

HISTORIC INN WITH BEDROOMS AA ROSETTE WINNING RESTAURANT



Featured in Tom Chessyre's Top 6 British Inns

"Cosy fires, first rate food, fine ales"

The Times

"The food and service was excellent -It is really how a West Country Inn should be!"

Lord Sebastian Coe

"Thomas Hardy called the Inn the Sow and Acorn and let Tess rest a night in the village; had he visited today he would have let her stay longer"

Alastair Sawday's special Places to Stay

Finalist in the Taste of Dorset Awards 2010 –
'Best Dining Pub'

**101 things to do in and around
The ACORN INN
Evershot**

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ACORN INN

“As much a place for locals to sup pints of Otter ale and swap stories by the fire in the flag stoned bar, as for foodies to sample some good food sourced within 25 miles.”

An extract from Alastair Sawdays special places to stay

The ACORN INN OF OLD

The Acorn boasts a worthy history. Built as a coaching inn in the 16th century it was originally called the Kings Arms and brewed its own ales with water drawn from the source of the river Frome.

When the Acorn was built there were 6 pubs in the village! Now we are the only one remaining.

It is believed that Judge Jeffreys used what is now the lounge as a court for sentencing local convict. They were hanged at the red signpost on the way to Benville.

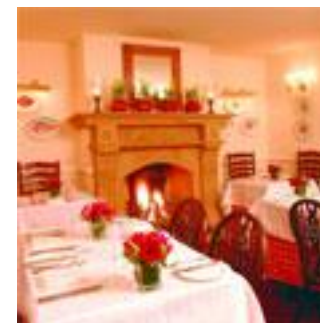
Thomas Hardy's 'Tess of the D'Urbervilles' is set in the immediate area. Evershot is referred to as Evershead and the Acorn

was called 'The Sow and Acorn'. Tess walked many miles to meet Angel Clare's parents, stopping halfway in Evershead and breakfasting at Tess Cottage just next to the church. All of our bedroom names are derived from the book.

The Acorn also features as 'The Sow & Acorn' in two of Hardy's other powerful stories: In 'Interlopers at the Knap' Philip Hall collected Sally's dress that had been left here by the carrier. And in 'The First Countess of Wessex' Squire Dornell's man Tupcombe sat in the inglenook in the hope of hearing news of Betty.

EAT

We start serving breakfast at 8am followed by lunch at 12.00-2.00pm and dinner from 7.00 to 9.30pm. There are several tempting menus to choose from including bar snacks. Fresh fish, game in season and carefully selected meat dishes feature on all menus. The ingredients are always fresh, sustainably farmed and where possible locally sourced. We are very proud to have retained our AA rosette award for excellence since 2002.



DRINK

The Inn's owners are fortunate enough to possess one of the world's finest vineyards - Bouchard Finlayson in the Western Cape, South Africa. Multi-award winning wine maker Peter Finlayson brings us Burgundian-inspired Pinot Noirs and Chardonnays. These much sought after wines enjoy an elegance and flavour that will surprise and delight.

We have also taken a lot of care and time choosing and sampling (!) all the other wines on the wine list as well as the variety of local real ales, ciders and beers in the bar.

In addition we have 15 different malt whiskies, 6 ports and a variety of gins and other spirits to satisfy every taste.

RELAX

Open fires, soft sofas, carefully chosen paintings and furnishings all add to the welcoming atmosphere of the Acorn. Relax and set the world to rights in our traditional village bar, the wood panelled Hardy bar adjoining the restaurant or in our comfortable lounge.



WELLNESS

We are fortunate to have the Summer Lodge Spa just directly opposite, providing an indoor pool, sauna, gym and Jacuzzi as well as treatment rooms. Acorn guests can use the facilities at a discounted rate -

booking for treatments before your stay is advised.

WORK

All of our bedrooms and public areas have WiFi access and modems.

For meetings and conferences our skittle alley can comfortably accommodate up to 60 delegates. We can provide audio visual equipment and our Chefs will be happy to provide a variety of buffet menus or seated meals as required.

GETTING MARRIED

We regularly hold small wedding receptions at the Acorn. Evershot Church is a short stroll away and we would be delighted to arrange simple canapé receptions or a more formal meal to appeal to all tastes.

SLEEP

There are 10 individually and sumptuously decorated bedrooms with recently refurbished modern bathrooms, Penhaligon toiletries, flat screen

televisions with freeview and Sky, telephones, beverage making facilities and hair dryers.



LOCATION

Distances

From London – 130 miles
From Bristol – 50 miles
Bath – 50 miles
From Bournemouth – 40 miles
From Dorchester – 13 miles

By train

London Waterloo to Yeovil Junction:
2 hours 15 minutes

By Car

London to Evershot: 2.5 – 3 hours

Airports

London Heathrow - 2.5 hours

Bournemouth International - 1 hour

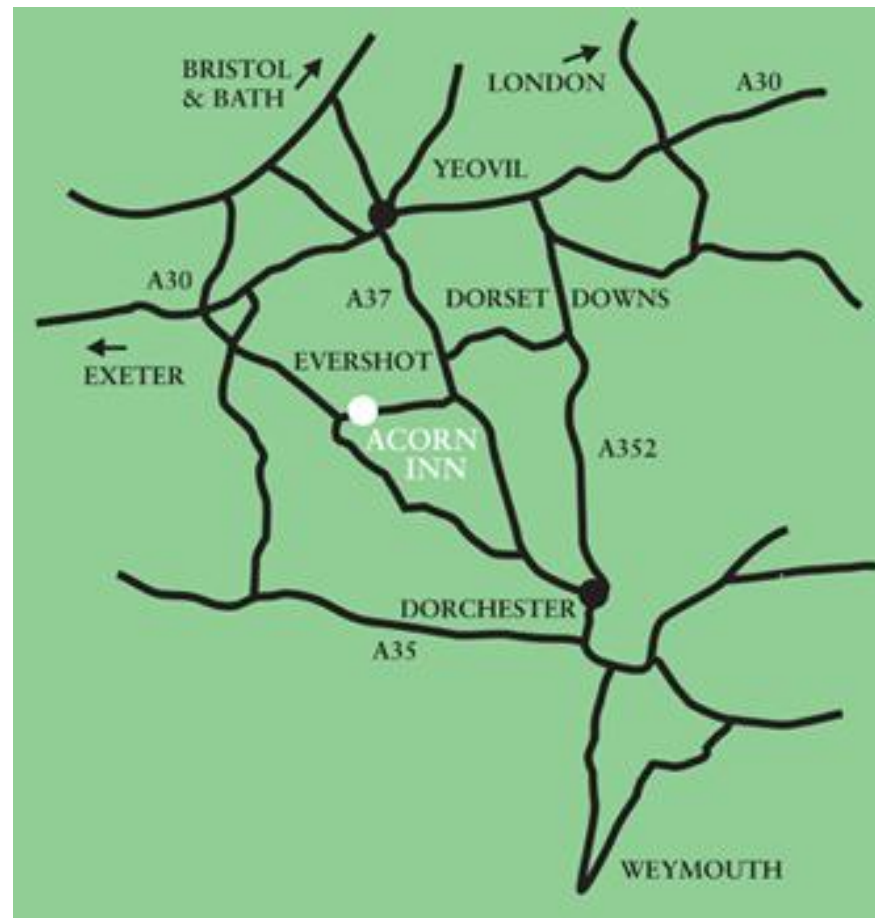
Bristol International – 1.5 hours

Exeter International - 1.5 hours

GPS Coordinates for Acorn Inn:

50° 50' 18.58 N

2° 36' 23.25 W



THE VILLAGE OF EVERSNOT

Just less than three hours drive from London, West Dorset is steeped in history and has many areas of outstanding natural beauty, including mile upon mile of English Heritage coastline.

Eversnot is the quintessential English village, with a church, village shop, bakery, hotel, pub and a magnificent deer park. The centre of the village has remained largely unchanged in the last 150 years.

Historically Eversnot began as a Boar pen around 1,100 years ago and as the source of the river Frome is located just behind the church, the population grew rapidly. The head of the well was restored by villagers as a millennium project in 2000.

Population growth has dropped in the last century and today it is around 200.

With the exception of the Great Fire in 1865 Eversnot has not had a particularly dramatic history but we are lucky enough to have some rather interesting buildings.

SUMMER LODGE



Summer Lodge, our sister hotel just opposite, was built in 1798 as a dower house by Henry Fox-Strangeways, 2nd Earl of Ilchester. It was enlarged in 1893 with parts of the building designed by Thomas Hardy - before becoming a writer he trained as an architect.

ST. OSMUNDS CHURCH



The first church to stand on this site was of Norman character and was built in the 12th-century, about the time of Richard Coeur de Lion. Very little remains of the original edifice except for the chancel arch, which was rebuilt between the north

aisle and the organ chamber in the 19th century, and part of the tower arch.

One of the earliest remnants of the fittings in the first church is the Norman font, although the pedestal, in the form of a cross, is 19th-century.

19th-century reconstruction

The arcade on the north side of the nave is 15th-century, and it would appear that the ancient building was modified during that period so as to comprise a nave, north aisle, the lower section of a west tower, north and south transepts and chancel. During the 19th-century the church was extensively rebuilt, but the reconstruction carefully followed the style of the 15th-century.

The chancel, which had been rebuilt in 1768 was considered by the Victorians to be in a debased style. This was therefore pulled down and replaced in the style of the 15th-century. In addition to the new and enlarged chancel the church was given a new south aisle, a new south door with a stone canopy, and a new south

arcade, which is an extremely successful copy of the 15th-century north arcade.

The tower was extended from the level of the belfry upwards and given a new west door and window during the period of Victorian reconstruction.

Fittings

The Bells

The four original bells were recast in 1775, and two more were added for a total cost of £100. The tenor bell bears the words: 'I to the church the living call and to the grave do summon all.'

The Clock

The clock was designed by EB Dennison, the designer of Big Ben, and was built by EJ Dent, Clockmaker to the Queen. It was presented to the village by the third Earl of Ilchester in 1853 when the dials were installed in the then newly constructed spirelet.

The Piscina

This is at the east end of the south aisle and, like the font, is a survivor from the medieval church.

The Chalice Priest

St Osmund's church remembers one of its former rectors, William Grey, who was the rector from 1511 to 1524. On the north side of the chancel, just above the communion rails is a small brass which is a memorial to William Grey. It shows the rector wearing the eucharistic vestments and holding a chalice. 'Chalice Priest' brasses are very rare, with perhaps two in Dorset and only twelve in the whole of England. Beneath the brass is an inscription in Latin: 'Pray for the soul of William Grey formerly rector of this church who died on the 18th day of March in the year of our Lord 1524, on whose soul may God have mercy. Amen.'

The Reredos

Behind the altar, on the east wall of the chancel, is a panelled oak reredos with a brass cross in the centre and four brass panels depicting the symbols of the four evangelists: Matthew (angel), Mark (lion), Luke (ox), John (eagle).

George Crabbe, rector and poet

George Crabbe, who was rector of the parish from 1783 to 1789, is regarded as one of our great national poets. He had a

sympathetic understanding of country people, and his poems of country life present a realistic picture of what it was truly like to be a poor cottager in the so called 'good old days':

*Go then, and see them rising with the sun
Through a long course of daily toil to run,
Like him to make the plenteous harvest grow,
And yet not share the plenty they bestow.*

And he contrasts the 'Humble Cot' of romantic painting and fiction with the reality:

*Go, if the peaceful cot your praises share,
Go look within, and ask if peace be there.*

MELBURY HOUSE



The magnificent Melbury House sits comfortably within the deer park at the end of the village. This estate has been the seat of the Strangways family since 1500. The house was rebuilt in 1546 and has remained in the same family since then. It passed from the Strangways heiress to Stephen Fox, created Viscount Ilchester, 1741, who took the additional name of Strangways in right of his wife's mother's mother. When Horace Walpole visited Melbury, he admired the paintings and tapestries in "apartments most richly and abundantly furnished".

The pioneer of photography, Henry Fox Talbot, was born in the house. Thomas Hardy featured Melbury House, renaming it "King's Hintock Court", in the story of "The Duke's Reappearance" in *A Changed*

Man and Other Tales and in *A Group of Noble Dames*. There is a public footpath which leads through the deer park and past Melbury House. Please ask at reception for printed directions.

THE SCHOOL

The village school was founded by Henry Stickland in 1628 to "to teach men true learning and the fear of God". It is a Church of England primary school.

THE VILLAGE BAKERY

There has been a bakery in Evershot for 150 years. They specialise in artisan bread which has been made in the same way in all that time. Approximately 15 years ago the staff at the bakery bought it themselves and have been running it successfully ever since with shops in Beaminster, Chard and Lyme Regis.

PRESENT DAY

In more recent times Evershot has provided the location and film set for the recent adaptation of Jane Austen's 'Emma' starring Gwyneth Paltrow, Toni Collette and many others.

Today many of the houses in the village still belong to The Ilchester Estate (Melbury House). These are identified by their distinctive blue painted front doors which you can also see in the coastal villages, like Abbotsbury, as they are also part of the same Estate.

In 2005 the Tollman family (owners of Red Carnation hotels) bought Summer Lodge hotel. They so fell in love with the village that they also bought The Acorn, the only pub in their collection, as well as the village shop.

THINGS TO DO ON THE DOORSTEP

WALKS

Evershot is a fantastic base for many of the best walking and cycling routes across Dorset. We are blessed to be surrounded by some of the most beautiful scenery which is filled with foot and bridle paths. Ordnance survey maps are available in reception for you to borrow to aid your exploring!

WALK THROUGH MELBURY PARK

The main walk through the 900 acre deer park is approximately 4.5 miles and we provide directions from reception. The less energetic can take a leisurely 1 mile stroll just to the house and back – there's a metalled road (with cattle grids). Please note that no vehicles or bikes are permitted on this private road.



AFTERNOON TEA AT SUMMER LODGE



Summer Lodge afternoon teas are famous and once you have tried them you will know why. The Afternoon tea menu is on the next page.

VILLAGE HISTORY WALK

Ray Wilton, a gentleman who has lived in the village for many years gives Evershot village history tours. Please ask in reception for details.

A VISIT TO SUMMER LODGE SPA



The spa is located just opposite us behind Summer Lodge hotel. Their facilities

include an indoor pool, sauna, Jacuzzi, treatment rooms and gym.

OPENING HOURS:

Spa Treatments:

Monday to Sunday - 9am to 7pm

Spa Facilities:

Monday to Sunday - 7am to 9pm

Acorn guests are extremely welcome to use the spa facilities for a special price of £15.00 per person, per session.

The Spa also offer an extensive list of treatments. This can be found on http://www.redcarnationhotels.com/dynamic/downloads/document/treatment_list_sl_2010.pdf or in the spa brochure located in the guest file in each room.



Summer Lodge

COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL, RESTAURANT AND SPA

Afternoon Tea Menu

In Britain, tea became fashionable during the 18th century, partly due to the growth of English Tea Gardens, where tea was served to musical accompaniment. To quell the pangs of hunger that developed between luncheon and dinner, in 1840, the Duchess of Bedford served a selection of finger sandwiches, cakes and pastries, and afternoon tea became tradition.

At Summer Lodge, we traditionally serve our afternoon tea selection on étagères. Our restaurant team will arrive at your table to attend to your needs. Simply decide whether you wish to indulge in our Full Afternoon Tea, or our classic Dorset Cream Tea, both of which are accompanied by your choice of blended tea or freshly ground coffee.

Full Afternoon Tea

A delicious array of cakes, freshly baked scones with Dorset clotted cream, meringues, and delicious tartlets from our patisserie and freshly prepared finger sandwiches.

£ 18.00 per person

Dorset Cream Tea

Two freshly baked scones served
with butter, clotted cream and strawberry jam

£ 10.00 per person

Available from 3.30pm to 5.30 pm daily and 4.00 pm to 5.30 pm on Sunday

All Prices are inclusive of VAT at the current rate

Coffee Selection

Freshly brewed coffee (house blend), Espresso, Cappuccino,
Café Latte, Decaffeinated
and Hot Chocolate

Colombian Supremo

A gourmet Arabica, non-bitter, non-acidic and well-rounded coffee.

Kenya AA

A finest Kenyan coffee, sharp acidity, stoic solid body
and smooth penetrating flavour

Tea Selection

English Breakfast Tea

The all-time classic

Earl Grey

A black tea from China, scented with oil of Bergamot

Green Tea

A light, fresh tasting tea that is golden in colour
and packed full of antioxidants

Herbal Infusion

Fresh or Dried Peppermint, Camomile, Blackcurrant,
Ginseng and Vanilla, Lemon and Ginger

Champagne Selection by the Glass

Prosecco £7.50

Summer Lodge Champagne £10

Jacquard Rose £12.50

Veuve Clicquot Grande Dame £19.50

LOCAL TOWNS & VILLAGES OF INTEREST

Beaminster

This small town, nestling in the valleys of West Dorset, grew in medieval times from an agricultural settlement to a market town, manufacturing wool cloth and also producing flax and hemp for rope and net making.

The town was devastated by fire three times in the 17th and 18th centuries, so the centre shows architecture from the late 18th and early 19th century. The 'Julie' memorial in the middle of the square was built in 1906.

Directions: Turn right out of car park onto West Hill and continue to crossroads (A356). Go straight over onto the B3163. On entering Beaminster, at T-junction turn right onto Prout Hill - A3066 (signposted Crewkerne). This will take you to the pretty square at the centre of the town.

Bridport

History, farming and commerce all combine in the narrow streets. Dating from the 9th or 10th century, Bridport lies where the rivers Brit and Askers meet. By the early 13th century the town had become the country's most important rope making centre. Net making soon followed, securing the town's fame and fortune.

The net and rope making trade required long and narrow walks for the ropes to be pulled, twisted and tightened. A large area behind the main street remained undeveloped because of these walks and it is the main reason for the T shape of the town.

A market has been held regularly here for over 1000 years and the stalls line the wide streets twice weekly (Wednesday and Saturday), a right confirmed in Tudor times by Elizabeth I. Farmers' markets are also held regularly and are a great way to purchase goods direct from the producers.

Directions: Turn right out of car park onto West Hill and continue to crossroads (A356). Go straight over onto the B3163. On entering Beaminster; at T-junction, turn left for Bridport. Continue straight through small village of Melplash. On entering Bridport; at first roundabout go straight over and at second roundabout go right, which will take you onto one of the two main streets in the town.

Dorchester



Dorchester dates back to Roman times with a garrison based there in AD70. Part of a Roman Villa still remains within the town and has a visitor centre nearby. When the Romans left the town became a Saxon mint – until the Norman conquest.

Dorchester was Thomas Hardy's 'Casterbridge'; the poet and author was born in 1840 at Higher Bockhampton near the town. He was schooled and lived there most of his life and the surrounding area became the inspiration for much of his work. There are many places around Dorchester connected with Hardy and his stories. His fictional land 'The Vale of Little Dairies' based on the local area features in his classic 'Tess of the D'Urbervilles' the inspiration for our bedroom names.

Dorchester has plenty of cafes, small shops, 18th century houses, broad walks and parks. The main shopping streets have a network of arcades and being a market town it has a feel of past times.

Directions: Left out of car park, drive down Evershot Fore Street and continue to T-junction (A37), turn right and straight on until Dorchester.

Lyme Regis

This pretty seaside town was the setting for 'The French Lieutenant's Woman' by

local author John Fowles and for Jane Austen's 'Persuasion'.

The steep streets are built on some of the most unstable land in Britain and the surrounding coastline is prone to rock falls and landslides. The blue lias rock capped with sandstone has a great number of dinosaur bones buried within it. Because of this many people come to the area for fossil hunting. (Please note that it is dangerous to climb on the rocks without professional supervision).

The Cobb, which is the most recognizable landmark on this stretch of coast, was built to provide a safe harbour protecting Lyme from the south westerly storms and a port for the numerous trawler men and yachts people who come for the 'sport'.



Sherborne

Founded by the Saxons, Sherborne is a town steeped in history. Its centuries old streets hide all manner of treasures just waiting to be explored. The beautiful abbey with its delicate fan vaulting (some of the earliest in England) and stained glass window is a must see.

On the edge of town is the late 16th century Sherborne Castle. It was built by Sir Walter Raleigh in 1594, when the timeworn Old Castle of the 12th century, facing it across the river Yeo, proved impossible to redevelop into one comfortable residence. The result is more stately home than castle and contains a fine collection of art, porcelain and furniture.

The town is well known for its fine art and antique shops and there is also the twice-weekly open-air market on Cheap Street.

Directions: Turn left out of car park, drive down Evershot Fore Street and continue to T-junction (A37), turn left towards

Yeovil. On entering Yeovil, follow the A30 to Sherborne.

West Bay

One mile south of Bridport is West Bay, setting for the BBC TV series 'Harbour Lights'. Here nestled between the dramatic East and West cliffs, this pretty seaside village still welcomes fishing trawlers into its harbour.

From here the beautiful Dorset Coastline stretches away, west to the fossil rich Jurassic cliffs of Charmouth and Lyme Regis and to the east, the great curve of Chesil Bank begins, taking you all the way to Weymouth and Portland.



LOCAL MARKETS

Markets take place in the local towns each week as detailed below:

| | |
|------------|---|
| Bridport | Wednesday and Saturday |
| Chard | Saturday |
| Crewkerne | Wednesday |
| Dorchester | Wednesday morning |
| Shaftsbury | Thursday |
| Sherborne | Thursday and Saturday |
| Weymouth | Thursday |
| Yeovil | Tuesday for crafts and Friday for cattle and general |
| Poundbury | Farmers Market - 1 st Saturday of every month |



ACTIVITIES

GOLF

Halstock Golf Club
18 Hole Course
Halstock
Tel: 01935 891747
www.halstockgolfclub.co.uk

CameDown Golf Club
Dorchester
(18 hole)
Tel: 01305 813494
Pro shop (For tee reservations)
Tel: 01305 812670
Tee reservations should be made the day before playing
Handicap certificates preferred but not essential.

Bridport and West Dorset Golf Club
8 Hole
Burton Bradstock Road, Bridport
Tel: 01308 421095
Please ask reception to check the club's website for dates and availability of tees on a particular day.
www.bridportgolfclub.org.uk

Yeovil Golf Club
18 Hole and 9 Hole Courses
Sherborne Road, Yeovil
Tel: 01935 422965
Pro shop (For Tee reservations) Tel: 01935 473763
Non members should provide their handicap certificates

HORSE RIDING

The Cattistock Riding Stables
01308 863006

Hillview Riding Centre
01460 72731

LAKE FISHING

Revels Fishing Farm, Buckland Newton
01300 345301

SHOOTING

Clay pigeon
Southern Counties Leisure
01935 83666

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

Henley Hillbillies
Archery, pistol shooting, dune buggies, badger watching, hovercrafts and quad bikes
01300 345923

Hot Air Ballooning
01460 234597

Llama Trekking
01308 868674



Alex and I have summarised our top

GREAT THINGS TO DO WHILE STAYING AT THE ACORN

A walk through the Melbury Estate Deer Park. Situated at the end of the village (please ask reception for printed directions) enjoy a gentle stroll or bracing walk through the Dorset countryside. For Alex and I this is our favourite walk in Dorset and it is a bonus that it is right on our doorstep. The beauty of the park is second to none and the combination of deer in the park with a working farm makes the walk interesting as well as beautiful.

[Burton Bradstock](#). Visit the National Trust protected Burton Bradstock Beach (there is no entrance fee) and have the most fantastic fresh fish lunch, looking out to sea, at the award winning [Hive Café](#). We discovered the Hive about two years ago, following recommendations by friends. The fish, displayed fresh, is amazing, while the atmosphere is very relaxed and informal. The view is beyond words – the fact you can't book a table means you'll probably have ample time to savour it.

Children can run along the beach and build sandcastles, dogs are allowed on the beach between October and May. There are wonderful coastal footpaths either side of the Hive on which dogs are very welcome all year round.



The Hive Cafe

Coastal Drive to [Abbotsbury](#). Take in the stunning views over the Jurassic Coast towards Abbotsbury. Once you have arrived why not have a Dorset cream tea in one of the little cafes or have a wander around the breathtakingly beautiful [Abbotsbury sub-tropical gardens](#). Given the choice we will always take one of the quieter paths home – it takes longer but the views make it well worth while. Sweeping vistas down to the sea and

rolling hills make it beautiful at any time of year. The gardens at Abbotsbury are wonderful and we love spending hours wandering through discovering new nooks and secret alcoves every time we go.

Thomas Hardy landmarks are all over West Dorset. You may be keen to explore Hardy's Dorset – beginning in Evershot here at the Acorn (called the 'Sow and Acorn' in Tess of the d'Urbervilles), perhaps visit [Hardy's house \(max Gate\)](#) and [Admiral Hardy's monument](#) which gives you a 360 degree view of Dorset. For Hardy fans there is endless information and items of interest for you to enjoy. It is easy to allow yourself to travel back and enjoy Dorchester, or Casterbridge, from Hardy's perspective.

Choose from some of the many relaxing massages and treatments at the [Summer Lodge Spa](#), just opposite us. Completely unwind in the pool, Jacuzzi and sauna.

West Dorset is littered with Hardy landmarks. Start your exploration of his Wessex landscapes in Evershot here at the Acorn, then visit Hardy's house (Max Gate) before going on to Dorchester, or Casterbridge, as Hardy call it. The list of sites associated with him

and his writing is endless. However, Admiral Hardy's monument is not one of them! It gives you a 360 degree view of Dorset, but it commemorates seafarer made famous by Nelson's last words – "Kiss me Hardy".

The spectacular Lulworth Cove and Durdle Door are a short distance away. Lulworth Cove is famous for its fossilised remains and although it takes some effort to get to it is well worth the walk. Durdle Door is a breathtaking natural arch, eroded by wind and tide over thousands of years - picture postcard perfect.



Montacute

[Mapperton](#), [Kingston Maurward](#), [Kingston Lacy](#), [Montacute](#), [Minterne](#), and [Fonde Abbey](#) are just some of the stunning gardens and historic houses all within a short drive. We

are also very lucky to have a large variety of museums and attractions locally such as the [Fleet Air Arm](#), [Haynes Motor Museum](#), [Monkey World](#), [Bovington Tank Museum](#), [Tutankhamun Exhibition](#) and the [Terracotta Warrior Museum](#).



Concorde exhibit at Fleet Air Arm

Finding things to do on wet afternoons is really easy here as we are fortunate to have so many quality and varied attractions on our doorstep. We take our little boy to Monkey World and Kingston Maurward because he loves to see the animals and then I am allowed to go to the Motor museum and the Fleet Air Arm museum. Alex is happy in the

Tutankamen museum or we all enjoy the beautiful houses in the area.

The Famous Cerne Giant is only a 10-minute drive away. Whether you believe him to be an ancient monument or a more recent parody of Oliver Cromwell you cannot but be amazed at the scale of the giant. He dominates his hillside and draws admirers from around the world to marvel at him.



Cerne giant

[Stonehenge](#) is some 5000 years old, a marvel of engineering that still baffles scientists and indeed visitors to this day.. It is open throughout the year, but if you want to walk around the perimeter check times with the

visitor centre.



Stonehenge

FAMILY FUN!

ABBOTSBURY CHILDREN'S FARM & ABBOTSBURY SWANNERY

These are two separate attractions but situated in the same town. When you arrive at one you are offered the chance for entry at them both if you wish. The Children's Farm has goat racing and feeding, pony rides, bale mountain, plenty of outdoor play structures and a children's tractor area.

The Swannery was one of the film locations of 'Harry Potter & the Deathly Hallows'. It is the only place in the world where you are able to walk through the heart of a colony of nesting mute swans. The best time to go is from mid

May to late June to watch the hatching of hundreds of fluffy cygnets.

KINGSTON MAURWARD FARM ANIMAL PARK

Here there are lots of farm animals, combine harvester climbing frame & slide and pets corner. Regular interaction with animals takes place during school holidays and weekends.

FARMER PALMERS

Farmer Palmers is a fantastic farm park designed for children aged 0-8 years old (although Jack and I love it as well!) There is pig racing, woodland walks, tractor rides, pedal go karts, maize maze, soft play zone, bouncy castles, milking demos and much more.

LONGLEAT SAFARI PARK

Drive through the enclosures alongside lions, tigers, wolves, monkeys, giraffes, rhinos, camels and deer to name a few. There is also a miniature steam railway, pet's corner, Blue

Peter maze, Postman Pat village and seal watching boat trips.

FLEET AIR ARM MUSEUM

The Fleet Air Arm Museum represents the flying service within the Royal Navy. As well as being the largest naval aviation collection in Europe, there are also simulators, helicopters and flight decks to explore. There is also a restaurant on site and lots of learning activities.

TEDDY BEAR MUSEUM

From the earliest teddies to today's TV favourites there are hundreds of teddy bears on display.

MONKEY WORLD



This world famous centre is situated about half an hour away from the Acorn. Its primary focus is to assist governments around the

world in their battle to prevent the smuggling of primates from the wild.

At the Centre refugees of this illegal trade, as well as those that have suffered abuse or neglect, are rehabilitated into natural living groups.

There are also play areas, climbing frames, cafe and lots more to keep children and adults entertained.