



DARTMOOR
EXPEDITION NETWORK

Dartmoor Expedition Area Guide



Introduction and Welcome

May we take this opportunity of welcoming your team to the Dartmoor expedition area. We hope that your expedition will be enjoyable and prove educational.

Our Assessor Network is able to assist you by providing Assessors whose local knowledge will enable you to get the best out of your expedition. Although access in certain areas can present difficulties it is usually possible to use the full range of wild country available. DofE participants are encouraged to plan routes which give their team ample opportunity to benefit from the remote aspects of the moorland environment. Please utilise our Network's expertise in this respect by asking for advice when you need it. We are here to help.

We hope that all teams will take time to study the information in this guide before starting to plan an expedition on Dartmoor. This information is also available from www.dofe.org/dartmoor and may be updated at any time, so please ensure you are using the most up to date version.

For information about the DofE's Expedition section, the 20 conditions of the Expedition section and planning/training for an expedition please visit www.DofE.org/expedition or refer to the current *Expedition Guide*. If you are in any doubt, please contact me, one of our Field Officers, or your Dartmoor Assessor if we have provided one.

Finally, may we enlist your team's full co-operation in following the Countryside Code and ask that they respect the views of local residents, landowners and officials.



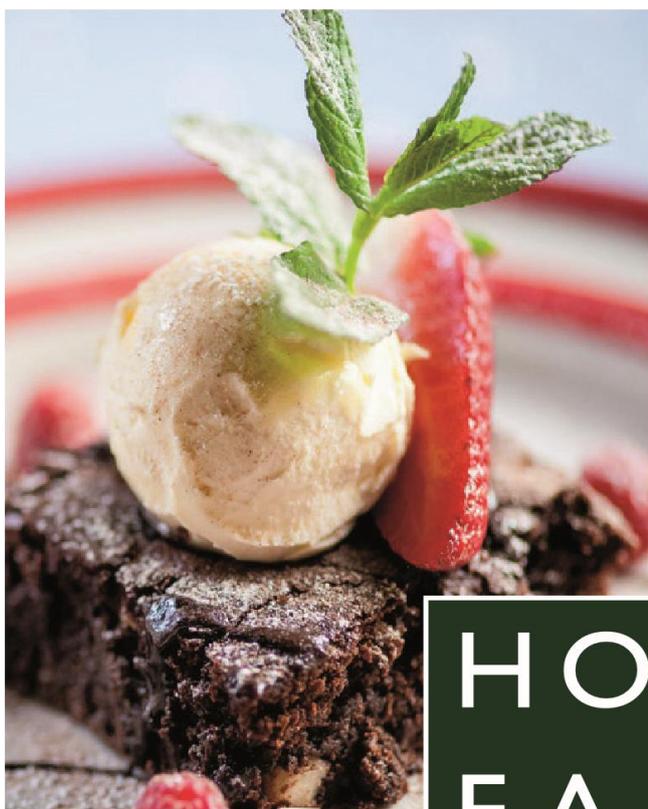
Robert Steemson
Expedition Co-ordinator

Expedition Co-ordinator – contact details

Robert Steemson
Field House, Liverton, Newton Abbot TQ12 6HN
Tel: 01626 824526 after 17.30
Email: dartmoor@DofE.org
Website: www.dofe.org/dartmoor

Field Officers: Helen Jenny
Mary Harper

**LEADERS ARE ASKED TO BRING THIS INFORMATION TO THE ATTENTION
OF ALL PARTICIPANTS.**



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Donate For Dartmoor

Donate for Dartmoor raises money to help protect and care for the area. Fundraising supports three development areas:

Recreation

There are miles of footpaths and bridleways across the National Park. Help to maintain these popular recreational routes through path repairs, new signage and improved access. Details of the projects can be found at: <https://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/wildlife-and-heritage/our-conservation-work/donate-for-dartmoor/current-projects>

Natural

Dartmoor's unique climate and landscape offers habitats for a range of wildlife, and more importantly, provides a stronghold for some declining and threatened species.

Help to look after the important habitats that provide a home for Dartmoor's wildlife. Details can be found at: <https://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/wildlife-and-heritage/habitats2>

Historic

Dartmoor's rich, historic past dates back thousands of years and can be seen across its moorland landscape – the prehistoric archaeology of ceremonial and burial sites; the medieval farmsteads and field systems; and the remains of industrial activity.

Help to conserve these amazing historic features in a way that will enable more people to enjoy them.

Details of the projects can be found at <https://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/wildlife-and-heritage/heritage>

Visitors to the National Park are encouraged to contribute to the fund through their website: <https://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/wildlife-and-heritage/our-conservation-work/donate-for-dartmoor>

Suggested donations are £2 per visitor.

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The Dartmoor Expedition Area

Dartmoor is an upland region of moorland within the county of Devon, in southwest England. It covers 368 square miles and rises to 621 metres (2037ft) above sea level. Underlying the moor is Carboniferous granite, which is visible at the surface as tors – rocky outcrops at the summits of many of the hills.

The area was designated as a National Park in 1951. Nearly 36,000 hectares (88,900 acres) is common land, some 37% of Dartmoor's whole area and more than 75% of it is moorland. Importantly, the Commons form the heartland of Dartmoor and that vast open space is the main reason for National Park status.

It also provides the applicable wild country designation for DofE expeditions. These are the areas that you will be using predominantly for expedition purposes.

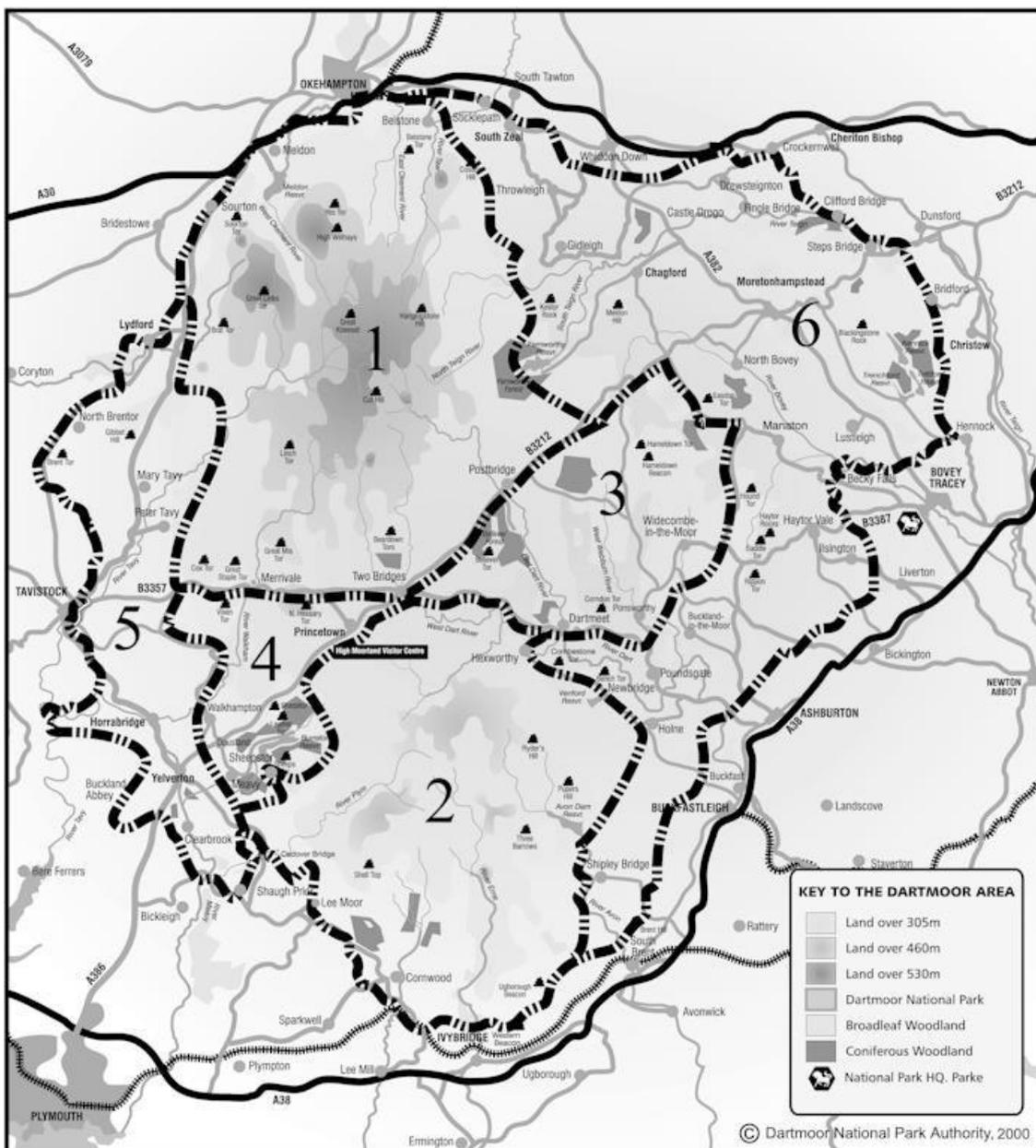
The DofE's Dartmoor expedition area covers the whole of the Dartmoor National Park, and the high moors are essentially two plateaux with an average height of 325 metres (1,200 feet). Much of the central areas consist of blanket bog and heather/purple moor grass moorland which can present heavy walking in wet conditions. Around the edges of the plateaux there are many tors and clitter slopes caused by erosion in the more recent geological past. The plateaux are surrounded by a fringe of fields, lanes, farms and villages each having its own beauty.

The weather conditions on Dartmoor are very changeable and the prevalent westerly winds, nearness to the sea, and height give much rain, mist and hill fog. Princetown, situated approximately at the moor's centre, has an average annual rainfall of over 200 centimetres. Mist can be frequent and sometimes develops rapidly. Navigation on compass bearings is essential in these conditions as there are few marked public rights of way.

The Dartmoor Outdoor Leisure Explorer Map No 28 (1:25000) covers the whole area usable for DofE expeditions. In addition, the Dartmoor National Park Authority provides many leaflets and publications. A list may be obtained from the High Moorland Visitor Centre, Duchy Square, Princetown, Yelverton, PL20 6QF (please send an S.A.E.). It is well worth a visit during your acclimatisation period.



Recommended Expedition Areas On Dartmoor



All DofE activities within the National Park boundary (marked by the outer heavy dotted line on the map) should be notified to the Expedition Co-ordinator on the standard expedition notification form, the *Green Form* together with a route outline, ideally sent electronically as a .gpx file.

Recommended areas are:

- For Gold, the majority of the routes should be within areas 1 and 2 (this being the wildest part of the moor)
- For Silver participants, areas 3, 4, 5 and 6 are recommended
- Bronze teams should only use Dartmoor as an expedition destination if they are local to the area, or in exceptional circumstances. Areas 5 & 6 are recommended for Bronze.
- Participants using areas 1 – 4 must be trained to Gold level.

Note:

- Before planning routes make sure you check the firing details and, if within the firing area, be prepared to plan a different route. In addition, rare bird nesting areas should be avoided between 1st March & 31st July <http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/wildlife-and-heritage/wildlife/birds/birds-nesting>
- Details on firing areas can be found later in this guide (*page 10*)

The Commons



The Commons are areas of open unenclosed moorland, that are privately owned but which other locals have rights to put their livestock on. This is referred to as having common rights. The commons are areas of semi-natural vegetation and because of their unimproved nature there are extensive archaeological landscapes. In fact, Dartmoor has amongst the finest prehistoric remains in North West Europe.

The semi natural vegetation is also quite rare and because of this much of the moorland is designated not only nationally

as Sites of Special Scientific Importance (SSSIs) but also has international recognition as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

Dartmoor is unique in having its own Commons Act which happened in 1985 and it has two parts. The first enabled the setting up of a Commoners Council who are a Statutory Body that has responsibility for the good husbandry of the various units of commons. Membership to the Council is made up of representatives from the local Commoners' Associations, the Duchy of Cornwall, a vet, two Dartmoor National Park Authority members and two common land owners.

The second part facilitated a legal right of public access on foot and horseback which is governed by the Dartmoor National Park Byelaws and monitored by National Park Rangers.



Most of the commons are now part of an agrienvironmental scheme run by the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). This scheme is a partnership between commoners, landowners and Defra to ensure that these areas are managed in such a way to maximise their conservation interest. To aid this process all the statutory agencies (Natural England, the Environment Agency, English Heritage, Forestry Commission, Defra, Dartmoor National Park Authority) that have an interest in the management of the moorland got together to agree a common vision for the future to 2030. This new vision is a grazed landscape very much similar to what can be seen today, that is so prized by conservationists and public alike.

The Dartmoor Commoners Council has joined the partnership and delivery of the vision is expected in the main to be achieved by tweaking existing ESA management prescriptions.

Please note that it is illegal to drive more than 13.75 metres from the highway under Section 34 Road Traffic Act 1988.

Dartmoor National Park –General Information

The National Park website can be found at www.dartmoor.gov.uk and has a wealth of information of interest to leaders and participants.

Dartmoor Vision

The Commoners Council and the National Park Authority have formed an alliance with Natural England, English Heritage, Defra, Defence Estates and the Environment Agency. It has agreed a 'vision' for the conservation of Dartmoor to 2030. The vision is enshrined in a map. All parties will work to an agreed framework of action to conserve and enhance the landscape.

The vision is of an open but farmed landscape containing a mosaic of different types of vegetation and habitats, with fourteen Premier Archaeological Landscapes protected, and the vegetation managed by grazing livestock. Dartmoor's blanket bog, which acts as a big sponge, will be managed to survive climate change as long as possible, thereby protecting water quality and quantity.

Fire

DofE Teams must know what action to take in the event of their route being compromised by fire.

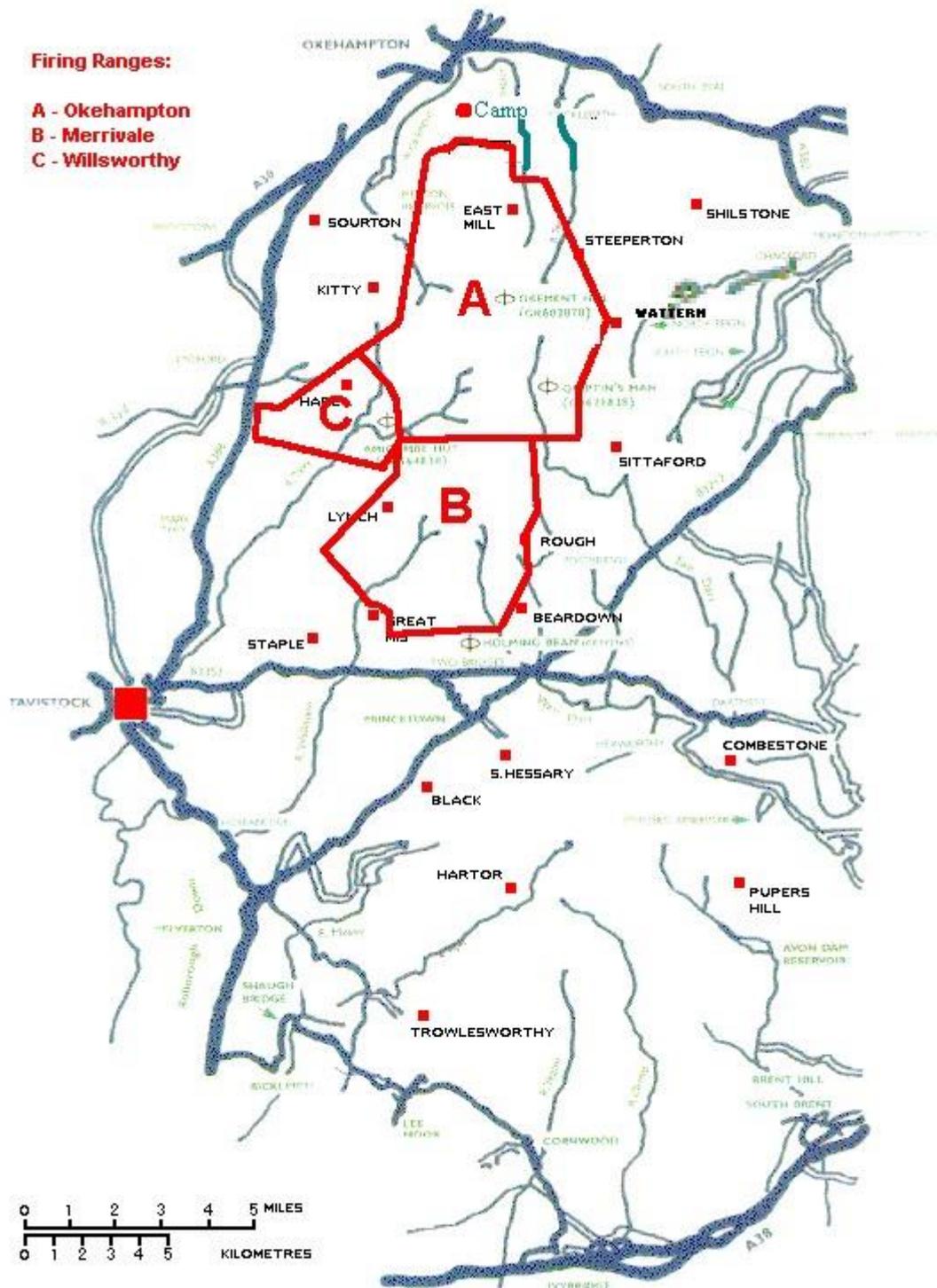
If you are here in March please be aware of swaling, which from the landowner/farmer perspective is an important element of their land management. Swaling is an ancient practice where commoners burn tall, overgrown heather, gorse and long rank grass to improve the grazing for the animals in the next season. Today this practice is very carefully managed as to frequency and area of burns allowed in the interests of conservation under the Heather and Grass Burning Code. Nationally burning can only take place between 1 November and 15 April. On Dartmoor a voluntary code ends burning on the 31 March because, in the south west, ground nesting birds often become territorial and the skylark, meadow pipit and the rarely seen curlew are beginning to nest by then.

Where there are insufficient animals to graze certain parts of the moor, the resulting overgrown vegetation presents a dangerous risk of accidental fire. These fires are difficult to control and can burn for many days destroying vast areas of the fragile environment, threatening wildlife, grazing animals and recreational users.

The public are asked not to light fires and to be aware of the increased fire risk during dry weather. *Print your team the information leaflet on Page 19.*



Range Danger Areas



Firing information can be found at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dartmoor-firing-programme>



Military ranges and training areas on Dartmoor and access implications

The Ministry of Defence has a training area on northern Dartmoor which includes Okehampton, Merrivale and Willsworthy ranges. **The public has access to these moorland areas except when the ranges are in use for live firing.** The boundaries of the three range danger areas are marked on the ground by a series of red and white posts with warning notices.

For recreational purposes, when wishing to use these areas, the firing times must be checked and warning signals (red flags by day and red lamps at night) heeded.

Dartmoor has been used for military training since the early 1800s. There is always a risk you could come across unexploded ordnance **anywhere** on the moor. Please do not touch or tamper with any strange or metal object, it may be dangerous. Leave it alone, mark and note the location, and inform the military authorities (Tel: 01837 657210), Okehampton Camp, the police or an information centre.

Range danger areas – firing programmes

The public has guaranteed access to the ranges at certain times of the year including public holidays and 1-31 August inclusive. At other times, the public has access when firing is not programmed. **Guaranteed access** for the current year can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dartmoor-guaranteed-public-access>

The firing programme for the following week is published in local newspapers, at Information Centres, and is available on freephone 0800 458 4868. BBC Radio Devon broadcasts daily updates. You can find it online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dartmoor-firing-programme>.

If the red flags are not hoisted by 09.00 hours from April to September inclusive, and by 10.00 hours from October to March inclusive, no live firing will take place that day. When there is no live firing, users are welcome and share with the military Dartmoor's rugged terrain and challenging climate. The military endeavour not to inconvenience other users.

Any sounds of firing you may hear will be blank ammunition and pyrotechnics.

On post July 2005 Ordnance Survey Dartmoor Explorer Maps the range danger areas are depicted as follows:

- Even though public access may be available at times, there will be no yellow tint (which is used on the maps to depict access land) within the range danger areas boundaries.
- Each of the three range danger areas is shown individually. Each is symbolised by inward facing solid red triangles but where they share a boundary there are two lines of red triangles, one facing in each direction.

Each range danger area is labelled as follows:

**Name of Range Danger Area
Access may be restricted**

For information visit www.mod.uk/access or Tel: 0800 458 4868



Okehampton Area – Restricted Access

In October 2009 the landowner withdrew permission to drive vehicles around the loop road just south of Okehampton military camp. Signed restrictions are in place at Sandpits on the western side (SX 597 922) and OP 22 on eastern side (SX 601 911). **It is therefore illegal to drive around the whole of the loop road under Section 34 of the Road Traffic Act 1988.** The maintained public highway has always finished at Moorgate cattle grid SX 592 931 and the landowner continues to give permission for vehicles to access the above points.

In addition, please note that the area known as South Down, to the west of Meldon Reservoir, is no longer Open Access, and the permitted path shown on some maps west of Vellake Corner has been closed.

Ground Nesting Birds

Don't disturb the birds!

The open moorland provides a breeding area for ground nesting birds, but if they get disturbed they can abandon their nests or young. Please be aware that they could be nesting anywhere on the open moorland and **you must not disturb them from 1 March to 31 July.**



Make sure you know where the rare bird nesting exclusion areas are and plan your route to avoid them during their nesting season.

Maps showing rare bird nesting exclusion zones can be found at:

<http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/wildlife-and-heritage/wildlife/birds/birds-nesting>

The Expedition Aim

Dartmoor with its unique landscape, breath taking scenery, diversity of habitats, thousands of years of history and land use, offers an inexhaustible range of opportunities for this aspect of the expedition. Teams are encouraged to develop an interesting or fun Aim for their venture and to find varied and creative ways to produce a memorable and meaningful record of their journey. Ideas are endless and young people have brilliant ideas of their own but to start the thinking, encourage them to **Explore, Discover, Listen, Look, Draw, Write, Record, Touch, Feel.**

Suggested topics suitable for Dartmoor include:

Photography	Vegetation	Conservation
Board Games	Weather	Myths & Legends
Gates & Stiles	Habitats	Flora & Fauna
Music	Water	Creative writing
Woodland	Creative Crafts	Colours
Industrial Archaeology	Settlements	Enclosures
Waymarks	Poetry	Art
Geology	Literature	Jig Saws

Whatever Aim you choose, make it relevant to your journey, interesting to all involved and ensure your presentation becomes a memorable keepsake of your venture

Comfort and Safety on Dartmoor

Dartmoor is dangerous for the inexperienced walker as its weather is liable to sudden change. The bright sunny conditions at the start of a walk may turn swiftly to fog or soaking rain. At any time from November until April, snow may bring severe conditions. You may also be remote from additional help in the event of an incident or becoming lost.

There is no shelter away from the roads.

Extremes of heat or cold encountered on the moor threaten the unprepared with:

- Exposure (hypothermia) during wet and windy weather or when it is very cold.
- Heat exhaustion or heat stroke (hyperthermia), typically during warm weather or through dehydration.

Don't go onto the moor unless you are properly equipped.

Hospitals

There are a number of hospitals around the moor but the majority do not have 24 hour accident cover and a number do not have casualty departments. The main hospitals are: Plymouth (Derriford), Torbay and Exeter (R.D. & E.). There are hospitals at Tavistock, Okehampton, Moretonhampstead, Newton Abbot and Ashburton. Tavistock Hospital has a minor injuries unit which is open from 8.30am -5.30pm Monday-Friday.

Management of drinking water during moorland expeditions

- Encourage fluid intake, to avoid dehydration. The amount needed is difficult to quantify but is typically several litres per person day and should not be underestimated.
- Draw attention to the hazards posed by contaminated water in all streams and rivers, caused particularly by run off from agricultural and human activity. Drinking untreated water may result in stomach upsets and is a potentially serious condition. Do not take water from stagnant pools.
- Emphasise the benefits of using tap water or bottled water, where possible, prior to, during and following the expedition.
- In rural country or the moorland fringe any other water must be boiled (and allowed to cool if necessary) prior to drinking.
- In wild country, including upland areas on Dartmoor or Exmoor, the use of sterilising tablets is an alternative to tap water or boiling water when water is extracted from higher level streams. However sterilising tablets do not remove all potential bugs. Whilst this presents very little risk to most individuals, if someone is unusually susceptible to infection this can present a significant hazard in which case only boiled or tap water should be used. If this applies to a participant, parents/guardians should make this known to the Leader on a standard medical consent form.
- Water filters present another option for treating water, depending on the type of filter and how it is used.



Potential Hazards on the Moor

Drinking from streams

Water below habitation may be polluted by sewage. Animals often die in the water and they foul it. It is very important that you read the information on *page 13*.

Rough ground

Most of the Moor is very uneven and it is very easy to twist an ankle. Clitter – large granite boulder fields around the tors - are particularly hazardous. Deep, narrow holes also occur, particularly near streams. Wear appropriate footwear and carry first aid supplies at all times.

River crossings and flooded rivers

Extreme care should be undertaken when using map marked stepping stones, fording spots, bridges and some camping areas. Please be aware that they can often be completely covered by rapidly rising water. Pre-planning of alternative routes is essential to overcome this issue.

Bogs

These are not usually dangerous except in so far as they may make you walk further and lose time and energy. However some are quite deep. Make sure you know what a bog looks like during your acclimatisation period!

Snakes

Adders are found amongst rocks and under heather but few people are bitten by them. If you are bitten, get medical help but avoid panic and further exertion and follow standard first aid advice for snake bites.

Animals

Dartmoor ponies and other animals are not used to being handled - they bite and kick. It is an offence to feed them as ponies, attracted by food to roads, are often hit by cars. Lambs are never lost – their mother will be close by and you should leave them alone. Calves have a dangerous mother nearby.

Ticks

Ticks are common in areas of long vegetation such as bracken, long grass or bilberry. Here they wait for passing animals (including humans) to attach themselves to, feeding on their blood before dropping off. It is important to remember that there is a small chance of picking up a tick and an even smaller chance of developing Lyme disease; please refer to the Dartmoor National Park webpage for advice on ticks: <https://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/enjoy-dartmoor/planning-your-visit/safety-advice-for-outdoor-activities/tick-advice>

Taking Moor Care



In recent years there have been increasing pressures on Dartmoor. In the main, no one activity on its own may significantly affect Dartmoor, but the combined effects can be considerable. As well as its duties to protect and conserve the special qualities of Dartmoor, the National Park Authority has a duty to promote opportunities for their understanding and enjoyment.

Careful resource management is needed to ensure that these duties do not conflict with each other. Over the last twenty years or so, the National Park Authority has worked to manage recreational use on Dartmoor to avoid conflict and damage. However, the cumulative effect of millions of visitors each year is now beginning to affect those special qualities that visitors come to enjoy.

If you live on Dartmoor, or visit it regularly, you may have noticed that more and more tracks are visible in the landscape - especially radiating from car parks and leading up to tors; you may have noticed where the Authority has had to repair moorland footpaths and bridleways; you may have been asked to avoid certain sensitive areas in the moorland bird nesting season; and you no doubt have seen a considerable increase in the number of motor vehicles. Such problems also exist in other National Parks and other areas of the countryside.

We all need to act with Moor Care now to safeguard Dartmoor for the future. The National Park Authority relies on the co-operation of all who live, work and visit Dartmoor to help safeguard its special qualities for the present and future generations. As a visitor you can help by being aware of and caring for the environment and its special qualities you have come to enjoy.

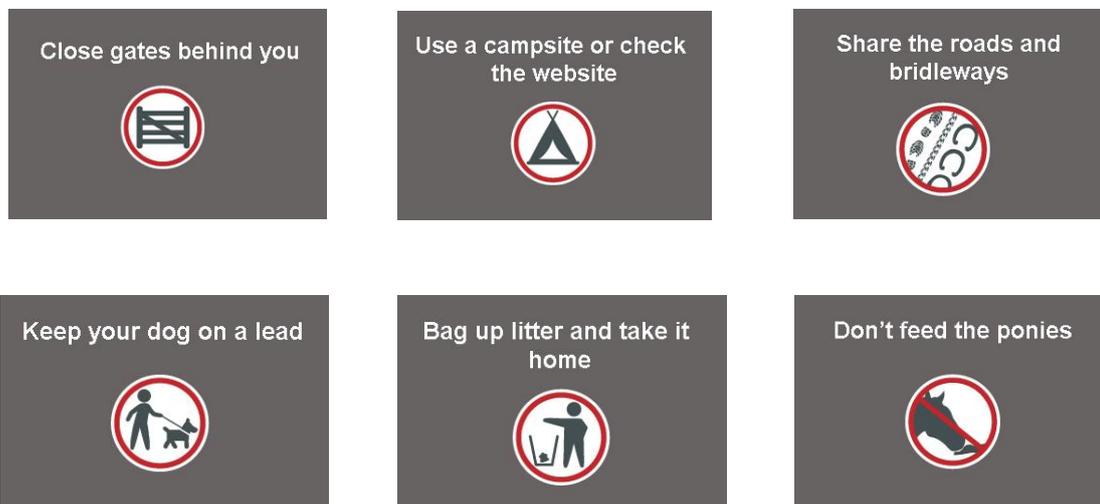
After a short spell of dry weather the moorland vegetation on Dartmoor can very quickly be at greater risk from wild fires. Unfortunately when fires occur there are serious impacts on the landscape and its biodiversity as well as the costs of extinguishment.

Therefore please take great care at all times with portable cooking stoves and fuel, magnifying glasses and bottles. These items have all been identified as potential sources of ignition that have caused moorland fires in various parts of the country.

Love Moor Life - follow the Ranger Code!

Our Rangers care passionately about Dartmoor; it's a unique protected landscape with rare wildlife and free roaming livestock and ponies.

Help them to keep Dartmoor special by following their Ranger Code – if they spot you following it you could win an on-the-spot prize! Don't worry if you are not spotted – you can also share your images on social media [#lovemoorlife](#) you could win one of our seasonal prizes!



Report an injured animal

All livestock including ponies are owned by local farmers and commoners. If you come across injured livestock please phone the Livestock Protection Officer on 07873 587561

Report uncontrolled dogs

Report uncontrolled dogs or sheep attacks directly to the police on 101 or the Livestock Protection Officer.

Please report all wildlife crime to the police on 101.



Camping

Lightweight camping is a traditional way of enjoying Dartmoor's remote areas, and if undertaken sensibly is entirely acceptable. Camping in less remote areas, particularly on roadsides, and bad camping practice anywhere, can cause problems of pollution and reduce the enjoyment of others. Under the Dartmoor Commons Act there is a byelaw designed to permit what is harmless, but control what is potentially damaging. It applies to all common land on Dartmoor (i.e. most of the unenclosed moorland), and this should be taken into account. **Please ensure that no more than two teams are camped in any wild location to comply with the National Park's guidance on low impact camping.** The National Park also require locations to be separated by at least 100m and be out of sight of roads.

Dartmoor Assessors Network camping advice

One of the great advantages of coming to Dartmoor is the wide availability of wild and basic campsites excellent for gold level expeditions, providing isolation and solitude key to a successful expedition. **The National Park website has an interactive Camping Map showing where you can, and cannot, legally camp wild. It can be found at:**

<http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/about-us/about-us-maps/new-camping-map>

We are very lucky on Dartmoor having 50% of the land within the National Park boundary accessible on foot. Some 32,500 hectares is common land which means that on most of this land you are free to wild camp anywhere (subject to local commons byelaws and firing restrictions). On another 7,000 hectares which was opened up in August 2005 under the Countryside and Public Rights of Way Act 2000, camping could be allowed if the landowner gives you permission.

Campsites

Grid Ref	Site Name	Contact Tel	Contact Email
Wild sites on access land that require landowner permission and subject to a charge are:			
SX 606 698	Nuns Cross Farm, Princetown	01822 852524	Nil
SX 635 843	Teignhead Farm	01647 433220	diane@moortownfarm.co.uk
SX 645 623	Piles Copse, Harford		lorna.lukesland@gmail.com
SX 646 733	Sherberton Farm, Hexworthy	01364 631276	wood@anton-coaker.co.uk
Farm field sites where camping is permitted subject to a charge are:			
SX 560 676	Gleniris Farm, Sheepstor	01822 852546	h.radmore@farmline.com
SX 605 755	Beardown Farm, Princetown	01822 890111	info@dartmoor-camping.co.uk
SX 605 913	East Okement Farm		eastokement@yahoo.co.uk
SX 662 878	South Creaber, Gidleigh	01647 432091	mimidaps@hotmail.com
SX 664 731	Huccaby Farm, Huccaby	01364 631533	shirleymudge@hotmail.com
SX 564 934	Betty Cottles, Okehampton	01837 55339	bookings@bettycottles.co.uk
SX 664 891	Moortown Farm, Gidleigh	01647 433220	diane@moortownfarm.co.uk
SX 668 738	Brimpts Farm, Dartmeet	01364 631450	info@brimptsfarm.co.uk
SX 668 791	Runnage Farm, Postbridge	01822 880222	
SX 674 858	Frenchbeer Farm, Chagford	01647 432427	Nil
SX 694 703	West Stoke Farm, Holne	01364 631286	mrsrachelfrench@hotmail.com
SX 698 689	Dodbrooke Farm, Holne	01364 631461	Nil
SX 699 668	Bowden Farm, Scoriton	07790 611289	cowsnsheepnponies@bowdenfarm.org.uk
SX 764857	Budleigh Farm, Morethn'sted	01647 440835	office@budleighfarm.co.uk

Please note that both Nuns Cross Farm and Teignhead Farm along with the area around Cullever Steps (SX 606 921) and an area around Gutter Tor, Ditsworthy Warren and the Scout Hut (SX 58 66, 58 67) get heavily used and therefore might not provide the isolation and tranquillity you expected.

There are also a range of other campsites available which can make excellent base campsites:

Grid Ref	Site Name	Contact Tel	Contact Email
SX 503 767	Harford Bridge, Peter Tavy	01822 810349	stay@harfordbridge.co.uk
SX 517 747	Higher Longford, Tavistock	01822 618672	Tavistock.Site@thefriendlyclub.co.uk
SX 528 889	Fox and Hounds, Bridestowe	01822 820206	info@foxandhoundshotel.com
SX 520 893	Glebe Park, Bridestowe	01837 861261	ali.young53@btinternet.com
SX 523 738	Langstone Manor, Tavistock	01822 613371	jane@langstonemanor.co.uk
SX 546 915	Bundu Camping Park Okehmpn	01837 861747	bundu@btconnect.com
SX 590 733	Plume of Feathers, Princetown	01822 890240	contact@theplumeoffeathersdartmoor.co.uk
SX 685 585	Cheston Camping Park, S. Brent	01364 72586	enquiries@chestoncaravanpark.co.uk
SX 717 750	Cockingford Campsite, Widecombe	01364 621258	Nil
SX 732 703	River Dart Country Pk, Ashb'ton	01364 652511	info@riverdart.co.uk
SX 742 664	Churchill Farm, Buckfastleigh	01364 642844	apedrick@btinternet.com
SX 742 923	Barley Meadow, Crockernwell	01647 281629	Nil
SX 748 855	Moretonhampstead Sports & Community Centre	01647 440107	sportandleisure@moretonhampstead-devon.co.uk
Camping barns and bunk houses in the Dartmoor area			
Grid Ref	Site Name	Contact Tel	Contact Email
SX 528 889	Fox and Hounds, Bridestowe	01822 820206	info@foxandhoundshotel.com
SX 591 745	Fox Tor Café, Princetown	01822 890238	www.foxtorcafe.com
SX 627 769	Powder Mills, Postbridge	01822 880277	martin@spirit-of-adventure.com
SX 641 584	Harford Bunkhouse & Camping	01752 691883	harfordbarns@icloud.com
SX 667 792	Runnage Farm, Postbridge	01822 880222	
SX 706 722	Lower Aish Farm, Poundsgate	01364 631229	loweraish@hotmail.com
SX 749 795	The Old House, Manaton	01647 221202	Nil
SX 751 861	Sparrowhawk Hostel, Moretonhampstead	01647 440318	ali@sparrowhawkbackpackers.co.uk

There are two Youth Hostels in the Dartmoor area at Okehampton contact 01837 53916 and Bellever on 01822 880227.

Weather information

One of the most important pieces of information you will need is an accurate weather forecast. Weathercall offers an extensive range of local, regional and national Met Office forecasts. Single forecasts for the day and the next 10 days ahead are available by calling the telephone numbers below.

National UK Forecast 09068 500 400
Devon and Cornwall 09068 500 404

Local weather forecasts for Devon are given on regularly the BBC Radio Devon and any warnings of severe weather are broadcast by them at the end of news bulletins.

There is a very useful interactive weather map available on www.bbc.co.uk/devon which gives a five day overview. At www.weathercall.co.uk you can receive your forecast by text. Other weather advice can be found on www.metoffice.gov.uk



Reporting a fire

In the event of an unattended moorland fire please phone 999 and ask for the Fire and Rescue Service.

The following information will be useful:-

Name of caller:

Mobile tel:

Location of fire including Ordnance Survey grid reference, any identifiable landmarks and nearest road access.

Grid Reference: SX

Information on wind direction would also be useful.

If possible, and at no risk to yourself, get a description of individuals lighting fires and of any vehicles.

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T1687rangeofmoorlandfires007/mec

MOORLAND FIRES

Advice for walkers, cyclists and riders on Dartmoor



Information

Not all moorland fires are out of control or illegal. Traditional swaling (controlled burning) to manage vegetation is permitted on Dartmoor between 1 October and 31 March.

If you see fire fighters or suitably equipped personnel who are clearly in attendance at a fire, please do not feel obliged to contact the Fire and Rescue Service. However, if you have any doubts please phone 999.

Precautions you can take to avoid causing accidental wild fires

Please ensure discarded cigarettes and matches are completely extinguished.

Do not light open fires at any time on access land.

Camping stoves and barbeques should not be used on open country designated under the *Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000*. In other moorland areas, where allowed, please site them on a firm level rock, away from combustible materials e.g. dried grass and heather etc. Dispose of barbeques responsibly, extinguishing charcoal first.

Please note: under the *Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000* it is possible that specific areas of Access Land may be closed when fire risk levels are high. Please take heed of any on site signs.

Personal safety

Be aware of recent weather conditions and the effect this may have had on the vegetation.

At times of high fire risk (fire risk levels can be obtained from Dartmoor National Park Authority Information Centres) plan escape routes, and be prepared to alter your route in the event of fire.

In the event of fire do not panic, stay calm, try to place wet ground/water courses or a road/substantial track between you and the fire and move up wind of the fire.

Be aware that wild fires can move faster than you can run and have been known to out run horses!

Visiting with your dog

Your dog will love all the different smells and exciting places to run about, but please remember that Dartmoor is a working landscape providing grazing for cattle, sheep and ponies, both on the commons and in enclosed fields. We kindly ask that DofE Leaders be responsible dog owners and follow our Love Moor Life advice.

Keep your dog on a lead

- During the lambing and ground nesting bird season 1 March – 31 July
- When near livestock
- During warm weather when there is a risk of adders in the undergrowth

Never let your dog chase animals or birds

- A dog chasing livestock can cause the sheep, cow or pony great distress
- A farmer can legally shoot a dog that is 'worrying' livestock
- Ground nesting birds, such as the skylark, meadow pipit and curlew can be scared away from their nest by a loose dog, meaning their eggs will get cold and the chicks die.

Clear up after your dog

- Bag it and bin it at home as there are no dog waste bins provided.

Countryside access with your dog

- On public rights of way, your dog should be under effective, close control. Please keep you and your dog to the line of the path and if livestock are present your dog should be on a lead
- On most areas of Access Land or common land your dog should be on a short fixed lead of no more than 2 metres between 1 March and 31 July. Outside of these times please keep your dog under effective control if grazing livestock is present.
- If cattle chase you, then it is safer to let your dog off the lead – don't risk getting hurt trying to protect it.
- At certain times, dogs may not be allowed on some areas of access land or may need to be kept on a lead. Please follow any official signs.
- Always clean up after your dog and dispose of any mess responsibly.
- Make sure your dog is regularly wormed to protect it, other people and farm animals

Dogs are welcome inside our National Park Visitor Centres at Haytor, Postbridge and Princetown - and there is always a bowl of water provided.

Reporting uncontrolled dogs

If you see any uncontrolled dogs whilst you are out on Dartmoor, please contact our Livestock Protection Officer on 07873 587561, giving details of the location, type of livestock (with brand or colour markings), nature of injury, description of dog and owner and a vehicle registration.

And finally!

We hope your participants enjoy their expedition on Dartmoor. If we can help in any way, please get in touch.

Dartmoor Expedition Co-ordinator

Robert Steemson

Tel: 01626 824526 after 17.30

Email: dexpsec@dartmoor.gov.uk

Website: www.dofe.org/dartmoor

Field Officers:

Helen Jenny

Tel: 01822 833048

Email: helenjenny@btinternet.com

Mary Harper

Tel: 01822 854603

Email: mary00harper@btopenworld.com