



DarkSky
INTERNATIONAL



EXMOOR
NATIONAL PARK

Full
Events
Listing
Inside

Exmoor Dark Skies Festival 2026

Friday 16th October
to Sunday 1st November

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

#ExmoorDSF



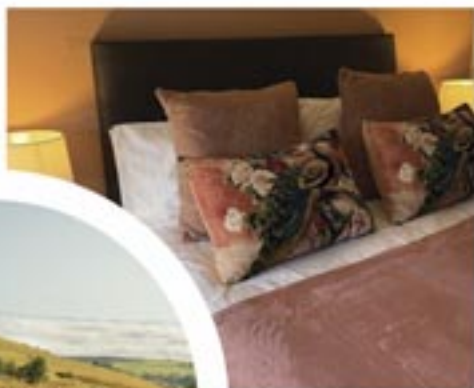
www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesfestival





BLUE BALL INN

The Blue Ball Inn is a historic Exmoor coaching inn offering warm hospitality, hearty food, dog-friendly stays, and direct access to some of the finest walks and views in the National Park.



The perfect destination for your walk, with four-legged friends always welcome. Experience our famous Exmoor sunday roast, or relax into our 'Stay & Dine' packages. Find us at www.blueballinn.com and plan your perfect Exmoor getaway today.



BLUE BALL INN

Countisbury Hill, Countisbury, Lynmouth EX35 6NE



Since becoming Europe's first **International Dark Sky Reserve** in 2011, Exmoor has celebrated the wonder, beauty and importance of its night skies. In 2026, we are delighted to host our 10th edition of the **Exmoor Dark Skies Festival** - a milestone that reflects a decade of inspiring people to look up, connect with nature, and appreciate one of our most precious natural assets.

This year's festival programme offers something for everyone, with a wealth of opportunities to explore, learn and enjoy the magic of Exmoor after dark. Join our Rangers for guided stargazing and wildlife walks, enjoy atmospheric stargazing suppers, experience immersive planetarium sessions, discover the fascinating world of UV rockpooling, learn the art of astrophotography, get creative with children's arts and crafts, or be inspired by the theatre production *The Wonders of Our Universe*.

More than a celebration of spectacular star-filled skies, the festival is an opportunity to discover why dark skies matter. By protecting our night skies from light pollution, we safeguard wildlife, improve our wellbeing, preserve our natural heritage and ensure future generations can continue to experience the magic of a truly dark night. We hope you'll join us in celebrating Exmoor's exceptional skies and help us share the importance of protecting them far and wide.



Sarah Bryan
Chief Executive,
Exmoor National Park

Photos:

This page: Lynton Valley of Rocks by Jon Rowley

front cover: Shaun Davey

FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

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Stargazing at The Poltimore Inn Observatory	North Molton	15	9
Serene Stargazing with Professor Davies	Porlock Weir	19	9
E-bike Night Ride, Exmoor Adventures	Porlock Weir	19	10
Moon Magic	Allerford	1	10
Astrophysics for Beginners	Withycombe	25	10
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Barrow Beacons - Illuminating the ancient landscape	Pinkery Centre	17	11
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FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER			
Sunset Dips, Oysters & Coastal Martinis	Porlock Weir	19	16
Ranger-Led Nocturnal Wildlife Walk & Hunters Inn Supper	Hunters Inn	11	16

FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

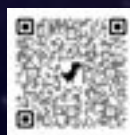
Event	Location	Map	Page
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Cliff Railway in Lights	Lynton & Lynmouth	13	30
SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER			
Planetarium Sessions & Nature Adventure	Lynton	13	30
Willow Stars Workshop	Lynmouth	13	30
Halloween Spooktakular	Lynton & Lynmouth	13	31
Norse Night	Holworthy Farm	10	31
SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER			
Ranger Guided Walk	Bossington Hill	4	31
Lynton and Barnstaple Railway, Exmoor in the dark	Woody Bay Station	27	31

Additional events are being added. You can find all the latest events and up-to-date Dark Skies Festival information 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.

If you're interested in sponsoring the Exmoor Dark Skies Festival 2027 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 2027 Festival.

MAP OF EXMOOR DARK SKY RESERVE

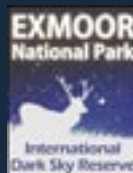


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International Dark Sky Reserve & Stargazing Locations

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

Why not take the opportunity to explore our Dark Sky Discovery Trail during the festival?

Starting near **Larkbarrow Corner**, this short, mostly level walk takes you across remote moorland and deep into rural Exmoor with minimal light pollution, where you can experience the tranquillity of Exmoor after dark.

The route is easy to navigate and marked with glow-in-the-dark signs that lead to the atmospheric ruins of Larkbarrow Farm - a stunning location and the perfect place to admire the night sky.

On a clear evening, you may be treated to spectacular views of the **Milky Way**, along with planets and constellations. In addition to the spectacular skies, take a moment to listen and watch for the nocturnal wildlife all around you - from ponies and deer to birds and bats.

Go to the **Exmoor Dark Sky Discovery Trail** page on the Exmoor National Park website to find out more. You can also purchase a route guide from the online shop or one of our **Exmoor National Park Centres**.



Secret Sauna at Cloud Farm Campsite 16

Oare, EX35 6NU

Various sessions between Friday 16 October - Sunday 1 November

5pm - 9pm

Secret Sauna at Cloud Farm offering sauna and stargazing sessions. £20pp.

Dark Skies of Exmoor Stargazing Break 8

Yarn Market Hotel, Dunster, TA24 6SF

Friday 16 - Monday 19 October

A 2 night, 3 day break to explore Exmoor's Dark Skies, led by Terry Evans, Chairman of Crewkerne Astronomical Society. The break includes 2 nights Dinner Bed and Breakfast, lunches on Saturday and Sunday, and Stargazing talks and activities. £250 per person inclusive.

Stargazing at The Poltimore Inn Observatory 15

North Molton, EX36 3HR

Friday 16 October 6pm - 10pm

Come and see the stars at the Poltimore Inn Observatory. Look through high end telescopes and go star hopping with laser guidance. Run by Space Detectives, our resident Astronomy Team and backed up with a virtual sky for wet weather/cloudy conditions. £50 adult, £40 children to include a meal.



Serene Stargazing with Professor Davies

The Porlock Weir hotel, Porlock Weir, TA24 8PB 19

Friday 16 October 6.30pm - 9pm

Experience the wonders of the cosmos from one of the UK's best dark sky locations. Join us at The Porlock Weir Hotel for a two night stay and an unforgettable evening under the stars, featuring a captivating talk by renowned astrophysicist Professor Roger Davies of Oxford University.

EVENTS

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

E-bike Night Ride, Exmoor Adventures 19

Porlock Weir, TA24 8PE

Friday 16 October 6pm - 8.30pm

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! Guided trail and quiet road ride taking in night sky. £55 per person.

Moon Magic, Allerford Tea Rooms, TA24 8HN 1

Friday 16 October 7pm - 9pm

Discovering the Moon's Influence on Everyday Life, with Jess Twydall. Join us for an inspiring evening exploring how the lunar cycle can help us slow down, reconnect with ourselves, and live more intentionally.

Astrophysics for Beginners 25

Withycombe Memorial Hall, TA24 6PZ

Friday 16 October 7pm - 10pm

Illustrated talk by Exeter University Astrophysics students, with stargazing opportunity outside after the talk. Advice on equipment and students sharing their love of astrophysics and photography. Prepare to be baffled! Suitable for older children. £10 adults, £5 children including refreshments.

Phases of the Moon Children's Activity Session 13

Exmoor National Park Centre, Lynmouth, EX35 6EQ

Saturday 17 October 11am - 12.30pm

Learn all about the moon and create your own phases of the moon slider or mobile to take home. £3 per child. Suitable for children aged 4-11. Parent/adult to stay for the duration of the session.



Discover Space in VR 12

Landmark Theatre, Ilfracombe, EX34 9BZ

Saturday 17 October 11am - 2pm

Join Sophie from Exmoor National Park and the Landmark Theatre Team for a free Space Adventure VR style! Craft activities and VR fun for all the family.

Woody Bay Mermaid Pool Dip, EX31 4QX 26



Saturday 17 October 2pm - 4pm

Discover a secret cove, and even more secret mermaid pool revealed at low tide. Learn about the blaggard who tried to steal the glory from Lynmouth by building a pleasure beach just round the corner! Dip in the safe waters, then warm up with hot drinks and snack along with new friends. £30.

Barrow Beacons - Illuminating The Ancient Landscape 17



Pinkery Centre, TA24 7LL

Saturday 17 October 5.30pm - 8.30pm

Uncover the Bronze Age legacy of Exmoor and learn about the lives of its ancient inhabitants. Enjoy a unique twilight walking experience across the sweeping moorland of Exmoor, connecting two ancient sites under the stars: Wood Barrow and The Chains Barrow. Share hot chocolate back at Pinkery to warm up. Reasonable level of fitness required, walks will be on uneven ground and approximately 5km in distance. Free but donations to

CareMoor for Exmoor  appreciated. Booking required.

Norse Night @ Holworthy Farm, TA22 9NY 10

Saturday 17 October 6pm - 10pm

In this themed event, we take a look at the night sky as told by the Vikings. Come and enjoy a Viking Meal followed by stories of Norsemen, Norse Gods and the constellations of Thor and Odin. A night sky and evening with a difference in celebration of this year's Exmoor Dark Skies Festival. Cost from £35 pp as well as the option to stay overnight.

Astrophotography in the Doone Valley 16

Lorna Doone Valley, Malmsmead, EX35 6NU

Saturday 17 October 6pm - 8pm

Ever wanted to learn about capturing the beauty of the Exmoor landscape and dark skies at night? Join local photographer Mark Johnson for a photography experience to remember. Full information on Lorna Doone website. Adult £15, Children £8.

Family Stargazing Night **6**
County Gate Car Park, EX35 6NY
Saturday 17 October 7pm - 11pm

A family star-gazing get-together with the North Devon Astronomical Society. Bring your own food and drink. The Society will be providing many telescopes to use and Society Members will be on hand to guide you through a journey of the night sky. Free of charge.

Biofluorescent Night Walk **16**
Oare House, EX35 6NX

Sunday 18 October 6.30pm - 8pm & 8.30pm - 10pm

Step into a hidden world of colour on this fascinating biofluorescent night walk with David Atthowe from Reveal Nature. Guided through the woodland after dark, you'll use UV torches to reveal nature in an entirely new light. A rare opportunity to experience the hidden wonders of the night and see familiar woodland species as you've never seen them before. Tickets: £25 per person.



Planetarium Sessions **14**



Minehead Middle School, TA24 5RH

Monday 19 October 4.30pm - 8pm

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 from 4.30pm. Adult £7.50, Under 16s £5. Booking essential.

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- P. Heywood, 53 - Birmingham

25 OCT 2026

THE REGAL THEATRE | MINEHEAD

SHOWTIME: 7PM

**TICKETS FROM £20 ADULT
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11+

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Market Street, Lynton, EX35 6AG | www.thecrownlynton.co.uk

E-bike Night Ride, Exmoor Adventures 19

Porlock Weir, TA24 8PE

Monday 19 October 6pm - 8.30pm

See 16 October for more information.



Night Hike at Lorna Doone Valley 16

Malmsmead, EX35 6NU

Tuesday 20 October 7pm - 9pm

A guided night hike through the Doone Valley and the wider Exmoor landscape. Make the most of the Dark Sky Reserve with the National Trust guide taking the group to some of the best stargazing spots in the valley. £5 adult £3 child.

UV Rockpooling 5

Combe Martin Beach, EX34 0DJ

Wednesday 21 October 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Discover Exmoor's rocky coast after dark! Join us for a fascinating Night-Time UV Rock Pooling event, where ultraviolet torches reveal a hidden world of glowing marine life. Explore the rock pools of Combe Martin alongside our Rangers and expert volunteers.

This event is suitable for ages 10+.

Equipment provided. £5pp



Stargazing Evening at Dunster Castle, TA24 6SL 8

Wednesday 21 October 7pm - 10pm

Join us on the Keep Garden as we host Space Detectives, a leading space and astronomy education company. Enjoy an evening of stargazing activities using telescopic equipment, laser guided star mapping, constellation story telling and much more. Wet weather options will include VR headsets and a mobile planetarium. Booking Essential £25pp.

Stargazing Supper 9

Exford Bridge Tearooms, Exford, TA24 7PY

Thursday 22 October 6pm - 10pm

Come and enjoy a hearty 3 course meal cooked by Bruce and then join Pete and Jo Richardson for a journey through the stars. If skies are clear, a short dark sky walk follows a starry presentation and the opportunity to look through a high end telescope. If skies are cloudy, we will stay in the warmth of the log burner and look at a virtual sky for star hopping and stories. Cost £56 for adults and £30 for children under 16.

Sunset Dips, Oysters & Coastal Martinis, Porlock Weir, TA24 8PB 19

Friday 23 October 3.30pm - 6pm

Experience the beauty of Porlock Bay at sunset. Begin with a guided sea dip led by qualified Open Water Swim Coach, Unity before gathering at the Porlock Bay Oyster Hut to enjoy freshly shucked oysters and discover the area's rich oyster heritage. Complete the evening with a signature Sea Centaur Coastal Martini, handcrafted by award-winning distiller Becky Wright using Sea Centaur Gin and locally foraged samphire from Porlock Bay. £45, over 18s only.

Ranger-Led Nocturnal Wildlife Walk & Hunters Inn Supper 11

Heddon Valley, EX31 4PY

Friday 23 October 5.30pm - 8.30pm

Join an Exmoor National Park Ranger for a guided nocturnal wildlife walk through the beautiful Heddon Valley, starting from The Hunters Inn. As darkness falls, discover the fascinating wildlife that comes alive at night, from bats and owls to the hidden creatures that call Exmoor home, while learning about the unique habitats of this spectacular landscape. After your adventure, return to the inn to enjoy your choice of fish & chips or pie and mash (vegetarian and vegan options available), served with a drink. Tickets are £20 per person, with a £10 deposit required at the time of booking.

Ranger Guided Walk - Dunkery Beacon 22



Friday 23 October 5pm - 8.30pm

Join National Park Ranger Tim Parish for a guided walk from Webber's Post up to the top of Dunkery Beacon. There'll be amateur astronomers on hand to guide you around the constellations if skies are clear. Parts of the 4-mile walk (around 3 hours) will be on uneven, narrow paths in the dark, and use of headtorches is discouraged. A good level of fitness and the ability to walk unaided is essential. Adult £5.50, Under 16s £3.50.

Stargazing at The Poltimore Inn Observatory 15

North Molton, EX36 3HR

Friday 23 October 6pm - 10pm

See 16 October for more information.

Exmoor Dark Skies Quiz Evening & Stargazing 14



Minehead Golf Club, TA24 5SJ

Friday 23 October 6.30pm - 10pm

Minehead Golf Club join forces with the Exmoor National Park team for a fun evening of quizzing and stargazing. Food options available from 6pm and quiz commences at 7pm. Max 6 per team.

Night Hike at Lorna Doone Valley, Malmsmead, EX35 6NU 16

Friday 23 October 7pm - 9pm

See 20 October for more information.

Dark Skies Talk by Astronomer & Presenter Seb Jay 13



Exmoor National Park Centre, Lynmouth, EX35 6EQ

Saturday 24 October 2pm - 3.30pm & 4pm - 5.30pm

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. Seb takes us on a journey through time and space, introducing us to the solar system, Milky Way and wider universe. £6pp.

LGBTQIA+ Haunting Nature ²

National Trust Outdoor Hub, Woolley Woods, EX31 4JZ

Saturday 24 October, 3pm - 7pm

A collaboration between the Queer Nature Club and Arlington Court. Ranger led guided walk discussing the mythical and murderous tales in which our trees, plants and animals played central roles followed by a fireside creative writing session led by Queer Nature Club, accompanied by hot soup and marshmallows. Free entry.

When The Sky Falls - A Human History Of Shooting Stars ⁷

Seven Fables, Dulverton, TA22 9HB

Saturday 24 October 4pm - 6.30pm

Join writer, Jade Angeles Fitton, for a walk and talk in the woods of Dulverton. *When the Sky Falls* explores the varied influences the shooting star has had on our global culture and history from the governing of kings, queens and emperors, to folklore, superstitions, myths, art, music and literature.

Magical Moonlight High Tide Swim ¹⁹

Porlock Weir, TA24 8RA

Saturday 24 October 5pm - 6.30pm

Porlock Weir is a magical spot to swim at any high tide, but when the super-high Spring tide coincides with a moonrise it has to be time to slip into the harbour to be completely immersed in the moment. Experienced outdoor swimmers only. Cost £20.

E-bike Night Ride, Exmoor Adventures ¹⁹

Porlock Weir, TA24 8PE

Saturday 24 October 6pm - 8.30pm

See 16 October for more information.



Wimbleball Lake by Jon Rowley



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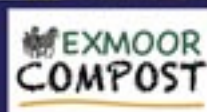
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Triscombe Farm's Celebration Of The Dark Skies & All That Is Exmoor 23

Triscombe Farm, TA24 7HA

Saturday 24 October 6pm - 10pm

Book at least 2 nights accommodation & join us to celebrate all that is Exmoor (except the glass of welcoming champagne) including a traditional Exmoor menu farmhouse supper & exploring the wonders of the Exmoor dark skies with the highly acclaimed **Space Detectives Jo & Pete Richardson**. Excluding accommodation cost: £30/adult 18 years & above. Children welcome (cost is age dependant). All proceeds to Brainwave Charity.

Biofluorescent Night Walk 11

Root Project, EX35 6NX

Saturday 24 October 6.30pm - 8pm & 8.30pm - 10pm

See Sunday 18 October for more information.

The Wonders of Our Universe by The Average Scientist 14

The Regal Theatre, Minehead, TA24 5AZ

Sunday 25 October 7pm - 10pm

Guided by astrophysicist Ian Hall FRAS, Wonders of Our Universe takes audiences on an awe-inspiring journey from the explosive birth of the cosmos to humanity's first steps beyond our home planet. Along the way, you'll uncover the secrets of black holes, witness the birth and death of stars and explore the breathtaking beauty of distant galaxies. Every moment is brought vividly to life with huge HD cinematic visuals, immersive sounds and a soaring live soundtrack that turn complex science into pure emotion. Visually spectacular, scientifically rich and emotionally stirring, Wonders of Our Universe will change the way you see the night sky - and your place within it. £20 adult £18 child.



Tawny Owls: Harvey Grenville

EVENTS

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

Dark Skies Hedgehog Craft Session 8

Exmoor National Park Centre, Dunster, TA24 6SE

Monday 26 October 10.30am - 12pm & 1.30pm - 3pm

As the nights draw in and the days get shorter, join our team at the Exmoor National Park Centre in Dunster for a fun-filled half-term event inspired by hedgehogs! Children can enjoy: Hedgehog-themed arts and crafts, hedgehog quiz trail and a delightful story about Bertie the hedgehog, Perfect for primary-aged children (4-11 years). £2 per child, parent/carer must stay throughout the session.



Sunrise And Moonset, Hightide Porlock Marsh Guided Walk 18

Doverhay car park, TA24 8PZ

Tuesday 27 October 6.30am - 9.30am

Discover the spectacle of high tide on Porlock Marsh, coinciding with sunrise, and perhaps even the setting of the moon! We will walk from Porlock village onto the marsh along the new boardwalk, looking out for curlews, shelducks and oyster catchers. Taking care not to get cut off by the rising tide we can perhaps get as far as the famous oak tree skeletons before returning to Porlock in time for a cafe breakfast. Cost £15.

Wild Twilight 20

Ashcombe Car Park, Simonsbath, TA24 7SH

Tuesday 27 October 4.30pm - 7.30pm

Join us as twilight falls and Ashcombe Gardens come alive! We invite families to discover the secrets of nocturnal wildlife and their habitats through nature exploration, gather round craft tables to make your own wild creations, and enjoy hot chocolate and marshmallows around a campfire as night descends. Activities are primarily intended for children aged 6 and up, but younger children are welcome if they are interested and are supported by parents. No dogs please. Free but donation to  appreciated. Booking essential.



EXFORD
EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK
TA24 7PY
TEL: 01643 831 229



INDEPENDENT
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A Flavour of the Moor - Whether a hearty meal in the relaxed atmosphere of a traditional Alehouse, a delicious homemade cream tea served by the river or indulge in our celebrated Exmoor Sunday Carvery.

Exmoor Dining - Seasonal, local, fresh & distinctive are key elements of our restaurant menu rich in organic produce from surrounding farms and served in our elegant dining room.



Fireside Sanctuary After a long day exploring, relax in oak beamed bars serving an impressive selection of local real ales or enjoy a wee dram by a crackling fire on cold days. Boasting one of the finest selections of single malts in England - with over 200 whiskies for your approval.

Open from day break to starry nights all year round.

- Morning Coffee • Bar Lunches
- Afternoon Teas and Evening Meals served daily throughout the year

To discover more and view our Special Offer & Late Availability
please email enquiries@exmoor-whitehorse.co.uk
or visit our website at www.exmoor-whitehorse.co.uk
or call 01643 831229

Westerclose House Cottages, Withypool

Exmoor National Park, TA24 7QR 07765 916736

Beautiful tranquil location in the heart of Exmoor



- Self-catering cottages and B&B
- Stunning views over open countryside
- Wonderful walking, riding & cycling
- Dogs & horses welcome
- Individual cottage gardens, log fires
- Local info, maps & games room
- 100 yds to village pub, shop, tearoom
- Ample parking outside each cottage
- Coast 10-minutes

polly@westerclose.co.uk

www.westerclose.co.uk

Exmoor Ponies & Wildlife at Night

at the Exmoor Pony Centre

Thursday 29th Oct 5.30 - 7.00pm

Friday 30th Oct 5.30 - 7.00pm

A family friendly evening meeting Exmoor ponies and finding out about Exmoor's nocturnal wildlife with our staff team and wildlife expert.

Hot chocolate and marshmallows included!



All funds raised will help protect Exmoor Ponies

Registered Charity No. 1134708

www.moorlandhousetrust.org.uk

info@exmoorponycentre.org.uk | 01398 322000 | Exmoor Pony Centre | Dulverton | TA22 9GB

Come and explore WIMBLEBALL LAKE

for a great day out!

Near Dulverton, TA22 9NU

walking • watersports • play area
camping • stargazing • archery
wildlife • cycling • high ropes

Campsite open until 1 November.
Check website for Activity Centre opening times



#ItsYourOutdoors
01398 371460
www.laketrust.org.uk/activities

SEVEN FABLES

a haven of inspiration on Exmoor

nature writing
prints & originals
wild reading club
art materials
British craft



Image © Jessica Morris

SevenFables.co.uk
The High Street Dulverton

E-bike Night Ride, Exmoor Adventures 19

Porlock Weir, TA24 8PE

Tuesday 27 October 6pm - 8.30pm

See 16 October for more information.

Fireside Storytelling in The Doone Valley, EX35 6NU 16

Tuesday 27 October 5.30pm - 6.30pm & 6.45pm - 7.45pm

Lorna Doone Valley will be hosting a children's fireside story telling session. Join our team and listen to enchanting stories under the stars and around the fire. The event will be taking place in our new play area and forest school. £5 per child.

Galactic Atoms To Golden Ammonites 7

An Inspiring Talk By Grant Sherman MSc

Dulverton Town Hall, TA22 9EX

Wednesday 28 October 10am - 11.30am

Hidden in the black shales of Lyme Regis are ammonite fossils made of Iron Pyrite. How did these fossils form? Where did the iron and sulphur in them and in our planet come from? Join Grant Sherman (who has degrees in both Astrophysics and Ecology) as he tries to provide answers to these questions and many more. This is a talk organised by the Exmoor Friends. Non-members are welcome and entry is free for the first visit as an introductory offer.

Beyond The Stars - An Interactive Evening at Quince Honey Farm 21

South Molton, EX36 3RD

Wednesday 28 October 6pm - 9pm

Discover the wonders of the universe at our interactive space evening at Quince Honey Farm, hosted by Jo and Pete from Space Detectives. The night begins with a warming supper followed by an introductory presentation to set the cosmic scene before heading into a planetarium dome for an immersive journey through the stars and VR Showtime headsets. If the skies are clear, head into the Nectar Gardens for guided stargazing using high-end "Go To" telescopes.

EVENTS

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

Sauna and Stars

Lynmouth Holiday Retreat, EX35 6LD 13

Wednesday 28 October 6pm - 8pm

Come nestle in the warmth under the Exmoor sky after a guided night time walk, taking in woodland, river and coast. An evening of peace and relaxation for mind, body and soul.

Pathway to the Planets, Meteors and Marshmallows 24



Wimbleball Lake, TA22 9NU

Thursday 29th October, 3.30pm - 8pm

An afternoon of family fun to include a space-themed trail and quiz along the lake's edge (approx. 2 miles), fireside talk with astronomer Jo Richardson from Space Detectives and our Ranger team, stargazing overlooking the lake, children's activities, hot chocolate and marshmallows. Bring your own picnic. Tea/coffee/cold drinks and snacks will be for sale. Suitable for families, sensible footwear advised. £7pp (under 3 free).

Exmoor Ponies and Wildlife at Night 3

Exmoor Pony Centre, Ashwick, TA22 9QE

Thursday 29 October, 5.30pm - 7pm

A family friendly evening, meeting Exmoor ponies and finding out about Exmoor's nocturnal wildlife. With Hot chocolate, marshmallows and biscuits.

Arlington Night Walk 2

Arlington Court, EX31 4LP

Thursday 29 October, 6pm - 8pm

A guided hour and a half walk exploring the wildlife of a nocturnal woodland from bats to moths, with some haunting tales along the way and hot drinks at the end. Free entry.

Yarn Market Hotel

Dunster, Exmoor National Park, TA24 6SF. Tel 01643 821425
hotel@yarnmarkethotel.co.uk www.yarnmarkethotel.co.uk

Exmoor Dark Skies Breaks

Led by Terry Evans, Chairman of Crewkerne Astronomical Society

Friday 16th to Sunday 18th October 2026

Includes an excursion to Holworthy Farm, Wimbleball for
an evening with Jo Richardson of Space Detectives

Friday 5th to Sunday 7th February 2027

Includes an excursion to Norman Lockyer Observatory

**£250.00 per person for 2 nights Dinner Bed and
Breakfast to include Sunday lunch, all talks and
Stargazing activities . No single supplements. On
both breaks spaces are limited – book early**





National
Trust

Stargazing at Dunster Castle

Join 'Space Detectives' on the Keep Garden for an evening of stargazing activities using telescopic equipment, laser guided star mapping, constellation story telling and much more.

Wednesday 21st October | Tickets £25

Scan the QR code to book:



Cliff Railway in Lights ¹³

Lynton and Lynmouth Cliff Railway, EX35 6HW

Thursday 29 October, 6pm - 9pm

Visit the Cliff Railway and see it glowing and sparkling with hundreds of lights and special effects. Truly magical and fun for all the family. Normal charges apply.

Night Hike at Lorna Doone Valley ¹⁶

Malmsmead, EX35 6NU

Thursday 29 October 7pm - 9pm

See 20 October for more information.

Dip Dine and Divine Vibes ⁹

Westermill Farm, Exford, TA24 7NJ

Friday 30 October 3pm - 8pm

On the high reaches of the River Exe, a tiny tributary of the river feeds a pond before it drops into the valley to continue its journey. Here, surrounded by wildlife, we will slip into the water to be revived by Nature herself, washing away the outside world. Exiting the water before anyone is too cold, we will warm up with hearty food, before settling down for a Gong Bath. Accomplished Gong practitioner, Megan Players will soothe away stress or stagnation in a farm shelter for an hour's practice. £60pp.



Exmoor Ponies and Wildlife at Night ³

Exmoor Pony Centre, Ashwick, TA22 9QE

Friday 30 October, 5.30pm - 7pm

See 29 October for more information.

Stargazing Supper ⁹

Exford Bridge Tearooms, Exford, TA24 7PY

Friday 30 October 6pm - 10pm

See 22 October for more information.

EVENTS

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

E-bike Night Ride, Exmoor Adventures 19

Porlock Weir, TA24 8PE

Friday 30 October 6pm - 8.30pm

See 16 October for more information.

Cliff Railway in Lights 13

Lynton and Lynmouth Cliff Railway, EX35 6HW

Friday 30 October, 6pm - 9pm

See 29 October for more information.

Planetarium Sessions & Nature Adventure 13

Sports Hall, Lee Abbey, Lynton, EX35 6JJ

Saturday 31 October 10am - 7pm

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. Following your session, you are invited to join our Exmoor Nature Park Ranger Team for some nature activities and exploration at Lee beach and surrounding area. Hot drinks and snacks will be available to purchase. Adults £7.50, Under 16 £5.



Willow Stars Workshop 13

**Exmoor National Park Centre,
Lynmouth, The Esplanade, EX35 6EQ ,
Saturday 31 October, 11am - 1pm**

Join Jane (our Willow Weaving expert) and the National Park Centre Team to make your own Willow Star. £5pp.



Halloween Spooktakular 13

Lynton & Lynmouth Cliff Railway, EX35 6HW

Saturday 31 October, 6pm - 9pm

Are you brave enough to ride the Cliff Railway in the dark? Spooky happenings, staff in costume and all things Halloween! Usual ticket price for cliff railway travel applies.

Norse Night, Holworthy Farm, TA22 9NY 10

Saturday 31 October 6pm - 10pm

See 17 October for more information.

Ranger Guided Walk at Bossington Hill, Bossington Hill Car Park, TA24 8HF

Sunday 1 November 4pm - 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 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. Well behaved dogs on leads welcome. Adults £5, Children £3.

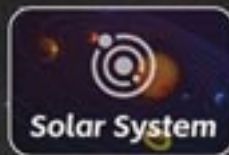


Lynton And Barnstaple Railway, Exmoor In The Dark 27

Woody Bay Station, EX31 4RA

Sunday 1 November 4.30pm - 6pm

Experience travelling through the darkness of Exmoor as the Victorians did. In this special one-off service we'll be operating an extra train after sunset so you can experience steam on the moor under dark skies, exactly as passengers did at the turn of the century. Normal day fares will apply so turn up early, travel in the daylight and then contrast it with an atmospheric trip in the dark. Adults £11.50, Children free.



Discover the Universe

(No experience required)

Capture stunning images of galaxies, nebulae and the Moon with the ZWO SeeStar S30 Pro smart telescope - astronomy made beautifully simple.

- Automatic setup and intelligent tracking mean you're observing in minutes.
- Capture breathtaking deep-sky images and crisp lunar views with just a tap.
- Lightweight, portable design lets you explore the night sky from almost anywhere.
- Perfect for beginners, families and anyone who's ever wondered what's beyond the stars.



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