

Full
Events
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Exmoor Dark Skies Festival 2021

Sponsored by  **CELESTRON**

22nd October - 7th November

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

#ExmoorDSF

www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesfestival

Exmoor Celebrates 10 years as International Dark Sky Reserve

It was ten years ago that Exmoor's uniquely dark skies were formally recognised by the International Dark Sky Association and the National Park became Europe's first International Dark Sky Reserve. Recent research by CPRE, the countryside charity, demonstrates that today, 92% of Exmoor has pristine night skies, free from light pollution, and even the remaining areas have incredibly dark skies.

Exmoor residents often marvel at the night sky but for our visitors, many of whom live in light polluted towns and cities, gazing up to see thousands of stars can be a very moving experience.

Joining us during the popular Dark Skies Festival is a great way to help us celebrate this special quality of the National Park. This year's festival, kindly sponsored by telescope manufacturer Celestron UK, offers events for anyone with an interest in the outdoors, the natural world, the night sky and our place in the universe.

There are now opportunities all year round for learning more and enjoying the spectacular night sky views so whether you'd like to head out on your own or be guided by an astronomy expert there's plenty for you to discover.



Sarah Bryan
Chief Executive,
Exmoor National Park

www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesfestival

Photo: Moon from Exmoor by Martin Goff-Jones
Front cover photo: Milky Way over Porlock by Richard Presley

DARK SKY DISCOVERY HUB

The central Exmoor village of Exford now hosts the National Park's very first 'Dark Sky Discovery Hub'.

Exmoor National Park Authority are supporting local businesses Wild About Exmoor and Exford Bridge Tea Rooms to create a focal point for visitors interested in experiencing the area's incredibly dark skies. Together they will be hosting weekly expert talks and guided stargazing sessions throughout the year, along with advice and an array of inspirational materials, star charts, books and guides.

With their telescopes, they can introduce you to the wonders of deep sky through planets, distant stars and galaxies. In addition to offering guided outdoor stargazing sessions, there are indoor presentations in Exford Bridge Tea Rooms using their new 50" screen and some amazing planetarium software. This will enable groups of up to 30 people of all ages to learn about the night sky.

For further details and dates of events at the Dark Sky Discovery Hub at Exford, call 01643 831759 or visit www.wildaboutexmoor.com

EXMOOR DARK SKIES HAIKU CHALLENGE

For the chance to win your very own Celestron telescope, we are inviting young people of school age to join our poetry challenge and create a Haiku poem inspired by Exmoor's Dark Skies. The poems must be a traditional Haiku of seventeen syllables, in three lines of five, seven, five. Every entry will be displayed in one of our National Park Centres for all to enjoy.



Instructions

1. Write a poem containing three lines of five, seven and five syllables - this is called a Haiku!
2. Submit your entries by email to haiku@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk Please remember to include your name and age. Closing date is Sunday 7th November 2021.
3. The winner will be notified by email by 12th November and will be able to choose to collect the Celestron telescope from one of our National Park Centres.

Top Tips

- ✓ Traditional Haiku poems describe and create images of the natural world rather than feelings about a place or time
- ✓ They often include a point of contrast, in poetry this is called a juxtaposition
- ✓ Don't forget the theme is 'Exmoor's Dark Skies'
- ✓ If you are struggling for a word of a certain length, try using a thesaurus
- ✓ A haiku poem does not have to rhyme
- ✓ Still unsure? Try doing a google search, there are many inspiring examples to get you going
- ✓ Watch the YouTube video - see page 8 for details

BOOKING INFORMATION

The festival is hosted by Exmoor National Park Authority and also includes events run by partner organisations and businesses.

How to book Exmoor National Park Authority events:  Book online at www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesfestival For help with booking an Exmoor National Park event please call the Lynmouth National Park Centre on 01598 752509 (open 7 days). All events require booking in advance unless stated otherwise. Children: 16 and under.

How to book other organisations' events: Please refer to the event pages in this programme, each event listing includes booking information and contact details of the organisers. ENPA accepts no responsibility for events run by partner organisations or businesses.

Refunds & Exchanges

Exmoor National Park Authority will offer a full refund to anyone needing to cancel due to covid. Prior notice must be given by email to info@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk. If we need to cancel an event a full refund will be given.

Changes & Cancellation of Events

Exmoor National Park Authority (ENPA) and other organisations may make changes to the programme. If an ENPA event needs to be cancelled due to unforeseen or unavoidable circumstances outside their control ENPA will, as far as is practically possible, notify ticket holders in advance.

Covid information

Please do not attend any festival event if you have been advised to self-isolate, are feeling unwell or have any symptoms of coronavirus – see www.gov.uk/coronavirus

Please follow all guidelines at events; wear a mask if possible, respect social distancing and wash/sanitise your hands regularly. Event organisers are responsible for their own events – please refer to the event organisers for guidelines and precautions at their events.

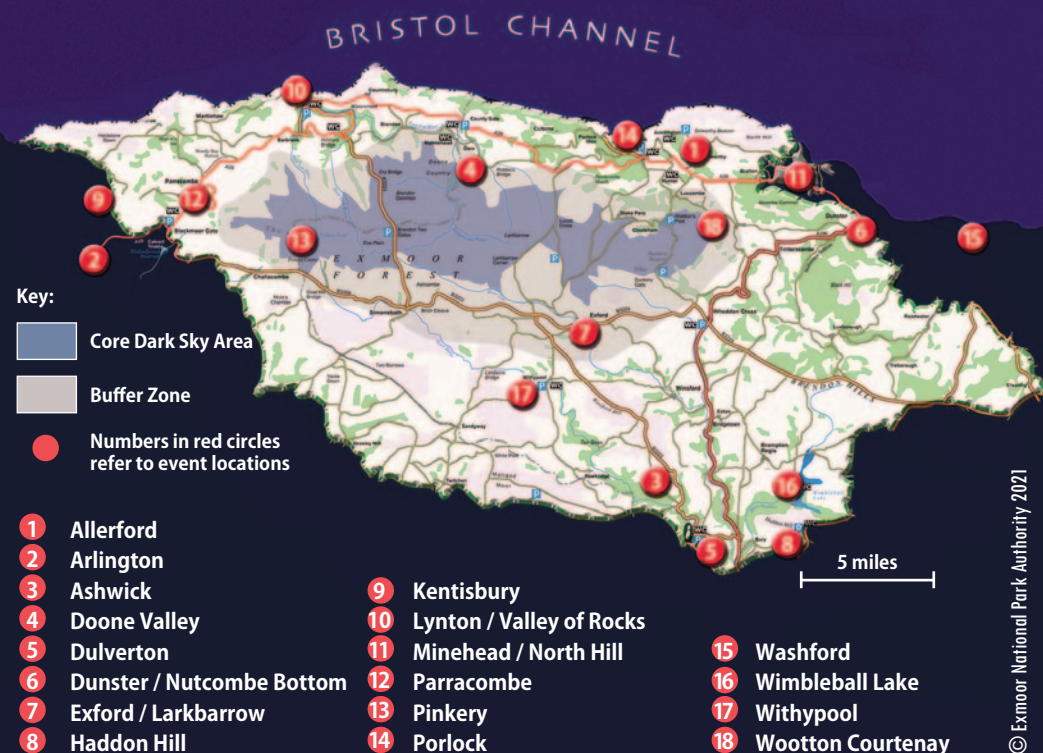
Refer to the relevant event organisers about their covid-cancellation/refund policy.



The price for some events includes a donation to 'CareMoor for Exmoor'. CareMoor is a donation scheme operated and managed by Exmoor National Park Authority. The scheme provides an opportunity for those inspired by Exmoor to contribute to the upkeep of the National Park through donations. CareMoor funds are used for valuable conservation and access projects.

Luxborough church by Harvey Grenville

MAP OF EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK



International Dark Sky Reserve & Stargazing Locations

Ten years ago Exmoor National Park became the first area in Europe to be designated as a Dark Sky Reserve by the International Dark Sky Association. Whilst the whole of Exmoor can boast incredibly dark skies, the designation specifically helps us to protect the shaded areas shown on the map above. These are known as the core dark sky area and buffer zone.

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** just outside Exford 7. Whether it's clear or cloudy it will be a mini adventure suitable for all the family. Read more about it at www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/stargazing or ask at our National Park Centres where a printed guide will be available from Autumn 2021.



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EVENTS RUNNING THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL

Dark Skies Story, Drawing & Writing with Author Peta Rainford ● Online event for children (Watch free on YouTube)

Do you know the story about Jacob Starke and how he learnt to love the dark? Join in this online session with children's author and illustrator Peta Rainford as she shares extracts from her rhyming picture book, *Jacob Starke Loves the Dark*, and takes you on an amazing night-time adventure. You can join in too: Peta will show you how to draw an owl like the one in her book, and for those thinking of taking part in the **Exmoor Dark Skies Haiku Challenge** (see page 5), there will be a Jacob Starke-inspired Haiku workshop, with some handy hints and tips. Suitable for children aged 4+ and families. See www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/darkskiesfestival or email KJMunro@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk for the YouTube Link.

Spot the Planets ● 5 Dulverton National Park Centre

Children 10 years and under are invited to visit the Dulverton National Park Centre and play Spot the Planets to be entered into a free prize draw.

Dark Sky Discovery Trail ● 7 See page 7 for details.



EVENTS RUNNING THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL

Dark Skies Owls Experience ● 1 Exmoor Owl & Wildlife Sanctuary, Allerford Most dates throughout the festival

Enjoy a one hour Dark Skies Owl Experience to include three British (Exmoor) owls flown to the gloved hand in our Owl Barn. Visitors can learn about their natural history, and their individual hunting techniques in the wild and why dark skies are so important. The price will be £40 for a group of one or two participants; plus £10 per additional person - max 6 people. 10am - 11am or 11.30am - 12.30pm. Other Birds of Prey Experiences available too. www.exmoorowlhawkcentre.co.uk



Exmoor Barle Valley Wildlife Safaris - Dusk Safaris ● 7 Most dates throughout the festival

Book an exclusive date for you and your family/group (up to 7 passengers) for £175. Meet experienced guide Daphne Brace before departing from Exford on an adventure around Exmoor in her Land Rover as the sun goes down. Hopefully see some red deer and stars (weather permitting) and hear myths and legends. Call Daphne on 07977571494. www.facebook.com/ExmoorBarleValleyWildlifeSafaris
www.exmoorwildlifesafaris.com

A Live Online Introduction to Exmoor's Dark Skies
Friday 22 Oct 7pm (recording will be available throughout the festival)



Join Ben Totterdell and astronomer Jo Richardson for a FREE live online session covering:

- Exmoor - International Dark Sky Reserve
- Light Pollution
- Where to go
- What to do and take
- What to see in the Autumn sky
- Q&A

Booking: see Exmoor National Park Authority event booking on page 6

Exmoor Dark Skies & Farmhouse Supper, Exford ● 7
Friday 22 Oct 6pm

Join Wild About Exmoor for an evening of walking under the stars. Enjoy a delicious home cooked roast dinner, made with local produce at our traditional Exmoor farm cottage. We talk about the stars and planets and explain the use of Apps on phone and iPad. Learn how to use our two telescopes and binoculars to delve into deeper space. £40 per head with complimentary drinks and starry information. Please bring torches, warm clothing and stout footwear.

Booking essential: **01643 831759**
www.wildaboutexmoor.com info@wildaboutexmoor.com

Exmoor's Dark Skies Art Exhibition 17
Lanacre Barn Gallery, Withypool

Friday 22 - Monday 25 Oct Open 10am to 6pm

Receive a warm welcome at Lanacre Barn Gallery in the heart of Exmoor where a talented group of local artists will be exhibiting a large and varied selection of artworks all inspired by the National Park's dark skies. Free Entry. Open 10am to 6pm. More details of artists on gallery website: www.moorlandart.com

Stargazing Weekend, Yarn Market Hotel, Dunster 6
Friday 22-Sunday 24 Oct

Expert talks and guided stargazing sessions for guests booking onto these popular darks skies weekends. See advert on page 13.
www.yarnmarkethotel.co.uk/special_interest 01643 821425

Exford Dark Skies Discovery Hub Event, Exford ● 7
Saturday 23 Oct 6pm

Join Bruce and Claire, Malcolm and Jennie at the Exford Bridge Tea Rooms for a planetarium presentation with delicious locally sourced food and a "No question is a silly question" sociable chat session, with loads of information about local stargazing. An optional walk out into the dark skies area to use our telescopes will round off the evening nicely! Adults £35, Under 16s £20 with £5 for the walk payable on the day. Booking essential: www.wildaboutexmoor.com
info@wildaboutexmoor.com 01643 831759

Super Space Saturday - Family Workshops ● 6

Tithe Barn, Dunster

Saturday 23 Oct 10.30am and 2pm

We will be hosting two 2-hour workshops with a variety of fun space based activities for all ages. The morning workshop (10.30am start) will be more suited to younger children and the afternoon workshop (2pm start) for older children. Astronomers Jo Richardson and Simon Holbeche will be keeping you busy making and launching your own rockets, directing remote control Martian buggies over Martian terrain, talking about all things 'space' and loads of other activities including a 'selfie' station! Fancy dress welcome. Meet National Park Ranger Charlotte to learn about why she loves the dark, moths and microscopes! Adults & Children £5pp
Booking: see Exmoor National Park Authority event booking on page 6



Space-themed Craft Session ● 5

Dulverton National Park Centre

Sunday 24 Oct 2-4pm

A free drop-in arts and crafts session for children with a space theme; colouring, making telescopes and designing space craft. Children aged 10 and under can also play **Spot the Planet** and be entered into a free prize draw.



Nurse Amy at Blagdon by Robin Howe

Yarn Market Hotel

High Street, Dunster, Exmoor, TA24 6SF.

Tel: 01643 821425

email: hotel@yarnmarkethotel.co.uk

web: www.yarnmarkethotel.co.uk

Stargazing Weekend

Friday 22th to Sunday 24th October 2021

OR

Friday 4th to Sunday 6th March 2022

Experience the Dark Skies of Exmoor National Park led by Bob Mizon- coordinator of the British Astronomical Association's Commission for Dark Skies

The rate for the break on a full board basis for 2 nights and including local transport for the itinerary is £220.00 per person (no single supplements)

Very limited availability for the October break



Photo Credit to Exmoor National Park

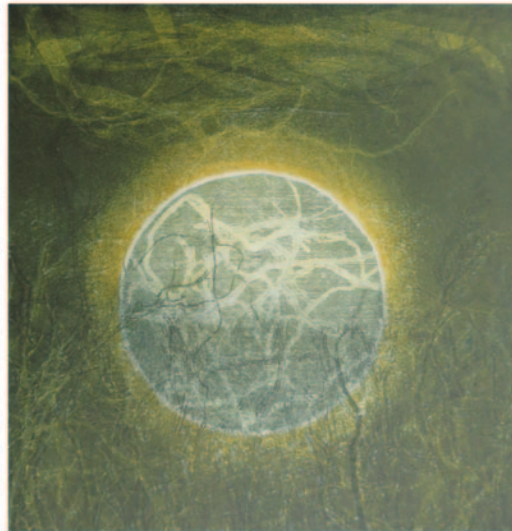
● Events marked with a green dot are suitable for families and children.



LANACRE BARN GALLERY

Lanacre Farm, Withypool TA24 7SD

Open 10am-6pm October 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th



In the heart of Exmoor, overlooking The Barle Valley and Landacre Bridge, come and experience for the first time an art exhibition both celebrating and inspired by our Dark Skies.

Over 20 artists exhibiting a wide variety of exciting images, including oil paintings, ink drawings, watercolours, woodcuts,

mono prints, etchings and photographs.

In a relaxed and friendly atmosphere you will receive a warm welcome from Jo Minoprio, the gallery owner, with refreshments offered. For more information and directions please proceed to The Barn website below.



www.moorlandart.com

Free Entry

Dark Sky Discovery Trail ● ●

Larkbarrow, near Exford

Sunday 24 Oct Flexible arrival 5-6.30pm

Gain confidence on this amazing new dark skies walk - staff will be on hand at all stages as you negotiate the flat 2 mile walk with 360° views of the night sky. Whatever the weather you'll feel the excitement of being surrounded by the sounds of the nature. Find out more from our National Park Centres. Cost: Adults and Children £2pp.

Booking: see Exmoor National Park Authority event booking on page 6

Astronomy Today with Professor Davies

Live Online Event (a recording will also be available after the live event)

Monday 25th Oct 4pm

After a short introduction from the National Park, Professor Davies (an astrophysicist from Oxford University), will discuss some of the most recent developments in astronomy including planets beyond the solar system, black holes, gravitational waves and the origin of the chemical elements. The event will last 1 hour and include the opportunity to ask questions. £3pp.

Booking: see Exmoor National Park Authority event booking on page 6.



© Jim Johnston

Exmoor Stargazing Ramble & Pub Supper, Exford ● 7

Monday 25 Oct 6.30pm

Meet up with Wild About Exmoor in Exford for a night walk with stargazing followed by supper in The White Horse or The Crown, both traditional country Inns with rooms, serving great local food. We meet at 6.30pm and walk up onto the moor as the stars come out, then back to Exford for some exploration of deepest, darkest space with our telescopes and binoculars. Lots of stargazing information and refreshments, then an optional short walk to the pub for supper which will be individually priced to allow full choice of the menu. Adults £20, Under 16s £15 for the stargazing part of the evening. Booking essential: **01643 831759**
www.wildaboutexmoor.com info@wildaboutexmoor.com

Pinkery Night Sky & Bushcraft Adventure ● 13

Pinkery Centre for Outdoor Learning

Tuesday 26 Oct 5.30pm

Come and learn about our dark skies and enjoy guided stargazing (weather permitting) and night walk around this magnificent rural landscape under the guidance of UK Space Ambassador and astronomer Jo Richardson, with bushcraft and outdoor activities supported by our Young Rangers and our National Park Ranger staff. Suitable for ages 8 plus.
Tickets: Family of 4 £24; Adult £7; Child £6.
Booking: see Exmoor National Park Authority event booking on page 6.



Exford Dark Skies Discovery Hub Event, Exford ● 7

Tuesday 26 Oct 6pm

See page 11 for details

Dark Skies Evening with Astronomer Jo Richardson ● 17

Westerclose House, Withypool

Wednesday 27 Oct 6pm

Expert speaker/presenter and UK Space Ambassador Jo Richardson FRAS from Space Detectives will lead an Astronomy Workshop - fun and educational for adults and children. The evening will include short presentations interspersed with educational hands-on activities, use of a telescope and a whole lot of audience participation! Light supper/refreshments included. Plenty of parking. Adults £30, Under 16s £10. Enquiries and booking on **01643 831302** or email polly@westerclose.co.uk
Accommodation also available: www.westerclose.co.uk

Valley of Rocks and Hollerday Hill Night Walk 10

Wednesday 27 Oct 7pm-9pm

Enjoy the peace of the valley, taking in the beauty of the night sky in a stunning part of Exmoor. Your local guide Jess Twydall of Mother Moon will meet you at Lynton Town Hall. The tour will include tales of the past and local history. Jess is also keen on the moon cycles and how they impact our moods and emotions throughout the month. So, this is very much a walk for well-being, slowing down and enjoying the tranquillity that Exmoor brings. Adults £10, Children Free. Bookings **07716 223270** or email info@mother-moon.co.uk

Wildlife at Night ● 3

Exmoor Pony Centre, Ashwick Near Dulverton

Wednesday 27 & Thursday 28 Oct 5.30pm - 7.30pm

Join the Exmoor ponies in discovering the Wildlife at Night on Exmoor. Family friendly event to inspire everyone to engage in their local wildlife. Hot chocolate and marshmallows. Opportunity to interact with and learn about the ponies. Booking essential. Adults £4, Under 16s £3 Book via info@exmoorponycentre.org.uk or **01398 323093**.



The Porlock Weir Hotel
...the anchor of Exmoor

01643 800400
www.porlockweirhotel.co.uk

This landmark hotel overlooks the historic harbour of Porlock Weir

- Stunning coastal views
- Great base for exploring and stargazing
- Terrace garden for gazing up at the stars
- Quality restaurant using local Exmoor produce

The perfect place for a memorable, relaxing stay.



Wimbleball Lake The Ultimate Weekend Escape



- walk • stargaze • eat • cycle
- sail • windsurf • kayak • row
- canoe • paddleboard • fish
- archery • climb • camp



01398 371460 • Near Dulverton, TA22 9NU
www.swlakestrust.org.uk/activities

● Events marked with a green dot are suitable for families and children.

ALL EVENTS IN DATE ORDER



Ranger Guided Walk ● 11 with sky-watching advice from Exmoor Stargazers North Hill, Minehead Thursday 28 Oct 5.30pm

Meet our National Park Ranger and staff at the end car park of North Hill for a guided walk around Bossington Beacon. If the skies are clear, then Exmoor Stargazers will be on hand to talk you through the constellations and wonders of the night sky. Adults £5, Children £3.
Booking: see Exmoor National Park Authority event booking on page 6.

Dark Skies Wildlife Walk with National Trust Rangers ● 4 (with Night Vision Cameras) Doone Valley Friday 29 Oct 5pm & 7pm (2 consecutive events)

Escorted guided walks along the Doone Valley with our National Trust Rangers and will be using night vision cameras to see what amazing evening wildlife we can observe! On return to the Buttery after an hour or so, guests will be offered a warming hot drink. Inclusive ticket price Adults £10, Children £6. There will also be an opportunity to buy our own locally sourced NT burgers or hot dogs, served with wedges (at an additional cost).
Booking: email april.braund@nationaltrust.org.uk or call: 07483 926743

Arlington Court Night Skies ● 2

Friday 29th Oct 6-8pm

In partnership with the National Trust, Mother Moon will be guiding an evening walk around the grounds and estate of Arlington Court. You will see the beauty of the night skies here and learn more about the history of the site. This is a walk for well-being, slowing down and enjoying the tranquillity that Arlington brings. £10 per person, children go free. The National Trust café will be open for refreshments. Bookings **07716 223270** or email **Activities.arlingtoncourt@nationaltrust.org.uk**.

Bump in the Night! Wimbleball Lake Activity Centre ● 16

Friday 29 Oct 5-8pm

A fun filled and freaky pre-Halloween evening of spooky themed family activities. Take part in a twilight bat walk and learn about some of the nocturnal wildlife that calls Wimbleball home, look up to the sky and see what cosmic constellations you can spot before following the pumpkin path and testing your autumnal knowledge. There is something for everyone with opportunities to take part in Halloween and Dark Skies themed woodwork, environmental art and outdoor cooking. Adults £2 Child £3. Booking:

www.swlakestrust.org.uk/Pages/Events/Category/whats-on



Exford Dark Skies Discovery Hub Event, Exford ● 7

Friday 29 Oct 6pm

See page 11 for details

Stargazing, Pipistrelle Bats & Pizza ● 9

Barton Farm, Kentisbury

Friday 29 & Saturday 30 Oct 6-8.30pm

Discover the planets and stars with our telescopes, learn how to detect the bats of Kentisbury, and craft your own fresh stone-baked pizza at Barton Farm. Search the night sky with two telescopes and stargazing apps. At dusk, learn how to identify the active bats with our bat detector on a short circular walk around our beautiful 16th Century barn. Prepare and enjoy your own crafted hot stone-baked pizza with a glass of bubbly! www.moorwildexperiences.co.uk/book Adults £40, Under 5s go free. Enquiries: **07505 364792** & **info@moorwildexperiences.co.uk**

Autumn Feast under the Stars ● 14

Horner Farm, Near Porlock

Saturday 30 Oct 6.30pm

Enjoy a fabulous local produce meal in this amazing farm and barn setting. With clear skies you'll be surrounded by stars as you are welcomed by farmers Holly & Mark who will also give an informal talk about running an Exmoor farm and the surrounding wildlife. £20 Adults, £10 Children **www.horner-farm.co.uk/events**

Stargazing & Wildlife in the Forest ● 6

Nutcombe Bottom, Near Dunster

Saturday 30 Oct 7.30pm

Come and explore the night skies over Dunster and Croydon Hill with your hosts, wildlife enthusiast and naturalist Chris Sperring MBE and James Latus Forestry England's Community Ranger for Exmoor and the Quantocks. An evening of star gazing and wildlife in this unique and beautiful forest and home to England's tallest tree on the foothills of Exmoor National Park. Booking in advance is essential, and no dogs permitted. Adult £7.50, children 15yrs and younger and OAPs £5. £20 family ticket for 2 adults and 2 children. Max 25 places. Call **0300 067 4800** between 9am and 3pm to book and pay for your space.

Milky Way over Wimbleball Lake by Sam Binding

Heart Nebula by Craig Ogier

Get Exmoor delivered with the new National Park Online shop!

Plan ahead with maps and guides, bring Exmoor to your home with souvenirs and books or find unique gifts and cards.

shop.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk



In celebration of the Dark Skies Festival get 20% off **Exmoor's Dark Skies** the fabulous guide to Exmoor's Dark Sky Reserve by astronomer Seb Jay. Usually **£9.99**, get your copy for just **£7.99** using the code **DARKSKIES20** at checkout.

You can also visit our National Park Centres at **Dulverton, Dunster** and **Lynmouth** where you'll find everything you need for stargazing, exploring and enjoying Exmoor.

STOCKHAM FARM EXMOOR

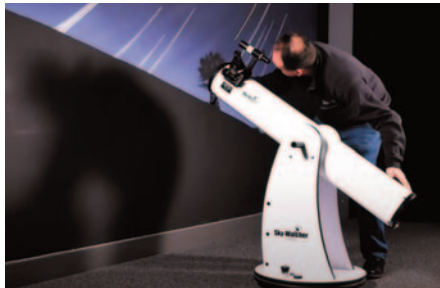
Two award-winning luxury holiday cottages in an idyllic setting on Exmoor with fabulous far-reaching views. Sleeping 6 and 4. Dogs and horses welcome. Open all year. Accredited Dark Sky Friendly Business.



Stockham Farm, Dulverton, Somerset TA22 9JH
T. 07785 901017 E. stockhamfarm@gmail.com
www.stockhamfarmexmoor.co.uk

Telescope Hire

Explore Exmoor's Dark Skies with a Skywatcher Telescope.



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

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PROUD TO SUPPORT
EXMOOR DARK SKIES FESTIVAL

The Spirit of Exmoor

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Exmoor Dark Skies & Farmhouse Supper, Exford ● 7

Saturday 30 Oct 6pm

See page 10 for details

Connect to Spirit of Exmoor 10

Lower Ranscombe Farm, Near Lynton, EX35 6PY

Sunday 31st Oct 6pm-8pm

Come join us at Grandmother Beech CIC for a Sunday evening around the firepit. Connect to the old ways of the elements of earth, fire, water, and air! What did our ancestors here do before the internet and television? Experience stories, myths, songs local to Exmoor. Hot wholesome supper included in the price £15 per person. Booking essential info@grandmotherbeech.co.uk, 01598 753525

Exmoor Stargazing Ramble & Pub Supper, Exford ● 7

Monday 1 Nov 6.30pm

See page 16 for details

Astronomy Lecture 16

with Professor Roger Davies from Oxford University
Black Holes & Galaxies: How the Nobel Prize was won
Wimbleball Lake Activity Centre

Monday 1 Nov 7pm

The 2020 Nobel Prize for Physics was awarded for work on black holes to Sir Roger Penrose, Professor Reinhard Genzel & Professor Andrea Ghez. Professor Davies will discuss how Genzel & Ghez were able to demonstrate the existence of a black hole, millions of times more massive than the Sun, at the heart of our Milky Way galaxy. He will describe the critical role supermassive black holes play in shaping all massive galaxies. Q&A to follow. Location is in a large semi-open barn with plenty of space and free parking. Price £9pp to include hot drink & biscuits or soup & roll. Call **01398 323665** or email KJMunro@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk
Booking: see Exmoor National Park Authority event booking on page 6.



Exford Dark Skies Discovery Hub Event, Exford ● 7

Tuesday 2 Nov 6pm

See page 11 for details

Haddon Hill Ranger Guided Walk & Stargazing ● 8

Wednesday 3 Nov 5.30pm

Join our National Park Rangers and astronomers from Tiverton & Mid Devon Astronomy Club on a guided night walk around this spectacular site with 360° views of the night sky. You'll be led by Exmoor National Park Ranger Richard Eales who will happily discuss the site, its management, the creation of Wimbleball Lake, surrounding land use, and all things ponies and deer! The astronomers will guide you through what's on view in the night sky if the weather allows. Adults £5, Children £3. Booking: see Exmoor National Park Authority event booking on page 6.



Stargazing, Pipistrelle Bats & Pizza ● 9

Barton Farm, Kentisbury

Wednesday 3 Nov 6-8.30pm

See page 21 for details

Astrophotography Workshops with Keith Trueman 2

National Trust Arlington

Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th Nov 7-9pm

Images of the night skies above Exmoor by local astrophotographer Keith Trueman, have been delighting social media users and printed media readers for many years. If you have your own DSLR camera and already know how to use it in manual mode, then these workshops are ideal for you: covering the use of camera settings, how to focus in the dark, and composition in the dark, you'll be given the confidence to move into the world of astrophotography. Max 5 students per workshop. Price £25pp. To book email Meryl.Tanton@nationaltrust.org.uk

Milky Way from Haddon Hill by Ralph Ellis

Withypool Hill Dark Sky Guided Walk & Pub Supper ● 17

Thursday 4 Nov 6pm

Meet at Royal Oak Withypool for Supper followed by a walk over Withypool Hill guided by Exmoor National Park Ranger Patrick Watts-Mabbott. Patrick will give a description & explain the Exmoor Dark Skies and answer any questions. On a clear and crisp night enjoy the stunning views of the skies but even in the mist and dark the moor has an amazing atmosphere. On return to the Royal Oak, enjoy a luxury hot chocolate. Adults £20 (includes a £5 donation to ). Children £10. Booking is essential due to limited spaces. Book directly with The Royal Oak by email or phone: joinus@royaloakwithypool.co.uk 01643 831506.

Heale Stars and Nature Evening 12

Heale Farm, Parracombe

Thursday 4 Nov 7pm

With spectacular views of the sea and moors, Heale Farm is set in 23 acres of pasture, woodland. A wonderful opportunity to immerse in nature, taking the time to stare at the wonder of the dark skies. We will walk through the moor to our field looking east across to the sea. We will walk, gaze, and wonder, followed by sitting around the fire pit with a late graze box supper. Price per person £25. More info and booking hello@healefarm.co.uk www.healefarm.co.uk 01598 763813 / 07879 637359

Exmoor Coaster Open Top Bus ● 11

Dark Skies Adventure and Presentation Starts Minehead

Thursday 4 Nov 6.30pm

Join astronomer Jo Richardson on board the Exmoor Coaster open top bus from Minehead-Lynmouth-Minehead for an evening of astro facts and stargazing fun. Tickets: Adult £10, Child £5. To book please email hello@adventuresbybus.co.uk. More details about the fantastic open top bus trips at www.firstbus.co.uk/adventures-bus/services/exmoor-coaster

Exmoor dark skies @ShaunGDavey



EXMOOR COASTER

DARK SKIES

Join astronomer Jo Richardson on our open top bus from Minehead to Lynmouth and back, for an evening of astro facts and star gazing fun.



4 NOVEMBER 2021 6.30-9pm

£10 adult
£5 child

spaces limited, so book now hello@adventuresbybus.co.uk

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● Events marked with a green dot are suitable for families and children.

Astronomy Talks & Supper 15
Torre Cider Farm, Washford
Friday 5 Nov 5pm and 7.30pm

Astronomy talks by Professor Roger Davies Oxford University's Professor Roger Davies (astrophysicist) will be giving two talks. If the skies are clear, then you'll be invited to do some stargazing too. Both events will be covid compliant to the regulations at the time.

5pm Family event - How far away can you see? ●

We can see the Sun, Moon and five planets with our own eyes - but how far away are the stars? And what is the most distant object you can see on a dark night? Price £5pp. Fish/nuggets and chips available to buy from the café.

7.30pm Adult event - From Galaxies to Life

Professor Davies will highlight how the dark matter halos around galaxies, exploding stars and the discovery of planets beyond the Solar System, all contribute to creating the ingredients for life on Earth.

Two ticket types: Talk only £8pp. There will be fish & chips and cakes available to buy for those with 'talk-only' tickets. Talk & Food (menu to be confirmed) £15pp. To book on either event please email info@torrecider.farm or call 01984 641416.

Exmoor Dark Skies & Farmhouse Supper, Exford ● 7
Friday 5 Nov 6pm

See page 10 for details



Family Astro Party ● 16

Wimbleball Lake Activity Centre

Saturday 6 Nov 3-7pm

Join our National Park Rangers, astronomer Jo Richardson and others for a fun indoor and outdoor astro family-orientated event including walk through the solar system, space experiments, campfire and marshmallows.

Adults £7, Child £6, Family £24 (2 adults, 2 children)

Booking: see Exmoor National Park Authority event booking on page 6



Exford Dark Skies Discovery Hub Event, Exford ● 7

Saturday 6 Nov 6pm

See page 11 for details

Stargazing Supper Evening (Nebula Nosh) 18

Wootton Courtenay Village Hall, Nr Dunster

Tuesday 16 Nov Arrive 7-7.30pm

An indoor astronomical presentation with professional astronomer Seb Jay and weather permitting a guided tour of the night sky using professional telescopes. Ticket price is £21.50 & includes a simple supper and first drink. To book and pay for tickets call **01643 841241**. Beautiful boutique accommodation also available at nearby Dunkery Beacon Country House Hotel www.dunkerybeaconaccommodation.co.uk

Exmoor Milky Way, Brayford by Panagiotis Andreou

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