

# sierra

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AS/400, iSeries, i5, System i Technical Training

**Northampton Information Guide**

[www.sierra.co.uk](http://www.sierra.co.uk)





In February 2017 we moved address just around the corner from our previous location.

Our new address is:

Sierra Training  
Moulton Park Business Centre  
Redhouse Road  
Moulton Park Industrial Estate  
Northampton  
NN3 6AQ

In this guide you will find a map and directions which detail our new location.

**Sat Nav users: If your Sat Nav tells you to turn down Deer Park Road it is wrong so please ignore it as the premises are on the corner of Redhouse Road and Deer Park Road but the entrance is via Redhouse Road (see the map on page 4).**

# Welcome to Northampton

We want your stay in Northampton to be a rewarding and enjoyable one. This guide provides all the details you need regarding getting to the course location, choosing where to stay, where to eat etc. The places we recommend stem from local knowledge of the area as most of our instructors are native to the town.

If you have any questions or require any further information about anything in this guide then please send an email to: [training@sierra.co.uk](mailto:training@sierra.co.uk)



Moulton Park Business Centre – the course location

## Course Administration information

Course registration on day 1 of the course is 08:45 and the course starts at 09:00 each day. Each course ends around 16:00 to 16:30. We have a break mid morning and mid afternoon for refreshments and lunch is taken between 12:00 and 12:30 at traditional country pubs which are 5 minutes drive away in picturesque villages (lunch is provided as part of the course). We often finish slightly earlier on the final day of the course so that delegates who are travelling a distance have a reasonable return journey.

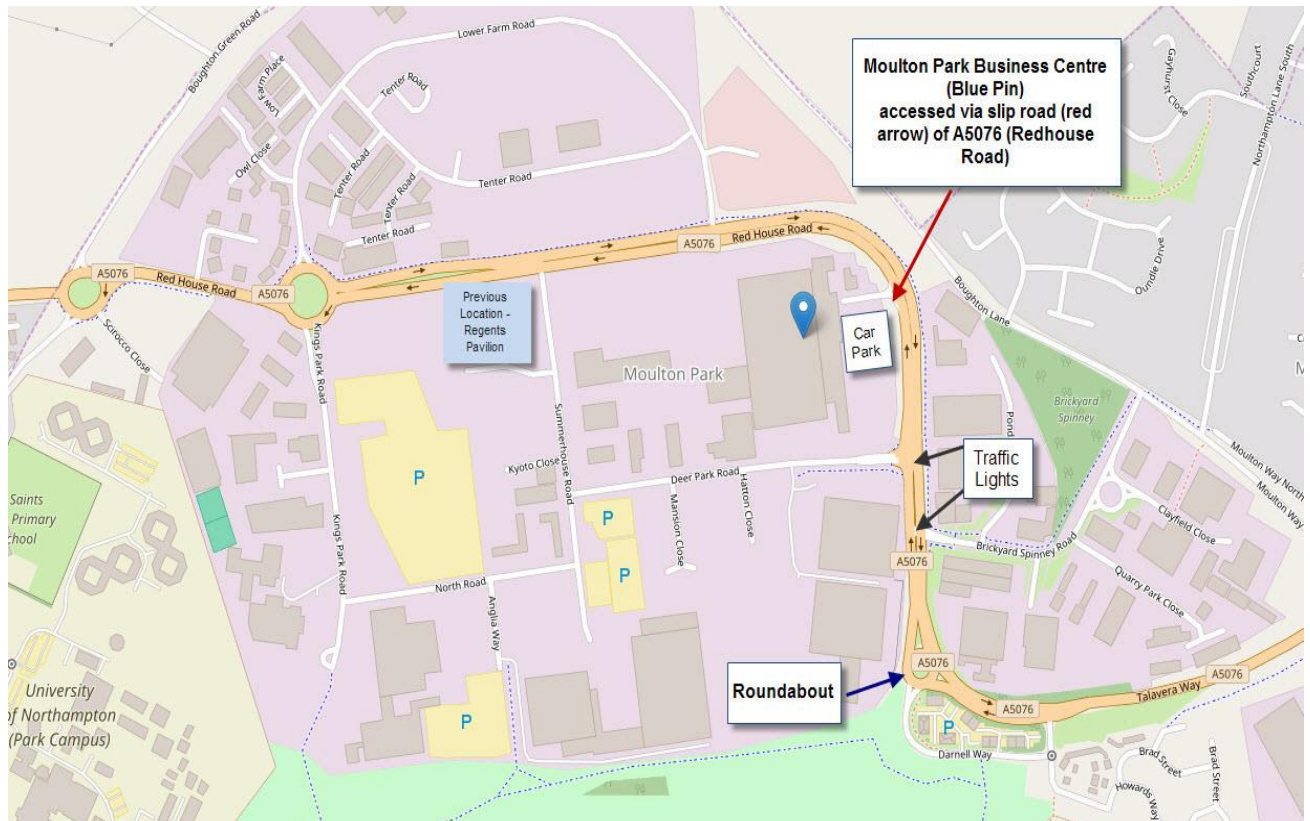
We do not have a dress code as we want delegates to feel comfortable and relaxed. We provide coffee, tea, squash, filtered water, biscuits and sweets in the training room. There is a café on the ground floor which serves breakfasts, snacks, lunches etc.

## Car Parking

The car park is at the front of the Moulton Park Business Centre building. You will need to display a car park permit on your car's dashboard, these are handed out by reception on arrival.

## Messages

If you need to contact a delegate on a training course, then phone the Business Centre reception on 01604 497500 and ask for Sierra Training in room F29.



**The address of the course location is as follows:**

Sierra Training  
Moulton Park Business Centre  
Redhouse Road  
Moulton Park Industrial Estate  
Northampton  
NN3 6AQ

If you are on Redhouse Road from Talavera Way the slip road into the Business Centre is on the 90 degree bend shown by the red arrow above. If you are on Redhouse Road from the opposite direction you can go past the business centre through 2 sets of traffic lights to the roundabout shown above, and then come back on yourself and go into the business centre via the slip road. You will enter a large car park in front of the Business Centre.

If you then park up and go to reception, they will issue you with a car park permit which must be displayed on your car's dashboard. Ask the receptionist for Sierra Training and we will come down to meet you.

**Sat Nav users: If your Sat Nav tells you to turn down Deer Park Road it is wrong so please ignore it as the premises are on the corner of Redhouse Road and Deer Park Road but the entrance is via Redhouse Road (see the map above).**

## Directions to course location

### From the North, South or West:

#### To access the course location from Junction 15 of the M1:

- Turn off of Junction 15 of the M1 and take the turning for the A45 towards the town centre and Wellingborough.
- After approx. 5 miles take the exit towards Lumbertubs Way Interchange.
- At Lumbertubs Way Interchange take the 1st exit onto the A43/Lumbertubs Way.
- Go over one roundabout, after approximately 2.3 miles you will arrive at a large roundabout – take the 2nd exit onto the A5076/Talavera Way. Continue on this road for approximately 1.4 miles. When the road bends 90 degrees take the slip road on this bend into Moulton Park Business Centre.
- Park up and go to reception at the front of the building and ask for Sierra Training.

#### To access the course location from Junction 16 of the M1:

- Turn off of Junction 16 and take the exit onto the A45 heading towards Northampton (go over one roundabout), after approximately 4 miles you will come across a large roundabout, take the first left onto Tollgate Way.
- Go over the first roundabout and through 2 sets of lights onto Bants Lane.
- At the top of Bants Lane you will come across another roundabout, go straight over (2nd exit) onto Mill Way. Follow Mill Way approximately 1.5 miles (straight over one roundabout) until you come to a T Junction and traffic lights with a park on the right and a large pub (The Cock Inn) on the left. Turn left at the lights onto the A508 Harborough Road.
- After two sets of traffic lights and a pedestrian crossing (shops on either side) turn right into Boughton Green Road. Follow the road up the hill across two mini roundabouts and down to the large roundabout at the bottom of the hill. Take the 3rd exit into Moulton Park (A5076 Redhouse Road). Go straight over the next roundabout and follow the road around a 90 degree bend and through 2 sets of traffic lights. At the next roundabout come back on yourself and back through the 2 sets of traffic lights and take the slip road on the 90 degree bend into Moulton Park Business Centre.
- Park up and go to reception at the front of the building and ask for Sierra Training.

## From the East

- Get off of the A14 at junction 8 and take the exit for the A43 Northampton.
- Follow the A43 for about 6.5 miles (over 2 roundabouts) until you reach a large roundabout in Northampton.
- Take the 5th exit onto the A5076/Talavera Way (Moulton Park) and follow the road over one roundabout. After about 1.4 miles the road bends 90 degrees to the left take the slip road on this bend into Moulton Park Business Centre.
- Park up and go to reception at the front of the building and ask for Sierra Training.

If you need a detailed map go to [www.streetmap.co.uk](http://www.streetmap.co.uk) or [maps.google.co.uk](http://maps.google.co.uk) and enter NN3 6AQ.

## By Train

Northampton train station is operated by London Midland. There are London Midland and Virgin trains from Euston station in London approximately every 30 minutes and the journey time is between 55 minutes to 1 hour and 10 minutes depending on which train you catch. The same operators run trains to Northampton from Birmingham New Street which take approximately 50 minutes. Northampton train station is roughly a £10 taxi ride to the course location.

## Taxi Phone Numbers

<b>Bounds</b>	01604 626262 and text a taxi 0777 626262
<b>Mayfair</b>	01604 631111
<b>Phoenix</b>	01604 318114

## Airports

Birmingham International airport offers a direct rail service to Northampton, with an hourly train service. Journey time is approximately 50 minutes. Luton airport, East Midlands airport are both 45 minutes from Northampton but have no direct train service. Gatwick has a rail service to Northampton via London, with train journey times over 2 hours.

## Where to stay

Below is a selection of hotel chains, budget hotels, local guest houses and bed and breakfasts.

### Hotel chains:

#### **Park Inn**

Silver Street, Northampton NN1 2TA.

Tel: 01604 739988

[www.northampton.parkinn.co.uk](http://www.northampton.parkinn.co.uk)

*Details* – Situated in the middle of the town centre with easy access to the shops, restaurants, bars and cinema in the town centre. The hotel has a restaurant and bar in addition it has a small swimming pool, gym, spa pool, sauna, steam room and solarium. Wi Fi access is available in all guest rooms and hotel areas. The hotel is a 15 minute drive from the course location. Recently refurbished

#### **Hilton Northampton**

100 Watering Lane, Collingtree, Northampton NN4 0XW

Tel: 01604 700666

[www.hilton.co.uk/northampton](http://www.hilton.co.uk/northampton)

*Details* – Just off of junction 15 of the M1 the hotel is a 10 minute drive from the town centre. The hotel has a restaurant, bar and café as well as a swimming pool, gym and solarium. High speed internet access is available. The hotel is a 15 to 20 minute drive from the course location.

#### **Northampton Marriott Hotel**

Eagle Drive, Northampton NN4 7HW

Tel: 01604 768700

[www.marriott.co.uk](http://www.marriott.co.uk)

*Details* – Just off of junction 15 of the M1 the hotel is a 10 minute drive from the town centre. The hotel has a restaurant and café/bar as well as a swimming pool, spa, steam room and sauna. The Delapre municipal golf course is 2 minutes away for golf enthusiasts. The hotel is a 15 to 20 minute drive from the course location.

#### **Holiday Inn Northampton**

Bedford Road, Northampton, NN4 7YF

Tel: 0870 4007214

[www.holidayinn.com](http://www.holidayinn.com)

*Details* – About 5 miles from junction 15 of the M1 and a 10 minute drive to the town centre. The hotel has a restaurant, bar and gym. Wi Fi access is available in public areas. The hotel is a 15 to 20 minute drive from the course location.

## **Budget chain hotels**

### **Premier Inn**

Swan Street, Northampton, Northamptonshire NN1 1FA

Tel: 0871 527 9590

[www.premierinn.com](http://www.premierinn.com)

*Details:* New hotel in the middle of the town centre proving popular with delegates. A 15 minute drive to the course location and town centre shops, bars, restaurants, theatre, park etc. are in easy walking distance.

### **Premier Inn**

Crow Lane, Great Billing, Northampton NN3 9DA

Tel: 0870 990 6510

[www.premierinn.com](http://www.premierinn.com)

*Details:* Situated 5 miles from Junction 15 of the M1 and a 10 minute drive from the course location and a 10 minute drive from the town centre. Restaurant and bar next door. Wi Fi is available.

### **Premier Inn**

The Lakes, Bedford Road, Northampton NN4 7YD

Tel: 08701 977 196

[www.premierinn.com](http://www.premierinn.com)

*Details:* Around 3 miles from Junction 15 of the M1 and a 10 to 15 minute drive from the course location and a 10 minute drive from the town centre. There are pubs and restaurants within walking distance. Wi Fi is available.

### **Premier Inn**

Newport Pagnell Road West , Wootton, Northampton NN4 7JJ

Tel: 0871 527 8826

[www.premierinn.com](http://www.premierinn.com)

*Details:* Around a mile from Junction 15 of M1 and 8 miles on the dual carriageway to the course location. Restaurant onsite and a 5 minute drive to the town centre. 15 minute drive from the course location.

### **Travelodge**

Talavera Way, Round Spinney, Northampton NN3 8RN

Tel: 0845 11 26 049

[www.innkeeperslodge.com](http://www.innkeeperslodge.com)

*Details* – Only a 2 minute drive from the course location. There is an adjacent Toby carvery restaurant and pub. Being refurbished soon.

### **Travelodge**

15 Gold St. Northampton NN1 1RA

Tel: 0871 984 6451

[www.travelodge.co.uk](http://www.travelodge.co.uk)

*Details:* Situated in the town centre with easy access to all town centre facilities – shops, bars, restaurants, cinema etc. Recently opened and a good budget option for those who wish to venture out in the evenings. 10 to 15 minute drive to course location.



## Alternative options

### **The Poplars hotel**

Cross Street, Moulton, Northampton NN3 7RZ

Tel: 01604 643983

[www.thepoplarshotel.com](http://www.thepoplarshotel.com)

*Details:* This is a small well priced 300 year old stone built hotel in the pretty, quiet village of Moulton which is 5 minutes drive from the course location and a 20 minute walk. The hotel offers excellent home cooked breakfasts and dinners and is our recommendation unless you want to be in the town centre. There are a couple of good pubs in the village.

### **The Roadhouse**

16 High St, Roade, Northampton NN7 2NW

Tel: 01604 863372

[www.roadehousehotel.co.uk](http://www.roadehousehotel.co.uk)

*Details:* situated 2 miles from junction 15 of the M1 in Roade village. It is a 15 minute drive to the town centre and a 15 to 20 minute drive from the course location. The restaurant has a very good reputation for quality food (listed in the good food guide for over 20 years). The village has decent local pubs. Wi Fi in each room.

### **The Aviator Hotel**

Sywell Aerodrome, Sywell, Northamptonshire NN6 0BN

Tel: 01604 642111

[www.aviatorhotel.co.uk](http://www.aviatorhotel.co.uk)

*Details:* Situated around 8 miles from junction 15 of the M1 and a 5 minute drive from the course location and a 15 minute drive from the town centre. This is located within an aerodrome which is used by local flying enthusiasts and has a museum on site. The hotel is a 1930's art deco building with décor to match. The hotel has a bar and restaurant (formerly an officers mess) and Wi Fi access is available.

### **Overstone Park Hotel**

Billing Lane, Northampton, NN6 0AS

Tel: 01604 647666

[www.overstonepark.com](http://www.overstonepark.com)

*Details:* Situated around 6 miles from junction 15 of the M1 and a 5 minute drive from the course location and a 15 minute drive into the town centre. This hotel is set within a tranquil 18 hole golf course. There is a restaurant and bar in the complex as well as a swimming pool, jacuzzi, sauna, fitness centre and tennis court.

### **Sedgebrook Hall Hotel**

Chapel Brampton, Northampton

Tel: 01604 845959

[www.SedgebrookHallNorthampton.co.uk](http://www.SedgebrookHallNorthampton.co.uk)

*Details:* Set in 13 acres of land on the edge of the town and a 10 minute drive from the course location and a 15 minute drive into the town centre.

The hotel has a restaurant and bar in addition it has a swimming pool, sauna, gym, all weather outdoor tennis court, jogging trails, whirlpool, games bar with snooker table. Wi Fi in all rooms and reasonably priced.

### **The Hopping Hare**

18 Hopping Hill Gardens, Duston, Northampton, NN5 6PF

Tel: 01604 580090

[www.hoppinghare.com](http://www.hoppinghare.com)

*Details:* Good quality pub/restaurant/B&B reasonably priced and a 10 to 15 minute drive from course location. Very good quality food served in restaurant.

### **Campanile Hotel**

Junction 15 – M1, Loake Close, Grange Park, Northampton NN4 5EZ

Tel: 01604 4662599

[www.campanile-northampton.co.uk](http://www.campanile-northampton.co.uk)

*Details:* Located next to junction 15 of the M1 and a 15 minute drive to the course location via dual carriageway. A new, well priced hotel with a restaurant onsite and next door and free wi-fi.

### **Holiday Inn Express**

Junction 15 – M1, Loake Close, Grange Park, Northampton NN4 5EZ

Tel: 01604 432800

[www.hiexpress.com/hotels/us/en/northampton/ormgp/hoteldetail](http://www.hiexpress.com/hotels/us/en/northampton/ormgp/hoteldetail)

*Details:* Located next to junction 15 of the M1 and a 15 minute drive to the course location via dual carriageway. A new hotel with complimentary breakfast, free wi-fi, well priced with restaurant onsite and next door

### **Sunley Conference Centre**

Boughton Green Road, Northampton NN2 7AL

Tel: 01604 892020

[www.sunley-northampton.co.uk](http://www.sunley-northampton.co.uk)

Conference centre in the University grounds with 32 rooms at very affordable prices. 10 minute walk to training location.



**Photos of the Guildhall on the left, and All Saints Church on the right, in Northampton's town centre.**

### **Northampton – a brief glimpse through time**

The earliest evidence of a human settlement in Northampton was around 4000 BC at Briar Hill. Around 43AD the Romans occupied the area which they then abandoned and the invading Saxons, then Danes came and went (and unfortunately left us with the Carlsberg brewery!).

Renowned for its long standing royal connections, pivotal historic events punctuate the county's history. In the War of the Roses, Henry VI was captured in the Battle of Northampton. Two monuments at Naseby mark the site of the battle in which Charles I was defeated, a turning point in the English Civil War.

Northampton survived two devastating fires in 1516 and 1675 and lost nearly half its population to the Black Death. Nevertheless, the town recovered and continued to grow and prosper. From the 17th century until the 19th century the chief industry of Northampton was shoe-making, along with brewing in the 1800s (a comfortable walk home after a few drinks!). The Albion brewery has recently opened in the town centre brewing Phipps beer preserving a tradition over 200 years old (Phipps IPA is highly recommended!).

In 1809 Spencer Perceval became the only MP for Northampton ever to be elected prime minister, which he held until 1812 when he became the only UK prime minister ever to be assassinated!

Northampton was a revolutionary and free-thinking town often at odds with the church and the state, shoemakers in particular being known for their strong non-conformist and radical traditions. A protestant shoemaker was burned at the stake because of his beliefs during the reign of the Catholic Queen Mary. In the 1600's men and women were executed for witchcraft. In the late 1700's a public execution of the notorious Culworth gang for robberies was watched by an estimated 10,000 people.

The first Earl of Northampton, Simon de Senlis, built a fine Norman Castle which became very popular and important to both royalty and heads of state. This resulted in Northampton becoming the Capital of England for 200 years, and the castle became the Seat of Parliament. It was the scene of many sieges and was chosen for the trial of Thomas a Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury in 1164. The castle was not destroyed in the Great Fire of 1675 since it had already been pulled down by Charles II. Charles II was exiled to France following the execution of Charles I. When he returned from exile, he decided to reduce the status and power of the town as punishment for its disloyalty during the English Civil War (The town turned against the monarch, Charles I, in 1642 and sided with Cromwell. Their eventual reward was an unpaid bill for the thousands of boots they had made for his army). He did this in 1660 by tearing down the castle and its walls.

Strangely, following the Great Fire, it was also Charles II who arranged for the town to receive enough money, timber and resources to rebuild All Saints Church. Built in 1680, the church still dominates Northampton's town centre, and carries a statue of Charles II above its portico. Interestingly, the statue depicts Charles II dressed in a Roman toga, supposedly because the townsfolk did not wish for the statue to be placed there. They were obliged to display a statue, and this was their way of expressing their annoyance.

In more recent times Princess Diana spent her childhood here at Althorp House where she was laid to rest in 1997. The 1960s saw a huge influx into the town thanks to a massive program of public housing. The town now is a thriving place for business, one reason being its central location.

On a sporting front the town has a football, rugby and cricket team. The football team "The Cobblers" play at Sixfields Stadium in Division 2. The rugby team, Northampton Saints, play at Franklins Gardens in the Premiership and were European Champions in 2000, Aviva Premiership champions and Amlin Cup winners in 2014 and the inaugural Premiership Rugby Cup winners in 2019, shown below. The cricket team won the T20 Blast in 2013 and 2016.



## Places to visit

### Cinemas:

#### Vue Cinema

Sol Central, Marefair, Northampton NN1 2RN.

Tel: 08712 240 240

Relatively new 10 screen cinema, reclining seats. Sol Central also has bars, restaurants, hotel and a gym within it. Located in the town centre.

#### Cineworld

Sixfields, Weedon Road, Northampton NN5 5BG

Tel: 0871 200 2000

Located at the Sixfields Leisure complex, multi screen with many restaurants and bars on the same complex.

### Theatres:

#### Derngate Theatre

Guildhall Road, Northampton NN1 1DP

Tel: 01604 624811

Modern theatre/live venue for all types of events.

#### Royal Theatre

Next door to the Derngate theatre

Ornate Victorian theatre predominantly for plays. Same telephone number as above.

### Live Music:

#### Roadmender

1 Lady's Lane, Northampton NN1 3AH

Tel: 01604 230638

The main live music venue in Northampton. Hosted everyone from Robert Plant to The Manic Street Preachers. They also have club nights.

#### Pubs offering live music

King Billy Rock Bar, Malt Shovel (real ale pub, live blues on Wednesdays), Lamplighter (highly recommended), The Picturedrome.

### Municipal Golf Courses:

#### Brampton Heath Golf Club

Sandy Lane, Church Brampton, Northampton NN6 8AX

Tel: 01604 843939

#### Delapre Golf Club

Eagle Drive, Nene Valley Way, Northampton NN4 7DU

Tel: 01604 764036

## Heritage



Statues dedicated to Francis Crick – Inventor of DNA, born in Northampton

### **Althorp House**

Rugby Rd, off the A428 NN7 4HQ

Tel: 01604 592020

Where Princess Diana spent her formative years and was laid to rest.

### **78 Derngate**

Tel: 01604 603407

A real serendipity in Northampton. Fantastic for fans of Charles Rennie Mackintosh – the only CRM designed interior in England.

### **Northampton Museum & Art Gallery**

Guildhall Road, Northampton

Tel: 01604 838111

This museum is home to Northampton's world famous shoe collection. From ancient Egyptian times to the present day.

## Sport

### **Northampton Town FC (Division 2 champions 2015/2016)**

Sixfields Stadium

Tel: 01604 588338

### **Northamptonshire County Cricket Club (T20 Champions 2013 and 2016)**

Wantage Road, Northampton

Tel: 01604 514455/514444

### **Northampton Saints Rugby Club (Premiership Rugby Cup winners 2019)**

Franklin Gardens, St James, Northampton

Tel: 01604 599111

### **Tenpin Bowling**

Sixfields, Weedon Road, Northampton, NN5 5BE

Tel: 0871 873 2450

## **Motorsport**

Northamptonshire is home to the Silverstone Grand Prix circuit, Rockingham raceway in Corby - the UK's only oval racetrack and Santa Pod Raceway – the UK's home of drag racing.

## **Towcester Racecourse**

Towcester, Northants, NN12 6LB  
[www.towcester-racecourse.co.uk](http://www.towcester-racecourse.co.uk)

If your hobby or interest has not been listed anywhere then have a chat with the instructor and they will be pleased to help.

## **Recommended Restaurants**

### **Italian Restaurants**

#### **Sorrentino's**

64 Gold St, Northampton NN1 1RS  
Tel: 01604 602222

Excellent, well established Italian restaurant that has an extensive menu. Located in the town centre.

#### **Sophias**

54-56 Bridge St, Northampton NN1 1PA  
Tel: 01604 250654

Traditional Mediterranean restaurant serving pastas, veal, fish, steaks and traditional pizza. Friendly atmosphere

### **American Diners**

#### **Buddies New York Café**

Dychurch Lane, Northampton NN1 2AB  
Tel: 01604 620300

American diner with interesting New York style décor (e.g. live webcam of Times Square). Comprehensive menu with substantial portions.

#### **Buddies USA**

Upton Way, Sixfields, Northampton  
Tel: 01604 758391

Same local chain as above but located on the Sixfields leisure complex.

### **Indian Restaurants**

#### **Memsaab**

357-359 Wellingborough Road, Northampton, NN1 4EU  
Tel: 01604 630214

One of the best Indian restaurants in town. Modern and spacious, excellent quality food with a very popular champagne/cocktail bar next door called Corkers.

### **Saffron**

21 Castilian Street, Northampton NN1 1JS

Tel: 01604 630800

Good quality Indian restaurant located in the town centre.

### **Star of India**

5 Abington Avenue, Northampton NN1 4NY

Tel: 01604 630664, 01604 471862

High Quality established Indian restaurant just outside the town centre.

### **Chinese Restaurants**

#### **Sunrise**

18 Kingsley Park Terrace, Northampton NN2 7HG

Tel: 01604 711228

Well established good quality Chinese restaurant.

#### **Wok Inn**

44 Sheep St, Northampton NN1 2LZ

Tel: 01604 633666

A well established restaurant serving Oriental, Peking and Szechuan cuisine. Very good reputation.

### **European/Mediterranean Restaurants**

#### **Stuffed Olive**

188 – 190 Wellingborough Road, Northampton NN1 4EB

Tel: 01604 631631

Serves Mediterranean food different than the norm. Very good food and very popular, so call to reserve a seat to avoid disappointment

#### **Les Olives Tapas Bar and Restaurant**

18B Sheep Street, Northampton NN1 2LU

Tel: 01604 637652

New Spanish tapas bar, relaxed and friendly, in the town centre, open kitchen great food (big portions).

#### **The Church Restaurant**

67-83 Bridge Street, Northampton, NN1 1PD

Tel 01604 603800

A converted grade 1 listed built in 1140 and tastefully renovated. Offers a quality Continental menu. Located in the town centre next to the popular town pubs.

#### **Pamukkale Turkish Restaurant**

44 St. Giles Street, Northampton NN1 1JQ

Tel: 01604 947600

New Turkish restaurant in the town centre getting great reviews



## Thai/Vietnamese Restaurants

### **Eat Saigon**

21 Gold Street, Northampton NN1 1RA

Tel: 01604 947345

New Vietnamese restaurant in the town centre, highly recommended.

## Others

### **Franks Steakhouse**

176 Wellingborough Road, Northampton, NN1 4DZ

Tel: 01604 949 804

This is the place to go if you like superb quality steaks.

### **Mu Mu**

47-49 St Giles St., Northampton NN1 1JF

Tel: 01604 621873

Fantastic gourmet burgers and decadent desserts and milkshakes.

### **The Lamplighter**

66 Overstone Road, Northampton NN1 3 JS

Tel: 01604 631125

Great pub serving excellent pub grub. Camra real ale pub of the year and a discerning pub for music lovers with live music, open mic's, quizzes etc.

### **The Old White Hart**

Cotton End, Southbridge, Northampton NN4 8BS.

Tel: 01604 70990

Good pub with very good food a bit different than the norm.





If you need any further information please do not hesitate to contact us:

**email: [training@sierra.co.uk](mailto:training@sierra.co.uk)**

**web: [www.sierra.co.uk](http://www.sierra.co.uk)**

**tel: 0845 8672394**