

# FOREST OF DEAN & WYE VALLEY

GUIDE 2015

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\*Offer valid until 30th November 2015, excluding Saturdays and Corporate Events. Discount code must be entered at time of booking. Only valid at Forest of Dean. Participation and supervision ratios apply - please see our website.

# WELCOME TO THE HOME OF FREE SPIRITS

Enjoy the fresh air and freedom of the Forest of Dean and Wye Valley, a place of history and memorable experiences.

Immerse yourself in our heritage, experience the thrills and delights of our natural and supernatural activities, then transport yourself to the set of Dr Who or the new Star Wars, before a feast of the finest local produce.

Use this guide and our website to plan and inspire your time - there's loads to see and do for all the family, the restless and rest-loving.

Don't forget to share your stories with us - Enjoy!

*Maureen McAllister*

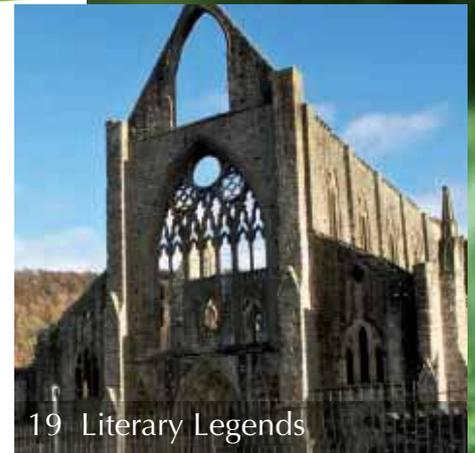
Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Tourism @deanwye



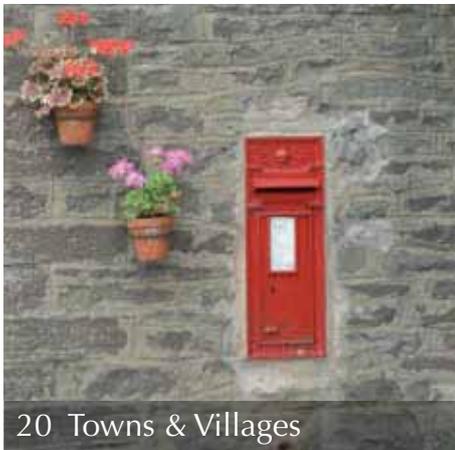
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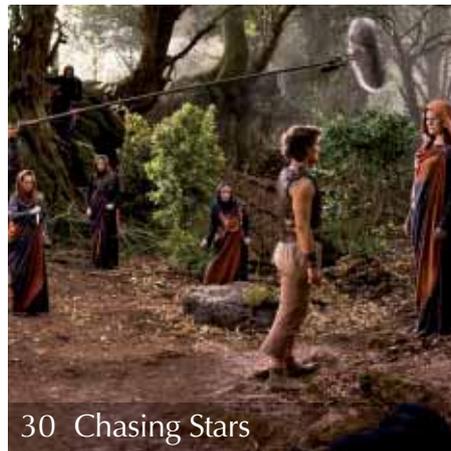
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@deanwye



/WyeValleyForestofDean

# Fun for the whole Family!

the national  
**diving & activity**  
centre

SCUBA DIVING

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Website [www.ndac.co.uk](http://www.ndac.co.uk)

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# A SENSE OF PLACE

Welcome to one of England's last ancient forests, a haven for the restless and the rest-loving, full of freedom and inspiration with activities to suit everyone.

The area is alive with natural contrasts, trees of all species and ages, streams, ponds, rivers, glades and faded industrial remains that burst with wildlife. Safe in the hands of the Forestry Commission, who sensitively manage conservation and recreation.

We are a destination for all seasons: spring heralds a carpet of bluebells and daffodils; summer is ideal for picnics of delicious local produce; bask in a blaze of glorious autumnal colours; or relax by a roaring fire to reflect on the stark beauty of winter.

Much is hidden beneath the forest canopy, so explore and find a personal wilderness to discover and enjoy.

There is something to suit all ages and expectations: the ancient forests of Puzzlewood, the outdoor play areas and trails at Beechenhurst Lodge or Go Ape's arboreal adventures. The Dean Heritage Centre has a Very Hungry Caterpillar trail from Easter, based on the much loved book.

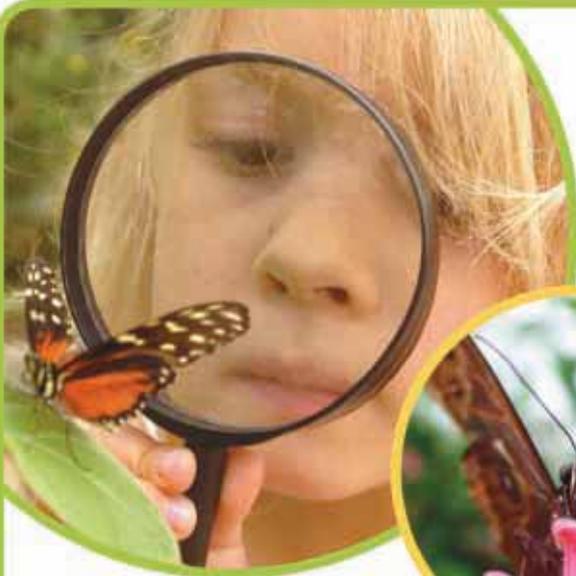
Intrepid visitors can delight in a natural playground connected by zip wires, mountain bike trails, bridleways, ancient caves, treetop assault courses and river rapids. For people who prefer life at a slower pace we are nature's lounge, a place to unwind and relax.

If exhausted by exploration, we are home to an abundance of luxury hotels, guesthouses, self-catering cottages, lodges and rustic and glamorous campsites.



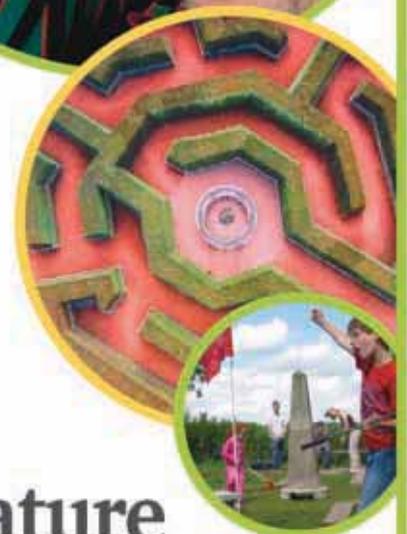


# Wye Valley Butterfly Zoo



aMazing  
Hedge Puzzle

Looking for fun  
Share the joy  
with everyone



Open daily  
from 10am



Miniature  
Golf



Laser Tag

Check out our online offers at  
[butterflyzoo.co.uk](http://butterflyzoo.co.uk)

Follow us [facebook](#) [twitter](#)

📍 Symonds Yat West HR9 6DA 📞 01600 890360

# 20 THINGS TO TRY...

Hire bicycles and explore, fly through the air on a zip wire or paddle down the river on a watery adventure. With such fabulous scenery it's a great place to ramble and it's dog-friendly. Marvel at the wildlife, follow the superb four-mile Sculpture Trail that features 16 art works, or spot a movie or TV set.

A trail for the whole family or an adventurous experience for off-road enthusiasts, there is something for everyone... from the 11 mile Family Cycle Trail to the nationally acclaimed Verderers' Trail which offers seven miles of all-weather adrenalin. If downhill tracks are your thing, try the Ski Run or the Corkscrew, which both lead to Cannop Cycle Centre.



## 1. Two wheel fun

With miles of trails from family-friendly flat to heart-thumping downhill challenges, two wheels are the best way to explore the Forest of Dean and Wye Valley. Don't worry about bringing your own kit because Pedalabikeaway and Dean Forest Cycles are the affordable way to hire everything you need or book a guided ride.



## 2. Canoe or kayak

Run the rapids at Symonds Yat or take a lazy cruise through stunning scenery, either are fun and unique ways to experience the dramatic landscape that changes with every season. Team up with Wye Pursuits or Wye Canoes for boat hire, expert tuition and guided river trips that guarantee a splashing good time.

## 4. Walk on water

Head to the National Diving and Activity Centre to try water walking or race above the quarry on one of the UK's longest zip wires. If that's not exhilarating enough try flyboarding - one of the latest water crazes, which involves flying behind a jet-ski attached via a 10-metre hose.



## 5. Take to the treetops

There's more than 20-million trees in the Forest of Dean and it's home to Go Ape tree top adventure. Overcome fears or fuel an appetite for adventure across walkways, climbing nets and zip wires. Go it alone, thrill the whole family or explore the canopies with an experienced instructor from Forest of Dean Adventure.

## 3. Going underground

Locals have explored the depths of Clearwell Caves for 4,000 years, but today's visitors can transport themselves to a vast underground labyrinth of passageways, caverns and rock faces once rich in iron and now home to mysterious minerals, flora and fauna. Fantastic for families and a memorable experience not to be missed.

## 6. Ride the future

Ride, glide and travel seamlessly on a two-wheel all-terrain segway vehicle at the National Diving and Activity Centre in Tidenham, where Segway Active teaches balance and poise before a spin around a purpose-built off-road circuit. Segways are also available at Go Ape.

# Puzzlewood

A magical day out in the Forest of Dean



Perrygrove Road Coleford GL16 8QB 01594 833187  
[www.puzzlewood.net](http://www.puzzlewood.net)



Puzzlewood



Puzzlewoodfod

You might just recognise Puzzlewood from a number of popular television series. The ancient forest has been featured in Dr Who, Merlin and Atlantis to name but a few!

pedal  
aBike  
Away



Cycling for everyone in the  
beautiful Forest of Dean

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[pedalabikeaway.co.uk](http://pedalabikeaway.co.uk) | 01594 860065



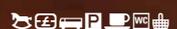
## Clearwell Caves



- Ochre and blacksmith workshops
- Café and giftshop
- Crystals and minerals to buy
- 9 impressive caverns
- Caving activities
- Guided tours
- Picnic area
- Ample free parking

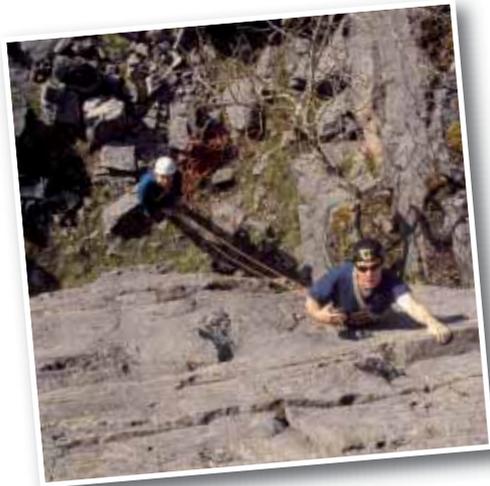
*'a great  
underground  
experience  
for all  
the family!'*

**OPEN**  
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5.00pm  
Clearwell,  
Nr Coleford  
Telephone: 01594 832535  
[www.clearwellcaves.com](http://www.clearwellcaves.com)



## 7. Hit the target

Take aim and enjoy a clay pigeon shoot at DBC Leisure in Lydney where you'll find expert instructors with a keen eye or find the art of archery at Beechenhurst Lodge. Beechenhurst is also a route in to the Forest Sculpture Trail with its stunning 'must see' 'Cathedral' hanging stained-glass window.



## 8. Crags and cliffs

Head skywards prior to a daring descent at Symonds Yat, home to amazing climbing and abseiling terrain. Contour Outdoor and Forest Adventure provide all the equipment and professional rope skills to negotiate riverside crags and cliffs up to giddy heights with stunning views.



## 9. Walk and workout

Nordic walking is a fun, full-body workout for all ages and levels of fitness. Feel light on your feet as you propel yourself through paths and bridleways to explore otherwise hidden locations. Way2Go Adventures are experts who will help you master the technique through short walks or longer expeditions.

## 10. Hole in one

There are numerous golf courses in the area suitable for the novice, enthusiast or professional. Forest Hills features a challenging par-72 course, while those who prefer thrills, spills and windmills should tee-off at the Krazy Golf course in Lydney, where each hole represents a destination in or around the forest.

## 11. Get lost

Switch off your satnav and get lost, it will lead to all kinds of fun. Enjoy wandering through the ancient paths, twisted roots and mossy rocks in Puzzlewood, or find the surprise at the centre of Elton's Giant Maze or the aMazing Hedge Puzzle, Symonds Yat.



## 12. Saddle up

Discover from a different perspective. Explore miles of quiet, picturesque bridleways on horseback with a trek or hack from Greenacres Stables in Lea. All abilities can enjoy a lesson or expedition on a range of ponies and horses for individuals or the entire family.

## 13. Drive wild

Get behind the wheel of a Range Rover or Land Rover to bump or skid a 4x4 through the undulating terrain of Whitecliff's purpose-built off-road tracks. There are introductory courses for beginners or black runs with names like 'Twister' and 'Screamer' for drivers with more ambition.



© Forestry Commission

## Sculpture Trail

The four-mile Sculpture Trail is one of the UK's first and features 16 works created by artists commissioned to interpret the Forest environment and the history of its landscape. The sculptures are installed within the woodland, so seek out the blue ring posts that will help you to navigate the trail.

Or make life easier and pick up a map at Beechenhurst Lodge.

## Accessibility

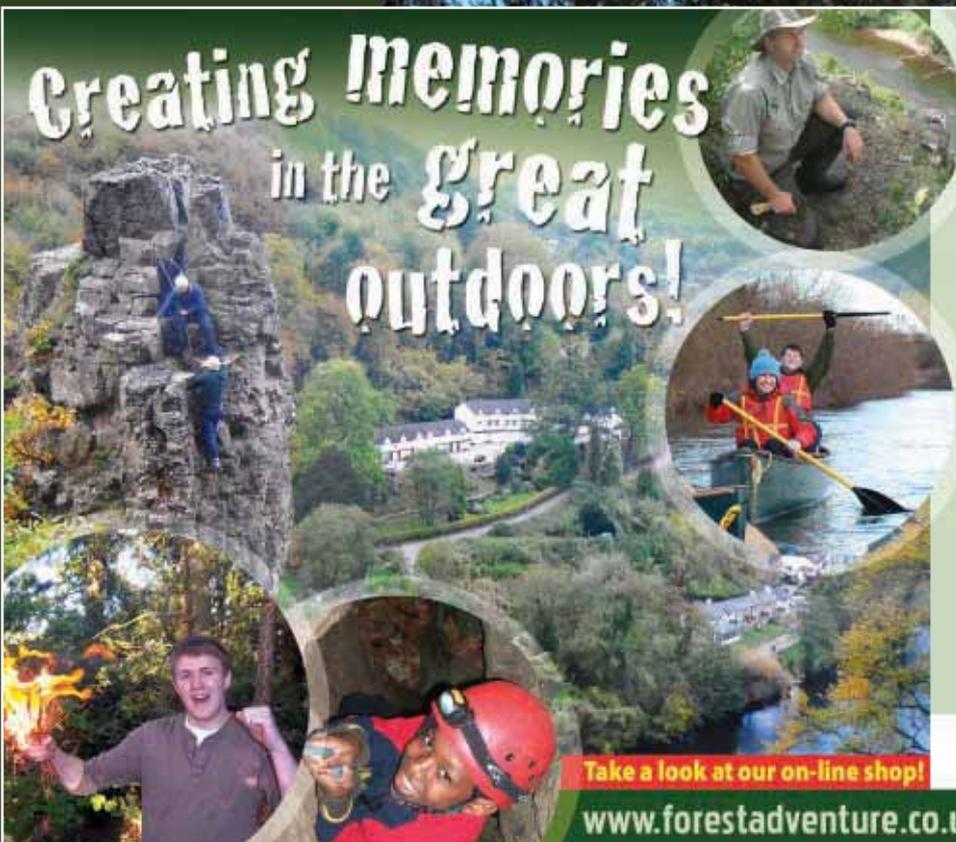
We are a very accessible forest with many short walks suitable for the less able or families with young children.

A few options include:

- Enjoy a circular route along the banks of the River Wye; keep an eye out for canoeists, birds of prey and the ancient hand-pulled ferry beneath the Saracen's Head Inn.
- Go in search of bats and butterflies around the atmospheric remains of the Dark Hill ironworks.
- Gaze out towards the Brecon Beacons, admire Cleddon Falls waterfall and spot rare Nightjars as you explore Trellech Beacon.
- Wander the half mile, all-ability lakeside path around Mallards Pike, one of the forest's most popular walking spots.

Up for a challenge? Then set out along one of the long-distance paths that criss-cross the area:  
Gloucestershire Way  
Offa's Dyke Path  
Wye Valley Walk  
Wysis Way

# Creating Memories in the Great Outdoors!



Great experiences in the Forest of Dean & Wye Valley including...

**Adventure:-**

Canoeing/Kayaking | Archery  
Climbing/Abselling | Raft Building  
Mountain Biking Orienteering | Caving

**Bushcraft skills:-**

Game Preparation | Woodcraft | Foraging  
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Approved by the Adventure  
Activities Licensing Authority



Institute for Outdoor Learning

'Tweet' about your adventures using the #deanwye hashtag,  
or follow us @DeanWye



## forestleisure



Forest Leisure Cinderford—01594 824008  
Forest Leisure Coleford—01594 835388  
Forest Leisure Lydney—01594 842383  
Forest Leisure Newent—01531 821519

Looking for wet weather activities whilst on holiday...

...look no further than Forest Leisure!

Visit one of our heated swimming pools around the Forest of Dean,  
with family fun sessions that include 'Fun Splash' and 'Family Fun' swims.

Pools are open all day, every day (closed Bank Holidays)

If you're visiting during the school holidays  
and fancy doing something without the kids,  
Forest Leisure can entertain them with a  
range of holiday clubs, play schemes and  
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hours to a full day; visit our website for  
further details.



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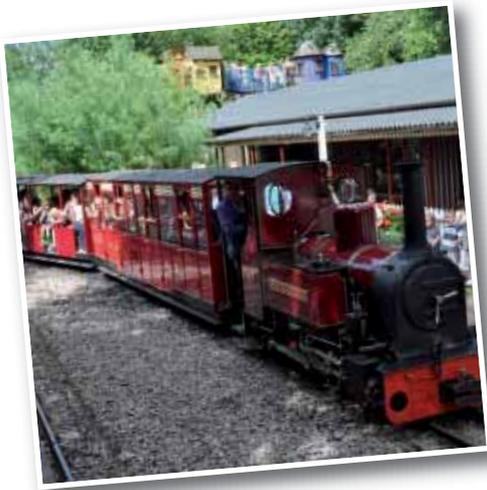
@forest\_leisure



forestleisurecentres

[www.forestleisure.org.uk](http://www.forestleisure.org.uk)





## 14. Go off the rails

Experience the forest at a slower pace all aboard a Perrygrove Railway steam train. For a fun family day out visit the Dean Forest Railway, which stops at five points so passengers can jump off, enjoy a woodland walk before a hearty pub meal.

## 15. Battle for the forest

Combine all the fun of laser tag and paintball (minus the bruises), BattleSports offers families and friends the chance to arm themselves with the latest combat laser guns and complete a series of campaigns across a multi-acre, purpose-built battlefield. Two exhilarating missions are also available at Laser Ops, Symonds Yat.



## 16. Make a splash

After a day of outdoor adventure take to the indoor pools, saunas, courts and gyms of the Forest of Dean and Monmouthshire's leisure centres.

## 17. Learn to cook

From cookery basics to artisan bread, pasta or cake making, Harts Barn Cookery School is the place for foodies who enjoy to cook as much as eat. It's a fun, affordable experience that leaves all ages with the confidence and enthusiasm to create great grub.

## 18. Get crafty

Good with your hands? Why not craft a piece of creative ceramic to take home. Eastnor Pottery offers introductions to basic hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques while Taurus Crafts regularly host courses on pottery, painting, jewellery making and sculpture.



## 19. Make feathered friends

Watch amazing flying demonstrations at The International Centre for Birds of Prey, which houses over 200 birds of prey, eagles, owls, vultures, kites, buzzards and falcons. There are three different demonstrations each day.

## 20. Retail therapy

There's a wealth of quirky and interesting shops, crafts people and producers that offer unique gifts. Ross Labels is home to over 50 brands, while Taurus Crafts brings together a wide range of businesses that specialise in everything from local jewellery and stained glass to craft ales and artisan produce.



## Dog-friendly

The Forest of Dean and Wye Valley offer miles of countryside for you and your four-legged friend. Pick one of many traffic-free walking routes from gentle strolls to all-day hikes, you're guaranteed a tail wagging thank-you.

For that perfect get away for you and your pooch, there is a variety of dog-friendly accommodation, just look out for the Pet Friendly symbol 🐾.

### Forest of Dean Dog Warden Service

Please make sure your dog is tagged with your mobile number and temporary place of stay.  
Forest of Dean Dog Warden:  
T: 01594 810000 (office hours)  
07505 820220 (out of hours)

If you are in need of a dog sitter contact Swat Pets to look after your pet.



74 Greenfield Road, Joys Green,  
Lydbrook GL17 9RE  
T: 07779 187900  
E: admin@swatpets.co.uk  
www.swatpets.co.uk

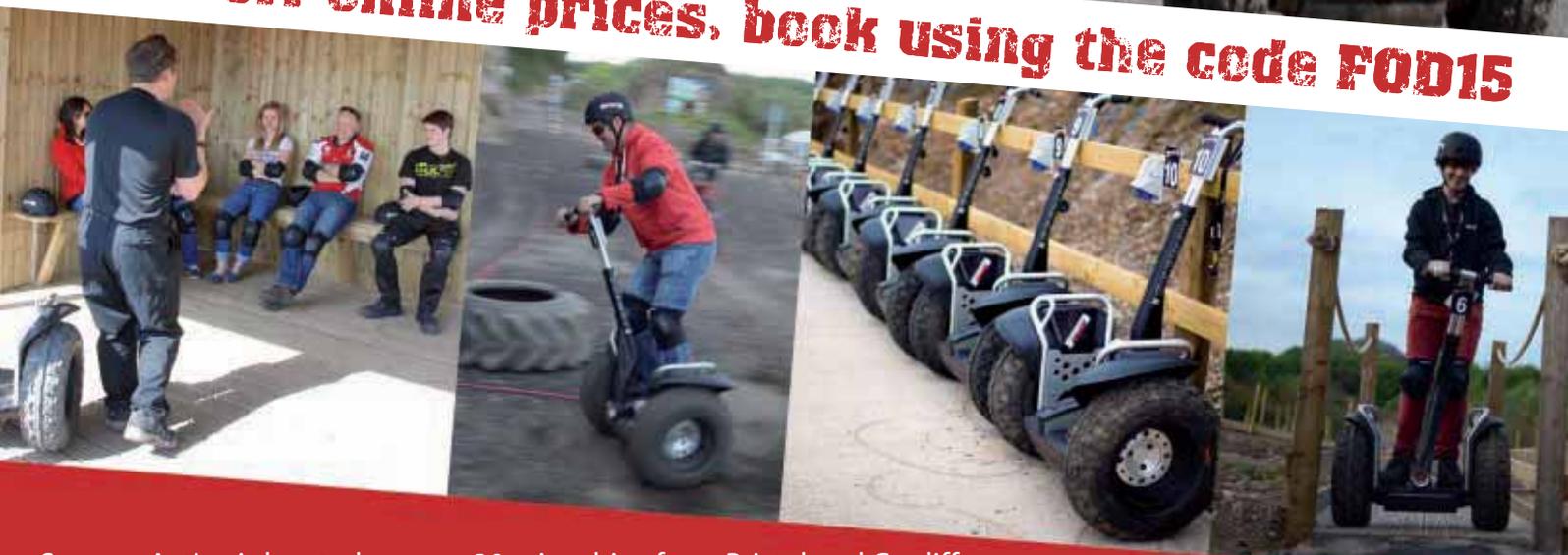
Caring for your pets like a member of our family. Home away from home, safe & professional; boarding, sitting, day care, & transport for your pets. Any length of time from a few hours to a month or more. Living with us as family, no cage/kennels involved. Near Lydbrook.



**Segway Active** at the National Diving & Activity Centre (NDAC) in Chepstow, Gloucestershire is **the perfect thrilling leisure activity** for all the family to experience and thoroughly enjoy



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Segway Active is located approx. 30 mins drive from Bristol and Cardiff.

Segway riding is a hugely popular leisure activity and suitable to anyone\*.

Segway Active sessions last an hour and customers will have a full safety briefing and instruction before being unleashed for a tour of the site and taken to enjoy the brand new custom built track whilst experiencing the gorgeous Chepstow views.

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T&Cs: This offer is valid only valid for Forest of Dean readers. To redeem this offer please book using the promotional code given on this advert.

This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other promotion. For full terms and conditions please see [www.segwayactive.co.uk](http://www.segwayactive.co.uk).

\*Suitable for all the family, groups and parties. Minimum age of 10 years old and 7 stone and max weight of 18.8 stone.

**BOOK NOW** at [www.segwayactive.co.uk](http://www.segwayactive.co.uk)

(quoting code FOD15)

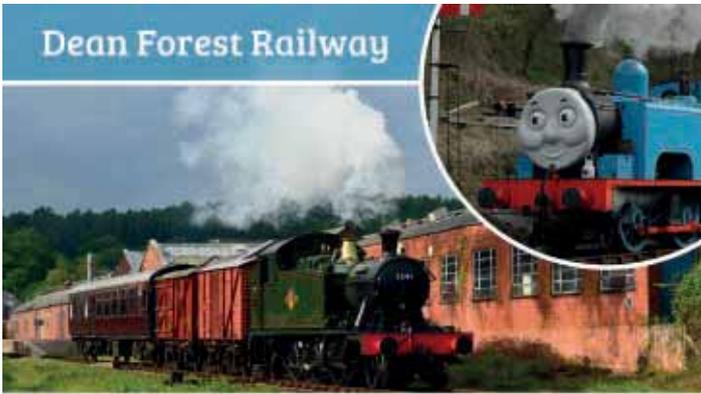
Segway Active, National Activity & Diving Centre, Tidenham,  
Chepstow, Gloucestershire NP16 7LH

Tel: 01291 630046 email: [hello@segwayactive.co.uk](mailto:hello@segwayactive.co.uk)

**SEGWAY ACTIVE**



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## PERRYGROVE RAILWAY

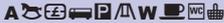
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Perrygrove Road, Coleford, Glos. GL16 8QB  
 T: 01594 834991 E: [info@perrygrove.co.uk](mailto:info@perrygrove.co.uk)  
[www.perrygrove.co.uk](http://www.perrygrove.co.uk)

Our steam trains wind their way along a ¾ mile through farmland and woods. There are four stations, each with paths to walk through the ancient Perrygrove Wood on the edge of the Forest of Dean. A trip takes just over 20 minutes but most passengers get off to go to the covered picnic and play area at Foxy Hollow – or to go treasure hunting – and return by a later train. There is no charge for extra rides – your ticket lasts all day and you can ride the steam train as many times as you like. Children can even wave the green flag!

**Open:** Every weekend and daily in local school holidays.  
 10.30 - 17.00 Easter to end of September; 10.30 - 16.30 October - Easter



# ACTIVITIES & ATTRACTIONS

Visit one of our leisure centres during your stay [www.forestleisure.org.uk](http://www.forestleisure.org.uk)

## The Dean Heritage Centre

*A great day out for all the family!*  
 Open 10am-5pm (Summer) 10am-4pm (Winter)

“The Very Hungry Caterpillar”

- Woodland Trail
- Animals
- Ferret Walking
- Adventure Playground
- Potter Exhibition
- Victorian Cottage
- 5 Galleries
- Art Exhibitions
- Craft Activities
- Café & Gift Shop
- Room Hire





**D3**

[deanheritagecentre.com](http://deanheritagecentre.com) 01594 822170

## INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR BIRDS OF PREY

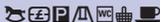
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Jemima Parry-Jones MBE, Bouldson House, Newent GL18 1JJ  
 01531 820286/821581 E: [info@icbp.org](mailto:info@icbp.org) [www.icbp.org](http://www.icbp.org)

Described as a hidden gem, the International Centre for Birds of Prey houses over 250 eagles, owls, kites, buzzards, vultures and falcons. Three superb flying demonstrations every day, each one different, **whatever the weather**. Wonderful mature grounds, cafe and shop. Great photo opportunities. Experience days with the birds for those wanting to get closer and fly them. Free large car park.

**Open:** 10.30am - 5.30pm Daily, Feb 1st - Nov 30th. Special Owl Evenings in November and December. Phone for more details or visit our website.



## HARTS BARN cookery school

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- Bespoke Group and Family Sessions
- Parties for Kids and Adults, Hens and Stags
- Forage & Cook
- International cuisine, Fish & Game, Vegetarian, Baking
- Supper Club - last Friday of every month
- Hire a Chef service

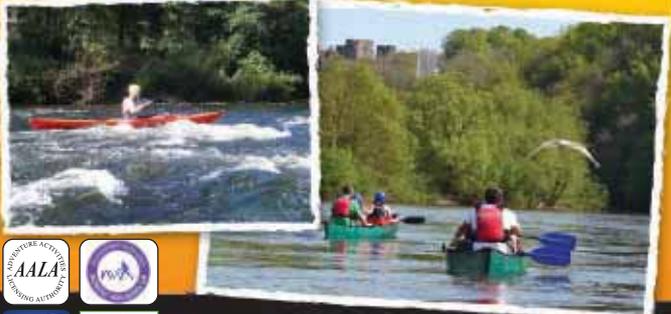
Monmouth Road, Longhope GL17 0QD  
 Call us: **01452 831719**  
 See our classes: [www.hartsbarncookeryschool.co.uk](http://www.hartsbarncookeryschool.co.uk)

## Get Up. Get Out. Get Active



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  **For more information:**  
[www.way2goadventures.co.uk](http://www.way2goadventures.co.uk)

# ACTIVITIES & ATTRACTIONS

## WESTONS CIDER MILL

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The Bounds, Much Marcle, Ledbury, Herefordshire HR8 2NQ  
 T: 01531 660108 E: [enquiries@westons-cider.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@westons-cider.co.uk)  
[www.westons-cider.co.uk](http://www.westons-cider.co.uk)

Westons Cider is set deep in the Herefordshire countryside. Join us on a tour of the mill and discover how cider is produced from the orchard to the moment it is poured. Adults can sample our wide selection of ciders and perries and children are welcome in our play park.

**Open:** Open 7 days a week, all year (Christmas and New Year restrictions)  
 Please telephone for opening hours or visit our website for further information.

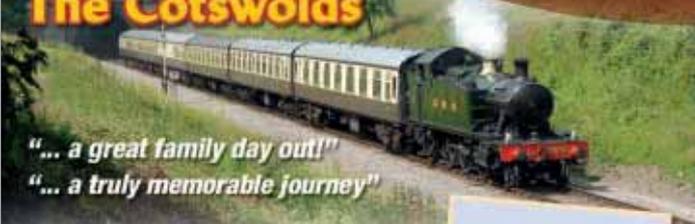
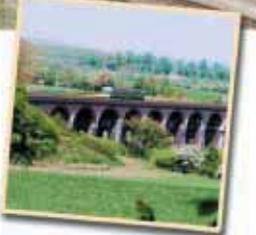
 

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- Travel from Cheltenham Race Course, Toddington or Winchcombe stations
- 693 yard tunnel at Greet
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 **The Heritage Line in the Cotswolds**  
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 The Railway Station, Toddington,  
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Open: SCHOOL HOLIDAYS  
APRIL - SEPT

Group Bookings  
by arrangement

See website for details



- A cross between a Maze, a Wild Garden and an Adventure Playground with Undercover Activities for Children and Adults
- Water Squirt Boxes and Motion Sensors to surprise you
- Courtyard Games with 3,000 sq ft Undercover
- Picnic Site, Snacks

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eltonmazes.co.uk

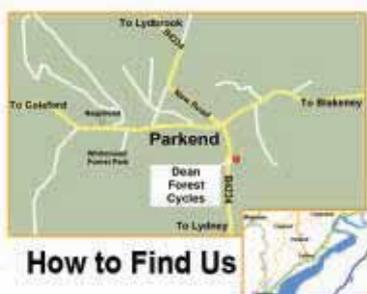
The Forest of Dean and Wye Valley was a source of inspiration for JK Rowling's Harry Potter series, featuring in the novel 'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows'. Chepstow's main street is also said to be the inspiration behind Diagon Alley

# Dean Forest Cycles

Cycle Hire / Cafe  
Bike Shop / Workshop  
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Traffic Free Cycle Trail  
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How to Find Us



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www.deanforestcycles.co.uk  
Dean Forest Cycles  
New Road, Parkend, GL15 4HG



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Contour Outdoor provides high quality, value for money, adventure activities for the individual, families and groups throughout the Wye Valley and Forest of Dean.

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Tel: 08000 148 657 / 07824 504761

info@contouroutdoor.co.uk www.contouroutdoor.co.uk





**WYE CANOES**  
HIRE, GUIDING & INSTRUCTION

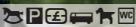
- Canoe & Kayak Hire
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Specialise in providing instructor led Multi-Activity Adventures, Canoe and Kayak Hire, Bushcraft Courses and Professional Paddlesport Coaching in the Wye Valley for:

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Relax and explore the Wye Valley with us...




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E: info@davidbroadbent.com  
www.davidbroadbent.com

**Improve your photography**  
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Kingstone Brewery is set in the picturesque Wye Valley village of Tintern. Visitors are welcome to try the range of award winning ales. The brewery has an adjoining Taproom which can be booked for events and parties. You can also book brewery tours and brewery experience days. Please contact us on 01291 680111

Opening hours:  
Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri and Sat from 10-4pm  
[www.kingstonebrewery.co.uk](http://www.kingstonebrewery.co.uk)

# ACTIVITIES & ATTRACTIONS

[www.facebook.com/WyeValleyForestofDean](http://www.facebook.com/WyeValleyForestofDean)



**DBC LEISURE**  
MAP REF: C4



Trowgreen Farm Shooting School,  
St. Briavels, Lydney, GL15 6QP  
T: 01594 833940 M: 07850 969169  
E: info@dbcleisure.co.uk  
www.dbcleisure.co.uk

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Birthday Parties  
Hen/Stag Parties  
On Site Catering  
Young Shot Friendly

Open: All year by appointment





**FOREST HILLS GOLF CLUB**  
MAP REF: C3



Mile End Road, Coleford GL16 7QD  
T: 01594 810823 (Golf Pro Shop)  
T: 01594 810620 (Restaurant)  
E: enquiries@foresthillsgolfclub.co.uk  
www.foresthillsgolfclub.co.uk

**Enjoy Golf**  
Our welcoming Course suits all abilities and is playable even in wet conditions. Equipment and buggies/trolleys are available to hire.

**Welcome in the Clubhouse**  
Our Bar menu is available all week, non-golfers are welcome and can eat while enjoying views of the course.

Open: All year, 7 days a week, 8am-sunset (Golf Course & Golfers Bar), bookings recommended for Restaurant



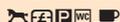
**BATTLESPORTS GLOS**  
MAP REF: D2



Battlesports Glos. Holly Bush Farm,  
Ross Road, Longhope, GL17 ONG  
T: 01452 830620 / 07971 662162  
E: info@battlesportsglos.com  
www.battlesportsglos.com

Outdoor Combat Missions on a Multi-acre Battlefield. BattleSports is the LIVE version of the best computer war games. Infra-red weapons incl. Snipers and Sub-Machine Guns and are pain-free (no projectiles). Missions incl. Storm & Capture, Ambush, VIP and geared to Individuals, Adult or Kids Parties (age 7+), Stag/Hen, Corporate, Mobile & Holiday Events. Separate Airsoft events available. All-in price from 1 1/2 hours to All Day, just ring to pre-book

Open: All year, Monday - Sunday

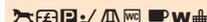
**KRAZY GOLF LYDNEY**  
MAP REF: C4



Old Park, Lydney Park Estate,  
Lydney GL15 6BU  
T: 01594 840082  
E: roger@krazygolflydney.co.uk  
www.krazygolflydney.co.uk

Set in a picturesque acre of woodland our 15 hole crazy golf theme is based on tourism throughout the Forest of Dean and Wye Valley. We offer a Piknix café home cooked food on site. Entry is a day pass. We offer air hockey, table tennis and pool table.

Open: Mid Feb - Dec 25th. 7 days.  
Summer 10.00 - 18.00, Winter 10.00 - 16.00



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Come and try fantastic local produce on our working farm near Monmouth

Open Thurs - Sun  
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Smallholding  
Willow weaving  
Pizza oven building  
Kids' courses





[www.humblebynature.com](http://www.humblebynature.com)  
UPPER MEEND FARM, PENALLT. 01600 714595

**Adventure Activities** Call to Book TEL: 01594 821003




Climbing Towers • Adventure Rafting • Archery

[www.forestofdeanadventure.co.uk](http://www.forestofdeanadventure.co.uk)

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**Cycling Guides .com**

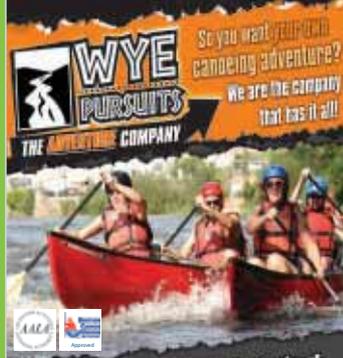
**Explore the Forest by bike!**

- Great new waterproof guide
- Detailed Ordnance Survey map
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- Family trail and so much more

Buy direct from [www.cyclingguides.com](http://www.cyclingguides.com) or check for local stockists including Pedalabikeaway

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So you want a bit of canoeing adventure? We are the company that has it all!



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www.wye-pursuits.co.uk

T: 01600 891199

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Clearwell Caves dates back over 4,000 years, with nine fascinating caverns connected by a network of underground passageways – you can even venture 200ft underground as part of a 'Deep Level' visit!

**GREENACRES STABLES RIDING CENTRE** MAP REF: D2



Rock Lane, Lea, nr. Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire HR9 7JZ  
T: 0744 3651534  
E: info@greenacresstables.co.uk  
www.greenacresstables.co.uk

Our small equestrian centre offers tailored riding lessons, off-road treks, pony camps, carriage drives, and various activities throughout the year, for beginners and experienced riders of all ages. Our friendly horses and ponies will take you along country lanes and forest tracks to enjoy the beautiful scenery and spectacular views.

**Open:** All year 9am - 6pm.  
Mondays-Sundays, including bank holidays (not Christmas day or New Year's day)



**MONMOUTH CANOE & ACTIVITY CENTRE** MAP REF: C3



Sue Symonds. Castle Yard, Old Dixton Road, Monmouth NP25 3DP  
T: 01600 716083  
E: monmouthcanohire@hotmail.com  
www.monmouthcanoe.co.uk

Canoeing on the River Wye for all family groups, couples and large groups catered for. Ring us to book and we will transport you and your canoes to the appropriate launch site. Half day, day or longer. Planning and advice given to suit your requirements. Climbing, caving, raft-building, tipi hire also available.

**Open:** 7 days, all year 9am - 6pm



**WHITECLIFF OFF ROAD DRIVING CENTRE** MAP REF: C4

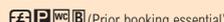


Whitecliff Quarry, Coleford GL16 8NB  
T: 01594 834666 M: 07720 734192  
E: info@whitecliff4x4.co.uk  
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**Courses Available:** All year (except 2 weeks over Xmas) Mon - Sat 9.30am to 4.30pm



**Clearwell Caves** a great underground experience for all the family!

The Royal Forest of Dean's Iron Mining Museum. A fascinating insight into an ancient iron mining tradition going back 4000 years.

- Show mine guided tours
- Deep caving & mine exploration trips
- Educational visits a speciality
- Guides and equipment provided
- AALA licensed
- Established 1968



**Open 10.00am - 5.00pm**  
Clearwell, Near Coleford, Glos  
Tel: 01594 832535  
[www.clearwellcaves.com](http://www.clearwellcaves.com)

C4



### THE SECRET FOREST

MAP REF: C4



(Opposite Clearwell Caves) on Lamsquay - Clearwell Rd GL16 8JR  
T: 01594 832535 [www.secretforest.co.uk](http://www.secretforest.co.uk)  
E: [info@clearwellcaves.com](mailto:info@clearwellcaves.com)

Beautiful woodland walk through spectacular surface iron workings dating from ancient times now reclaimed by nature. Café during weekends and school holidays. Dogs on leads welcome. Entrance opposite Clearwell Caves. Please see website for events. Tearoom serves local organically produced food.

**Open:** All year. 10am - 4pm. Every day (excluding Christmas Day and Boxing Day)

Photograph by Tina Dörner Photography



### KINGFISHER CRUISES

MAP REF: C3



Symonds Yat EAST HR9 6JL  
T/F: 01432 267862 M: 07831 297672  
E: [rivertrip@supanet.com](mailto:rivertrip@supanet.com)  
[www.wyenot.com](http://www.wyenot.com)

Symonds Yat is world famous as part of the historic Wye. Tour enjoyed by romantics of the 18th Century. Times vary according to season. Telephone for times. Full commentary telling of the natural beauty and history of the area is provided. Evening trips for parties by prior arrangement.

One paying child - one child free.

**Open:** 11am - 5pm. Daily from March to end October.



### ANCRE HILL VINEYARD

MAP REF: B3



Rockfield Road, Monmouth, NP25 5HS  
T: 01600 714152 [www.ancrehillstates.co.uk](http://www.ancrehillstates.co.uk)  
E: [info@ancrehillstates.co.uk](mailto:info@ancrehillstates.co.uk)

Ancre Hill Estates operates a stunning biodynamic vineyard in the heart of the Wye Valley. Home to the 2012 Bollicine del Mondo winner for the best Sparkling wine in the world and numerous International awards.

Visit our Cellar Door to enjoy Wine tasting, take advantage of our guided tours, relax in the Vineyard with a Welsh Cheese platter lunch and a glass of Estate wine. Looking for a present? Our Adopt a Vine scheme may be for you.

Prices: Wine Tasting £3.50  
Vineyard Tour £9  
Welsh Cheese Platter Lunch £14

**Open:** Wednesday - Saturday 10.30am - 4.30pm  
April to September



### AUNT MARTHA'S VICTORIAN TEA-ROOMS & GARDENS

MAP REF: D3



Brook Cottage, The Branch, Drybrook  
GL17 9DB T: 01594 824514  
E: [auntmartha@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:auntmartha@hotmail.co.uk)  
[www.auntmartha.co.uk](http://www.auntmartha.co.uk)

Step back in time at Aunt Martha's and savour the delights of taking tea in style in the only authentic Victorian Tea-rooms in the country.

To add to your pleasures, Aunt Martha hopes that you will enjoy her 12 delightful garden rooms each with its own distinct character. Take time to inspect Old Ned's abode and see what it would be like to live in one room 12 feet by 8 feet.

**FREE ADMISSION**

**Open:** All year. Wednesday - Sunday from 12 noon. Please check website.



### Time for tea...

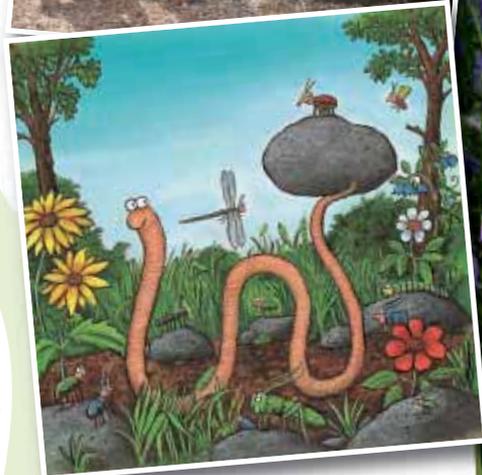
The Old Station Tintern features a play area, visitor centre and tearoom, a great place to relax after a day of discovery in the footsteps of writers and artists. Inside three refurbished railway carriages explore the region's heritage at the Destination Wye Valley exhibition. Or step back in time at Aunt Martha's in Drybrook, a unique and unmissable authentic Victorian tea-room.

## A VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR AND A SUPERWORM

The Dean Heritage Centre's Room on the Broom trail remains on-site until the end of February half term. The staff and volunteers will then install The Very Hungry Caterpillar trail, which will launch on Saturday 28th March.

From the creators of The Gruffalo, the popular children's story Superworm will come to Forestry Commission England's woods and forests in 2015. From 13 March until the end of October families can enjoy Superworm activity trails that include up to 10 stops and take around one hour to complete. Superworm's author, Julia Donaldson, commented: "There's nothing better than getting out into the wild as a family. I'm sure these trails will be really enjoyed by those taking part."

Special Superworm packs are available from the shop at Beechenhurst Lodge, which will help you and your children get more out of the trail. Visit [www.forestry.gov.uk/superworm](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/superworm) for more information.





# LITERARY LEGENDS

One of the most inspiring locations in the world. The area has influenced a generation of writers and poets with its enchanting history, magical forests and pretty villages.

Tintern and its dramatic abbey inspired the great poet William Wordsworth, while JRR Tolkien may have imagined his hobbits while strolling Dwarf's Hill and the ancient Roman site at Lydney Park. As she grew up in the forest JK Rowling was inspired by its dramatic gorges and woodlands, inspiring Harry Potter's adventures in the 'dense, dark forest'. Playwright and screenwriter Dennis Potter was born here and his acclaimed TV series *The Singing Detective* is thought to be set in 'The Forest'.

Castles, cathedrals and stately homes provide evocative backdrops throughout the region. For the perfect introduction start with Caldicot Castle, climb the medieval towers and survey the landscape.

Wherever you go, the ever-changing scenery will reward you, so take time to delve into the past. Chepstow Museum tells the story of a town that became one of the country's most important ports and market centres. Usk Rural Life Museum is a quirky gem with over 5,000 items on display including a Victorian cottage, forge, WWII bomb and vintage tractors.

Images: Tintern Abbey, Dennis Potter Room at The Dean Heritage Centre



# HIDDEN GEMS

Full of fascinating history, our market towns and mining villages are a delight.

## Ross-on-Wye

- The town sits high on a sandstone cliff, overlooking the River Wye and has an array of gardens and excellent riverside walks.
- The Prospect Public Garden offers a view of the famous horseshoe bend in the River Wye.
- 'The Plague Cross' (also known as the Corpse Cross) was built in the churchyard of St. Mary's in 1637 as a memorial to 317 people who died from the plague.

## Monmouth

- By day a great mix of boutique and high street shops and by night a large range of eateries and pubs.
- Look out for Shire Hall, a splendid Grade 1\* listed building.
- In September 2013, evidence was found of a Bronze Age boatbuilding community, including three 100 feet long channels adjoining the site of a now vanished lake.
- The only known example of the 16th Century 'Monmouth Cap', can be seen at Monmouth Museum.

## Cinderford

- The name Cinderford has been around since the 14th Century but the town wasn't actually there until 1840, the name reflects the area at that time; a ford across the brook full of cinders from Roman iron workings.
- Fantastic town trail with six artworks that portray the past industrial and cultural activity.
- Look out for the war memorial and a statue of a local Freeminer.

## Lydney

- Once an important location for shipping timber, coal and iron through the docks.
- Lydney Train Station with trains running to the popular attraction Dean Forest Railway.
- The Lydney Murder (1964) was a subject on an episode of the Discovery Channel documentary "Crime Museum UK with Martin Kemp".

## Coleford

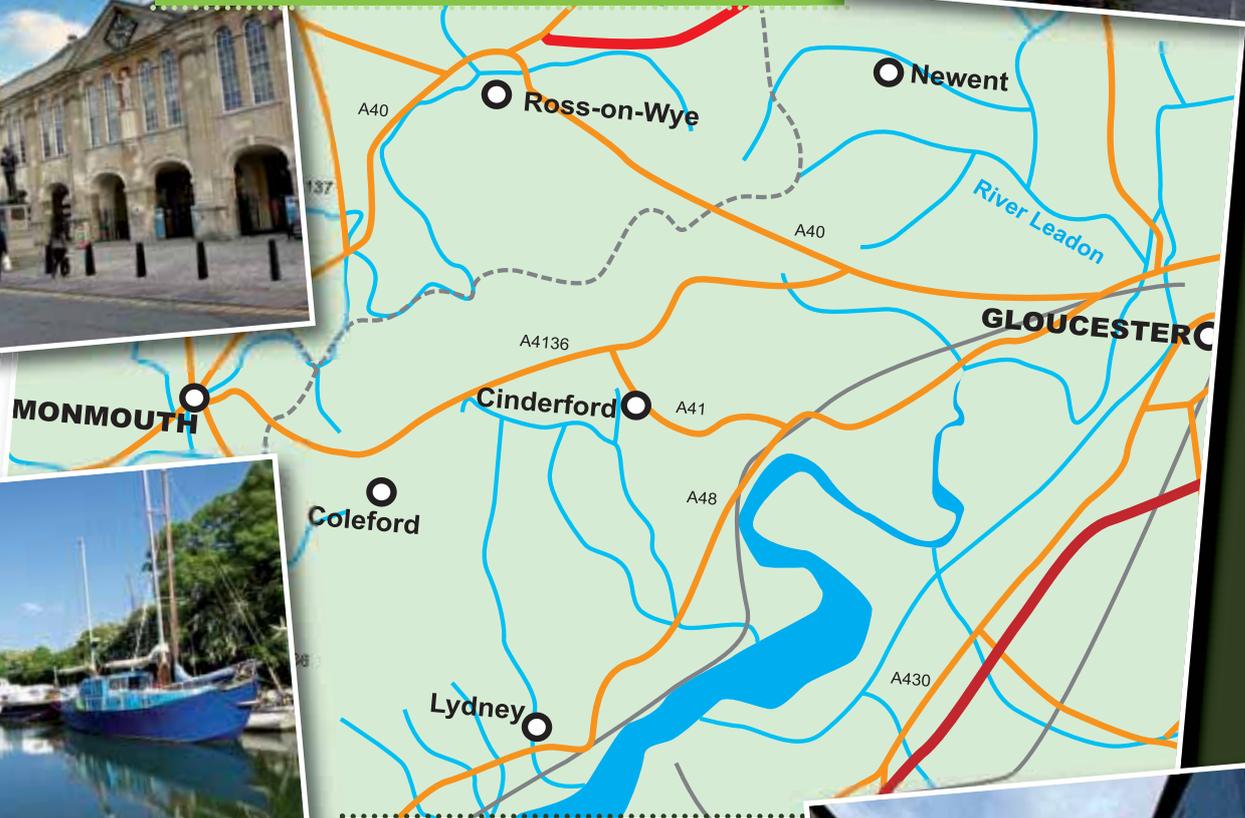
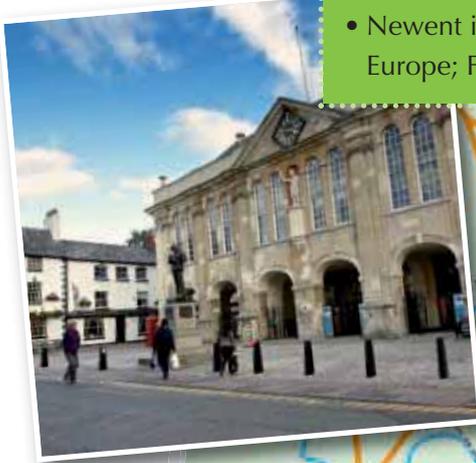
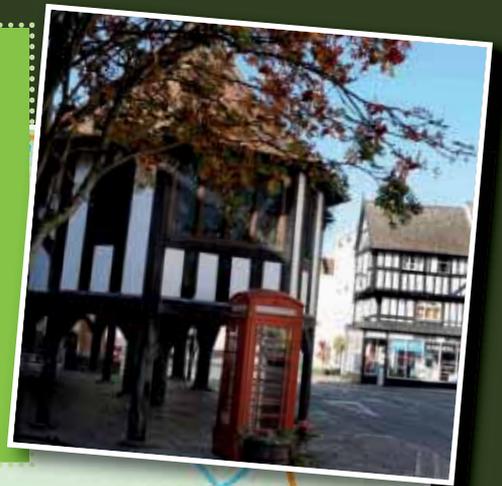
- Robert Mushet perfected the Bessemer process for the making of steel in Coleford.
- The clock tower used to be that of a church, the rest of the church got demolished as it got too small for the congregation.
- There is an ancient burial path that runs from Coleford to Newland.
- Coleford is home to children's writer and illustrator Shoo Rayner.



Images: Coleford, Monmouth Shire Hall, Lydney Docks, Newent, Chepstow, Saint Oudoceus in Llandogo

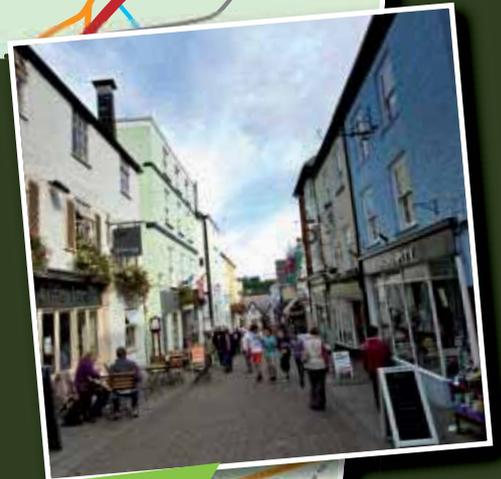
## Newent

- Unspoilt market town dating back to the 13th Century with the half-timbered market house forming part of the town centre conservation area.
- Visit in September and experience the infamous 'Onion Fayre'.
- Birthplace of Joe Meek, the legendary 60s maverick record producer.
- Newent is home to the largest cul-de-sac in Europe; Foley Road.



## Chepstow

- Chepstow Castle cited to have the oldest doors in Europe.
- Main entrance to the Lower Wye Valley.
- Chepstow is home to the Welsh Grand National and has been held annually at the racecourse since 1946.



## Or discover a local village....

Villages are scattered throughout the Forest of Dean and Wye Valley, where local beliefs and traditions still exist today. With breathtakingly beautiful scenery around every corner, you will not be disappointed and each village has its own story.

*Some great finds:*

Minsterworth – top viewing point for the Severn Bore Tidal Wave.

Soudley – natural attractions such as Blaize Bailey viewpoint and Soudley Ponds.

Tintern – home to the iconic Cistercian Abbey.

Symonds Yat East & West – well-known for walking, cycling, canoeing and good food.



# FOUR SEASONS, FOUR REASONS to Visit...

An abundance of wildlife and beautiful places to explore... woodland, meadows, cliffs, lakes and nature reserves... a wildlife enthusiast's year round paradise.

## Burst into Spring

Spring sees the northern part of the district carpeted with wild daffodils. Take a walk through the famous Golden Triangle of Oxenhall, Kempley and Dymock. In May the ancient woodlands are transformed into a sea of bluebells, an annual extravaganza. The area is a nationally-important site for thousands of these fresh, scented flowers.

Nesting birds include pied flycatchers, woodpeckers, nuthatches and treecreepers.

For a top-of-the-world feeling, visit panoramic viewpoints like May Hill and Symonds Yat Rock. Look down 400ft on the spectacular horseshoe loop of the Wye to spy nesting peregrine falcons.

## Summer Splendour

The haze of summer makes for perfect picnics and lakeside strolls. Unwind and relax as you wander through 35 square miles of forest. Gaze at beautiful butterflies, the forest is home to more than 30 species - including purple hairstreak, white admiral, silver washed fritillary and the grizzled skipper.

Spend an evening listening to the fascinating nightjar or take part in some bat watching. The Wye Valley is home to an internationally-important population of lesser horseshoe bat.

## Autumnal Glory

The area radiates in Autumn when evergreen trees blend with russets of oak, beech and larch turning the area into a riot of colour and the best natural displays in the UK. Take full advantage of this display by following the Forest Route, featuring the spectacular Golden Mile.

For something a little more unusual get up with the dawn chorus because early morning is the best time to spot deer in the forest. Fallow deer roam freely through the area and during the rutting season their sounds fill the air. Be lucky and you may glimpse the magnificent white bucks known as Forest White Ghosts.

## Winter Wonderland

Frosty forest paths, frozen lakes and snow-capped trees create a stillness and solitude for a magical walking experience in crisp, fresh air. What better way to banish the winter blues.

Holly berries provide a feeding frenzy for flocks of redwings and New Fancy Viewpoint is the ideal place to watch female goshawks performing roller coaster display flights.

Winter is also a great time to look for Hawfinches, Crossbills and lesser spotted Woodpeckers.

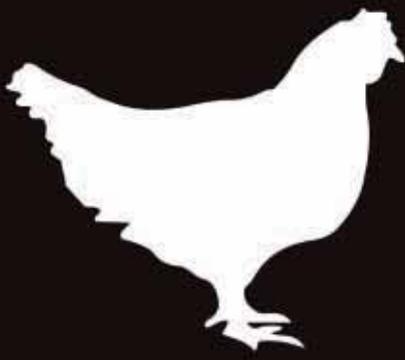


**Severn Bore** The Severn Estuary has the second highest tidal range in the world, giving rise to the famous Severn Bore tidal wave around the spring and autumn equinox. Newnham on Severn and Minsterworth are top viewing points.

**More boars:** In medieval times wild boar roamed the Forest and now, after a long absence, they are back in abundance. They live in family groups known as 'sounders'.

**One, two, tree...** There are around 20 million trees in the Forest. Each large oak supports up to 300 insect species.

**Fast as a falcon:** Peregrine falcons can dive at speeds up to 200mph. They have nested on the Coldwell Rocks, Symonds Yat, since 1982.



# TUDOR FARMHOUSE

HOTEL | RESTAURANT | GARDEN

## FOOD IS SERVED ALL DAY:

Breakfast	7am-10am Monday – Friday 8.30am-10.30am Saturday & Sunday
Lunch	12noon-2pm
Afternoon Tea	2pm-5pm
Dinner	6.30pm-9pm



## FORAGING

Go wild about food with a foraging trip with local wild food expert Raoul van den Broucke.

Group trips are organised in April, May, October and November.

£30 per person, or £50 including lunch.  
Private tours can also be arranged.

AA



Tudor Farmhouse Hotel & Restaurant  
Clearwell, Royal Forest of Dean  
Gloucestershire, GL16 8JS

[www.tudorfarmhousehotel.co.uk](http://www.tudorfarmhousehotel.co.uk)

01594 833046

**TATLER** "Rural Retreat &  
Culinary Oasis"  
May 2014

# FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

The market towns and villages in the Forest of Dean and Wye Valley are well served with an abundance of fresh, local produce. It's easy to pick up some special treats including delicious cheeses, pastries, fruit and vegetables, artisan loaves and tasty meats.

## Local and delicious

A haven of retailers, producers, vineyards, restaurants, cafés and pubs, you'll find fabulous food to fuel your adventures wherever you roam. You don't have to look too hard to find top-notch restaurants some with AA Rosettes and Michelin stars. Our talented chefs are spoilt by a natural larder of locally-sourced ingredients on their doorstep.

## Learn to cook

From cookery basics to artisan bread, pasta or cake making Harts Barn Cookery School is the place for foodies who enjoy to make as much as eat. It's a fun, affordable experience that leaves all ages with the confidence and enthusiasm to create great grub.

Why not learn to prepare your favourite takeaway with Harts Barn's series of Takeaway Specials, including Curries of the World, Taste of Thai and Mexican classes. For a challenge sign up to Butchery Classes and learn to smoke, cure, make sausages after the basics of butchery skills.

## Food and drink festivals

The world-renowned Abergavenny Food Festival takes place on the third weekend of September, followed by a festival of the best local produce at The Forest Showcase, which is held on the first Sunday in October.



# THE WHARF HOUSE

Over, Gloucester, GL2 8DB | enquiries@thewharfhouse.co.uk

01452 332 900

www.thewharfhouse.co.uk

AWARD-WINNING WATERSIDE RESTAURANT WITH ROOMS



The Wharf House serves acclaimed modern British and European cuisine with a twist. Booking strongly advised.

Turn off the A40 at traffic lights 250 yds west of Over Roundabout (junction A40/A417). GR SO 816197

All profits from The Wharf House will be used for the promotion and restoration of the Hereford & Gloucester Canal.

## LOCAL & DELICIOUS

### The Mill Race



With its contemporary look & friendly feel the Mill Race offers great food using locally sourced ingredients, local ales & ciders and over 120 wines. The menu features pub classics that change seasonally. The majority of ingredients are sourced from within 20 miles and some from the pub's own farm 2 miles away! On Thursday and Sunday Evenings, their Pizza Chef fires up the wood fired oven outside and cooks Italian style pizzas in front of customers. Walk Routes with detailed maps are available should you wish to work up an appetite!

Walford, Ross on Wye, HR9 5QS  
01989 562891  
www.millrace.info



### SMART'S TRADITIONAL GLOUCESTER CHEESE

MAP REF: E3



Old Ley Court, Chapel Lane, Birdwood, Churcham, Glos GL2 8AR  
T: 01452 750225  
E: info@smartsgloucestercheese.com  
www.smartsgloucestercheese.com

This small traditional dairy farm, set at the heart of the Severn Vale, is home to the famous DOUBLE GLOUCESTER cheese, used at Coopers Hill Cheese Roll and the rarer SINGLE GLOUCESTER cheese. Meet the Gloucester Cows, see the Cheese being made and enjoy the flavours of Gloucestershire's favourite cheeses.

Open: All year. 9.30am - 3.30pm Tues & Thurs  
Phone for details



### THE OLD DAIRY TEAROOM

The Forest's premier tearoom for traditional afternoon & cream teas



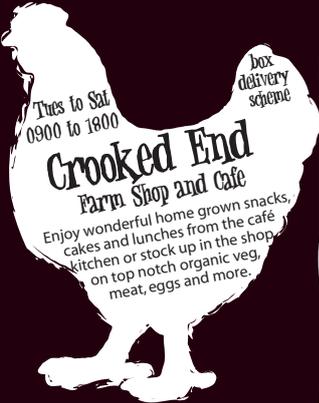
- Local produce
- Pretty tea garden
- Homemade food
- Home-grown fruit & vegetables
- Local, organic fruit juices
- Traditional Sunday lunch (booking advisable)
- Cooked English breakfasts
- Traditional afternoon teas
- Homemade gluten-free & dairy free cakes
- Extensive loose-leaf tea selection
- Friendly, knowledgeable service

T: 01452 831 221  
E: olddairytearooms@hotmail.com  
find us at Harts Barn Craft Centre on the A4136, Longhope, Forest of Dean GL17 0QD  
www.olddairytearoom.co.uk

Open Tues - Sun 10am - 5pm (4pm Nov - Mar)  
Closed Mondays, except Bank Holidays



### Farm Shop

Tues to Sat 0900 to 1800  
box delivery scheme

Enjoy wonderful home grown snacks, cakes and lunches from the café kitchen or stock up in the shop on top notch organic veg, meat, eggs and more.

For something a little different, join us at the Lambing Shed @ Crooked End's supper clubs. Last Saturday of every month. (call for more details, booking essential)

01594 544482  
crookedend.co.uk

CROOKED END FARM . RUARDEAN . GLO. GL17 9XF



### Food & drink festivals

The world-renowned **Abergavenny Food Festival** takes place on the third weekend of September, followed on the first Sunday in October by the **Forest Showcase**, a festival of the best local produce.

### Perfect picnic spots

The forest is teeming with picturesque picnic spots, the most popular include:

- Beechenhurst Lodge
- Mallards Pike Lake
- Wenchford
- Symonds Yat Rock
- The Kymin



### Farmers markets

Abergavenny Farmers Market, Market Hall, Cross Street. Fourth Thursday of every month.

Coleford Farmers Market, Town Square. Every Friday.

Taurus Crafts, Lydney. Local food market every second Saturday of every month. [www.tauruscrafts.co.uk](http://www.tauruscrafts.co.uk)

Monmouth Farmers Market, The Shire Hall. Second & fourth Wednesday of every month.



Images: Food Festival, Tudor Farmhouse, Smart's Cheese, Local Apples, Wine, Local produce, La Bodega Deli

# Taurus Crafts

D4



**Craft Studios & Artisan Businesses**  
**Local Food & Drink - Gift Shop - Cafe**  
**Exhibitions - Events - Free Parking**  
**Open Daily - see website and facebook for**  
**events, activity details and updates**  
**01594 844841 - tauruscrafts.co.uk**  
**Lydney, Forest of Dean, GL15 6BU**



**The Peepshow Gallery & Memories of Home**  
 Local Crafts, Vintage Homeware  
 Autentico Chalk Paint  
 Gallery & Workshop for Hire  
 01452-831051  
[www.peepshowgallery.co.uk](http://www.peepshowgallery.co.uk)

**The Saxon Cellar**  
 Artisan wines, beers & ciders  
 Local Produce & Farm Shop  
 01452-831719

**Fern Health & Beauty**  
 Comfort, Balance, Rejuvenate  
 The Haybarn  
 01452-830838

**Antiques & 20<sup>th</sup> Century Design**  
 Blue & White Porcelain  
 19/20<sup>th</sup> Century Ceramics & Glass

The Old Dairy Tearooms See page 26



## MARY ROSE YOUNG POTTERY

Mary Rose and her team have been making exquisite ceramic treasures in The Forest of Dean for 25 years. Her pieces are exported to the four corners of the world and many of her fans are household names. Her gallery is open Monday-Friday 9am-5pm and also Sundays 11am-5pm. You are welcome to pop in and see the riot of joy for yourself. There is also the facility to decorate a plate using her unusually dense colours.

Oak House, Arthurs Folly, Parkend, Lydney GL15 4JQ.  
 (01594) 863425 [www.maryroseyoung.com](http://www.maryroseyoung.com)  
 Parkend to Coleford road one mile from Parkend



## Photographer David Broadbent's Top Three Favourite places...

**Worgreens Lake near Speech House** - well known for the variety of dragonflies in summer months  
**Lydney Dock** - bits of industrial heritage and ever changing views of the estuary up and downstream  
**Clarks Pool Meadows** - rich undisturbed wildflower meadow in spring with a host of orchids

## ABBEY MILL

MAP REF: C4



Wye Valley Centre, Tintern, Monmouthshire, NP16 6SE  
 T: 01291 689228 F: 01291 689220  
 E: [info@abbeymill.com](mailto:info@abbeymill.com) [www.abbeymill.com](http://www.abbeymill.com)

Award Winning Abbey Mill, original Mill site of Tintern Abbey, is set amidst breathtaking scenery on the banks of the River Wye. Offering Riverside Shopping and Dining in a relaxed setting for you to enjoy.

- Arts, Craft & Gift Centre
- Unique Shopping Experience
- Turning Old Water Wheel
- Licensed Coffee Shop & Restaurant using locally sourced produce
- Group Bookings Welcome • Trout Pond
- Function Room • Coaches Welcome
- Wye Valley Craft Association • Events
- Demonstrations • Historic Old Mill Buildings

**Large Selection of Hand Carved Love Spoons**  
 -10% discount on production of this advert.

**Open:** All year - daily from 10.30am, 7 days  
**Cost:** FREE Admission



## NATURE IN ART

MAP REF: F2



Wallsworth Hall, Twigworth, Gloucester GL2 9PA [www.nature-in-art.org.uk](http://www.nature-in-art.org.uk)  
 T: 01452 731422

E: [enquiries@nature-in-art.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@nature-in-art.org.uk)

### The world's first museum of nature inspired art

Displays embrace 2-D & 3-D work in all mediums and styles from across the world, spanning 1500 years. So whether you prefer Picasso or Shepherd, exotic oriental treasures or watercolour landscapes, you'll discover something that appeals to you. Plus you can meet an artist at work (Feb - Nov).

Sculpture garden, coffee shop, children's activity areas, gift shop, free parking.

**Open:** 10am - 5pm Tuesday - Sunday & Bank Hols.  
**Cost:** £5.25 adults, £4.75 concessions, under 8's free.



## WOBAGE MAKERS GALLERY

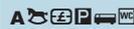


Wobage Farm, Upton Bishop, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire HR9 7QP  
 T: 01989 780495

E: [patia.contact@googlemail.com](mailto:patia.contact@googlemail.com)  
[www.wobage.co.uk](http://www.wobage.co.uk)  
[www.workshops-at-wobage.co.uk](http://www.workshops-at-wobage.co.uk)

Wobage Makers Gallery displays a selection of hand-made contemporary craft. The 18th Century barn houses the gallery allowing for a large range from each maker to be shown. The adjoining workshops offer a unique working environment to the 6 potters, woodworker and jeweller. One of whom will welcome you on your visit.

**Open:** March - Dec. Thur, Fri, Sat. 10am - 5pm



## EASTNOR POTTERY & THE FLYING POTTER



Home Farm, Eastnor, Ledbury, Herefordshire HR8 1RD  
 T: 01531 633886

E: [admin@eastnorpottery.co.uk](mailto:admin@eastnorpottery.co.uk)  
[www.eastnorpottery.co.uk](http://www.eastnorpottery.co.uk)

Remarkable pottery and clay experiences for families, groups and individuals, designed to explore and develop creativity in all ages and abilities. Family sessions, children's events, birthday parties, potter's wheel, school projects, creative development, festivals and pottery teambuilding. Visit our idyllic Herefordshire studio or 'The Flying Potter' can come to you.

**Open:** Jan - Dec, Tues - Sat. 10am - 5pm  
 (Always best to contact the Pottery for availability before you travel.)



Images: Mary Rose Young Pottery; Painting by Doug Eatone; photographer near Severn Bridge; painting at Taurus Crafts; sculpture by Miss Fire, Clearwell Caves



# ARTISTIC HAVEN

The beautiful surroundings of the Forest of Dean and Wye Valley have long inspired artists, poets and craft workers. Visit galleries and studios that celebrate diverse skills such as weaving, jewellery making, pottery and photography.

Taurus Crafts at Lydney features 15 artisan businesses, is open year-round and offers an exciting range of activities for children and families during school holidays.

At Wobage Farm Pottery, book a course and learn to throw clay and make your own personal pottery. Alternatively, check out the craftsmanship at Wobage Makers Gallery, which includes the work of eight potters, furniture and jewellery makers. More activities can be found at Eastnor Pottery, Harts Barn and Mary Rose Young Pottery where celebrity shoppers include Lily Allen, Burt Reynolds and Demi Moore.

For centuries artists have been drawn to the Wye Valley inspired by its picturesque river valley. Drop by Abbey Mill Wye Valley Craft Centre to browse the work of 30 local artists.

Capture the stunning scenery for yourself and hone your photography skills with "on location" training by critically-acclaimed professional photographer, David Broadbent, who has expert tips and hidden spots.

At Nature in Art in Twigworth, you'll see work by 60 artists from over 50 countries ranging from glass sculpture to watercolour landscapes.

There are fascinating art galleries and studios tucked away on quiet village streets, most open throughout the year. The Dean Heritage Centre houses regular exhibitions from local artists, providing inspiration to budding Picassos. If you are lucky enough to visit during Forest and Valley Open Studios (11 to 26 July), three trails showcase the region's amazing arts and crafts.





## Other forest filming...

### **New World at The Glade, Beechenhurst**

Compelling four-part drama that covered the period up to the revolution, a gripping story of love, loss and the human price paid for today's freedoms.

- BBC Springwatch at Soudley
- BBC series, Atlantis at Symonds Yat, Speech House Lake and Mosely Green
- BBC 'One Show' Nightjar feature, at Tidenham Chase



They are famous for planet hopping adventures in a galaxy far, far away, but Luke, Leia and the team descended upon the Forest of Dean in 2014 to film Star Wars sequel 'Episode VII - The Force Awakens'.



# THE FOREST AWAKENS

Whether it's ancient Greece, King Arthur's kingdom or a galaxy far, far away, the Forest of Dean stars in a string of Hollywood films, television series and documentaries.

The ancient woodland is a famous source of inspiration for writers including JRR Tolkien and JK Rowling, while the natural stage is a backdrop for popular film and television shows.

One of the first episodes of Doctor Who starring Matt Smith was filmed at Puzzlewood in 2009. He returned for his final episode where he handed over to Peter Capaldi. We saw the duo in 2013's Christmas special, where the Dr and Clara found themselves transported to a snow-covered Puzzlewood inhabited by the deadly Weeping Angels.

From the creators of Merlin, BBC's Atlantis regularly films in the Forest of Dean at Clearwell Caves, Symonds Yat, Speech House Lake, Mosely Green and Puzzlewood. Now in its third series, we hope Atlantis will return in the near future.

The Forest is steeped in Arthurian legend with Merlin, the successful BBC fantasy drama, which returned to Puzzlewood, Clearwell Caves and several Forestry Commission sites for five series. We hosted druids, dragons and unicorns as the area was transformed into a fantasy land fit for a magical adventure.

In CBBC's Wizards Vs Aliens, Puzzlewood is the site of an encounter between the schoolboy heroes and the Alien Nekross.

Puzzlewood made its feature Warner Bros film debut in 2013 in Jack the Giant Slayer, where it played host to Nicholas Hoult, Ewan McGregor, Stanley Tucci and many other household names.



Images:

Atlantis © BBC Pictures; Wizards Vs Aliens © BBC Pictures; Merlin at Puzzlewood 2012 (© Shine TV Ltd); Wild Boar Piglets - Filming Wild Britain with Ray Mears (Courtesy ITV/ Wild Britain with Ray Mears)



Get in touch on 01594 827311 or 07759016464 anytime



[www.forestbarnholidays.co.uk](http://www.forestbarnholidays.co.uk) e: [info@forestbarnholidays.co.uk](mailto:info@forestbarnholidays.co.uk)

Book direct with Lynda or Geoff, Sutton Baynham Farm, Sutton Road, Littledean, Cinderford, Gloucs GL14 2TU



Remote Hideaways for Romance - Secluded for Family Freedom - Celebrations !!!

Kids welcome. Some barns take pets as well.

**What place makes you smile just by thinking about it? This idyllic spot with 17th Century Farmhouse and converted Barns will. Tranquil oasis with 21st century comfort.**

Walking through crunchy leaves, cycling with a picnic, vineyards, local food. Chic interiors draw you back to relax. Unwind sharing adventures in the cosy glow of the log burner, wearing the soft bathrobe and slippers left for you - no one will ever know.

**Celebrating?** Fill the barns with friends and family and all dine together in our cottage which dines 26. *Please ask for group details.*

**Farmhouse** sleeps 8

Spacious four bedroom, three bathroom farmhouse with Aga in open plan kitchen/diner. Stone spiral stairway and two log burners in inglenook fireplaces.

**Orchard Barn** sleeps 6

Three bedroom, three bathroom stone barn. Full-height vaulted lounge and six-acre meadow. Interior design exploits old beams and period features, whilst underfloor heating keeps the family snug through the coldest nights.

**The Stables** sleeps 6

Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, there's room for the entire family and generous space in your meadow for a games of rounders. Active cooks love the kitchen, bookworms prefer the deep sofas.

**Meadow Byre** sleeps 4

Bright and airy two bedroom, two bathroom family barn. With beams in the vaulted ceiling they frame a handsome, open plan living space draws everyone together to swap stories or play board games around the cosy log burner.

**Brambles** sleeps 2

Flight of steps leads to wooden balcony and this romantic hideaway above your own stone barn. The bedroom is en suite; the living area is a beautiful open plan space beneath a vaulted ceiling. Once inside, you'll never want to leave.



Farmhouse Conservatory



Farmhouse Kitchen/Diner



Orchard Barn Lounge

COTTAGES SLEEP	BEDROOMS	NO. OF COTTAGES	MAX DINES	WEEKLY PRICES £s		SHORTBREAK PRICES £s	
				FROM	TO	FROM	TO
8	4	1	12	1284	2385	654	1778
6	3	1	12	963	1498	492	1203
6	3	1	8	796	1245	561	722
4	2	1	6	659	1200	375	960
2	1	1	4	479	736	299	599

**SPECIAL FEATURES**

- Footpaths and cycle trails lead straight from farm
- Secure, child-friendly gardens, gas barbecue
- Woodburning stoves, logs included
- Flexible start days, short or long breaks all year
- Spa Treatments on hand
- Geoff and Lynda available on site



✓ All Inclusive ✓ Premier Promise ✓ Online Booking ✓ Short Breaks Available

## Distances to the Forest of Dean

To/From	Miles/KM	Time
Birmingham	76/122	1 1/2hrs
Bristol	33/54	1hr
Cardiff	43/70	1hr
Liverpool	168/271	3hrs
London	140/226	3hrs
Manchester	156/252	3hrs



# TRAVELLING TO AND AROUND

## Getting to the Forest of Dean

Located in the Western part of Gloucestershire and within easy access of the M4 (M48), M5 and M50 motorways.

National Express operates nationwide coach services to and from Newent, Chepstow, Gloucester, Ross-on-Wye and Monmouth.

For in-depth information go to [wyedeantourism.co.uk](http://wyedeantourism.co.uk)

Getting around by car is easy and there are many car-parks within the main towns and all around the Forest at Forestry Commission sites (some charges apply). For full details of locations, facilities and charges go to [wyedeantourism.co.uk](http://wyedeantourism.co.uk).

Detailed times for local bus services, contact Traveline 0871 200 22 33. Heritage steam and diesel trains runs through the forest between Lydney, Whitecroft and Parkend. For details visit [www.wyedeantourism.co.uk](http://www.wyedeantourism.co.uk).

## Reduce your carbon footprint....

The Forest of Dean and Wye Valley has a vast network of cycle trails, centred at Cannop Ponds. Cycle racks are available in all of the main towns. Bring your own bike or hire from the many cycle shops in the area.

## Plan Ahead

Buy the OS Leisure Map OL14 - Wye Valley & Forest of Dean 1:25,000.

For leaflets, books and route maps:  
The Forestry Commission 03000 674800  
Forest Book Shop 01594 833334  
[forestbookshop.org](http://forestbookshop.org)

Guided tours are available from the Forest of Dean & Wye Valley registered tour guides who can accompany groups to a variety of places of interest. T: 01594 888197  
[www.wyedeantourguides.org.uk](http://www.wyedeantourguides.org.uk)

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@deanwey



/WyeValleyForestofDean



# explore MONMOUTHSHIRE attractions

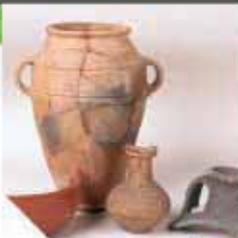
# archwilio SIR FYNWY atyniadau

Whether you want a castle to explore, history to discover or simply a good swimming pool to unwind in, Monmouthshire has you covered. Whichever town you choose to explore, Chepstow, Monmouth or Abergavenny, our museums are packed full of fascinating objects, exciting stories and plenty of activities for young and old. Or you can unwind with a spot of tennis or swimming at one of our leisure centres in Abergavenny, Chepstow, Caldicot and Monmouth.

P'un ai eich bod am ymweld â chastell, darganfod hanes neu am fynd i bwl nofio er mwyn ymlacio, mae pob dim ar gael yn Sir Fynwy. Pa bynnag dref yr hoffech fynd iddi, boed Cas-gwent, Trefynwy neu'r Fenni, mae ein hamgueddfeydd yn llawn gwrthrychau hudol, straeon cyffrous a digon o weithgareddau i bobl ifanc a hen. Neu mae'n bosib i chi ymlacio drwy chwarae tenis neu nofio yn un o'n canolfannau hamdden yn y Fenni, Cas-gwent, Cil-y-coed a Threfynwy.

## Abergavenny Museum

Find out about the history of Abergavenny from the Stone Age to the present day, all within the fantastic setting of Abergavenny castle.



## Amgueddfa'r Fenni

Darganfyddwch mwy am hanes y Fenni o Oes y Cerrig i'r diwrnod presennol, a hyn oll o fewn ffiniau ffantastig castell y Fenni.

## Caldicot Castle & Country Park

Travel through time from medieval castle to Victorian mansion. Set in a beautiful 55 acres with a packed events calendar (including medieval banquets!), the castle is a must visit.



## Castell Cil-y-coed a'r Parc Gwledig

Teithiwch yn ôl drwy amser o gastell canoloesol i blasty Fictoriannaidd. Wedi ei leoli mewn 55 erw prydfwrth gyda chalendr yn llawn digwyddiadau (gan gynnwys gwleddau canoloesol), rhaid i chi ymweld â'r castell.

## Chepstow Museum

Discover the everlasting appeal of Chepstow and the Wye Valley to artists and tourists alike through paintings, prints, exhibits and more.



## Amgueddfa Cas-gwent

Darganfyddwch apêl dragwyddol Cas-gwent a Dyffryn Gwy i arlunwyr a thwristiaid fel ei gilydd, drwy'r paentiadau, argraffiadau, arddangosion a mwy.

## Monmouthshire Leisure Centres

With great leisure centres in Monmouth, Abergavenny, Chepstow and Caldicot, there is always somewhere to go for tennis, swimming, children's activities and more.



## Canolfannau Hamdden Sir Fynwy

Gyda chanolfannau hamdden gwych yn Nhrefynwy, y Fenni, Cas-gwent a Chil-y-coed, mae yna rywle i fynd bob amser i chwarae tenis, nofio a chymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau plant.

## Nelson Museum

Discover Admiral Nelson's fascinating and enduring links with Monmouth, as well as more on the history of this significant market town.



## Amgueddfa Nelson

Darganfyddwch y cysylltiad a oedd gan y Llyngesydd Nelson gyda Threfynwy yn ogystal â mwy am hanes y dref farchnad hanesyddol hon.

## Old Station, Tintern

Drop in for tea and cake at the nation's favourite park and café. The Old Station offers walks, exhibitions, regular events and the perfect pit stop down the Wye Valley.



## Yr Hen Orsaf, Tyndyrn

Dewch draw am banded o de a chacen yn hoff barc a chaffi'r genedl. Mae'r Hen Orsaf yn cynnwys llwybrau cerdded, arddangosfeydd, digwyddiadau cyson a chyrchfan aros wrth fynd i lawr Dyffryn Gwy.

## Shire Hall, Monmouth

Discover the history of Monmouth, tour the unique Monnow Bridge and take part in the 19th century Chartist Trials or paranormal events after hours.



## Neuadd y Sir, Trefynwy

Darganfyddwch hanes Trefynwy, ewch i weld Pont Mynwy a chymryd rhan mewn Treialon Siarfaidd yn y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg neu ddigwyddiadau paranormal sydd i'w cynnal gyda'r nos.

For further details of attractions and opening hours go to:  
Am fwy o fanylion am yr atyniadau ac oriau agor, ewch i:

[www.visitmonmouthshire.com/monmouthshireattractions](http://www.visitmonmouthshire.com/monmouthshireattractions)

Or contact our friendly tourist information staff at:

Neu ewch ati i gysylltu â'n staff gwybodaeth twristiaeth cyfeillgar yng:

**Abergavenny**

**Y Fenni**

**01873 853254**

**Chepstow**

**Cas-gwent**

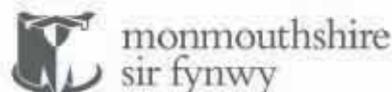
**01291 623772**

**Monmouth**

**Trefynwy**

**01600 775257**

*All locations perfect for those days when it gets a tiny bit wet outside!  
Yr holl leoliadau perffaith ar gyfer y diwrnodau hynny pan fydd hi ychydig yn wlyb y tu allan!*





Forestry Commission  
England

**FOREST  
of DEAN** 

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England

The Forest of Dean is cared for by the  
Forestry Commission. We care for forests  
and woodlands throughout England.

[forestry.gov.uk/visit](http://forestry.gov.uk/visit)

For enquiries, contact:  
Forestry Commission, Bank House,  
Bank Street, Coleford GL16 8BA t: 0300 067 4800  
e: [westengland@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:westengland@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)