



Swanson House

Guest Review: August 2010

We recently stayed at Swanson House for one night, on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis. On arrival owners Pat and Phil gave us a very warm welcome before showing us to the Odette (as in Swan Lake) Room. This is the larger of the two rooms available, and it was exactly as shown and described on the website; it's spacious with a king-size bed, en suite bathroom and small lounge area – almost like a suite. Tea and coffee making facilities are included and there was also home-made carrot cake waiting for us on arrival.

The bathroom has both a bath and walk-in shower and is clean and bright with a range of complimentary soap products. Guests share a fridge in the pantry area where there is also a wide range of books, games, maps, information leaflets and souvenirs.

The recently renovated silver service restaurant is stylish and can seat about 20 people; the night we dined there were about 10 of us in two parties creating a very pleasant atmosphere. Pat cooked our food to perfection and served up delicious meals and desserts, all made from locally sourced products, while Phil occasionally provided snippets of information on the history of the building. I'm not sure the slightly highbrow opera-type music played throughout dinner would be to everyone's taste; maybe more popular classical would be better?

After a very comfortable night's sleep our cooked breakfast was fantastic; chosen by us the previous day from a wide selection it was the best hotel breakfast I've had for a long time – again all cooked by Pat. Also available were a range of cereals and drinks.

All in all a great place to stay and/or eat: friendly and welcoming hosts, clean and comfortable rooms, excellent food and a home-from-home atmosphere.