



Exmoor Centre

A Remote Basecamp for Exploring the Wilds of Exmoor

St Mary Lyncombe Exmoor Trust



ExmoorCentre.co.uk

The residential centre opened in June 1968. It was established under the will of Dora Cartwright-Williams, it was her wish to see a centre for young people in the Hoarook Valley in the memory of her husband and their life together. It is now administered by a Private Trust, with five local trustees who are the owners of the property.



As a Trust our Aims and Objectives are: *'To promote the physical and mental wellbeing for the benefit of children, young people, families and adults through the provision of outdoor experiences within the Exmoor National Park'*.

The centre is used by a number of different young people's groups, organisations and private individuals/families throughout the year. We aim to make the centre as affordable as possible for all and charge a minimal operating fee to cover our costs. We are obviously always happy to receive donations!

Facilities. Indoors: The living area has bench seating and various collapsible tables allowing a flexible space suitable for groups of up to 30. The bunkhouse heating is by a wood burning stove with integral oven and hotplates in the Living Area which gives a great focal point for cozy evenings in.

The kitchen is equipped a 4 burner gas hob and oven and all necessary pots, pans, crockery and cutlery.

The wash room provides hot and cold water and two toilets and also has a shower. Water heating is via an instantaneous gas boiler which is locked in a cupboard and ventilated to the outside for safety.

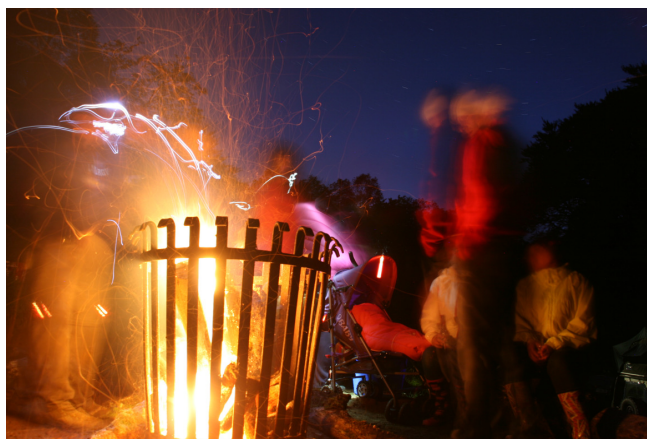
Power is supplied by a 2kw solar system charging batteries which in turn power 12v LED lights, water treatment and provide small power via car charger type points for phones etc.

The two bunkrooms sleep 6 and 4 persons respectively. 4 Spare mattresses can be used on the floors for flexibility of groups.

Mattresses are rubber coated memory-foam on all bunks.

Outdoors: There is an outside grassed area that can easily be supervised, 16 people are permitted to camp within this boundary. There are picnic tables and bench seats with barbecue facilities for outdoor cooking and also camp fire-basket to sit around.

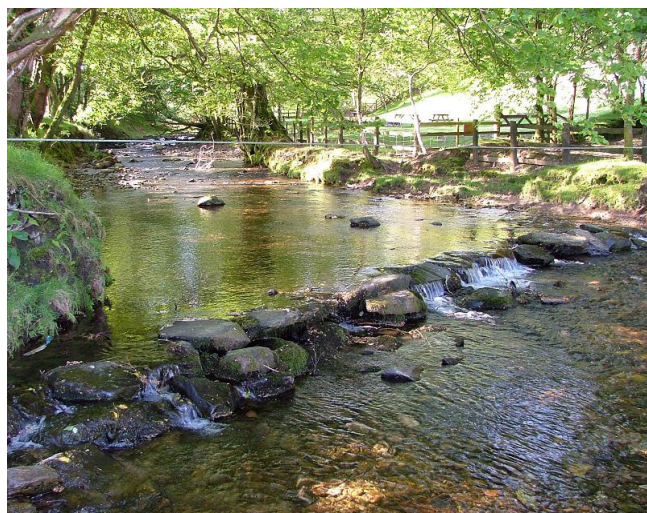
A second campfire area is beside the river outside the main camping area, this campfire benefits from a parachute/sunshade cover making sitting around the campfire possible in all weathers.



At the back of the building there is an external covered glazed drying area with ample hanging space for wet clothing and equipment.

The grounds have access at either end of the boundary to the open moorland beyond.

Access to the centre on foot from the east is via a river crossing. Welly boots are recommended! Stepping stones are placed across the river and a hand rope is in place, care needs to be taken to avoid wet feet. We advise that the river is crossed in welly boots at the widest part just downstream of the stones for safety.



Location: The centre is in a remote location at the edge of farmland and borders open common moorland. It is 4 miles South-East of Lynton on the north coast of Exmoor. The nearest parking for the centre is half a mile away, from there access is by foot only, via stepping stones over the river and onto the entrance of the centre. The centre

management can access the centre by 4 wheel drive vehicles for maintenance and the local emergency services also have access. Details of parking and the exact location are supplied with booking information or on request.



The Centre is open year round and is at its most spectacular in winter with hard frosty mornings being a regular occurrence high on the moor. Due to the bunkhouses sheltered location frosts can last for weeks on end with the temperature barely getting above freezing.

Exmoors high moorland streams are generally slow flowing above the treeline. In places they become deep enough for the brave to swim, they are rarely warm even at the height of summer.

There is no fishing to be had above the Exmoor treeline although rivers below are noted for their salmon and trout fishing.

There are otters breeding on the river at the centre and heron are regular visitors to our pools.

The centre is a birdwatchers paradise, Buzzards are nearly always overhead, Kestrel, Merlin and Sparrowhawk are regularly seen in the valley. The hedgrows are home to many birds and during the autumn Fieldfares fill the hawthorn trees upstream of the centre.

Britains largest mammal the Red Deer can be seen most days on their travels between woodland and moor. Foxes are always on the prowl even in the daytime they are easy to spot if you sit still for a while.



Frequently Asked Questions:

Can I bring my dog? Of course, access to the centre is across farmland and the open moor is at times stocked with sheep and cattle to add to the abundant wild mammals so it is best to keep dogs on leads for their own safety. The centres grounds are fenced against stock but most dogs can easily escape under, over or through a stock fence.

Do I need to bring water? The centre uses a treated spring water supply, it is generally reliable but can run dry in high summer and during the winter it can freeze. If this is the case we can supply water in containers for drinking.

Do I need to bring bedding? The bunkrooms have mattresses and mattress topper sheets so you should bring warm sleeping bags and pillows if required.

Can I drive to the centre? There is no public vehicular access to the centre as it is via a bridleway. Access even for 4x4 vehicles can be very hazardous and normal insurance will not cover you to drive off the vehicular right of way. If you have a suitable 4x4 you can drive one vehicle to the centre by arrangement with us, 4x4s will need good AT tyres and high ground clearance as a minimum. We can transfer any equipment or luggage for you if need be by prior arrangement when booking. The centre is accessed on foot/cycle and it is a km from the nearest road. Details of parking provision are supplied with booking information

Can I use a mobile phone at the bunkhouse? There is no mobile signal on any network at the bunkhouse. The nearest signal is approximately 100m away from the centre up the bridleway to either east or west, text messages are a little more reliable and can at times be sent and received 50m from the centre depending on conditions.

Is there electric? We use a 12v electric system to run the lighting and some 12v USB power outlets.



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Further Information and Links:

Our Website: www.ExmoorCentre.co.uk



Facebook: facebook.com/exmoorcentre



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Instagram: [ExmoorCentreBunkhouse](https://www.instagram.com/ExmoorCentreBunkhouse)

Some of Our Friends:

MTB/Climbing/Coasteering etc -

www.exmooradventures.co.uk/
www.xtremecoasteering.co.uk/

Horse Riding

www.brendonmanor.com/
sparhanger.wordpress.com/

Fuel/Food etc

www.barbrookfillingstation.co.uk/

Foraging/Guide

Facebook.com/pg/moorwildexperiences

Local Information

www.visitlyntonandlynmouth.com/

Weather and Tides

lynmouthsailingclub.org/?page_id=117