

THE WOODSMAN'S TREEHOUSE PRE-ARRIVAL INFORMATION

Thank you for your booking. Below, please find all the information you need prior to setting off. The adventure starts here ...

IN ADVANCE

Please make sure that you have your directions and site map with you. These can be downloaded from the guest's information page on our website. N.B. satnav will not work accurately or the last mile, so please do not rely on it for the last leg of your journey. If you do get lost, go to Manor Farm in the middle of Holditch, drive uphill following the lane sharp left & our car park is 1st on the left.

Pack as little as possible as it is a five minute walk down from the car park into the woods and to the treehouse, but do bring a pint of milk for your complimentary Dorset Cereals and Dorset Teas. There is a small shop in the woods selling some provisions (frozen dough, wine, cider & pies etc) on an honesty box basis - there is a full stock list on our guests information page of the website.

If you want to try one of the popular local restaurants or a River Cottage HQ event (see below) it is advisable to book well in advance.

If you're coming by train to Axminster there are rarely taxis waiting so it is essential to pre-book one. We recommend Payne's Premier Travel who have hybrid cars available for your transfer: 01297 35895 or bluebird cars 07591 584790, Mat on 07736 642738 or Axminster Taxis on 01297 34000.

If you fancy trying your hand on one of our weekday courses then they can be booked up to 1 day ahead on our website, if the day is free in our courses calendar you can start a new course subject of your choice, the 2 hour taster courses need two participants and the longer courses require just one participant to start a new course on a new date. We will run any course for between one and four guests at a time. They are suitable for complete novices & are very relaxing.

Please note that our craft courses are entirely optional – we don't expect our guests to whittle or carve if it's not their thing! Many don't, preferring to simply relax and soak up the atmosphere in the woods or to explore the surrounding area.

SELF CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT

Your accommodation will be cleaned and ready for you by 3pm on the day of arrival, please vacate before 11 am on the day of departure so that we have enough time to prepare for new arrivals. There is no check in as such. On occasions (particularly at weekends) we may not meet guests at all as they simply come and go following the pre arrival and in-tent information packs, preferring the anonymity that the informal nature of Crafty Camping affords. We are normally on site on weekday working hours only but are always available on call on the duty mobile – you will be sent a pre arrival text the day before arrival so that you have this number on your phone just in case there is a problem.

Please leave your car in the car park and walk through the small pedestrian gate indicated by the wooden owls (Oscar); follow the footpath down the LEFT HAND SIDE of the meadow (not down the rough track through the larger gate) and into the top corner of the wood through the tree arch. Follow the path down to the Woodland Workshop where you will see the parachute-roofed craft workshops and the large communal yurt and field kitchen by the pond. The treehouse is signposted from here as well as being marked on the woodland map.

All of the paths from the car park to each tent are lit with LED lights on sensors. However, it is still worth bringing a torch so that you can find your way in the unlikely event a power failure on arrival.

Please don't leave valuables in your car. Although we are in a remote and relatively crime-free area, we can't take responsibility for vehicles or contents in the car park.



Once you're inside the treehouse you will find a welcome and information folder with everything you need to know to settle-in, relax and enjoy your time in your new home. We tend to leave our guests to themselves unless needed for anything specific.

If you buy anything from the woodland shop please settle your bill from the honesty book in the field kitchen at the end of your stay. Payment can be made in cash or by credit card.

WHAT TO BRING/ON ARRIVAL

It is a good idea to have some 'starter' food as well as some milk. However, there are plenty of local shops and the local produce is excellent – so don't burden yourself with carrying too much! There is a list of local farm shops, deli's and wet fish shops, etc, in the leather folder in the treehouse and a labeled map in the communal yurt as well as on the info page of our website.

The Tytherleigh Arms (01460 220214) is our closest (and best) pub if you fancy going out for a drink and a good meal on arrival. On Friday nights The Bottle Inn at nearby Marshwood often has 'Spice & Rice' curry outside – highly recommended for a good pint and eat-in or takeaway home made curry. (It's best to call them first to double-check though – 01297 678484.)

We supply towels and bath robes but it is a good idea to bring some flip flops/crocs or similar for the back deck and spa deck of the treehouse.

Please bring a camera if you would like to enter our annual picture competition for the best photo uploaded to Trip Advisor, twitter, Instagram or our Facebook page. The prize is a £150 gift voucher and the judging criteria entirely at Guy's discretion!

WE SUPPLY

Your kitchen will be stocked with complimentary Dorset Cereals and Dorset tea, infusions and coffee. We also have some basics such as flour (for the wood fired pizza oven), salt, pepper & olive oil, otherwise please bring anything else you would for self catering. We also provide a starter pack of split and air-dried local firewood and kindling waiting for you in the treehouse woodburner and in the wood fired pizza oven, if you need further supplies of wood please just help yourself from the log store (fire wood and kindling wood are complimentary in the treehouse) charcoal is available to buy for the bbq.

We supply Faith in Nature shampoo, conditioner, hand wash, shower gel & towels. The kitchen has an oven, fridge and cooking rings as well as a kettle and toaster. Pots pans, crockery, glasses etc are all supplied. So all you need to bring is your own food.

There is a mains, plug in radio inside the treehouse. This can also be used to play internet radio or as a small speaker for mobile devices. There is wifi in the treehouse (craftycamping) its not all that fast as we are deep in the sticks- usually about 3mbps. EE has very fast 4g which is excellent but can be intermittent.

There is a Dyson electric space heater to warm up when the logburner is getting going – this should last overnight before restoking in the morning. There is also a Dyson hairdryer & dressing table. The kingsized bed has a dual control electric blanket and there is also a heated towel rail.

There is no TV but lots of traditional games including Scrabble, Jenga, Monopoly, Puket, Backgammon etc & there is a hammock on the main deck & sauna and hot tub on the rooftop 'spa deck'.

THE HOUSE RULES



We want everyone who stays with us to have a relaxed and enjoyable time. We try and keep rules to a minimum but there do have to be some:

- No pets. Sorry, but there are lots of pheasants, deer etc in the woods and livestock in adjacent fields.
- No children, the minimum age on the whole of the site is 18. The treehouse does not satisfy building regulations for anyone under 18.
- No amplified music/radios and rowdy/noisy behavior that could disturb others on, or off-site other than the radio inside the treehouse.
- Please always remove shoes/boots inside.
- Please shut down the air vent & close the door on the logburner when going to sleep or leaving when you are leaving it unattended. If leaving the bbq please make sure that it has died down or been quenched before leaving it unattended.
- Please do not bring candles or tea lights (which are specifically forbidden in and outside the treehouse on the insistence of the fire officer) We supply candle lanterns with glass guards which are safe but please don't take the candles out of these glass lanterns as they pose a serious fire risk when unguarded.
- Please do not put ANYTHING on top of the log burner.

EMERGENCY AND HEALTH

There is a First Aid kit in the communal kitchen behind the kettle and a more extensive box of dressings etc in the central island. The nearest small injuries NHS unit is in Chard (directions/map in/by the First Aid box and in your leather information folder) The nearest Accident and Emergency Unit is at the hospital in Yeovil.

If you go walking in the area through long grass in shorts there is a chance of picking up ticks. (This applies to any long grass; it is an increasing problem countrywide due to rising deer numbers). If you do get a tick please refer to the guidance notes at the First Aid point in the kitchen.

RESTAURANTS THAT NEED TO BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE

There are many good pubs and restaurants and things to do on our local information map in the communal yurt. However, the following restaurants can be booked-up a long time in advance and so it's worth giving them a call before you come.

Our local pub, The Tytherleigh Arms, 01460 220 214 - excellent dinner and Sunday lunches.

Hix Oyster & Fish House, Lyme Regis 01297 446910

River Cottage Canteen, Axminster 01297 631862

River Cottage Park Farm – evening events and courses, 01297 630302

& many more – see our local places to eat, shop and things to do in the information section of our website.

We hope that you have a really enjoyable stay here in the woods.

Guy

p.s. if you are posting about your stay on social media please do tag us so that we can share/like etc where appropriate. Our social media link buttons are on every page of our website www.mallinson.co.uk. Thank you.