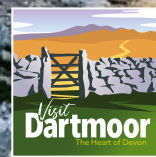


Stay Dartmoor • Delicious Dartmoor • Explore Dartmoor • Active Dartmoor • Family Dartmoor

Visit Dartmoor

The Heart of Devon



www.visitdartmoor.co.uk

Dartmoor

The Heart of Devon

DID YOU KNOW?

60% of all the stone rows in England – are found on Dartmoor!

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Escape to Dartmoor, a breathtaking National Park at the heart of Devon. Renowned for its vast landscapes, rich history, and unspoiled beauty, Dartmoor invites visitors to discover towering granite tors, ancient woodlands, free-roaming wild ponies, and sparkling rivers. Whether you're seeking outdoor adventures, historical explorations, or peaceful moments in nature, Dartmoor has it all.

Steeped in heritage, Dartmoor is home to some of the most significant Bronze Age sites in Western Europe. Its landscapes have inspired countless creatives, from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Hound of the Baskervilles to Agatha Christie's mysteries. Today, visitors can immerse themselves in this timeless allure, enjoying scenic walks, world-class cycling trails, and family-friendly activities.

Recharge with fantastic food, from hearty pub meals to locally-sourced delicacies, and unwind in welcoming accommodation ranging from cosy cottages to luxury hotels. Discover the magic of Dartmoor—where every visit is a story waiting to be told.

VisitDartmoor



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This destination guide is produced entirely in-house by Visit Dartmoor, just one of the professional design projects we are delighted to produce each year. We would also like to thank all those that have contributed content and images.

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©Lydford Gorge



©Baz Richardson -
Bennett's Cross

DID YOU KNOW?
Dartmoor is the only place
in Britain where the Bog
Hover Fly exists.
Special!?



DID YOU KNOW?
There are 1,078
scheduled monuments
on Dartmoor!

www.visitdartmoor.co.uk



©River Dart Country Park

Fun days out with the children

Planning a holiday with children can be a juggling act—finding activities they'll love, attractions they'll remember, and a place that feels safe and welcoming for the whole family. Dartmoor makes it easy by offering everything you need for an unforgettable family getaway.

Here, little ones can connect with nature on working farms, where they can collect eggs, pet baby animals, and enjoy hands-on experiences with creatures they might rarely encounter. With endless space to explore, they'll love running freely through open fields, splashing in streams, scrambling over rocks, and marvelling at Dartmoor's famous wild ponies with their foals.

For a taste of history, visit a Victorian working museum, ride a steam train, or step back in time exploring Dartmoor's castles. Animal lovers will enjoy meeting miniature ponies, while the adventurers in the family can try thrilling activities like archery, climbing, and gorge scrambling with expert activity providers.

Dartmoor also boasts child-friendly hotels and campsites, some offering babysitting and organised games led by experienced play leaders. These services ensure children have plenty of opportunities to burn off energy, make new friends, and enjoy activities while parents relax.

Whether you're seeking fun, adventure, or a bit of both, Dartmoor offers a holiday filled with joy, exploration, and quality family time.

Find family-friendly activities and accommodations at www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/children



©Haldon Forest



© Kira Butters, Content Creator., Dartmoor Zoological Park



©Museum of Dartmoor Life



©South West Lakes Trust



©Sue Stell

Dogs on Dartmoor

Dartmoor is the perfect playground for you and your four-legged friend, offering endless opportunities for adventure in its stunning and diverse landscapes. Whether you're following ancient railway tracks, wandering well-trodden paths to Dartmoor's iconic tors, or setting out with a map for a day of exploration, this is a destination that guarantees wagging tails and happy memories.



©Dave Thoburn

The team at Visit Dartmoor understands the joy of exploring with your dog and has compiled everything you need for a truly dog-friendly experience. From accommodation that warmly welcomes pets to attractions and eateries where muddy paws are embraced, you and your furry companion will feel at home here. Some cafes and pubs even provide treats for your dog, making their visit as delightful as yours.

Plan your visit and find the best dog-friendly options at www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/dog-friendly



©Malcolm Snelgrove

As a responsible owner, please ensure your dog is always under control. Dartmoor's beautiful moorlands are shared with sheep, cattle, and free-roaming wild ponies, so vigilance is essential to protect livestock and wildlife. Be sure to familiarise yourself with the National Park Authority's guidelines to help preserve this special landscape for everyone.

Learn more about visiting with dogs at www.dartmoor.gov.uk/dogs



Dartmoor's natural beauty, abundant wildlife, and welcoming attitude to dogs make it a wonderful destination for you and your companion. With respect, care, and an adventurous spirit, you'll create cherished moments on the moors to treasure forever.

Dartmoor Livestock

Dartmoor's vast, open moorlands are home to a rich tapestry of livestock, wildlife, visitors, and pets living side by side. With thoughtfulness, respect, and care, everyone can coexist harmoniously. However, challenges occasionally arise, so following simple guidelines is crucial to ensure the safety of all. Find tips on responsible behaviour at www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/keeping-everyone-safe-and-happy-on-dartmoor-2.

Dartmoor Livestock Protection Society (DLPS)

When visiting Dartmoor, keep this important contact number to hand: 07873 587561.

Founded in the aftermath of the harsh winter of 1962-63, the Dartmoor Livestock Protection Society has tirelessly worked to safeguard Dartmoor's ponies, sheep, and cattle. Today, it continues to champion animal welfare standards and assist livestock in distress.

In partnership with the Dartmoor Commoners' Council, the DLPS funds the role of the Livestock Protection Officer, Karla McKechnie. On-call 24/7, Karla handles emergencies, including sheep worrying, dog attacks, road traffic injuries, and stranded or distressed livestock. The society also guarantees funding for initial veterinary care when needed.



Your respect and vigilance while enjoying Dartmoor play a vital role in protecting its precious livestock and ensuring the continued harmony of this remarkable landscape.



Walking For Pleasure

Walking is one of the simplest ways to boost both your physical and mental well-being, and where better to enjoy it than on Dartmoor? This captivating National Park offers some of the most breathtaking scenery in the UK, and best of all, it's free to explore!

With sweeping vistas that stretch for miles, ancient woodlands brimming with mystery, herds of free-roaming wild ponies, gently flowing rivers, and towering granite tors, Dartmoor's landscapes are an open invitation to reconnect with nature. Many walking routes are easily accessible from nearby car parks, making it simple to begin your adventure.

Let your imagination run wild as you step into the settings that inspired stories like *The Hound of the Baskervilles* and the majestic cinematography of *War Horse*. Whether you prefer a peaceful stroll or a more challenging hike with a fully loaded rucksack, Dartmoor has something for everyone.

Families and those with limited mobility will also find Dartmoor welcoming. Pushchair-friendly paths and cycle tracks make exploring easy, and mobility scooter users can discover the moor's beauty via smooth trails.

Knowledgeable, friendly staff at Dartmoor's visitor centres are on hand to provide maps, guides, and recommendations tailored to you and your family. Visit the Princetown Visitor Centre for inspiring exhibitions, interactive displays, and films—a perfect starting point for your exploration.



Where else can you enjoy a family day out surrounded by wild ponies and Highland cattle, and perhaps spot deer, foxes, badgers, rare butterflies, or even cuckoos—all within walking distance of your car? It truly is magical. Come and see for yourself!

Explore more: www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/walking



Signed Walking Routes To Enjoy

www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/signed-walking-routes



Drake's Trail

Named for Sir Francis Drake, this trail forms part of the 102-mile Devon Coast to Coast (NCN Route 27) connecting Ilfracombe and Plymouth. Much of it is off-road, using former railway lines like the Tarka Trail.

Yelverton to Plymouth: 13 miles (21km)

Yelverton to Plymbridge: 9 miles (14.5km)

Allow at least 4 hours; longer if walking.

Start/finish: Drake's Trail Pay & Display car park (SX518679). Mostly surfaced with some short road sections. **www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/drakes-trail**

Templer Way

This 18-mile route runs from Haytor on Dartmoor to Teignmouth, following the old Haytor Granite Tramway and Stover Canal. It's well waymarked except on the open moor.

Highlights include open moorland, woodlands, river valleys, historic quays and locks, and coastal views. Passes through Newton Abbot, Teignmouth, and near Bovey Tracey. Links to the Southwest Coast Path and Dartmoor Way. **www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/templer-way**



Moorland Guides runs guided walks on Dartmoor for people of all ages, from all around the world. From school groups to private parties, navigation courses to corporate bookings, public walks and everything in between, we are happy to offer a whole host of different walking opportunities on Dartmoor.

Join us and find out why, the only way to discover the real Dartmoor is to join Moorland Guides on one of our walks.

www.moorlandguides.co.uk 07774088938
enquiries@moorlandguides.co.uk

Wray Valley Trail

Following the path of the former Newton Abbot to Moretonhampstead railway (closed in 1959), this 11km traffic-free trail links Bovey Tracey to Moretonhampstead.

It takes you through the National Trust's Parke Estate and the picturesque village of Lustleigh. Notable features include two newly built bridges across the A382. **www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/wray-valley-trail**

Dartmoor Way

A 108-mile (173km) circular, waymarked trail around Dartmoor's edge, featuring footpaths, by-ways, and bridleways. It's divided into 10 sections (plus 2 for the High Moor Link), making it easy to tackle in shorter walks.

The full route can be completed in about 10 days, with sections starting in towns or villages offering shops, accommodation, and refreshments.

www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/the-dartmoor-way



©Heather Devona - Kitty Jay's grave

Dartmoor Myths & Legends

www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/myths



Dartmoor, with its rugged landscapes and haunting beauty, has inspired countless myths and legends. From Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Hound of the Baskervilles* to the poetic works of Ted Hughes, Dartmoor's enigmatic atmosphere continues to captivate imaginations. Shrouded in thick mists and dotted with ancient stone circles, Dartmoor exudes mystery. Its tales of ghosts, witches, and pixies have been passed down through generations, tying the region's folklore to its unique landmarks. Today, these sites invite visitors to uncover the magic and stories that make Dartmoor so special. Here are some of the most compelling myths and legends.

Kitty Jay's Grave

Kitty Jay's Grave, near Natsworthy, is among Dartmoor's most mysterious locations. Kitty Jay, a farm worker, tragically took her life after being rejected by her lover. In the past, suicides were buried at crossroads to prevent hauntings. What makes her grave eerie is the appearance of fresh flowers, mysteriously left by unknown hands. Some say it's the work of pixies, adding an air of supernatural intrigue.



The Ghost of Okehampton Castle

Okehampton Castle is said to be haunted by Lady Howard, who roams the night as a black dog accompanied by a coach made of her husbands' bones. Legend has it she will find peace only after clearing every blade of grass from the castle grounds, perpetuating one of Dartmoor's most chilling tales.

Okehampton Castle



Grey Wethers

The Healing Waters of Fitz' Well

Fitz' Well, located between Okehampton and Princetown, is linked to a tale of pixies and survival. Lost in the mist, John Fitzford and his companion escaped pixie magic by turning their coats inside out and found a refreshing spring. The well gained fame for its healing properties, particularly for eye ailments, and became a destination for Easter morning visits.

Bowerman's Nose

Bowerman's Nose, a granite stack near Manaton, tells the tale of a hunter punished by witches for disrupting their rituals. He and his dogs were turned to stone, creating Bowerman's Nose and the nearby rocks at Hound Tor. The story reflects Dartmoor's blend of natural beauty and superstition.



Bowerman's Nose

Grey Wethers: Stones or Sheep?

The Grey Wethers, twin stone circles on Sittaford Tor, resemble grazing sheep from a distance. According to legend, a duped farmer bought these "sheep" while drunk, only to discover they were stones. This whimsical story exemplifies the humour and mystery of Dartmoor lore.

Hairy Hands Bridge

Between Postbridge and Two Bridges lies the infamous Hairy Hands Bridge, where ghostly hands are said to seize steering wheels, causing accidents. With its unsettling reputation and history of mishaps, it remains one of Dartmoor's most enduring legends.

Dartmoor's myths and legends are woven into its landscape, offering visitors a glimpse into the region's rich and mysterious past. From ghostly apparitions to tales of trickery and magic, these stories bring Dartmoor's wild beauty to life.

The Famous Ghost of Buckland Abbey

Buckland Abbey, home to Sir Francis Drake, is said to be haunted by his ghost. Drake reportedly made a pact with the devil, and his spirit now roams Dartmoor in a black coach drawn by headless horses. Adding to the Abbey's allure are rumored tunnels beneath it, home to spirits and sprites.



Dartmoor's Food & Drink

Dartmoor is more than just stunning landscapes—it's a haven for food lovers, offering a taste of Devon's rich culinary heritage. No visit would be complete without sampling a classic Devonshire cream tea. Picture yourself in a charming tea room, enjoying freshly baked scones, velvety clotted cream, and homemade jams—a perfect treat for a leisurely afternoon.

The region is celebrated for its locally sourced, high-quality meats. Dartmoor lamb, reared on the moor's wild grasses, is renowned for its unique flavour and tenderness. Equally delicious is the local venison, often featured in warming stews or perfectly grilled. Many Dartmoor pubs and restaurants showcase these flavours, crafting hearty dishes that celebrate the area's farming traditions.

For those who enjoy discovering local produce, Dartmoor's markets offer a delightful range of handmade cheeses, chutneys, pickles, and preserves. These artisanal treats, often made with foraged fruits and berries, bring the natural essence of Dartmoor straight to your plate.

Dartmoor's culinary scene also includes a thriving craft beverage industry. Sample award-winning ales, ciders, and gins created by local breweries and distilleries, each with a flavour profile inspired by the moors. Visiting a Dartmoor pub to enjoy these drinks is the perfect way to round off a day of exploration.

From traditional fare to artisanal delights, Dartmoor's food and drink tell a story of local passion and natural abundance. Indulge your senses and experience the authentic taste of Dartmoor.



Explore more at www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/food





Stay

Family-run country house hotel in Dartmoor National Park, just 4 miles from the A38. Set in 10 acres with award-winning food and a luxurious spa.

Dine

Home to a 2 AA Rosette restaurant with moorland views and an all-day Bistro with a sun terrace, serving food all day including traditional afternoon teas.

Spa

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Cycling on Dartmoor

Dartmoor is a dream destination for cyclists, offering a diverse mix of quiet rural lanes, exhilarating bridleways, and family-friendly, traffic-free trails. Whether you're seeking challenging climbs, thrilling descents, or a gentle ride through scenic landscapes, Dartmoor's 368 square miles have something for everyone.



©South West Lakes

On-road cycling enthusiasts will be captivated by the stunning scenery and varied terrain that make every ride unforgettable. It's no surprise that Haytor was chosen as the Tour of Britain's first-ever King of the Mountains stage finish in 2013. Keep an eye out for Dartmoor's free-roaming ponies, cattle, and sheep as you explore this unique landscape.

For families or those preferring a more relaxed pace, Dartmoor offers traffic-free routes such as the Granite Way, which links Okehampton and Lydford, and the Princetown Railway track leading to Burrator Reservoir. Both trails showcase the beauty of Dartmoor in a safe and accessible way.

For the adventurous, Dartmoor is part of the National Cycle Network Route 27, the Devon Coast to Coast, and features the circular 95-mile

Dartmoor Way, complete with a 27-mile High Moorland link to create a figure-of-eight loop. These trails combine breathtaking views with rewarding rides.

While cycling is a fantastic way to experience Dartmoor, please remember that riding on open moorland or common land is restricted to public bridleways and designated routes.



For detailed route information and maps, visit www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/cycling





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Freedom for all abilities!

Dartmoor welcomes everyone, offering unforgettable experiences regardless of your fitness level, mobility, or age. Whether you're a seasoned athlete, a family with young children, or someone with limited mobility, Dartmoor has something special for you to enjoy.

Accessible trails mean you can explore Dartmoor's stunning scenery by wheelchair or Trampler (all-terrain mobility scooter).

For guided experiences, organisations like the Disabled Ramblers run inclusive rambles across Dartmoor National Park, ensuring those with limited mobility can still explore the moors. Whether it's climbing, cycling, or countryside exploration, there are plenty of adaptive activities and resources available.

Before booking your stay or activities, we recommend contacting accommodation or activity providers directly to discuss your specific needs, ensuring a smooth and enjoyable visit.

For more information and accessible routes, visit www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/access





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Ponies on Dartmoor

Dartmoor's iconic ponies are a captivating sight, roaming freely in herds across the moorland. One of the most enchanting experiences you can enjoy is spotting a group of mares with their tiny foals tottering alongside them during the summer months.

The moors are home to a variety of ponies, from pedigree Dartmoor Ponies registered with the Dartmoor Pony Society to fluffy Shetlands and Dartmoor Hill Ponies, which come in all colours, including striking black-and-white and brown-and-white coats. While they live freely on the moor, these ponies are not wild—they are owned and carefully managed. Each year, they are brought in for health checks, and only approved stallions are allowed to breed with the mares.

The history of ponies on Dartmoor stretches back millennia. Archaeological discoveries show that domesticated ponies lived here as early as 1500 BC. The first written record, from AD 1012, references wild horses in Ashburton. Hoof-prints found in an archaeological dig were even dated to 3,500 years ago!

Dartmoor Ponies are incredibly hardy, thriving in the moor's challenging winter conditions. With their excellent temperaments, they have proven to be wonderful companions, children's ponies, driving ponies, and conservation grazers. Despite their adaptability, the pedigree Dartmoor Pony is an officially endangered breed, but dedicated efforts by local farmers and organisations are helping to secure its future.



These ponies play a vital ecological role by grazing on the moor, maintaining habitats, and supporting diverse wildlife. However, many of them have not been handled, so it's essential to admire them from a safe distance. Feeding ponies is strictly prohibited, especially in car parks, as this can lead to dangerous behaviours and tragic accidents.

Enjoy the ponies, but beware—they have a knack for stealing your time and your heart! Dartmoor takes great pride in these beautiful creatures and works tirelessly to preserve their legacy.

Learn more about Dartmoor's ponies at www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/ponies



Photos ©Malcolm Snelgrove Photography



Free Guided Walks at Bellever

Enjoy a 2 to 3 hour walk around this wonderful moorland site, learning about the ponies, the environment and the ancient people who lived here (minimum group size 6+)



Fundraising for a variety of initiatives and activities to support the Dartmoor Pony on Dartmoor and for the Charity's Conservation and Education Programmes



01626 833234 www.dpht.co.uk
Parke Estate, Bouey Tracey, Devon, TQ13 9JQ



©Baz Richardson - Moretonhampstead



©Visit Totnes - Totnes

Town Titbits

Ashburton

Once a thriving hub for the tin trade, Ashburton became one of Dartmoor's official stannary towns in 1305, entrusted with assaying tin from local mines. Today, this lively town welcomes visitors drawn by walking, canoeing, pony trekking, and fishing. Browse its antique shops, explore the local museum and galleries, or enjoy a meal at one of the many delightful eateries. Unique traditions dating back to stannary days, such as ale tasting and bread weighing ceremonies, add to the town's charm throughout the year.

Bovey Tracey

Bovey Tracey, lying on the banks of the River Bovey, on the eastern fringe of Dartmoor, boasts a rich history. In 1260, the Lord of the Manor, Henry de Tracey, obtained a charter allowing a weekly market. The market tradition continues and there is also a range of specialist shops. As a centre for arts and crafts, Bovey is building on its heritage of pottery manufacture, an industry which brought the railway through

the town. The Old Railway Station, now the Heritage Centre, is all that remains of the branch line, but here you can find out about the Granite Tramway, which enabled granite to be transported from the quarries at Haytor to the canal at Stover.

More information, including walking trails, can be found in the Information Centre, situated in the Station Road car park.

Chagford

Voted the Best Place to Live in England in 2015, Chagford is a picturesque and bustling former stannary town with a vibrant community of artists and musicians. Walkers and visitors from around the world are drawn to its historic charm, including tales of John Endecott, one of the Pilgrim Fathers, who lived here before his journey to the New World.

Totnes

Nestled between Dartmoor and the South Devon coast, Totnes is a historic market town on the banks of the River Dart. With origins dating



Bovey Tracey



©John H. Luxton Photography- Princetown



©Visit Okehampton - Okehampton



©Visit Tavistock - Tavistock

back to 907 AD, this town is renowned for its lively markets, ethical shopping, and inclusive atmosphere. Weekly Friday and Saturday markets, an Elizabethan-themed market on Tuesdays (May to September), and a Sunday Food Market (third Sunday monthly) highlight its vibrant community. Visitors can enjoy river trips, art galleries, Totnes Castle, and even rides on a steam railway.

Moretonhampstead

Known as one of Dartmoor's gateways, Moretonhampstead is a hive of activity, particularly in summer. This charming town offers plenty to see and do, from arts and crafts to antique shopping and its own letterbox trail. An open-air swimming pool and the A382 intersection make it an excellent base for exploring the moors.

Okehampton

Okehampton blends rich history with modern convenience. Red Lion Yard, once the stabling yard of the Red Lion Hotel, now hosts a variety of independent retailers, while its Victorian arcade offers an eclectic mix of shops. The re-instated Dartmoor Line train service connects the town to Exeter, and in summer, the volunteer-run Dartmoor Railway extends to Meldon, offering spectacular views and access to Meldon

Reservoir and Yes Tor. Highlights include the Museum of Dartmoor Life, Okehampton Castle, and Simmons Park, with its riverside walks and children's adventure area.

Princetown

Famous for its forbidding prison built during the Napoleonic Wars, Princetown is equally renowned as the inspiration for Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. Today, the town celebrates its literary connection with guided tours and events. Be sure to visit the Dartmoor National Park Visitor Centre, a hub for local knowledge and adventure planning.

Tavistock

A delightful stannary town on the edge of Dartmoor, Tavistock boasts a picturesque park along the River Tavy, charming historic shops, and a lively farmer's market. It hosts unique annual events, including the Goosey Fair in autumn and a Dickensian evening in December, making it a year-round favourite for visitors.

For more information on Dartmoor towns, visit www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/explore



©Baz Richardson - Chagford



©Colin Woodgates - Ashburton



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Rowse Farm

Rowse Farm is a peaceful pocket of tranquillity, on the edge

of the Tamar Valley, less than 30 minutes from the Southwest Coastal path and the stunning Dartmoor and Bodin moors perfect destination for an unforgettable getaway. www.rowsefarm.co.uk



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www.visittamarvalley.co.uk

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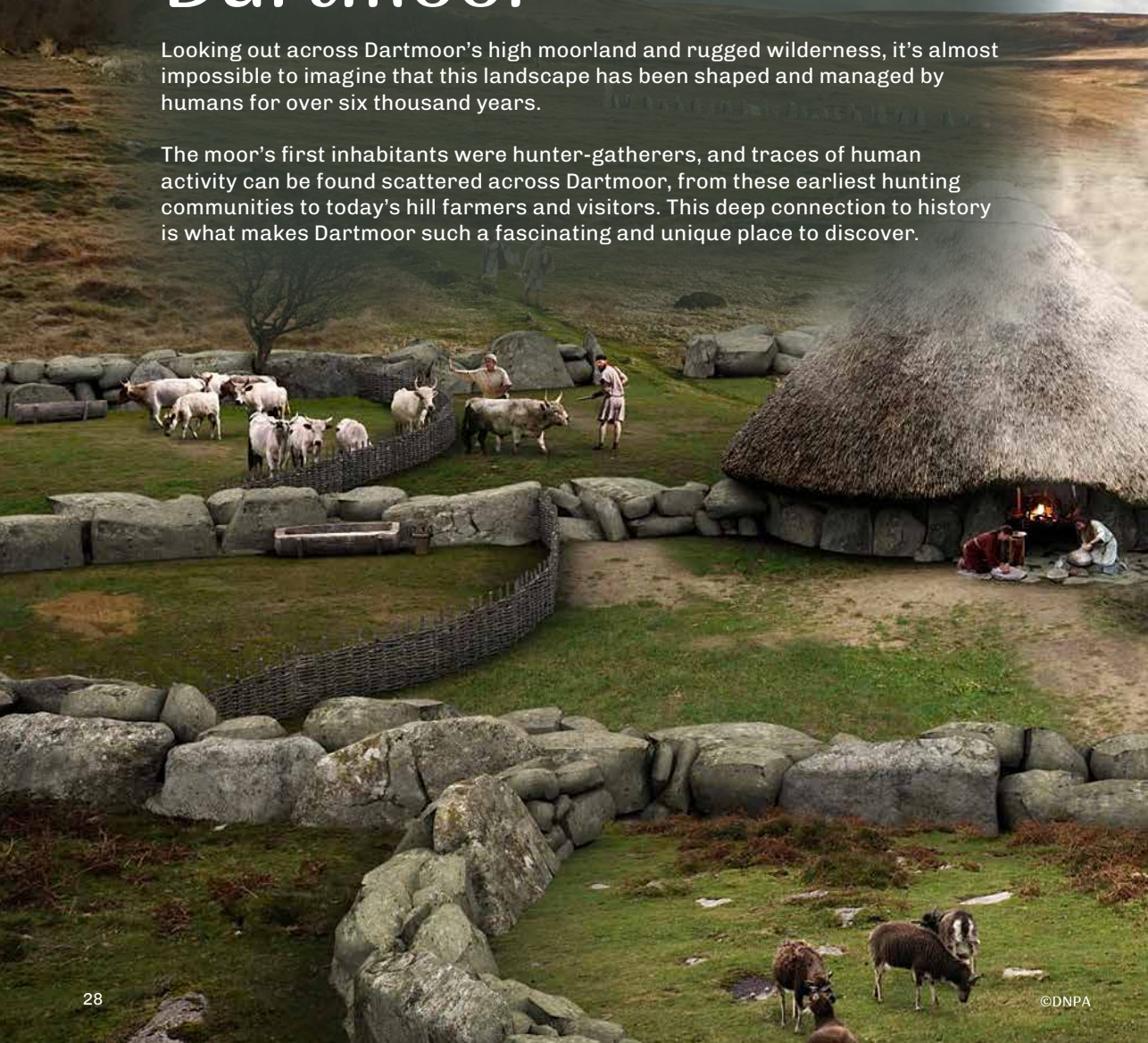
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Archaeology on Dartmoor



Looking out across Dartmoor's high moorland and rugged wilderness, it's almost impossible to imagine that this landscape has been shaped and managed by humans for over six thousand years.

The moor's first inhabitants were hunter-gatherers, and traces of human activity can be found scattered across Dartmoor, from these earliest hunting communities to today's hill farmers and visitors. This deep connection to history is what makes Dartmoor such a fascinating and unique place to discover.





©Visit Dartmoor



©Steve Grigg

When the first humans arrived, Dartmoor's granite tors stood amid dense, wooded valleys. Remnants of these ancient forests still survive in Dartmoor's iconic woodlands, such as Wistman's Wood (visitors are asked to enjoy from the path to protect this fragile habitat) and Black-a-Tor Copse, with their twisted, moss-clad oak trees.

Throughout the Neolithic, Bronze, and Iron Ages, new farming methods gradually replaced much of the forest with open landscapes. High moorland settlements, such as the breathtaking Grimspound, reveal glimpses of a warmer climate and different ways of life. Grimspound boasts the remains of multiple stone houses and a remarkably intact boundary wall—testament to the ingenuity of Bronze Age communities.

Dartmoor holds the greatest concentration of Bronze Age remains in the UK, making it an archaeological treasure trove. Its ancient settlements and relics tell a story of people adapting and thriving in an ever-changing environment, from prehistoric times to the present day.

To learn more about Dartmoor's incredible archaeology, visit: **www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/archaeology**



Visit Dartmoor

The Heart of Devon



Map Key

- Dartmoor National Park Visitor Centre
- Visitor Information Centre
- National Trust
- Historic Site
- Myths & Legends
- Museum
- Castle
- Abbey
- Parking
- Public Toilets
- Train Station
- EV charging point
- Railway
- Heritage Railway
- Military Range
- National Cycle Network
- Two Moors Way
- The Granite Way
- The Dartmoor Way
- The Wray Valley Trail
- Some of these roads are impassable for large vehicles, check with your destination and see "Motorhomes" info. Dartmoor National Park website www.dartmoor.gov.uk

For more detailed information about where to stay, visit, eat, walk and cycle when visiting Dartmoor go to the Visit Dartmoor website www.visitdartmoor.co.uk
For information about military live firing on Dartmoor visit the Dartmoor National Park Visitor Centres or telephone 0800 4584868.



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map-of-dartmoor](http://www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/map-of-dartmoor)



Keep to moorland
speed limits

40

This map has been produced for tourist information purposes only and should not be used to navigate the open moorland. While every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of information, the publishers can accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions.

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©Sophie Pierce

Try Something Different

Dartmoor isn't just for walkers and cyclists—it's a paradise for thrill-seekers and adventurers! Ride horseback across open moors, boulder on granite tors, or kayak Dartmoor's exhilarating rivers. Seeking something unique?

Try letterboxing, tor bagging, geocaching, or a navigation course. The moor is also home to incredible photography workshops, perfect for capturing its rugged beauty.



Find your next adventure:
www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/active



©Malcolm Snelgrove



©Mark Allen



©DNPA



©Malcolm Snelgrove

Climbing

For climbers, Dartmoor offers some of the finest granite climbing and bouldering in the UK. Whether you're a beginner or an expert, the tors provide endless challenges and unrivalled views. Remember to check the British Mountaineering Council's resources before heading out and always follow the Dartmoor Code of Conduct to preserve its natural beauty.



Plan your climb: www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/climbing

Riding

Discover the sheer joy of riding horseback across Dartmoor's wild and open spaces. Whether you choose brisk gallops or leisurely paths through woods and villages, riding on Dartmoor offers freedom and connection with nature. If you don't own a horse, local stables can provide guided tours to ensure a safe and exhilarating experience.



Details for riders: www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/horse-riding

Letterboxing

Dating back to 1854, Dartmoor letterboxing combines adventure and history. Follow clues to locate hidden boxes containing stamps and visitor books, scattered across the moor's tors and valleys. This pastime offers a unique way to immerse yourself in Dartmoor's landscape. Just bring a map, compass, and a spirit of adventure.



Start your treasure hunt: www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/letterboxing

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Download a map of
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[www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/
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29th August - 5th September 2025

Celebrating community and the best of what Dartmoor has to offer



A week of fantastic events that give you the opportunity to explore hidden gems, try some new activities and discover the real Dartmoor.

From guided walks to film showings, from climbing sessions to navigation workshops, from our very own festival letterbox trail to live music, there really is something for everyone at Dartmoor Outdoor Festival.

07774088938

explore@dartmooroutdoorfestival.co.uk

www.dartmooroutdoorfestival.co.uk

Arty Days

Dartmoor has long captivated artists, offering an abundance of natural beauty and inspiration that transcends its rugged landscape. Its sweeping moors, ancient stone tors, and atmospheric weather provide a visual and emotional richness that inspires creativity.

The moors, with windswept grasses and vast expanses, create a sense of openness and freedom, while the towering tors add mystery and grandeur. Dartmoor's ever-changing light and dramatic weather—from brooding mists to fleeting sunlight—enhance its allure, providing a dynamic and moody palette that challenges artists to explore shadow, light, and emotion in their work.

The region's rich history and mythology amplify its appeal. Ancient stone circles, standing stones, and settlements evoke a connection to the past, while local legends lend an element of folklore. Together, these elements inspire artists to weave themes of time and storytelling into their creations.

Dartmoor's solitude further nurtures creativity, offering peace away from urban distractions. Many artists find this connection to nature essential for creating work that resonates emotionally. To spark your creativity, visit Green Hill Arts in Moretonhampstead for workshops, explore MAKE South-West in Bovey Tracey for craft exhibitions, or see live glassblowing at the House of Marbles.



Discover creative hubs:
www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/creative



©Green Hill Arts



©House of Marbles



©Make Southwest Louis Victory



Dartmoor Shoemaking & Leathercraft Experiences

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©Rob Davey - Burrator



©Alex Graeme - Bellever Forest



©Leila Nottage

Meldon Reservoir



Places to play and picnic

BELLEVER FOREST

Nestled in the heart of Dartmoor, Bellever Forest is a haven for nature lovers. Enjoy a peaceful riverside picnic by the East Dart River or hike to Bellever Tor for breathtaking views. Along the way, spot wildlife, ancient archaeology, and the iconic Dartmoor ponies grazing among the trees.

Discover more:

www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/bellever-forest

BURRATOR ARBORETUM & NATURE RESERVE

Wander through woodland and meadows, listen to the gentle ripples of Narrator Brook, and spot dragonflies dancing over the water. Originally created after the storms of the late 1980s, this tranquil spot offers accessible paths and a peaceful retreat for nature lovers.

Find details: **www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/burrator**

MELDON RESERVOIR

Perched 900 feet above sea level, Meldon Reservoir boasts spectacular scenery and a network of walking trails. Whether you're after a gentle stroll or an adventurous hike, this stunning location is a must-visit for outdoor enthusiasts.

Plan your visit:

www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/meldon-reservoir



©Jenny How – Scorhill Stone Circle

SCORHILL STONE CIRCLE

Step back in time at one of Devon's most intact stone circles. With 23 standing stones and 11 laid flat, this Bronze Age site is steeped in history and mystery—perfect for those seeking a connection to Dartmoor's ancient past.

Explore the site:

www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/scorhill

HAYTOR

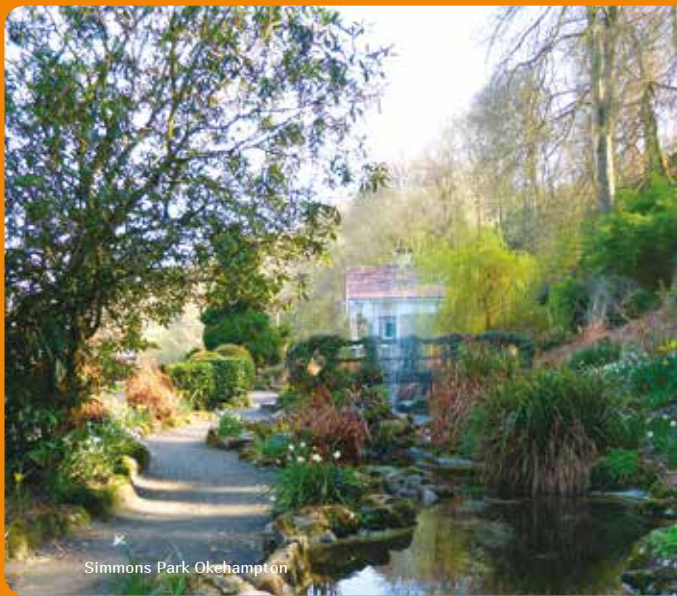
An iconic Dartmoor landmark, Haytor is a must-see for visitors. Climb to the top for panoramic views, explore disused quarries and the granite tramway, or simply relax with a scenic picnic.

Learn more:

www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/haytor

SIMMONS PARK OKEHAMPTON

Perfect for families, Simmons Park offers a mix of formal gardens, open grassy spaces, and woodland trails. Whether you're after a picnic spot, a place for kids to play, or a sheltered retreat in cooler months, this park has it all.



Simmons Park Okehampton

NATSWORTHY GATE – WIDECOMBE

For a secluded escape, head to Natsworthy Gate near Widecombe-in-the-Moor. Relax by the East Webburn River, take a tranquil woodland walk, or discover hidden pools perfect for unwinding in nature.

©Raman Kaur – Haytor



So much to do!



Dartmoor has the capacity to offer something for everyone, regardless of your interests, passion, physical fitness or mobility.


©Emily Watson - Yes Tor

the chagford film festival

Mon 22nd September to Sat 27th September

Please see our website for full programme details
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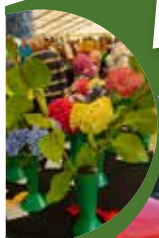
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www.chagfordshow.co.uk

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The Valiant Soldier Museum Heritage & Visitor Centre, formerly a pub that closed in 1965 with everything left as you see it today. A unique experience from a past era. Open from March to October. Visit our new Visitor Centre; see the 1920s exhibition.



79/80 Fore Street, Buckfastleigh, Devon TQ11 0BS Tel. 01364 644 522
info@valiantsoldier.org.uk www.valiantsoldier.org.uk

DID YOU KNOW?

Dartmoor National Park has over 160 tors. Their peaks offer stunning views of the Dartmoor landscapes. Some of the best tors for exploring include Haytor, Bowerman's Nose, Great Links Tor, Hound Tor, Yes Tor and Pew Tor.

A circular logo with 'WINNER' at the top, 'DEVON'S TOP ATTRACTIONS' in the middle, and 'DOG FRIENDLY ATTRACTION OF THE YEAR 2024' at the bottom.

RIVER DART COUNTRY PARK

ASHBURTON, DEVON

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A logo for 'devon tourism awards 2024-25 GOLD' with a gold ribbon graphic.

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DARE DEVILS

A wide view of a grassy area with trees and a small building.

OVER 90 ACRES OF PARKLAND & PLAYGROUNDS

A person riding a mountain bike on a trail.

A stylized compass rose with a blue and orange color scheme.

A logo for 'QUALITY ASSURED' with a checkmark and the text 'ASSOCIATION OF TOURISM BUSINESSES'.

WWW.RIVERDART.CO.UK

Please note: Dare Devil activities and Dartmoor Bike Park available at additional cost on select dates



Dartmoor Farm alpaca walks and alpaca encounters

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www.lakemooralpacasdartmoor.co.uk

Lakemoor Farm TQ11 0JF • lakemooralpacasdartmoor@outlook.com • 07936400124

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DARTMOOR NEWS

NEWS • WALKS • HISTORY • WILDLIFE • BOOK REVIEWS

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For more information on our accommodation and to book online go to www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/hotels



Dartmoor is proud to host a huge range of hotels across and around it's beautiful landscape.

Whatever you prefer can be found here, from top class luxury where opulence and grandeur abound, and your every whim or wish can be catered for, to gorgeous family hotels offering comfort, a warm welcome and local knowledge about the area.

There are castles, and country estates, small rural hotels with that wonderful personal touch, and fabulous town hotels where you will have the best of both worlds, stunning scenery on your doorstep but the benefits of having cinema, restaurants and shopping close by as well. But wherever you stay, the love for Dartmoor, the passion for fresh, locally produced food, and a pride in superb service will all ensure that your stay on Dartmoor is fabulous, and memorable for all the right reasons.



©Two Bridges Hotel

www.visitdartmoor.co.uk

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Dartmoor National Park PL20 6SW
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www.twobridges.co.uk

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go to www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/self-catering



©Little Dunley Cottages

www.visitdartmoor.co.uk

Your perfect getaway could be anything from a high end lodge in the grounds of a castle to a rustic log cabin, a picture postcard thatched cottage or a gorgeous barn conversion set on a working farm.

You can find properties with indoor pools, rambling gardens, hot tubs; some with large inglenook fireplaces or drying rooms, even games rooms, and farmhouse kitchens.

There are cottages on Dartmoor that stand alone on the moor, and those that are right in the centre of a thriving market town; some properties sit inside a large country estate, others just a short walk from the village pub.

Whatever your needs are, you can definitely find something to suit you on Dartmoor.



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Country living cottages, offering comfort and style
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Book online at www.stickwick.co.uk 01626 833 266



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www.woodermanor.com

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Around 90% of the land on Dartmoor is actually used for farming. Around 37% is common land. There are 50,000 cows, ponies and sheep kept on Dartmoor National Park for farming.

BREAKFAST IS SERVED

Bed & Breakfast and Guesthouses

For more information on our accommodation and to book online go to www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/guesthouses



What image does it conjure up for you? A cozy cottage with a thatched roof and blooming garden, a spectacular room in a grand manor, a hearty breakfast served on mismatched china, a farmhouse kitchen offering local eggs and bacon? Somewhere simple and clean where you can just fall into bed after a day exploring the magic and grandeur of Dartmoor?

Whatever your idea of a good Dartmoor Bed & Breakfast or Guest House, we may just have what you are looking for right here. Would you like somewhere to accommodate you on a tight budget, do you need a host who has great knowledge of the moor and can advise you where to walk, ride or cycle?

If you can't see what you are looking for on these pages, please visit www.visitdartmoor.co.uk or email us for further assistance.
jenny@visitdartmoor.co.uk



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Free wi-fi but we are rural! **Book from our website.**



UNDER THE STARS

Camping & Caravanning

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Sourton Down Caravan & Camping Park offers an ideal touring base for Devon and Cornwall, or for just enjoying a quiet relaxing holiday.

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01837 861 747 info@sourtondown.co.uk www.sourtondown.co.uk



Where to camp, can we take the dog, is there a play area for the children, do they have animals we can watch? Dartmoor takes camping seriously, and provides literally something for everyone, from the hardest hiker to the family with small children who are looking for family friendly sites with plenty of laundry facilities.

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Tel: 01822 832 968 **www.woodovis.com**





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What's on

All through the year there are events, shows, exhibitions, guided walks, sporting events, celebrations and educational days held all over and around Dartmoor.

Whether you are looking for a country show, an art exhibition, or a day out learning about archaeological and historical sites, there is something for everyone.

The most comprehensive list is undoubtedly on the Visit Dartmoor website at

www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/whats-on

Have fun!!



Getting Here



Each year, visitors from around the world come to Dartmoor National Park, and getting here couldn't be easier. With excellent road and public transport links—connecting seamlessly to international airports and cross-channel ferry terminals—your journey to Dartmoor is as simple as choosing how you'd like to travel.

Whether you prefer to drive, take public transport, or explore by bike, there are plenty of options. Dartmoor boasts ample parking, scenic cycling routes, and convenient bus and train connections.

For detailed travel information, including:

- Visiting by Road ● Motorhomes & Caravans ● Coaches & Buses
- Dartmoor by Train ● Train & Bus Connections ● Car-free Travel

Visit www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/travel

The Dartmoor Line

Enjoy daily passenger rail services from Exeter to Okehampton, with stops at Exeter St David's and Crediton. This convenient route provides a gateway to Dartmoor, making it easy for visitors to explore while offering essential regional connections for local commuters.

For timetables and further details, visit www.visitdartmoor.co.uk/the-dartmoor-line

Tourist Information *seasonal only

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Haytor Visitor Centre 01364 661 520

Postbridge Visitor Centre 01822 880 272*

Ashburton Information Centre 01364 653426

Bovey Tracey Information Centre 01626 832047*

Buckfastleigh Information Centre 01364 644 522*

Ivybridge Tourist Information Centre 01752 897035

Moretonhampstead Information Centre 01647 440043

Newton Abbot Tourist Information Centre 01626 215 667

Okehampton Tourist Information Centre 01837 52295

Totnes Tourist Information Centre 01803 863 168

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