



DarkSky
INTERNATIONAL



EXMOOR
NATIONAL PARK

Full
Events
Listing
Inside

Exmoor Dark Skies Festival 2024

Friday 18th October
to Sunday 3rd November

Join us to celebrate and
explore the wonders
of Exmoor after dark

#ExmoorDSF



www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesfestival





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WELCOME

Our 2024 Dark Skies Festival is extra special...

Not only is the festival a celebration of the unique quality of Exmoor's Dark Skies but it is also a celebration of our 70th Anniversary. "Exmoor Day" which is the exact date Exmoor was designated as a National Park, falls on Saturday 19 October, just as our Dark Skies Festival gets underway.

The Festival includes a wide variety of events each celebrating the incredible value of our night skies for wildlife, human health and the sheer beauty of the night sky. We have something for everyone to enjoy including Wildlife Walks, Dark Skies Talks and an Exmoor Feast, as well as the ever-popular Planetarium.

I invite you to join us and immerse yourself in the skies above and the wonderful events across Exmoor during the festival period.

www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesfestival



Sarah Bryan
Chief Executive,
Exmoor National Park

Photos:
This page, Valley of Rocks by Jon Rowley
Front cover, Dunkery by Shaun Davey

FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

Event	Location	Map	Page
RUNNING THROUGHOUT OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER			
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Wild about Exmoor Landscape Astrophotography Course	Lynmouth	10	10
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Dark Sky Celebratory Meal, Stargaze and Walk	Exford	7	11
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Exmoor Dark Skies Talk by Astronomer & Presenter Seb Jay	Lynmouth	10	12
The Exmoor Feast	Oare	11	12
E-bike Night Rides with Exmoor Adventures	Porlock Weir	15	15
Space Detectives @ The Poltimore Inn Observatory	North Molton	14	15
Exploring the Moon - Supper and Talk with Simon Holbeche	Washford	17	16
SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER			
Exploring the Moon Family Fun Day with Simon Holbeche	Washford	17	16
Wild about Exmoor @ Triscombe Farm	Wheddon Cross	19	16
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Fireside Storytelling in The Doone Valley	Malmsmead	11	25

FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

Event	Location	Map	Page
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BOOKING INFORMATION

You can find all the events in the Dark Skies Festival at:
www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents
 Click through to the individual event for booking links



The festival includes events run by Exmoor National Park Authority, other organisations and businesses. Check T&Cs with each event organiser. Check Festival website for changes and cancellations. ENPA accepts no responsibility for events run by partner organisations or businesses. For help with booking an Exmoor National Park event please call the Lynmouth National Park Centre on 01598 752509 (open 7 days).



The price for some events includes a donation to 'CareMoor for Exmoor'. CareMoor is Exmoor National Park Authority's donation scheme. CareMoor funds are used for valuable conservation and access projects. See www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/caremoor.

MAP OF EXMOOR DARK SKY RESERVE



© Exmoor National Park Authority 2024

International Dark Sky Reserve & Stargazing Locations

In 2011 Exmoor National Park became the first area in Europe to be designated as a Dark Sky Reserve by Dark Sky International. The whole of Exmoor can boast incredibly dark skies and the designation specifically helps us to protect the quality of the night skies.

For most stargazing related activities you can head to any of the more rural areas of the National Park but if you would like some further pointers and recommendations of where to go including a map then you can download a free copy of 'An Astronomer's Guide to Exmoor' from our stargazing webpage: www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/stargazing



Dark Sky Discovery Trail

If you're looking for somewhere to experience a short self-led walk at night with 360° views of the night sky above Exmoor then try our **Dark Sky Discovery Trail** near Exford. Whether it's clear or cloudy it will be a mini adventure suitable for all the family. Read more about it and watch a film at www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/stargazing or ask at our National Park Centres where a printed guide is available to buy for just £1.

Luxborough night landscape by Harvey Grenville

Win a **CELESTRON** telescope and other prizes in this year's Festival competition for children

We would like to invite children to channel their inner Exmoor and write an exciting story inspired by Exmoor's dark night skies - the judges will be looking for imagination, good use of language and all things Exmoor!

Children 11 and under - max 500 words

Children 12 to 16 - max 1000 words

There will be prizes in both age categories. Celestron Telescope (11 and under) **dryrobe** (12-16) for first prize and certificates for 2nd and 3rd. In addition, there will be one prize awarded to the best entry (from the 11 and under category) from schools within Devon and Somerset. The successful entrant will win a free Astronomy and Space themed workshop for their school.

Closing date for competition entries: **Friday 1st November 2024**

Full competition details, terms and conditions can be found on the festival webpage.

Doone Valley Free Constellation Trail with National Trust 11

Buttery Tea Rooms, Malmsmead, EX35 6NU

Running throughout October and November

Complete a free star-based themed trail around the Lorna Doone site with a number of activities and games to enjoy. Collect your trail sheet from the Buttery Tea Rooms and complete the activities. Tea Rooms will be open for refreshments.

No need to book but further information can be found using link below:
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/devon/lorna-doone-valley

EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK

CELESTRON the World's #1 telescope brand, are proud to introduce a new astronomy range designed in association with Royal Observatory Greenwich.

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7X50MM PORRO BINOCULAR RRP £49.99

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Exmoor National Park Centre - Lynmouth	01598 752 509
Exmoor National Park Centre - Dunster	01643 821 835
Exmoor National Park Centre - Dulverton	01398 323 841

By association with **CELESTRON** and **ROYAL OBSERVATORY GREENWICH**



Tawny Owl by Harvey Grenville

Wild about Exmoor @ Triscombe Farm 19**Wheddon Cross, TA24 7HA****Monday 14 October 6pm - 10pm (See also 20 October)**

Informative star gazing sessions guided by experienced astronomers, Jo and Pete Richardson who together run Space Detectives and Wild about Exmoor. Light refreshments will be provided for your enjoyment. We are delighted to offer guests who book directly to stay with us, complimentary places for these events, as a token of our appreciation for choosing Triscombe Farm for your getaway. £40 adults £20 children.

Book via triscombefarm.co.uk**Wild about Exmoor Landscape Astrophotography Course 10****Lynmouth Pavilion, The Esplanade, EX35 6EQ****Tuesday 15 October 7pm - 8.30pm**

Come and explore the means and ways of Landscape Astrophotography with Exmoor's very own Landscape Photographer Shaun Davey. This is a two session course with the second session being run on Saturday 25th January 2025. Designed to challenge the already competent photographer, take your skills to a new level. £65pp - Over 16s only please.

Book via www.wildaboutexmoor.com/photography-courses/**11 Dark Skies Yoga with Mooryoga and The Root Project****Oare House, EX35 6NX****Full Moon Dark Skies Yin Yoga****Friday 18 October 6pm - 9pm (more dates below)**

Rewild and reconnect under the dark skies of Exmoor National Park. Join us for three intimate evenings of Yoga under the stars. A chance to connect with nature, rewild yourself and embark upon a 'Dark Skies Yoga' adventure in the heart of Exmoor. On arrival we will enjoy kombucha and a light snack before we take a short walk through the meadow where we will gather together for some yoga under the stars. We will then connect together around a fire to enjoy some heart-warming chai tea, spicy pumpkin soup and homemade sourdough. All food and drink made from ingredients that have been locally sourced or foraged from the land around us. These evenings promise to be a truly magical experience, we can't wait to share them with you! £30pp per session.

Book via www.mooryoga.co.uk/events**7 Wild about Exmoor Dark Sky Celebratory Meal, Stargaze and Walk****Exford Bridge Tea Rooms, TA24 7PY****Friday 18 October 6.15pm - 10pm (see similar event on 1 November)**

We have teamed together with the Exford Bridge Tea Rooms, which is one of Exmoor National Park's Dark Sky Reserve Hubs to deliver a Dark Sky Celebratory Event which everyone is welcome to book onto. The event comprises a delicious home cooked meal, followed by an informative presentation all about Exmoor Dark Skies. If the weather is clear, we will head out for a short walk into the Dark Sky Reserve to stargaze, using the latest laser and computer guided telescopes and equipment. If the weather is inclement, we will stay in the warmth and cosiness of the tea rooms and go "star hopping" using the indoor virtual planetarium projector instead. £43 adult, £23 child.

Book via www.wildaboutexmoor.com/stargazing-and-night-sky/

Numbers in red circles refer to event locations, see map on page 7.

Dark Skies Talk by Astronomer & Presenter Seb Jay 10
National Park Centre, Lynmouth, Lynmouth Pavilion,
The Esplanade, EX35 6EQ
Saturday 19 October 2pm & 4pm



Astronomer Seb Jay has been inspiring Exmoor visitors for years – come and learn fascinating facts and stories about the night skies and how to enjoy them. Astronomer Seb Jay takes us on a journey through time and space, introducing us to the solar system, Milky Way and the wider Universe. Seb is an incredibly knowledgeable and engaging Astronomer and his talks will leave you amazed and your mind blown. £6 pp

Book via Lynmouth Centre 01598 752 509 or go to:
www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents

The Exmoor Feast with Exmoor Game School and The Root Project 11
Oare House, EX35 6NX
Saturday 19 October 1.30pm - 8pm

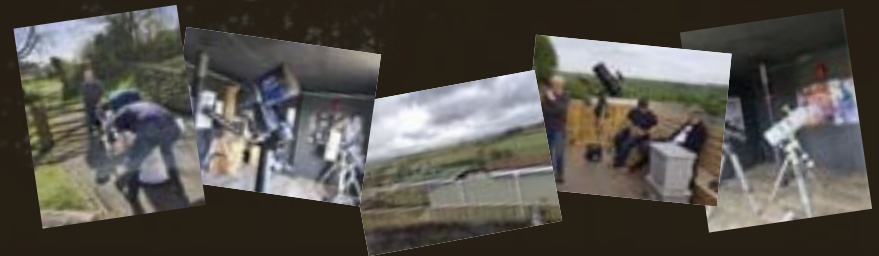
Spend a day in the heart of Exmoor learning to forage, butcher, and cook game and a variety of wild foods culminating in a wild food feast around the campfire. It's very much a hands-on sort of day, where you'll learn a combination of open fire cooking principles with hot and cold smoking techniques. The Game School Team are passionate about locally sourced and sustainable game, so the majority of what we eat will have been sourced within a few hundred metres of where it is being eaten. During the day you'll learn about venison and deer management, hot and cold smoking methods, butchery and game meat preparation, wild plant identification and open fire cooking. £95pp or £170 for two people.

Book via www.theexmoorgameschool.com

Dunster Castle by Shaun Davey www.shaundavey.co.uk



The Poltimore Inn is situated in North Molton on the edge of Exmoor National Park. Exmoor has incredibly low levels of light pollution and has some of the darkest skies in the UK. It has been designated as an International Dark Sky Reserve by the International Dark Sky Association.



- Observatory B&B with telescopes
- Telescope course
- Evening meal
- Stargazing
- VR – looking at space via Virtual Reality
- Observing the moon, stars, planets
- Planetarium Projector if event skies are cloudy

The Poltimore Inn,
East Street, North Molton, Devon, EX36 3HR
Tel: 01598 740338

contact@thepoltimoreinnnorthmolton.co.uk
www.thepoltimoreinnnorthmolton.co.uk



You can find online booking links for all events at:
www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents

E-bike Night Rides with Exmoor Adventures ¹⁵

Porlock Weir, TA24 8PE

Saturday 19 October 6pm - 9pm (more dates through October, see below)

Experience the thrill of E-Mountain Biking at night! We provide everything you need, including Specialized Tero e-bikes and powerful 1,200 lumen lights! Meeting at our base at Porlock Weir, we will set you up with your e-bike and lights and explain how to use. We will then guide you on a selection of easy going off-road trails, and quiet roads, climbing up onto the moors. We will enjoy a few stops on the way, taking in the night sky, and enjoying being out at night! This trip is perfect for beginner/intermediate riders who have done some mountain biking before. The route is likely to be roughly 20km. Exmoor is an International Dark Sky Reserve; what better way to see the spectacular stars than by exploring Exmoor by e-bike? Once you have had a chance to appreciate the incredible night sky you will experience the thrill of descending the trails by bike lights. £49 pp.

For booking link go to www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents and find the event.

Space Detectives @ The Poltimore Inn Observatory ¹⁴

The Poltimore Inn, East Street, North Molton, Devon, EX36 3HR

Saturday 19 October 6pm - 10.30pm

This is an exciting evening all about stargazing under an Exmoor Dark Sky. Learn about stars, how they are formed, the sizes and distances between them, as well as the myths and legends associated with the constellations. Add all of that to our wonderful Virtual Reality journey through the stars as well! Remember to dress up warm. If you have booked a meal please turn up at 5.15pm to eat for 5.30pm. Adult £36.75 Children £26.25.

Book via www.thepoltimoreinnnorthmolton.co.uk/stargazing-observatory

01643 800400
enquiry@porlockweirhotel.co.uk

The Porlock Weir Hotel
... the anchor of Exmoor



Serene Stargazing

The ultimate dark skies experience with a talk on blackholes and galaxies
 Book to stay with us for two nights and discover the magic of the night skies and all that twinkles! We are proud to be a part of the Dark Skies association and once you experience the night skies, in our garden, wrapped up with a hot chocolate in hand, you will see why.

Included in your stay is a star gazing hamper with comfy blankets, a thermos with your drink of choice, night vision binoculars, a star gazing map. We even have our very own telescope!

Join us for a 2-course dinner on Wednesday 23rd October 2024 and discover the magic of the night skies and all that twinkles with a talk about the stars with Professor Roger Davies speaking about galaxies and blackholes!

Tickets for dinner are £37.50







The Luttrell Arms Hotel
... at the heart of Dunster

01643 821555
enquiry@luttrellarms.co.uk

EVENTS

Numbers in red circles refer to event locations, see map on page 7.

Exploring the Moon – Supper and talk with Simon Holbeche 17

Torre Cider Farm, Washford, TA23 0LA
Saturday 19 October 6.15pm - 8.30pm

It's been there in the skies since the earliest history of the Earth. It has forged our landscape through tides and guided fauna from the seas to the shores and on to the land. It has provided light at night peaking every 4 weeks to synchronise nature's clock. So as humans developed it is no surprise the Moon was engrained in culture and mysticism. The scientific study of the Moon commenced long before the telescope was invented but this is when our understanding of the Moon began to change. Following a hot 2 course dinner, join Simon Holbeche from Bath Astronomers for a talk that will whisk you all the way to the modern day and challenge the next generations to resolve many remaining lunar conundrums.

To book go to www.torrecider/events

Exploring the Moon Family Fun Day with Simon Holbeche 17

Torre Cider Farm, Washford TA23 0LA
Sunday 20 October 11am - 3pm

Join Simon from Bath Astronomers and the Torre Cider Farm team for a moon themed family fun day. An introduction to meteorites, paper rocket launching, making craters, dressing up as astronauts, build your own rover, exploring the Moon with rovers, and mobile planetarium show of the Moon. Potential for solar observing if the Sun is out. Refreshments available throughout the day. Price £6.50 per child

To book go to www.torrecider/events

Wild about Exmoor @ Triscombe Farm 19

Wheddon Cross, TA24 7HA
Sunday 20 October 6pm - 10pm
See Monday 14 for details

Engine House View by Harvey Grenville



CLIFF RAILWAY 6pm - 9pm Sunday
27th October 2024
Normal Adult price

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to ride the railway
in the dark?

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- Activity Afternoons
- Wellbeing Sessions

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All riding must be booked in advance and is subject to Terms and Conditions.

Registered Charity No: 1116710 www.exmoorponycentre.org.uk
info@exmoorponycentre.org.uk | 01398 323093 | Exmoor Pony Centre | Dulverton | TA22 9QE

You can find online booking links for all events at:
www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents

EXPLORING THE MOON

WITH SIMON HOLBECH

SATURDAY 19TH OCT. 6.30PM DINNER & TALK

SUNDAY 20TH OCT. FAMILY FUN DAY 11-3PM

EXMOOR DARK SKIES



SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS AND BOOKING - TORRECIDER/EVENTS




GROWN UP MARSHMALLOWS

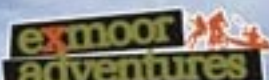
Handcrafted, Traditional and Plant-Based Luxury Marshmallows

Only our home-grown, organic, fresh fruit from Exmoor is used to flavour our Berry Grown Up Marshmallows, and the chocolate used is Fair Trade. Hand-cut by artisans, Grown Up Marshmallows are made in small batches. Free from gluten, dairy, fat, palm oil, GMO, and coloured with organic beetroot powder. They are then packaged in 100% recyclable, biodegradable, compostable material, including the bag inside... out of consideration for the planet.





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www.exmooradventures.co.uk - 01643 805001



Dark Sky Discovery Trail 


Semi-Guided Walk with Astronomy Support
Larkbarrow, near Exford

Monday 21 October, flexible arrival between 5.45pm and 6.30pm

Semi-guided walk with Astronomy Support. Explore and enjoy this amazing dark skies walk. National Park staff will be on hand as you negotiate the flat two-mile walk with 360° views of the night sky. Whatever the weather, you'll feel the excitement of being surrounded by darkness and the sounds of nature. If skies are clear, our astronomers will help you identify planets, constellations and give an overview of our place in the universe. £5 per adult, children free.

To book go to www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents



Planetarium Sessions 

South Molton Town Hall (Assembly Rooms) EX36 3AB
Tuesday 22 October from 5pm

Book an evening session in one of the Country's largest mobile planetariums where you will be immersed under spectacular night skies with experienced science teacher and presenter Simon Ould from Space Odyssey. A memorable experience for all ages and a must for anyone who's never had a go. Sessions at 5pm & 6pm. Adult £7, Under 16s £5

To book go to www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents



Dark Sky Discovery Trail by Will Carter (willcarterphotography.com)

Dark Skies Dinner and a chat with Professor Roger Davies 15**Porlock Weir Hotel, Porlock Weir, TA24 8PB****Wednesday 23 October 7pm**

The ultimate dark skies experience with a talk on black holes and galaxies. Book to stay with us for two nights and discover the magic of the night skies and all that twinkles! We are proud to be a part of the Dark Skies association and once you experience the night skies, in our garden, wrapped up with a hot chocolate in hand, you will see why. Included in your stay is a star gazing hamper with comfy blankets, a thermos with your drink of choice, night vision binoculars, and a stargazing map.

We even have our very own telescope! Join us for a 2-course dinner on Wednesday 23 October and discover the magic of the night skies and all that twinkles with a talk about the stars with Professor Roger Davies speaking about galaxies and black holes!

www.porlockweirhotel.co.uk/offers-and-events
or call 01643 800400

E-bike Night Rides 15**with Exmoor Adventures****Porlock Weir TA24 8PE****Wednesday 23 October 6pm - 9pm**

See 19 October for details.

16 In The Night Sky Supper and Evening Talk with Space Detectives**The Quince Honey Farm, South Molton, EX36 3RD****Thursday 24 October 6.30pm - 9pm**

Join us for an evening that will take you on an experience like no other where you will not only "see" space but "feel" it too! Starting with a hearty supper, you will then be taken on a journey into the stars by Jo and Pete from 'Space Detectives', a team of astronomers who have been running Space and Stargazing events for many years. Learn about the origins of stars and how planets form, explore how our ancestors would have seen the night sky centuries ago, and uncover the myths and legends of constellation patterns. Some stargazing is up next, if the weather is favourable, using high end "Go To" telescopes and laser guided star hopping. The evening will end on a Virtual journey into space, with a Virtual Reality Showtime headset experience! Ticket price includes supper, talk, star gazing and VR headset experience. Suitable for age 12 +.

quincehoneyfarm.co.uk/experience/in-the-night-sky/

6 Exmoor Dark Skies Stargazing Break**Yarn Market Hotel, Dunster, TA24 6SF****Friday 25 October -****Sunday 27 October**

A 2 night Stargazing break led by Terry Evans, Chairman of Crewkerne Astronomical Society. The break includes 2 nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast, including Sunday Lunch. Talks and an opportunity to visit a dark skies location in the evening are also included. Rate £240 per person, no single supplements.

Book via hotel@yarnmarkethotel.co.uk 01643 821425

EVENTS

Numbers in red circles refer to event locations, see map on page 7.

Planetarium Sessions **12**

Minehead Eye, Minehead, TA24 5BJ

Saturday 26 October Sessions all day from 9.30am

Book an immersive 45/60 minute session in the Space Odyssey Planetarium and learn about space and the universe from Simon Ould - an experienced science teacher and Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society. The shorter sessions are slightly more suited for families with younger children. All those attending will have access to Minehead Eye Boulder Wall, fun children's activities and the onsite cafe will be open providing refreshments so why not make a day of it?

Adults £7, Under 16s £5

To book go to www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents



All Through the Night: Why Our Lives Depend on Dark Skies **5**

Seven Fables, 7 The High Street, Dulverton, TA22 9HB

Saturday 26 October 2pm - 4.30pm

Walk and talk with Dani Robertson, a Dark Sky Officer for Snowdonia National Park and author of All Through the Night. As a society we have closed our curtains to the darkness, now Dani urges you to cast those curtains wide, step out of your front door and let the darkness pull you in. 99% of Western Europeans live under light polluted skies, but what is this doing to our wellbeing? Our wildlife, too, has been cast into the harsh glare of our light addiction, with devastating impacts. Discover why darkness is so important, and why we must protect it at all costs. A level of walking fitness is required, please dress appropriately, bring a cushion to sit on - we walk in all weathers. Sorry no dogs. Booking essential: Walk & Talk £12 - Walk & Talk + Book £24 (RRP £16.99 HB). Children aged 12 to 16 free.

Tickets available from Seven Fables or online

www.sevenfables.co.uk/seven-fables-events

Planetes (M45) and Venus by Craig Oglier



TRISCOMBE FARM

10 Self Catering Holiday Cottages

Leisure facilities include an indoor heated swimming pool, games room, table tennis and an all-weather tennis court.

The ideal base to explore Exmoor!



Stargazing Events with Triscombe Farm

Monday 14th October 6pm - 10pm

Sunday 20th October 6pm - 10pm

Our knowledgeable guides, led by expert astronomers, will lead you through the wonders of the night sky, showcasing stars, planets and constellations.

These events are suitable for all, whether you're new to stargazing or already an enthusiast.

To book or to find out more about us:

www.triscombefarm.co.uk

07949 585602 / 01643 851227

DARK SKIES YOGA



'RECONNECT AND REWILD UNDER THE STARRY SKIES OF EXMOOR'

MOORYOGA & THE ROOT PROJECT BRING YOU AN EVENING OF YOGA, CONNECTION & HEART-WARMING FOOD



6-9PM
£38 (PER EVENING)

FRI 18TH OCT, FRI 25TH OCT & SUN 3RD NOV

OARE HOUSE, OARE, EX35 6NX

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<https://www.mooryoga.co.uk/retreatsworkshops>

DARK SKIES

ROOT PROJECT

www.rootproject.co.uk

DARK SKIES YOGA
MUSHROOM HUNTING
GAME SCHOOL

Oare Valley, EX35



You can find online booking links for all events at:
www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents

EVENTS

Fireside Storytelling in The Doone Valley ¹¹

Buttery Tea Rooms, Malmsmead, EX35 6NU

Saturday 26 October 5pm - 7pm

Led by a National Trust Ranger, sit around the campfire in the newly built Lorna Doone forest school and listen to children's stories told under the stars. With a hot drink and marshmallows. £5 pp

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/devon/lorna-doone-valley

Dark Sky Event with Space Detectives ⁹

Holworthy Farm, TA22 9NY

Saturday 26 October 6pm - 10pm

Super stargazing event run by our resident astronomy team Jo and Pete Richardson from Space Detectives. They will treat you to an informative stargazing introduction in our fully equipped studio overlooking Wimbleball Lake. Afterwards, we will enjoy a home cooked farmhouse meal by the fire! Following supper, we will head up the lane for laser guided and high end telescopic observations if the skies are clear. If not, we will return to the studio for stories of the stars using the indoor planetarium projector. Cost £30 adults.

Book via Gillian Payne 01398 371244 or holworthyfarm@aol.com

Dark Skies Yoga with Mooryoga ¹¹

and The Root Project

Oare House, EX35 6NX

Dark Skies Yoga

Friday 25 October 6pm - 9pm

See 18 October for details



EVENTS

Numbers in red circles refer to event locations, see map on page 7.

E-bike Night Rides with Exmoor Adventures 15

Porlock Weir, TA24 8PE

Saturday 26 October 6pm - 9pm

See 19 October for details.

Gin & Stargazing with Moor Wild Experiences & Wicked Wolf Gin 10

Caffyn's Farm, (Exmoor Coast Holidays) Croscombe Lane, Lynton, EX35 6JW
Saturday 26 October 7pm - 9pm

Enjoy a taste of the Spirit of Exmoor with the award-winning Wicked Wolf Gin crafters, Pat & Julie, followed by a planetary experience with Moor Wild Experiences. Discover the slow distillation process behind the 5 botanically blended premium gins, which will be enjoyed as 'tasters', alongside a nibble platter of cheeses and crusty bread - avoiding vinegary spoilers! Step outside Caffyn's Farm Barn Cafe into the dark open sky setting, to spot Saturn's rings, the Milky Way and galaxies in our Dobsonian telescopes. Enjoy an indoor projected show of Deep Space imagery and much more. £55 per head (adults only) Limited availability. Why not book a dinner at Caffyn's in advance?

Ticket booking for Gin & Stargazing www.moorwildexperiences.co.uk/book

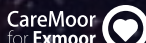
Dinner booking at Caffyn's if guests wish, contact:

stay@exmoorcoastholidays.co.uk

Space-themed Craft Session for Children 5

National Park Centre, Dulverton, TA22 9EX

Sunday 27 October 2pm - 4pm

A free drop-in arts and crafts session all themed around the starry skies and moon. Materials provided but donations to  welcome.

No need to book.



Western Veil Nebula 04.04.20 by Craig Ogier

Come and Look Up with Us!
Stargazing Events @ Holworthy Farm Wimbleball,
Exmoor in 2024-2025



Saturday 26th October 2024 - In the Starry Sky
Saturday 23rd November 2024 - Our Place in Space
Saturday 14th December 2024 - Space Rocks
Saturday 25th January 2025 - In the Starry Sky
Saturday 22nd February 2025 - Looking at the Moon
Saturday 22nd March 2025 - Onboard the ISS
Saturday 26th April 2025 - In the Starry Sky
Saturday 24th May 2025 - Our Place in Space

£30pp and including a farmhouse supper and drinks, stargazing presentation and laser/telescope guided tour of the night sky with our astronomers Jo and Pete

To make a booking contact Gillian
01398 371244 or holworthyfarm@aol.com
www.holworthyfarms.com

In the event of cloudy weather, we will offer tea/dinner using the usual groundsheet protocol

Come and explore
WIMBLEBALL LAKE
for a great day out!
Near Dulverton, TA22 9NU

walking • watersports • cafe
wildlife • cycling • high ropes
camping • stargazing • archery

Campsite open until 31 October
Check website for Activity Centre opening times



#ThisYearOutdoors
01398 371460
wimbleballtrust.org.uk/activities



MILES

TEA & COFFEE MERCHANTS

Porlock

Enjoy a moment with Miles

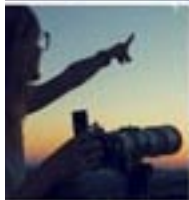
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Children & Dogs Welcome
8 En-suite Bedrooms



Night Wildlife Talk & Supper
Wednesday 30th October
Guided Dark Sky Walk & Supper
Monday 4th November
See pages 32 & 38 for details



The Royal Oak, Withypool, Somerset TA24 7QP
Tel: 01643 831 506 joines@royaloakwithypool.co.uk
www.royaloakwithypool.co.uk



You can find online booking links for all events at:
www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents

EVENTS

Wild Mushroom Forage and Feast with Joe Szocs ¹¹

Oare House, EX35 6NX

Sunday 27 October 11am - 3pm

It's a beautiful time of the year to be out foraging for seasonal flavours and wild mushroom hunting. Come and explore the valley of Oare with our experienced guide and fungi expert, Joe Szocs. Learn how to find, identify and forage mushrooms sustainably, before enjoying a freshly prepared lunch with some wild gathered ingredients. £25 adult, £10 child

Book via rootproject.co.uk/events

Family Astro Party ¹

with Exmoor National Park and Space Detectives

Horner Farm, Near Allerford, TA24 8HY

Sunday 27 October 3.30pm - 8pm

Presentation and space-themed workshop with fun experiments and activities led by astronomer Jo Richardson from Space Detectives and National Park staff. Pause for your picnic tea before a Ranger guided night walk, more stargazing activities and telescopes. Hot drinks and snacks for sale. Great for children. £7pp

To book go to www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents

Stargazing Sunday Roast @ Nettlecombe Court ¹³

The Leonard Wills Field Centre, Near Williton, TA4 4HT

Sunday 27 October 6.30pm - 9pm (bar open from 6pm)

Discover Saturn's rings, the moon and galaxies close up, under Exmoor's darkest skies at Nettlecombe Court Estate. After a hearty 2-course Roast Dinner and hot dessert in the Grade I listed Great Hall, step outside a short distance onto the lawns and peak through the collection of Dobsonian telescopes with your guides, Liz and Gary. Enjoy a Deep Space projected show in the beautiful Trevelyan room, surrounded by 900 years of history. Dinner is served 'refectory style', dining at long tables. No dogs in the centre, dogs can be walked with a lead around the grounds. £30 pp

Book via www.moorwildexperiences.co.uk/book



Cliff Railway Spooktacular Lynton and Lynmouth Cliff Railway 10**Lynmouth (bottom station) EX35 6EQ****Lynton (top station) EX35 6HW****Sunday 27 October 6pm - 9pm**

Do you Dare to ride the railway in the dark? Spooky goings on, terrifying tales, staff in costume and lots more! Normal costs apply (all single tickets)

£3.50 per adult, £2.20 per child

No booking required, just turn up

Dark Skies Quiz and Stargazing Evening 4**Shoulsbarrow Farmhouse,****Challacombe, EX31 4TS****Sunday 27 October 7pm - 9.30pm**

Outdoor event based in our barn surrounded by rare and native breeds of farm livestock, dark skies quiz, home-produced sausage in a roll, cake, hot drinks. Beautiful spot to stargaze on a clear night. £10 per person payable on the night but booking needed previously.

shoulsbry@gmail.com

or 01568 428005

or link at www.shoulsbarrowfarmhouse.co.uk

**10 Dark Skies in Watercolour, Painting Sessions for Children****Lynmouth National Park Centre, Lynmouth Pavilion,****The Esplanade, EX35 6EQ****Monday 28 October 10am & 1pm**

Join Sophie Tyler from Exmoor National Park for a 1½ hour creative watercolour painting session. Most suited to ages 7-11. All materials provided. Two session times to choose from. £4 per session

To book go to www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents

20 Stargazing Evening**Westerclose House, Withypool, TA24 7QR****Monday 28 October 6.30pm - 9.30pm**

A fun, educational evening with astronomers Jo & Pete Richardson from Space Detectives (www.spacedetectives.com). An opportunity to learn all about stars, galaxies and the Exmoor Dark Sky Reserve and put questions to our experts! We'll have a telescope available to view the stars and planets and a planetarium projection. Supper will be provided. Plenty of parking. £30/adult, £10/child under 14.

To book please email polly@westerclose.co.uk or phone 01643 831302

**6 Dark Skies in Watercolour, Painting Sessions for Children****Dunster National Park Centre, Dunster Steep, TA24 6SE****Tuesday 29 October 10am & 1pm**

Join Sophie Tyler from Exmoor National Park for a 1½ hour creative watercolour painting session. Most suited to ages 7-11. All materials provided.

Two session times to choose from.

£4 per session

Book via Exmoor National Park Authority event booking on page 6



EVENTS

Numbers in red circles refer to event locations, see map on page 7.

Dark Skies Wildlife Walks with Night Vision Cameras ¹¹ Doone Valley Buttery Tea Rooms, Doone Valley, Malmsmead, EX35 6NU Wednesday 30 October 5pm & 6.30pm


Join one of our escorted walks along the Doone Valley with our ranger team. Using night vision cameras, you will get to see what incredible evening wildlife calls the valley home. Choose between 5pm and 6.30pm. The walk will last approximately 90 minutes. Refreshments available from the Buttery Tea Rooms. Adult £12 Child £7.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/devon/lorna-doone-valley

Wildlife After Dark Talk with Wildlife Expert Stephen Powles ²⁰ Royal Oak, Withypool, TA24 7QP

Wednesday 30 October 5pm (dinner) talk to start at 6pm

Join us at the Royal Oak in Withypool for a two course supper followed by an interesting and informative 'Wildlife after Dark' talk with Stephen Powles; a former vet, wildlife photographer and engaging presenter. The cost is £25 for adults and £10 for children including dinner.

There will also be a raffle with all proceeds going to  CareMoor for Exmoor.

Booking is essential so call Gail or Janet on 01643 831506

or email joinus@royaloakwithypool.co.uk to book your place.



E-bike Night Rides with Exmoor Adventures ¹⁵

Porlock Weir, TA24 8PE

Wednesday 30 October 6-9pm

See 19 October for details.

NG4565 Edge on Spiral Galaxy by Pete Richardson



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Yarn Market Hotel

High Street, Dunster, Exmoor, TA24 6SF.

Tel: 01643 821425

email: hotel@yarnmarkethotel.co.uk

web: www.yarnmarkethotel.co.uk

Stargazing Break

Friday 25th to Sunday 27th October 2024

Experience the Dark Skies of Exmoor National Park

Led by Terry Evans, Chairman of Crewkerne & District
Astronomical Society

**£240.00 per person for 2 nights Dinner Bed
and Breakfast to include Sunday lunch,
all talks and transport to a stargazing site.
No single supplements.**



Ranger Guided Walk up Dunkery Beacon 18

Thursday 31 October 4pm - 7pm

Join National Park Ranger Tim Parish for a guided walk from Webbers Post up to the top of Dunkery Beacon - the highest point on Exmoor as the sun sets. There'll be astronomers on hand to guide you around the constellations if skies are clear. Under clear skies the 360° views of the night sky will be awe-inspiring but even on a cloudy, wet day we'll make our way up listening for the deer and sounds of Exmoor at night. Parts of the 4-mile walk (around 3 hours) will be on uneven, narrow paths in the dark, and use of head torches is discouraged. A reasonable level of fitness is required. Adult £5, Under 16s £3.

To book go to www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents

Dark Skies Wildlife Walks with Night Vision Camera 8

Heddon Valley, EX31 4PY

Thursday 31 October 5pm & 6.30pm

Join one of our escorted walks at Heddon Valley with the National Trust ranger team, using night vision cameras you will get to see what incredible evening wildlife calls the valley home. At the start of the event visitors will be able to purchase hot and cold drinks and snacks at the Pantry. Adult £12 Child £6.

Book via bit.ly/heddon-valley-events



Exmoor Ponies & Wildlife at Night 2**Exmoor Pony Centre, Ashwick, TA22 9QE****Thursday 31 October & Friday 1 November, 5.30pm - 7pm**

A family friendly evening meeting Exmoor ponies and finding out about Exmoor's nocturnal wildlife with our staff team. Hot chocolate and marshmallows. Drink and biscuits included. £7 Adult £5 Child.

Book by emailing info@exmoorponycentre.org.uk**Supper and Stargazing with Wild about Exmoor** 7**Exford Bridge Tearooms, TA24 7PY****Friday 1 November 6-10pm**

See similar event on 18th October for more details.

To book: www.wildaboutexmoor.com/stargazing-and-night-sky/**4 Gentle Farm Walk and Two Course Meal****Shoulsbarrow Farmhouse, Challacombe, EX31 4TS****Saturday 2 November 6.30pm - 10pm**

Walk to the barn by torchlight to hear about and see our rare and native livestock including Exmoor ponies. Back to the farmhouse for a two-course meal of homegrown and/or homemade food. Bring your own drink. £25 per person. £10 non returnable deposit required at booking.

A wonderful spot to stargaze on a clear night.

Book via shoulsbry@gmail.com 01598 428005**3 Ranger Guided Walk at Bossington Hill****Sunday 3 November 5pm - 7pm**

Join Exmoor National Park Ranger Charlotte and Exmoor based astronomers for a family friendly guided walk on Bossington Hill to observe the nature and dark skies of Exmoor. The 3km gentle walk begins at dusk and takes us to the top of Hurlstone Combe allowing our eyes to adjust before circling back round to the car park at Bossington Hill where a telescope will be on hand to view the planets and stars above us. Once it goes dark, we will try to avoid using torches as it is much better to use our human night vision.

However, it is recommended to bring a torch just in case. Meet at Bossington Hill car park, (w3w.co/dizziness.owls.sometime). Drive to the very end of the road from Minehead to North Hill. Please note we will not be meeting in Bossington village car park. Adult £5 Child £3

To book go to www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesevents**11 Dark Skies Yoga with Mooryoga and The Root Project****Oare House, EX35 6NX****New Moon Dark Skies Yoga****Sunday 3rd November 6pm - 9pm**

See 18 October for details

SPECIAL POST-FESTIVAL EVENT

Withypool Hill Dark Skies Supper and Walk 20

with National Park Ranger

Royal Oak, Withypool, TA24 7QP

Monday 4 November 5.30pm dinner followed by walk at 7pm

The Royal Oak Withypool Dark Skies Walk is a guided walk by Patrick a Ranger from the Exmoor National Park Authority. The walk will take you across Withypool Hill to look at the skies. The event starts from 6pm for dinner followed by the walk commencing at 7.30pm. The cost is £25 for adults and £10 for children including 2 course dinner. There will also be a raffle with all proceeds going to  Care Moor for Exmoor.

Booking is essential so call Gail or Janet on 01643 831506 or email joinus@royaloakwithypool.co.uk to book your place.



Holiday cottages and camping in the Lorna Doone Valley



Carver Cottage



Riverside Cottage



Cloud Farmhouse



Kingfisher View



Cloud Farm Campsite

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Heart Nebula 26.03.2020 by Craig Ogier



To book please scan the QR code or visit: nationaltrust.org.uk/holidays/devon

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Join us in celebrating our 70th Anniversary

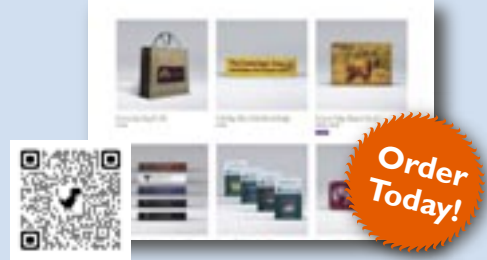
To find out how we're celebrating 70 years of keeping Exmoor special, including our CareMoore for Exmoor 70 for 70 Platinum Appeal go to:

www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/exmoor70

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Hire from a National Park Centre for £25 per night (additional nights just £10 extra each) Full instructions, including video link, provided. For further details visit www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/stargazing or contact an Exmoor National Park Centre:

Dulverton 01398 323841

Dunster 01643 821835

Lynmouth 01598 752509

If you're interested in sponsoring the Exmoor Dark Skies Festival 2025 or advertising in the programme please email: ruralenterprise@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk. Please also contact us if you are running an event that you would like to be included in the 2025 Festival.