

Yarn Market Hotel

Dunster, Exmoor



a warm welcome awaits you

Leisure Activity Holidays 2014/15



Breaks include:

- Artists
- Stargazing
- Gardens
- Music
- Walking
- Photography
- Railways
- Dancing
- Choral
- Murder Mystery
- Christmas and New Year

www.yarnmarkethotel.co.uk

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Yarn Market Hotel
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Exmoor
TA24 6SF

BOOK NOW

Call us

+44 (0)1643 821425

Our Activity Breaks can only be booked by phone or email.

Email

hotel@yarnmarkethotel.co.uk

Please give details of the break you are interested in, the number of people, type of room and the dates of your chosen break.

Welcome to our Leisure Activity Holidays for 2014

This year we are continuing with our popular activity breaks in this beautiful part of the country, Exmoor National Park.

Our experienced leaders will ensure you have an enlightening and enjoyable visit, culminating in a memorable stay.

You will have time to explore the area on your own. Visit Dunster's many delightful attractions such as the Castle, the Watermill, the Dovecot and the Yarn Market outside the hotel. Or relax in a charming tea room or pub in the High Street.

Our staff offer a warm welcome and have plenty of ideas to make your stay an enjoyable one.



What we offer

Accommodation

Our independent 3 Star family-run hotel prides itself on friendly service. Situated in the Medieval village of Dunster within Exmoor National Park, we specialise in walking holidays and special interest breaks.

Our hotel offers:

- 28 en-suite bedrooms
- dog-friendly rooms available
- central village location
- individual character rooms in a modernised merchants' building
- drying and boot room
- self-guided walking holidays available - see www.exmoor-walking-holidays.co.uk
- conference facilities
- free WiFi
- lift to some bedrooms

Location

We are located in one of the best-preserved medieval villages in the UK. Dunster is within the Exmoor National Park, on its eastern side and close to the Quantock Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Dunster has a fairy-tale castle overlooking the village; a working water mill; an 11C church with a unique carillon of bells that play different tunes; the 16C yarn market in the wide main street outside the hotel; the folly of Conygar Tower; the 15C Gallox Bridge over the river; a restored dovecot and tithe barn.

Close by it has an original station on the West Somerset Steam Railway. There is some excellent walking country in the Dunster Estate offering wonderful panoramic views across Exmoor and the Bristol Channel. The South West Coast Path and Somerset Coast Path are both within walking distance.

Leaders

The leaders of our special interest holidays are all experts in their field. Many of them have been helping us provide interesting and rewarding breaks for several years. Participants leave with additional knowledge and good memories and many return year after year.

Good Company

You will be joining like-minded people and will often forge new friendships during your stay. You will be very welcome whether travelling on your own or as part of a group. Beginners are welcomed on most activities - give us a call if you are wondering whether you will fit in. It can be a good way of finding out if an activity is for you.

Transport

We are able to assist with local transport for any group of 10 or more people. This must be discussed at the time of booking. If prearranged we can also collect groups from Taunton railway station or bus station.

For those coming by car we can provide free car park passes for Dunster car parks, although the High Street does have free car parking when available.



Group Bookings

Are you a member of a group who would like to come on one of our activity breaks?

For groups of 10 or more, we can offer a discount on the prices shown of up to 10%.

If any of the dates for an activity are not suitable for your group, please contact us. Alternative dates may be available.

Free Time

All our activity breaks give you free time to enjoy Dunster, Exmoor and the surrounding countryside. You will be given an itinerary for your chosen break, showing the times the activity takes place.

If you are bringing a partner who is not taking part, we usually discount our price for them, so please ask when booking.





Photography Break

Your Holiday

Monday 10th to Friday 14th March 2014

A Residential 3 day landscape photography workshop led by Don Bishop, ARPS.

The workshop will be centred on Exmoor and the surrounding area. It will have a maximum of 10 people. You will get plenty of help and tuition as required on particular areas and techniques of landscape photography to ensure that you finish the workshop with some great images. Please bring your own camera.

Prices

Double room	£490 per person
Twin Room	£490 per person
Single room	£490 per person
Deposit payable	£50 per person
Balance payable on departure	
Extra nghts DB&B	£70 per person

Your Leader



Don Bishop has been a keen enthusiast photographer for over 25 years, concentrating for the majority of that

time on photographing his great passion - steam trains. When he went full time professional in 2006, Don also increased the time spent on landscape subjects. Don attained an Associateship of the Royal Photographic Society in October 2006 after a 1st year as an LRPS member.



Walking Breaks

South West Coast Path

Sunday 6th to Friday 11th April 2014

Walk the first 35 miles of the spectacular South West Coast Path, the longest National Trail. The walk is over 4 days on linear walks, and includes guiding, transport to and from each days walk, packed lunches and dinner, bed and breakfast.

There is no need to worry about car parking or moving luggage as you stay in one place. We have a drying room which hopefully won't need to use.

Prices for SWCP Break

Double room	£475 per person
Twin Room	£475 per person
Single room	£475 per person
Deposit payable	£50 per person
Balance payable on departure	
Extra nghts DB&B	£70 per person

Your Leaders

Our experienced leaders all have good knowledge of the local area and Exmoor to enhance your experience on the walks. They will be able to help you identify the local flora and fauna, explain why the countryside looks like it does now and what it might have looked like centuries ago. All this helps bring the walk alive and lets you relax without worrying about finding the way.

Coleridge Way

The Coleridge Way is a 36 mile walk over the Quantock Hills and Exmoor. It follows in the footsteps of the romantic poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge. We can provide a similar holiday to the SWCP walk for groups of 10 or more walkers. Please enquire about this holiday and see our **Walking Holiday website** at www.exmoor-walking-holidays.co.uk.



Singing Weekends

Summer Singing

Friday 30th May to Sunday 1st June 2014

Ian Chesworth joins us again for another exhilarating weekend of unaccompanied singing.

A Cappella

Friday 28th to Sunday 30th November '14

Join Ian Chesworth for a weekend singing European Sacred Music and Christmas Motets.

Prices, inclusive of break

Double/Twin room	£190 per person
Single room	£235 per person
Deposit payable	£50 per person
Non-singing partner	£30 discount
Packages, without accommodation	
Singing and meals	£130 per person
Singing only	£49 per person

Your Leader



Ian Chesworth is a choral director and singing coach. Having trained as a singer to post-graduate level

his operatic roles have included Spoletta (Tosca) Silvio (Poliacci) and Monastatos (Magic Flute). He sang the tenor role in Howard Blake's 'The Bear' in the presence of the composer. Recently, Ian's choral work has included the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic 'Super Sing' concerts and training with Gareth Malone for the television series 'The Choir'.

Choral Weekend 2015

Friday 6th to Sunday 8th February '15

Book early as spaces are limited, to enjoy another marvellous weekend of singing in great company with Ian Chesworth.



Artists Paradise

Your Holiday

Sunday 13th to Friday 18th July 2014

Join a group of enthusiastic artists for a workshop set in the beautiful Exmoor National Park, led by Lynda Appleby.

- Visit and paint the surrounding Exmoor Coast and Countryside
- Technical help and encouragement
- 5 nights Full Board (Picnic Lunches) including all professional direction, talks and activities
- Discount for non-participating partners

Prices

Double room	£495 per person
Twin Room	£525 per person
Single room	£605 per person
Deposit payable	£50 per person
Extra nghts DB&B	£70 per person
Partner discount	£50 per person

Your Leader



Lynda Appleby is an artist who depicts landscape and architecture in water colour and acrylics using strong tone and lively colour.

Lynda has won the Pro Arte Prize for outstanding work in watercolour, the Daler Rowney Prize for acrylics, the Sennelier Prize for exceptional work in colour and the Crayon d'Arche Prize for work in pastel at The Artist Magazine National Exhibition in 2003, 2007, 2009 and 2011.





Jazz Weekend

Jazz Weekend

Friday 18th to Monday 21st July 2014

John Shillito's Band is an exciting and accomplished band with a wide repertoire, a strong ensemble sound and exciting soloists. Their programmes strike all the right chords in many moods; from the poignant melancholy of the blues to the joy of a good-time vaudeville song; from the mellow emotions of a romantic ballad to the abandoned ebullience of a street right out of New Orleans and the rollicking rhythms of boogie-woogie. Expect an enthralling performance and plenty of high spirits every evening 7.45 till 11.00.

Prices

Double/Twin room	£200 per person
Single room	£250 per person
Deposit payable	£50 per person
Includes 3 nights Dinner, B&B	
Extra ngts DB&B	£60 per person

Your Leader



John Shillito is a jazz trumpeter and bandleader. You may already know him as a Host of Saga Jazz

Holidays. He calls himself a "veteran" now, as he has been playing the trumpet in the "traditional jazz" styles of New Orleans for over 60 years; but he is still full of youthful energy and enthusiasm, very active and has a lot of fun playing and making lots of good friends with his bands.



Music Week

Your holiday

Sunday 10th to Sunday 17th August 2014

Music Week is a happy mix of music-making, walks, outings and cream teas!

The week has choral and orchestral sections. The two groups meet up for a sing-through of a major choral work on the first evening, and for informal house-party concerts in the evenings.

There is a performance of works studied to round off the week, with outings and walks in the beautiful surroundings of Dunster and Exmoor in the afternoons.

The choir and orchestra spend each morning in rehearsal, studying a range of music in the lighter classical repertoire.

Prices

Double room	£509 per person
Twin Room	£549 per person
Single room	£659 per person
Deposit payable	£75 per person
Balance payable by 1st June 2014	
Non-participants sharing	£409 per person

Your Leaders



Robyn Sevastos graduated from Melbourne University with a BMus, with First Class Honours in Performance. She subsequently moved to the United Kingdom to continue her studies, obtaining a Postgraduate Diploma in Piano Accompaniment at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, and a Performance Diploma (ARCM) from the Royal College of Music.



Mark Fitz-Gerald studied at the Royal College of Music where his professors included Norman Del Mar. He won many conducting prizes at college and was invited to Italy for the first *Cantiere Internazionale d'Arte*. He has worked all around Europe as well as in the UK, conducting such celebrated orchestras as the Polish National Radio Symphony, the Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra and many others.



Railways of Exmoor Break



Your Holiday

Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th October 2014

Come and enjoy the delights of restored heritage railways that still run through the beautiful and unspoilt scenery of Exmoor and The Quantock Hills.

Your free Day Rover ticket lets you enjoy the West Somerset Steam Railway all day, including transport to and from Dunster Station.

The next day join a coach tour which includes the Lynton and Barnstaple narrow-gauge railway and the Victorian funicular railway which climbs the 500 foot cliff between Lynmouth and Lynton.

Prices, 3 nights

Double/Twin room	£300 per person
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Prices, any 2 nights

Double/Twin room	£225 per person
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Deposit payable	£50 per person
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The holiday includes dinner, bed and breakfast, transport and Day Rover ticket.

Other Railway Galas and Events

We work closely with West Somerset Railway throughout the year, and offer accommodation and transport for other railway events.

The Railways

West Somerset Railway

20 miles of heritage railway through coast and combe in the beautiful Somerset countryside, from Bishops Lydeard to the seaside resort of Minehead.

Lynton and Barnstaple Railway

First opened in 1898, this narrow gauge railway closed in 1935. Enthusiasts reopened part of the line from Woody Bay station in 2004 and visitors can take a 2 mile round steam train ride.

Lynton and Lynmouth Cliff Railway

Built in 1890 for visitors coming by paddle steamer to "England's Little Switzerland". It operates the same way today as it always has, using a balancing principle with water.



Murder Mystery

Your Holiday

Saturday 15th December 2014

As you enjoy a five-course meal, sinister plans unfold and somebody will not be going home alive! Can you solve the mystery before the end of the evening?

- Cast of professional actors
- Relaxed, informal atmosphere
- Ideal for Christmas parties
- Group Bookings Welcome
- Open to non-residents

The Cast



SW Film and Theatre Productions are recognised as being the West of England's leading Murder Mystery & Theme Event Specialists, and have featured regularly on both BBC & Carlton Television as well as BBC Radio.

Since the beginning of the 1990's, the company has thrilled audiences throughout the West Country with weekly performances.

Prices

Murder Mystery Dinner	£40 per person
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Deposit payable	£5 per person
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Make a weekend of it

Extra nights accommodation at £60 per person, sharing double or twin room, bed and breakfast.

Deposit payable	£50 per person
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Dunster by Candlelight

Highlights

Friday 5th and Saturday 6th December '14

- Shops open late
- Candlelit parade
- Carol singing
- Brass band
- Morris dancers
- Street entertainers
- Step back in time!

Prices	
3 Nights Break	
Bed and Breakfast	£239 per person
Dinner, B&B	£325 per person
1 or 2 Nights Break	
Bed and Breakfast	£205 per person
Dinner, B&B	£265 per person
Deposit (non-refundable)	£50 per person
Single occupancy and children's price on request.	

Make a Short Break of it!

Avoid the rush and the 'park and ride' - arrive at leisure in the early afternoon. Have an early dinner and then you are free to go into the traffic-free High Street and enjoy the festivities.

Most of the shops, pubs and tea-shops are open. It is a perfect time to get some unique Christmas presents. Then return to the hotel and relax - no queuing or night drive back home.

Price includes full English Breakfasts and Car Parking.

Dinner Times must be pre-booked. Early dinners are available on request to avoid missing the festivities.

Collections for St. Margaret's Somerset Hospice will take place throughout both evenings so please give generously and the proceeds from the sale of programmes will also go to St. Margaret's.



Christmas

Wed. 24th to Saturday 27th December '14

Arrive on 24th December for a relaxing Christmas.

Throughout the break we have a optional programme of games, competitions and quizzes, or simply relax and enjoy the peace and quiet.

Prices: Christmas Break, 3 nights

Full board only	£425 per person
Extend your stay	
Dinner, B&B	£60 p.p.p.night
Deposit payable	£50 per person



Twixtmas

Three night Break, arriving on Saturday 27th or Sunday 28th December.

- Half-Board break with Dinner Bed and Breakfast
- Break includes admission to any TWO of these listed attractions (transport not included):

The Eden Project SS Great Britain
 RNAS Yeovilton RHS Rosemoor
 The Tank Museum Exmoor Zoo
 Longleat Safari Park
 West Somerset Railway (Day Rover)
 National Marine Aquarium

Prices: 3 night break

Dinner, B&B	£200 per person
Children (3-16)	£100 per child
Deposit payable	£50 per person

New Year

Two night Break, arriving either 30th or 31st December.

- Celebrate the New Year in a relaxed setting with no worries about cooking or planning.
- Six-course Celebration Dinner on New Year's Eve and Champagne Toast at Midnight
- Test your memory with our Giant Quiz of the Year.

Prices: 2 nights

Double/Twin	£175 per person
Single	£200 per person
Extend your stay	
Dinner, B&B	£60 p.p.p.night
Deposit payable	£50 per person

What's coming in 2015?

Our Activity Breaks are usually repeated in a similar format each year. If you have a group of 10 or more people we can often put on a break especially for you. We will be happy to quote if you contact us.

In **January** we have Folk Dancing and Snowdrop Valley Breaks.

In **February** we have a Stargazing Break and a Choral Singing Break.

What Happens Locally?

During **February** Snowdrop Valley is a picture and well worth a visit.

In **March** and throughout the year West Somerset Steam Railway have Gala's and other events taking place.

In **April/May** the Exmoor Walking Festival and the Minehead Hobby Horse can be enjoyed.

In **June** Ironman Triathlon and the Exmoor Perambulation take place.

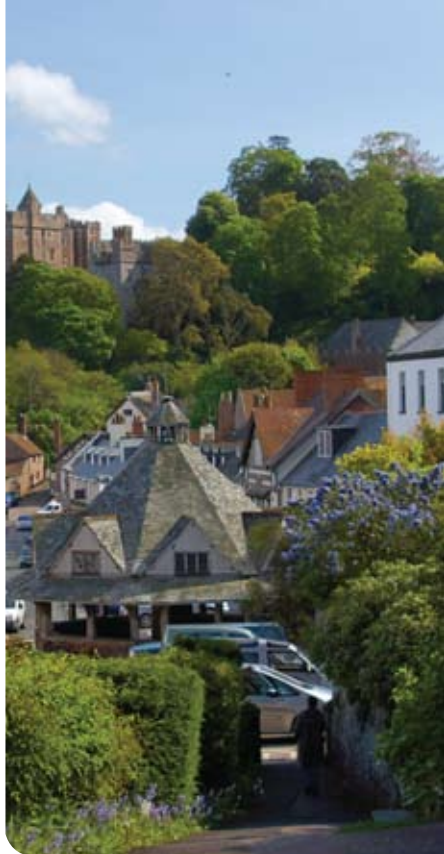
In **July** the Dunster Country Fair takes place, a classic country event with a range of animals, crafts and stands.

In **August** Watchet's LIVE Music Festival is this areas largest outdoor performing art and music festival. The Dunster Show is a large country show that takes place in the Castle grounds.

In **September** the Porlock Arts Festival attracts well-known artists, novelists, biographers, musicians and a book fair.

In **October** the Two Moors Festival is a celebration of classical music played by some of the best artistes in halls and churches around Exmoor and Dartmoor.

In **December** the olde-worlde Dunster by Candlelight turns back the clock creating a wonderful atmosphere in this perfect medieval setting.



Enquiries and Reservations

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