

Golfing in the Sevenoaks Area

by an anonymous golfer

Sevenoaks District has an engaging and enjoyable range of high quality golf courses – from parkland to inland links, from knoll top to valley view – for any visitor to the area wishing for a fine walk club-in-hand. Find below a whistle-stop tour from the perspective of a senior bogey golfer...

The Darenth

Summary: 18 holes

Location: Station Road, Shoreham, Kent TN14 7SA

	Par	Rating	Slope	Yardage
White	72	70.6	115	6193
Yellow	72			6073
Red	73	73	126	5706

Representative visitor fees: weekdays £29; weekends £39

Built in the 1970s over the former home farm of now-gone Shoreham House, this club's charming valley setting (in an area of outstanding natural beauty) is a generous course for the occasionally errant golfer and good for a company of mixed golfing abilities. The free-draining chalk geology keeps the fairways firm, even during wet periods. The clubhouse is a locally-recognised event venue, or (and if real ale is required) there are two quality village pubs within walking distance of the car park as well. One of the few golf courses accessible by train, only a couple of minutes' walk from Shoreham (Kent) station.

<http://www.thedarenth.com/>

Hever Castle Golf Club

Summary: 27 holes

Location: Hever Road, Edenbridge TN8 7NP

The Championship	Par	Rating	Slope	Yardage
White tee	72	73.8	136	6761
Yellow tee	72	72.1	133	6502
Green tee	72	69.8	124	6023
Red tee	73	74	130	5716

The Princes

White	35	33.4	117	2802
Yellow	34	32.5	110	2543
Red	34	33.9	119	2446

Representative visitor fees: £60 weekdays, £65 Fridays, £60 weekends but afternoons only

These courses, built in 1992 and 1998, sit next door to Hever Castle, the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, grandly renovated by the Astors at the beginning of the last century. The house has spectacular grounds, gardens and lakes. This is well-suited for a mixed family outing where golfers can go in one direction and the historic house part of the family can wander and picnic contently elsewhere. The course also boasts the longest par 5 in the district, the 17th, at 644/627/618 yds off the men's tees and 526 yds for the ladies. The clubhouse is first-rate. Do try to keep your ball out of the water though. Tuition, wellbeing, shop and events all offered, together with daytime dining at the stylish Waterside Bar, Restaurant and Terrace. www.hevercastle.co.uk/golf/



Knole Park Golf Club

Summary: 18 holes

Location: Seal Hollow Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0HJ

	Par	Rating	Slope	Yardage
Black	70	73	131	6669
Green	70	71.7	133	6480
White	70	70.6	127	6205
Yellow	70	69.1	123	5907
Red	73	72.6	126	5478

Representative visitor fees: Mon-Thurs £100; Fri – Sun £120

Knole Park is a members' club, opened in 1924 to a design by J Abercromy and set within the 1,000-acre deer park of Knole House in the heart of Sevenoaks town, home to Lord Sackville and run by the National Trust. It is a striking setting, if a bit hilly as there are no buggies allowed. The deer keep the fairways neatly trimmed even if they also drop the occasional obstacle against which one's ball can come to lie. Varied views across the countryside and the house divert attention from the ball-swallowing bracken rough which can be merciless for the slightly stray shot. Good fun. Golfing experts on hand to improve your game. The course is regularly names as one of the top 100 courses in the UK and Kent's No 1 inland course. <https://www.knoleparkgolfclub.co.uk/>



The London Golf Club

Summary: 36 holes

Location: Stansted Lane, Ash, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 7EH

The Heritage	Par	Rating	Slope	Yardage
Blue tees	72	75.2	138	7208
White tees	72	73.7	136	6771
Yellow tees	72	71.8	126	6333
Red tees	72	73.7	130	5759

The International	Par	Rating	Slope	Yardage
Blue Tees	72	74.5	139	7005
White tees	72	72.5	134	6594
Yellow tees	72	69.6	127	6141
Red tees	72	71.6	129	5494

Representative visitor fees: Mon – Thurs £130, Fri – Sun £150

Host to the English Open as part of the European Tour on August 2021, the London Golf Club is well respected in the southeast for its excellent courses that are superbly maintained. The Jack Nicklaus design is open, with few trees, and spread across the top of the North Downs. The Heritage Course is only open to members and their guests. The top service levels in the clubhouse also create a great venue for any corporate event. <https://londongolf.co.uk/>



Lullingstone Park Golf Course

Summary: 27 holes

Location: Parkgate Road, Chelsfield, Kent BR6 7PX

The Castle Course	Par	Rating	Slope	Yardage
White	72	72.8	132	6733
Yellow	71	70.8	131	6327
Red	74	73.3	133	5711

The Valley course	Par	Rating	Slope	Yardage
Yellow	33	n/a	n/a	2381

Representative visitor fees: weekdays £23.50; weekends £31

Perched overlooking the Darent Valley in 500 acres of glorious countryside, this open course not only has a wonderful outlook, but in late June/July, when the lavender on the nearby farm is in full bloom, the flowers' rich perfume saturates the air. There are excellent holes, though in fairness there are some awkward sideways and sloping fairways which, in dry weather when the ground is parched, makes it difficult to hold the fairway even with a good tee shot. Overall, still a good outing. The sleeper here is the smaller 9-hole course which in some ways is the more interesting of the two. www.sencio.org.uk/lullingstone-park-golf-course/

Corinthian Sports Club

Summary: 9 holes (with dual tees to play 18)

Location: Valley Road, Fawkham, Longfield DA3 3LY

	Par	Rating	Slope	Yardage
White tee	36 (72)	72	130	6507
Yellow tee	36 (72)	71.2	128	6343
Red tee	36 (72)	72.7	129	5524

Representative visitor fees: £20 weekdays (£15 for 9 holes), £25 weekends (£18 for 9 holes)

This is an unusual golfing venue, more of a local football club (Isthmian League Division 1 South East) and sports venue, yet with a very decent 9-hole course that can be played as 18. Relaxed and pleasant, with a clubhouse and party options. www.corinthiansportsclub.co.uk

Pedham Place Golf Centre

Summary: 7 holes

Location: London Road, Swanley, Kent BR8 8PP

	Par	Rating	Slope	Yardage
White	72	71.6	126	6457
Yellow	72	69.5	120	6047
Red	72	71.7	120	5468

In addition, there is a separate Par 3 9-hole course.

Representative visitor fees: weekdays £29; weekends £38

This is an unusual course in two respects. It is an 'inland links course' with virtually no trees but far from the sea, and its landscape was artificially shaped to the design of the course rather than the course being designed to fit an existing landscape. The latter is due to the site having received huge quantities of fill from underground excavations in London, with the delightful result of a manmade landscape perfectly suited to be a golf course. It is set high on the chalk downland with views extending to the London Docklands. It is a thoroughly entertaining round of golf. The clubhouse is available for hire. <https://www.ppgc.co.uk/>

Westerham Golf Club

Summary: 18 holes

Location: Valence Park, Brasted Road, Westerham Kent TN16 1QN

	Par	Rating	Slope	Yardage
White	72	72	131	6835
Yellow	72	70.3	126	6575
Red	72	72.1	127	5803

Representative visitor fees: Mon-Thurs: £60; Fri-Sun £70

This course was carved from the clearings of the wooded hillsides of the North Downs caused by the 1987 Hurricane, which has resulted in some characterful and challenging holes. Now a part of the Altonwood group the club has links to three other courses in the region. The clubhouse is modern with a traditional feel and a dramatic setting overlooking the 9th and 18th greens. Above the norm with good, solid golf. <https://westerhamgc.co.uk/>

Redlibbets Golf and Country Club

Summary: 18 holes

Location: Manor Lane, Ash, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 7HT

	Par	Rating	Slope	Yardage
Black tees	72	71.2	122	6572
White tees	72	69.9	118	6194
Gold tees	72			5580
Red tees	72	72.2	121	5716

Representative visitor fees: weekdays £35, weekends £50

Popular locally, the course is named after the ancient woodland landscape, so expect a few trees. It also is high on the Downs with a dramatic, hilly landscape that defines the character of some of the holes. Tees tend to be set on their own platform well above the fairways, giving cause for pause in club selection. The rolling landscape provides pleasing views. Stylish clubhouse with lots of events. <https://www.redlibbets.co.uk/>



The Wildernesse Club

Summary: 18 holes

Location: Park Lane, Seal, Sevenoaks TN15 0JE

	Par	Rating	Slope	Yardage
White	72	73.4	146	6504
Yellow	72	71.4	142	6141
Red	73	75.1	143	5759

Representative visitor fees: Thursdays only £125

Wildernesse remains a members' club, opened in 1890 as part of the private estate of Wildernesse House which was its original clubhouse. The course has had several holes moved and redesigned over the decades, including by James Braid. The clubhouse dates from the 1950s. This true parkland course has recently been a pre-qualifier for the Open. It is nestled within its landscape rather than being imposed upon it, but with few views due to the forest in which it sits. There are some tight drives and quick, sloping greens.

<https://www.wildernesse.co.uk/>



Enjoy your golf: the game in which you yell 'Fore!', shoot six and write down five.

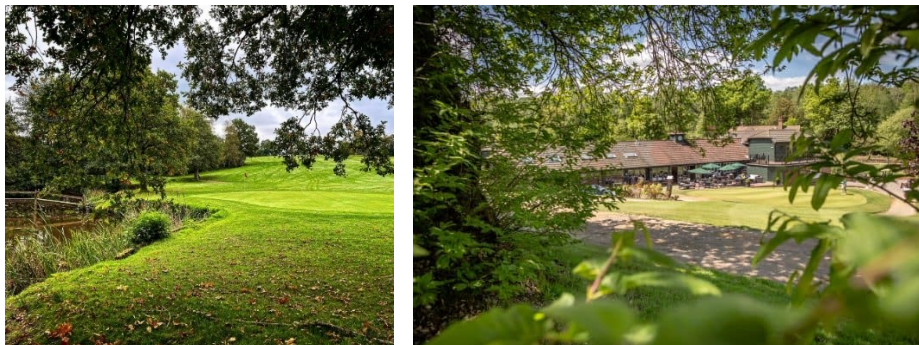
Other golf clubs in the area include:

Sweetwoods Park Golf Club

Summary: 18 holes

Location: Colestock Road, Cowden, Edenbridge TN8 7JN

Sweetwoods is on the southernmost border of the district. Its Par 72, 18 Hole Parkland Course is set in the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty on the borders of Kent and Sussex and offers an outstanding golf experience. The course manager and his team keep the Championship course in top condition from season to season. There is an interactive guide on their website to help you understand the course - challenge yourself with Hole 14 with its stroke index of 1. The clubhouse and grounds have recently benefitted from a £2m investment and offers great facilities together with a restaurant, pro shop and an academy. <https://www.sweetwoodspark.com/>



Villa Golf

Summary: 9 holes

Location: Blackham, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN3 9UN

Villa Golf is a family-run, 9 hole pay and play course, set in a tranquil valley in the charming, picturesque, village of Blackham. Originally designed in 1990, the course has matured to become a genuine test of skill for both experienced and novice golfers, with a natural valley

setting and several water hazards. There are 2540 yards for 9 holes off the yellow tee, 5013 yards for 18 holes off the yellow tee, 66 yellow tee par for 18 holes. There's plenty of kit - and buggies - to hire, while the venue itself (with marquee) can be hired for events and has a decking area with panoramic views of beautiful Kentish countryside. Membership is available but not required to play. 9 holes £15; 18 holes £16 (£17 and £22 at weekends), with reduced junior, senior and student fees). <https://www.villagolfcourse.co.uk/>