



New House Country Hotel

Cardiff, Wales

[View on a map](#)

7/10

Telegraph expert rating

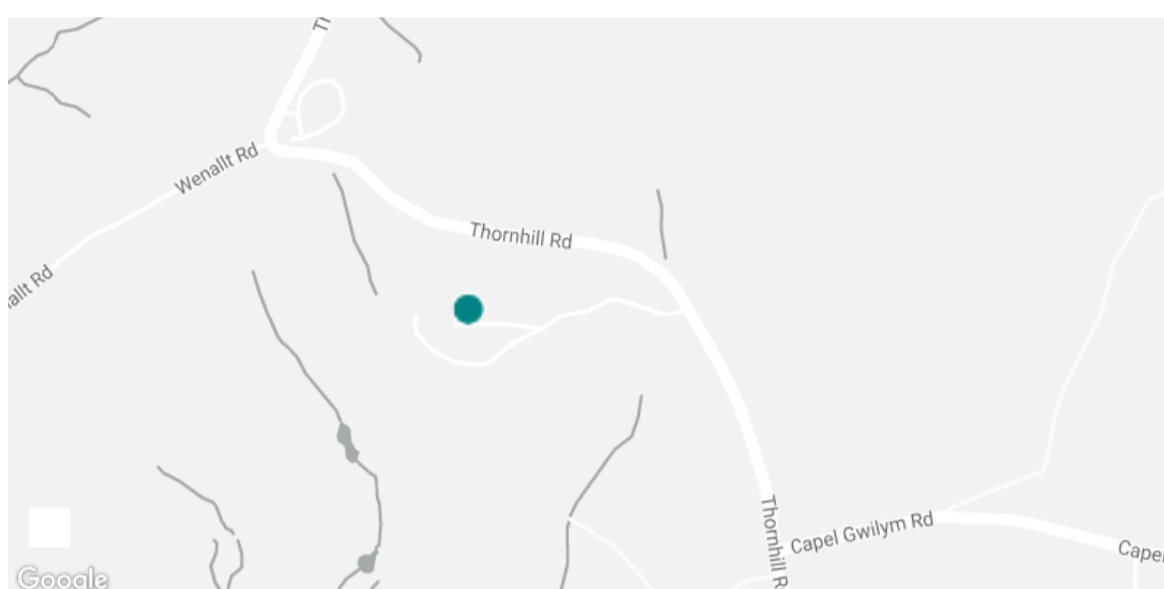
" North of the Welsh capital is New House Country Hotel, a Georgian manor dripping with original period details and sprawling views of Cardiff's skyline and the sea just beyond it. Rooms are traditional with modern elevations, straightforward cuisine is done well, and historic Caerphilly is close by. "

By **Benjamin Parker**,
TRAVEL WRITER

Location

7/10

Thornhill is one of Cardiff's northern suburbs, a residential area that has built up over the last three decades. As the road to Caerphilly winds, turn off for the 100m driveway of New House Country Hotel at a wooden sign in need of new paint. Surrounding hills look moss-covered by the spread of trees, giving a bucolic aspect only seven miles from Cardiff's concrete centre. It's easy to reach from the M4 (locals gossip about a long-rumoured junction 31 to serve Thornhill from the motorway corridor). 11 miles north is Caerphilly for a 13th-century castle and crumbly cheese.



Style & character

7/10

This early Georgian manor house, a weathered Bath stone building fronted by double bay windows and topped with four chimneys, is imbued with history; not surprising, with just under three decades as a hotel but a story stretching back to the 1730s. Traditional country house elements – a suit of armour lurking in the corridor, a roaring fire within stately fireplaces – are well looked after; occasional peppy wallpaper and combinations of patterned cushions are among subtle modern details that keep it from feeling dated.



Service & facilities

7/10

Staff – friendly and efficient – know their stuff, whether navigating awkward menu questions to explaining the history of the property. Service is personal enough to continue late-night bar conversations the next day over your morning coffee. Other than four meeting and event spaces, there are no additional facilities.

- Bar
- Parking
- Restaurant
- Wi-Fi

Rooms

7/10

A 2016 makeover has given a fresher look to the rooms but Georgian style – fabrics printed with sprigs of flowers, high panels on the walls, wooden chairs with shield backs – has been kept. The rooms in the older part of the house are the largest, and give the truest ‘country manor’ experience, but all are plush with long drapes and soft bedding, and are decent in size. From the front of the house you can see over the 288 square-metre lawn to the city. Shortbread, a kettle and televisions – plus reasonable Wi-Fi – is just enough to keep you looked after should you linger. Welsh amenities from Myddfai are in every bathroom, all of which are en suite; three of the rooms feature freestanding baths.

Food & drink

7/10

Sequoias restaurant is named after evergreen trees (there is huge one in the grounds which is seven metres round). Menus blend British and European, such as a braised shoulder of Welsh lamb and pan-fried chicken rested on pesto tagliatelle. Homemade bread – especially the raisin and rosemary loaf – starts a meal well, with cheesecake of the day one way to end (the Turkish delight worked surprisingly well). Tables are dressed in rose-patterned cloth and low lighting comes from imitation candles; a looping soundtrack featuring Randy Crawford and Barry Manilow can grate. The best seats are by the window at night, when the lights of Cardiff flicker on the horizon.

Breakfast, a hot buffet served from heavy chafing dishes as well as some cold options, doesn't match up to the quality of dinner.

Value for money

7/10

Double rooms from £92 in low season; and from £145 in high. Breakfast included. Free Wi-Fi.

Access for guests with disabilities?

There is a ramp straight into the hotel avoiding steps and there are ground-floor rooms available.

Family-friendly?

The hotel has a number of family rooms, and some rooms feature sofa beds.

[View on a map](#)
Thornhill, Cardiff, CF14 9UA, Wales.
02920 520280
townandcountrycollective.co.uk