

Welcome to Gatwick

Discover what's on our doorstep



Tinwood, West Sussex



ENGLISH WINE, GIN AND ALE

Where to sample English wine, gin and ale near Gatwick Airport

The chalky, south-facing slopes near Gatwick are lush with vines and dotted with craft gin distilleries and breweries. English wines, gins and ales regularly win international awards so see what all the fuss is about on a tour and tasting experience, or pull up a stool in a characterful country pub and try them all under one roof.

Here are 8 places to taste English wine, gin and ale.

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YOUR LONDON AIRPORT
Gatwick

1. Denbies Wine Estate and Surrey Hills Brewery, Surrey Hills

Denbies is one of the five vineyards of the Surrey Hills. Neat little rows of vines unfurl across the dreamy North Downs hills at Denbies, England's largest vineyard. The wines have won international awards, but the winery's location attracts just as much admiration – and several royal visits. Seven miles (11km) of public footpaths trail through the rolling estate, which is built around a grand mansion.

Indoor tours through the working winery take place daily, but for panoramic views of the vineyard take the wine train to the most photogenic parts of the estate. There are more spectacular views from the Gallery Restaurant. It's almost too beautiful to leave... Luckily, there's accommodation on site!

The Surrey Hills Brewery is on the estate too, with tours, tastings and a shop.

🔗 **Websites:** www.denbies.co.uk | www.surreyhills.co.uk

📅 **Open:** Year-round, excluding Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. Tours run daily.

📍 **Getting there from Gatwick airport:** Denbies Wine Estate is 30 miles (50km) northwest of Gatwick. Travel times are approximately 25 mins by road, or 25 mins by rail to Dorking Deepdene station then a 5-min taxi or 20-min walk.

2. Silent Pool Distillery & Albury Organic Vineyard, Surrey Hills

This gin distillery takes its name from local beauty spot Silent Pool, a turquoise lake surrounded by greenery. The 90-minute distillery tour covers the history of gin, the making of Silent Pool gin (the hand-built copper still is powered by a vintage wood-fired steam boiler), and tastings of their full range of award-winning liquors. Book one of the distillery's walking tours to explore the beautiful villages, woodlands and country lanes of the surrounding Surrey Hills too.

While you're there, walk 3 mins along the road to Albury Organic Vineyard. The family run vineyard is one of the few in the UK to use biodynamic principles. A tour of Albury's beautiful – and chemical-free – vineyard is a great way to find out more about the differences between conventional, organic and biodynamic winemaking processes – and taste some of the award-winning wines too.

🔗 **Website:** www.silentpooldistillers.com | www.salburyvineyard.com

📅 **Open:** Silent Pool Distillery is open year-round; distillery tours available most days; limited dates for walking tours. Albury Organic Vineyard tours available Saturdays May – September.

📍 **Getting there from Gatwick airport:** Silent Pool Distillery and Albury Organic Vineyard are 20 miles (30km) southeast of Gatwick Airport. Travel times are approximately 40 mins by road, or 40 mins by rail to Guildford station then a 15-min taxi.

3. Long Man Brewery, East Sussex

The beautiful countryside surrounding the Long Man Brewery deserves almost as much credit for the award-winning brewery's success as the dedicated craftsmen who make the beer. The brewery even takes its name from the nearby Long Man of Wilmington, an imposing figure cut into a chalky slope at the heart of the South Downs National Park.

Brewing here is very much a 'field to pint glass and back again' process. Barley comes from the farmland directly around the brewery, water from the brewery's own borehole, and spent grain is fed to the farm's cattle. Find out more about the brewery's history, the brewing process and sample the range of handcrafted ales on a brewery tour and tasting. Before you leave, gift bag in hand, browse the shop in a traditional flint-walled building.

🔗 **Website:** www.longmanbrewery.com

📅 **Open:** Tour and tasting experiences run one Saturday per month. Shop open Monday – Saturday.

📍 **Getting there from Gatwick airport:** Long Man Brewery is 40 miles (65km) southeast of Gatwick Airport. Travel times are approximately 1 hour by road, or 30 mins by rail to Lewes station then a 20-min taxi.

4. Ridgeview, West Sussex

The clue is in the name at Ridgeview. This vineyard on a ridge with views of the green South Downs hills has a reputation for producing exceptional English sparkling wine. In fact, this wine is so good that Buckingham Palace serves it at state banquets. The estate is run by the Roberts family, with the awards stacking up as each generation takes the reins.

Guided tours of the vineyard and winery are run by experts, so you'll be in good hands. Tours end in a tasting room that makes the most of those views. On warm summer days, buy one of the hampers filled with local produce and picnic on Sussex charcuterie and High Weald Dairy cheeses in Ridgeview's Wine Garden.

🔗 **Websites:** www.ridgeview.co.uk

📅 **Open:** Year-round; tours at weekends.

📍 **Getting there from Gatwick airport:** Ridgeview is 20 miles (30km) south of Gatwick Airport. Travel times are approximately 30 mins by road, or 20 mins by rail to Burgess Hill station then a 7-min taxi.

5. The Gin Kitchen, Surrey

This microdistillery was set up by gin-loving friends Kate and Helen in 2016. Now they supply establishments such as iconic Fortnum & Mason with their prettily bottled gins. The distillery is in a 170-year-old barn on the aptly named Punchbowl Lane. There's also a flower-strewn cocktail bar and a shop where you can buy their products, including Gutsy Monkey Winter Gin and Dancing Dragonfly Summer Gin.

Even better, book a tasting experience, tour the working distillery, or get hands on and distil your own gin. You could even join a cocktail masterclass – Kaye and Helen are as passionate about mixing the gin as they are about distilling it. Then relax in the bar with your new favourite G&T combination. The ceramic bottles make quirky souvenirs, and you can come back for a refill next time you pass through Gatwick!

🔗 **Website:** www.gin.kitchen

📅 **Open:** Monday – Thursday until 5pm; Friday until 7pm; distillery experiences available evenings and weekends.

📍 **Getting there from Gatwick airport:** The Gin Kitchen is 10 miles (15km) northwest of Gatwick Airport. Travel times are approximately 35 mins by road, or 25 mins by rail to Dorking Deepdene station then a 5-min taxi.



GUIDED TOURS OF
THE VINEYARD AND
WINERY ARE RUN BY
EXPERTS



For a pinch-yourself moment, check in to one of the three luxury lodges on site and watch the sun set over the vines. The barrel sauna and breakfast hampers aren't bad either!

[Website: www.tinwoodestate.com](http://www.tinwoodestate.com)

Open: Year-round, excluding Christmas and New Year.

Getting there from Gatwick airport: Tinwood is 40 miles (65km) southwest of Gatwick Airport. Travel times are approximately 1 hour by road, or 1 hour by rail to Chichester station then a 10-min taxi.

If you like these, you might like:

- South East Wine Route (www.seva.uk.com)
- Breaky Bottom Vineyard, East Sussex
- Westerham Brewery, Kent
- Vineyards of the Surrey Hills (www.surreyhillsvineyards.co.uk)
- Wiston Estate, West Sussex
- The Cat, West Sussex (www.catinn.co.uk)

OUR PARTNERS:

Gatwick Airport

www.gatwickairport.com/at-the-airport/flying-in/discover-local/

Surrey

www.visitsurrey.com

South Downs National Park

www.southdowns.gov.uk

Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

www.surreyhills.org

West Sussex

www.experiencewestsussex.com

West Kent

www.visitsevenoaksdistrict.co.uk/see-and-do

East Sussex

www.visitengland.com/things-to-do/east-sussex

6. Bolney Estate, West Sussex

The Bolney winery has been in the same family for three generations, and they're rightly proud of their wines. The pioneering estate, set between the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the South Downs National Park, has won a legion of fans (and awards) around the globe.

Guided tour and tasting packages range from a short but fascinating tour of the undulating estate to the Grand Gourmet Tour extravaganza: five award-winning wines with tasting plates, Bolney grape juice gin and a two-course seasonal buffet. The Eighteen Acre Café, Restaurant and Bar serves estate wines to estate views; the brunch is good, too.

Websites: www.bolneywineestate.com

Open: Tours run February – October; some dates available November – January. Restaurant and shop open year-round, excluding Christmas.

Getting there from Gatwick airport: Bolney is 15 miles (25km) south of Gatwick Airport. Travel times are approximately 25 mins by road, or 15 mins by rail to Haywards Heath station then a 50-min taxi.

7. The Mount Vineyard, West Kent

This hidden gem is tucked up a quiet country lane in a part of the country known for cosy pubs and country walks. The Mount Vineyard is a boutique establishment that has won several awards, including The Luxury Travel Guide's Wine Tasting Experience of the Year 2018.

WANDER THROUGH WILDFLOWER MEADOWS AND ROWS OF VINES



With five generously sized wines paired with cheese and charcuterie, wine tasting here is more of a lunch than a formal sampling. If you're still hungry, the courtyard has an elegantly pared-back menu – the stone-baked pizza is recommended. Don't worry about the weather; with underfloor heating and a retractable roof the courtyard is British weather-proof!

Websites: www.themountvineyard.co.uk

Open: Year-round Thursdays – Sundays, 12pm – 6pm. Vineyard tours available May – September.

Getting there from Gatwick airport: The Mount Vineyard is 30 miles (50km) northeast of Gatwick Airport. Travel times are approximately 45 mins by road, or 1 hour 30 mins by rail to Shoreham (Kent) station then a 10-min walk.

8. Tinwood Vineyard, West Sussex

Tinwood uses its balmy spot on the southern edge of the South Downs National Park to craft first-rate sparkling wines. Wander through wildflower meadows and rows of vines on the Vineyard Tour and Wine Tasting experience. It finishes at the new Tasting Room overlooking the vineyard. You'll kick yourself if you don't allow plenty of time to sit here with a glass (or bottle) of bubbles after the tour.

The information in this guide is intended to assist visitors in choosing suitable places to visit. Information has been curated and produced by the Gateway Gatwick Group in good faith. Details were correct at time of going to press (July 2019). Whilst every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information shown in this publication, the Gateway Gatwick Group does not accept responsibility or liability for any of the claims made nor the information stated, especially opening times and dates.

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