

# ESHOTT HALL

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Eshott Hall was the next stop on our Northumberland adventure. Sister hotel to Doxford Hall Hotel and Spa where we stayed the night before, Eshott Hall turned out to be the cute, smaller sister yet every bit as impressive.

From the moment you enter the sweeping, tree-lined driveway to Eshott Hall you know you've happened upon something special. A perfectly proportioned Georgian jewel, clad in wisteria and set within its own manicured gardens, the quintessential and oh-so-photogenic English country house tucked away in the beautiful Northumbrian countryside. A setting so magical that it's hardly surprising that Eshott Hall is listed in The Telegraph's guide to the best UK wedding venues.

With seventeen elegantly appointed bedrooms, a double rosette award-winning restaurant and a passion for providing the highest standards of service and comfort, Eshott Hall ticks all the boxes for an indulgent stay. There are no spa facilities here but Doxford Hall is a short drive away and you can use their facilities completely free when staying at Eshott Hall. They do however have beautiful gardens and an impressive walled herb garden to wander round and tennis courts for the more energetic.

Also, tucked away in Eshott's grounds is Eshott Grange; just a two minute walk from the main hall, Eshott Grange has been beautifully converted for today's discerning guests, with six very comfortable bedrooms. Each room has been decorated and furnished with the same attention to detail as those in the main hall and they have wonderful country names such as Meadowsweet, Fern and Bluebell. History meets luxury in their cosy cottages, which breathe new life into the

original estate stables. Ideal for either a relaxing family holiday or a secluded romantic break, the cottages have been lovingly restored to include stylish contemporary fittings in kitchen and bathrooms, and the highest quality fabrics and furnishings. All the comforts of home. Very much in the same vein as Doxford Hall, Eshott is like going home. Everyone is really friendly and cares that you have a good experience. It was interesting to speak to so many people who visit time after time.

With fewer facilities here, we decided to take ourselves off to do some more exploring of the area. First a walk around the grounds and out to the village. It's a chocolate box setting and so quiet and peaceful. We then had a drive to the local beach which was really busy with families and surfers as it was such a lovely day and a walk along the beach breathing in the sea air was making us hungry!

Back to Eshott to get ready for dinner. Dinner promised us the opportunity to savour every mouthful. Using only the finest locally sourced produce from the Northumbrian coast and countryside – and often from their own kitchen garden, they take food very seriously at Eshott. Meticulous attention to detail goes into crafting each and every dish, elevating their dining to award-winning standards, including the coveted 2 AA rosettes for the highest standards of creative cuisine. We were not to be disappointed. The





meal was a delight; we started with Ham Hock and Pork Cheek Terrine served with piccalilli and crackling and Beef carpaccio, Ox Cheek and Marrowbone Croquette served with wholegrain mustard dressing and watercress. This should give you a feel for the standard of food they create so passionately here.

Main courses were Pan Roasted Duck with Swiss chard, celeriac and hazelnut and Fillet of Beef, Corn Fed Beef Potato and roasted king oyster, confit shallot, parsley and black pepper crust. Absolutely lovely. On to dessert; Yoghurt Panacotta with pecan, wild strawberry and a pecan granola and, Tangy Lemon Mousse, mango and shortbread. Two dishes that perfectly finished a great meal. Coffee and petit fours, a relaxing chat in the lounge and to bed after another eventful day.

The following day was unfortunately the day we were going home, but we had big plans that would take us to the end of the day! After another wonderful Northumberland breakfast, we said our goodbyes and thank you's to everyone at Eshott Hall and headed off to Beamish. No visit to the North East is complete without a visit here and be warned...you will need the whole day to explore.

This place is incredible. There's a 1900's Pit Village, complete with mines you can go down, a 1900's town with houses and shops transporting you instantly back in time to a much simpler but much harder life. We visited the working railway station and the 1940's farm complete with animals. Every area has local people dressed in period costume, acting out life in each area. Now under construction is a 1950's town, complete with a hotel where visitors will be able to stay.

Northumberland, our visit has been unforgettable and we can't wait to come back. There is so much we didn't have time to do but they, along with Doxford Hall and Eshott Hall are more than enough reason to return.

***Find Eshott Hall; Morpeth NE65 9EN  
For reservations or further information  
please call 01670 787454 or visit  
[www.eshotthall.co.uk](http://www.eshotthall.co.uk)***