

# Maiden, *bowled over!*

It's not often a public house ticks all the boxes in the list of requirements for the perfect pub. The Cricketers certainly fulfilled all the necessary criteria for this (okay, not quite a maiden!) reviewer.



The attractive old red brick pub sits on a pretty country lane in Mill Green, not far from Ingatestone. There is a fenced-in pub garden at the front of the building, ideal for dog-owners, and a huge garden at the rear – plus a pretty courtyard nestling in a paved area behind the pub.

The Cricketers has been extensively refurbished in recent years and the interior is very stylishly designed, whilst still retaining that cosy country pub atmosphere. There is a bar, a pub dining section and a larger restaurant area. There is ample room for customers to just call in for a drink, have a light lunch or enjoy a full meal from the à la carte menu. The cricketing theme is cleverly used in the décor throughout the pub.

The Cricketers' bar and waiting

staff are very attentive and welcoming, whilst giving us ample time to choose from the extensive menus and daily specials blackboard. My fellow lunchers had, respectively, duck breast with mange tout, rosti potato and beetroot salsa (£15.95), homemade burgers with chips, all the trimmings and sweet chilli jam (£10.95), whilst I had a substantial crayfish and prawn 'pan bagnat' roll with salad and coleslaw (£7). We simply couldn't fault any of the main courses, and only one of our party had room for a dessert – a superb raspberry Bakewell tart (£5.95).

Other sandwiches include sweet chilli beef with mozzarella, or chicken, Brie and spinach. A good range of jacket potatoes is also available – the ideal lunch to have before embarking on a

pretty country walk, starting from Mill Green Common, just across the road.

Another tick is the excellent choice of wines by the glass, and, of course, a great wine list. The bar is well stocked with draught ales and ciders and has a mind-boggling gin list.

If our reviews gave scores out of one hundred, The Cricketers would make a century!

The Cricketers, Mill Green, Mill Green Road, Ingatestone, Essex, CM4 0RH. Tel: 01277 352 400  
[info@thecricketersmillgreen.co.uk](mailto:info@thecricketersmillgreen.co.uk) Mon–Thurs 11am–11.30pm, Fri – Sat 11am – 12 midnight, Sun 11am–10.30pm  
[www.thecricketersmillgreen.com](http://www.thecricketersmillgreen.com)  
 Ample parking – disabled access is possible.