

I write this now, because I know, if I delay, I'll forget. Have just spent 4 days at Ashfield Hse. Joe was away at his father's birthday in Malta, so we hardly saw him. But just speaking to him on the phone was enough to make this a place I felt welcome to.

It only got better when we arrived. We were soon settled in. The place embraces you like a friendly hug. You hear laughter tinkling from the kitchen (presumably at my expense!). Nothing is ever a problem; there is an obliging 'can do' attitude from all the staff.

It is quite a risk to offer only 1 main course (each of course!), but the innovation and excellence of cooking meant there was nothing to fault and everything to praise and savour. I found myself gushing with praise after each course every day. No doubt if you are reading this, you are there enjoying the same delights - lucky you.

Finally, a particular mention for Elizabeth, who runs the place with precise efficiency, combined seamlessly with vast generosity of self, spirit and food (no, not the alcoholic spirit - although....)

Thank you all for making this a special holiday.

John Mills.