Jumping Association jumps and a cross country course. You are welcome with or without your own horse. Accommodation is at local guest houses which Limes Farm can arrange, or basic accommodation is available at the farm.

Mannix Stud

Nightingale Farm, Whiteacre Lane,
Waltham, Canterbury, Kent CT4 5SR
Tel: 01227 700238
E: terri@mannixstud.com
www.mannixstud.com

Riding holidays in a happy and relaxed atmosphere for the young rider to learn all aspects of horsemanship. This includes looking after ponies. Full week holidays or long weekend breaks from the total beginner to those wishing to specialise and compete. Accommodation and meals are in the farmhouse. Holidays for those with or without their own horse.

White Horse Riding Centre

White Horse Lane, Pond Farm,
Gravesend, Kent DA13 0UE
Tel: 01474 816555
E: white_horse@btinternet.com

The following centres can offer stabling facilities during your break. Full contact details are on pages 14 and 16.

Braeside Equestrian Centre

Tel: 01304 852959
E: info@braeside.co.uk
www.braeside.co.uk

Rooting Street Farm Riding and Training Centre

Tel: 01233 840434

Pubs

Recommended by riders as 'horse friendly', these pubs will provide a welcome break.

The Black Horse

Fiddling Lane, Monks Horton, Ashford,
Kent TN25 6AP
Tel: 01303 812182
www.thebestpubinthe parish.com

The Golden Lion

Luddesdown Road, Luddesdown,
Kent DA13 0XE
Tel: 01474 814369

The Hook and Hatchet

Church Road, Hucking, Maidstone,
Kent ME17 1QT
Tel: 01622 880830
www.shepherdneame.co.uk/pubs/pubs.php/hookandhatchet_hucking

The Tiger Inn

Stowting, Ashford, Kent TN25 6BA
Tel: 01303 862130
www.tigerinn.co.uk

The White Rock Inn

Underriver, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0SB
Tel: 01732 833112
www.thewhiterockinn.co.uk





Horse sports

There are many ways in which you and your horse can find fun, variety, competition or learn new things. Some of the more popular sports and events and how to take part in them are listed here.

Le TREC

TREC (from the French 'Techniques de Randonnée Equestre de Competition') is designed to test the ability of horse and rider to find their way across country using map reading skills, to keep safely in control and to negotiate obstacles. TREC is made up of three phases - orienteering, an obstacle course and control of paces.

The British Horse Society is the governing body for TREC in the UK. For information, rules and events listings visit www.bhs.org.uk and follow links under Competition/Events. The South-east TREC Group also has local information and events listings at www.setrec.org.uk and there is a website for TREC enthusiasts at www.trec-uk.com

Polocrosse

The aim of Polocrosse is to score goals by throwing a spongy ball using a racket. It can be played at many ability levels with some Pony Clubs offering the chance to take part. To find out more visit the United Kingdom Polocrosse Association website at www.polocrosse.org.uk.

The Kent Target Club, based at Risebridge Farm, Ranters Lane, Goudhurst, Kent TN17 1HN, can be found at www.kentpolocrosse.co.uk. Email enquiries@kentpolocrosse.co.uk or call the club secretary on 07970 175601.

Dressage

Dressage is the complete training of the horse on the flat and is the foundation for most other disciplines. Although advanced level requires years of training, even at a basic level dressage helps to develop an obedient and responsive horse. If you want to take your dressage interest further many riding schools offer tuition and hold events (see pages 17, 18 and 19) and riding clubs often organise clinics and events.

The following centres organise dressage events:

Blue Barn Dressage

Blue Barn Equestrian Centre, Great Chart, Ashford, Kent TN23 3DH
www.bluebarndressage.co.uk

Sandhurst Farm

Clay Hill Road, Lamberhurst, Kent TN3 8AX
Tel: 01892 890595/07801 977781
E: dressage@sandhurst-farm.co.uk
www.sandhurst-farm.co.uk

Cobham Manor Equestrian Centre

Water Lane, Thurnham, Maidstone, Kent ME14 3LU
Tel: 01622 738497
E: michelle@cobham-manor.co.uk
www.cobham-manor.co.uk

Willow Farm Equestrian Ltd

Hansletts Lane, Ospringe, Faversham Kent ME13 0RS
Tel: 01795 533669
E: willowfarmkent@yahoo.com
www.ridewithwillow.co.uk

For details of Colette's dressage shows at Willow Farm, visit www.cbequine.co.uk

British Dressage is the governing body for dressage in the UK.
Tel: 02476 698830
www.britishdressage.co.uk

Endurance riding

Endurance is a competition against the clock where speed and endurance is put to the test. The rider is also challenged to use pace effectively and have a thorough knowledge of their horse and terrain. Endurance is a test of horsemanship through which to learn about equine fitness and build a partnership with your horse.

Endurance GB is the governing body for competitive endurance riding in the UK. Tel: 02476 698863
E: membershipenquiries@endurancegb.co.uk
www.endurancegb.co.uk

Kent contacts for the South-east group are James Chipperfield
Tel: 01304 369811
E: futureviewlandscapes@googlemail.com or Gemma Bishop,
Tel: 01304 827581.

Western riding

The Western horse is well schooled, agile and responsive to the rider's every request. The Western Equestrian Society was formed in 1985 to take Western horsemanship away from the 'movie cowboy' image and promote it as a skilled equestrian discipline. Visit www.wes-uk.com and follow links to the South-east area contact.

For information on trail riding in Kent visit Rawhide at www.rawhide.org.uk
Tel: 01634 364832
E: info@rawhide.org.uk (P.O.Box 261, Hoath Lane, Rainham, Kent ME8 0WZ)

Carriage driving

As well as carriage driving for leisure, there is also a competitive side. Modern driving competitions consist of three phases; dressage, a longer course which includes natural hazards and artificial obstacles, and 'cones' where drivers weave through a narrow track outlined by cones with balls balanced on top.

The Kent clubs arrange competitive events, (see page 13) and are a good place to start. For more information contact the governing body, the British Horse Driving Trials Association at www.horsedrivingtrials.co.uk. The British Driving Society, www.britishdrivingsociety.co.uk, provides advice and assistance for all types of driving activities. The website, www.carriagedriving.net provides on-line resources.

Show jumping

Many riding schools offer tuition and hold events (see pages 17, 18 and 19) and riding clubs organise clinics and events (see pages 12 and 13). The following centres organise events:

Cobham Manor Equestrian Centre

Water Lane, Thurnham, Maidstone, Kent ME14 3LU
Tel: 01622 738497
E: michelle@cobham-manor.co.uk
www.cobham-manor.co.uk

Duckhurst Farm Show Centre

Clapper Lane, Staplehurst, Kent TN12 0JW
Tel: 01580 891057
E: duckhurst@btopenworld.com
www.duckhurst.com

Eaglesfield Equestrian Events

West Yoke, Ash, Near Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 7HT
Tel: 01474 872242
E: eaglesfield.jean@btinternet.com
www.eaglesfield.net

Ingleden Park Equestrian Centre

Swain Road, St Michaels, Tenterden, Kent TN30 6SL
Tel: 01580 765160
www.ingledenparkec.co.uk

Limes Farm Equestrian Centre Ltd

Pay Street, Hawkinge, Folkestone, Kent CT18 7DZ
Tel: 01303 891222
E: office@limesfarmequestriancentreltd.co.uk
www.limesfarmequestriancentreltd.co.uk

Old Mill Equestrian Centre

Clement Street, Swanley, Kent BR8 7PQ
Tel: 01322 666699
E: enquiries@oldmillec.co.uk
www.oldmillec.co.uk

Willow Farm Equestrian Ltd

Hansletts Lane, Ospringe, Faversham, Kent ME13 0RS
Tel: 01795 533669
E: willowfarmkent@yahoo.com
www.ridewithwillow.co.uk

For details of Black Horse shows at Barville Farm, Coombe Farm, Eaglesfield Equestrian Centre and Ingleden Park Equestrian Centre call: 01304 820671/07841 627659. Alternatively, visit www.blackhorse1.co.uk

For details of Colette's Jumping Shows at Barville Farm, Blue Barn Equestrian Centre and Willow Farm Equestrian Centre visit: www.cbequine.co.uk or call: 07949 096086
E: cbequine@btinternet.com

The British Show Jumping Association is the governing body for show jumping, visit www.bsja.co.uk or call 024 7669 8800.

Eventing

Eventing is made up of three phases, usually undertaken in one day; a dressage test, show jumping and cross-country. British Eventing is the governing body and has information for those beginning the sport as well as events listings.
Tel: 0247 669 8856
E: info@britisheventing.com
www.britisheventing.com

The South-east Eventers League also has listings of events at www.south-east-eventers-league.co.uk

Cross-country courses

The following cross-country courses are available for hire for schooling.

Lodge Farm

Matfield, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN12 7ET
Tel: 01892 722273
E: lodgefarmcrosscountry@hotmail.co.uk
www.lodgefarmcrosscountry.com

Chilham Park

Canterbury, Kent CT4 8DB
Tel: 01227 730811
E: info@chilhampark.com
www.chilhampark.com/crosscountry.html

Denne Hill Farms

Contact: Caroline Loder-Symonds
Womenswold, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6HD
Tel: 01227 831270
E: info@dennehillfarms.co.uk
www.dennehillfarms.co.uk

The following riding schools and equestrian centres also have cross-country courses. See pages 14,15 and 16 for full contact details.

Appletree Stables

Tel: 01580 713883

Bedgebury Park Equestrian Centre

Tel: 01580 211602

Cornilo Riding

Tel: 01304 380369

High Elms Equestrian Centre

Tel: 01227 713324

Limes Farm Equestrian Centre Ltd

Tel: 01303 891222

Nelson Park Riding Centre

Tel: 01843 822251

Park Farm Riding School

Tel: 01227 728349

Rooting Street Farm Riding and Training Centre

Tel: 01233 840434

Trenley Park Liveries

Tel: 01227 789179

Sevenoaks Riding Club

also has Redlands, a cross-country course open to non-members for competitions and training clinics.
www.sevenoaksrc.co.uk

Useful contacts

The British Horse Society

Britain's largest horse related charity
Stoneleigh Deer Park,
Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2XZ
E: enquiry@bhs.org.uk
Tel: 0844 848 1666
Fax: 01926 707800
www.bhs.org.uk

The BHS has published a book
'Kent on horseback' which includes
15 rides in Kent. Price: £5.95

National websites:

www.equine-world.co.uk
www.horseandhound.co.uk

Local websites:

www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent - For a
detailed map of Kent's bridleways and riding
routes

www.kentandsussexequestrian.com –
For useful links to all things equestrian

www.pegasus-magazine.co.uk – A free
magazine that covers the South-east with
listings of events, horses for sale and much
more. Pegasus magazine can be found at
local tack shops and other outlets.

*"Heaven is high and earth wide. If you ride three
feet higher above the ground than other men,
you will know what that means." Rudolf C. Binding*



For further information contact
 Countryside Access Group
 Environment & Waste
 Kent County Council
 Invicta House
 Maidstone
 Kent ME14 1XX
 Tel: **08458 247 600**
www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent
 e-mail: explorekent@kent.gov.uk

Kent County Council: Environment & Waste
Journalism: Blackwood Bayne
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 Kent Target Club and Kit Houghton

This guide is available in other
 formats and can be explained in other
 languages. To obtain a copy please
 call: 01622 221568. Minicom users,
 please call 08458 247 905



Environment & Economy Division

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