The Dragonfly Estate

Region: East Of England **Sleeps:** 38

Overview

The Dragonfly Estate, a captivating country retreat set among 20 acres of millponds, meadows and formal gardens in the heart of West Deeping. Steeped in history and wrapped in nature, this exclusive-use estate offers a one-of-a-kind setting for memorable group stays.

The estate brings together a tapestry of beautiful spaces, each with its own character. Molecey House and the Watermill echo their origins long before the Domesday Book with original oak beams and exposed stonework that speak of timeless craftsmanship. The Granary, a Grade II* listed building dating from 1773, unfolds warm interiors and living spaces that encourage slow conversation and long evenings together, while The Duck House sits tucked beside the gentle mill stream, offering a peaceful one-bedroom sanctuary with views across the gardens.

Designed for exclusive group stays, the estate comfortably accommodates large gatherings with spacious bedrooms, elegant reception rooms, and well-equipped kitchens that inspire shared meals and celebrations. Outdoor life here is equally compelling, with riverside picnics, kayaking on the water, or quiet afternoons on the willow lawn with swans gliding by, all within your private grounds.

Whether you are gathering family and friends for a milestone celebration or simply seeking a place where time slows and connection deepens, The Dragonfly Estate offers a rare blend of heritage, comfort, and freedom. Envision long breakfasts in the garden, laughter spilling from the dining room deep into the night, and days spent discovering every corner of a home made entirely your own.









Facilities

Walk to Village • Carbon Monoxide Detector • Smoke Detectors Present and Maintained • EV Charger • Cycling • Tennis Nearby • Historical Sites • Canoeing/Kayaking • Horse Riding • Walking/Hiking Paths • Catering Available • Working Fireplace/Woodburner • Golf Nearby • Fishing • Special Offer • Quirky (Unique) • Has Discount • Pets on Request • Cots (Cribs) • Has Offer • Ground Floor Bed & Bath • Heritage Collection • Walk to Restaurant • Wi-Fi/Internet • BBQ • Rural Location • Washing Machine • Coffee Machine • Outstanding Landscapes • Hairdryer • Tourist Towns & Villages • TV • Laptop Friendly Workspace • Indoor Games • DVD • Hot Tub • Tumble Dryer • Dishwasher • Smart TV • Fire Pit • Heating • Pre-Stocked Fridge Available • Yoga Classes Available • Spa Treatments Available • Board games • Food blender • High Chair(s)

Interior & Grounds

The Dragonfly Estate combines three unique accommodations: The Mill, The Granary, and The Duck House. Together, they offer an expansive and atmospheric setting for group stays, celebrations, and peaceful retreats.

The Granary

- Originally built in 1773, this Grade II* listed building offers between 8 bedrooms, all with king-size beds, with two rooms featuring pull-out singles to create flexible family spaces. The top-floor bedrooms have sloping ceilings and exposed beams, retaining their original character while offering cosy comfort. Guests taller in stature may need to mind their heads. The first-floor sitting room is one of the highlights: spacious and atmospheric, with exposed stone, garden and millpond views, and a warm, ski-lodge feel. It's equipped with surround sound, comfy sofas, and is ideal for movie nights, games, or quiet reading.

- On the ground floor, a beautifully furnished dining room with an oak refectory table comfortably seats up to 16, lit by soft candlelight, perfect for shared dinners, celebrations or catered evenings.
- The adjoining kitchen is fully equipped with a range cooker and American-style fridge-freezer, and features original timber beams engraved with the carpenter's name. French doors lead out to the large terrace overlooking the millpond and waterwheel, a favourite breakfast spot in warm weather.
- Garret Bedroom: With king size bed with extra single bed - in attic up metal spiral staircase, shares shower room with Mr. Molecey's
- Stamford Bedroom: A double room inspired by the historic market town, with golden tones, quirky vintage touches like shoe-last lamps and a spirit-level hook rack, and an en-suite bathroom.
- Cambridge Bedroom: A large, restful room named after the university city. Decorated with fish-themed cushions and colourful oars, it features expansive fenland views reaching to Langtoft church spire. The bedroom shares the family bathroom.
- Mr. Molecey's Bedroom: king size bed with extra single bed - in attic up metal spiral staircase, shares shower room with Garret
- 1773 Bedroom: King sized bed, shares family bathroom

The Mill

- With 7 beautifully appointed bedrooms, The Mill offers an elegant and characterful stay, blending Georgian architecture with personal family touches and a rich historical narrative.
- Trade Winds Bedroom: A spacious double room celebrating the global banana trade history of former owner John van Geest. Tropical nods and calming tones make this a restful retreat, shares bathroom with Twigge.
- Twigge Bedroom: A refined bedroom named after Charlotte Molecey and her marriage to John Twigge, reflecting 18th-century family lineage, shares bathroom with Trade Winds
- Octavius Bedroom: In memory of John and Eliza's adventurous son, this room honours his life at sea with thoughtful maritime styling and antique accents, and an en-suite bathroom.
- Richmond Bedroom: Inspired by the Georgian charm of Richmond, London, and the Royal Ballet, this room features graceful furnishings and soft, classical touches with king size bed with extra single bed and an en-suite bathroom.
- Life of Riley Bedroom: Bridget Riley inspired room, and an en-suite bathroom.









- Fullard Bedroom: This character-filled bedroom honours the Fullard family and their Dutch engineering heritage, with layered historical detail and views over the gardens. The room offers a king size bed, extra single bed and an en-suite bathroom.

- A formal dining space and access to the main garden and pond make it ideal for relaxed entertaining or formal events.

The Duck House

- A characterful, limestone-built, self-contained studio tucked beside the gentle mill stream, The Duck House offers comfort and privacy in a stylish setting.
- The open-plan interior features a king-size bed, and a modern kitchen with electric oven, hob, fridge, freezer, and dishwasher.
- Cast-iron radiators and charming decorative touches give a cosy yet contemporary feel.
- The Duck House is reached via a private path from the main gates, with parking nearby.

Exterior Grounds

- The estate's landscaped grounds are a defining feature, with rivers, streams, and ponds weaving through mown pathways, charming bridges, and small islands filled with native planting.
- The millpond at the front of The Granary is a serene breakfast spot, while hidden corners and open lawns provide spaces for everything from games and picnics to weddings and photoshoots.
- Guests are encouraged to kayak on the river, take a wild swim, or cycle through the grounds. Children can build dens, spot wildlife, or explore the islands.
- At night, the fire pit becomes the heart of the estate, ideal for evening BBQs under the stars. Guests can request locally sourced meat from the village butcher.
- Birdlife is abundant, with opportunities for twitching, photography, or simply soaking in the natural surroundings.
- The gardens also feature an Asian-inspired area, a reflective moon pond, and multiple photo-worthy viewpoints, making them a favourite for weddings, family gatherings, and fashion shoots.

Location & Local Information

Set just outside the village of West Deeping on the edge of the Lincolnshire Fens, The Dragonfly Estate offers guests the perfect mix of peaceful rural surroundings and excellent connections. The village itself, with its Saxon origins and just over 100 houses, is a charming stretch of honey-stone cottages along King Street, a former Roman road. You'll find a traditional pub, a 14th-century church, and easy access to Market Deeping and Stamford, two market towns full of character and amenities.

Stamford, just four miles away, is known for its Georgian architecture and boutique shopping, while Market Deeping offers everything from supermarkets and takeaways to local butchers and antique shops. The estate's location also makes travel straightforward, the A1 and A15 are close by, and Peterborough station is around 16 miles away, with fast trains to London in under an hour.

For day trips, Burghley House, Rutland Water, and the wide beaches of North Norfolk are all within easy reach. From water sports at Tallington Lakes to woodland walks or stately home visits, this is a base that opens up the best of the East of England.

Local Amenities

Nearest Airport	**Stansted (130 km)**
Nearest Bar/Pub	**Red Lion, West Deeping (2 km)**
Nearest Restaurant	**Red Lion, West Deeping (2 km)**
Nearest Shop	**Market Deeping (2.5 km)**
Nearest Supermarket	**Market Deeping (2.5 km)**
Nearest Town/City	**Stamford (11 km)**
Nearest Train Station	**Peterborough (15 km)**
Nearest Village	**West Deeping (2 km)**









What we love

- A full estate rental with three characterful buildings. Ideal for group getaways, family celebrations, or retreats
- 20 acres of private grounds with rivers, ponds, bridges, and walkways to explore
- Historic interiors with modern comfort, including king-size beds throughout and themed bedrooms with personal stories
- Fire pit, BBQ terrace and kayak-friendly river. Enjoy the outdoors from morning coffee to stargazing
- Only 10 minutes from Burghley House and the shops and restaurants of Stamford

What you should know...

- Young children should be supervised near open water, and some terrain may not be suitable for guests with limited mobility.
- Some bedrooms have low beams or uneven floors due to the age and heritage of the buildings
- Wi-Fi is available but can be limited in certain parts of the estate due to thick stone walls
- Air conditioning is not available, but the thick stone construction helps keep interiors cool in summer

Terms & Conditions

- **Security deposit:** £500 charged to client's credit card by Oliver's Travels as a pre-authorisation at least 2 weeks prior to arrival and refunded two weeks after departure, subject to full inspection.

- **Arrival time:** 15:00 - 21:00

- **Departure time:** Before 10:00

- **Energy costs included?:** Yes

- **Linen & towels included?:** Yes

- **Pets welcome?:** On request only and with prior agreement with the owner. If accepted, a maximum of 2 dogs are welcome, for an additional fee of £20 per weekend and £40 per week each.

- **Changeover day:** Friday

- **End of stay cleaning:** Extra £350, payable to Oliver's Travels with the balance payment. Guests are required to leave the accommodation clean, tidy and in the same condition as on their arrival. Any extra cleaning, laundry, maintenance and/or rubbish disposal required will be charged against the security deposit.

- **Other 2:** The owners live on site in separate accommodation.

- **Other 3:** There is external CCTV which can not be turned off on request

- **Heating costs included?:** Yes

- **Internet access?:** Yes