

# THE BEAR'S PAW

*Located in the heart of Cheshire, in the picturesque village of Warmingham, The Bear's Paw is a delightful 19th Century character inn. This charming, yet stylish gastro inn is strategically placed between the major market towns of Sandbach, Middlewich and Crewe making The Bear's Paw the ideal base from which to explore the many delights which Cheshire has to offer.*

Upon our arrival at The Bears Paw we were greeted by two extremely pleasant members of staff who were keen to take our names and the nature of our visit to the establishment that evening. After checking our reservation they proceeded to show us around both the restaurant and bar area, making us aware of where we would be dining both that evening and the next morning for breakfast. With great attention to detail the fire regulations and information of how to access parts of the inn were explained thoroughly, and we were straight away made to feel welcome and at ease in their company.

We made our way to our room and were pleasantly surprised by the well decorated walkways with paintings and photography adorning the walls, low hung wooden beams which helped the inn keep its traditional character along with the modern and contemporary purple and green decor of our room. It was both large and spacious and immaculately kept with a sparkling en-suite. Not only was there a particularly large double bed, there was also a separate seating area to relax, we were sure that we were going to have a peaceful and comfortable nights sleep. After dressing for the evening meal we made our way down to the restaurant.

A real wood burning fire blazed in the centre of the room below a grand mantelpiece. Guests were relaxing in cow skin armchairs whilst enjoying an early evening drink and chatter. We were greeted by the same two waitresses as before with large smiles and a polite attitude. When asked whether we would like to be shown to our table or relax in the bar area first we chose to order a quick drink at the bar which was well stocked with different spirits, liquors and traditional locally brewed ales. The black boards were chalked with detailed descriptions of the wines and ales available giving us optimum choice. Once we had finished we were shown to our table, we were placed in the heart of the restaurant so we could enjoy the surrounding atmosphere. The bubbly laughter and clinking of glasses provided a charming and warming atmosphere.

As we sunk ourselves into the great armchairs with the added comfort of large soft cushions, the waitress kindly showed us the menu and took our wine order. Although difficult to choose due to the extensive wine options from all areas of the globe we chose a classic Nuevo Extremo Merlot, which tasted just as it should full bodied and certainly a 'simple stunner'.

We glanced over the menu and were pleasantly overwhelmed by the choice of food, from the options of nibbles, starters and deli boards it was clear they had taken into consideration a variety of appetites. For the main course there were selections of fish dishes such as Sea Bream and Fresh North Sea Haddock, Steaks, Pies, chicken and of course vegetarian options! Overall a pleasing menu which tempted every taste bud. All main meals were accompanied by locally grown vegetables and salad with the options of added extra's.

I would certainly recommend the Vanilla Crème Brulee for desert which arrived glazed and with a shortbread biscuit on the side. As I cracked the top layer the vanilla centre was light and creamy and just melted in my mouth.

After our plates were cleared we made our way to the bar area and sat amongst both locals to the Inn and new guests. We were served promptly and politely by the bar staff, overall very looked after and made to feel like friends of the establishment.

Our night's sleep was comfortable and quiet with us being able to take advantage of the flat screen HD TV. We had the added view over green fields as we opened the curtains early morning and leisurely walked down to breakfast, a service which is available to everyone after an overnight stay. The service that morning was just as attentive and pleasant as the evening before, so we left with a well and truly satisfied appetite and a memory of a charismatic and pleasurable evening break.

- Standard Prices: Rates start at £49.50 per person, including bed and breakfast

*By Jade Griffin (Features Writer)*



## EXCLUSIVE OFFER FOR STAFFORDSHIRE LIVING READERS!

The Bear's Paw is offering our readers an exclusive offer to experience an evening at the Bear's Paw at a discounted rate!

**Offer includes:** Overnight accommodation in an Executive bedroom with bottle of wine and local handmade chocolates, evening meal, and full English breakfast. Just £75 per person (normally £95 per person – saving of £40 per room).

**Call now on 01270 526317 to book your room and quote STAFFS LIVING.**

*Available on Fridays and Sundays only, rate is based on two people sharing a double/twin bedroom and includes a £25 per person food allowance.*

*Expiry Date: 31st August 2011, excluding Bank Holidays. Subject to Availability.*



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