

Things to Do

FREE
guide



 Visit South Somerset



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VisitSouthSomerset



VisitSSomerset



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South Somerset offers endless opportunities to enjoy exciting attractions, relax in beautiful countryside and best of all, have fun together.

For current opening times, prices and more detailed visitor information, we encourage you to call the attraction or place of interest directly and to check their website.

We hope this guide gives you a picture of the wonderful sights, tastes and sounds of South Somerset.



Free entry

Parking fees may apply. Donations where appropriate at discretion.

1. Attractions & Experiences

Discover exciting museums, glorious gardens, unforgettable experiences and fascinating arts and crafts. Immerse yourself in history and heritage in every nook and cranny of South Somerset.

Animal Attractions & Experiences

Ferne Animal Sanctuary

Wambrook, Chard, TA20 3DH

Set in 72 acres of stunning countryside the Sanctuary is a great place to come and explore! Ferne was set up through the foresight of a local lady – the late Nina, Duchess of Hamilton & Brandon – who realised that men and women going off to war had no-one to take care of their animals so would require a temporary refuge for them. The Duchess put a call out on the BBC and legend has it that when she returned to her London home there were a number of cats and dogs on her doorstep and also a parrot! The need for caring and re-homing animals continues at Ferne. There are over 300 resident animals to see. Visitor Centre and café.



01460 65214



www.ferneanimalsanctuary.org/visit-the-sanctuary



World Horse Welfare Glenda Spooner Farm Kingsdon, Somerton, TA11 7YA

Home to around 65 horses at any one time. Meet the horses and ponies. Learn about the work of World Horse Welfare and the rehabilitation programme. The farm sits in 220 acres of unspoilt countryside and there are many opportunities to spot wildlife around the lake. Admire the amazing views. Walk the paddock trail and meet the ponies. Café. Pre-booking essential



01935 841442



www.worldhorsewelfare.org/visit-us/events/visit-glenda-spooner-farm

Frogmary Green Farm

West Street, South Petherton, TA13 5DJ

Frogmary is a working farm and there are events organised throughout the year aiming to entertain and enlighten guests about country living and farming. Farm & Field Café.



01460 242775



www.frogmarygreenfarm.co.uk

1. Attractions & Experiences

The Cary Alpacas Experience

Rag Barn, Rag Lane, Cary Fitzpaine, BA22 8JB

The two hour Alpaca experience gives you the opportunity to visit their home, learn about their needs and requirements, hand feed them and join them on a walk through the lovely Somerset countryside. Pre-booking essential.

☎ 01458 224611

🌐 www.caryalpacas.co.uk

Wincanton Racecourse

Wincanton, BA9 8BJ

Home of the Badger Chase and Kingwell Hurdle, Wincanton Racecourse is surrounded by beautiful Somerset countryside and hosts many jump racing fixtures each year.

☎ 0344 579 3014

🌐 www.thejockeyclub.co.uk/wincanton

Museums

Bruton Museum

26 High Street, Bruton, BA10 0AA

The museum tells the story of Bruton's past and present through the display of artefacts from the Jurassic, Roman, Saxon and medieval times, along with more contemporary displays. Particular highlights include domestic objects, 20th century shoes, the unique sculptures of WWII German refugee, Ernst Blensdorf and the writing desk used by the American writer John Steinbeck, who lived in Bruton in 1959.

☎ 01749 813772

🌐 www.brutonmuseum.org.uk

Castle Cary & District Museum

First Floor, Market House, Market Place, Castle Cary, BA7 7AH

Museum of local town and country life, run by enthusiastic volunteers. Free entry although donations welcome.

@ castlecarymuseum@hotmail.co.uk

🌐 www.castlecarymuseum.org.uk

Chard & District Museum

Godworthy House, High Street, Chard, TA20 1QB

The museum exists to help today's community uncover yesterday's heritage, history and hidden stories. The collection dates from around 1880. Exhibits tell the story of the town and there are significant displays on notable people with connections to the town including John Stringfellow, who with another local man William Samuel Henson achieved the first powered flight in 1848, in a disused lace factory, with a 10 foot (3m), steam driven flying machine.

☎ 01460 65091

🌐 www.chardmuseum.co.uk

1. Attractions & Experiences

Crewkerne & District Museum & Heritage Centre

The Heritage Centre, Market Square, Crewkerne, TA18 7LP

Crewkerne has a long and interesting history. It once had the status of being a Saxon royal mint, was an important stopping place for travellers and its thriving textile industry brought prosperity. Founded in 1988, the museum illustrates these things, but equally shows how ordinary local people lived and worked at various periods. Free entry but donations welcome.

☎ 01460 77079

🌐 www.crewkernemuseum.co.uk



Fleet Air Arm Museum

RNAS Yeovilton, Ilchester, BA22 8HW

A major attraction in South Somerset and a great place for a day out. You'll fly by helicopter to the replica of the aircraft carrier HMS Ark Royal. You'll experience the thrills and sounds of a working flight deck and even see a nuclear bomb! You can go on-board the first British built Concorde and see the largest collection of Naval aircraft anywhere in Europe. Restaurant, shop, adventure playground. Excellent disabled facilities. Ample free parking.

☎ 01935 840565

🌐 www.nmrn.org.uk/visit-us/fleet-air-arm-museum



Haynes International Motor Museum

Sparkford, BA22 7LH

Explore the UK's largest collection of cars and motorbikes from around the world. Packed with over 400 beautiful and historic supercars. Gift shop and café.

Advance discount tickets available from South Somerset Visitor Information Centre. Tickets valid for 12 months.

☎ 01963 440804

🌐 www.haynesmuseum.org

Ilchester Museum

The Town Hall, Ilchester, Yeovil, BA22 8NQ

The Ilchester Museum is a small, private museum run by the Ilchester Town Trust, to show the fascinating life and history of this one-time Roman town and county town of Somerset. Limited opening hours, please call for more information.

☎ 01935 841247

1. Attractions & Experiences



Perry's Somerset Cider & Rural Museum

The Cider Mills, Dowlish Wake, Ilminster, TA19 0NY

Our countywide tradition of cider making is evident in many beautiful orchards that pepper the landscape. Visit the small museum housed in the original 16th century thatched cider barn, taste and treat yourself to the award-winning ciders and superb on site local farm shop.

☎ 01460 55195

🌐 www.perryscider.co.uk

Somerset Rural Life Museum

Chilkwell Street, Glastonbury, BA6 8DB

Explore rural life from the 1800s onwards and discover more about the county's heritage including its landscapes, food and farming, working life and rural crafts. Café.

☎ 01458 831197

🌐 www.srlm.org.uk



South Somerset Heritage Collection

7 Artillery Road, Yeovil, BA22 8RP

Have you ever wondered where objects are stored? Visit by appointment to see anything from gloves, industrial machinery and paintings, to poison bottles and guns. Telling the story of Yeovil and South Somerset, SSHC gives you a rare opportunity to go behind the scenes and explore a museum store.

Traditionally Yeovil has had a rich past of industry and has an important role to play in the history of South Somerset. SSHC's collections reflect this and range from an extensive photo archive, local history, archaeology and even an internationally significant firearms collection. SSHC was previously known as Community Heritage Access Centre (CHAC).

☎ 01935 462855

🌐 www.visitsouthsomerset.com/SSHC

The Museum of Somerset

Taunton Castle, Castle Green, Taunton, TA1 4AA

Housed in Taunton's historic castle the museum tells the county's fascinating story from prehistoric times to the present day.

☎ 01823 255088

🌐 www.museumofsomerset.org.uk

Wincanton Museum

Library Building, Carrington Way, Wincanton, BA9 9JS

The museum is situated in the Library Building, while being one of the smallest museums in Somerset the artefacts are regularly changed so it is always a treat to visit!

☎ 01963 31458

🌐 www.wincantonmuseum.org.uk

1. Attractions & Experiences

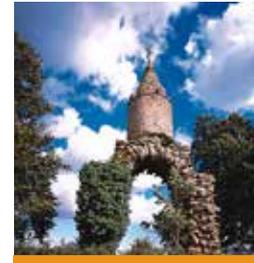
Churches



Copies of 'Discover Somerset Churches' maps produced by the Diocese of Bath and Wells are available from our South Somerset Visitor Information Centre, Cartgate Picnic Site on the A303. 

Check out the South Somerset 'hunky punks'! These are decorative 'grotesque' architectural stone carvings, similar to gargoyles, found on the side of buildings especially late Gothic churches. There are eight fine examples on the church tower of Isle Abbots church four miles north of Ilminster.

Follies



Barwick Park Follies

Yeovil, BA22 9TA

The Barwick Park four follies collectively were ranked in 'Britain's Top 10 Follies' on the BBC's 'Countryfile' programme in 2009. Please note: Jack the Treacle Eater, has public access via the bridleway. The others are on private property and have no public access. Please respect the privately owned Barwick Farm Estate area. Thank you for your co-operation. 

🌐 www.visitsouthsomerset.com



Bruton Dovecote (National Trust)

Bruton, BA10 0NS

Probably erected in the 16th century as a watch tower, possibly on the site of an earlier lookout tower. Converted into a dovecote in the 18th century.

🌐 <https://heritagerecords.nationaltrust.org.uk/HBSMR/MonRecord.aspx?uid=MNA137013>

Burton Pynsent Monument, TA10 0PB

Follow the footpath from Curry Rivel village centre to Burton Pynsent Monument, standing on Troy Hill at the top of a steep slope and marvel at the fantastic views of the Levels and West Sedgemoor. Free to view from footpath.

🌐 www.curryrivel.org.uk/local-info/explore-somerset-footpaths.html

King Alfred's Tower

South Brewham, Bruton, BA10 0LB

Enjoy a stroll in Sparkford Woods around King Alfred's Tower. Free to view from footpath.

🌐 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/stourhead/trails/stourhead-king-alfreds-tower-walk

1. Attractions & Experiences

St Michael's Hill Tower

St Michael's Hill Tower, Montacute, TA15 6UA

Follow the footpath from Ham Hill or through the landscaped parkland of Montacute House to St Michael's Hill. Climb the hill to St Michael's Hill Tower, where you can enjoy extensive views of the surrounding countryside.

 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/somerset/montacute-house



Heritage Sites



Cadbury Castle

South Cadbury, BA22 7HA

Steeped in history and mythology, explore the site of the long-forsaken Cadbury Castle. A military stronghold for over 4000 years, the first earthen ramparts were raised in the Stone Age. In the 16th century it was suggested that this site was indeed the stronghold of King Arthur during the 6th century. Follow the footpath to enjoy amazing views from the earthen ramparts to Glastonbury Tor and the Somerset Levels.



Fives Walls

Spot the unique South Somerset 'Fives Walls' in Shepton Beauchamp, South Petherton, Hinton St George and Stoke sub Hamdon. Fives was a ball game often played between the buttresses of church walls. In 1754 the Bishop of Bath and Wells banned the game due to the damage caused to the church walls and these purpose built 'walls' were constructed. A more modern version of Fives is still played at some public schools.



Family History

Somerset and Dorset Family History Society

Broadway House, Peter Street, Yeovil, Somerset, BA20 1PN

Extensive library and helpful volunteers to research your Somerset and Dorset ancestors. Research library and computer suite available. There is a small charge for non-Society members, currently £2 per day. Please visit the website for more detailed information and latest opening hours.

 01935 429609

 www.sdfhs.org

1. Attractions & Experiences

South Somerset Heritage Collection

7 Artillery Road, Yeovil, BA22 8RP

Book an appointment to view objects and images relating to your family's history at the South Somerset Heritage Collection.

 01935 462855

 www.visitsouthsomerset.com/SSHC

Somerset Heritage Centre

Brunel Way, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, TA2 6SF

The Somerset Heritage Centre provides state-of-the-art storage for historic records of the county of Somerset and there is public access to view them. Pre-booking essential.

 Enquires: 01823 278805

 www.swheritage.org.uk/somerset-archives

 Appointments: 01823 337600

Arts & Crafts

Somerset Arts Week

Our beautiful landscape provides inspiration for our large and vibrant community of artisan and craft people – many of whom you can watch at work. Every autumn Somerset Arts Week holds an arts festival with open studios for visitors to explore and buy original artworks direct from the artists themselves. Pick up a copy of the comprehensive guide from the South Somerset Visitor Information Centre in early September.

 01458 253800

 www.somersetartworks.org.uk

ACEarts

The Old Town Hall, Market Place, Somerton, TA11 7NB

Gallery showcasing contemporary craft and art alongside an inspiring exhibition programme of work by local and national artists.

 01458 273008

 www.acearts.co.uk

Artisan Workshops

Barrington Court, Barrington, Ilminster, TA19 0NQ

There are five independent artisan workshops located in the old farm buildings along the avenue at Barrington Court where visitors can appreciate traditional craftsmanship and creativity.

 01460 241938

 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/somerset/barrington-court



1. Attractions & Experiences

Bootmakers Workshop

5 Market Place, Wincanton, BA9 9LJ

Design workshop and café, offering a variety of hands-on creative activities for adults and children, using recycled and upcycled materials.

 www.facebook.com/Bootmakersworkshops/?locale=en_GB



Coates English Willow, Willows & Wetlands Visitor Centre

Stoke St Gregory, Taunton, TA3 6HY

Willow is as traditional to Somerset as cheese and cider although perhaps not so much is known about it. At the Visitor Centre the Coate family has thoughtfully put together displays and collections to tell the fascinating story of willow. Willow and wetland walks, craft studios, basket museum, guided tours and regular willow workshops. Café. Paid entry to museum and for guided tours.

 01823 490249  www.coatesenglishwillow.co.uk

Dawe's Twineworks

94 High Street, West Coker, BA22 9AU

Explore the only surviving Victorian Twineworks with original working machinery. 10am to 4pm, fourth Saturday of each month, or by appointment. Groups welcome. Donations welcome.

 01935 862938  www.westcoker.net/home-page/ropewalk

Dennis Chinaworks

Shepton House, Shepton Beauchamp, Ilminster, TA19 0JT

Founded in 1993 by Sally and Richard Dennis the pottery is run from the converted stables of a Victorian Gothic rectory. Beautiful hand thrown pottery with unique designs. Appointment only.

 01460 240622  www.dennischinaworks.com

Ellis Pottery

Stout Road, Loxhams, High Ham, Langport, TA10 9BD

Handmade pottery by Rob Ellis, thrown and fired in his workshop. Home gallery open first Saturday of every month from 10am to 1pm.

 01458 251714  www.facebook.com/EllisPotteryofHighHam

1. Attractions & Experiences

Goodswen & Belle

91 Bow Street, Langport, Somerset, TA10 9PR

A home and lifestyle shop – Felting, gallery, soft furnishings, personalised gifts, pottery and more!

 0734 2134 789  www.goodswenandbelle.com

Great Bow Wharf

Bow Street, Langport, TA10 9PN

Pop up gallery supporting local and regional artists showcasing their work, skills and talent. Café, Kitchen at the Wharf.

 01458 254257  www.greatbow.org.uk



Hauser & Wirth Somerset

Durslade Farm, Dropping Lane, Bruton, BA10 0NL

A pioneering world-class gallery and multi-purpose arts centre which acts as a destination for experiencing art, architecture and the remarkable Somerset landscape through new and innovative exhibitions of contemporary art. An impressive landscaped garden, designed by internationally renowned landscape architect Piet Oudolf, sits behind the gallery buildings. Roth Bar & Grill restaurant.

 01749 814060  www.hauserwirth.com/locations/10068-hauser-wirth-somerset/

Jane Morgan Art

25 East Street, Ilminster, TA19 0AN

Offering floral designs across multiple product ranges, including paintings, prints, scented candles, dried flowers, wreaths and more.

 01460 712217 / 07712560514  www.janemorganart.com

John Boyd Textiles Ltd

Higher Flax Mills, Castle Cary, BA7 7DY

First established in Castle Cary in 1837 John Boyd Textiles is proud to continue the tradition of horsehair weaving using the original looms and techniques from 1870. Now one of the remaining weavers of horsehair fabrics. Horsehair fabric is exported worldwide and has been used in many prestigious royal palaces and hotels. Group visits only by appointment - min 10, max 25. Call to check latest opening hours and booking options.

 01963 350451  www.johnboydtextiles.co.uk

1. Attractions & Experiences

Mary Kembery Somerset Countryware

Smocklands Farmhouse, Drayton, Langport, TA10 0JS

Somerset Countryware is a range of stoneware pottery made and decorated by Mary Kembery in her studio at Drayton. Mary has been working in Somerset her native county, for the past 40 years. Apart from the Somerset landscape, she also draws inspiration from fish, fruit and flowers. Coloured slips and underglaze colours with a combination of decorating techniques, including waxing, stencilling and scraffitto, may be used on a single piece to achieve the desired effect. Visitors are welcome by appointment.

☎ 01458 251640

🌐 www.marykembery.co.uk



Photo credit: Muchelney Pottery

Muchelney Pottery & John Leach Gallery

Muchelney Pottery, Muchelney, TA10 0DW

Visit the pottery, shop and contemporary John Leach Gallery which hosts a programme of exhibitions throughout the year supporting West Country artists and craft workers.

☎ 01458 250324

🌐 www.johnleachpottery.co.uk

Shakspeare Glass & Arts

Westover, Langport, TA10 9RB

Will Shakspeare is one of the country's best known glass blowers. Will set up Shakspeare Glass over 25 years ago and has supplied many galleries and well-known stores in that time. Wide range of Shakspeare Glass on display in the gallery as well as work from selected other British makers including jewellery.

☎ 01458 252477

🌐 www.shakspeareglass.co.uk

The Emporium

39 Princes St, Yeovil BA20 1EG

Offering customers a unique browsing and shopping experience – around 60 shops over three floors - where antiques meet artisan made crafts and fashion meets interior design. Café

☎ 01935 579482

🌐 www.theemporiumyeovil.co.uk



Tom Clark Stone Carving Courses, Hurst, Martock, TA12 6JU

Tom feels strongly about making the forgotten skill of stone carving accessible to all and promotes the satisfaction derived from the creative process and the creation of a carving that can be shared and enjoyed. Booking essential.

☎ 01935 822833

🌐 www.tomclarkstonecarver.co.uk

1. Attractions & Experiences

Yandles Woodworking, Arts & Crafts

Hurst, Martock, TA12 6JU

Yandles was founded in 1860 by Henry Yandle. Visit the sawmill, woodworking centre, gallery, arts and crafts store and gifts and home store with beautifully crafted gifts and artwork by local artists. Café.

☎ 01935 822207

🌐 www.yandles.co.uk

☎ 01935 822571

🌐 www.yandlesartandcrafts.co.uk

Glorious Gardens & Historic Houses



Barrington Court (National Trust)

Barrington, Nr Ilminster, TA19 0NQ

An atmospheric fragment of old Somerset: an empty Tudor manor house, beautifully restored in the 1920s, with farm buildings, abundant flowers and orchards. Gift shop and café.

☎ 01460 241938

🌐 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/somerset/barrington-court

East Lambrook Manor Gardens

East Lambrook, South Petherton, TA13 5HH

Gardening legend Margery Fish's quintessential English cottage garden. A beautiful plantsman's paradise and specialist nursery. Café.

☎ 01460 240328

🌐 www.eastlambrook.com



Forde Abbey & Gardens

Chard, TA20 4LU

Thirty acres of glorious gardens surrounding a magnificent 12th century monastery. Seasonal interest all year round. Gift shop, plant nursery and café.

☎ 01460 221290

🌐 www.fordeabbey.co.uk



Hauser & Wirth Somerset

Durslade Farm, Dropping Lane, Bruton, BA10 0NL

An impressive landscaped garden, designed by internationally renowned landscape architect Piet Oudolf. Roth Bar & Grill restaurant. Durslade Farm Shop.

☎ 01749 814060

🌐 www.hauserwirth.com/locations/10068-hauser-wirth-somerset/

1. Attractions & Experiences

Hestercombe Gardens

Cheddon Fitzpaine, Taunton, TA2 8LG

Explore 50 acres of beautiful gardens, steeped in history and brimming with wildlife. Woodland walks and a restored watermill. Gift shop, café and restaurant.

☎ 01823 413923 🌐 www.hestercombe.com

Kilver Court Gardens

Kilver Street, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5NF

Wander by the millpond and discover the formal and informal gardens, all set against the stunning backdrop of the Charlton viaduct. Plans to re-open the gardens and café in 2022. Please check the website for the latest information.

☎ 01749 705279 🌐 www.kilvercourt.co.uk

Lytes Cary Manor (National Trust)

Nr Somerton, TA11 7HU

This intimate medieval house, once home of a Tudor herbalist, was lovingly restored in the early 20th century, when its magical garden was created. Riverside walks and trails, children's play area. Gift shop and café.

☎ 01458 224471 🌐 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/somerset/lytes-cary-manor



Photo credit: Brian Mounsher

Montacute House (National Trust)

Montacute, Nr Yeovil, TA15 6XP

Once seen, never forgotten; the first glimpse of this golden Elizabethan masterpiece, glittering with windows and bristling with chimneys, is breathtaking. Gift shop and café.

☎ 01935 823289 🌐 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/somerset/montacute-house

Muchelney Abbey (English Heritage)

Muchelney, Langport, TA10 0DQ

Discover monastic life at Muchelney, where you can see the Tudor abbot's house and foundations of a Benedictine abbey.

☎ 0370 333 1181 🌐 www.english-heritage.org.uk/muchelney

Priest's House (National Trust)

Muchelney, Langport, TA10 0DQ

This medieval hall/house built in 1308 for the parish priest, has been little altered since the early 1600s. Please note the house is tenanted so please check the website for opening hours.

☎ 01458 253771 🌐 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/somerset/priests-house-muchelney

1. Attractions & Experiences

Sherborne Castle & Gardens

New Road, Sherborne, DT9 5NR

A fascinating castle covering 400 years of history set in beautiful landscaped gardens. Discover walks around the lake to garden features such as Raleigh's Seat and the Cascade and Fossil House. Other walks take you to the courtyard garden, the Ginkgo Lawn and Orangery, the boathouse and pier where there are wonderful views of the old castle ruins. Gift shop and café.

☎ 01935 813182 🌐 www.sherbornecastle.com

Stoke Sub Hamdon Priory (National Trust)

North Street, Stoke sub Hamdon, TA14 6QP

Complex of buildings from the 1300s-1400s, formerly used as a priest's residence. Check website for opening hours.

☎ 01935 823289 🌐 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/somerset/stoke-sub-hamdon-priory

The Bishop's Palace & Gardens

Wells, BA5 2PD

Explore 14 acres of beautiful gardens located in the heart of the historic city of Wells. Formal Dutch gardens and fine specimen trees with diverse and luxuriant borders, complete with restored 19th century picturesque style planting surrounding the Palace and the ruins of the Great Hall. Café.

☎ 01749 988111 🌐 www.bishopspalace.org.uk

The Newt in Somerset

Bruton, BA7 7NG

Ab ovo usque ad malus is Latin for 'From the egg to the apple' or 'From start to finish' as in hors d'oeuvre to desert. This phrase was the inspiration to create an historical timeline for the Estate, with individual gardens and landscapes shaped by ideas, skills and traditions from past to present. Only plants and trees authentic to the period are grown in each garden – though sometimes with a modern twist. Roam the estate and you'll travel through two thousand years of history. Roman Villa Experience (pre booking essential). Farm shop with estate produce and the finest traditionally made foods. Garden Museum. Tree walkway and deer park. Restaurant and cyder bar/café. Gift shop.

☎ 01963 577777 🌐 www.thenewtinsomerset.com

1. Attractions & Experiences

The Walled Gardens of Cannington

Church Street, Cannington, Nr Bridgwater, TA5 2HA

Fascinating gardens with a Grade 1 listed medieval priory backdrop. A mix of classic and modern features, including a 'hot' herbaceous border, sub-tropical walk and a national collection of deschampsia and santolina. Home to Somerset's only botanical glasshouse featuring species from around the world. Specialist plant nursery. Gift shop. Tearoom.

☎ 01278 655042

🌐 www.btc.ac.uk/the-college/open-to-the-public/the-walled-gardens-of-cannington

Tintinhull Garden (National Trust)

Farm Street, Tintinhull, Nr Yeovil, BA22 8PZ

Secluded and harmonious this exquisite garden was the vision of one remarkable woman: Phyllis Reiss.

☎ 01458 224471

🌐 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/somerset/tintinhull-garden

Treasurer's House (National Trust)

Church Street, Martock, TA12 6JL

Small early medieval house, with great hall completed in 1293. Check website for opening hours.

☎ 01935 825015

🌐 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/somerset/treasurers-house-martock

The National Garden Scheme

The National Garden Scheme gives visitors unique access to over 3,700 exceptional private gardens in England and Wales, and raises impressive amounts of money for nursing and health charities through admissions, teas and cake. NGS Gardens and their opening dates are listed in their county Yellow Books. Collect a copy from our South Somerset Visitor Information Centre.

🌐 www.ngs.org.uk

Steam Railways and Trains

A journey by steam train in Somerset takes you not only from one beautifully tended station to another, it takes you back in time to a less hurried age where the guard has time to chat and the engine chugs cheerily through the rolling countryside.

East Somerset Railway

Cranmore Railway Station, Cranmore, Shepton Mallet, BA4 4QP

The East Somerset Railway is a small but characterful railway running through the Mendip Hills near Shepton Mallet. The train journey takes approximately 40 minutes over the five mile round trip. The David Shepherd Discovery Centre explains the history of the railway and you can visit the engine shed and workshop and see restoration work in progress. Museum and miniature railway. Shop. See the website for timetable.

☎ 01749 880417

🌐 www.eastsomersetrailway.com

1. Attractions & Experiences

Gartell Light Railway

Common Lane, Yenston, Templecombe, BA8 0NB

Two foot narrow gauge railway along the old Somerset and Dorset railway line. Train rides, restaurant, picnic area and caravan site. Please check the website for latest information and timetable.

☎ 01963 370752

🌐 www.newglr.weebly.com



Heart of Wessex Line

Castle Cary, BA7

Calling at Castle Cary, Bruton and Yeovil, the famously scenic Heart of Wessex Line runs from Bristol to Weymouth. The services along the Heart of Wessex Line are operated by Great Western Railway (GWR).

☎ 0345 7000125

🌐 www.scenicrailbritain.com/lines/heart-wessex-line

West Somerset Railway

The Railway Station, Minehead, TA24 5BG

The longest standard gauge heritage railway in the UK, the West Somerset Railway, runs between Bishops Lydeard just outside the county town of Taunton all the way to Minehead. The 20.5 mile track, supported by ten stations, gives ringside views of cottages, churches, grazing cattle and coastal communities. A busy programme of events throughout the year includes chances to see Santa, snowdrops, gardens and visiting engines. There are even courses for budding drivers. Please check website for latest events and timetables.

☎ 01643 704996

🌐 www.west-somerset-railway.co.uk

Yeovil Railway Centre

Yeovil Junction Station, Yeovil, BA22 9UU

The Centre was formed in 1994 to preserve the original Southern Railway turntable installed in the late 1940's and to provide facilities for main line steam. Since then the turntable has been overhauled and visitors can watch, from a special viewing platform, the spectacle of large steam engines being turned and serviced when they call at Yeovil Junction. An Andrew Barclay steam engine 'Lord Fisher' is currently operational and provides the power for public rides on the demonstration line of approximately a third of a mile. Visitors ride either in a historic brake van or in a coach. There are several industrial diesels on site. Special Events (including Model Railway, Tractors and Halloween and Santa Specials) operate on a regular basis. Visitor Centre and café. See the website for more details.

☎ 01935 410420

🌐 www.yeovilrailway.freesevers.com

2. The Great Outdoors, Nature & Wildlife



2. The Great Outdoors, Nature & Wildlife

South Somerset is the real deal, working, living countryside. Farming runs through our veins and our connection to the landscape is a strong one. The rolling hills, wooded valleys, levels and moors of South Somerset provide the perfect base for those who love to explore the great outdoors.

Somerset Levels, Moors & Marshes



The Somerset Levels & Moors

The diverse landscape includes wooded hills and valleys and the Somerset Levels and Moors - one of the lowest and flattest places in the UK and an important habitat. The perfect place for a stroll through beautiful countryside to enjoy wildlife and nature!

There are beautiful areas of orchards, woods, withy beds and medieval churches crossed by a complex network of rhynes and ditches. The remoteness of the area provides an ideal atmosphere for nature lovers, cyclists and walkers. The Somerset Levels landscape is a haven for water birds.

The Avalon Marshes

To the north of the South Somerset Levels and Moors are the internationally important and beautiful Avalon Marshes, rich in wildlife, heritage and culture. Throughout the year you may see marsh harriers, bitterns and great white egrets. In spring the reedbeds come alive with the cacophony of bird song and in winter the star attractions are the massive murmurations of starlings and flocks of wildfowl.

www.avalonmarshes.org

The Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

To the west the Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is a tranquil and relatively isolated landscape, on the border of Somerset and Devon. The area is rich in wildlife and heritage. Spanning less than 15 miles in each direction, it is small when compared with many other AONBs, yet it is remarkably diverse, epitomising the English countryside, with hedgerows and copses, small farms with intricate field patterns, deep valleys and winding lanes. The unique geology of the area gives rise to a wide variety of habitats, creating an exceptional environment where rare plant, insect, bird and mammal species can flourish. The Blackdown Hills was designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in 1991. Walking, cycling and horse riding routes available to download from the website.

www.blackdownhillsaonb.org.uk

Green Flag Country Parks



Ham Hill Country Park

Ham Hill Road, Stoke sub Hamdon, TA14 6RW

Offering incredible views of the South Somerset Moors, Exmoor and the Mendip Hills, Ham Hill is a 427 acre country park centred on a huge Iron Age hill fort. Green Flag award winner. A popular spot for scenic dog walks. Pub.

📞 01935 823617

🌐 www.visitsouthsomerset.com/ham-hill



Yeovil Country Park

Brunswick Street, Yeovil, BA20 1QZ

Woodlands and grasslands, river and lakes including Ninesprings and Valley Gardens. Footpaths, cycleway, picnic area and children's play areas. Ninesprings Café. Dogs welcome. Green Flag award winner.

📞 0300 123 2224

🌐 www.visitsouthsomerset.com/yeovil-country-park



Ranger Activities

Ranger activities are held at the country parks with a fun packed timetable of events from den-building to campfire cooking, wildflower walks, bug hunts, bat walks, pond dipping, drystone walling, orienteering and much more! The Ranger Rik Nature Trail at Yeovil Country Park gives a wildlife quiz and activities for children.

🌐 www.visitsouthsomerset/explore

Ham Hill Secret Stories Activity Trail

Download the Ham Hill's Pits of Perils and Rampaging Romans tour on the Ordnance Survey app called 'Secret Stories', tap 'Map', on the top right hand side of the screen, and then tap the tour on Ham Hill (between South Petherton and Yeovil on the map).

Download and follow the new trail which takes you on an adventure learning about some of Ham Hill's fascinating history. From prehistoric to modern day wildlife and everything in between! There are quizzes and activities along the way to keep everyone entertained. The trail starts at the Rangers Centre TA14 6RW, and is roughly 1.5 hours long. Suitable for kids 4-10 years old, but is also fun for the whole family!

🌐 www.visitsouthsomerset.com/ham-hill

Wildlife & Nature Reserves

South Somerset has numerous wildlife and nature reserves to explore. These are managed by various organisations as listed below. Please check websites for full information before visiting.

Aller and Beer Woods, Aller, Nr Langport (SWT)

Babcary Meadows, Babcary (SWT)

Bishopswood Meadows (SWT)

Collard Hill, Compton Dundon (NT)

Dommett Wood, Buckland St Mary (SWT)

Dundon Beacon, Compton Dundon (SWT)

Eastfield Nature Reserve, High Ham (SC)

Fivehead and Arable Fields, Fivehead (SWT)

Green Down, Charlton Mackrell (SWT)

Hardington Moor, West Coker (RSPB)

Herne Hill, Ilminster (ITC)

High Ham Millennium Wood (HHPC)

Jan Hobbs, Nr Buckland St Mary (SWT)

Moldrams Ground, Pen Selwood (SC)

Perry Mead, Nr Lydford on Fosse (SWT)

Prospect Fields, Coombe, Nr Langport (SWT)

West Coker Fen, West Coker (SWT)

High Ham Parish Council (HHPC)

🌐 www.highhamparishlife.org

National Trust (NT)

🌐 www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Somerset Council (SC)

🌐 www.somerset.gov.uk
 🌐 www.visitsouthsomerset.com

Wessex Water (WW)

🌐 www.wessexwater.co.uk/community

Ilminster Town Council (ITC)

🌐 www.ilminster.gov.uk

Royal Society for Protection of Birds (RSPB)

🌐 www.rspb.org.uk

Somerset Wildlife Trust (SWT)

🌐 www.somersetwildlife.org/wildlife/nature-reserves

Bincombe Beeches Nature Reserve

Crewkerne, TA18 7BY

Crewkerne Town Council owns and manages Bincombe Beeches, a natural and peaceful countryside haven situated on the north side of the town. The reserve derives its name from the magnificent line of beech trees which majestically crown the town side of the hill.

🌐 www.crewkerne-tc.gov.uk/facilities-in-crewkerne/town-council-facilities/bincombe-beeches-nature-reserve

2. The Great Outdoors, Nature & Wildlife



Chard Reservoir Local Nature Reserve

(Somerset Council) Car Park situated at the end of Oaklands Avenue, Chard, TA20 1HU

Peaceful countryside site of 88 acres - orchid meadows, native woodlands and excellent bird watching on open water from hide. Good surfaced pathways. Green Flag award winner.

 0300 123 2224

 www.visitsouthsomerset.com/chard-reservoir

Greylake Nature Reserve (RSPB)

A361, Bridgwater, TA7 9BP

Spring stronghold and winter haven of waders. View raptors gliding above, while wandering the reed bed loop. Trails and hides.

 01458 252805

 www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/reserves-a-z/greylake

Ham Wall Nature Reserve (RSPB)

Meare, Ashcott, Glastonbury, BA6 9SX

Ham Wall is a wetland teeming with wildlife - from rare species like water voles and otters to magnificent birds like bitterns and kingfishers. Enjoy stunning views across the marshes to Glastonbury Tor and make some time to follow secluded paths through the mystical landscape.

 01458 860494

 www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/reserves-a-z/ham-wall



Photo credit: John Crispin

Swell Wood Nature Reserve (RSPB)

A378, Taunton, TA3 6PX

An ancient oak woodland extending to 10 miles (15km) along a ridge. Nature trails and bird hide. Fantastic views over the Somerset Levels. Spot roe deer, woodland birds and butterflies. Hear a cacophony of nesting herons. Heronry hide.

 01458 252805

 www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/reserves-a-z/swell-wood

2. The Great Outdoors, Nature & Wildlife

West Sedgemoor Nature Reserve (RSPB)

Red Hill, Curry Rivel, Langport, TA10 0PH

West Sedgemoor is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) as part of England's largest remaining wet meadow system. Set among the Somerset Levels and Moors, it has the largest lowland population of breeding wading birds such as lapwings, snipe, curlew and redshanks in southern England. The reserve has restricted access to protect ground-nesting birds and over-wintering flocks.

 01458 252805

 www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/reserves-a-z/west-sedgemoor

Environment Centres

Carymoor Environmental Centre

Dimmer Lane, Castle Cary, BA7 7NR

Inspiring and educational courses for children, families and individuals regularly running events in the school holidays. Extraordinary site combining a working landfill site with a beautiful nature reserve and buildings with many sustainable features. Please check website for latest event information.

 01963 350143

 www.carymoor.org.uk

Magdalen Environmental Trust

Magdalen Farm Winsham, Chard, TA20 4PA

Magdalen is a 132 acre organic farm on the banks of the River Axe. The farm produces fruit and vegetables, meat and eggs, but most of the site is now in conversion to a nature reserve. The charity offers school trips and residential stays, environmental education, care farming and family events, particularly focused on giving people with limited access to nature an experience of the countryside.

 01460 30144

 www.magdalenfarm.org.uk

Woodlands

Wander through peaceful woodlands and enjoy tranquillity. Look out for wildlife, flora and fauna! The perfect place for family adventures and picnics.

The Woodland Trust is the largest woodland conservation charity in the UK, concerned with the creation, protection and restoration of woodland heritage.

 0330 333 3300

 www.woodlandtrust.org.uk

Tinkers Bubble

A small woodland community based in South Somerset using environmentally sound methods of working the land without fossil fuels. Open days and coppicing and forestry workshops. Bookings in advance for visitors. Free volunteering weekends.

 www.tinkersbubble.org

3. Activities & Lifestyle



Photo credit: Peter Roberts

3. Activities & Lifestyle

South Somerset's varied landscape is great to enjoy on foot or two wheels. You can meander through the Levels at an easy pace or there are impressive hills for the more energetic.

There's plenty to keep you all busy indoors, outdoors and on the water!

Walking



There is a wide range of walks that capture the essence of what South Somerset has to offer from gentle strolls to serious hikes.

Long Distance Footpaths



The Leland Trail, Liberty Trail and River Parrett Trail all route through Ham Hill Country Park and the much longer Macmillan Way and The Monarch's Way form part of national routes.

www.ldwa.org.uk

www.visitsouthsomerset.com



The River Parrett Trail



The River Parrett Trail follows the river for 80km from its source near Chedington in the Dorset hills, through tranquil Somerset countryside to its mouth at Steart point on the Bristol Channel. It passes through many pretty South Somerset hamstone villages, market towns and the ancient historic sites of Ham Hill, Muchelney and Burrow Mump.

www.visitsouthsomerset.com/river-parrett-trail

The Stop Line Way



The Stop Line Way is a long distance coast-to-coast walking and cycling route, which in parts is suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs. The cycle route is 75 miles long and partly follows the 'Taunton Stop Line' built by the Army in 1940 to contain any Nazi German invasion of the South West. These defences ran for 50 miles, from Burnham on the Bristol Channel to Seaton on the South Coast. Canals, railways and rivers were made into a continuous anti-tank obstacle with road blocks and over 380 concrete pillboxes. Between Ilminster and Chard it largely follows the track of the old Great Western Railway. Download route pdf from:

www.ilminsterweb.com/Pages/Documents/Publications/The_Stop_Line_Way.pdf

www.sustrans.org.uk/find-a-route-on-the-national-cycle-network/route-33/

Circular Walks

Details of a host of circular walks around the region taking you through villages and valleys, along rivers, nature reserves, fields, follies and old railways are available from our Somerset Visitor Information Centre with a selection available to download on our website too. You can also plan your own route by using OS Explorer maps available to buy at our South Somerset Visitor Information Centre and Gift Shop.

'Walking the hills and vales around Yeovil'

Walking the hills and vales around Yeovil provides details of nine circular walks discovering the countryside around Yeovil. Available to download from the Active Life, Walking section on the website.

www.visitsouthsomerset.com

Ham Hill Country Park

TA14 6RW

'Four Circular Walking Routes in and around Ham Hill' is available to buy at Ham Hill Country Park or from our South Somerset Visitor Information Centre.

South Somerset Ramblers Association

Organised regular walks led by local experts. If you are a member of the Ramblers Association you can book on South Somerset walks following the link below.

01935 421235

www.southsomsetramblers.org.uk

Somerset Walking Maps

Somerset has over 9000 rights of way, totalling 3808 miles (6129 km). The extensive path network is varied ranging from long distance routes like the South West Coast Path and the River Parrett Trail, to a number of promoted circular walking routes and local country Somerset Council paths. Somerset Council has produced a number of maps and trails covering many of the towns in the region, including these in South Somerset: Chard, Crewkerne, Ilminster, Langport & Ham, Martock & South Petherton, Somerton, Castle Cary & Bruton, Wincanton and Yeovil.

Please do double check some of the information listed as these were produced some time ago. But the maps are still in use and very popular.

www.somerset.gov.uk

Cycling

Suggested highlights to explore...



South Somerset 80-mile Cycleway

If you prefer to discover South Somerset on two wheels this 80 mile route enables you to explore the gentle hills and vales to the north east of Yeovil, the intriguing Somerset moors, the hamstone villages and historic market towns. The circular route starts at Yeovil Junction station and is guided by the brown South Somerset Cycle Route signs, and covers some of Sustrans national cycle routes. The route is divided into bite-size sections so do as much or as little as you like! Route available to download from the Active Life, Cycling section from the website.

www.visitsouthsomerset.com

Looking for a great two-wheel pit-stop?

Sustrans route 30 runs through the heart of Merriott and past the award-winning Feed Station café, a firm favourite with cyclists, having been voted England's top café for those on two wheels. The route takes you from pretty Ilminster to East Coker and links to many other routes too, all of which can be found on the National Cycle Network website.

www.sustrans.org.uk www.thefeedstationmerriott.co.uk

'Pedalling the Scenic Route'

Offers circular cycle rides across the South Somerset Moors. All the routes described are along quiet country roads and start at Langport. Download the route map from the Active Life, Cycling section on the website

01458 253626

www.visitsouthsomerset.com

The Stop Line Way

Please refer to previous 'Walking' section for information.

www.ilminsterweb.com/Pages/Documents/Publications/The_Stop_Line_Way.pdf

www.sustrans.org.uk/find-a-route-on-the-national-cycle-network/route-33/

The Avalon Marshes

The flat landscape of the Avalon Marshes is ideal for cyclists with peaceful lanes, drives and cycle paths. The Avalon Marshes project has developed four heritage circular cycle routes which take in the very best of the area and tell you about the heritage you will encounter too. Discover more and download the heritage routes from the website.

www.avalonmarshes.org/explore/things-to-do/cycling

Bike Hire

Bruton Bike Hire

Station Rd, Bruton, BA10 0NL

A selection of electric bikes and pedal bikes for hire.

☎ 07812 151247

🌐 www.brutonbikehire.co.uk

Parrett Trail Bikes

The Bridge, Westover Trading Estate, Langport, TA10 9RB

Hire a selection of bikes suitable for all ages and abilities.

☎ 07510 053746

🌐 www.parretttrailbikes.co.uk

☎ 01458 253626

Somerton Electric Bike Rentals

Somerton Electric Bike Rentals provide a sustainable electric bike rental service.

☎ 07394 911276

Somerset Tandem Hire

West End Farm, Pitney, Langport, TA10 9AS

Selection of tandem bikes to hire from half a day to up to a week.

☎ 07787 723003

🌐 www.facebook.com/SomersetTandemHire

Apps, Websites & E-Scooters

The following provide details of useful apps and information offering additional inspiration for walking, hiking and cycling trails in the area:

🌐 www.alltrails.com

🌐 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/walking

🌐 www.gps-routes.co.uk

🌐 www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk

🌐 www.komoot.com

🌐 www.sustrans.org.uk

🌐 www.mapout.app

🌐 www.outdooractive.com

Zwings E-Scooter Rental

Get out and about in Yeovil on a Zwings electric e-scooter. Somerset Council, in partnership with Zwings micro-mobility operators are providing an e-scooter rental service from bays across Yeovil as part of the Department of Transport's official e-scooter trials. E-scooters provide a zero emission, fun, healthy and socially distant mode of travel and are a great replacement for short car journeys. A full or provisional driving licence is required. Cost is £1 to unlock e-scooter via the Zwings app, then 15p per minute of rental. For full details of the trial and rental bay locations. visit:

🌐 www.zwings.co.uk

Running & Fitness

If your way of unwinding is to pump up the adrenaline, there are plenty of options in South Somerset to keep you active.



The Full Monty Cute

The Full Monty Cute is a gruelling muddy trail run over Ham Hill and around Montacute in December taking in 10 hills in 10 miles.

🌐 www.fullmontycutetrailrace.wordpress.com/welcome-to-the-fullmontycute/

Frogmary Green Farm Parkrun

West Street, South Petherton, TA13 5DJ

A free, fun, and friendly weekly 5k community event. Walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate – it's up to you!

🌐 www.parkrun.org.uk/frogmarygreenfarm

Henstridge Airfield Parkrun

Henstridge Airfield, Henstridge, BA8 0TN

A free, fun, and friendly weekly 5k community event. Walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate – it's up to you!

🌐 www.parkrun.org.uk/henstridgeairfield/course

Yeovil Running Routes

Ninesprings 3-2-1 running routes aim to provide a range of free marked routes up to 3km suitable for running, jogging and walking. The two routes in Yeovil Country Park are in Ninesprings and the Riverside Walk (off Lyde Road). Leaflets are available from the Ninesprings Café.

Ham Hill 3-2-1 is a scenic route on Ham Hill Country Park with fantastic views.

The Blackburn Fitness Trail is a 1 mile loop plotted around the Valley Gardens area in Yeovil Country Park. At set points there are exercises and stretches suggested to help increase your heart rate and strengthen your muscles.

Route guides are available to download from the Active Life, Running section on our website

🌐 www.visitsouthsomerset.com

3. Activities & lifestyle

The Bill Whistlecroft Athletics Arena

Yeovil Recreation Centre, Off Chilton Grove, Yeovil, BA21 4AW

The Bill Whistlecroft Athletics Arena at Yeovil Recreation Centre boasts some of the most comprehensive facilities in the South West. The facilities include, 8-lane synthetic track, field event area, floodlights, terraced seating and public address facility.

Yeovil Recreation Centre's Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) offers the next generation of sand dressed synthetic turf facilities. The pitch is available for competitions, football clubs needing an all-weather training pitch and for groups of friends/colleagues who are just looking for a kickabout.

During the summer and school holidays mini tennis courts are set up which are ideal for the whole family to enjoy.

☎ 01935 462616

🌐 www.yeovilrec.co.uk

Water Activities



Langport's stretch of the River Parrett offers ideal conditions for water-based fun. There are modern pontoons for mooring and if you are an angler cast a line from a fishing platform. Please visit www.gov.uk/fishing-licences for full information

Duchess of Cocklemoor

Langport

Enjoy a leisurely and scenic trip on Langport's community boat, The Duchess of Cocklemoor. The boat operates regularly from spring to autumn and can take a group of 12 with a fee to be paid to the skipper on the day. Trips take around an hour.

🌐 www.duchessofcocklemoor.co.uk

Somerset Boat Centre

Maidenmead Moorings, Banklands, North Newton, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 0DQ

A little further afield into wider Somerset, is the Somerset Boat Centre, where they offer a variety of ways to get on or be near the water and have some fun. They offer canoes, kayaks, self-drive motor boats and a chartered narrowboat and also have a wheelchair accessible boat.

☎ 07508 959 996

🌐 www.somersetboatcentre.co.uk

☎ 07946 580 050

3. Activities & Lifestyle

Sutton Bingham Reservoir

Set in rolling hills on the Somerset/Dorset border offering a range of facilities for all the family including a children's play area, picnic area and wildlife park. Angling and sailing. Hire a Wessex Water Comet Trio dinghy or a Raider 18 keelboat by arrangement with Sutton Bingham Sailing Club.

🌐 www.wessexwater.co.uk/community/sutton-bingham-reservoir

Canoe Trails

Please visit the following websites for details of canoe trails.

🌐 www.britishcanoeing.org.uk

🌐 www.canalrivertrust.org.uk

Fishing

Ash Ponds Lakes

Ash, Martock, Somerset, TA12 6NZ

Coarse & carp fishing.

☎ 01935 823459

🌐 www.stokesubhamdonaa.uk/ash.html



Photo credit: www.bearlakes.co.uk

Bearley Lakes Fishing Holidays

Bearley Lakes, Tintinhull, Nr Yeovil, BA22 8PR

Fishing holidays. Two carp lakes.

☎ 07964 949730

🌐 www.bearlakes.co.uk

Chard Reservoir

Chaffcombe Lane, Chard, TA20 1RR

Coarse & carp fishing – permit only.

☎ 07704632077

🌐 www.visitsouthsomerset.com/chard-reservoir

🌐 www.chardanglingclub.co.uk

Highlands Dairy Lake

Highlands Dairy Farm, Hewish, Nr Crewkerne Somerset, TA1 8QY

Coarse & carp fishing – permit only.

☎ 01460 74180

3. Activities & Lifestyle

Sutton Bingham Reservoir

Sutton Bingham, Yeovil, BA22 9QP

Fly fishing for rainbow and brown trout.

☎ 01935 872389

🌐 www.wessexwater.co.uk/community/sutton-bingham-reservoir#Fishing

Thorney Lakes

Muchelney, Langport, Somerset, TA10 0DW

Coarse & carp fishing – must have rod licence. A beautiful setting attracting a host of wildlife. Two miles of nature trails to explore. Camping available.

☎ 01458 250811

🌐 www.thorneylakes.co.uk

Viaduct Fishery

Cary Valley, Somerton, Somerset, TA11 6LJ

Coarse & carp fishing – must have rod licence.

☎ 01458 274022

🌐 www.viaductfishery.com

Water Meadow Fisheries

Pitt Farm, North Perrott, Crewkerne, Somerset, TA18 7SR

Coarse & carp fishing. Booking is essential.

☎ 07517067012

🌐 www.watermeadow-lodges.com/out-and-about/fishing-lake

Baits & Tackle are available from:

The Tackle Shop

27 Forest Hill, Yeovil, BA20 2PH

☎ 01935 388554

🌐 www.tackleuk.co.uk

For further details on fishing in Somerset please visit www.gethooked.co.uk
You may also enjoy fishing at our South Somerset rivers but you will need to buy a fishing licence. Please visit www.gov.uk/fishing-licences for full information.

3. Activities & Lifestyle

Golf

Cricket St Thomas Golf Club

Off the A30, near Chard, Somerset, TA20 4DG

☎ 01460 30231

🌐 www.cricketstthomasgolfclub.co.uk

Long Sutton Golf Club

Long Load, Langport, Somerset, TA10 9JU

☎ 01458 241017

🌐 www.longsuttongolf.com

Sherborne Golf Club

Higher Clatcombe, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 4RN

☎ 01935 814431

🌐 www.sherbornegolfclub.co.uk

Wheathill Golf Club

Wheathill, Somerton, Somerset on the B3153, TA11 7HG

☎ 01963 240667

🌐 www.wheathillgolf.co.uk

Wincanton Golf Club

Wincanton Racecourse, Wincanton, Somerset, BA9 8BJ

☎ 01963 435850

🌐 www.thejockeyclub.co.uk/wincanton/about/golf-course

Yeovil Golf Club

Babylon Hill, Sherborne Road, Yeovil, BA21 5BW

Entrance off the roundabout to the Retail Park.

☎ 01935 422965

🌐 www.yeovilgolfclub.com

Horse Riding



Pevlings Farm Riding & Livery Stables

Cabbage Lane, Horsington, Templecombe, Somerset, BA8 0DAA

A friendly and informal stables where you can learn to ride and look after a horse/pony. Lessons available in groups or individually.

☎ 01963 370990

🌐 www.pevlingsfarm.co.uk

3. Activities & Lifestyle

Drakes Farm Riding Centre

Drakes Farm, Ilton, TA19 9EY

Enjoy horse riding on a network of quiet country lanes with stunning views. All hacks are accompanied by an experienced rider. Horses used for hacking have good road manners and riders can be lead if required. Off-road route around farm fields also available.

☎ 01460 929559

🌐 www.drakesfarm.co.uk

Shooting

Rifleman Firearms

Bowdens Farm, Hambridge, TA10 0BP

The South West's newest air rifle range perfect for beginners and enthusiasts. Tuition and gun hire available. Hundreds of targets up to 90 yards. Great fun for individuals, groups and colleagues.

☎ 01458 253700

🌐 www.riflemanfirearms.com

Outdoor Activity Centres



Mill on the Brue

Mill on the Brue, Trendle Farm, Bruton, BA10 0BA

Somerset's award-winning outdoor activity centre Mill on the Brue is open all year. Week, weekend, residential or day camps available providing exciting activities and challenging outdoor pursuits and studies including environmental course for all ages. Booking essential.

☎ 01749 812307

🌐 www.millonthebrue.co.uk

ROAM Outdoors Activity Centre

Dillington Estate, Whitelackington, Ilminster, TA19 9EG

An outdoor learning facility to inspire individuals of all ages through positive outdoor experiences. Essentially an 'outdoor classroom without walls'. Family fun days available.

☎ 07811 149132

🌐 www.facebook.com/theilminsterwoodland

3. Activities & Lifestyle

Somerset Adventures

5 Galmington Road, Taunton, TA1 5NH

If you are looking for a family day out, individual tuition, a group activity session, a multi-activity day, hen or stag party or a course or qualification, Somerset Adventures bring you the best of outdoor activities across the South West.

☎ 07981 826919

🌐 www.somersetadventures.co.uk

Indoor Activity Centres

Cubs Softplay Café

Unit 3, Broadoak Park, Canal Way, Ilminster TA19 9DL

Play centre offering exciting facilities for young children 0-8yrs. Pridelands Play Area, 2 storeys high with bright and colourful softplay frame equipped with multiple slides, ramps, swings and nets. Baby zone; cosy, quiet and gentle play for the younger 'cub'. Treehouse Café.

@ hello@cubssoftplay.com

🌐 www.cubssoftplay.com

Flip Out

Unit C, Castle Road, Chelston Business Park, Wellington, TA21 9JQ

The fastest growing trampoline park operator in the world and contains the UK's biggest trampolines.

☎ 01823 746005

🌐 www.flipout.co.uk/view/flip-out-somerset

Hollywood Bowl

Yeo Leisure Park, Old Station Way, Yeovil, BA20 1NP

Ten Pin Bowling.

☎ 0844 248 2193

🌐 www.hollywoodbowl.co.uk/yeovil

Rug Ratz

Stourton Way, Yeovil, BA21 3AR

Children's indoor play activity centre for under 11 years of age.

☎ 01935 476989

🌐 www.rug-ratz.co.uk

Safari Tots

Somerton Business Park, 14a Wessex Park, Somerton, TA11 6SB

Indoor play area for 0-10 years.

☎ 01458 270100

🌐 www.safari-tots.co.uk

Play Parks



Yeovil Recreation Centre

Chilton Grove, Yeovil BA21 4AW

A fantastic dog-friendly recreation green space with multiple sports facilities, 9 hole pitch and putt, mini golf courses, a flagship play space, multi use games area and tennis courts. Indoor community space also available for birthday parties, exercise classes and meetings, next to the very popular Rec Café. Free parking available on site.

☎ 01935 462616

🌐 www.yeovilrec.co.uk

Parks and Open Spaces

For other play parks and open spaces in the Somerset area, please go to:

🌐 www.somerset.gov.uk



Leisure Centres

Chard Leisure Centre

Fore Street, Chard TA20 1GR

Built as part of the Chard Regeneration Programme, the Chard Leisure Centre provides families, sports clubs and gym-goers alike access to the latest amenities at the newest leisure facility in South Somerset. Swimming pool, a beginner's pool, children's soft play area, gym, fitness classes and a fantastic virtual cycling studio. Café.

☎ 01460 315007

🌐 www.freedom-leisure.co.uk/centres/chard-leisure-centre/

Crewkerne Aqua Centre

Henhayes Lane, Crewkerne, TA18 7LZ

A high quality facility conveniently located in the town centre with indoor swimming pool.

☎ 01460 77665

🌐 www.aquacentre.co.uk

Goldenstones Leisure Centre

Brunswick Street, Yeovil, BA20 1QZ

Leisure centre and indoor pool tucked away in the folds of Yeovil Country Park.

☎ 01935 845888

🌐 www.freedom-leisure.co.uk/centres/goldenstones-leisure-centre

Lifestyle Fitness Langport – Huish Episcopi

Wincanton Road, Huish Episcopi, Langport, TA10 9SS

Leisure centre and 25 metre indoor swimming pool.

☎ 01458 251055

🌐 www.lifestylefitness.co.uk/club/langport

Westlands Sports & Fitness Centre

Westlands Close, Yeovil, Somerset, BA20 2DD

Fully equipped fitness gym, exercise class studios, squash courts and a multi-use sports hall.

☎ 01935 314652

🌐 www.westlandseyovil.co.uk/westlands-sports-leisure-complex

Wincanton Sports Centre

West Hill, Wincanton, BA9 9SP

Community sports centre with indoor swimming pool.

☎ 01963 824400

🌐 www.freedom-leisure.co.uk/centres/wincanton-sports-centre

3. Activities & Lifestyle

Hot Air Balloon Rides

South West Balloon Flights

Taunton and Castle Cary, Somerset

With impressive moorland, Iron Age forts, ancient abbeys and an abundance of castles, flying over Somerset in a hot air balloon is a truly breath-taking experience. Whether you're flying gracefully over the Quantock or Blackdown hills, drifting over the county's woodlands and heathland or taking in the many striking buildings and monuments that litter this historic landscape, Somerset is an incredible location in which to fly. For more information and to book, please go to the website.

www.southwestballoonflights.co.uk/somerset-balloon-rides

Lifestyle and Wellness

Dillington House

Ilminster, TA29 9DT

One of England's special places – a truly lovely rural surrounding in which to learn and study. A rich and varied programme of adult education courses appealing to all ages and abilities. Courses range from art to archaeology, craft and concerts, lectures, literature, photography to singing and yoga. Day and residential courses. Closing in September 2023.

[01460 258648](tel:01460258648)

www.dillington.com

Jordans Courtyard Wellness & Yoga

Horton Cross, Ilminster, TA19 9PY

Wellness and Yoga centre offering a day spa, yoga barn and treatment rooms, all under one roof.

[01460 298548](tel:01460298548)

www.jordanscourtyard.co.uk/wellness-and-yoga

New Cross Farmhouse

New Cross Hill, South Petherton, TA13 5HD

Today New Cross Farmhouse is alive with wellness offerings, culinary and cultural events. Exclusive tours and workshops, holistic fitness and programmes. Luxury accommodation.

www.newcrossfarmhouse.com

4. Entertainment



4. Entertainment

South Somerset is lucky to have a great variety of theatres, arts centres and a multiplex cinema. Enjoy everything from national touring productions at Yeovil's Octagon Theatre to Shakespeare's plays and live bands across the region. Westlands in Yeovil also hosts local amateur dramatics shows and many famous comedians on their UK tours.

Entertainment

Cineworld

Yeo Leisure Park, Old Station Way, Yeovil, BA20 1NP

Multiplex cinema.

☎ 0330 333 4444

🌐 www.cineworld.co.uk

Ilminster Arts Centre at The Meeting House

35 East Street, Ilminster, TA19 0AN

Arts Centre with a vibrant programme of art exhibitions, workshops and music performances.

☎ 01460 54973

🌐 www.themeetinghouse.org.uk

The David Hall

Roundwell Street, South Petherton, TA13 5AA

The small hall with the big reputation! Concerts, theatre and film.

☎ 01460 240340

🌐 www.thedavidhall.org.uk

The Octagon Theatre

Hendford, Yeovil, BA20 1UX

Modern theatre and visual arts gallery hosting drama, dance, music and an annual pantomime.

☎ 01935 422884

🌐 www.octagon-theatre.co.uk

The Swan Theatre

138 Park Street, Yeovil, BA20 1QT

An outstanding example of non-professional theatre produced professionally.

☎ 07500 376031

🌐 www.swan-theatre.co.uk

4. Entertainment

The Warehouse Theatre

Brewery Lane, Ilminster TA19 9AD

Owned and run by Ilminster Entertainment Society. 150 seat theatre offering productions throughout the year.

☎ 01460 57049
07943 779880

🌐 www.thewarehousetheatre.org.uk

Westlands Entertainment Centre

Westbourne Close, Yeovil, BA20 2DD

Hosting activities such as exercise and dance classes, food and drink fairs, film and music.

☎ 01935 422884

🌐 www.westlandseyeovil.co.uk



5. Festivals, Carnivals & Events



5. Festivals, Carnivals & Events

South Somerset hosts a wonderful range of lively events throughout the year for all ages, attracting a loyal and international following.

The locals love a party, so whatever time of year you visit there will be a festival, celebration, event or unusual custom taking place. Join in and get a real sense of what makes South Somerset tick.

Keep up to date with all the very latest events in the area by visiting the dedicated website page: www.visitsouthsomerset.com/events

Wassailing ceremony

Bless an apple tree, ward-off evil spirits and ensure a good harvest for the coming year by joining a Wassailing ceremony – an ancient January ritual and important part of our cider heritage. There is singing, poetry, dancing and, of course cider consumption!

Celebrations, Festivals & Fetes

Discover May Day celebrations, festivals and fetes a-plenty in South Somerset. During the summer months there are open air theatre productions, vintage fairs, steam fairs and agricultural shows including our unique Scything Festival, and the Royal Navy International Air Day at Yeovilton.

Halloween and Carnivals

Halloween parties include the 100 year old Punkie Night at Hinton St George with lanterns carved from manglewurzels to light up the night. Be wowed in the winter months by the pageantry of the famous Somerset illuminated Carnivals.



Music & Culture

Music and culture are an important part of life here. Yeovil's **Octagon Theatre** draws big named acts from the comedy and entertainment world and holds an annual Literary Festival while the **Westlands Entertainment Venue** is gaining a reputation as the perfect venue for films and festivals.

5. Festivals, Carnivals & Events



Photo credit: Home Farm Festival

Home Farm Festival in June showcases live performances from local musicians and bands and has raised nearly half a million pounds for its charity 'School in a Bag' – not to be missed.

Somerton Music and Arts Festival in July covers all genre of music from rock and roll and choral to country music.

Take Art

Take Art is a unique, life-changing organisation that doesn't live in an arts venue, dance studio or theatre but in the villages, towns and rural communities of Somerset. Every year Take Art brings diverse, exciting and empowering arts experiences to thousands of people, no matter their age, inclination or background. For latest events, please see website.

 01460 249450

 www.takeart.org

Children's Activities

Do you have young children to entertain? Don't worry, we have lots of activities for them too! Join one of our countryside rangers on a bat walk or pond dipping at one of the Country Parks. Watch latest movies or old classics at village screen events or experience an inspiring Take Art production in community halls. Take a blanket, wrap up warm and marvel at the stars from Burrow Hill or Burton Pynsent Monument.

Ranger Activities are held at the Country Parks with a fun packed timetable of events from den-building to campfire cooking, wildflower walks, bug hunts, bat walks, pond dipping, drystone walling, orienteering and much more!

Check our What's On pages on our website for the latest local activities:

 www.visitsouthsomerset.com/events

Latest Events Information

For events, we suggest checking in advance for latest information. The following websites may also be useful for Somerset.

 www.visitsouthsomerset.com

 www.visitsomerset.co.uk

 www.facebook.com/WhatsOnSomerset

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink



6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

Our pretty market towns bustle with events and activities, quirky characters, independent shops, cafés and tearooms and vibrant street markets.

It would be impossible to list all the wonderful traders and local businesses here and no doubt as we're producing this, new and exciting ones will be popping up. We hope you enjoy discovering our towns and villages and the following gives you a small taster of what you might find on your shopping adventures.

Shopping

Clarks Village Outlet Shopping

Farm Road, Street, BA16 0BB

An outlet escape like no other with fantastic discounts off fashion, homewares and more.

01458 840064

www.clarksvillage.co.uk

Kilver Court Designer Village

Kilver Street, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5NF

Designer outlet for fashion brands Mulberry, Toast and Yves DeLorme.

01749 705279

www.kilvercourt.co.uk

Pittards Leather

Sherborne Road, Yeovil, BA21 5BA

Pittards was established in Yeovil by Charles Pittard in 1826. World class leather experts manufacturing high quality and performance leathers. Visit the Factory Shop and Hide and Skin Store selling a wide range of luxurious leather goods and home furnishing items, together with trade priced leathers for all your craft and dressmaking needs. Coffee shop. Free parking.

01935 474321

www.pittards.com

Quedam Shopping Centre

Yeovil, BA20 1EY

Located in the heart of Yeovil town centre, the outdoor shopping centre features more than 30 stores ranging from independent local traders to large fashion retailers including New Look, H&M and Primark. Dunelm recently opened here too.

www.quedamshopping.co.uk

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

Top Tips for Home, Vintage & Curiosity Collectors

Alchemy Bruton

West End, Cole Road, Bruton, BA10 0BQ

Stylish interiors showroom with collection of antiques and contemporary homeware combining classic antiques from 17th-20th century with modern day pieces to suit its broad customer base.

01749 813770

www.facebook.com/alchemybruton

Antiques Bazaar

The Old Textile Mill, South Street, Crewkerne, TA18 8AG

A former textiles mill, full of antiques, vintage retro and collectables, unusual furniture, giftware, jewellery silver and gold. Over 95 traders in one single storey warehouse.

01460 77121

www.antiquesbazaar.co.uk

Art Café

6A Holyrood Street, Chard, TA20 2AH

A wonderful venue offering good food. The walls are decorated with paintings – all for sale!

01460 261001

www.facebook.com/artcafeandbistro

Art4All & ArtyCrafty

5 Market Square, Crewkerne, TA18 7LE

Bespoke picture framers for all types of artwork - registered with Trading Standards. Suppliers of art, craft and hobby materials and supplies.

01460 78574

www.art4allframing.co.uk

www.artycraftysupplies.co.uk

Bailey Hill Bookshop

Fore Street, Castle Cary, BA7 7BG

Run by a team of knowledgeable booksellers. Renowned for its creative window displays as well as its well as its well-stocked shelves.

01963 350917

www.baileyhillbookshop.com

Castle Reclamation

Parrett Works, Martock, TA12 6AE

Architectural antiques, 16th and 17th century style furniture, oak and painted pine kitchens, fireplaces, flagstones and more...

01935 826483

www.castlereclamation.com

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

Crewkerne Antiques & Interiors

16 Market Street, Crewkerne, TA18 7LA

Antiques, country pine and painted furniture, ceramics, coins, militaria, jewellery art and more...

☎ 01460 77111

🌐 www.facebook.com/crewkerneantiques

Dekorative Kollektive

14 Market Street, Crewkerne, TA18 7LA

A collection of dealers in antique country furniture, architectural and decorative items.

☎ 01460 75500

🌐 www.facebook.com/dekorativekollektive

Grand Interiors

2 The George Shopping Centre, Crewkerne, TA18 7LU

Upcycled furniture, homewares and gift shop. Stock is constantly changed to make your shopping experience fresh and exciting.

☎ 01460 929470

🌐 www.grandinteriors.myshopify.com

Grants of Somerset

1 Market Square, South Petherton, TA13 5BT

Independent retailer of affordable luxury décor and gifts.

☎ 01460 929390

🌐 www.grantsosomerset.co.uk

Highstreet Records

8 High Street, Wincanton, BA9 9JP

Nine rooms of antique and vintage items, books and art. Café.

☎ 07502 409724

🌐 <https://applegarth-emporium.business.site/>

Iminster Emporium

The Dyers Building, 21 Silver Street, Iminster, TA19 0BZ

A not for profit company set up to promote local businesses (arts and crafts) and help them prosper and grow.

@ enquiries@ilminsteremporium.co.uk

🌐 www.ilminsteremporium.co.uk

☎ 01460 298090

Kim Woods Vintage Quarter

The Undercroft, Langport, TA10 9PR

A vintage wonderland!

☎ 07985 749155

🌐 www.langportvintagemarket.co.uk

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

Lafleure

The Corner Shop, Cheapside, Langport, TA10 9PW

Providing everything to make homes beautiful. Lighting, furniture, mirrors, beautiful gifts, glassware and accessories to adorn every room in your home.

☎ 01458 253209

🌐 www.lafleurehome.co.uk

Lawrences Auctioneers

The Linen Yard, South Street, Crewkerne, TA18 8AB

Principal fine art auctioneers in the UK. Visit the website for details on valuations and the auction calendar.

☎ 01460 73041

🌐 www.lawrences.co.uk

Love from Make

Hambridge Mill, Hambridge, Langport, TA10 0BP

Handmade natural skincare sold alongside lifestyle, interiors, gifts housed in a landmark Somerset building, an old watermill and former brewery.

☎ 01458 253301

🌐 www.lovefrommake.com

🌐 www.makeskincare.co.uk

Market Cross Antiques

West Street, Somerton, TA11 7PS

Over 30 dealers displaying a large range of antiques, collectables and decorative furnishings. Please see their facebook page for up to date announcements and stock.

☎ 01458 274005

🌐 www.facebook.com/marketcrossantiquesinsomerton

Milly's Antiques

5 Victoria Mews, Market Square, Crewkerne, TA18 7LE

☎ 01460 77918

🌐 www.millysantiques.co.uk

No 57

East Street Iminster, TA19 0AW

Nine rooms of antique and vintage items, books and art. Café.

☎ 01460 54856

🌐 www.facebook.com/No.57eaststreet

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

Somerset Trading Barn, Kimbers' Farm Shop

Charlton Musgrove, Wincanton, BA9 8HD

With 25 traders over 2 floors. Collectables, antiques, up-cycled items, art, fabrics, clothes, gifts and jewellery.

☎ 01963 33177

🌐 www.kimbersfarmshop.co.uk

The Book Rest

4 West Street, Ilminster, TA19 9AA

Selling and finding second hand books. Indulge your thirst for knowledge and love of reading in a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere.

☎ 01460 52516

🌐 www.thebookrest.biz

The Emporium

39 Princes Street, Yeovil, BA20 1EG

Spanning three floors with about 60 independent retailers and artisans selling antiques, vintage clothes and collectables. Great value café with delicious home cooked meals if you need a breather from the browsing!

☎ 01935 579482

🌐 www.theemporiumyeovil.co.uk

Tinhouse Home & Garden Antiques

Sutton Hill, South Hill, Somerton, TA11 7JG

Antique furniture, garden antiques, pots, birdbaths, sundials, statues and garden furniture.

☎ 01458 241298

🌐 www.facebook.com/people/Tinhouse-Home-and-Garden-Antiques/100063760732437

Wardon Hill Trading Post

Nr Evershot on the A37 between Yeovil and Dorchester, DT2 9PW

Over 50 traders displaying antiques, vintage collectables, craft and so much more ...

☎ 01935 83069

🌐 www.facebook.com/wardonhilltradingpost/

Wessex Antique Bedsteads

The Old Glove Works, Percombe (A303) Stoke sub Hamdon, TA14 6RD

One of the largest and most varied collections of brass, iron and wooden bedsteads in the UK from the Victorian and Edwardian eras.

☎ 01935 829147

🌐 www.wessexbeds.co.uk

For a wealth of information on antiques establishments and events across Devon, Somerset and Dorset visit the website below or pick up a copy of the guide from the South Somerset Visitor Information Centre.

🌐 www.theantiquetourist.com

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

Fans of Fashion

Bruton is home to: **Cabbages & Roses**, a quintessential English brand creating beautiful homeware and fabric, **Rose and Lyons** an eclectic modern day emporium of clothes and homeware and **Swan Vintage** selling a range of vintage clothes and accessories.

Castle Cary is a deservedly popular destination, with the **Oxford Mill** boutique full of women's and men's clothing, jewellery and accessories. **Needful Things** sell boutique clothing alongside homeware, art and gifts.

Ilminster is proud to be home to the store **Temperley London** at Phoenix Studios. **Retail Therapy** in **Ilminster** stocks great occasion ware and clearance lines.

Cabbages & Roses

3 West End, Bruton BA10 0BQ

☎ 01749 717095

🌐 www.cabbagesandroses.com

Needful Things

7 High Street, Castle Cary, BA7 7AN

☎ 01963 351352

🌐 www.needfulthings.uk.com

Oxford Mill Clothing

Market Place, Castle Cary, BA7 7AG

☎ 01963 350230

🌐 www.oxfordmillclothing.co.uk

Retail Therapy

2-6 Silver Street, Ilminster, TA19 0DL

☎ 01460 52246

🌐 www.retailtherapyltd.co.uk

Rose & Lyons

21 High Street, Bruton, BA10 0AH

☎ 01749 813011

🌐 www.roseandlyons.co.uk

Swan Vintage

35 High Street, Bruton, BA10 0AH

☎ 07596 508977

🌐 www.facebook.com/people/Swan-Vintage/100063692154883/

Temperley London

at Phoenix Studios, Cornhill, Ilminster, TA19 0AD

☎ 01823 756 001

🌐 www.temperleylondon.com

Somerset Farmers Markets



Photo credit: Justin Orwin

Run eight regular markets spread throughout the month across the region of Somerset, including one in Crewkerne, South Somerset. Go to their website for all the latest locations and dates.

 www.somersetfarmersmarkets.co.uk

Town & Village Markets

All subject to change, so please check local details at the time of your visit.

Barrington Village Hall

Every fourth Saturday of the month (except August and December) from 10am - 12 noon.

Castle Cary Market

Market House, Market Place, Castle Cary

Tuesdays between 8.30am - 1.30pm.

Castle Cary Vintage Market

Market House, Market Place, Castle Cary

First Saturday of the month between 10am-2pm (March to September)

Chard Antiques and Collectors

Guildhall, Chard

Thursdays between 8am - 1pm.

Chard

Fore Street, Near the Guildhall

Saturdays between 9am - 1pm.

Crewkerne Farmers Market

Market Square, Crewkerne

Every third Saturday of the month between 9am - 1pm.

Drayton Farmers Market

Drayton Village Hall

The third Saturday of the month between 10am - 12 noon.

Huish Episcopi Elderflower Co-op Food Market

Rose and Crown Pub (Eli's)

Fridays between 5pm and 7pm.

Iminster Market

The Market Square

Thursdays between 8am - 2pm

Langport General Market

Langport Town Square

Every Friday and Saturday between 10am - 3pm.

Langport Makers Market

Langport Town Square

Last Saturday of the month between 10am - 3pm.

Langport Vintage Market

Langport Town Square

Every second Saturday of the month between 10am - 4pm.

Martock Farmers Market

North Street

Second Saturday of the month between 10am - 3pm.

North Curry Produce Market

North Curry Village Hall

First Saturday of the month between 9.30am - 11.30am.

Somerton/Wessex Country Market

Unicorn Skittle Alley, West Street

Saturdays between 9am - 12 noon.

Somerton Vintage and Artisan Food Market

Market Square

First Friday of the month between 10am - 12.30 noon.

Yeovil Market

Lower Middle Street

Tuesdays and Fridays between 9am - 3pm.

Garden Centres & Nurseries

Are you a gardening enthusiast? Many of the beautiful gardens that are open to the public (see Gardens & Historic Houses section) have plant sales areas. There are also many wonderful garden centres and nurseries across South Somerset to inspire.

Specialist Plant Fairs

Specialist Plant Fairs provide an excellent opportunity for the public to buy direct from professional growers throughout the South West. The plants for sale offer quality, variety and excellent value to customers. Usually the fairs are held at interesting historical properties, all of which are surrounded by superb gardens.

www.plantfairs.co.uk

Garden Centre & Nursery Information

For more detailed information about Garden Centres and Nurseries in the area, please request a copy of our information leaflet from our South Somerset Visitor Information Centre.

email us at VisitSS@Somerset.gov.uk

The Hardy Plant Society

The Hardy Plant Society (Somerset Group) also publish a Somerset Specialist Nursery List available from their website.

01934 732441

www.hardy-plant.org.uk/somerset



Food & Drink

Cheddar Cheese and cider are synonymous with Somerset but it doesn't stop there. Enjoy locally produced ice creams, buffalo, locally smoked meats and fish including eel from the River Parrett. Cider brandy, local gins and craft beers are all produced here too.

South Somerset's rolling countryside is perfect for picnics and you'll be spoilt for choice with local farm shops, ideally placed to help you put together a delicious al-fresco feast of artisan breads, pies, pasties, cheeses, smoked meats and treats. Just what's needed to savour the stunning views at Ham Hill Country Park.

Cider, Tours & Food Experiences



Visit our local cider farms to sample apple juice, cider and cider brandy. You won't be able to resist buying a bottle to enjoy at home!

Some venues offer tours and tastings and others host fantastic feasting and food experiences. Check their individual websites for latest events and information.



Bere Cider Company & Jim's Shack
Woodpecker Lodge, Bere, Aller, Langport,
TA10 9QX

01458 250166

www.berecidercompany.com

Bridge Farm Cider

475 Fordhay, East Chinnock, Yeovil, BA22 9EA

01935 862387

www.bridgefarmcider.co.uk

Fourwinds Cider Farm Orchard

East Lambrook, South Petherton, TA13 5HF

01460 242482

www.facebook.com/Fourwinds-cider-farm-105073927698987/

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

Dowdings Cider

Southdown, Shepton Montague, Wincanton, BA9 8JP

☎ 01749 812652

🌐 www.dowdings.co.uk

Harry's Cider

Littlefield Farm, Long Sutton, Langport, TA10 9NS

☎ 01458 241324

🌐 www.harriscidercompany.co.uk

King Brain Cider

Little Weston Farm, Little Weston, Yeovil, BA22 7HP

☎ 07914 494330
07905 367614

🌐 www.kingbraindrinks.co.uk

North Down Orchard

North Down Farm, Haselbury Plucknett, Crewkerne, TA18 7PL

☎ 07946 378 203

🌐 www.northdownorchard.com

Perry's Cider

The Cider Mills, Dowlish Wake, Ilminster, TA19 0NY

☎ 01460 55195

🌐 www.perryscider.co.uk

Pure Punjabi Ltd

14 Farm Street, Tintinhull, Yeovil, BA22 8PZ

🌐 www.purepunjabi.co.uk

Somerset Cider Brandy & Burrow Hill Cider

Pass Vale Farm, Burrow Hill, Kingsbury Episcopi, Martock, TA12 6BU

☎ 01460 240782

🌐 www.somersetciderbrandy.com

The Newt in Somerset

Bruton, BA7 7NG

☎ 01963 577777

🌐 www.thenewtinsomerset.com/cyder

The Pig Pen

Fair View, Over Stratton, Somerset, TA13 5LB

☎ 07798 500916

🌐 www.thepigpen.net

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

Farm Shops & Local Produce

This is just a small selection of businesses across the region.

A new and useful website www.shopsomerset.co.uk lists many local food and drink businesses too.

Bakery Roy-Al, Martock

6 North Street, Martock TA12 6DL

☎ 01935 826667

🌐 www.bakeryroyal.co.uk

Barleymow's Farm Shop, Café and Florist

Snowdon Hill Farm, Chard, TA20 3PS

☎ 01460 62130

🌐 www.barleymowsfarmshop.co.uk

Black Sheep Butchers

6 Parrett Close, Langport, TA10 9PG

☎ 01458 250778

🌐 www.facebook.com/Black-Sheep-Butchers-179998479371678

Bonner's Butchers & Deli

37 Silver Street, Ilminster, TA19 0DW

☎ 01460 52465

🌐 www.bonnersthebutchers.co.uk/

Brown & Forrest

Bowdens Farm Smokery, Hambridge, Langport, TA10 0BP

☎ 01458 250875

🌐 www.brownanforrest.co.uk

Cedrics

The White Swan, Misterton, Crewkerne, TA18 8NT

☎ 01458 250875

🌐 www.cedricssomerset.co.uk

Craft House Chocolate

New Street, Somerton, TA11 7NT

☎ 07702 892265

🌐 www.crafthousechocolate.com

Durslade Farm Shop

Dropping Lane, Bruton, BA10 0NL

☎ 01749 717130

🌐 www.dursladefarmshop.co.uk

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

Gilcombe Farm

Bruton, BA10 0QE

☎ 01749 813710

🌐 www.gilcombefarm.co.uk

Godminster Cheese

Station Road, Bruton, BA10 0EH

☎ 01749 813733

🌐 www.godminster.com

Greensleeves Nursery & Farm Shop

Lower Odcombe, Yeovil, BA22 8TW

☎ 01935 864166

🌐 www.greensleevesnursery.co.uk

Hamish's Farm Shop

637 Prowles Cross, Yeovil, BA22 9RF

☎ 01935 873303

🌐 www.hamishsfarmshop.com

Honey Pot Farm

Fosse Way, South Petherton, TA13 5LW

🌐 www.honeypotfarm.org

Home Farm Shop

Kingweston, Somerton, TA11 6BD

☎ 01458 223765

🌐 www.home.farm-shop.com

Kimbers' Farm Shop

Charlton Musgrove, Wincanton, BA9 8HD

☎ 01963 33177

🌐 www.kimbersfarmshop.co.uk

Little Bakery

11 Parrett Close, Langport, TA10 9PG

☎ 01458 250025

🌐 www.littlebakerylangport.co.uk

Montgomery Cheese

Village Stores, 6 Woolston Road, North Cadbury, Yeovil, BA22 7DW

☎ 01963 440201

🌐 www.montgomerycheese.co.uk

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

North Perrott Farm Shop, Pick Your Own & Plant Centre

North Perrott, TA18 7SS

☎ 01460 77090

🌐 www.parrettbrand.com

Perry's Cider Mills Farm Shop

The Cider Mills, Dowlish Wake, Ilminster, TA19 0NY

☎ 01460 55195

🌐 www.perryscider.co.uk

Pinsents Deli

Market Place, Castle Cary, BA7 7AL

☎ 01963 351000

🌐 www.pinsentsdeli.co.uk

Pitney Farm Shop

The Wagon House, Pitney, Langport, TA10 9AP

☎ 01458 253002

🌐 www.pitneyfarmshop.co.uk

Red Barn Shop

Hinton Farm, Hinton, Mudford, Yeovil, BA22 8BA

☎ 01935 850994

🌐 www.facebook.com/redbarnfarmshop

School Farm

Muchelney, Nr Langport, TA10 0DN

☎ 01458 251127

🌐 www.schoolfarmmuchelney.co.uk

Shepton Stores, Kitchen and Deli

Church Street, Shepton Beauchamp, TA19 0LU

☎ 01460 391956

🌐 www.facebook.com/Sheptonstoreskitchenanddeli

Smith & Evans Vineyard

Higher Plot, Aller, Langport, TA10 0QL

☎ 01458 259075

🌐 www.smithandevans.co.uk

Teals

1 Orchard Lane, South Cadbury, BA22 7FS

☎ 0773 9553056

🌐 www.teals.co.uk

Trading Post Farm Shop

Lopenhead, South Petherton, TA13 5JH

☎ 01460 241666

🌐 www.tradingpostfarmshop.co.uk

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

The Bakery West Camel Ltd

A303 West Camel, Sparkford Road, BA22 7RB

☎ 01935 850450 🌐 www.thebakery303.co.uk

The Bridge Bakery & Canteen

Westover Trading Estate, Langport, TA10 9RB

☎ 01458 897100 🌐 www.thebridgelangport.co.uk

The Jam Shed

Lytes Cary, Somerton, TA11 7HU

☎ 07964 297892 🌐 www.facebook.com/jamshedsomerset?_rdr

The Lovington Bakery

1 Market Place, Wincanton, BA9 9LD

☎ 01963 824871 🌐 www.facebook.com/lovingtonbakery

The Market Garden

Fore Street, Castle Cary, BA7 7BQ

☎ 01963 350650 🌐 www.facebook.com/somersetstown

The Newt in Somerset Farm Shop

Bruton, BA7 7NG

☎ 01963 577777 🌐 www.thenewtinsomerset.com/garden-shop

The Old Dairy Café & Farm Shop

Bower Hinton Farm, Martock, TA12 6LH

☎ 01935 824978 🌐 www.theolddairycafe.uk

The Pastry Bench

Jordans Courtyard, Horton Cross, Ilminster, TA19 9PY

☎ 01460 298608 🌐 www.pastrybench.com

The Somerset Cheesecakery

33 Silver Street, Ilminster, TA19 0DW

🌐 www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100021606439426

The Trough Farm Shop

Stone Lane, Yeovil, BA21 4NU

☎ 01935 413027 🌐 www.troughfarmshop.com

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

Tramonti Italian Deli

7a Westminster Street, Yeovil, BA20 1AF

☎ 07453 326157 🌐 www.facebook.com/TramontiFierro/

28 Market Place

Somerton, TA11 7NB

☎ 01458 333444 🌐 www.28marketplace.co.uk

Upton Bridge Farm Shop

Unit 10 Bridge Barns, Langport, TA10 9PZ

☎ 01458 241088 🌐 www.uptonbridgefarm.com

West Country Water Buffalo

Higher Oakley Farm, Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil, BA22 8LS

☎ 01935 840567 🌐 www.westcountrywaterbuffalo.com

Places to Eat & Drink

If you like quirky then you'll be happy in South Somerset – where else can you eat in a restored railway carriage one minute and a double decker bus the next?

Many pubs have decades old skittle alleys and local leagues, as the state of some of the skittles show. Try a game but check the rules carefully as they vary from place to place. You have been warned! Here's just a small selection of some of the most popular and charming places to eat and drink in the area...



Taste of the West Awards

The annual Taste of the Awards scheme has grown over the last two and a half decades to become the UK's largest regional food and drink awards programme, supporting food and drink businesses in the South West to thrive. You'll find many award winners in South Somerset!

🌐 www.tasteofthewest.co.uk

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

Art Tea Zen

105 Cheapside, Langport, TA10 9PW

☎ 01458 250635

🌐 www.artteazen.co.uk

At the Chapel

28 High Street, Bruton, BA10 0AE

☎ 01749 814070

🌐 www.atthechapel.co.uk

Brewers Arms

18 St James Street, South Petherton, TA13 5BW

☎ 01460 241887

🌐 www.the-brewersarms.com

Brown & Forrest

Bowdens Farm Smokery, Hambridge, Langport, TA10 0BP

☎ 01458 250875

🌐 www.brownanforrest.co.uk

Cafe Licious

Market Square, South Petherton, TA13 5BT

☎ 01460 242399

🌐 www.facebook.com/people/Cafe-Licious-South-Petherton/100068259220246/

Cartgate Lodge Café

Cartgate Picnic Site, A303/A3088, Stoke sub Hamdon, TA14 6RA

☎ 01935 822646

🌐 www.cartgatelodgecafe.co.uk

Courtyard Gallery Café

Unit 3, Rose Mill Industrial Estate, Ilminster, TA19 9PS

☎ 01460 53258

🌐 www.courtyardgallerycafe.com

Cow & Apple

8-10 Church Street, Yeovil, BA20 1HE

☎ 01934 433292

🌐 www.cowandapple.co.uk

Farm & Field Café

Frogmary Green Farm, West Street, South Petherton, TA13 5DJ

☎ 01460 242775

🌐 www.frogmarygreenfarm.co.uk

Half Moon Inn and Country Lodge

Main Street, Mudford, Near Yeovil, Somerset, BA21 5TF

☎ 01935 850289

🌐 www.thehalfmooninn.co.uk

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

Hamish's Farm Shop & Café

637 Prowles Cross, Yeovil, BA22 9RF

☎ 01935 873303

🌐 www.hamishsfarmshop.com

Haselbury Mill

Haselbury Plucknett, Crewkerne, TA18 7NY

☎ 01460 77095

🌐 www.haselburymill.co.uk

Holm

28 St James' Street, South Petherton, TA13 5BW

☎ 01460 712470

🌐 www.holmsomerset.co.uk

Home

High Street, Castle Cary, BA7 7AN

☎ 07432 731092

🌐 www.facebook.com/HomeCastleCary

Hooga Coffee

23 High Street, Wincanton, BA9 9JU

☎ 01963 548369

🌐 www.hooga.coffee

Hornsbury Mill

Hornsbury Mill, Eleighwater, Chard, TA20 3AQ

☎ 01460 63317

🌐 www.hornsburymill.co.uk

Kazbar

6-7 South Western Terrace, Yeovil, BA20 1NB

☎ 01935 411388

🌐 www.kazbaryeovil.co.uk

Lamb and Lion

The Green, Hambridge, TA10 0AT

☎ 01460 281774

🌐 www.lambandlionhambridge.co.uk

Lord Poulett Arms

High Street, Hinton St George, TA17 8SE

☎ 01460 73149

🌐 www.lordpoulettarms.com

Matt's Kitchen

51 High Street, Bruton, BA10 0AW

☎ 01749 812027

🌐 www.mattskitchen.co.uk

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

New Farm Restaurant

Over Stratton, South Petherton, TA13 5LQ

☎ 01460 240584

🌐 www.newfarmrestaurant.co.uk

Monks Yard

Horton Manor, Horton Cross, Ilminster, TA19 9PY

☎ 01460 259286

🌐 www.monksyard.co.uk

Ninesprings Café

Yeovil Country Park, Brunswick Street, Yeovil, BA20 1QZ

🌐 www.facebook.com/Ninesprings-Cafe-Yeovil-Country-Park-BA20-1QZ-684789788302310

Oscar's Wine Bar

13 Market Square, Crewkerne, TA18 7LE

☎ 01460 77494

Osip Restaurant

1 High Street, Bruton, BA10 0AB

☎ 01749 813322

🌐 www.osiprestaurant.com

Pip's Railway Carriage Café, bakery & restaurant

Lopenhead, South Petherton, TA13 5JH

🌐 www.pipsrailwaycarriage.co.uk

Riverside Somerset

Unit 1, Ilminster, TA19 9PS

☎ 01460 55320

🌐 www.facebook.com/riversidesomerset

Roth Bar & Grill

Durslade Farm, Dropping Lane, Bruton, BA10 0NL

☎ 01749 814700

🌐 www.rothbarandgrill.co.uk

Stripy Duck Cafe and Bookshop

35 High Street, Bruton, BA10 0AH

☎ 01749 814814

🌐 www.instagram.com/stripyduckbookshopcafe/?hl=en

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

The Art Gallery Café

6a Holyrood Street, Chard, TA20 2AH

☎ 01460 261001

🌐 www.facebook.com/artcafeandbistro

The Barrington Boar

Barrington, Ilminster, TA19 0JB

☎ 01460 259281

🌐 www.thebarringtonboar.co.uk

The Bay Tree

South Street, Castle Cary, BA7 7ET

☎ 01963 350989

🌐 www.facebook.com/people/The-Bay-Tree/100063539444464/

The Bridge Bakery & Canteen

Westover Trading Estate, Langport, TA10 9RB

☎ 01458 897100

🌐 www.thebridgelangport.co.uk

The Camelot Inn

Chapel Road, South Cadbury, Yeovil, BA22 7EX

☎ 01963 441685

🌐 www.camelotpub.co.uk

The Candlelight Inn

Bishopswood, Chard, TA20 3RS

☎ 01460 234476

🌐 www.candlelight-inn.co.uk

The Cat Head Inn

Cat Street, Chiselborough, TA14 6TT

☎ 01935 881231

🌐 www.thecathead.co.uk

The Clockspire

Gainsborough, Milborne Port, DT9 5BA

☎ 01963 251458

🌐 www.theclockspire.com

The Cotley Inn

Wambrook, Chard, TA20 3EN

☎ 01460 62348

🌐 www.cotleyinnwambrook.co.uk

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

The Crooked Swan

4 Church Street, Crewkerne, TA18 7HR

☎ 01460 208414 🌐 www.crookedswan.com

The Cross Keys

East Lydford, Somerton, Somerset, TA11 7HA

☎ 01963 240473 🌐 www.crosskeysinn.info

The Devonshire Arms

Long Sutton, TA10 9LP

☎ 01458 241271 🌐 www.thedevonshirearms.com

The Etsome Arms

6 West Street, Somerton, TA11 7PS

☎ 07907 046213 🌐 www.facebook.com/TheEtsomeArms

The Feed Station

Sandy Hole, Merriott, TA16 5QR

☎ 01460 271598 🌐 www.thefeedstationmerriott.co.uk

The Firehouse

Church Street, Curry Rivel, TA10 0HE

☎ 01458 887447 🌐 www.thefirehousesomerset.co.uk

The Flying Fish

Wood Road, Ashill, Windmill Hill, Ilminster, TA19 9NX

☎ 01823 480467 🌐 www.theflyingfishsomerset.co.uk

The George Inn

Market Place, Castle Cary, BA7 7AH

☎ 01963 350761 🌐 www.thegeorgehotelcastlecary.co.uk

The George Inn

Pound Hill, Donyatt, Ilminster, TA19 0RW

☎ 01460 53833 🌐 www.georgeatdonyatt.co.uk

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

The Globe

Market Place, Somerton, TA11 7LX

☎ 01458 273545 🌐 www.theglobeinnsomerton.com

The Green House

Beech Barn, Eaglewood Park, Whitelackington, Ilminster, TA19 9DQ

☎ 07864 825639 🌐 www.facebook.com/TheGreenHouseIlminster

The Halfway House

Pitney Hill, Langport, TA10 9AB

☎ 01458 252513 🌐 www.thehalfwayhouse.co.uk

The Helyar Arms

Moor Lane, East Coker, Yeovil, BA22 9JR

☎ 01935 862332 🌐 www.thehelyararms.com

The Kingsdon Inn

Kingsdon, Nr Somerton, TA11 7LG

☎ 01935 840543 🌐 www.kingsdoninn.co.uk

The Kitchen at the Wharf

Great Bow Wharf, Bow Street, Langport, TA10 9PN

☎ 01458 254354 🌐 www.kitchenlangport.com

The Kitchen on Silver Street

14 Silver Street, Ilminster, TA19 0DJ

☎ 01460 57050 🌐 www.thekitchenonsilverstreet.co.uk

The Little Treat Shop

30A Princes Street, Yeovil, BA20 1EQ

☎ 01935 507739 🌐 www.jessicacakesandbakes.co.uk

The Lovington Bakery & Café

1 Market Place, Wincanton, BA9 9LD

☎ 01963 824871 🌐 www.facebook.com/lovingtonbakery

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

The Masons Arms

41 Lower Odcombe, Yeovil, BA22 8TX

☎ 01935 862591 🌐 www.masonsarmsodcombe.co.uk

The Montague Inn

Shepton Montague, Wincanton, BA9 8JW

☎ 01749 813213 🌐 www.themontagueinn.co.uk

The Muddled Man Inn

West Chinnock, Crewkerne, TA18 7PT

☎ 01935 881235 🌐 www.themuddledmaninn.co.uk

The Old Calf Shed

Jordans Courtyard, Horton Cross, Ilminster, TA19 9PY

☎ 01460 298608 🌐 www.oldcalfshed.com

The Old Dairy Café

Bower Hinton Farm, Martock, TA12 6LH

☎ 01935 824978 🌐 www.theolddairycafe.uk

The Old Pound Inn

High Street, Aller, Langport, TA10 0RA

☎ 01458 250469 🌐 www.oldpoundinn.com

The Pitney Farm Café

Glebe Farm, Woodbirds Hill Lane, Pitney, Langport, TA10 9AP

☎ 07980 131819 🌐 www.facebook.com/thepitneyfarmcafe

The Place

Market Place, Castle Cary, BA7 7AG

☎ 01963 351985 🌐 www.facebook.com/theplacecoffeeshop/

The Prince of Wales

Ham Hill, Stoke sub Hamdon, TA14 6RW

☎ 01935 822848 🌐 www.princeofwaleshamhill.co.uk

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

The Queen's Arms

Portman House Estates Ltd, Strawberry Hill, Corton Denham, DT9 4LR

☎ 01963 220317 🌐 www.thequeensarms.com

The Ranch Café & Deli

Parrett works, Martock, Somerset, TA12 6AE

☎ 07799083419 🌐 www.theranchcafedeli.com

The Rec Café

Yeovil Recreation Centre, Off Chilton Grove, Yeovil, BA21 4AW

☎ 01935 462616 🌐 www.yeovilrec.co.uk

The Red Lion

North Street, Babcary, Nr Somerton, TA11 7ED

☎ 01458 223230 🌐 www.redlionbabcary.co.uk

The River Parrett Café and Deli

Bow Street, Langport, TA10 9PQ

☎ 01458 259773 🌐 www.facebook.com/The-Parrett-Deli-Dine-104854198043590

The Rose & Crown (Eli's)

Huish Episcopi, Wincanton Road, Langport, TA10 9QT

☎ 01458 250494 🌐 www.facebook.com/pages/category/Pub/Elis-Rose-and-Crown-Somerset-149910561701738

The Rose and Crown

Silver Street, East Lambrook, South Petherton, TA13 5HF

☎ 01460 240433 🌐 www.roseandcrowneastlambrook.com

The Sun Inn & Akbar's Kitchen

33 High Street, Bruton, BA10 0AH

☎ 01749 813493 🌐 www.akbarskitchen.com

The Trough Farm Shop & Café

Stone Lane, Yeovil, BA21 4NU

☎ 01935 413027 🌐 www.troughfarmshop.com

6. Retail Therapy, Food & Drink

The White Hart

Market Place, Somerton, TA11 7LX

☎ 01458 272273

🌐 www.whitehartsomerton.com

The White Post

Rimpton, Adber, Yeovil, BA22 8AR

☎ 01935 851525

🌐 www.thewhitepost.com

The Winking Frog

Princes Street, Yeovil, BA20 1EN

☎ 01935 477216

🌐 www.facebook.com/TheWinkingFrogCoffeeShop

28 Market Place

Somerton, TA11 7NB

☎ 01458 333444

🌐 www.28marketplace.co.uk

Yandles Café

Hurst Works, Martock, TA12 6JU

☎ 01935 826736

🌐 www.yandles.co.uk

Find out more information about food and drink in Somerset from the website below or collect a copy of the guide from the South Somerset Visitor Information Centre.

🌐 www.foodanddrinkguides.com



7. Discover Further Afield

South Somerset is a great base to explore the wider Somerset area. Day trips further afield to our neighbours in Dorset, Devon and Wiltshire are well worth a visit too.

Somerset - The Wider Area

Cheddar Gorge and Caves

Cheddar BS27 3QF

Explore Britain's biggest gorge, from the stunning stalactite caverns to the dramatic cliffs rising over 450ft. This world-famous site is an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which reveals many hidden secrets including fascinating stories of our prehistoric ancestors.

☎ 01934 742343

🌐 www.cheddargorge.co.uk

Dunster Castle and Watermill (National Trust)

Castle Hill, Dunster, Nr Minehead, TA24 6RL

Fortified home of the Luttrells for 600 years, remodelled 100 years ago. Fine 17th century staircase and plaster ceilings. Terrace garden of rare shrubs. Watermill.

☎ 01643 821314

🌐 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/somerset/dunster-castle-and-watermill

Exmoor National Park

One of the most peaceful of all National Parks, Exmoor is renowned for its dramatic coastal views, heather moorland, ancient woodlands, steep coombes and Exmoor ponies. A unique and special place.

☎ 01398 323665

🌐 www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk

Fashion Museum and Assembly Rooms

Bennett Street, Bath, BA1 2QH

One of the world's great museum collections of historical and contemporary dress, showcasing fashions from the time of Shakespeare right up to the present day.

☎ 01225 477789

🌐 www.fashionmuseum.co.uk

7. Discover Further Afield

Glastonbury Abbey

Abbey Gatehouse, Magdalene Street, Glastonbury, BA6 9EL

The Abbey is connected with legend to a degree that is unparalleled by any other abbey in England. Since Medieval times, the abbey has held legendary status as the earliest Christian foundation in Britain linked to Joseph of Arimathea and the burial place of King Arthur. Today it is a tranquil setting where you can discover the stories, explore the accredited museum and enjoy a packed events calendar.

☎ 01458 832267

🌐 www.glastonburyabbey.com



Glastonbury Tor (National Trust)

Nr Glastonbury, BA6 9JZ

This iconic hill has been a spiritual magnet for centuries, for both Pagans and Christians. Tales have grown out of history, becoming blended and embellished leaving the truth, whatever it was, literally lost in the mists of Avalon. Short walk from the town centre, eastwards along A361. Seasonal park and ride service from town. (Please note there is no parking at the Tor). Free entry.

☎ 01278 751874

🌐 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/somerset/glastonbury-tor



Noah's Ark Zoo Farm

Clevedon Road, Wraxhall, Bristol, BS48 1PG

Enjoy a fun packed day out at multi award-winning zoo. Over 100 species of animals from around the world all set in 100 acres of lush farmland. Play areas and activities. Café.

☎ 01275 852606

🌐 www.noahsarkzoofarm.co.uk

Puxton Park

Cowslip Lane, Hewish, Banwell, Weston Super Mare, BS24 6AH

All weather adventure park with soft play, aerial climbing and slides in 40 acres of countryside. Falconry and mini railway. Water pursuits. Farm shop and café.

☎ 01934 523500

🌐 www.puxton.co.uk

Roman Baths and Pump Room

Roman Baths, Abbey Church Yard, Bath, BA1 1LZ

Explore the Roman Baths, walk on the original Roman pavements and see the ruins of the Temple of Sulis Minerva. The museum collection, located next to the bathing complex, includes a gilt bronze head of the Goddess Sulis Minerva, and other Roman artefacts. The city's unique thermal springs rise in the site and the Baths still flow with natural hot water. Restaurant in 18th century Pump Room. Refreshments also available in The Roman Baths Kitchen in Abbey Church Yard.

☎ 01225 477785

🌐 www.romanbaths.co.uk

7. Discover Further Afield

Somerset Lavender

Horsepond Farm, Faulkland, BA3 5WA

Wander through the Lavender Garden where they trial over 20 varieties of Lavender. In the Lavender Field, see over five acres of Lavender, walk through the field and absorb the sight of more than 50,000 Lavender plants with bees humming, collecting pollen to make honey. Donations towards upkeep of the farm welcome.

☎ 01373 834893

🌐 www.somersetlavender.com



The Somerset Guild of Craftsmen

23a Broad Street, Wells BA5 2DJ

With as many as sixty members exhibiting work at any one time, the range of skills displayed in the Guild's gallery is very diverse. Many makers use traditional techniques to create contemporary work ranging from pottery and ceramics, glass, metalwork and wood through to furniture and textiles. Most makers are happy to accept commissions. Alongside our own members' work is a changing programme of exhibitions by guest craftsmen and designers.

☎ 01749 671112

🌐 www.somersetcraftguild.co.uk

@ admin@somersetguild.co.uk



Wells Cathedral

Cathedral Green, Wells, BA5 2UE

Built between 1175 and 1490 Wells Cathedral has been described as "the most poetic of the English Cathedrals". Set in the medieval heart of England's smallest city, the Cathedral is the earliest English Cathedral to be built in the Gothic style. Entry by donation.

☎ 01749 674483

🌐 www.wellscathedral.org.uk



Wells & Mendip Museum

8 Cathedral Green, Wells, BA5 2UE

Discover the natural history, geology and heritage of Wells and the Mendip Hills.

☎ 01749 673477

🌐 www.wellsmuseum.org.uk

Wookey Hole Caves

Wookey Hole, Wells, BA5 1BB

Explore the world famous caves, journey through the prehistoric Valley of the Dinosaurs, discover the Magical Mirror Maze, sit back and relax in the 4D Cinema and much more! Play castle. Café.

☎ 01749 672243

🌐 www.wookey.co.uk

7. Discover Further Afield



Somerset Tourist Information

For more information about Somerset, go to the website below.

www.visitsomerset.co.uk

Devon

Bicton Park Botanical Gardens

East Budleigh, Budleigh Salterton, Exeter, EX9 7BJ

Devon's magnificent botanical gardens with palm house, woodland railway, countryside museum, indoor and outdoor play areas.

01395 568465 www.bictongardens.co.uk

Crealy Theme Park & Resort

Sidmouth Road Clyst St Mary, Exeter, EX5 1DR

Award-winning theme park.

01395 233200 www.crealy.co.uk

Dartmoor National Park

Dartmoor is the largest expanse of unglaciated upland in Great Britain and the largest granite surface in England. A magical, enchanting playground for adults and children alike, full of wide open spaces to explore and see wonderful wildlife and wild ponies.

www.visitdartmoor.co.uk

The Donkey Sanctuary

Sidmouth, EX10 0NU

One of the world's largest equine welfare charities. Explore award-winning gardens and scenic coast path walks to engaging exhibits and, of course meeting hundreds of adorable donkeys! Café. Free entry. Donations welcome.

01395 578222 www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk



Devon Tourist Information

For more information about Devon, go to the website below.

www.visitdevon.co.uk

7. Discover Further Afield

Devon & Dorset

The Jurassic Coast

The Jurassic Coast is a hugely diverse and beautiful landscape underpinned by incredible geology of global importance. In 2001 it became a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is England's only natural World Heritage Site, inscribed by UNESCO for the outstanding universal value of its rocks, fossils and landforms.

The Jurassic Coast begins at Orcombe Point in Exmouth, Devon, and continues for 95 miles to Old Harry Rocks, near Swanage, Dorset. Whether you want to hunt for fossils, visit a museum, or simply take in the stunning scenery on a good walk, you'll find there's plenty of things to do, whatever the time of year.

01308 807000 www.jurassiccoast.org

Dorset

Abbotsbury Sub Tropical Gardens

Bullers Way, Abbotsbury, DT3 4LA

A garden for all seasons boasting exotic plants and trees from all over the world. Café.

01305 871387 www.abbotsbury-tourism.co.uk/gardens

Abbotsbury Swannery

New Barn Road, Abbotsbury, DT3 4JG

Home to the only colony of nesting mute swans in the world. See the cygnets hatching in May-June. Café.

01305 871858 www.abbotsbury-tourism.co.uk/swannery

Mapperton House & Gardens

Beaminster, DT8 3NR

Glorious Tudor/Jacobean manor house and romantic valley garden. 15 acres of gardens descend from the croquet lawn, through the formal topiary down to the wild garden. Café.

01308 862645 www.mapperton.com

7. Discover Further Afield

Minterne Gardens

Minterne Magna, Dorchester, DT2 7AU

Home of the Churchill and Digby families since 1620. See the fascinating Himalayan collection of rhododendrons and azaleas. A new vista greets you around every corner on the beautiful undulating 1.5 mile walk.

 01300 341370

 www.minterne.co.uk

Monkey World Ape Rescue Centre

Longthorns, Wareham, BH20 6HH

Home to Europe's only orang-utan crèche and over 250 rescued and endangered monkeys and apes. All are now rehabilitated into family groups of their own kind. Café.

 01929 462537

 www.monkeyworld.org

The Tank Museum

Bovington, BH20 6JG

Come face to face with over 300 huge military machines that have seen action in major conflicts of the last century. Hear amazing stories from the soldiers that fought them in nine powerful exhibitions.

 01929 405096

 www.tankmuseum.org

Weymouth Sealife Adventure Park

Lodmoor Country Park, Weymouth, DT4 7SX

Take a fascinating journey from the Jurassic Coast to the ocean depths through 15 themed zones. Check out the amazing green sea turtles in the Ocean tunnel. Find out how it feels to touch a starfish, crab or other creatures living in the interactive Rockpool Experience. Talks, feeds and more! Adventure playground. Café.

 www.visitsealife.com/weymouth



Dorset Tourist Information

For more information about Dorset, go to the website below.

 www.visit-dorset.com

7. Discover Further Afield

Wiltshire

Longleat

Warminster, BA12 7NW

Immerse yourself in the animal kingdom at UK's original Safari Park. Gain hands-on experience feeding the lorikeets and sealions, with opportunities to handle tarantulas or snakes. Delve into history as you enter Longleat House, then discover the Adventure Castle, Hedge Maze, Longleat Railway and much more.

 01985 844400

 www.longleat.co.uk

Stonehenge (English Heritage)

Nr Amesbury, SP4 7DE

Exhilarating, inspiring, moving – there's no one word that quite captures the feeling of walking around this 4,500-year-old marvel of human endeavour. Visitor Centre with permanent exhibitions. Set off from here by foot or by shuttle bus to the Stone Circle. Café, shop and audio tours. Timed tickets must be booked in advance of your visit.

 0370 3331181

 www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge

Stourhead Landscape Garden (National Trust)

Nr Mere, BA12 6QD

One of the world's great landscape gardens, this sublime man-made creation of reflective water, woods, temples, trees and grottoes has a powerful beauty. Seasonal colour throughout the year. Stourhead House. King Alfred's Tower. Estate walks. Café.

 01747 841152

 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/wiltshire/stourhead



Wiltshire Tourist Information

For more information about Wiltshire, go to the website below.

 www.visitwiltshire.co.uk

8. Further Information



8. Further Information

Free South Somerset Guides

Accessibility

With so much to see and do in South Somerset, it's a wonderful place to visit for all ages and abilities. To plan an accessible break with us, you'll find everything you need in our separate Accessibility Guide to help with supporting additional needs, mobility information, transport and much more. Download your free copy from the Inspire Me, Top Tips Guides section on the website.

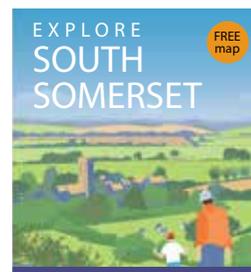
 www.visitsouthsomerset.com

Dog-friendly Days Out

We love dogs in South Somerset and there are plenty of great places to take your fluffy friends. Download your free Dog-friendly Days Out guide from the Inspire Me, Top Tips Guides section on the website.

 www.visitsouthsomerset.com

South Somerset Map & Itineraries



Free map and itineraries to make the most of your stay!

Relax in the peaceful countryside or get active in the great outdoors. Discover history and intrigue in every nook, cranny and landscape, and experience world-class birdwatching. Savour incredible local menus and enjoy our vibrant arts and culture scene. Download from the Inspire Me section on the website.

 www.visitsouthsomerset.com

South Somerset Visitor Information Centre & Gift Shop



South Somerset Visitor Information Centre & Gift Shop

Cartgate Picnic Site, A303/A3088, Stoke sub Hamdon, TA14 6RA

For more information about this guide or visiting South Somerset, please contact us at:

 01935 829333

 VisitSS@Somerset.gov.uk

 [VisitSouthSomerset](https://www.facebook.com/VisitSouthSomerset)

 [VisitSSomerset](https://twitter.com/VisitSSomerset)

 [VisitSouthSomerset](https://www.instagram.com/VisitSouthSomerset)

 www.visitsouthsomerset.com



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