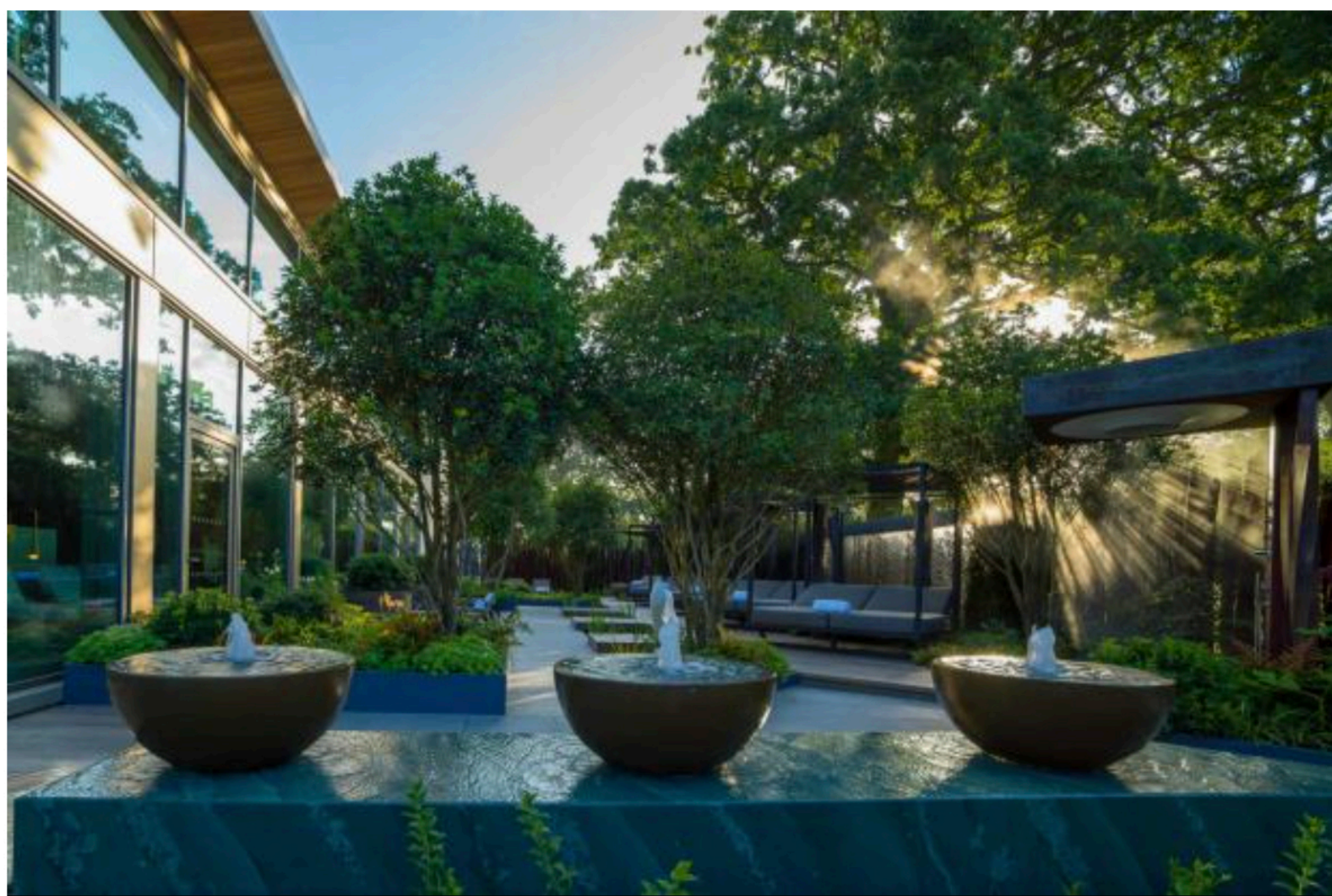


Best places to stay in Hertfordshire in 2023



Sopwell House Hotel, St Albans (*Image: Sopwell House Hotel*)

Top Hertfordshire hotel for a spa break: Sopwell House Hotel, St Albans

Perched on the outskirts of St. Albans, Sopwell House Hotel is well known as the former home of Lord Louis Mountbatten. The hotel is a delicious combination of old and new.

Rooms range from those in the impressive mansion to separate and contemporary Mews Suites designed for up to three people and complete with their own fireplaces, four-poster beds, in-room baths, private terraces, cedar wood spa baths and self sufficient high-end kitchenettes. A particularly joyful feature of the hotel is the surrounding landscaped garden, created by RHS Chelsea and Hampton Court Palace Flower Show Gold award winner, Ann-Marie Powell - setting the scene for a restful getaway.

Dining at Sopwell House comes in multiple forms. The Brasserie is an elegant, open plan space with floor-to-ceiling glass frontage, and serving all meals in the form of a British/Mediterranean fusion menu. There's a Lounge Menu for lighter dishes served in the conservatory by day and the cocktail lounge in the evening. Meanwhile, Omboo is the latest addition, serving fragrant Asian flavours from small dishes to sharing platters. There are no starters - food is brought out as soon as it's ready and you can tuck in to your heart's content. It's very much the place for laughter and sake.

One of the most inspired additions to Sopwell House in recent years has been the Cottonmill Spa. The hotel has always had leisure facilities, but the spa is a more intentional experience for wellness and pampering, and it's won awards for its thoughtful design. Divided into two distinct areas - the Cottonmill and The Club at Cottonmill, the former is a more general wellbeing and fitness experience, with an energising studio, sauna, steam room, poolside terrace and Sitting Room, Rose Relaxation Room and spa treatments. All hotel guests have complimentary access to these facilities.

The Club at Cottonmill is a world-class space with dedicated spa gardens. Combining indoor and outdoor wellbeing, it's exclusive for those on particular spa bookings as well as those with membership. This is very much about that next-level wellness experience, with a vast range of facilities ranging from a 'Whisper room' to multiple saunas - a panoramic sauna, organic sauna and a botanical steam room, for example.

Overall, Sopwell House ticks all the boxes for a luxury getaway - state-of-the-art spa, great location, tranquil surroundings and superb food and drink.

[sopwellhouse.co.uk](https://www.sopwellhouse.co.uk)