



**THE DONKEY  
SANCTUARY**



**DONKEY  
WEEK 2025**



**ACCOMMODATION  
GUIDE**

*6-13 May 2025*

# WHAT IS DONKEY WEEK?

Donkey Week is a wonderful holiday with a difference. As well as meeting many new friends, you also get a chance to have close contact with our donkeys in the beautiful Devon countryside. Throughout the week, there are different excursions to some of our farms that are not usually open to the public.



Donkey Week began in 1983 when our late founder Dr Svendsen had an idea to create a holiday for people with a shared interest. The hotels listed in this brochure have agreed to come into the Donkey Week scheme. For each supporter who stays at one of these hotels for the whole of Donkey Week the hotel has kindly agreed to send a donation to the Sanctuary. By staying at one of these hotels, not only do you help to raise funds for the donkeys, you are also sure to meet people with a similar interest. Donkey Week is the ideal holiday for those on their own. Since its humble beginnings visitor numbers have risen from 120 to well over 300, with many people returning year after year.

To make life easier, members of staff will meet you at Exeter St David's Train Station and Exeter Coach Station. They will assist you with your luggage and direct you to your coaches.

## Local Taxis

If you need a taxi, the following Sidmouth companies may help:

**DEAN'S TAXI: 01395 513022**

**HANSON CABS: 01395 568111 / 07460 230220**

**ORCHARD TAXI (dog friendly): 01395 578883**



Coaches will be ready to pick-up supporters from 12 noon on 6th May and will depart for Sidmouth at various times. The last coach for Sidmouth will depart at approximately 4pm.

Throughout Donkey Week, our coaches will pick you up and take you to the various farms. We also have evening entertainment on two of the nights for you to enjoy. There will be a small charge each day to help towards the cost of the coach trips.

Once you have decided where you want to stay, we ask you to deal directly with the hotels; and let us know as soon as you have a confirmed booking. For those attending for the first time we will send a welcome pack nearer the time. It is important for us to know exact numbers for the coaches, catering etc.

**We do hope that you will decide to join us for this enjoyable holiday.**







## DONKEY WEEK QUERIES

**When booking your accommodation please make sure you say it is for Donkey Week, so there is no misunderstanding regarding the proprietor's donation to The Donkey Sanctuary. Thank you.**

Once you have made your accommodation booking please ensure that you register with The Donkey Sanctuary and return your Choice Form by Monday 17th March at the latest. For queries and to register please contact our Donkey Week co-ordinators, Amy or Fiona on **01395 578222**.



# ACCOMMODATION LIST



## Honiton

### ORCHARD BARN ★★★★★



4 star self-catering accommodations, carefully converted in 2012, on a 150 acre farm with ancient woodland and park-land. It neighbours onto Dumpdon an Iron Age Hill Fort and “The Rough” a 10 acre, nature reserve run and owned by the Devon Wildlife Trust.

- Please use **The Donkey Sanctuary pickup point** if coach travel is required
- £630 for the week
- B&B also available, see website

**07958 699 645**  
**woodhayes.co.uk**  
greg@woodhayes.co.uk



QUOTE  
DONKEY  
WEEK  
WHEN  
BOOKING

### KEY



Pets by arrangement



Car drivers only



Designated coach pickup point



# Sidmouth

## HOTEL RIVIERA ★★★★★ AA



The hotel is on the Esplanade. All rooms en-suite. Extensive menus prepared by French and Swiss trained chefs. Local seafood is a speciality.

- Coach pick-up point  
The Bedford Hotel.

01395 515201

[www.hotelriviera.co.uk](http://www.hotelriviera.co.uk)

[enquiries@hotelriviera.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@hotelriviera.co.uk)



## MOUNT PLEASANT HOTEL ★★ AA



A Grade II listed Georgian building; which has retained its charm and elegance.

Conveniently situated in picturesque three-quarter acre gardens overlooking the 'Byes' National Trust parkland and the River Sid. The hotel is licensed and has a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. It is within easy level access to the shops and seafront by foot. Arrange a relaxing stay today to enjoy beautiful surroundings and warm hospitality.

- Coach pickup point **The Toll House**, opposite the entrance to the hotel
- Delicious Evening Meals available

01395 514694

[mountpleasant-hotel.co.uk](http://mountpleasant-hotel.co.uk)

[info@mountpleasant-hotel.co.uk](mailto:info@mountpleasant-hotel.co.uk)



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## THE BEDFORD HOTEL

Owned and run by the Pyne family in an unrivalled position on the Esplanade and very close to the shops. Excellent fresh cooked food with vegetables from their own farm.

**01395 513047**

**[bedfordhotelsidmouth.co.uk](http://bedfordhotelsidmouth.co.uk)**

[reservations@bedfordhotelsidmouth.co.uk](mailto:reservations@bedfordhotelsidmouth.co.uk)



## THE GROVESIDE GUEST HOUSE



The Groveside Guest House in Sidmouth is only a 5-minute walk from the town centre and sea front.

9 beautiful rooms in total all with modern en-suite shower rooms. Double, twin, king or single rooms available

We have a large guest lounge for you to relax in. Or you may sit in our guest garden anytime until 10pm.

A full English breakfast is included in the price.

- Coach pickup point **The Toll House**, opposite the entrance to the Mount Pleasant Hotel a five minute walk.
- Free parking is available on site.



**01395 513406** or

**07917 783021**

**[thegroveside.co.uk](http://thegroveside.co.uk)**

[info@groveside.co.uk](mailto:info@groveside.co.uk)



## Sidmouth



### THE ROYAL GLEN ★★★



The Royal Glen is grade 1 listed with beautiful secluded gardens quietly situated looking down towards the sea. 150 yards from the Esplanade, 6 – 10 minute walk into town centre, close to Connaught Gardens.

Local fresh produce, Indoor Heated Pool, Parking; we are family run and look forward to welcoming you for Donkey Week

**01395 513221**  
**royalglenhotel.co.uk**  
info@www.royalglenhotel.co.uk



## Sidbury

### MINICOMBE BARN



Set in 20 acres, here at the barn we have transformed this former stable block into three spacious rooms. Our rates are inclusive of accommodation, breakfast and homemade afternoon tea treat.

All our rooms have super king size beds, (twins available) bath and separate walk-in shower, beverage tray with homemade biscuits, fridge with spring water and fresh milk and many more extras like dressing gowns.

- 4.5 miles from The Donkey Sanctuary
- Please use **The Donkey Sanctuary pickup point** if coach travel is required



**01395 597858**  
**mincombebarn.com**



## SWEETCOMBE COTTAGE HOLIDAYS



**Looking for the perfect place to stay during Donkey Week? Sweetcombe Cottage Holidays offer over 180 coastal and rural holiday cottages throughout East Devon, with a range of accommodations to suit your needs.**

Whether you prefer the convenience of staying in town or want to immerse yourself in the countryside with one of our cottages neighbouring the sanctuary, we've got you covered.

One of the greatest advantages of using Sweetcombe is our in-depth knowledge of both the local area and every property on our books.

Our friendly team are more than happy to discuss any requirements and help recommend the most suitable property for your stay.

With accommodation at The Leighs, Stoneleigh and Salcombe Regis overlooking the grazing donkeys, you can wake up to the distant braying, surrounded by the serene beauty of East Devon. Enquire today and book your stay with us for a unique and unforgettable Donkey Week experience!

**01395 512130**  
**[sweetcombecottages.co.uk](http://sweetcombecottages.co.uk)**  
[enquiries@sweetcombecottages.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@sweetcombecottages.co.uk)



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OUR VISION IS A WORLD **WHERE EVERY  
DONKEY HAS A GOOD QUALITY OF LIFE**



## **THE DONKEY SANCTUARY**

Slade House Farm, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 0NU

**[44] (0)1395 578222 | [enquiries@thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk)  
[thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk](http://thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk)**

The Donkey Sanctuary was founded by Dr Elisabeth Svendsen MBE in 1969. The Donkey Sanctuary (registered charity number 1207593) is a company limited by guarantee (company registration number 15150580) and has its registered office at Slade House Farm, Sidmouth, EX10 0NU. Linked charities: The Elisabeth Svendsen Trust for Children and Donkeys (EST); The International Donkey Protection Trust (IDPT); and The Donkey Sanctuary (TDS Trust).