A LAND OF MYTHS AND LEGENDS
UK’s NO.1 FOREST ADVENTURE

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at Forest of Dean, nr. Gloucester

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or call 0845 094 0837† quote FDWY67

*Offer valid until 31st December 2017. Excludes Saturdays, Corporate Events and purchase of gift vouchers. Discount code must be entered at time of booking. Only valid at Forest of Dean. †Calls cost 7p per minute plus your phone company’s access charge. Participation and supervision ratios apply - please see our website.
For centuries the Forest of Dean and Wye Valley have accumulated tall stories like New York collects skyscrapers. So pack your compass, GPS, binoculars and imagination because 2017 is our year of Myths and Legends when we take visitors on a journey of discovery.

As the UK’s greatest natural haven for adventure, culture, history, and delicious food and drink, there is every reason to immerse yourself in an ancient land that boasts many contemporary twists.

Tweet what you eat and Facebook what you find #mythslegends @DeanWye

Maureen McAllister
Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Tourism
The Forest of Dean and Wye Valley was a source of creative enlightenment for JK Rowling’s Harry Potter series. The white deer that live in the Forest are thought to be the inspiration for Harry’s Stag Patronus.
There are many superstitions, fables and tall stories alive in the Wye Valley and Forest of Dean. Every castle, hamlet, village and town has its own special story.

Our ancient mythologies are tales to be cherished and shared, as are the many modern legends created daily by award-winning accommodation, food and drink providers, creative industries, and unique attractions.

We are one of the only surviving ancient woodlands in the UK, stretching from Monmouthshire and South Herefordshire to West Gloucestershire.

Before 1066 a large section was reserved for royal hunting. So there is no better place in the world to stir the imagination and awaken your senses to culture, heritage, history, adventure or taste.

**History and Heritage**
Hop between the Welsh and English border to immerse yourself in a history that dates from Roman and Medieval, Anglo Saxon to Tudor and the epoch-making industrial revolution. Castles and keeps, iron ore, charcoal and freemines, each has shaped or influenced the UK’s prominence in the world.

**Art and Culture**
Artists, filmmakers, singers, painters, poets, writers and photographers recognise the natural stage our inspirational landscapes offer. Film and TV fans can walk in the footsteps of heroes from Dr Who and Harry Potter to Atlantis and Star Wars when they follow the silver and small screen trail. Art enthusiasts will be wowed by a visit to the world famous Sculpture Trail and its incredible outdoor installations.

**Food and Drink**
Modern legends are created daily in our artisan bars and restaurants where diners can even find Michelin stars. We are home to some of the best food and drink producers in the UK who encourage you to sip award-winning cider or wine, savour mouthwatering chutneys and cheeses or experience an annual showcase that’s dedicated to quality and flavour.

**Adventure**
From tree-tops to cliff tops the Wye Dean is a destination for thrills and spills on land, water, wheels and sky. Ride the Severn Bore on a surfboard, climb Wintours Leap where Sir Chris Bonington prepared for Everest, canoe on the Wye, gallop through the glades, run, walk or cycle on family trails or roads that welcomed Sir Bradley Wiggins and Mark Cavendish on the Tour of Britain.

Images: Horsehoe Bend, River Wye; Mary Rose Young Pottery
The Severn Estuary has the second highest tidal range in the world, giving rise to the famous Severn Bore tidal wave around the spring and autumn equinox; Minsterworth is a top viewing point.
A NEW EXPERIENCE

The Forest of Dean and Wye Valley offer a vast choice of places to visit and new things to try. There’s a range of adventure and activities suitable for those searching for peace and relaxation or an adrenaline rush.
Here are our top 20 suggestions to get you started....

1. Underground Discoveries
Did you know the limestone rock in which Clearwell Caves formed are made from the teeth, bones and shells of millions of dead sea animals? On the way through the Caves you can see a fantastic new display that gives you a unique opportunity to meet many of the sea creatures that formed the rock 345,000,000 years ago.

2. Escape on the River
Spend a few days immersed in idyllic scenery, canoe during the day and camp next to the Wye overnight. Cook your dinner over a campfire under the stars. Canoe the Wye offers multi-day trips, perfect for leaving those everyday stresses behind. For something a little less challenging, their half-day option of gentle paddling down river is perfect for families and beginners. If that sounds too energetic, take a relaxing trip with Kingfisher Cruises.

3. Two Wheel Challenge
Two wheels are the perfect way to explore the area and there are a variety of trails to try. To save bringing your own bike, Dean Forest Cycles and Pedalabikeaway are on hand with everything you need. Unsure of a route to try, then Cycling Guides are always ready to help. Road riders can look forward to winding country lanes and short hill climbs. Families can use the popular cycle paths in the Cannop Valley safely away from traffic, and for keen mountain bikers the downhill Forest tracks provide wild opportunities with a excellent, dedicated off-road areas.

4. Say Cheese
Visit Old Ley Court and see traditional cheese making. The farm is one of only four traditional single Gloucester producers in the world. See Gloucester cheese made by hand from an age-old recipe passed down over generations using unpasteurised milk from their own cows. Each cow has a name, based on its character and ancestry.

5. Hole in One
There are a variety of golf courses available with superb parkland, panoramic views and excellent greens. Forest Hills features a challenging par-72 course. and is one of the finest golf courses in Gloucestershire, with such excellent drainage that the tees and greens can be used all year round. For something a little different, try out their Footgolf. The nine hole, 843 yards course is fun for everyone. A 12 hole roman ruin fantasy is set in spectacular scenery at Wye Valley Miniature Golf. The course has wheelchair access and short putters so even toddlers can play.

6. Brave the Caves
Clearwell Caves offers caving experiences that allow you to join a group that explores beyond the public pathways to visit labyrinthine workings created by mining. But be warned, these trips do involve tight bits, scrambling and getting dirty. They are an exhilarating experience, to spice up family holidays.
In medieval times wild boar roamed the forest and now, after a long absence, they are back in abundance. They live in family groups known as ‘sounders’.
7. On a High
With tree top trails, climbing towers and zip wires, the area is growing in reputation as an up-high adventure destination.
Overcome fears or fuel an appetite for adrenaline across walkways, crate stacks and zip wires. Go it alone, thrill the whole family or explore the canopies with an experienced instructor.
With more than 20 million trees in the Forest of Dean it’s the perfect place to explore new heights.

8. At a Canter
Explore the freedom of the forest on horseback. Enjoy bridle-ways, roads and riding trails, a paradise for any horse rider. Greenacres Stables and Riding Centre’s friendly horses and ponies will help you enjoy the spectacular forest views.

9. Off-Roading
Experience the thrill of off-roading at Whitecliff Off Road Driving Centre’s 40-acre quarry site. With its variety of surfaces, it is deemed one of the best in the UK, offering circuits with a range of difficulty, obstacles and terrain. There are courses for beginners, or black runs for the more ambitious and special courses for Juniors too.

10. Take Aim
Improve your shooting skills or give it a go for the first time.
DBS offers a range of shooting experiences such as clay, air rifle and archery. You can also try your hand at archery at Adventure Activities.

11. Get on Track
For a fun family day out visit Dean Forest Railway, which stops at five points so passengers can jump off, enjoy a woodland walk before a delicious picnic or hearty pub meal.
Take life at a slower pace all aboard a GWR steam train.
For something a little different visit Perrygrove Railway. Their steam trains wind along a three quarter mile track through farmland and woods. There are four stations, each with paths to walk through the ancient Perrygrove Wood.

A Dog’s Dream
With miles of countryside in the forest for you and your pooch to explore The Forest of Dean and Wye Valley is every dog’s dream destination. Pick one of many traffic-free walking routes from gentle strolls to all-day hikes guaranteed enjoyment for any energetic pet.

Look out for the Pet Friendly symbol for a huge variety of dog-friendly accommodation.

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

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

Lydbrook GL17 9RE
T: 01549 477877
E: admin@swatpets.co.uk
www.swatpets.co.uk

For Small Dogs Only (max Collie).
We pride ourselves in producing high quality ales in small batches using traditional methods and the finest ingredients from around the world, and heritage hops from our local area. Using methods which have been developed and mastered over a lifetime, we want to change people’s perception of beer and what can be achieved, and we want to share our passion for great beer with you.

EXPERIENCE DAYS
A day full of shared adventure, as nature’s backdrop sets a stunning scene for brewery tours, long walks (or short), fun activities, team building and experience days, traditional pub lunch, brewing your own beer, stag or hen dos, or just watching the sun go down with an ale and your boots off.

Monthly events running – check our website for details

www.hillsidebrewery.com

‘Tweet’ about your adventures using #deanwye
or follow us @DeanWye
12. Release the Inner Artist
Get in touch with your creative side and be inspired by the natural beauty of the area. Why not create a piece of ceramic to take home. Eastnor Pottery offers introductions to basic hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques while Taurus Crafts regularly hosts courses on pottery, painting, jewellery making and sculpture.

13. Take Cover
The closest you can get to being in a battle situation without going into battle for real. Geared to all abilities Battlesports Glos and Wye Valley Warfare Laser Ops offer a range of exciting missions for juniors and adults.

14. Get Lost
Try not to get lost as you attempt to navigate your way through Elton’s Giant Maze. The fantastic Maize Mazes are planted each year in April and reach full height in mid July. Or visit the aMazing Hedge Puzzle at Symonds Yat. The Jubilee Maze is one of Britain’s most famous traditional hedge mazes, with a romantic temple at the centre and over a kilometre of hedges.

15. Visit the Magical Woods
Enjoy wandering through the ancient paths, twisted roots and mossy rocks at the magical Puzzlewood. The site has risen to fame in many films such as The Huntsmen and Star Wars: The Force Awakens. The Secret Forest lives up to its name, in its beatiful, secluded, woodland walk through spectacular surface iron workings.

16. Take a Hike
From easy accessible walks to challenging hikes, the Forest of Dean and Wye valley has it all. Walking is one of the most popular outdoor activities in the area. There are a huge variety of trails available free to download from www.wyedeantourism.co.uk.

17. Wing It
You are in for a wonderful treat at The International Centre for Birds of Prey in Newent. With aviaries full of exotic birds of prey and owls, stunning gardens and a welcoming, family atmosphere, See amazing flying demonstrations at the oldest dedicated birds of prey centre in the world.

18. Segway Fun
Explore the beautiful forest on the latest in green technology - a self-balancing electric Segway. Get off the beaten track for an hour of fun with Go Ape’s Forest Segway Experience.

19. Try a Tipple
Hillside Brewery offers the chance to experience the brewing process up close, before sitting back to taste a well-earned glass overlooking stunning landscapes. If wine is more your liking try a tour or tasting session at Ancre Hill Vineyard. For cider lovers Apple County Cider and Ty Gwyn both offer the opportunity to relax and unwind in the great outdoors as you sample their award winning ciders.

20. Farming Fun
Learn some rural skills on a working farm, including everything you need to know about keeping lambs, pigs, chickens and bees. Try a course on hedge-laying or dry stone walling. There are bushcraft courses for juniors, where they can learn to build a den, or make a fire... we can’t guarantee they’ll stay clean and dry, so pack some wellies just in case.
VALE ROYAL BATHS
KETTON, RB9 3PU
Tel: 01572 851569  Fax: 01572 851569

Opening Times: Weekdays - 9am to 8pm Saturdays - 9am to 9pm Sundays - 10am to 6pm

Facilities: Steam room, sauna, plunge pool, pool, jacuzzi, beauty treatments, towels, slippers, hair dryers, 24hr<br>free admission, 

Wheelchair access.


dvron the Wye

Whitecliff Quarry, Coleford GL16 8NB
T: 01594 834666  M: 07720 734192
E: info@whitecliff4x4.co.uk
www.whitecliff4x4.co.uk

Open: All year, Monday - Sunday

Office: 01594 810823 (Golf Pro Shop)

www.foresthillsgolfclub.co.uk

E: enquiries@foresthillsgolfclub.co.uk

FOREST HILLS GOLF CLUB

MAP REF: C3

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

Golf, Footgolf & Coffee Republic

Our championship golf course welcomes visitors and our 9 hole Footgolf course is enjoyable for all ages. Visitors are welcome and equipment can be hired. Upstairs all are welcome to enjoy a Coffee Republic hot drink and slice of homemade cake or lunch.

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

www.foresthillsgolfclub.co.uk

E: info@davidsboardbent.com
T: 07771 664973

Photography Skills Courses
Photo training in the fabulous Forest of Dean & Wye Valley with professional photographer and tutor David Broadbent. Get jargon free, fun photo training in our great outdoors of the Forest and Valley. Fun, fresh air training catering for all abilities and equipment. Gift vouchers available. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

www.davidbroadbent.com

BATTLESPORTS GLO S

MAP REF: D2

Battlesports Glos. Holly Bush Farm, Ross Road, Longhope, GL17 0NG
T: 01452 830620 / 07587 144424
E: info@battlesportsglos.com
www.battlesportsglos.com

Outdoor Combat Missions on a Multi-acre Battlefield. Battlesports is the LIVE version of the best computer war games. Infra-red weapons incl. Snipers and Sub-Machine Guns and are pain-free (no projectiles). Missions incl. Storm & Capture, Ambush, VIP and geared to Individuals, Adult or Kids Parties (age 7+), Stag/Hen, Corporate, Mobile & Holiday Events. All-in price from 2 hours to All Day, just ring to pre-book. All-in price from £18 per player.

Open: All year, Monday - Sunday

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

G ift vouchers available.

www.battlesportsglos.com

Woodland Adventure

Canoe the Wye

Canoe on the River Wye

Enquiries@canoethewye.co.uk
01600 891100
www.canoethewye.co.uk

Open: All year (except 2 weeks over Christmas Mon - Sat 9.30am to 4.30pm)

Half & Full Day 4x4 Off Road Driving Courses
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£109.95 (Price booking essential)

WHITECLIFF OFF ROAD DRIVING CENTRE

MAP REF: C4

Whitecliff Quarry, Coleford GL16 8NB
T: 01594 834666  M: 07720 734192
E: info@whitecliff4x4.co.uk
www.whitecliff4x4.co.uk

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Do you love food?

Open: All year, Monday - Sunday

www.forest-of-dean-adventure.co.uk

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ACTIVITIES & ATTRACTIONS
Fast as a falcon: Peregrine falcons can dive at speeds up to 200mph. They have nested on the Coldwell Rocks, Symonds Yat, since 1982.
Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust is the county’s leading environmental charity. We work locally to give wildlife a chance to thrive and provide wild spaces for people to enjoy. We create and connect habitats, campaign to protect species, and inspire people of all ages to care about the natural world. Being part of the Wildlife Trust movement gives us the driving force to stand up for wildlife and nature conservation on a local and national scale. Gloucestershire’s wildlife needs your support. Become a member and protect wildlife on your doorstep from as little as £3 a month.

To join simply visit gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/membership to join, or call 01452 383333
Four Seasons
Four Reasons

There's an astounding array of wildlife from occasional grey seals that appear in the River Wye near Chepstow, to the elusive seasonal nightjar, which return each year to the heathlands of the Forest of Dean.

**Bluebells**
As winter fades and spring emerges, carpets of bluebells smother the woodland floor before the tree canopy fills out and closes over. Among the bluebells, wood anemone, wood sorrel and yellow archangel compete for space and light.

**Newts and Woodpeckers**
In the many ponds and waterways amphibians return to breed. In these special areas all three newt species and both toad and frog may be seen or heard. Above in the canopy the birds begin to pair up and find nesting sites. A little patience may reward with sightings of pied flycatcher, wood warbler and lesser spotted woodpecker.

**Butterflies**
As spring turns to summer in warm sheltered glades, butterflies take to the wing. The more frequently seen species include the flighty wood white, while late summer months should signal the flight of silver washed fritillaries and white admiral among the trees.

**Lizards and Dragonflies**
On the forest floor reptiles warm up in the early morning sunshine. Common lizard, slow worm, grass snake and adder may be seen by a quiet and cautious visitor, but make too much noise and they will disappear before you spot them. Our lakes and ponds are home to an amazing range of jewel-coloured dragon and damselflies, patrolling above the water on still days.

**Bats and Boar**
Long summer evenings are the best to spot our larger inhabitants. Fallow deer, feral boar, fox and badger roam freely and a quiet stroll is likely to be rewarding. For people prepared to stay out after dark, nocturnal species include important populations of bats, that strangest of heathland birds the nightjar, and the secretive otter.

**Winter Birds**
As the days get shorter the woodlands are cloaked in vibrant autumnal colours and summer migrant birds are replaced by winter visitors, including lesser redpoll and Brambling. The fallow deer rut begins and they can be heard throughout the forest during October.

**Crossbill and Hawfinch**
As the trees lose their leaves some of the more unusual resident birds may be easier to spot, with crossbill feeding on conifer cones and hawfinch numbers increase as winter migrants join the locals.

A winter walk should include at least one of the forest giants – huge ancient trees which have witnessed centuries of change in this wildlife-rich and inspiring part of the country.

**Forest Veterans**
Three amazingly-named trees: Shaden Tuft, Charles II Oak and Forest Giant are all within walking distance of each other. These trees date from the mid seventeenth century and remain as a result of legislation passed during the reign of Charles II, which limited the use of the Dean’s oaks for charcoal so they could be used for ship building instead.

Find them at OS grid references: SO625088, SO626085 and SO630092.

**Birdwatch Paradise**
New Fancy View and Symonds Yat Rock provide great locations for seeing birds of prey, with peregrine falcon nesting on the cliffs at the latter, and great views of goshawk likely at the former.

Images: Wye Valley, Snow Forest, Bluebell, Wild Boar, Butterfly, Large Forest Tree, Falcon

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

**Open:** Monday to Saturday 10-4, Sunday 11-5 (check for seasonal variations)

Visit Apple County Cider nr Skenfrith where they make award-winning cider from their orchards on lush, rolling Monmouthshire hills. Enjoy an orchard walk (leaflet available) bring a picnic followed by cider tasting. Take home cider and local produce from the shop. Discover the timeless joy of distinguished real cider with Apple County.

**Open:** Monday to Saturday 10 - 6, Sunday 11 - 5 (check for seasonal variations)

Ty Gwyn Cider have a lovely rustic farm cider shop just off the main A465 road between Abergavenny and Hereford near the stunning Black Mountains. Offering free tastings of our award winning ciders (and a perry) to all visitors. We are licensed so you can enjoy a cider on our sun deck whilst taking in the amazing views and wildlife (red kites and peregrine falcons have been spotted).

**Open:** Wed to Sat 1000-1800. Sun 1100-1700. Open bank holiday Mondays.

Come and experience Gloucestershire’s number one foodie destination Severn and Wye Smokery, Delicatessen and Restaurant. We are an award-winning artisan and family-run business situated on the picturesque banks of the River Severn.

Relax with a coffee and cake or stay longer for lunch or dinner and enjoy expertly cooked fish dishes selected from our amazing fresh fish counter. The delicatessen stocks our chefs homemade delicacies and cured fish as well as a wide selection of delicious local produce. In March we launch our new premises which will include an additional restaurant and cookery school. Please see our website for details.

**www.severnandwye.co.uk**

Chaxhill, Westbury-on-Severn, Gloucestershire  GL14 1QW
T: 01452 760190  E: info@severnandwye.co.uk

@severnwyef /severnandwye

**THE ANCHOR TINTERN**

Chapel Hill, Tintern, Mon. NP16 6TE
T: 01291 689582  E: contact@theanchortintern.co.uk
www.theanchortintern.co.uk

Traditional Country Pub, serving Homemade Food & a selection of cask ales. Situated in the Wye Valley, opposite Tintern Abbey. With extensive gardens, we welcome walkers, families and well behaved dogs.

Food offerings range from light bites such as toasted teacake, right through to a 3 course meal in our Ferryman’s Restaurant. We also feature in the Good Pub and Good Beer guides 2017. Seasonal operating tearooms – March to October.

**SMART’S TRADITIONAL GLOUCESTER CHEESE**

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

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

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

For more information read blogs by Harts Barn Cookery School and WyeDean Deli Confidential.
SEE, SMELL, SAVOUR

Award-winning artisan producers, brewers, growers, tearooms, and restaurants with the odd Michelin Star can be found here. Our salmon rivers, ancient orchards and landscapes teem with deer, boar, wild herbs, fruits, garlic and mushrooms. It’s a haven for foodies.

The Wye Valley and Forest of Dean is home to amazing food and drink producers, with many products only found in the Wye Valley and Forest of Dean.

Our producers work closely with local eateries to ensure visitors taste the Wye Dean. There is something for everyone with tearooms, cafes, chippies, takeaways, supper clubs, gastro pubs and destination restaurants.

The pop-up supper club scene has taken off and sees chefs use local produce to cook mouth-watering masterpieces. Visitors are invited to create a hamper from local charcuterie, chutneys, cheeses, freshly baked breads and go al fresco at one of 100s of picnic sites in wooded glades, alongside rivers, streams or ponds.

Food festivals showcase the finest Dean Wye offerings. The highlight each autumn is the Forest Showcase, which brings together more than 100 producers for a culinary experience fueled by music, art and local brews.

To finesse kitchen skills book a course at the award-winning Harts Barn Cookery School, where students learn everything from bakerscraft to the secrets of saucy success. Check out Severn & Wye Smokery’s superb new foodie haven, opening in the spring. Explore the farm to fork concept at Humble by Nature, or brew your own beer at Hillside Brewery.

Visit Apple County Cider for a tour of its orchards and a cheeky sample, made by the only company to win the Great Taste Golden Fork for Wales two years in a row. There are many other names to seek out such as Severn Cider and Ty Gwyn.

Recent years have seen a resurgence of British wines and at the forefront of many local vintages are Parva Farm and Ancre Hill Vineyards, both are winners of national and international awards.
NATURE IN ART
MAP REF: F2

Wallsworth Hall, Twigworth, Gloucester GL2 9PA  www.natureinart.org.uk
T: 01452 731422
E: enquiries@natureinart.org.uk

The world’s first museum of nature inspired art
Displays embrace 2D & 3D work in all mediums and styles from around the world, spanning 1500 years. Whether you prefer Picasso or Shepherd, exotic oriental treasures or watercolour landscapes, you’ll discover something for you. Meet an artist at work (Feb-Nov). Adult workshops, children’s activities, sculpture garden, coffee shop, gift shop, free parking.

Open: 10am - 5pm Tuesday - Sunday & Bank Hols.
Cost: £5.25 adults, £4.75 concessions, under 6’s free.

ABBEY MILL
MAP REF: C4

Wye Valley Centre, Tintern, Monmouthshire, NP16 6SE
T: 01291 689228  F: 01291 689220
E: info@abbeymill.com  www.abbeymill.com

Award Winning Abbey Mill, original Mill site of Tintern Abbey, is set amidst breathtaking scenery on the banks of the River Wye. Offering Riverside Shopping and Dining in a relaxed setting for you to enjoy.
• Arts, Craft & Gift Centre
• Unique Shopping Experience
• Turning Old Water Wheel
• Licensed Coffee Shop & Restaurant using locally sourced produce
• Group Bookings Welcome - Trout Pond
• Function Room  Coaches Welcome
• Wye Valley Craft Association • Events
• Demonstrations • Historic Old Mill Buildings

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

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

Taurus Crafts
Craft Studios & Artisan Businesses
Cafe - Local Food & Drink - Gift Shop
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Open Daily - See website for opening times
Free Parking - Free Entry

www.tauruscrafts.co.uk  T: 01594 844841

ARTS & CRAFTS

EASTNOR POTTERY & THE FLYING POTTER

Home Farm, Eastnor, Ledbury, Herefordshire HR8 1RD
T: 01531 633886
E: admin@eastnorpottery.co.uk  www.eastnorpottery.co.uk

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

Open: Jan - Dec, Tues - Sat 10am - 4pm
(Always best to contact the Pottery for availability before you travel.)

MARY ROSE YOUNG POTTERY

Oak House, Arches Polly, Parkend Lydney GL15 4QX
(01884) 863445  www.maryroseyoung.com
Parkend to Cotford one mile from main road

The Sculpture Trail begins at Beechenhurst where visitors will find a café and picnic area, children’s adventure park with a climbing tower and zip wire, maps and toilets. Parking costs a daily flat rate of £3 in the winter and £3.50 in summer.

Plan online:
Forestofdean-sculpture.org.uk
Facebook.com/forestofdeansculpture
@FODSculpture
Forestry.gov.uk/beechenhurst
Facebook.com/forestry.commission.england

Open dawn until dusk 365 days a year
For centuries the Forest of Dean’s magic and mystery has fueled myths and legends. These have fired the imaginations of artists and writers from around the world whose work adds to the area’s timeless appeal, beauty and grandeur.

A centre for contemporary art for more than 30 years, the Sculpture Trail has delighted all ages with works from modern artists who marry their vision with the joys of the countryside.

**Hidden histories**
In a unique landscape amid an abundance of flora and fauna, the work of world-class artists helps reveal secrets and hidden histories – the natural, geological, industrial and sociological.

**Woodland sculptures**
Dating back to 1986 are 17 permanent pieces that sit alongside temporary works. A 4.5-mile footpath clearly signposts each installation, but visitors should keep their eyes peeled as many sculptures are deliberately discrete in the woodland.

**Seven Surprises:**
1. Arresting and beautiful the 10ft by 15ft stained glass ‘Cathedral’ by Kevin Atherton hangs as a mesmerising, light-shifting 360-degree window through through the trees.

2. Henry Castle’s, ‘Coal Measure Giants’ is the fossilized remains of 300 million year-old trees which form mine shaft sets that provided livelihoods for generations of freemen.

3. Like a rare bird or forest creature, the enigmatic creation of Miles Davies can be totally obscured by the dense foliage that surrounds it.

4. Discover Pomona Zipser’s striking white sculpture, sit or walk within the structure to contemplate and observe the ever-changing nature of the forest.

5. Known colloquially as Iron Road, find the work by Keir Smith and discover 20 evenly spaced railway sleepers that bring the spirit of the Forest’s industrial past to life.

6. Catch a glimpse of Annie Cattrell’s astonishing installation from the right angle to be captivated by a mystifying optical illusion.

7. In a secret hollow through which a stream flows down a man-made canal, discover David Nash’s flotilla of small charred boats as they set out across the green marsh.
Activities

01 Battlesports Glos GL17 0NG D2 01452 830620
02 Canoe The Wye HR9 6BL C3 01600 891100
03 DBC Leisure GL16 6JR C4 01594 832535
04 Mallards Pike GL15 4HD D4
05 Symonds Yat Rock GL16 7NY C3
06 Wychford GL15 4DG D4
07 Cannop Ponds GL16 7EG D3
08 Soudley Ponds GL14 2UB D3

Nature Reserves

RSPB Nagshead OS606087 D4
Clarke's Pool Meadows OS668061 D4
Lancast and Ban-y-Gor Wood OS539966/OS536967 C5
Betty Daws Woods OS696284 D2
Gwen and Vera's Fields OS696277 E2
Vell Mill Meadow OS710314 E1

Forestry Commission Sites

Beechenhurst GL16 7EG D3
Mallards Pike GL15 4HD D4
Symonds Yat Rock GL16 7NY C3
Wychford GL15 4DG D4
Cannop Ponds GL16 7EG D3
Soudley Ponds GL14 2UB D3

Map References

Activities

Arts & Craft Centres

15 Abbey Mill NP16 6SE C4 01291 689228
16 Eastnor Pottery HR8 1RD E1 01531 633886
17 Mary Rose Young Pottery GL15 4JQ C4 01594 563425
18 Nature in Art GL2 9PA F2 01594 731422
19 Taurus Crafts GL15 6BU D4 01594 844841

Attractions

20 aMazing Hedge & Butterfly Zoo HR9 6DA C3 01600 890360
21 Ancre Hill Vineyard NP25 5HS B3 01600 714152
22 Aunt Martha's GL17 9DB D3 01594 824514
23 Dean Forest Railway GL15 4ET D4 01594 845840
24 Dean Heritage Centre GL14 2UB D3 01594 822170
25 Elton Giant Mazes GL14 1JU D3 01594 760795
26 International Centre Birds of Prey GL18 1JJ E2 01531 820286
27 Kingfisher Cruises HR9 6JL C3 01432 267862
28 Newent Town Council GL18 1BD E2 01531 820638
29 Perrygrove Railway GL16 8QB C4 01594 834991
30 Puzzlewood GL16 8QB C4 01594 833187
31 The Secret Forest GL16 8JR C4 01594 832535

Food & Drink

32 Apple County Cider NP25 5NS B3 01600 750835
33 Severn & Wye Smokery GL14 1QW E3 01452 760190
34 Smart’s Cheese GL2 8AR E3 01452 750225
35 The Anchor Tintern NP16 6TE C4 01291 689582
36 The Chase Hotel HR9 5LH D2 01989 763161
37 The Old Dairy Tearoom GL17 0DQ D3 01452 831221
38 Three Choirs Vineyard GL18 1LS E2 01531 890223
39 Ty Gwyn Cider HR2 0DL A2 01981 241181

Visitor Information

Forest of Dean District Council’s Reception has an Information Zone with access to wydeantourism.co.uk, plus a wide range of leaflets on local attractions, activities and events in the area, which is open during office hours.

Tourist Information:

Abergavenny:
Tythe Barn, Monk Street, Abergavenny, NP7 5ND
01873 853254

Chepstow:
Castle Car Park, Bridge St, Chepstow NP16 5EY
01291 623772

Coleford:
4 Lord's Hill, Coleford GL16 8BD
01594 837135

Monmouth:
Shire Hall, Agincourt Square, Monmouth NP25 3DY
01600 775257

Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Tourism Association:
Unit 1c, Musket Industrial Park, Crucible Close,
Coleford, Gloucestershire GL16 8RE
01594 888216
The Forest of Dean and Wye Valley is a gateway to the far-away worlds of intergalactic heroes and villains, eccentric Time Lords, magicians and warriors. Now you can be part of the cast and crew, just like the writers, directors, actors and actresses who have been inspired or performed on our outdoor stage.

Editorial by James Clarke

To celebrate decades of small and big screen drama, we have created a number of TV & Movie Trails so fans can explore their favourite locations for themselves.

Atlantis, Star Wars, Doctor Who, Merlin, The Huntsman, Wizards vs Aliens, King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table, Harry Potter, and Robin of Sherwood are a handful of titles that you can connect with. For further information visit www.visitdeanwyefilm.co.uk.

Puzzlewood


Puzzlewood has featured in countless productions but most recently appears in episode seven of the intergalactic space odyssey. Set 30 years after Star Wars: Return of the Jedi, The Force Awakens sees new heroes allied with familiar faces that include Han Solo, Chewbacca and Princess Leia. Sharp-eyed viewers will see the heroes travel to a forest world, where Daisy Ridley’s character, Rey, battles it out with the bad guys among Puzzlewood’s iconic rocks and trees.

Goodrich Castle

Merlin

In all its battle-hardened glory Goodrich Castle features in Merlin episode Sins of the Father. Situated on high ground from where it looms over the River Wye, the castle sets the tone for the appearance of a great enemy of Merlin and his allies: the warrior and sorceress, Morgause.
Clearwell Caves
*Doctor Who, Merlin, Atlantis*

Clearwell Caves is the location for many time-travelling adventures including episodes: *The Christmas Invasion, The Satan Pit, The Fires of Pompeii, The Time of Angels and Flesh and Stone*. In *The Christmas Invasion* the eccentric Time Lord has to embark on a race against time to save the human race from enslavement by the Sycorax. Clearwell Caves serves as the interior of the Sycorax spaceship.

**Speech House Lake**
*Merlin*

In the episode *The Gates of Avalon*, Speech House Lake becomes the mythical Lake of Avalon where Merlin witnesses a magical encounter. The lake features again in the episode *Excalibur*, in which Merlin hides a sword underwater. In *The Lady of the Lake* episode, Merlin says goodbye to the druid girl Freya whom he has bravely tried to keep safe from a bounty hunter. Some shots show Castle Camelot towering over the placid water. The woods around the Lake often featured in episodes of *Merlin* for scenes of characters trekking through their enchanted world of Albion.

**Cannop Ponds**
*Merlin*

Merlin, series five filmed the scenes of *Another Sorrow* at Cannop Ponds, the picturesque Forestry Commission nature reserve. In this episode, Merlin finds Mithian’s message about Morgana by the stream.

**Beechenhurst**
*New Worlds, Doctor Who*

A drama series about settlers to America in the 17th century, *New Worlds*’ producers constructed a fort on the open picnic ground, and populated the set with actors bearing muskets and sporting Mohicans as part of their portrayal of native Americans.

**Symond’s Yat and Coppett Hill**
*Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 1*

The Harry Potter novels have a strong connection with the Forest of Dean. During her childhood, author J.K. Rowling lived at Tutshill on the edge of Chepstow. In *The Deathly Hallows, Part 1* Coppett Hill features in a snowy scene in which Harry asks where they are. Hermione explains that they are in the Forest of Dean and that she and her family used to holiday there. Additionally, in the film trailer there is an aerial view of Harry, Ron and Hermione walking along the bank of the River Wye near Horsehoe Bend at Symond’s Yat.

**The Doward and Biblins**
*King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table*

Between Biblins, near Ross-on-Wye, and Monmouth, on the pathway along the riverside, is undulating ground within the trees, behind which looms a massive wall of carboniferous limestone rock. This setting is used in *King Arthur* as a council location. Hart’s-tongue fern prettifies the slightly stark scene. King Arthur’s cave was filmed at the prehistoric cave standing in the shadow of Great Doward, where protected sorbus trees hang over the entrance. The cave is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and rises about 25-feet, so large enough for a man on horseback to ride in and out.

**Raglan Castle**
*Merlin*

Raglan Castle features as the Isle of the Blessed, a location where the witches of the Old Religion are found. In the episode *Le Morte d’Arthur*, Merlin is charged by the Great Dragon to travel to the Isle of the Blessed to seek a cure for Arthur who has not fared well in an encounter with the Questing Beast. The Isle of the Blessed also features in the two-part story *The Darkest Hour*, where Merlin, Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table venture to vanquish the sinister presence of The Shadow People.
**Robin of Sherwood**

ITV’s 1980s popular Saturday evening TV series saw Chepstow Castle feature in a number of episodes, including the very first, Robin Hood and the Sorcerer, followed by The Enchantment and The Inheritance. Throughout the series the castle was a setting known as Castle Belleme, named for the character Baron Simon de Belleme, a nobleman and sorcerer.

**Lydney Park Gardens**

*Just Visiting*

In 2001, Hollywood remade a hugely popular French comedy blockbuster entitled Les Visiteurs, renamed by the Americans as Just Visiting. The story centers on a medieval knight who accidentally time travels to the 21st Century thanks to the efforts of an incompetent wizard. The knight finds himself contending with modern life, however, before this turn of events we see him in splendid surroundings of forests and castles, with the film’s opening woodland scenes filmed at Lydney Park Gardens.

**Ninewells**

*Atlantis*

Who would have thought that the Mediterranean could so readily be imagined in the Forest of Dean? For the BBC series Atlantis, Ninewells, near Coleford, featured as the Athenian Wood.
Very Superstitious

From the historic folk tale of the Ruardean Bear to the iconic legend of the Devil’s Pulpit, there are countless myths and legends to explore and discover.

**Bearly a legend**

In 1889 two Russian bears were brought to the Forest of Dean by four Frenchmen. Legend has it that foreign bear keepers fed their animals childrens’ flesh, so when a rumour spread that the animals had killed a child and mauled a woman an angry mob gave chase.

Some horrified Ruardean residents rescued and sheltered the keepers after witnessing their brutal beating and bears’ slaughter. During the trial many locals were mistakenly accused of the attacks and today the mocking refrain "Who killed the bears" taunts the good people of Ruardean.

**Devilish myth**

The Devil’s Pulpit is a rocky viewpoint that overlooks the thirteenth century Tintern Abbey. Local mythology says that the Devil created the Pulpit to preach to the Monks so he could tempt them from their religious ways. Other stories suggest that the Devil decreed the Monks perform a vulgar sermon from the Abbey roof. The Monks agreed, but cleverly tricked him with a shower of Holy Water that forced him to flee.
One of the most haunted houses in England is Littledean Hall, thought to be the oldest occupied manor house in the UK.

Shrouded in local superstition is King Arthur’s Cave on The Doward, near Symonds Yat. One of many tales involves a giant human skeleton discovered there in 1695, which was lost at sea when a local surgeon transported it to Jamaica but his ship sank.

Pwcs are mythical Monmouth creatures that offer help to farmers in exchange for milk. If unrewarded they cause mayhem and mischief.

Wintour’s Leap is named after the Royalist Sir John Wintour who, when hotly pursued on horseback by Parliamentary forces, jumped off the cliff, landed in the Wye below and swam safely to nearby Chepstow Castle.

According to Welsh folklore, Corgis, the Queen’s favourite canine, are the preferred mode of transport for fairies.

The Staunton Longstone is a seven foot tall Bronze Age standing stone that is believed to bleed if it’s pricked with a pin at midnight.

Ellen Hayward, a Cinderford wise woman, was the last person charged with witchcraft in the UK. She was tried at Littledean Jail in 1906.
Getting to the Forest of Dean
Located in the Western part of Gloucestershire and within easy access of the M4 (M48), M5 and M50 motorways.

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

For in-depth information go to wyedeantourism.co.uk

Visitors with disabilities
For information on places to stay, visit or eat there is accessibility information at wyedeantourism.co.uk

Distances to the Forest of Dean

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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>3hrs</td>
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<tr>
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<td>156/252</td>
<td>3hrs</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Getting around by car is easy and there are many car-parks within the main towns and all around the Forest at Forestry Commission sites (some charges apply). For further information go to wyedeantourism.co.uk.

Detailed times for local bus services, contact Traveline 0871 200 22 33.

Heritage steam and diesel trains runs through the forest between Lydney, Whitecroft and Parkend. For details visit www.wyedeantourism.co.uk.

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

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

For leaflets, books and route maps: The Forestry Commission 03000 674800

Guided tours are available from the Forest of Dean & Wye Valley registered tour guides who can accompany groups to a variety of places of interest. T: 01594 888197 www.wyedeantourguides.org.uk
One of the most popular outdoor activities in the area is walking. The 12 Easy Walks leaflet includes short walks suitable for most abilities and all ages. Download it for free from wyedeantourism.co.uk.

Here are four to wet your appetite...

**Clearwell Village**
This walk starts at Clearwell Cross in the centre of the village.
Pass St. Peter’s and stop at the entrance to Clearwell Castle. Opposite the castle is the ‘Dog Well’. Inside was a hand-cranked pump to feed water into a tank at the castle. Notice the troughs on the outer wall at horse and dog level.
Explore St Perter’s churchyard, then walk back to the Cross passing the Victorian village school.
Continue around the village and its many points of interest.
Further up the road, within easy walking distance is Clearwell Caves.

**Lydney Docks**
This very short walk takes in the sights of Lydney Harbour, a place steeped in history and heritage. From Roman times through the industrial revolution and well into the 20th century Lydney Harbour has been a cornerstone of the River Severn’s heritage.
The Severn Estuary is one of the UK’s national heritage jewels, known the world over for its massive tidal range and internationally important habitat, but even more so for its history of exporting and as one of the UK’s principle sea links to the rest of the world. Lydney Harbour has played a full part in making the Severn Estuary the gateway from the South West to the rest of the world.

**Dark Hill**
An easy walk around the remains of the Dark Hill Ironworks.
The first section of path was formerly part of the Severn and Wye Railway that ran from Parkend up the valley to a terminus at Coleford. Along the path, you will see a monument to David Mushet and his son Robert, pioneers in metallurgy. When you reach the remains of Dark Hill Ironworks, you may be able to see a ‘bear’ from the ironworks, a large solidified mass of iron slag.
Continue along the walk until you get to the bottom of the hill and cross the shallow ford using the stepping stones. You will come across a cleared area which is a haven for wildlife, particularly butterflies.

**Cannop Ponds**
A short walk through magical, oak and fir woodland. The route visits Cannop Ponds, where you may see swans, geese and ducks including brightly coloured mandarin ducks. The pond was built to power a huge waterwheel at Parkend. Continue along the track to find a Forest Freemine and an unusual monument.

**Easy Access**
For visitors who would like a gentle introduction to the Forest or have a wheelchair or pushchair there are routes at Mallards Pike Lake and the Cyril Hart Arboretum.

**Circular and Linear Short Walks**
If you prefer a bit more of a challenge or have a special interest there are plenty of opportunities to indulge yourself including the Sculpture Trail, Penallt Pubs Circular, Darkhill Iron Works Walk, Daffodil Way and the Poets Path.

**Long Distance**
For more of a challenge there are several long distance trails such as Offa’s Dyke National Trail, Wysis Way, Gloucestershire Way and the Wye Valley Walk all with stunning scenery and amazing viewpoints such as Devil’s Pulpit, Eagles Nest, Wintours Leap and Lovers Leap.
EXPLORER
THIS UNIQUE
FOREST & ENJOY...

Family fun at Beechenhurst, walks at Mallards Pike, spectacular views at Symonds Yat, cycling at Cannop Cycle Centre, paddling at Wenchford.

DISCOVER...
Walks, wildlife, family fun, peace and tranquility, spectacular views, cycling and extreme sports.

Discover the freedom of the Forest with a Discovery Pass
Park for free in Forestry Commission car parks and get a great range of discounts. Join online at forestry.gov.uk/pass

Visit our website to start your adventure

Forestry Commission England

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

forestry.gov.uk/visit

For enquiries, contact:
Forestry Commission, Bank House, Bank Street, Coleford GL16 8BA  t: 0300 057 4800 e: westengland@forestry.gsi.gov.uk