

# Pidley Bottom Cottages And Shepherd's Huts

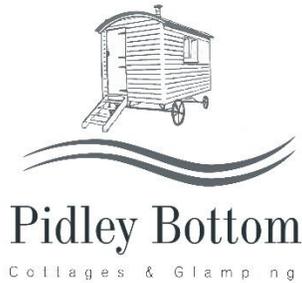


Sidings Farm,  
Fen Road, Pidley,  
Cambridgeshire,  
PE28 3DF



[www.SidingsFarm.](http://www.SidingsFarm.)





## Your Home away from Home

Purchased in 2014, Sidings Farm, is set within 8 acres of prime farmland on the edge of the Fens, deep in the heart of Cambridgeshire. Surrounded by open, arable farmland, a golf course and a fishing farm our smallholding is something of a novelty and draws its name from the now defunct St Ives to Ramsey branch line of the London & North Eastern Railway (now removed) railway line. In recent years the farm has been used as the headquarters for a transport company, a kitchen design and build company and numerous other small businesses, we aim to restore it to a small, working farm - much as it was during WWII. Producing meat, vegetables and sustainable electricity we keep close control of our carbon footprint and aim to continue to provide a neutral or negative emission rating.

Converted in 2014, Pidley Bottom Cottages and Shepherd's Huts enjoy a peaceful, rural location close to the pretty, riverside town of St Ives and within striking distance of Cambridge. Close to the Lakeside Golf Centre they are ideal for golfers, walkers or those just wanting the peace and quiet of the countryside.

Each of the shepherd's huts and cottages has its own equipment to help you make the most of your stay here at Sidings Farm, if you find that you need something else then please let us know as I am sure that we can find it!

**Our smallholding.** You may wish to join us as we tend to the animals while you stay with us. You would be most welcome to join us on the morning feeding rounds – we have cattle, sheep, pygmy goats, pigs (seasonal!), turkeys (seasonal!), ducks, guinea fowl, quail and chickens (too many different types to mention!). All of the animals need feeding and there may be other jobs to get involved in should you like to. Most of the animals are in shelters / fields that have some form of electric fencing to keep unwanted predators away so please be careful and wait to be shown how to enter the animal areas to avoid any unwanted shocks or surprises!

We have a polytunnel and vegetable patch that, depending on the time of year, may have some produce you could help harvest or tend to should you wish.

**Our Shepherd's Huts.** Each of the shepherd's huts has its own equipment to help you make the most of your stay here at Sidings Farm, if you find that you need something else then please let us know as I am sure that we can find it! You will find a fully equipped camping kitchen adjacent to each hut and we would ask that no cooking takes place within the shepherd's huts as this tends to make them smell.

Food waste should be left in the bin in the kitchen, this will be emptied daily all other waste should be taken away with you. There is also a pull along barrow to help you move anything from the huts to the main farmyard. Water is available and is fresh each day although please ensure you boil it before drinking.

Your hut has a designated shower room which only members of your party can use. Please do not place anything other than human waste and loo roll in any of the loos – the farm is on an eco-friendly "Muck Muncher" but it cannot cope with cotton buds or sanitary towels. For these please use the bins provided in each loo. The shower rooms are behind the barn on the main farmyard, a short walk away. You will find your own towels, a floor mat and heated towel rail in the shower room. You can hire a hairdryer from The Larder if you wish.

Just next to the shower rooms you will see the shared washing up area. You have been provided with a washing up bowl and tea towels for your stay.

**Our Cottages.** Each cottage is fully equipped to help you make the most of your stay here at Sidings Farm. There is also a shared courtyard where you will find seating and a BBQ (on request). There are bins in the corner for you to place all your refuse but please see the Waste Disposal section later in this guide.

Please do not place anything other than human waste and loo roll in any of the loos – the cottages are on an eco-friendly "Muck Muncher" but it cannot cope with cotton buds or sanitary towels. For these please use the Grey bin in the corner of the courtyard.

**The Larder** - You have been provided with a welcome pack and you can buy top up items from The Larder as well as order our Shepherd's Breakfast or Sausage Casserole should you wish to have a break from cooking. You can collect your own eggs or buy some from the stall just outside the main gate. There are also a number of other items available to hire so please just ask to have a look.

Pets are not allowed on the farm.

We also have two dogs, Biggles the Springer Spaniel and Ginger the Basset Hound. They are both very friendly and live with us in Sidings Farm House.

We hope that you enjoy your stay with us. Please call 0845 388 4016 if we can help.

*Adam, Katie, Toby and Jack Renwick*

# The Sauna

Why not relax in our Eco-friendly sauna? De-stress after a long day and revitalize for tomorrow. The heat from the sauna relaxes the body's muscles, improves circulation and stimulates the release of endorphins. Endorphins are the body's all-natural "feel good" chemical and their release provides a truly wonderful "after sauna glow." Regular use of a sauna can also reduce the risk of hypertension (high blood pressure).

Relax

De-stress

DETOX



Recharge

£20 for an hour – exclusive use for up to 2 adults – children\* –FREE

Gown and towels provided

Please book at Reception/Office

\*Subject to age limits – see Sauna Disclaimer

## General Information

**Animals.** Please do not feed the animals unless accompanied by a member of the family. Please beware of petting the animals, although our animals rarely bite they may try and crush or butt hands. A good rule is not to put hands through or over fences!

**Barbed Wire.** We use barbed wire extensively as this is the best way to keep animals where they should be, please take care around fences as the top three strands and the bottom strand are all barbed.

**Barns.** Please keep children out of the barns. You are most welcome to look around the barns but please supervise children and take care as the barns contain sharp implements and some machinery. Children should not enter barns unsupervised. Please stay out of the Wiggly-tin Barn.

**BBQ.** Each hut has its own BBQ and there is a central BBQ available to the cottages, charcoal is available from the Larder. Tools can be found in the kitchens. Please leave the BBQ as you would hope to find it. Please see "Charcoal & Logs".

**Bicycles.** Bicycles are not allowed into the cottages or huts. Should you require storage for your bicycles then please ask and we will find a secure area in a barn. A small charge may apply.

**Bio-security.** We take the spread of animal disease very seriously and would be grateful if you would dip your footwear when coming on to the farm. We have placed two boot dips by the main entrance gate, the water contains a strong disinfectant. Just dipping the soles of shoes is sufficient while wellington boots should be dipped to ankle depth.

**Bleach.** Please do not use bleach in the sinks or toilets as this kills the bacteria at work in the septic tank system. Please use eco-friendly or septic tank friendly cleaners – most show this in the label on the reverse of the container.

**Breakages.** Please replace any breakages, if you are unable to please let us know and we may be able to.

**Charcoal and Logs.** These are available from Reception and The Larder. If you would prefer to provide your own then we reserve the right to charge, nightly, for the use of the BBQ and fire pits.

**Children.** Children should be supervised at all times. Life on the farm is exciting and engaging but some of the animals are large and may bite!

**Damage.** Please let us know of any damage so that we may repair it.

# Bicycle and Go Kart Hire



We have two 2 seater and a 4 seater Dino Go Kart for hire at £12.50 per half day.

We also have bicycles in various sizes (and cycle helmets) so please ask for availability.

£8/day



## Go to Clair's for breakfast or just tour the area!

**Dentist.** Emergency dental appointments are available from “My Dentist”, 10 Station Road, St Ives. PE27 5BH. Tel: 01480 469100

**Dogs.** You have probably met our own dogs (Biggles the black and white springer spaniel and Ginger the basset) as they have free run of the farm and will probably already have been to visit. Please do not encourage them into the huts or cottages as they have been trained not to enter them. Their role is to keep the foxes away and also alert us to visitors. If you notice that they have made a mess anywhere please let us know and we will clear it immediately.

**Eggs.** You will be supervised when collecting eggs. If you would like more eggs to take away they are on sale outside the main entrance gate. Why not try a duck, turkey or goose egg while you are here?

**Electricity.** We try and generate our own power so please turn off electrical equipment when not in use.

**Electric Fences.** We have several electric fences which will deliver an uncomfortable shock, they are clearly marked and are used to keep the pigs in their paddock and the cattle and sheep away from hedges. Please take care around fences.

**Farm.** Please do not wander onto the farm unless you have received the Health & Safety Briefing from one of the Staff. By wandering onto the farm you may be breaking bio-security protocols.

**Farmhouse and garden.** The farmhouse and garden is private, please respect this.

**Food Waste.** Please place food waste in the bin provided in the kitchen, this will be emptied daily.

**Feeding animals.** Please do not feed the animals unless accompanied by a member of the family. Please do not be tempted to give the animals leftovers (particularly the pigs) as this is illegal and may lead to us being fined or prevented from keeping animals. Bread is particularly dangerous to our animals.

**Field Gates.** You should not pass through field gates unsupervised. The field gates have a karabiner to secure them – please replace these if you pass through the gate. Should you need to climb over a gate please do so at the hinged end.

**Front Gate.** The main front gate is kept locked and you will be shown where the key is kept. Please lock the gate after using it. Please control the front gate when opening it as if allowed to swing back it will damage the barn.

**Hospital.** For emergencies the closest hospital in Hinchbrook (approximately 15 minutes away). Telephone number: 01480 416561. Postcode: PE29 6NT.

# PLEASE

don't flush:



We have a water treatment plant on the farm so please do not flush sanitary products or other non bio-degradable products down the loo!

## Many thanks

**Hot tub – March Shepherd’s Hut.** The hot tub is heated from sustainably sourced wood. We ask our guests to purchase wood for use with the hot tub from The Larder. We do not allow guests to provide their own wood for use in the hot tubs.

**Hot tub – other.** There is a family hot tub situated in the Spa Area. This is subject to availability and a surcharge. Please contact Reception to book.

**Hygiene.** Please remember to wash your hands after touching the animals. There is a handwash station by the showers.

**Keys.** At the end of your stay with us please remember to return your keys – either to the drop box on the Cow Barn or to the box outside your cottage. Should you lose or take your keys then we reserve the right to charge to replace the lock(s).

**Kitchen - Huts.** For those staying in the shepherd’s huts you will find a fully equipped camping kitchen adjacent to each hut and we would ask that no cooking takes place within the shepherd’s huts as this tends to make them smell.

**Lost Property.** We will do our best to identify and contact you if we find belongings left behind. Please see our Lost Property Policy on our website.

**Medical.** There is a small First Aid kit above the door in the kitchen in Fenton Hut; please replace what you use. For emergencies the closest hospital in Hinchingsbrooke (approximately 15 minutes away). Telephone number: 01480 416561. Postcode: PE29 6NT

**Noise.** Please be aware that other people may be staying on Sidings Farm. We ask that music cannot be heard outside your accommodation and that children are respectful of others when playing on the farm.

**Parking.** Please park in the designated areas. Cars are not allowed off the concrete parking area. Each room/hut comes with one parking space – extra spaces may be available at a charge.

**Policies.** Please see our website for a list of policies on things such as willful damage, cleaning etc. Please note that on booking you accepted these.

**Rubbish.** We will dispose of limited food waste for you, please take all other rubbish home with you.

**Safety on the Farm.** We work hard to ensure your safety on the farm but you can help:

- Don’t put your hands in your mouth whilst on the farm.
- Make sure you wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water (min. 20 seconds) after you have been around the farm and before you leave. It’s not just the animals that can carry harmful bugs – fences, enclosures, and floors can carry them, too.
- Anti-bacterial hand gel does not kill all dangerous bacteria. Please wash your hands with soap and water instead of using hand gel.

# Barbeque Charcoal

Planning a BBQ and need some charcoal? Ask and we will bring some to you or find it in the Larder.



Sausages, burgers, chops and sauces available from the Larder.

## LOGS

Are you going to sit and star gaze this evening and would like to sit around the brazier? We can bring you a barrow of logs to keep you warm and toasty.



£5 – Please ask and we will deliver

- If you are pregnant or think you might be pregnant, please do not touch the animals, especially goats and sheep during the lambing and kidding season (Spring).
- All of our animals are nice and friendly, however, they are still animals and can be unpredictable. Please keep your hands away from their mouths, claws, and horns.
- Do not allow children to kiss the animals.
- Do not chase, shout, or tease the animals.
- Please wash your footwear and wheelchair/buggy wheels when you get home.
- If you feel unwell within two weeks of visiting the farm you must inform your doctor that you have had contact with animals.
- Adults are responsible for supervising children in their care at all times and ensuring they wash their hands properly.

Public Health England advice on visiting farms can be found [here](#)

**Sauna.** There is a sauna situated in the Spa Area. This is subject to availability and a surcharge. Please contact Reception to book.

**Side Gate.** The side gate is not locked but looks as though it is. Please lift the chain over the post to enter/exit.

**Shop.** We have a small shop (the Larder) on site where we try and keep all those things that you might need. Please help us and other local businesses by trying the local produce available. For other supplies there is a small Spar in Warboys, a Tesco express in Somersham and a large Tesco (and other supermarkets) in Huntingdon.

**Smoking.** Please do not smoke in the accommodation. You are welcome to smoke outside but please dispose of your butts. Please do not smoke in or around the barns.

**Supermarket deliveries.** We have had a number of supermarkets deliver to the farm, if you would like to arrange a delivery please let us know and we will arrange to be available to take delivery for you.

**Take Away / Deliveries.** A number of restaurants deliver, please ask us for a list of current restaurants. If you order a delivery please wait at the back gate for the driver – we will turn drivers away from the farmhouse.

**Terms & Condition.** Please see our terms and conditions on our website. On booking you agreed and accepted these.

**Toilets.** Sidings Farm is serviced by septic tanks, a bio-digester and a compost loo for the shepherd's huts. It is important that nothing but human waste and loo paper is put in any of the loos; we provide nappy sacks and small bins (which are emptied daily) for the disposal of sanitary towels and the like.

# HALF A LAMB

Free range, grass fed lamb  
from our heritage breeds  
now available.

Half a lamb should fill a shelf in a standard freezer – if packed in tightly! Each half will be a minimum of 5KG (maybe a good deal heavier). We can ask the butcher to produce any cuts (within reason) but have agreed the following with him. A half will be:

- 2 half leg joints (or a whole joint)
- 2 half shoulder joints (or a whole)
- Chump & Loin chops
- 1 rack of lamb (or cutlets)
- Mince (or a rolled breast joint)
- plus kidney, liver & heart

If you would like different cuts then please ask



To order email [Adam@sidingsfarm.co.uk](mailto:Adam@sidingsfarm.co.uk)

Or

Call: 0845 388 4016

[www.SidingsFarm.co.uk](http://www.SidingsFarm.co.uk)



**Visitors.** We do not accept visitors onto Sidings Farm. Should you wish to invite friends or family onto the farm then please ask us and we will arrange tickets for which there will be a charge. Visitors are not allowed to use facilities such as hot tubs and saunas.

**Wash-up (Huts).** Please leave the washing-up room and sink as you would hope to find it. The wash-up is shared between the huts.

**Water.** The water from all taps is designated drinking water. Where we have provided water in containers this should be boiled prior to drinking.

**Wi-fi.** We are in a very rural area and are not served by fibre optic cable and therefore rely on mobile broadband. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available in the cottages and in the Conference Room at the farm, please ask at The Office for the code and for access to the Conference Room. Wi-Fi is subject to availability and it does not form part of the charges/price of accommodation. Wi-fi is not available in the huts.

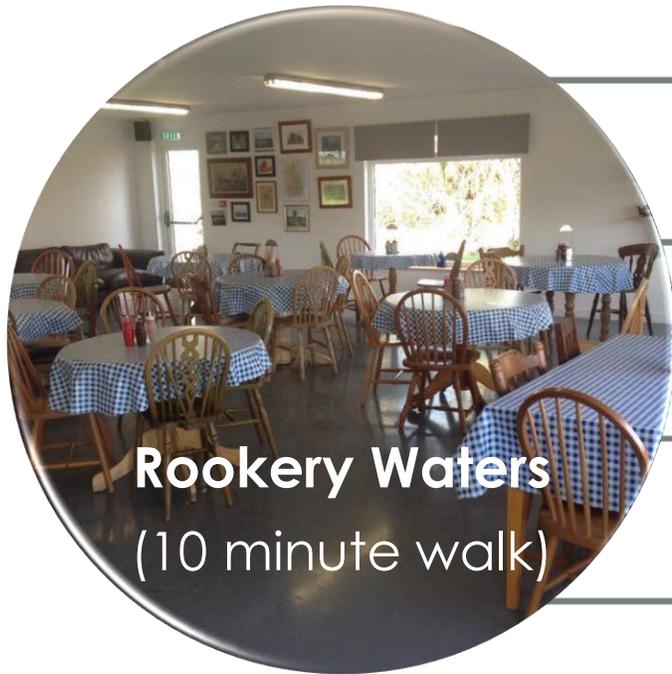
**Wildlife.** You can see some wonderful wildlife from our smallholding. There are usually buzzards flying overhead (they nest in Winnie Wood, a spinney that runs alongside our farm boundary). There are badgers that have a day sett in between our farm and Winnie Wood, as well as small deer, rabbits (lots on the farm too!), hares on the farmer's field, owls, bats, red kites, pheasants, partridge and lots of other smaller birds.

**Wriggly-tin Barn.** Please do not go into the Wriggly-tin Barn. Each barn has a name plate for ease of reference.

**Please like us at:**

[www.facebook.com/sidingsfarm](http://www.facebook.com/sidingsfarm)

## Places to go and to eat



**Rookery Waters**  
(10 minute walk)



Rookery Waters is just a short drive or 10 minute walk down Fen Road and offers a fabulous weekend breakfast café (open till 10 am).



You can walk from our smallholding onto their farm without using the road by Winnie Wood – just ask and we'll show you.



They also have a great selection of fishing lakes.....



.....and a tackle / bait shop.

### **The Barn Restaurant. (5 minute walk) - 01487 842204**

The Barn Restaurant is an informal à la carte restaurant housed within a fabulous green oak timber framed barn on our family farm in Pidley.

The restaurant produces modern British food with international influences where the focus is on creating fresh, great tasting, seasonal food and presenting it with flair. There is a core monthly menu complemented by daily specials. The menu offers fresh produce cooked to order and the fantastic food sits alongside a well balanced wine list.

Head Chef Lee Shewan has worked restaurants in the Cambridgeshire area for over 15 years. In this time he has built up a reputation serving great quality fresh fish and meat dishes with an excellent knowledge of local suppliers and growers.

Opening times are Thursday to Sunday (lunch only on Sundays) Lunch 12:00 to 2:30pm (3:00pm Sundays) & Dinner 6:30 to 9:30pm

Booking at weekends is recommended.

No children under 16 years of age (except by prior arrangement)

### **Lakeside Lodge Golf Centre (5 minute walk) – 01487 740540**

Lakeside Lodge Golf Centre was established in 1992 and is owned by the Hopkins family. It is the close personal involvement of the family that ensures a welcoming, friendly atmosphere. Over the years, Lakeside Lodge has expanded to become a popular venue in the heart of Cambridgeshire, offering not just first class Golf, but also Accommodation, Tenpin Bowling, Conference/Meeting facilities, Wedding/Civil Ceremony facilities, a Licenced Bar & Restaurant and a superbly equipped Health Club.

Golfers and non-golfers are welcome, and please remember, membership of Lakeside Lodge Golf Centre is not required to use any of the facilities in the complex .( [www.lakeside-lodge.co.uk/](http://www.lakeside-lodge.co.uk/))

### **Cambridge.**

Be inspired by the many beautiful museums and art galleries. Admire the beautiful architecture and majestic college buildings. Explore quaint passages set around the historic market place and colleges, where a unique and relaxing shopping experience can be found. Here a blend of independent shops is mingled with high street brands. Relax in the many beautiful pubs, restaurants and cafes. Catch a student theatrical production, or a show at the Arts Theatre. See live music or comedy at the Corn Exchange.

Get there on the Guided Bus from St Ives and see some more of the countryside too!

### **Johnsons Old Hurst (10 minute drive)**

Available for patrons of the farm shop and tea rooms, the children's playing field is a safe and enjoyable area with toy tractors and play fort in the pleasant surroundings of the farm animals.

The Eccentric Englishman and garden sells home produced food and snacks using ingredients from their shop wherever possible, from a delicious fresh cooked breakfast through to morning coffee, lunches and their speciality traditional cream tea.

Along with their traditional farming they are not afraid to try alternative meats with a modern approach.

### **The Raptor Foundation (10 minute drive)**

The foundation is a bird of prey sanctuary and hospital. It is a unique and exciting place for children and adults alike to meet and learn about owls, falcons, hawks and buzzards in a 30 acre site. There are over 300 raptors and more than 25 species, many of which are threatened or endangered.

### **Cromwell Museum – Huntingdon (20 minute drive)**

The purpose of the Cromwell Museum is to interpret his life and legacy through portraits, documents and objects associated with Cromwell. The Museum opened in 1962 in the old

grammar school where Cromwell had been a pupil. After leaving school Cromwell studied briefly at Cambridge before marrying and settling in Huntingdon. He later lived in St Ives and Ely.

Cromwell was driven by his religious commitment from the 1630s onwards. As MP for Cambridge he became an active soldier in the English Civil Wars of the 1640s. His success on the battlefield and his skill as a politician led him to power as Lord Protector.

At his death on September 3rd 1658 he was the head of state, and for some a king in all but name. He is an intensely controversial and fascinating figure of British history.

The Museum sets out neither to celebrate or denigrate his achievements but to interpret where possible the significance of "God's Englishman".

### **Houghton Mill** (10 minute drive)

Situated in a stunning riverside setting and full of excellent hands-on activities for all the family, this five-storey historic building is the last working watermill on the Great Ouse.

Flour is for sale, ground in the traditional way by water-powered mill stones. Note: milling demonstrations subject to river levels.

They offer a family events programme, including open-air theatre and hands-on baking days. Visit their website for children's summer holiday events. Follow the family Cat and Rat trail around the mill.

### **St Ives** (15 minute drive)

Formerly known as Slepe, in the old county of Huntingdonshire, this ancient riverside market town St Ives is now named after the Persian Bishop, St. Ivo. St. Ives, now within the county of Cambridgeshire, stands on the River Great Ouse and is world famous for the Chapel on the Bridge. St Ives is one of the five principal towns in the District of Huntingdonshire, the others being Huntingdon, St Neots (the largest town in the County of Cambridgeshire), the Roman town of Godmanchester and Ramsey site of the former Abbey.

For nearly 1,000 years the wide centre of St. Ives, now known as Market Hill (pictured above), has hosted some of the largest public markets in England. Many years ago these markets included livestock and for a time was one of the biggest of its kind. Today the Street Markets still fill the St Ives town centre on Mondays and Fridays. On every Bank Holiday Monday however the market swells to fill almost the entire town with traders coming from all over the country to sell their wares to the thousands of people who attend under the watchful eye of Oliver Cromwell, one time resident of the town, whose statue stands in the centre of the Market Place.

## The St Ives Mystery Treasure Trail (15 minute drive)

There's plenty to discover on the St Ives self-guided mystery themed Treasure Trail. Suitable for all the family and designed so that kids as young as 6 can get involved, there are some tricky clues for the adults too! There's certainly more than first meets the eye in St Ives so take a closer look on this Trail.

You won't even notice that you've walked 2 miles as you'll be too busy looking at plaques, signs and buildings to solve the clues! Get ready for some fun and intrigue as you follow the route and put your detective skills to the test.

**If you have time on your hands why not leave us a review at:**

**[www.facebook.com/sidingsfarm](http://www.facebook.com/sidingsfarm)**

### The Important stuff:

<b>WiFi Codes</b>	
Sidings Cottage	SidingsCottage
Jeannie Cottage	JeannieCottage
<b>Code for back gate key</b>	2000