South Somerset Tourism News

August 2021 update



Included in this update issue:

- New website now live
- Introducing range of South Somerset publications
- A303 roadworks update

Exciting news! - NEW tourism website is now live!

www.visitsouthsomerset.com

You may have seen on our social channels that our new website is now live and we hope you enjoy having a good look around.

The new site is packed full of fresh content including an inviting South Somerset video on the home page, new free guides available to download to your phone or tablet and plenty of **inspiring ideas** and **itineraries** for visitors to make the most of their stay here.

Where to Stay and Things to Do are easy to search and filter and Plan is a particularly useful link for visitors to the area who wish to organise ahead and check travel, accessibility and local tourist information services.

Please do share the website with your guests and visitors; we're delighted to showcase South Somerset and the wonderful variety of local tourism businesses that make this region so unique and special.

If you have a listing and notice something you would like to amend, please **email me** the details and I can arrange the content to be updated.

If you submitted a listing after the deadline date, providing the necessary criteria was met, your listing will be added in due course.

If you are a tourism focussed business and would like to submit a FREE listing, please complete your application <u>here</u>.

Food and drink focussed businesses have a separate form, which can be accessed **here**.

NB. All businesses will need to be registered with the relevant bodies,

such as accommodation offering meals will need to be registered with Environmental health.

There is still a lot of exciting new content to come including the updated route descriptions for **The River Parrett Trail**, so do keep checking back as new content will be added all the time.

New range of Visit South Somerset publications



Over the last few months the Tourism Team have been busy compiling a number of publications.

These are now available to view and download from the **Inspire me** section on our new **website**.

- Things to Do is over 70 pages and full of ideas of wonderful places to visit or things to do from exploring the local countryside sites to large attraction
- Dog Friendly Days Out includes accommodation and places that will welcome your pooch
- **Accessibility Guide** covers transport, easily accessible places to visit and places offering addition support.
- **Explore South Somerset** a handy map of South Somerset with contact details of local information centres

Generally we encourage enquirers to download the guides however, following feedback that the recent Leaflet Exchange, we have a small print run to share among Local Information Centres and tourism businesses.

We do not have the resources to post the guides but they can be collected from the South Somerset Visitor Information Centre (A303/A3088 Cartgate picnic site), which is opening 0900-1300 and 1330-1530 everyday.

If you can not arrange collection please let Becky know and there might be a member of the SSDC staff that can drop them in to you.

A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling Scheme - update

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, the online **virtual exhibition** is now live and can be viewed at

https://a303sparkford.engagementevent.com/



If you havent received a copy of the SSDC briefing pack and think it would be useful - please get in touch and I can email you a copy.

South West Tourism awards - dont forget!

Applications are now open for the 2021/2022 tourism <u>awards</u>, and the closing date is **August 31st 2021**.

If you are concerned about the time commitment, you don't have to complete the application in one go, there are plenty of opportunities to save and come back to it.

Why not sit down with a coffee and celebrate what you have achieved - you might even win an award!

In the news.....



CARY21: CASTLE CARY THROUGH TIME in 21 OBJECTS – an exhibition about Castle Cary's past and its future

This fascinating display of 21 objects from Castle Cary's past is open everyday from 24th July to 5th September, 10am-4pm Monday to Saturday and 3-5pm on Sundays.

Venue - Market House, Market Place, Castle Cary BA7 7AH

SOMERSET OPEN STUDIOS 2021 - quick reminder!

More than 300 Somerset Art Works Members will be displaying their work in over 200 studios and work spaces from 18th September to 3rd October.

For 2021, visitors will be able to find out about and explore artists' workspaces in new and different ways.

- A fold-out venue map and listings, available in cultural venues from August.
- The Open Studios App which works offline and links to Google Maps
- A map and venue listings in the September/October Evolver magazine.
- Venue details will also be listed on the Visit Somerset website.

For more details, please see: <u>somersetartworks.org.uk</u> or contact Paul Newman on 07715 528441 or at <u>paul.newman@somersetartworks.org.uk</u>

Anything to contribute?

The tourism newsletter is generally distributed quarterly (March, June, September and December) with additional editions produced if there is

important and relevant information to share.

It is emailed to South Somerset businesses on the tourism database and appears on the trade pages of www.visitsouthsomerset.com

We love to hear and share your news and sucess stories, so please email items for the next issue to Becky.Cotterill@southsomerset.gov.uk

Unsubscribing and your privacy

If at any time you wish to unsubscribe to the newsletter and have your details removed from the database, please email tourism@southsomerset.gov.uk or click the button below.

Very occasional we feel it is appropriate and beneficial to forward emails and newsletters from our partners, can you please let me know if you would rather not receive this information.

For more information about how South Somerset District Council uses and keep your information secure, please see the Privacy page on our website https://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/about-our-website/privacy-and-data-protection.

www.visitsouthsomerset.com

Keep in touch **f y o**





