

ander round the picturesque harbour with its

pastel coloured houses, climb up Lantern Hill

to see the 14th-century chapel perched on top,

or discover Ilfracombe's stunning beaches and coves,

The town has lots of independent shops, nice cafés and

eateries, and numerous art and craft galleries to entice you. Try Ilfracombe Chocolate Emporium, truly a chocolate

including the famous Tunnels Beaches.

NATERMOUTH BAY

dolphins and seals when the tide is right. Opposite the harbour is Watermouth Castle

a museum of musical instruments and toys and delightful gardens.

ith outstanding views from the cliffs around this sheltered secluded

Coombe Martin

VALLEY OF THE ROCKS

ake the South West Coast Path out of Lynton to reach the Valley of the Rocks it's less than a mile and the cliff top views are simply out of this world.

Jagged rocks point skywards and feral goats roam freely, and often quite hair-raisingly, on the jagged cliff edges of this spectacular dry river valley. Here are some of England's highest sea cliffs with views that take your breath away.

There's Mother Meldrum's Café, public toilets and a picnic area at the Lynton end of the valley.

FORELAND POINT

here's a clifftop walk from the top of Countisbury Hill up towards Foreland Point for views all around that will simply take your breath away.

COUNTISBURY HILL

nother highlight of this breathtaking ride is the spectacular 2½ miles long drop down to sea level at Lynmouth from the top of Countisbury Hill, 1,300ft above.

The gradient at the foot is 1 in 4, but only for a short distance.

the tale of

Lorna Doone

his novel by R D Blackmore was published in 1869 and set

can explore the Doone Valley along miles of waymarked footpaths.

There's a circular walk which takes

in sites linked to the novel.

around the East Lyn Valley, or Doone Valley as it has become known. It tells the story of John Ridd, a farmer who finds love amid the religious and social turmoil of 17th-century England. He makes his way to the valley of the lawless Doones, where he is discovered by the beautiful Lorna. They form a bond that inspires John to rescue his beloved from his nasty archrival, Carver Doone, only for her to be shot dead at the altar on their wedding day. Blackmore's grandfather was Rector of Oare church, which is where the doomed marriage takes place. You

PORLOCK HILL

nce a real test for early cars and their drivers' skills, our powerful open-top bus makes light(ish) work of the notorious 1 in 4 incline in parts of Porlock Hill and its scary hairpin bends - all adds to the thrill of this fantastic ride!

As the steepest A-road in the UK, this section attracts cyclists and runners looking for a challenge. The road climbs some 700 feet (over 220 meters) in just under a mile, winding from the village up to the hazy open moor stretching out ahead.

WATCHET

verlooked by a 150 year old lighthouse, Watchet's ancient harbour is now a lovely marina, interesting to stroll round and boasting fantastic views across the Bristol channel. Several boats offer fishing trips.

Among the independent shops you'll find vintage and craft dealers, art shops and galleries; also studios in converted shipping containers on the quayside.

The Market House Museum tells stories of kings, queens, murderous knights, pirates, saints and even a famous singing sailor. And there's a boat museum.

> The West Somerset Railway station is right in the town.



WOODY BAY STATION LYNTON & BARNSTAPLE RAILWAY

ake a 25-minute ride to Killington Lane and back on a 2-mile round trip in restored heritage carriages behind a narrow-gauge steam locomotive - tickets are valid all day.

Opened in 1898 but closed in 1935, Woody Bay is the start of rebuilding one of the world's most famous and picturesque narrow-gauge railways the legendary Lynton & Barnstaple Railway.

LYNMOUTH

ows of picturesque fishing cottages, cafés and interesting shops cluster around the pretty harbour at the mouth of the West Lyn river.

On the guay at the end of the harbour is the Rhenish Tower, built in the 1860s to store salt water for indoor baths but later fitted with a light to act as a

See the other side for some of the fascinating stories from Lynmouth's history.

LYNTON

igh above Lynmouth is Lynton and the best way to get there (and great fun, so long as you have a head for heights) is to ascend on the cliff railway.

Opened in 1890, it is thought to be the highest and the steepest totally water-powered railway in the world. The views as you glide heavenwards are amazing. Lynton is an unspoilt town with some excellent independent shops and an impressive

To learn more about the area, visit the Lyn and Exmoor Museum.

PORLOCK

ying between the high rolling hills of Exmoor and the Bristol Channel sea, Porlock's main village street twists and turns between characterful cottages, traditional locally-owned shops and galleries, pubs and irrestible tearooms.

So why not enjoy a very West Country tradition in one of them, a delicious cream tea with homemade scones served with thick clotted cream and strawberry jam (cream on first, mind!), washed down with a pot of tea - scrumptious!

flower-bedecked prom lines the fine beach. There's a fishing quarter and historic harbour and, on the hill rising steeply behind the town, a 14th-century church with much-photographed historic

The main shopping street is a tree-lined avenue. Right by the front is Minehead Station, the end of the line for the West Somerset Railway, a 26-mile branch with both vintage steam and diesel trains throughout the season.

DUNSTER

ne of England's most intact medieval vil<u>lages</u> with a rich history is a short walk from the bus stop, but well worth the detour.

The National Trust's Dunster Castle, high on the hill overlooking the village with incredible views stretching over Exmoor and the Bristol Channel, was an ancient feudal stronghold turned into an opulent country home for the Luttrell family in the 19th century. Discover

Dunster also has a dovecote, tithe barn and a church with the longest rood screen in the country. You'll find plenty of tea rooms, gift shops and restaurants.

Right in the middle of the village is the impressive 17th-century Yarn Market, where village merchants once traded wool and cloth.



WILDLIFE & DINOSAUR PARK

estling in a valley with cascading streams and waterfalls, Devon's very own prehistoric park

It's home to exotic animals including African lions, baboons, lemurs, sea lions, penguins, meerkats and rare, white Hudson Bay wolves.

> There are free daily animal talks and don't There's a play area for kids and a café

wake up every hour, on the hour! and shop.

COOMBE MARTIN

 $ec{\mathsf{V}}$ is home to an abundance of exotic and indigenous wildlife plus the very latest in Dinosaur animatronics!

forget that T-rex and his friends





The Exmoor Coaster connects with both the West Somerset Railway at Minehead and the Lynton & Barnstaple Railway

near Parracombe. west-somerset-railway.co.uk

check out days and times



lyntonrail.co.uk



- Falmouth **COASTER**

We also have some great adventures by bus in Cornwall for you to enjoy.

Pick up a leaflet or go to our

website for more information

adventuresbybus.co.uk



LAND'S END

Atlantic COASTER

COASTER

towards Ilfracombe										runs	on b	lue d	ates
Blue Anchor Hoburne Holiday Park				0905	0935		1035						
Carhampton post office				0911	0941		1041						
Dunster Steep				0914	0944		1044						
Minehead Premier Inn				0917	0947		1047						
Minehead Butlins main gavte arr				0920	0950		1050						
Minehead Butlins main gate dep	0800	0830	0900	0930	1000	1030	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	1700
Minehead West Somerset Railway	0803	0833	0903	0935	1005	1035	1105	1205	1305	1405	1505	1605	1703
Minehead Avenue	0805	0835	0905	0937	1007	1037	1107	1207	1307	1407	1507	1607	1705
Bratton turn	8080	0838	0908	0942	1012	1042	1112	1212	1312	1412	1512	1612	1708
Selworthy turn opp	0813	0843	0913	0947	1017	1047	1117	1217	1317	1417	1517	1617	1713
Allerford bus shelter	0815	0845	0915	0949	1019	1049	1119	1219	1319	1419	1519	1619	1715
Porlock Doverhay car park	0820	0850	0920	0955	1025	1055	1125	1225	1325	1425	1525	1625	1720
Whitstone Post opp viewpoint	0829	0859	0929	1004	1034	1104	1134	1234	1334	1434	1534	1634	1729
Exmoor County Gate car park	0839	0909	0939	1014	1044	1114	1144	1244	1344	1444	1544	1644	1739
Countisbury Blue Ball Inn	0846	0916	0946	1021	1051	1121	1151	1251	1351	1451	1551	1651	1746
Lynmouth Lyndale coach park <i>arr</i>	0855	0925	0955	1030	1100	1130	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	1700	1755
Lynmouth Lyndale coach park <i>dep</i>	0900		1000				1200		1400		1600		
Lynton Castle Hill car park <i>arr</i>	0910		1010				1210		1410		1610		
Lynton Castle Hill car park <i>dep</i>	0915		1015				1215		1415		1615		
Barbrook bus shelter	0922		1022				1222		1422		1622		
Woody Bay station	0926		1026				1226		1426		1626		
Blackmoor Gate	0933		1033				1233		1433		1633		
Combe Martin Wildlife & Dinosaur Park	0940		1040				1240		1440		1640		
Combe Martin King Street Stores	0946		1046				1246		1446		1646		
Sandaway Beach opp holiday park	0951		1051				1251		1451		1651		
Watermouth Bay Watermouth Castle	0955		1055				1255		1455		1655		
Hele Bay opp Beach Road	0959		1059				1259		1459		1659		
Ilfracombe High Street Garage	1005		1105				1305		1505		1705		
Ilfracombe Harbour Ropery Road	1010		1110				1310		1510		1710		

towards Minehead										T GIT IS	on b	100 0	
Ilfracombe Harbour Ropery Road				1015	1115		1315			1515			_
Ilfracombe Wilder Road car park				1018	1118		1318			1518			
Hele Bay Beach Road				1025	1125		1325			1525			
Watermouth Bay opp Watermouth Castle				1030	1130		1330			1530			
Sandaway Beach holiday park				1035	1135		1335			1535			
Combe Martin beach				1040	1140		1540			1640			
Combe Martin opp Wildlife & Dinosaur Pk				1046	1146		1546			1646			
Blackmoor Gate				1053	1153		1353			1553			
Woody Bay station				1059	1159		1359			1559			
Barbrook opp bus shelter				1103	1203		1403			1603			
Lynton Castle Hill car park arr				1110	1210		1410			1610			
Lynton Castle Hill car park <i>dep</i>				1115	1215		1415			1615			
Lynmouth Lyndale coach park arr				1125	1225		1425			1625			
Lynmouth Lyndale coach park <i>dep</i>	0930	1040	1110	1140	1240	1340	1440	1540	1610	1640	1710	1810	
Countisbury opp Blue Ball Inn	0939	1049	1119	1149	1249	1349	1449	1549	1619	1649	1719	1819	
Exmoor opp County Gate car park	0948	1058	1128	1158	1258	1358	1458	1558	1628	1658	1728	1828	
Whitstone Post opp viewpoint	0955	1105	1135	1205	1305	1405	1505	1605	1635	1705	1735	1835	
Porlock opp Doverhay car park	1005	1115	1145	1215	1315	1415	1515	1615	1645	1715	1745	1845	
Allerford bus shelter	1011	1121	1151	1221	1321	1421	1521	1621	1651	1721	1751	1851	
Selworthy turn	1014	1124	1154	1224	1324	1424	1524	1624	1654	1724	1754	1854	
Bratton turn	1018	1128	1158	1228	1328	1428	1528	1628	1658	1728	1758	1858	
Minehead Parade	1025	1135	1205	1235	1335	1435	1535	1635	1705	1735	1805	1905	
Minehead West Somerset Railway	1027	1137	1207	1237	1337	1437	1537	1637	1707	1737	1807	1907	
Minehead Butlins main gate arr	1030	1140	1210	1240	1340	1440	1540	1640	1710	1740	1810	1910	
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Minehead Premier Inn								1642	1712		1812		
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Blue Anchor Hoburne Holiday Park		0935	1035						
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Dunster Steep		0944	1044						
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Minehead Butlins main gate arr		0950	1050						
Minehead Butlins main gate dep	0900	1000	1100	1200	1300	1400	1500	1600	
Minehead West Somerset Railway	0903	1005	1105	1205	1305	1405	1505	1605	
Minehead Avenue	0905	1007	1107	1207	1307	1407	1507	1607	
Bratton turn	0908	1012	1112	1212	1312	1412	1512	1612	
Selworthy turn opp	0913	1017	1117	1217	1317	1417	1517	1617	
Allerford bus shelter	0915	1019	1119	1219	1319	1419	1519	1619	
Porlock Doverhay car park	0920	1025	1125	1225	1325	1425	1525	1625	
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Exmoor County Gate car park	0939	1044	1144	1244	1344	1444	1544	1644	
Countisbury Blue Ball Inn	0946	1051	1151	1251	1351	1451	1551	1651	
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Dunster Steep	0944		
Minehead Premier Inn	0947		
Minehead Butlins main gate arr	0950		
Minehead Butlins main gate dep	1000	1300	1600
Minehead West Somerset Railway	1005	1305	160
Minehead Avenue	1007	1307	1607
Bratton turn	1012	1312	1612
Selworthy turn opp	1017	1317	1617
Allerford bus shelter	1019	1319	1619
Porlock Doverhay car park	1025	1325	162
Whitstone Post opp viewpoint	1034	1334	1634
Exmoor County Gate car park	1044	1344	1644
Countisbury Blue Ball Inn	1051	1351	165
Lynmouth Lyndale coach park	1100	1400	1700
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Lynmouth Lyndale coach park Countisbury opp Blue Ball Inn Exmoor opp County Gate car park	1110 1119 1128	1410 1419 1428	1710 1719 1728

this journey runs Sunday 29 October 2023 only

n the night of 12 January 1899, the Forrest Halls

was sailing from Bristol to Liverpool with 13 crew

to run the ship ashore at Porlock. It had been under tow, but the cable had snapped and the rudder washed away in

The ferocity of the storm meant the lifeboat could not

put out to sea. Coxswain Jack Crocombe proposed the lifeboat be carried overland and launched from the more

sheltered Porlock Weir. This was a 13-mile journey which

Around 100 local people gathered to haul the *Louisa*, 10m

The men finally reached the sea at 6.30am after a nearly

11-hour journey. Tired and hungry, they immediately launched the boat, reaching the *Forrest Hall* an hour later.

This courageous endeavour eventually enabled all the

seamen to be rescued. This still stands as one of the

most challenging feats undertaken in RNLI history.

The overland journey was re-enacted in daylight on

Although the roads had improved, the weather was

12 January 1999 to commemorate its centenary.

almost as poor as it was in 1899!

long and weighing 10 tons, aided by 18 horses. Six men were sent ahead with shovels to widen parts of the road.

included a quarter gradient climb of 1,400 feet over

Countisbury Hill and a trek across Exmoor.

SOS telegram at 7.52pm

the strong winds. Lynmouth Lifeboat Station received the

and 5 apprentices. The stormy weather threatened

	Lynmouth Lyndale coach park	1100	1400	1700
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	Lynmouth Lyndale coach park	1110	1410	1710
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	Exmoor opp County Gate car park	1128	1428	1728
	Whitstone Post opp viewpoint	1135	1435	1735
	Porlock opp Doverhay car park	1145	1445	1745
	Allerford bus shelter	1151	1451	1751
	Selworthy turn	1154	1454	1754
	Bratton turn	1158	1458	1758
	Minehead Parade	1205	1505	1805
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	Minehead Butlins main gate arr	1210	1510	1810
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	30	31					

tucked behind hazy skylines and legends and folklore woven into the landscape. On a sunlit day it is soft and gentle; on a day of storms it can seem wild and forbidding. Our switchback ride from the beaches of the Somerset coast takes us up onto what can feel like the roof of the world, with tantalising glimpses over Exmoor one way and far over the Bristol Channel to South Wales the other, before descending the steep incline to the little harbour at Lynmouth. In high summer the route continues up

xmoor is high, broody and gloriously

— untamed, with ancient woodlands

into the Victorian town of Lynton and on through more spectacular scenery to Coombe Martin, Watermouth Bay and



There is no better way to get to know this landscape than on our Exmoor Coaster open-top bus, truly one of Britain's most scenic bus rides with a thrilling ascent and descent of the famous twisty Porlock Hill. Hope you have a head for heights!

Exmoor day pass

Unlimited travel on the Exmoor Coaster and Exmoor Sunseeker all day

under 19 family



£24



he date of 15 August 1952 will always be remembered in Lynmouth, with many observing that the clouds gathering over Exmoor were purple black. Within hours, one of the most violent precipitations this country has ever seen began. The bogs on top of Exmoor, already waterlogged, quickly filled to overflowing and between 7pm and midnight it just rained and rained and rained.

Lynmouth would soon be a disaster zone, for that night more than 90 million tons of water cascaded down the steep narrow valleys of the twin rivers Lyn converging on the small harbour village. It didn't stand a chance,

Overnight, more than 100 buildings were destroyed or seriously damaged, along with 28 of the 31 bride 38 cars were washed out to sea and 34 people died, with a further 420 made homeless.

Similar floods had been recorded at Lynmouth in 1607 and 1796. After the 1952 disaster, Lynmouth village was rebuilt, including diverting the river around the village. A group of houses on the bank of the East Lyn river was destroyed and never rebuilt. Today, there's a memorial garden there.





common sight on Exmoor, the ponies are only wild in the sense that the herds roam freely on the moor. They all belong to someone and there are around 20 different herds. However, you must resist touching or feeding them.

In summer they have fine, glossy coats but in winter their coats are much thicker. Foals are born in the spring and early summer and spend the summer months running with their mothers and building up a store of fat to take them through the hard winter ahead.

In the autumn the herds are driven down to the farms, to be inspected and micro-chipped. Foals are weaned and either sold or returned to the moor for the winter.