



**The English National Park
Experience Collection**

TRAVEL TRADE BUYER'S GUIDE

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 **VisitBritain**  **VisitEngland** 



WELCOME TO OUR NATIONAL PARKS

This guide provides you with a summary of information on the wide range of contractable experiences available in nine of England's National Parks.

We know when people travel they no longer want to just 'see' a place; they want to live it, breathe it, touch it, become part of it. The English National Park Experience Collection offers the most outstanding visitor experiences in our most exceptional landscapes – each carefully selected, developed and curated to tell the stories of England's stunning National Parks, and their people.

The English National Park Experience Collection will give your guests the chance to get to the heart of the unique living landscapes and timeless rural life that can only be felt in our National Parks.

These are journeys through the history, culture, countryside and communities in the best of outdoor England. Journeys celebrating the extraordinary and the everyday, where you can really feel alive and return home refreshed, inspired and with memories to treasure for a lifetime.

2018 was the first time England's National Parks began working together to develop our offering to the international travel trade and we have continued to refresh and adapt our collection of experiences. The Collection is designed to be flexible; enabling the creation of new itineraries or refreshment of existing, for an addition to a city break through to the development of a grand multi-park tour!

We hope this guide inspires you and your organisation to do more business in our National Parks. Direct email contacts are included for you to contract directly with the experience providers.



Sarah Fowler
Chief Executive of the Peak District National Park and Lead Officer for Sustainable Tourism

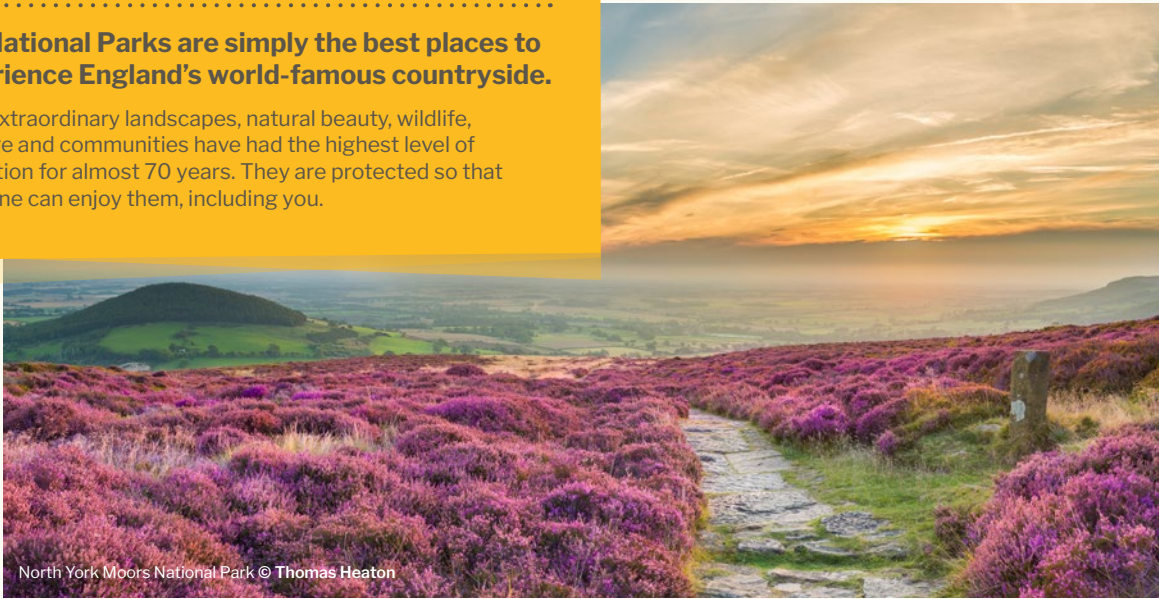
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FIVE THINGS THAT MAKE ENGLAND'S NATIONAL PARKS EXTRAORDINARY!

1 They are the best of England

Our National Parks are simply the best places to experience England's world-famous countryside.

Their extraordinary landscapes, natural beauty, wildlife, heritage and communities have had the highest level of protection for almost 70 years. They are protected so that everyone can enjoy them, including you.



2 They are full of life

With nearly 500,000 people living within them, our National Parks are not gated reserves.

They are truly living, working landscapes where you can really immerse yourself in timeless everyday rural life.



3 They are truly inspirational

English National Parks have inspired many poets, painters and musicians throughout history.

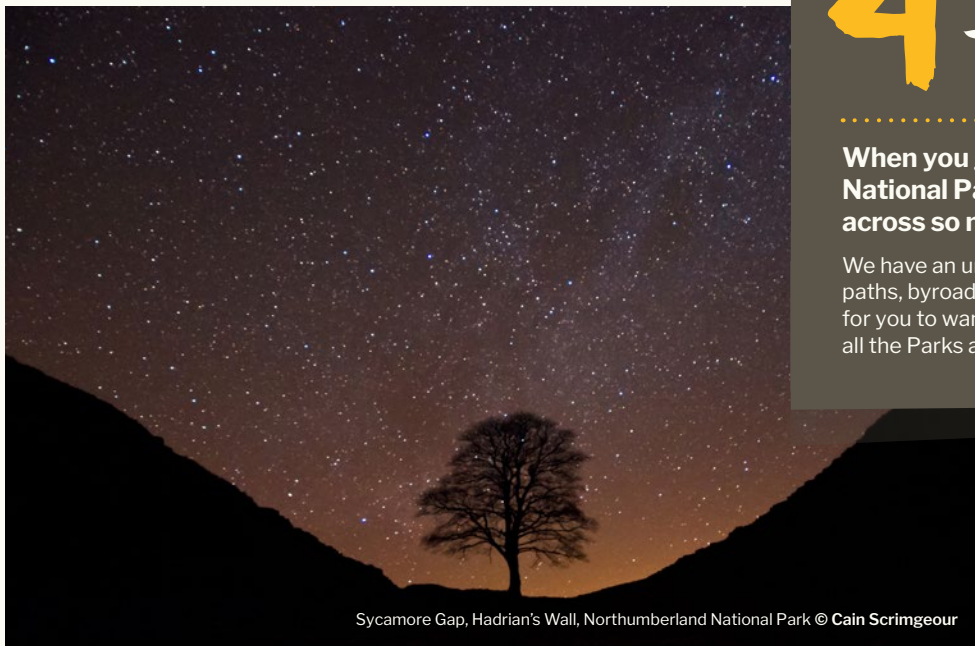
People like Edward Elgar, William Wordsworth and Beatrix Potter. By their nature, they make hearts glow and spirits soar. Come and feel for yourself.



4 They are free

When you get out into an English National Park, you can roam freely across so much of the landscape.

We have an unmatched network of public trails, paths, byroads, greenways and accessible land for you to wander and explore. And, of course, all the Parks are free of charge to enter.



5 ...and they have pubs!

Nowhere else in the world has cosy rural English pubs, typically with ancient oak beams, pretty pub gardens and a welcome as warm as the fire crackling in the grate.

You'll be surprised too by the modern menus and wide range of excellent, often locally-sourced food. There are so many to discover in the English National Parks it would take a – very happy – lifetime!





Yorkshire Dales National Park © Daniel Wildey

OUR EXPERIENCE THEMES

Ready for the travel trade, the English National Park Experience Collection is made up of immersive experiences in nine of England’s National Parks that are operated by expert local businesses.

They are perfect FIT and small group add-on products or can form part of a wider National Parks itinerary that could easily include must-see city, rural or coastal destinations. From bushcraft to goat herding and kayaking to night-time reserve walks, each experience offers the chance to understand more about rural life and the natural world whilst spending precious time together with friends and family.

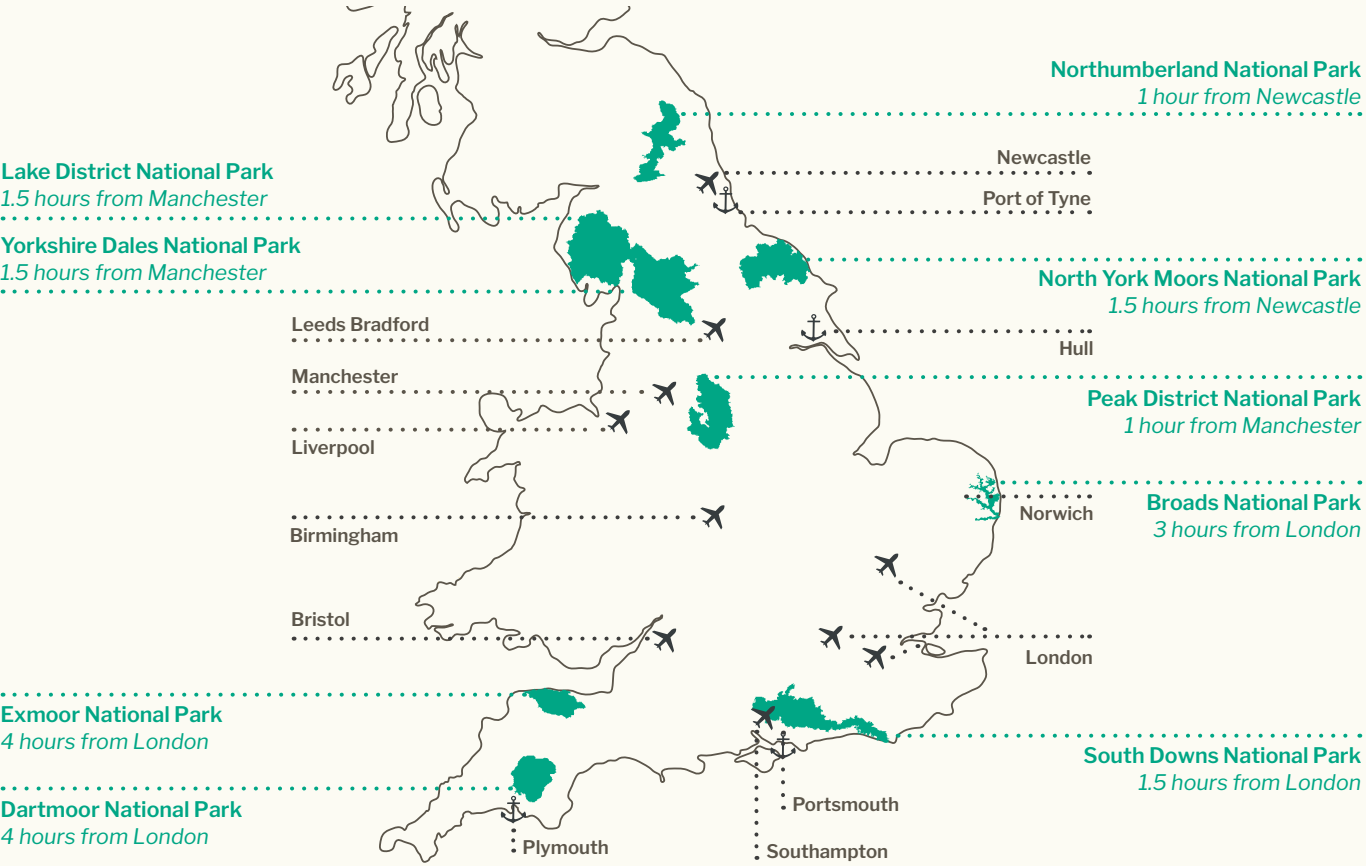
Our Supplier Pledge

Each of the businesses featured in this guide has signed up to our pledge, which includes:

- Placing the customer at the heart of everything they do.
- Adapting their business to better suit the international customer.
- Making their business accessible and bookable for the travel trade.
- Working closely with other businesses in their area to consistently give a great customer experience.
- Focusing on telling the stories of the landscapes and the people who look after them whilst supporting the National Park purposes and reducing their impact on the local environment.
- Having informed staff who understand and promote what The English National Park Experience Collection has to offer and committing to use the brand as per the guidelines.

GETTING TO THE NATIONAL PARKS

England’s National Parks are no more than a few hours from key ports and airports. A fast and frequent rail network means that nearly all areas of England can be easily discovered by train, as well as other methods of public transport.



Rail travel

It is easy to plan rail travel around England on the National Rail website, nationalrail.co.uk

BritRail Passes are exclusively available to overseas visitors and must be purchased in advance as they are not available once holidaymakers arrive in the UK. Whatever your clients’ plans and wherever they want to go, there’s a BritRail Pass to suit everyone:

- For those making multiple journeys and travelling long distances around Britain, a BritRail GB Pass offers great value for money and huge savings.
- The BritRail Consecutive Pass is perfect if your client wants to travel on fixed dates.
- The BritRail Flexi Pass does what it says, offering greater flexibility.

Self-drive

If your clients want to visit a place that has no access by rail, prefer to travel under their own steam, or if they simply like a little privacy while travelling, self-driving is a great way to see the National Parks. Rural England is a great place to drive and the UK has an extensive network of toll-free motorways and trunk roads, which make travelling around the country pretty straightforward and enjoyable.

Typically, the two most startling differences for foreign motorists is that we drive on the left in England, and distances are mostly measured in miles, not kilometres.

For those not bringing their own vehicle, car hire can be booked via the VisitBritain shop, visitbritainshop.com, which offers great rates for your clients.

More detailed information about travelling to and around each National Park is found later in the guide.

NORTHUMBERLAND NATIONAL PARK



NORTHUMBERLAND NATIONAL PARK

Northumberland National Park, known as the ‘land of far horizons’, includes the magnificent Hadrian’s Wall World Heritage Site and has England’s darkest skies.

- Designated England’s first International Dark Sky Park, here on a clear night, you can see thousands of stars, the Milky Way and even the Andromeda Galaxy (2.5 million light years away). If you’re lucky you might even spot the Aurora Borealis.
- The landscape under these stars is ancient. Hadrian’s Wall snakes along Northumberland’s stunning crags and escarpments. A fixed frontier of the Roman Empire from coast to coast, it is England’s largest archaeological monument.
- The landscape is just as wild today, and as the least populated of all the National Parks, nature thrives. Being close to nature and the sense of tranquillity, belay the park’s bloody history of wild Border Reivers and Roman army camps.
- A good starting point to explore is The Sill: National Landscape Discovery Centre on Hadrian’s Wall, which has an excellent exhibition about the history, culture and heritage of the area.

Getting there

Newcastle is the gateway to the National Park and is very well connected by rail from most cities. From Newcastle, the Tyne Valley Line takes you into the southern part of Northumberland National Park. Coaches service Newcastle and Carlisle from throughout the UK and local bus companies connect Newcastle to the Park.

Getting around

In the summer months, the Hadrian’s Wall Country Bus AD122 (after the date of the Emperor’s visit) links major sites along the Hadrian’s Wall World Heritage Site. 900 kilometres of way-marked footpaths and bridleways cover the National Park, or let the experts lead on the many guided walks that run throughout the year.

northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk

Journey times by car



Newcastle
1hr | 57km
London Heathrow
6hrs 20mins | 557km



Port of Tyne
1hr | 60km



Leeds
3hrs | 225km
Manchester
3hrs 40mins | 273km
London
5hrs 50mins | 497km
(3hrs 10mins London to Newcastle by train)

Experiences

- 1 Goats & Gourmet
- 2 Ingram Valley Farm Safari
- 3 Arty Footsteps
- 4 Foraging & Wild Cooking
- 5 Dine & Stargaze
- 6 National Park Bird of Prey Experience
- 7 Live Like a Roman
- 8 Hadrian’s Wall Guided Tour
- 9 Ranger Patrol of Hadrian’s Wall by eBike



See National Park Experiences at a Glance on page 23 for the overview of all experiences



LAKE DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK



LAKE DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK

A UNESCO World Heritage Site and a National Park of epic proportions, The Lake District is home to Scafell Pike – England’s highest mountain – and Wastwater, its deepest lake.

- The Lake District’s geology provides a dramatic record of nearly 500 million years of history. Its complex landscape tells a story of colliding continents, deep oceans, tropical seas, and kilometre-thick ice sheets.
- There’s a tradition of unrestricted access to the fells, plus an extensive network of public rights of way. Recreational walking can be traced back to Wordsworth’s ‘Guide to the Lakes’.
- Long revered by the creative community, the region experienced a ‘revival’ from the 18th Century onwards. Artists and writers such as Turner, Coleridge and Wordsworth were inspired by the area’s astounding natural beauty.
- Centuries on and children’s author Beatrix Potter remains an iconic Lake District literary figure. Potter spent many childhood holidays in the District and these influenced her work. You can follow in the author’s footsteps around the Lake District with the National Trust’s Beatrix Potter Trail.

Getting there

The West Coast mainline runs to the east of the Lake District, connecting Oxenholme, Penrith and Carlisle with London and Glasgow. A direct train runs from Manchester to Windermere, but you can also easily connect to local trans calling at Kendal, Staveley and Windermere. For up to date information before you travel, please visit [traveline.info](#).

Getting around

Towns and villages such as Ambleside, Windermere, Coniston and Keswick are linked by bus, with extra services in the summer. A number of cycle routes link into the National Park from further afield including the famous Coast to Coast and the recently opened Lakes and Dales Loop.

[lakedistrict.gov.uk](#)

Journey times by car

- Manchester**
1hr 30mins | 137km
- London Heathrow**
4hrs 40mins | 418km
- Hull Ferry Port**
2hrs 40mins | 247km

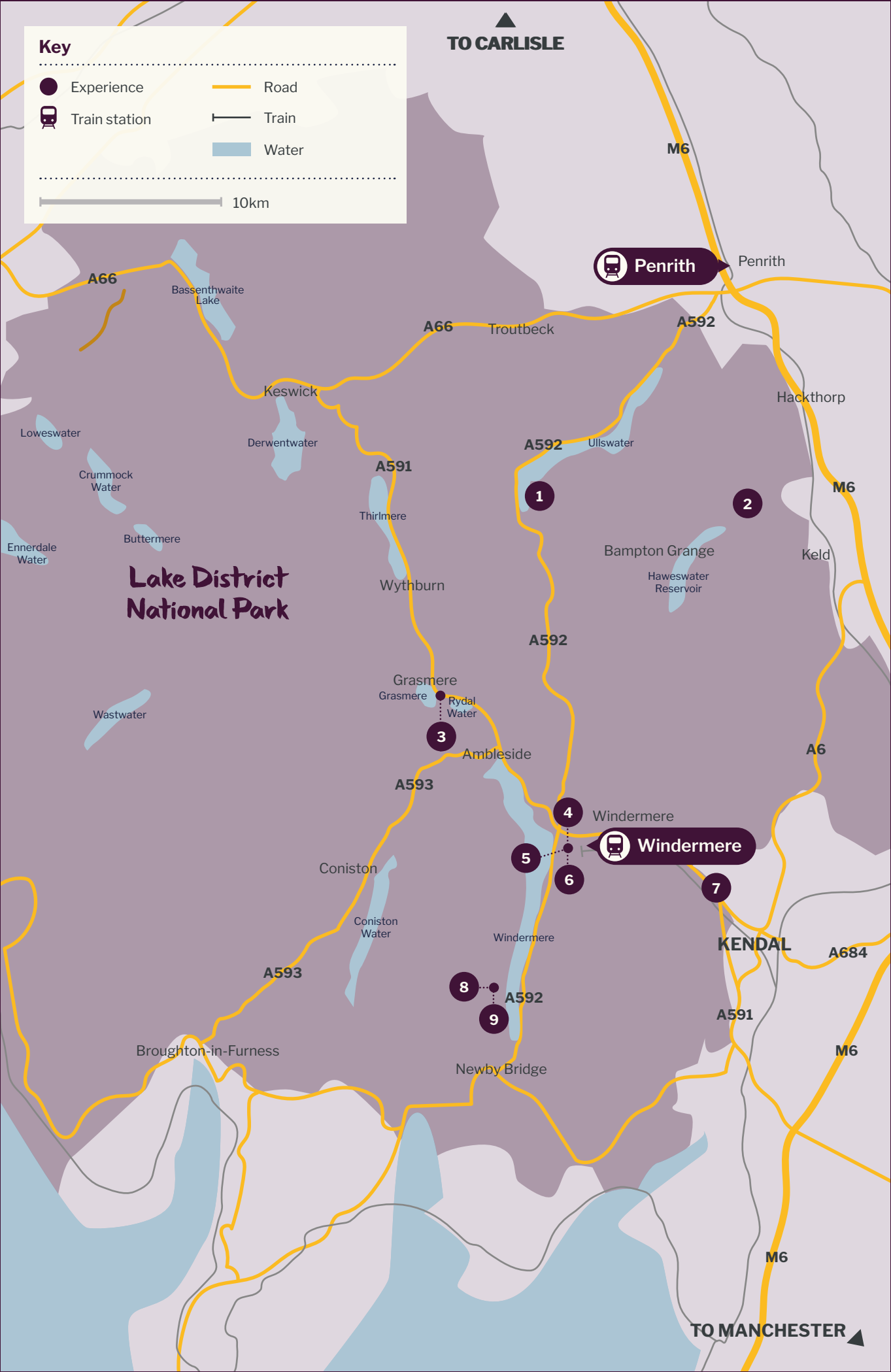
- Liverpool**
1hr 40mins | 125km
- Manchester**
1hr 30mins | 137km
- London**
4hrs 40mins | 435km

Experiences

- 1 Cruise on the Lake District's Most Beautiful Lake
- 2 Breakfast with Red Squirrels
- 3 Wordsworth's Lake District
- 4 Spice Trail
- 5 Boats, Steam & Stories
- 6 Walking in the Footsteps of Wainwright
- 7 Night-Time Wildlife Experience
- 8 Peaks & Paddles
- 9 Lake District Bushcraft



See National Park Experiences at a Glance on page 23 for the overview of all experiences



YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK



YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK

Spectacular limestone scenery and traditional farming landscapes meet expansive heather moorland tops.

- Snaking for thousands of kilometres across the National Park is an unmistakable patchwork of drystone walls. Over 8,000 kilometres of these ancient land boundaries traverse the dales, along with around 6,000 traditional farm buildings.
- The area’s long history of livestock farming has given rise to its own own livestock breeds, such as the Swaledale sheep, emblem of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Livestock sales and agricultural shows play an important part in the lives of local communities.
- Today cheese-makers flourish, building on the traditions of the Cistercian monks who brought their fromage-making skills over from Normandy in the 11th Century.
- The world-famous Settle-Carlisle railway runs through the National Park from north to south. Renowned for its evocative Victorian architecture, the line passes over huge stone viaducts, through long tunnels and past remote wayside station buildings.
- Thirsty? The Dales has many inns with cosy bar areas, log fires and local ales, including the 17th Century Tan Hill Inn, Britain’s highest pub at 528 metres (1,732 feet) above sea level.

Getting there

Cities and towns close to the National Park, including York, Leeds, Bradford, Harrogate, Skipton, Lancaster, Penrith, Darlington, Northallerton and Ripon, are well-linked by national rail and coaches. The dales can then be reached by a range of local bus and train services.

Getting around

Two national rail services serve the Yorkshire Dales, the Leeds-Morecambe line and the famous Settle-Carlisle railway, which starts in Leeds. Bus services within the National Park run throughout the year linking the main towns, villages, and attractions, with additional services running during the summer months. Walking routes span the park and include the famous Three Peaks Challenge of Pen-y-ghent, Ingleborough and Whernside, which is 24 miles in total.

yorkshiredales.org.uk

Journey times by car

- ✈ **Leeds Bradford**
30mins | 22km
- ✈ **Manchester**
1hr 30mins | 93km
- ✈ **London Heathrow**
4hrs 45mins | 407km
- ⚓ **Hull Ferry Port**
2hrs | 177km

- 📍 **Leeds**
1hr 20mins | 43km
- 📍 **York**
1hr 30mins | 74km
- 📍 **Manchester**
1hr 30mins | 93km
- 📍 **London**
4hrs 50mins | 402km

Experiences

- 1 Pub Safari
- 2 Reconnecting with Nature: Guided Discovery Walk
- 3 Flock to the Dales
- 4 All Creatures Great & Small
- 5 Yorkshire Dales National Park Tour
- 6 The Wensleydale Farmer’s Experience
- 7 Our Limestone Land



See National Park Experiences at a Glance on page 23 for the overview of all experiences



**NORTH YORK MOORS
NATIONAL PARK**



NORTH YORK MOORS NATIONAL PARK

There is so much to discover in the North York Moors National Park. High hills, deep wooded dales, crinkly coasts, ancient abbeys and babbling brooks through quaint villages.

- There's a cacophony of life in the seas around the National Park. White-beaked dolphins and minke whales follow shoals of fish swimming south from the Arctic, and seal colonies loll beneath the coastal cliffs.
- Some older natural residents have long-since left their fossilised mark, with 160-million-year-old ammonites and even preserved dinosaur footprints common on the seashore.
- Further inland, centuries of history lay beneath your feet and before your eyes in abbey ruins, gothic churches, medieval chapels and ancient stone crosses.
- The North Yorkshire Moors Railway is one of the world's greatest heritage railways and traverses 39 kilometres of National Park countryside.
- Look up on an evening and you'll discover the nightscapes are just as beautiful. So much so the National Park has been designated an International Dark Sky Reserve. It's recognised as an exceptional place to stargaze and you could see up to 2,000 stars on a clear night.

Getting there

There are rail links from all over the country to stations in the towns surrounding the National Park – York, Malton, Scarborough, Middlesbrough, Whitby and Northallerton – and good bus links from the stations. National coaches also serve the region with drops at York, Thirsk, Northallerton, Scarborough and Middlesbrough, with excellent local connections.

Getting around

There's a good network of rail and bus services, serving many of the main towns and villages. But if you'd rather get around on your own two feet, the 175-kilometre Cleveland Way National Trail follows the edge of the National Park, from Helmsley to Filey and if you prefer two wheels, the Moor to Sea Cycle Network connects 240 kilometres of the North York Moors.

northyorkmoors.org.uk

Journey times by car



Leeds Bradford
1hr | 78km
Newcastle
1hr 30mins | 111km
London Heathrow
4hrs 30mins | 407km



Hull Ferry Port
1hr 20mins | 80km
Port of Tyne
1hr 35mins | 142km



York
40mins | 40km
Leeds
1hr 20mins | 70km
Newcastle
1hr 30mins | 111km
Manchester
2hrs 10mins | 148km
London
4hrs 20mins | 370km
(1hr 50mins London to York by train)

Experiences

- 1 Fundamental Bushcraft Day
- 2 Fossil, Forage & Feast
- 3 Stargazing
- 4 A Mystical Nature Exploration
- 5 Steam Trains, Whitby & the Moors



North York Moors
National Park

See National Park Experiences at a Glance on page 23 for the overview of all experiences



PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK



PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK

Britain’s original National Park, the Peak District is a land of countryside revolution, stately homes, uplands, plateaus and valleys, right in the heart of England.

- There’s a Tolkien-esque landscape divide here. The northerly Dark Peak is wilder, famed for its rugged and exposed tracts of moorland top. Further south in the White Peak, gently rolling limestone plateaus are dissected by dales and colourful hay meadows.
- The landed gentry of the Peak District built some of the most resplendent historic houses and stately homes in the country here. Chatsworth House has been handed down through 16 generations of the Cavendish family and is open to visitors.
- Tight-knit communities thrive in the National Park, honouring distinctive customs. Well dressing – originally a pagan ceremonial pledge of flowers, seeds, twigs, nuts and berries to the water gods – is now a summer tradition in dozens of villages.
- The rebellious ramblers of the 1932 Kinder Mass Trespass were imprisoned for protesting on the moors for the right to have open access, eventually leading to legislation establishing the UK National Parks we have today.

Getting there

The neighbouring cities – Sheffield, Manchester and Derby – all have regular intercity rail services and onward connections to Matlock, Buxton and Hope Valley where regular bus services will take you into the heart of the Peak District National Park.

Getting around

There’s a comprehensive bus network around the National Park, and with over 50km of traffic-free all-user trails and a network of quiet country roads, huge amounts of the park are also easily accessible on two wheels. Good train services operate to some of the National Park’s iconic locations, including Edale, on the doorstep of the Pennine Way.

[peakdistrict.gov.uk](https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk)

Journey times by car

-  **Manchester**
1hr | 53km
-  **Hull Ferry Port**
1hr 50mins | 141km
-  **Sheffield**
30mins | 20km
- Manchester**
1hr | 40km
- Nottingham**
1hr | 40km
- London**
3hrs 30mins | 257km

Experiences

- 1 Mountain Hares Discovery Walk
- 2 Climbing Through History
- 3 The Blue John Stone Experience
- 4 Crash Sites Walking Tour
- 5 On Top Of The World
- 6 Plague Village & The Peaks
- 7 Forest in a Bottle



See National Park Experiences at a Glance on page 23 for the overview of all experiences



BROADS NATIONAL PARK



BROADS NATIONAL PARK

A watery wonderland, the Broads is Britain’s largest protected wetland.



- Its shallow lakes were dug out in medieval times – the peat removed and used for fuel. For centuries afterwards it was assumed that the broads had been formed by natural processes – their true origins not being rediscovered until 1952.
- A haven for wildlife; despite comprising only 0.1% of the UK, the area boasts more than 25% of its rarest species. The swallowtail, Britain’s largest butterfly, calls the Broads – and only the Broads – home.
- Pleasure boating has been part of the way of life here since the 19th Century and the National Park is still one of Europe’s most popular inland waterways. Hire a day boat to explore the wetlands and winding waterways.
- Look out for the distinctive windmills dotting the landscape. Once used to drain the land, with a few serving to grind corn, many have been lovingly restored to their former glory.


Getting there
Greater Anglia operates a half-hourly train service between Norwich and London Liverpool Street with local connecting services within East Anglia. Average journey time from London is 1 hour 50 minutes. There are connecting services from the Midlands, the north of England and Scotland via Peterborough. Norwich Airport has worldwide connections through Amsterdam.

Getting around
The National Park is very well-served by local trains, with multiple stations within the park boundaries. First buses go from Norwich (Castle Meadow) to Hoveton/Wroxham and then on to Stalham. From Norwich Bus Station they go to London, Beccles and then Lowestoft, for connections to Oulton Broad.

visitthebroads.co.uk

Journey times by car

-  **London Stansted**
1hr 50mins | 151km
- London Heathrow**
3hrs | 249km
-  **Hull Ferry Port**
3hrs 30mins | 242km
- Dover Ferry Port**
3hrs 30mins | 300km

-  **Norwich**
20mins | 12km
- London**
2hrs | 185km
- Manchester**
4hrs 50mins | 308km

Experiences

- 1 Coffee & Nature Kayak Adventure
- 2 Sail on a Traditional Wherry
- 3 Romantic Sailing Adventures
- 4 A Taste of Norfolk Sailing
- 5 Better By Sail – Learn to Sail on the Broads
- 6 Fairhaven Woodland & Water Garden & South Walsham Marshes
- 7 Rails, Trails & Sails



See National Park Experiences at a Glance on page 23 for the overview of all experiences



SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK



SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK

Known as the ‘gateway to England’, this landscape of rolling hills, ancient woodland and picture perfect villages holds the secrets of thousands of years of settlement from prehistory to Caesar’s conquering forces.

- Clues to the people who have lived in and shaped the South Downs can be found everywhere from Bronze Age burial mounds to Iron Age hill forts, Roman villas, historic stately homes and imposing Norman castles.
- Arundel Castle has been home to the Duke of Norfolk, the most senior peer in the realm for over 850 years, while the 1,000-year-old Lewes Castle provides views over this historic market town and the chalk slopes that surround it.
- The South Downs has captivated some of Britain’s greatest literary and artistic figures, from Jane Austen, to Rudyard Kipling to the Bloomsbury Group and Virginia Woolf, who said in her diaries “The Downs... too much for one pair of eyes, enough to float a whole population in happiness, if only they would look.”
- Scientists have also been drawn to the area for its extraordinarily rich wildlife. The home of pioneering naturalist Gilbert White can still be visited in Selborne.

Getting there

The South Downs is unique in having the largest market towns of any UK National Park – Lewes and Petersfield – which have rail routes to London. From these gateways connect to the heart of the South Downs in Amberley in the Arun Valley, Southease in the Ouse Valley or Liss in Hampshire.

Getting around

Walking is a great way to see the South Downs and there are 3,300 kilometres of footpaths and the iconic South Downs Way National Trail to enjoy. Brighton’s open-topped Breeze Buses connect you directly to the downland. Stretching from ancient Winchester, through to the white chalky cliffs of the Seven Sisters and Beachy Head at Eastbourne, almost all of the stunning 160-kilometre South Downs Way is blissfully off-road and is the only UK National Trail fully accessible to cyclists.

southdowns.gov.uk



SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK

See National Park Experiences at a Glance on page 23 for the overview of all experiences

Journey times by car



London Gatwick
20mins | 32km

London Heathrow
1hr | 66km



Portsmouth Ferry Port
15mins | 20km

Dover Ferry Port
1hr 40mins | 154km



Brighton
15mins | 6km

London
1hr 30mins | 80km

Manchester
4hrs | 342km

Experiences

- 1 Jane Austen Tour
- 2 Hills, Heath, Hops & Hampers
- 3 Wild Meadows & Wine Walk
- 4 “Bait to Plate” Fly Fishing Taster & Smokeschool

- 5 Paddle the South Downs: Lewes to Hamsey
- 6 Paddle the South Downs: Cuckmere Valley
- 7 Seven Sisters Experience
- 8 Walking & Wine Tasting Tours

EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK



EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK

Wild open heather moorland and shady coastal woodlands perch atop the highest sea cliffs in the country, and have provided inspiration to William Wordsworth and other poetic greats.

- With its high sea cliffs and jutting rock formations, the Valley of Rocks creates a true sense of drama within the National Park’s 55 kilometres of coastline. Every summer, the surrounding acres of western gorse, ling and bell heather come alive with blooming amethyst-hued flora.
- The traditional upland landscapes are punctuated by historic farmsteads and villages. Dunster is reputed to be one of the best preserved medieval villages in the country and is home to a number of historic features including its castle, yarn market, dovecote and tithe barn.
- The National Park’s most famous landmark is Tarr Steps – a stone clapper bridge shaded by ancient woodland. You can hike there from the town of Dulverton, along the banks of the River Barle.
- Ancient wooded valleys on Exmoor along with wild romantic moorlands are home to a host of fascinating wildlife, including Exmoor ponies, majestic red deer, elusive otters, over 250 species of bird and some of the UK’s rarest bats and butterflies.
- Exmoor is renowned for its fantastic local food producers. Oysters from the sea, venison from the moors and red ruby Devon beef from its rich farmland are all on offer.

Getting there

First Great Western and Cross Country rail services from across the country serve both Taunton and Tiverton Parkway stations, around a 60-minute bus journey from the National Park. The Tarka Line connects Exeter to Barnstaple – a 30-minute bus ride from Exmoor. It is approx. 1.5 hours car journey from Bristol or 3.5 hours from London.


Getting around

1,300 kilometres of trails are available for those exploring on foot, bike or horse, including several long distance routes. The Westcountry Way – a national cycle way – crosses the moor and provides links with rail stations at Barnstaple, Tiverton Parkway and Taunton. There are also local bus services – ask at one of the National Park Centres for the latest timetables.

exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk

Journey times by car

-  **Bristol**
1hr 30mins | 109km
- London Heathrow**
3hrs 30mins | 268km
-  **Dover Ferry Port**
4hrs 40mins | 407km

-  **Bristol**
1hr 40mins | 128km
- Exeter**
1hr 40mins | 46km
- London**
4hrs | 315km

Experiences

- 1 Foraging, Feasting & Farm Adventures
- 2 Victorian Exmoor
- 3 Literary Footsteps
- 4 Fly Back to Nature With Owls & Hawks
- 5 Goat Herding
- 6 Exmoor Pony Experience
- 7 Exmoor in a Nutshell
- 8 Moods of Exmoor
- 9 Exmoor Wildlife Safari



See National Park Experiences at a Glance on page 23 for the overview of all experiences



DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK



DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK

A land of mist and mystery – steeped in folklore and a place of great literary inspiration, with a history of human settlement dating back over 4,000 years.

- “It’s a wonderful place, the moor. You cannot think of the wonderful secrets which it contains.” Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s descriptions of Dartmoor have captured the public imagination for over a century. The author was inspired to write his most famous novel, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, whilst staying at The Duchy Hotel, now the National Park Visitor Centre, Princetown.
- Bear witness to a millennia of human existence. Ceremonial prehistoric stone circles and standing stones are scattered across the high moor while remains of Iron Age hillforts, medieval settlements and magnificent granite tors stand testament to Dartmoor’s long history.
- Centuries on and life thrives here. Dartmoor’s blanket bog, upland oakwood, caves and mines are among habitats of international importance, supporting fascinating and rare wildlife.
- The world’s largest land slug is regularly found in Dartmoor’s woodlands and the blue ground beetle, one of the rarest ground beetles found in the UK, is mainly restricted to Dartmoor.
- Dartmoor is home to some 34,000 people and the former tin mining town of Chagford was voted by the Sunday Times newspaper as the best place to live in rural Britain.

Getting there

The Great Western Mainline train service runs through Devon, linking Exeter, Newton Abbot, Ivybridge (just on the southern edge of the National Park), Totnes and Plymouth with Bristol, London, and the rest of the country.

Getting around

From May to September, every Saturday you can get the Haytor Hoppa bus from Newton Abbot to Widecombe. Every Sunday you can get the Dartmoor Sunday Rover train from Exeter to Okehampton. The best ways to explore Dartmoor are by bike, horseback or on foot, see the website for the best trails.

dartmoor.gov.uk

Journey times by car



Bristol
2hrs | 160km
London Heathrow
3hrs 30mins | 290km



Plymouth Ferry Port
25mins | 11km
Dover Ferry Port
4hrs 40mins | 429km



Plymouth
25mins | 11km
Exeter
30mins | 43km
London
4hrs | 354km

Experiences

- 1 Getting to Grips with Granite
- 2 Cycle the Granite Way
- 3 Step Back in Time
- 4 Nature Connection & Mindfulness
- 5 Dartmoor Pony Hands-on Experience & Guided Walk
- 6 Dartmoor on Horseback
- 7 Dartmoor Horse Photography
- 8 Gems of Dartmoor
- 9 Dartmoor: Land of Bronze & Buzzards
- 10 Hound of the Baskervilles



See National Park Experiences at a Glance on page 23 for the overview of all experiences





NATIONAL PARK EXPERIENCES AT A GLANCE


The experiences in this guide have been developed, in line with research, for international markets to give guests the best possible experience.


However, we understand that trade will have different needs. Most suppliers are willing to adapt and change their experiences to suit your needs. Please contact each business provider directly via the email address shown below to discuss your specific requirements and to contract directly. Clickable website addresses are also provided below.


Key to themes


 Active

 History

 Creative

 Landscape

 Food & Drink

 Nature

Park	Experience	Theme	Email	Website of provider
Northumberland	Goats & Gourmet	  	info@wildintrigue.co.uk	wildintrigue.co.uk
	Ingram Valley Farm Safari	  	Info@ingramvalley.co.uk	ingramvalley.co.uk
	Arty Footsteps		info@footstepsnorthumberland.co.uk	footstepsnorthumberland.co.uk
	Foraging & Wild Cooking	  	info@northernwilds.co.uk	northernwilds.co.uk
	Dine & Stargaze	 	info@battlesteads.com	battlesteads.com
	National Park Bird of Prey Experience	  	mark@falconrydays.com	falconrydays.com
	Live Like a Roman	  	kevin@ancientbritain.org	ancientbritain.org
	Hadrian's Wall Guided Tour	  	kevin@ancientbritain.org	ancientbritain.org
Lake District	Ranger Patrol of Hadrian's Wall by eBike	  	duncan.wise@nnpa.org.uk	northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk
	Cruise on the Lake District's Most Beautiful Lake	  	enquiries@ullswater-steamers.co.uk	ullswater-steamers.co.uk
	Breakfast with Red Squirrels	 	info@wildintrigue.co.uk	wildintrigue.co.uk
	Wordsworth's Lake District	 	bookings@wordsworth.org.uk	wordsworth.org.uk
	Spice Trail	  	tours@mountain-goat.com	mountain-goat.com
	Boats, Steam & Stories	  	tchaplin@lakelandarts.org.uk	lakelandarts.org.uk
	Walking in the Footsteps of Wainwright	  	hello@uniquehappydays.com	uniquehappydays.com
	Night-Time Wildlife Experience	  	events@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk	cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk
Yorkshire Dales	Peaks & Paddles	  	hello@graythwaiteadventure.co.uk	graythwaiteadventure.co.uk
	Lake District Bushcraft	  	hello@graythwaiteadventure.co.uk	graythwaiteadventure.co.uk
	Pub Safari	 	tours@mountain-goat.com	mountain-goat.com
	Reconnecting with Nature: Guided Discovery Walk	  	info@muddybootswalkingholidays.com	muddybootswalkingholidays.com
	Flock to the Dales	  	hello@uniquehappydays.com	uniquehappydays.com
	All Creatures Great & Small	  	enquiries@bobholidays.com	bobholidays.com
	Yorkshire Dales National Park Tour	  	enquiries@bobholidays.com	bobholidays.com
	The Wensleydale Farmer's Experience	  	enquiry@wensleydale-experience.com	wensleydale-experience.com
North York Moors	Our Limestone Land	  	info@ingleboroughcave.co.uk	ingleboroughcave.co.uk
	Fundamental Bushcraft Day	 	info@rewildingadventure.co.uk	rewildingadventure.co.uk
	Fossil, Forage & Feast	  	contact@hiddenhorizons.co.uk	hiddenhorizons.co.uk
	Stargazing		contact@hiddenhorizons.co.uk	hiddenhorizons.co.uk
	A Mystical Nature Exploration	  	alison@adventuresforthesoul.co.uk	adventuresforthesoul.co.uk
	Steam Trains, Whitby & the Moors	  	info@grandyorkshire.com	grandyorkshire.com

Park	Experience	Theme	Email	Website of provider
Peak District	Mountain Hares Discovery Walk	  	info@myguidedwalks.co.uk	myguidedwalks.co.uk
	Climbing Through History	  	info@peakmountaineering.com	peakmountaineering.com
	The Blue John Stone Experience	  	treakcliff@bluejohnstone.com	bluejohnstone.com
	Crash Sites Walking Tour	  	info@myguidedwalks.co.uk	myguidedwalks.co.uk
	On Top Of The World	  	tours@liveforthehills.com	liveforthehills.com
	Plague Village & The Peaks	  	tours@liveforthehills.com	liveforthehills.com
	Forest in a Bottle	  	karl@theforestdistillery.com	theforestdistillery.com
Broads	Coffee & Nature Kayak Adventure	  	adventure@norfolkoutdooradventures.co.uk	norfolkoutdoor.co.uk
	Sail on a Traditional Wherry	  	trade@wherryryachtcharter.org	wherryryachtcharter.org
	Romantic Sailing Adventures	  	alison@oliverssailingholidays.co.uk	oliverssailingholidays.co.uk
	A Taste of Norfolk Sailing	  	info@eastwood-whelpton.co.uk	eastwood-whelpton.co.uk
	Better By Sail – Learn to Sail on the Broads	  	info@eastwood-whelpton.co.uk	eastwood-whelpton.co.uk
	Fairhaven Woodland & Water Garden and South Walsham Marshes	  	paul@pauldicksontours.co.uk	pauldicksontours.co.uk
South Downs	Rails, Trails & Sails	  	paul@pauldicksontours.co.uk	pauldicksontours.co.uk
	Jane Austen Tour	 	info@hiddenbritaintours.co.uk	hiddenbritaintours.co.uk
	Hills, Heath, Hops & Hampers	  	richard@patadventures.com	patadventures.com
	Wild Meadows & Wine Walk	  	richard@patadventures.com	patadventures.com
	“Bait to Plate” Fly Fishing Taster & Smokeschool	 	finsandforks@gmail.com	finsandforks.co.uk
	Paddle the South Downs: Lewes to Hamsey	  	Info@thekayakcoach.com	thekayakcoach.com
	Paddle the South Downs: Cuckmere Valley	  	Info@thekayakcoach.com	thekayakcoach.com
	Seven Sisters Experience	  	richard@patadventures.com	patadventures.com
	Walking & Wine Tasting Tours	  	info@fizzonfoot.com	fizzonfoot.com
	Foraging, Feasting & Farm Adventures	  	info@moorwildexperiences.co.uk	moorwildexperiences.co.uk
Exmoor	Victorian Exmoor	  	enquiries@lynton-rail.co.uk	lynton-rail.co.uk
	Literary Footsteps	  	Info@wildaboutexmoor.com	wildaboutexmoor.com
	Fly Back to Nature With Owls & Hawks	  	exmoorowlsbookings@gmail.com	exmoorowlhawkcentre.co.uk
	Goat Herding	  	hornerfarm@hotmail.com	horner-farm.co.uk
	Exmoor Pony Experience	  	dawnwestcott@hotmail.com	wildponywhispering.co.uk
	Exmoor in a Nutshell	  	Info@wildaboutexmoor.com	wildaboutexmoor.com
	Moods of Exmoor	  	peterhendrie@ymail.com	peterhendriephotography.com
Dartmoor	Exmoor Wildlife Safari	  	exmoorwildlifesafaris@gmail.com	exmoorwildlifesafaris.com
	Getting to Grips with Granite	  	okehampton@yha.org.uk	adventureokehampton.com
	Cycle the Granite Way	  	okehampton@yha.org.uk	adventureokehampton.com
	Step Back in Time	  	info@dartmoorsdaughter.com	dartmoorsdaughter.com
	Nature Connection & Mindfulness	  	info@dartmoorsdaughter.com	dartmoorsdaughter.com
	Dartmoor Pony Hands-on Experience & Guided Walk	  	info@dartmoorsdaughter.com	dartmoorsdaughter.com
	Dartmoor on Horseback	  	Enquiries@libertytrails.co.uk	liberty-trails.com
	Dartmoor Horse Photography	  	malcolm@malcolmsnelgrove.com	malcolmsnelgrove.com
	Gems of Dartmoor	  	malcolm@malcolmsnelgrove.com	malcolmsnelgrove.com



**The English National Park
Experience Collection**

nationalparkexperiences.co.uk

The Broads National Park © Chris Herring

Need help?

For more information, including details of how to access the Media Library for the English National Park Experience Collection, please visit nationalparkexperiences.co.uk.

If you need further information or assistance developing itineraries in England's National Parks please contact Deb on dbrookes@dbconsultingsolutions.co.uk

Disclaimer Every effort has been made to ensure the information supplied in this guide is correct at the time of production in March 2021.