



## Hertford East to Broxbourne

Embark on a voyage of Real Ale discovery  
on the historic New River Line



greateranglia





Welcome to a voyage of Real Ale discovery on the historic New River Line which has served its community for over 180 years.

The New River Line, once known as the Hertford East Branch Line, is made up of five stations, the Line itself runs in and out of London, Liverpool Street. Journey time between each station ranges from 3 to 5 minutes, with London to Hertford taking just 49 minutes.

Your Rail Ale Trail features pubs that are an easy walk from each station. A couple of pubs are a little further but are well worth the extra steps and have been recognised as worthy additions by CAMRA.



If you are a fan of real ale or simply wish to explore the area and be confident of some great stopping places, then this specially designed trail is definitely for you. An excellent choice of well-served cask ales will be available at every stop.



For those who want to explore the entire route on foot, the River Lee Towpath and The New River Path run alongside The New River Line so there are plenty of opportunities to add a walk in-between stations.

The New River Path provides an interesting route alongside the engineering marvel that is the New River, the name is a slight misnomer as it is neither New nor a River. This artificial waterway was opened in 1613 to supply London with fresh drinking water as it still does to this day. This path is not suitable for buggies, cycles or wheelchairs.

A worthwhile walk along the New River Path is between St Margarets and Ware Station as you will come upon George IV in Great Amwell, slightly uphill from the remarkable Amwell Pool created by Robert Mylne, the chief engineer of The New River Company to celebrate Sir Hugh Myddleton the creator of The New River.

The River Lea Towpath is well surfaced, so is ideal for walks at any time of the year and is suitable for those on wheels. You will be rewarded with beautiful views along the way. Each town and village along the line has its own interesting array of attractions such as historical buildings, independent shops and nature reserves so there's plenty to see and do between pub visits.



To check on pub opening times and when food is available please go to the CAMRA website.

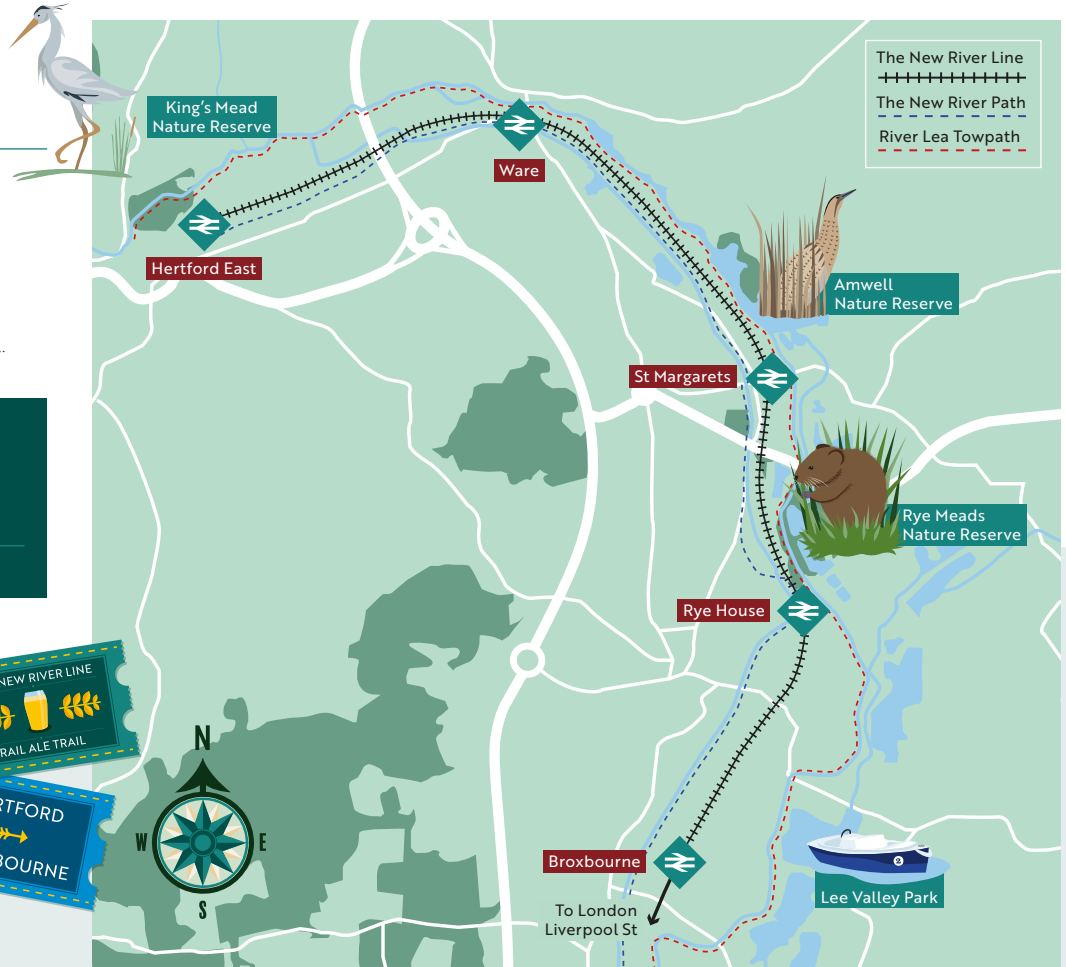
➡ [www.whatpub.com](http://www.whatpub.com)

# TICKET INFORMATION

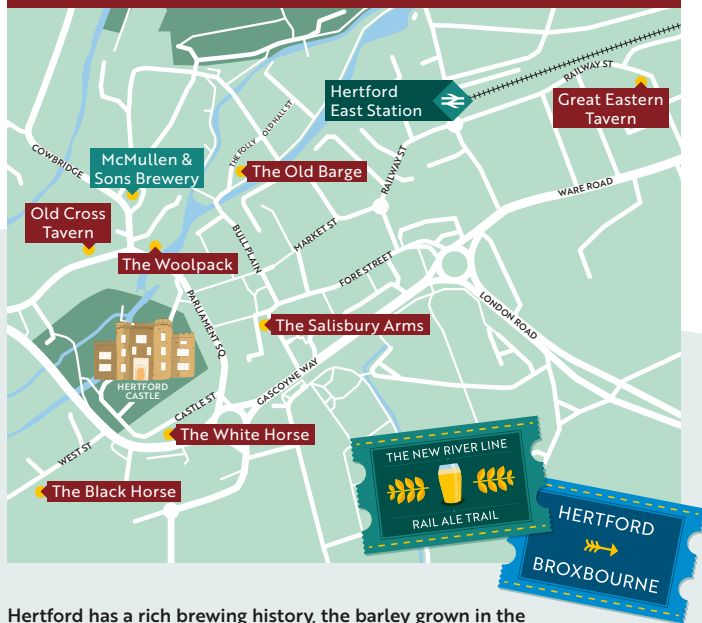
A valid ticket is required for your journey on The New River Train Line. This can be purchased in advance or you can 'tap in and out' with an Oyster Card or contactless payment methods. A return ticket will allow you to disembark the train and re-join as long as you continue in the same direction of travel.

For more information, including timetables, service disruptions, planned engineering works and group discounts please visit the Greater Anglia website before setting off on your Rail Ale Trail.

➡ [www.greateranglia.co.uk/tickets-fares](http://www.greateranglia.co.uk/tickets-fares)



# HERTFORD EAST



Hertford has a rich brewing history, the barley grown in the surrounding fields was a Maltsters favourite. The other natural advantage was the River Lea. It flowed straight from the centre of the town, ran in to the Thames and directly into the heart of London, as it continues to today. Here the great brewing names such as Whitbread and Trumans built riverside warehouses to accept the continuous barges of malt.



## THE OLD BARGE

- ▶ 8 Minutes Walk
- ▶ 2 The Folly,  
SG14 1QD



A Free House pleasantly situated by the River Lea with plenty of outside seating. Locally sourced food is served daily. There are regular quiz nights and annual events such as the Easter Monday duck race and the mini music festival in May. There are two changing cask ales and the regular Marston's 61 Deep.

## NEARLY 200 YEARS OF BREWING HERITAGE

McMullen's have been brewing in Hertford since 1827 and own around 70 pubs in Hertfordshire. Their famous AK Original Mild has a pedigree dating back to the 1830's. Look out for the regular seasonal handpumped cask beers sometimes sold under the company's Rivertown brand. The former McMullen classic Victorian tower brewery sits opposite the current brewery site in Hartham Lane. Their cask and bottled beers can be purchased online from their website or from the on-site shop (weekdays 10am-3pm).

▶▶▶ [www.mcmullens.co.uk](http://www.mcmullens.co.uk)



## GREAT EASTERN TAVERN

- ▶ 4 Minutes Walk
- ▶ 29 Railway Place, SG13 7BS

Built as a hotel in 1843 by the Eastern Counties Railway it served Hertford Station in its original location, until the construction of the replacement Hertford East station in the 1880's. The Tavern was purchased by McMullen in 1903 and refurbished in the 1940s. This two-bar popular local maintains a traditional feel with many interesting rail themed artifacts. McMullen AK Original plus two from the McMullen range available.

## THE WOOLPACK

- ▶ 8 Minutes Walk
- ▶ Millbridge, SG14 1PZ

McMullen's 'Brewery Tap' is riverside, with terraced seating, at the head of the River Lea Navigation. Brewery artefacts adorn the the walls. Outbuildings contain games rooms for pool, darts and crazy golf. The menu specialises in a variety of burgers and pizzas. Cask beers available are McMullen AK Original, Country Best Bitter, IPA and a seasonal ale.



## THE SALISBURY ARMS

- ▶ 7 Minutes Walk
- ▶ Fore Street, SG14 1BZ

Historic hotel with a pedigree traceable to 1431. Refurbished in 2022, there is a large restaurant, sizable bar, an atmospheric snug room and an attractive courtyard to the rear. Open for breakfasts from 8am. There is a seasonal British menu with a modern take. Two McMullen cask ales available.

## OLD CROSS TAVERN

- ▶ 10 Minutes Walk
- ▶ St. Andrew Street, SG14 1JA

Superb town centre Free House offering a friendly welcome. Up to six real ales, including a dark beer, come from brewers large and small and there is a fine choice of Belgian bottle-conditioned beers. No TV or music here, just good old-fashioned conversation. Home-made pork pies and scotch eggs are usually available.



## THE WHITE HORSE

- ▶ 10 Minutes Walk
- ▶ 33 Castle Street, SG14 1HH

A charming timber-framed 16th Century cottage building with two downstairs bars and rooms upstairs, where bar billiards and darts can be found or where vinyl records can be played. There are benches back and front, the latter looking onto the Castle and Moat Garden. Fuller's London Pride, ESB, Dark Star Hophead and occasional guest ales are available.



## THE BLACK HORSE

- ▶ 13 Minutes Walk
- ▶ 29-31 West Street, SG13 8EZ

Established in 1817, The Black Horse is a traditional Free House with a welcoming interior and large well-kept garden, home to an impressive wood-fired pizza oven. Unusually, since the 1970's it has had an RFU affiliated rugby team and is home to many local community groups. Food is locally sourced and there is a full menu of traditional meals served lunchtimes and evenings. There are six ever-changing real ales available.

## WARE



In the 18th Century Ware was the leading malting town in Britain. Many of the buildings used in the industry remain in the town today, providing a striking reminder of its malting history. Situated on the River Lea, Ware became a significant crossing point for stagecoaches travelling between London and Cambridge. The High Street today is marked with many former Coaching Inns and interesting cobbled pathways leading down to the river. Another attractive feature of the town is the run of riverside gazebos built in the 18th Century. You will not see as many together elsewhere in the country.

### THE SPREAD EAGLE

- ▶ 2 Minutes Walk
- 📍 37 Amwell End,  
SG12 9HP

An old-fashioned, small and friendly local's pub close to the town centre. The closest pub to the station is opposite an entrance to the New River Path which takes you into the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust nature reserve. McMullen's AK Original Mild available.



### WATERSIDE INN

- ▶ 4 Minutes Walk
- 📍 Bridgefoot,  
SG12 9DW

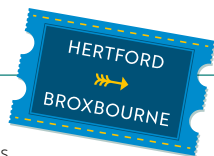
A large popular pub that serves traditional pub style food all day. A picturesque setting, with a sun trap patio that also has enclosed cabin style seating for cooler days, runs alongside the River Lea and its passing narrowboats. Eight cask ales, sometimes including one from a Herts brewer, available.



### THE BREWERY TAP

- ▶ 9 Minutes Walk
- 📍 83 High Street,  
SG13 9AD

Originally a coaching inn, The Brewery Tap pub has stood in the middle of the High Street since the 15th century. Now it is a warm and friendly, busy town centre pub, with attractive courtyard seating. Inside, find the penny wall and wallpaper map depicting the local area. St Austell Tribute, Oakham Citra, Greene King Abbot & Timothy Taylor Landlord, and one guest ale available. Additionally, in a nod to their brewing history, they have their very own house beer 'Warehouse Ale'.



### THE OLD BULLS HEAD

- ▶ 12 Minutes Walk
- 📍 26 Baldock Street,  
SG12 9DZ

This attractive timbered 17th Century building marks the west of the town centre. Look out for the parliamentary clock, inglenook fireplace and list of former Ware pubs. There is a large garden and patio area. Theakston Best and Old Peculier available.



### THE CROOKED BILLET

- ▶ 20 Minutes Walk
- 📍 140 Musley Hill,  
SG12 7NL

Worth the extra steps, (downhill on the way back!) this a friendly and cosy gem of a traditional community pub with two bars. Outside there are tables to the front and rear. CAMRA's South Hertfordshire Pub of the Year Silver winner in 2023. Three to four guest ales available, often with a dark beer at weekends.



#### EXPLORE THE NEW RIVER PATH

### THE GEORGE IV

- ▶ 31 Minutes Walk  
from Ware Station
- ▶ 23 Minutes Walk  
from St Margarets  
Station
- 📍 Cauterley Lane,  
Great Amwell,  
SG12 9SW

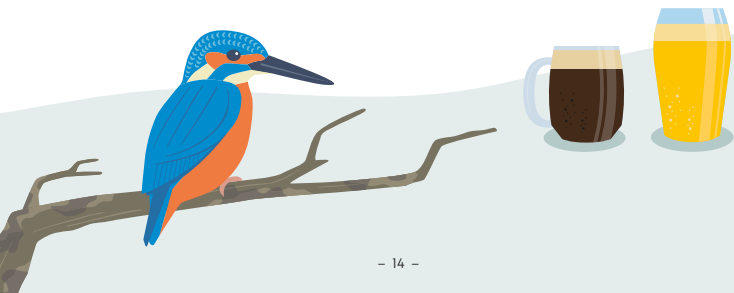
Nestled between Ware and St Margarets Stations, a vibrant food-led and comfortable village pub located uphill from the picturesque New River Path. Two seating areas, one opposite a beautiful ancient church. One changing cask beer available, sometimes from a Hertfordshire brewer.



## ST. MARGARETS



St Margarets station serves the village of Stanstead Abbots which is home to Roasted Malt Specialists, French and Jupps, maltsters since the late 1600's. The Jupp family are still involved in the company today. In the 1800's they supplied malt to Samuel Whitbread and Benjamin Truman. From 1864 onwards sites in Stanstead Abbots were bought up and the whole enterprise moved there from the London area in 1896.



### JOLLY FISHERMAN

- ▶ 2 Minutes Walk
- ▶ 8 Station Road, SG12 8DH

### THE OAK

- ▶ 4 Minutes Walk
- ▶ 36 High Street, SG12 8AG

### THE RED LION

- ▶ 7 Minutes Walk
- ▶ 1 High Street, SG12 8AA

A large family orientated pub situated next to the River Lea, where there is plenty of seating to enjoy the scenery and watch the passing boats. Thursday is quiz night where a spare seat is hard to come by. Traditional pub meals are served all day. McMullen AK Original Mild, Country Best Bitter, IPA plus a Mac's seasonal brew available.



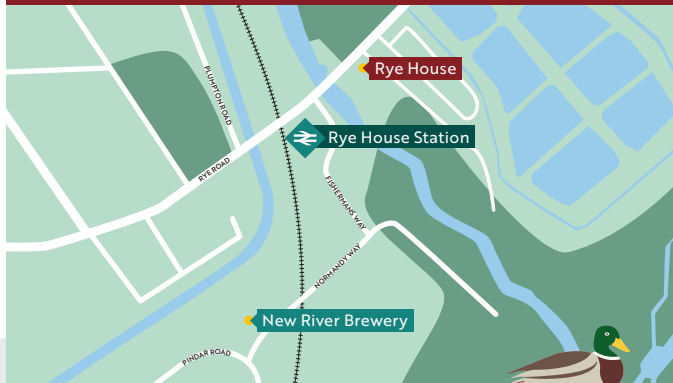
A busy and lively community local in the heart of the village. Many live music offerings throughout the year. Fuller's London Pride and ESB plus a Fuller's guest ale available.



A characterful 15th Century pub where the modern meets the old. Traditional style drinking area plus adjoining upscale restaurant. Regular live music and themed nights put on throughout the year. Large seating area outside with an attractive sheltered patio. One changing cask beer available.



## RYE HOUSE



'Rye House' the name of the station, the pub, and the site of the infamous plot of 1683 to assassinate King Charles II and his brother on their way back from the Newmarket races. The Rye House plot failed when the King returned home early. The impressive Gatehouse opposite the pub is all that remains of the original Rye House, which in its heyday, was a popular tourist spot for Londoners. In 1870, the owner, William Henry Teale, opened a pleasure garden, displaying the Great Bed of Ware, which he'd recently acquired. It was such a popular destination for excursions from London that an extra station was built on the Liverpool Street to Hertford East line to serve it.



### RYE HOUSE

- ▶ 2 Minutes Walk
- 📍 Rye Road, Hoddesdon, EN11 0EH

The Rye House pub dates from 1756 when it was named The King's Arms. The pub was modernised in the 21st Century though the impressive large cast iron windows remain as an iconic feature of the building. A large, family friendly pub there is a well-appointed beer garden to enjoy the views of the River Lea. Traditional pub food is served daily. Greene King IPA and two changing beers are available.



### MORE BEER TO ENJOY AT HOME!



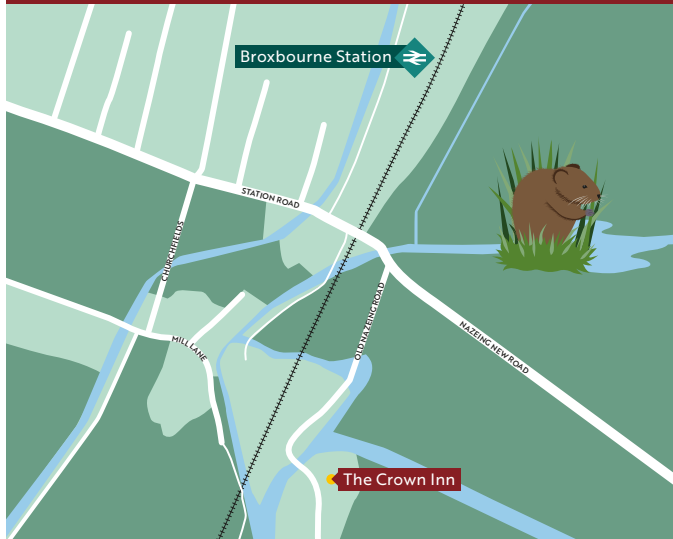
Award winning New River Brewery are based close to Rye House Station. Established in 2015 on the banks of the New River, which provides the inspiration behind all their beer names. The brewery supplies many local pubs and restaurants.

All their beers can be purchased online from their website.

➔ [www.newriverbrewery.co.uk](http://www.newriverbrewery.co.uk)



# BROXBOURNE



A gateway to the wonderful Lee Valley Park where there are 10,000 acres and 26 miles of waterways to explore. With award winning green spaces, boat and cycle hire, the Olympic White Water Centre and ecologically vital wildlife havens, there are plenty plenty of attractions for visitors to enjoy.

## THE CROWN INN

▶ 6 Minutes Walk

📍 Old Nazeing Road,  
Broxbourne,  
EN10 6QT

The Crown Inn has served Broxbourne for several hundred years, dating back to the 1700's. It was popular with Victorian day-trippers.

The current building was constructed in the 1930s. This large pub is sited on a bend of the river with a pleasant garden. To the right of the entrance is the public saloon style bar, to the left are the extensive restaurant rooms which lead onto the garden area overlooking the boat hire centre. Adnams Ghost Ship, Sharp's Doom Bar, Timothy Taylor Landlord available.



## WHAT IS REAL ALE?

The Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) defines real ale, also known as cask ale, as a living product, containing brewers' yeast, that continues to ferment (or condition) in its cask as it lies in the pub cellar. Generally, standard ingredients are malted barley, hops, water and brewers' yeast.

## WHAT IS CAMRA?

CAMRA is a successful and independent voluntary organisation campaigning for real ale, community pubs and consumer rights. Since its formation in 1971 CAMRA has helped prepare the ground for the rich array of brewers and beers that now abound, lifting Britain's important brewing heritage into the national conscience. To find out more:

»»» [www.camra.org.uk](http://www.camra.org.uk)

The route of the New River Line is covered by two Branches of CAMRA.

The towns of Hertford and Ware are overseen by the South Hertfordshire Branch, CAMRA's oldest Branch, which celebrated 50 years of local campaigning in 2022:

»»» [www.southherts.camra.org.uk](http://www.southherts.camra.org.uk)

»»» [www.facebook.com/camrasouthherts](https://www.facebook.com/camrasouthherts)

Herts and Essex Borders Branch was formed in 1976 and covers the towns and villages on the New River Line from St.Margarets through to Cheshunt:

»»» [www.heb-camra.org.uk](http://www.heb-camra.org.uk)

Both Branches support local breweries and pubs and are contributors to the quarterly magazine Hertfordshire Pints of View which can be found on-line:

»»» [www.pintsofview.camra.org.uk](http://www.pintsofview.camra.org.uk)



## MORE PUBS ALONG THE NEW RIVER LINE

Our Real Ale Trail has been designed as a starting point for you to explore the pubs along The New River Line. There are many more for you to enjoy which we have listed here by distance from their nearest station. Enjoy responsibly!



### HERTFORD EAST STATION

#### THE LORD HAIG

- ▶ 4 Minutes Walk
- 📍 South Street, SG14 1AZ
- 🍷 McMullen AK Original plus a McMullen seasonal guest.

#### THE WHITE HART

- ▶ 7 Minutes Walk
- 📍 Salisbury Square, SG14 1BW
- 🍷 Occasional McMullen seasonal real ales are available.

#### THE SIX TEMPLARS

- ▶ 8 Minutes Walk
- 📍 1 The Wash, SG14 1PS
- 🍷 Green King IPA, Abbot Ale, Sharp's Doom Bar plus four changing real ales.

#### THE HERTFORD BELL

- ▶ 5 Minutes Walk
- 📍 24 Railway Street, SG14 1BA
- 🍷 Greene King IPA and Abbot.

#### THE QUIET MAN

- ▶ 8 Minutes Walk
- 📍 2-4 Parliament Square, SG14 1DA
- 🍷 Dark Star Hophead, St Austell Tribute and Fuller's London Pride.

#### THE BLACKBIRDS

- ▶ 9 Minutes Walk
- 📍 15-17 Parliament Square, SG14 1EX
- 🍷 Sharp's Doom Bar plus three changing cask ales.

More pubs in Hertford and Ware on the next pages.

## HERTFORD EAST STATION

### THE MILLSTREAM

- ▶ 18 Minutes Walk
- 📍 88 Port Vale, SG14 3AF
- 🍷 McMullen AK Original, County Best Bitter plus a McMullen's seasonal guest ale.

### THE GREYHOUND

- ▶ 26 Minutes Walk
- 📍 146 Bengeo Street, SG14 3EY
- 🍷 McMullen Country Best Bitter and AK Original.

### THE WHITE LION

- ▶ 24 Minutes Walk
- 📍 59 Bengeo Street, SG14 3ET
- 🍷 Timothy Taylor Landlord and Sharps Doom Bar.

### THE GOLDEN GRIFFIN

- ▶ 34 Minutes Walk
- 📍 Windsor Drive, SG14 2DQ
- 🍷 McMullen AK Original.



## WARE STATION

### THE HOP BOX

- ▶ 2 Minutes Walk
- 📍 14 Amwell End, SG12 9HW
- 🍷 An independent taproom supporting local breweries. Craft beer bar and bottle shop.

### THE HIGH OAK

- ▶ 4 Minutes Walk
- 📍 26 High Oak Road, SG12 7PD
- 🍷 Sharp's Doom Bar plus a further rotating cask ale.



## WARE STATION

### THE ROYAL OAK

- ▶ 5 Minutes Walk
- 📍 20 London Road, SG12 9LP
- 🍷 One guest ale usually from Sharp's Doom Bar, Timothy Taylor Landlord or Fuller's London Pride.

### THE QUIET MAN

- ▶ 7 Minutes Walk
- 📍 23 High Street, SG12 9BP
- 🍷 Dark Star Hophead, St Austell Tribute, Sharp's Doom Bar.

### THE ANGEL

- ▶ 11 Minutes Walk
- 📍 54 Star Street, SG12 7AQ
- 🍷 Black Sheep Bitter, Adnams Ghost Ship or Timothy Taylor Landlord served in rotation.

### THE KINGS MEADS

- ▶ 18 Minutes Walk
- 📍 Hertford Road, SG12 9LE
- 🍷 Three alternating beers form the McMullen range.

### THE BEEFEATER

- ▶ 7 Minutes Walk
- 📍 Marsh Lane, SG12 9QB
- 🍷 Greene King IPA and Sharp's Doom Bar.

### THE PUNCH HOUSE

- ▶ 9 Minutes Walk
- 📍 7 West Street, SG12 9EE
- 🍷 A range of Greene King beers plus guests.

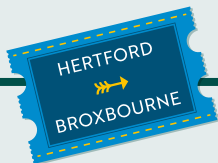
### THE MALTINGS

- ▶ 16 Minutes Walk
- 📍 35 Watton Road, SG12 0AD
- 🍷 Greene King IPA, Abbot, Adnams Ghost Ship.





### THE ROSE AND CROWN

- ▶ 19 Minutes Walk
- 📍 65 Watton Road, SG12 0AD
- 🍷 McMullen AK Original.





## Discover more about The New River Line Community Rail Partnership.

-  [www.newriverline.org](http://www.newriverline.org)
-  New River Line Community Rail Partnership
-  @CrpNew
-  crpnew



For more copies please contact  
[katie.goldthorpe@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:katie.goldthorpe@hertfordshire.gov.uk)



[www.greateranglia.co.uk/new-river-line](http://www.greateranglia.co.uk/new-river-line)

**greateranglia**

