HOLIDAY RENTAL OF THE YEAR | HEREFORDSHIRE

Rowden Mill Station

A former Great Western Railway train station transformed into a holiday rental, Rowden Mill Station is an exceptional choice for rail enthusiasts and cultureseeking holidaymakers alike. Having first opened in 1897, the Victorian Station Building and annexe-style Parcel Office has been meticulously renovated to preserve its original splendour whilst transforming its interiors into a modern and comfortable guest house. Suitable for group getaways and families, the main Station Building holds up to four guests and is complete with kitchen-diner, a cosy sitting room with a wood-burner, two bedrooms offering a double bed and an adult bunk bed, and a modern bathroom. By contrast, the boutique Parcel Office is the perfect studio space for couples, complete with home cinema and a selection of films for a relaxing evening in.

Ideally positioned to explore the Malvern Hills and the Wye River valley, the judges were impressed by the secluded location of Rowden Mill Station, where unspoiled views of the Herefordshire countryside can be enjoyed from the outdoor dining space on the platform. Guests can expect a warm and personal welcome from hosts Cecilia and Paul, alongside a knowledgeable insight into the station's history. Rowden Mill Station offers a retreat in a setting from yesteryear and a base to discover the nature and culture of Herefordshire.

Rowden Mill Station

www.rowdenmillstation.uk +44 (0) 1885 482101 bookings@rowdenmillstation.uk







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HOTEL & BAR OF THE YEAR

Black Lion Hotel

Situated in the centre of Ellesmere, Shropshire, the Black Lion Hotel offers comfortable accommodation, fantastic menu selections, a number of bar areas and a large upstairs function room. With features dating back to the Tudor era, the hotel benefits from a truly historical background, combined with modern developments. It boasts seven well-appointed letting rooms, which can sleep up to 14 adults, and all include king-size beds and en suite bathrooms. Regulars and out-of-towners can enjoy a range of beers and craft ales in the relaxed setting of the main bar as well as watching the latest live sports in the rear bar. When the weather is agreeable, a large beer garden provides plenty of seating space to soak up the sun. The hotel also has two snugs, one with an open fire providing extra comfort through the winter months.

The judges were impressed by the quality of food on Black Lion Hotel's restaurant menu, offering a range of home cooked, typically British fare, with the superb steaks stealing the show. Competitively priced, the food has proven popular with the general public alongside hotel guests. The judges praised its central location, too, being very close to the Llangollen Ellesmere Canal and nearby a mere that is popular with regular visitors. The Lion also has parking available and provides free Wi-Fi for all customers.



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