

A vibrant winter illustration of a canal scene. In the foreground, a wooden bridge with a brown railing spans across the canal. The canal water is a bright blue, with green reeds growing in the shallows. On the left bank, a green and white boat is docked. A black lamppost stands on the snow-covered ground. In the background, there are several brick buildings with red roofs and chimneys, and a city skyline is visible in the distance under a blue sky with white clouds. A green triangle with the text 'yha' is positioned in the upper right corner.

yha

winter 23/24

# The Journey

# Winter adventures

From rugged coastlines to stunning National Parks, a YHA stay offers access to adventures in some of the most beautiful locations in England and Wales.

Dorm beds available from £15 per night and private rooms from £30 per night.

[yha.org.uk/breaks/winter-holidays](https://yha.org.uk/breaks/winter-holidays)





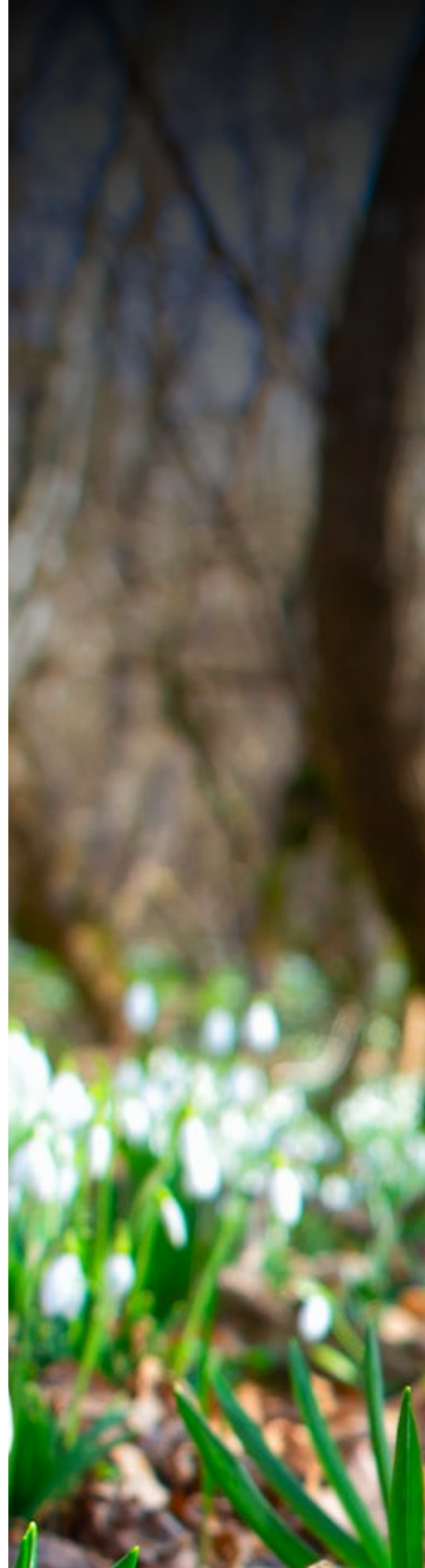
# Hello

...and welcome to the first issue of The Journey in 2024. The early part of the year is often a time for planning and self-evaluation. What can be achieved over the next few months? What are the experiences, challenges and adventures that lie ahead? What might be learned, or created, or changed?

With this spirit of discovery in mind, in this issue we've suggested 24 ideas for trips to plan in 2024, from beat-heavy urban festivals to remote mountain escapes. England and Wales can seem small in a global context, but on the ground they become vast: potential-packed worlds full of hidden corners to explore.

Over the following pages you'll also find inspirational words from some of the celebrities that have spoken to The Journey in recent years, as well as features that touch on everything from winter escapes to landscape painting. And with this being a time of year when daylight can still be in short supply, we round up some of the best headtorches in the market.

On which note, we hope the following pages help shine a light on your plans for the year ahead. Here's to a fruitful, uplifting and activity-filled 2024. Happy reading.



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WIN a Goal Zero power bank worth £120

## £2.5m pledged to connect young people to nature

The Government has pledged £2.5 million to improve young people's access to the outdoors. The welcome news builds on the success of Generation Green, a Defra-funded project delivered by the YHA-led Access Unlimited coalition, which also comprises Girlguiding, Scouts, Field Studies Council, The Outward Bound Trust, the 10 National Parks in England, and National Landscapes (previously Association of AONBs). The project has already provided 118,000 life-impacting opportunities for children, and the funding announcement will connect even more children with nature, especially those from under-represented groups.

YHA Chief Executive James Blake says: "This is very positive news and an important commitment by the Government, recognising that access to nature is key to young people."

The success of Generation Green has seen it recognised as an example of best practice in introducing children from under-represented groups to nature and the outdoors, and YHA now looks forward to exploring the relevant next steps with the Government and our partners.

"Set within the context of climate change," James adds, "it has never been more important that the next generations fall in love with nature and are given opportunities to visit it."







# A new life in National Landscapes

© AdobeStock/parkpics

**National Landscapes are places for relaxation and contemplation, for exercise and fun; they are places where we can harness the healing powers of the great outdoors. They are protected not only for the nation to enjoy, but for the flora and fauna that live within their borders.**

Together they cover 14 per cent of England, Wales and Northern Ireland including moorland, farmland, coast, and forests. They also encompass UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Biosphere Reserves, a Geopark and International Dark Sky Reserves. Forty-four million people in England live within 30 minutes of a National Landscape and at least 170 million people visit them every year.

The National Landscape name, however, is a novel one. On 22 November last year, 46 parts of the UK previously known as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) in Britain took on this new title. Chair of National Landscapes Philip Hygate explains the name change. “The brand captures the essence of our family – the ambition, collaboration, commitment and readiness to serve and share for the good of our landscapes; for nature, climate and people.”

Like National Parks, National Landscapes are areas protected for the

nation’s benefit and cared for by local teams who understand the factors that make each one of them special.

Tony Juniper, Chair of Natural England, says: “For decades, the AONBs have helped protect the beauty of our finest landscapes. Today though, we need so much more from these wonderful places, helping us adapt to climate change, catching carbon, restoring depleted wildlife and encouraging more people outside, at the same time as producing food, sustaining local communities and enhancing historic environments.”

The change in name was also partly inspired by the Glover Landscapes Review of 2019 that articulated that AONBs should become more relevant to a wider audience, including urban residents, people from deprived backgrounds, people from ethnic minority backgrounds, those with disabilities, neurodiverse people, those with learning disabilities and LGBTQIA+ people. Representatives from these

groups were given input into the rebrand process, as were many representatives from their existing audience.

As the National Landscapes Association moves into the future, with a new vision, it’s still its visitors who will make the biggest difference. Have a look at [national-landscapes.org.uk](http://national-landscapes.org.uk) and find your nearest National Landscape.

**170 million people visit National Landscapes every year**



# YHA's year in numbers

What a year! 2023 was a year of getting back to a new normal. Here are a few of the highlights from our annual report for 2022/23.



## Overnight stays

**817,220** people stayed overnight in a YHA property, including 265,207 young people.

We supported stays for **8,382** young people with challenging lives.



## Outdoor Citizens

Outdoor Citizens is made up of small charities, not-for-profit groups and organisations that are working to make access to the outdoors more equitable. It's hosted and administered by YHA.

- To date, Outdoor Citizens has provided funding to **84 projects across 49 organisations**.
- **90% of beneficiary organisations said they can now offer more opportunities** for people in their communities to be active outdoors.
- **87% reported attracting more people** to their activities.
- **70% have upskilled people** from their communities.



## YHA Festival of Walking

Our Festival of Walking saw a series of social walks led by BMC and YHA volunteers. We also provided self-guided maps.

- **We published 180 routes for circular walks from hostels.** Our maps have been downloaded 21,000 times.



## YHA and sustainability

In 2023 we reiterated our commitment to sustainability, celebrating a number of practical changes that have made an impact across the hostel network recently:

- **43% reduction in chemical use** thanks to new technology
- **20,000 fewer plastic pots used**, thanks to homemade yoghurt
- **40% reduction in emissions**, thanks to hybrid working

Our single biggest contribution remains our efforts to connect people to nature and we look forward to making more progress towards promoting sustainable tourism in the years ahead.

YHA's annual report for 2022/23 gives a comprehensive review of our activities for the year and can be downloaded from here: [yha.org.uk/about-yha/impact](https://yha.org.uk/about-yha/impact)



# Walk of the season: Trevose Head, Cornwall

© AdobeStock/Matthew

**On a crisp winter's day, there's nothing quite like a Cornish coastal walk to snap your synapses into gear: wind stippling the waves, seabirds wheeling overhead and the immensity of the Atlantic stretching out to the horizon. The Gregorian calendar might be a manmade construct, but there's still something about the early months of the year that feel laden with opportunity. And when you're gazing out to sea, your face being flecked by saltwater and your jacket being buffeted by the breeze, you feel this sense of promise more keenly than usual.**

The walk listed here is perfect for a half-day hike. It's neither too long or too short, and the route itself begins and ends at YHA Treyarnon Bay. The hostel itself is much-loved – 287 customer ratings with an average score of 91% can't be wrong – and sits so close to the sea that you'll almost get your feet wet getting out of bed. It occupies

a sturdy 1930s building that was once a holiday home but has since been reinvented as a cosy, smartly decorated hostel for seaside-lovers. There's a bar, too. The place is, in other words, exactly what you'd wish for from a walking base.

And what a location. Like everywhere along this most ravishing of coastlines, it sits on the peerless South West Coast Path, a National Trail that stretches for more than 630 miles around the entire peninsula. In this instance, however, the path simply guides you along the opening section of a walk that covers just five miles but packs in plenty. Among myriad other points of interest, you'll pass the mysterious, 80ft-deep Round Hole – a naturally formed blowhole or an alien crater? you decide – and the iconic whitewashed bulk of Trevose Head Lighthouse, first lit in 1847.

It's said that in the winter of 1846, during its construction, gales came in that ripped the scaffolding clean off the tower. Don't let this put you off the walk – after all, what's a winter hike without a blast of the elements? – but do take it as a sign that extra layers, waterproofs and proper footwear should be treated as essential. And most of all, enjoy the trail. Sea views like this are to be cherished year-round.



**Distance:** 5 miles (8km)

**Ascent:** 120m (420ft)

**Start/Finish:** OS Locate SW 858 741  
what3words ///hockey.chairs.swept

**Time:** Allow 2h 15m to 3h 30m

**Map:** OS Explorer 1:25k (106)  
Newquay & Padstow

**1** From YHA Trevevor Bay, head to the coast path and turn right. Follow the path around Trevevor Point and onto the beach at Constantine Bay.

**2** Cross the sands onto Booby's Bay. Continue along the coast path, pass Round Hole and Trevevor Head (with the lighthouse).

**3** Pass Cat's Cove, turn right to leave the coast path when you meet the road to the lifeboat station, then turn left down the road past Trevevor Farm.

**4** Take the footpath alongside the golf course, then at the road turn right, passing the club house and continuing onto the shaded footpath that follows the southern perimeter of the golf course.

**5** Carry on up and over the dunes onto the beach, then turn left onto the coast path back to the hostel.

## Hazards

Take care on the road sections without pavement.

## Accessibility

There are no stiles on the route, but there are gates and paths less than one metre wide, as well as single steps no more than 10cm high. The path on the south side of the golf course is narrow and sometimes overgrown. Be aware that the path through the dunes at Constantine Bay can be difficult to find.

## Terrain

Mostly grassy or sandy paths, rocky in places, with some long sections of tarmac. Some sand dunes and a short section of beach.



# A word to the wise

Over the past few years, The Journey has been lucky enough to run exclusive interviews with some of the most inspirational personalities in the UK. Here are some of the pearls of advice we've picked out.

**“We shouldn’t think of being outdoors as anything other than essential. The planet’s biggest brains are making games and programmes that are addictive to children, so it’s our responsibility to shoehorn them out to where the real miracles of life are, in nature.”**

Cerys Matthews, musician and DJ

**“The outdoors encourages us to abandon the self-absorption and entitlement that I think modern technological culture has created. You’re not really that bothered about a social media spat when you’re on Sharp Edge or getting a face full of spray on Lizard Point. The outdoors connects us with older, deeper ways of being and moving.”**

Stuart Maconie, author, DJ and president of the Ramblers

**“I want to get up and get out and meet people. That’s where the real memories are, and I think it’s really important we reinforce that. The whole ethos of YHA is very much to be there in nature, with your brothers and sisters on this planet, experiencing the best Earth has to offer. That’s a bloody wonderful thing!”**

Simon Reeve, explorer and TV presenter

**“Every one of us can make a difference. We don’t have to wait for ‘them’ to do it, whoever ‘they’ are. So sign those petitions, go on those marches, stand up for your right to exercise your voice and demand positive change in the countryside.”**

Chris Packham, naturalist and TV presenter

**“Always love what you do. If you enjoy and are passionate about what you do, you’ll have success — and you’ll also take a lot from it.”**

Dame Jessica Ennis-Hill, Olympian

**“Are we all adventurers? One hundred per cent. Children are naturally adventurous and curious — they want to be explorers. We’re all adventurers, it’s in our DNA, that’s how we’ve evolved. Adventure allows people to change their lives, to learn how to face fear, to become braver and to build new relationships. There are so many benefits to getting out there, and the key is that you bring back these lessons to the rest of your life.”**

Belinda Kirk, explorer and campaigner

**“The outdoors can teach us pretty much every tool we need to go into the big wide world, be it from a business perspective, a professional perspective or a personal perspective. It teaches us to interact with each other when things are going well, and when they’re not. It teaches us to be organised and on point when it comes to navigation, or packing a rucksack, and a lot of the time it gives us a heightened sense of awareness.”**

Kenton Cool, high-altitude climber

**“Slow travel is a wonderful way to travel. You really get to know a place, you get to meet people. If you don’t have a well-planned itinerary but just know that you want to get to a certain part of the country, when you get there you can follow your nose, make friends and hear about other nearby places you would never have thought to go to.”**

Gillian Burke, naturalist and TV presenter

**“The issue of opportunity and diversity is systemic — it’s linked to a lot of other things, like class and jobs and money. It’s so important to focus on letting people explore, especially during a cost of living crisis. It’s not something that should be reserved for the middle classes.”**

Mya-Rose Craig, aka Birdgirl, writer, environmentalist and founder of Black2Nature

**“If you’re experiencing something new, take it all in and try to have fun while doing it. Do something which makes you excited to wake up in the morning.”**

Ellie Simmonds OBE, Paralympian

# Art walks

For almost all of human existence, mountain environments have been seen as places to avoid. They were climbed only to drive livestock for trade, or to meet with people from the next village. And even then, the end-goal for those on foot was always the passes, the lowest points where mountains meet. Mountains were foreboding and frightening; they harboured monsters and giants. They were places of danger.

But at some point in the last 300 years, mountains started to evoke the sublime rather than blind terror. The way in which mountain environments were written about began to change – and the manner in which artists portrayed them altered, too. In the 18th century, the concepts of the picturesque and, particularly, the sublime (that is, awe-inspiring, beautiful and untameable) started to dominate both the perception and depiction of our mountain landscapes. On a visit to the Lake District in 1767, Dr John Brown wrote: “The full perfection of Keswick consists of three circumstances, Beauty, Horror and Immensity united.”

If you’ve ever walked up a Lake District fell or Eryri (Snowdonia) mountain in the mist and then seen the clouds part to briefly reveal the vastness of the mountains, you’ll recognise the feeling of awe, the wave of emotion. It’s a large part of why we head up among the peaks, and a big reason why the mountains became a muse to the artist and to the writer.





By the late 1700s, the Lake District, like the Alps, was an essential stop for any self-respecting painter, poet, writer or thinker on tour. These travelling creatives liked their mountains immense, edgy and more than a little scary. Wordsworth's daffodils and lonely-as-a-cloud wanderings were still a few decades away. Thomas Smith of Derby's depictions of the Lake District showed mountains that appeared impossibly steep and impenetrable. Thomas Gainsborough's scenes of the region when he visited in 1783 were a little more faithful and bucolic but loaded with melancholy – rain was always on the way.

By the 19th century, artists and poets visiting the British mountains were more keen on the immersion of dawdling and wandering. For the first time, walks in the mountains were seen as restorative and healing for both body and mind. This was partly a response to accelerating industrialisation. JMW Turner and John Constable depicted the mountains in a Romantic way, and even at the time were criticised for being out of touch with the harsh realities of Britain in the early 1800s, but a shift was taking place. People had started to visit mountains – on purpose. They climbed them for pleasure. Tourists came (tourists!).

That the mountains became a source of inspiration for so many artists is perhaps no surprise, yet the depth and variety of their different moods and painting styles, particularly up to the present day, is staggering. From the otherworldly, awe-inspiring scenes of the early sublime painters to the Romantic period of sun and rainbows, and today through photography, abstract art and sculpture... it goes on.

Admiring these works is best done in situ, where you can feel the same landscapes under your feet and the same winds breezing through the trees. Overleaf, we'll look at where to visit some of the spots that have inspired artists over the centuries.



## Lake District

JMW Turner, John Constable, Thomas Gainsborough, John Robert Cozens, W. G. Collingwood, Thomas Girtin and John Ruskin all painted the Lake District. Some of these were romantic, others showed the sublime, some the idyllic, others the terrible. All were deeply impressed by the sheer scale and grandeur of the Lake District.

Thomas Smith of Derby's *A View of Derwentwater from Crow-Park* shows a not-entirely truthful aspect, although the mountains appear impossibly high and foreboding, a view which can still be seen from Crow Park by the Theatre By The Lake in Keswick.

JMW Turner's *Buttermere Lake, with Part of Cromackwater, Cumberland, a Shower* firmly depicts the sublime (although he couldn't resist a rainbow). From YHA Buttermere, walk around the south side of the lake to Peggy's Bridge for a broadly similar view.



## Eryri (Snowdonia)

The mountains of North Wales inspired numerous painters of the 18th and 19th centuries. Moses Griffith drew Eryri (Snowdonia) from Capel Curig for the pages of *A Tour in Wales*, a book by Thomas Pennant, published in 1781. Philippe Jacques de Louthembourg followed in Griffith's footsteps with his painting *Snowdon from Capel Curig, a morning*. The V&A holds dozens of works by regular Wales visitor John Varley, who painted Yr Wyddfa (Snowdon) in the early 1800s.

JMW Turner toured Wales several times, inspired by his friend, the Welsh artist Richard Wilson. Turner painted Glyder Fawr and Glyder Fach in his 1798 work, *A Lake among Mountains*, which is still held at the Tate.

Eryri (Snowdonia) continues to be a great inspiration to artists today, notably Alison Bradley ([alisonbradley.gallery](http://alisonbradley.gallery)) and Bob Piercy ([robpiercy.com](http://robpiercy.com)), who evoke the timeless nature of the mountains.





# Yorkshire Wolds

The Yorkshire Wolds are singularly associated with one artist: David Hockney, one of Britain's most important living painters. Ironically, he's perhaps best known for his sun-drenched Californian works such as *A Bigger Splash*, although it's here in the clefts and folds of his home county that his expression perhaps finds its truest form. His *The Road Across the Wolds* series was inspired by the road between Cowlam and Sledmere, while *Garrowby Hill* – the subject of another of his paintings – is just 14 miles from York. The super-sized canvas of *Bigger Trees Near Warter*, meanwhile, sees Hockney at his brilliant best, capturing something of the Wolds' towering seasonal beauty.

YHA Beverley Friary is the best place to embark on a tour of Hockney vistas, but to see one of the largest collections of his work, go to the Salts Mill & 1853 Gallery in Saltaire, Yorkshire.

# Peak District

The Peak District may be more gentle in drama than the Lake District, but its moody light, dappled dales and craggy contours has inspired vast numbers of artists nevertheless. The undeniably romantic beauty of Dovedale has always provided something of a focal point, and was elegantly captured by 18th-century landscape artist Joseph Wright of Derby in *Dovedale by Moonlight* – one of five canvases he made of the valley.

The Peak District's ever-changing landscapes continue to inspire painters today, to the point where there are art galleries in almost every town of the region. Chatsworth House has a superb art collection of its own, of course, curating the best artists in the area and selling their work. Two recommendations for contemporary Peak District painters? Check out Sue Nichol ([suenicholartist.com](http://suenicholartist.com)) and Roger Allen ([rogerallen.co.uk](http://rogerallen.co.uk)).



# Outdoor education is at risk, with millions already missing out on childhood adventures.



**You can help us make sure no child is left behind.**

Please support our urgent appeal and give the gift of adventure today.

Visit [yha.org.uk/child](https://yha.org.uk/child) to donate and find out how you can make a big difference to a young life.



# Let's go!



## Red squirrels

Here in the UK, we have two different species of squirrel: grey and red. Grey squirrels are far more common, even though they were only introduced from North America about 150 years ago. Have you seen them scuttling through woodland or scampering up trees in the park?

Red squirrels, on the other hand, have been living here for about 10,000 years! They're smaller than grey squirrels and have tufty ears and big, bushy tails. But sadly, red squirrels find it very difficult to live alongside grey squirrels, because it's easy for them to catch diseases and there's too much competition for food.

Because of this, grey squirrels have replaced red squirrels in most parts of England and Wales.

There are still places, however, where you can see red squirrels in the wild. Off the coast of Dorset in England, near **YHA Swanage, Brownsea Island** is famous for its red squirrels.

In North Wales, meanwhile, the island of Anglesey is another great place for spotting these lovable little creatures. YHA has various hostels near the island. Why not plan a squirrel-watching trip?



Red squirrel



Grey squirrel

## Factfile

- 1 They like eating hazelnuts by cracking the shells in two, and also enjoy nibbling away at pine cones.
- 2 A squirrel nest is called a drey. Red squirrels make their dreys from bark, twigs and leaves, high up in the trees.
- 3 Red squirrels are also found in a few other parts of England, such as the Isle of Wight, the Lake District and Northumberland.
- 4 Unlike some mammals, neither red or grey squirrels hibernate.
- 5 A red squirrel's tail is almost as big as the rest of its body! It varies in colour from a dark brown to a pale white.

# Let's go to... Tower Bridge

It's 130 years since the arrival of one of the UK's most famous landmarks. Tower Bridge was finished in 1894, after a building project that took eight years. The iconic river crossing is now a world-famous part of the London skyline – but how much do you know about it?

- It's a bascule bridge, which means the middle parts of it can lift up like giant seesaws to let tall boats pass through.
- The team of workers that built it used around 31 million bricks, 11,000 tons of steel and 13 million rivets (small screw-like fasteners that hold steel in place)
- The foundations of the bridge are very strong, to keep the towers stable. They stretch down eight whole metres into the riverbed.
- The tops of its towers are nearly 65 metres above the level of the road, which is as high as 14 double-decker buses stacked on top of each other.
- From end to end it measures 240 metres, which is more than twice as long as a Premier League football pitch.
- It's very close to the Tower of London, but it was built almost 800 years later!
- The steel parts used to be chocolate brown, which was apparently Queen Victoria's favourite colour! These days, the steel is painted red, white and blue.
- The bridge was officially opened by the Prince and Princess of Wales – the great-great-great-grandparents of William, the current Prince of Wales!
- It takes about half an hour to walk along the river from YHA London Thameside to the foot of Tower Bridge.
- Ten years ago, the walkways that stretch between the towers were installed with glass floors, giving visitors a spectacular (and slightly scary!) view beneath their feet.

# Top dogs

Dogs are the most popular pets in the country. They're loyal, playful and intelligent – and they can also do some incredible things, as these five tales (or should that be tails?) demonstrate.

In 2023, a cocker spaniel called Jinx became the first conservation detection dog in the UK. His job is to patrol the Welsh coast in search of rats, which eat the eggs of a bird called the Manx shearwater. Jinx is only three years old, but he's already protecting Welsh seabirds!



Cocker spaniel

Swansea Jack was a black retriever who became famous for his life-saving abilities. Over the years, he jumped into the water and saved 27 people from drowning in docks and rivers – including a 12-year-old boy. He was named the Bravest Dog of the Year by a London newspaper.



Boston terrier

In 1917, a waggy-tailed stray terrier wandered onto an American army base. The soldiers loved him and called him Sergeant Stubby. He joined them in 17 different battles, barking to let medics know when people were injured. In 2018 he even had an animated film made about him!

A Japanese dog called Hachiko used to go to a busy station in Tokyo every night to meet his owner from the train. But when his owner died, Hachiko didn't stop coming to the station. He sat there patiently every evening for a decade, waiting. Today, he has his own statue outside the station.



Hachiko's statue

In 1966, England hosted the men's football World Cup, but shortly before the tournament started, someone stole the trophy! It was found by a clever collie dog called Pickles, who became a national hero. When England won the tournament, Pickles got a medal too!



# King Charles III

## England Coast Path

2,700  
miles



The longest walk in England leads right the way around the country's coastline. It's called the King Charles III England Coast Path, and when it's finished it will stretch for 2,700 miles. If you were hiking for 10 miles a day, it would take you almost nine months to get from start to finish!

But of course, you don't need to walk the whole thing to enjoy it. By joining your friends, family or carers on a short coastal walk – with the wind in your hair and waves in the distance – you can have a real adventure.

The English coastline is full of beauty and variety. Try exploring the cliffs and coves around **YHA Boggle Hole** in Yorkshire, the sandy Blue Flag beach near **YHA Littlehampton** in West Sussex, or the rugged scenery close to **YHA Treyarnon Bay** in Cornwall.

And remember. Whatever the season, make sure you're prepared for your walk. Wear the right clothes to stop yourself getting cold or wet, use strong shoes or boots, and bring snacks and water. And most of all, have fun!

[nationaltrail.co.uk/en\\_GB/trails/england-coast-path/](https://nationaltrail.co.uk/en_GB/trails/england-coast-path/)

© Adobestock/Jacob Lund


## Spot the difference

Can you spot the 8 differences between the two pictures below?



© Adobestock/Buse

# 24 adventures for 2024



Looking for unforgettable, affordable experiences for the months ahead? Here are 24 ideas for hostel trips in 2024 – because after all, calendars are there to be filled. Happy travels!

## 1 YHA Ambleside for wild swimming:

Lake Windermere, on the hostel's wonderfully scenic doorstep, is renowned for its open-water swimming. Head out early in the morning to make the most of the quiet, or check out [swimthelakes.co.uk](http://swimthelakes.co.uk) for guided swims.

[yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-ambleside](http://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-ambleside)

## 2 YHA Grasmere Butharlyp Howe for

**discovering Wordsworth:** Named 2023's Small Visitor Attraction of the Year by Visit Cumbria, the Wordsworth Grasmere museum takes you inside the writer's fabled Dove Cottage, which has been brought back to life. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-grasmere-butharlyp-howe](http://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-grasmere-butharlyp-howe)

## 3 YHA York for getting gory:

The multi-award-winning Bloody Tour of York gives a hugely entertaining 90-minute romp through the darker side of York's past. Your host is Mad Alice. Need we say more?

[yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-york](http://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-york)

## 4 YHA Hartington Hall for going

**underground:** This grand Peak District hostel is well placed for all sorts of natural spectacles, but it's hard to top the nearby Poole's Cavern, a two-million-year-old limestone cave.

[yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-hartington-hall](http://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-hartington-hall)

## 5 YHA Liverpool Albert Dock for dance

**music:** The fabled Baltic Weekender returns to Liverpool from 31 May-1 June, shaking the city's foundations with grime, techno and house music. Dancing shoes on.

[yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-liverpool-albert-dock](http://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-liverpool-albert-dock)

## 6 YHA Stratford-upon-Avon for theatre:

The world-famous Royal Shakespeare Company has three permanent theatres in Stratford, giving multiple options for soaking up sonnets and soliloquies.

[yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-stratford-upon-avon](http://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-stratford-upon-avon)



**7 YHA Windermere for meeting Peter Rabbit:** Located just minutes away from the World of Beatrix Potter, this Lakeland hostel makes a memorable base for a family getaway. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-hawkshead](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-hawkshead)

**8 YHA Manchester for Pride:** It's now almost 40 years since the first Manchester Pride was held in 1985, and the event has become a colossal festival over four days in late August, with a spectacular mass parade. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-manchester](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-manchester)

**9 YHA Bristol for getting curious:** Bristol's harbourside science museum We The Curious reopens in the first half of 2024, making the city an even brighter option for a family city-break. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-bristol](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-bristol)

**10 YHA Brecon Beacons for exploring Bannau Brycheiniog:** The hulking majesty of Pen y Fan is enticingly close to this popular hostel, but it's just one of many superb hikes in this part of the national park. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-brecon-beacons](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-brecon-beacons)

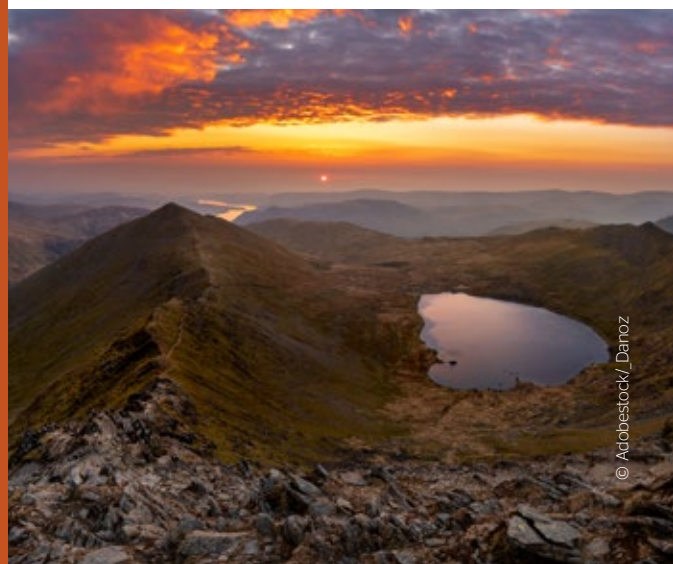
**11 YHA Black Sail for a unique stay:** There truly is nowhere quite like YHA Black Sail. Beautifully remote and accessible only by foot, it makes an unforgettable base for a Lake District break. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-black-sail](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-black-sail)

**12 YHA London Oxford Street for visiting Van Gogh:** In 2024, the National Gallery marks its 200th anniversary by hosting its first ever Van Gogh exhibition. Running from mid-September until January 2025, Van Gogh: Poets and Lovers isn't to be missed. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-london-oxford-street](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-london-oxford-street)

**13 YHA Helvellyn for hitting the slopes:** This hostel sits almost 1,000ft up one of the largest peaks in England, with excellent self-guided hikes and first-rate mountain biking. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-helvellyn](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-helvellyn)

**14 YHA New Forest for getting in the saddle:** Hire a bike (or bring your own) and explore the villages and woodlands of this peaceful swathe of pony-dotted countryside. Great for all ages. [yha.org.uk/hostels/yha-new-forest](https://yha.org.uk/hostels/yha-new-forest)

**15 YHA Whitby for haunting beauty:** You'll find some of Yorkshire's most dramatic coastal scenery around this atmospheric mansion, which sits in the shadow of the ruined Whitby Abbey. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-whitby](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-whitby)







**16 YHA Beer for fossil-hunting:** The Jurassic Coast is one of the best spots in the UK for beachcombing, with the very real chance of uncovering prehistoric fossils at your feet. Lyme Regis is close by. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-beer](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-beer)

**17 YHA Dartmoor for getting outdoors:** Of all the National Parks in England and Wales, few have the wild pull of Dartmoor's rolling green contours, where you can truly feel you're getting away from it all. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-dartmoor](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-dartmoor)

**18 YHA Cambridge for sampling a brew:** There are endless good reasons to visit the university city, but for connoisseurs of good ale, May's Cambridge Beer Festival is a highlight – it's CAMRA's longest running festival. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-cambridge](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-cambridge)

**19 YHA Ironbridge Coalport for museums:** History-mad kids will love the Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site, the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution, where no less than 10 family-friendly museums can be explored. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-ironbridge-coalport](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-ironbridge-coalport)

**20 YHA Wye Valley for kayaking:** Based on the banks of one of the UK's prettiest rivers, the Wye, this hostel is primed for water-based activities, with kayaking a particular highlight. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-wye-valley](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-wye-valley)

**21 YHA Street for hostel history:** Our oldest hostel is this chalet-style beauty in the Somerset hills, with some 93 years of guestbook entries under its belt and the timeless pull of Glastonbury close by. Be sure to climb the famous Tor for a sweeping view across the region. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-street](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-street)

**22 YHA Eastbourne for art:** The seaside town's Towner Gallery hosts the Turner Prize until mid-April this year, and has a fine permanent collection too. Its emphasis is on 20th-century British artists, and the gallery is particularly renowned for its works by Eric Ravilious, whose watercolours capture the rolling beauty of the South Downs. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-eastbourne](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-eastbourne)

**23 YHA Tintagel for myths and legends:** Immerse yourself in the age-old world of Merlin's Cave and Tintagel Castle with a stay at this extraordinary clifftop hostel on the north Cornwall coast. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-tintagel](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-tintagel)

**24 YHA Sheringham for seeing the seals:** There are many good reasons for visiting the north Norfolk coast, among them taking a boat trip to Blakeney Point to marvel at the local seal colony. [yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-sheringham](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-sheringham)



# 9 hostels for fabulous winter breaks

Winter can be a beautiful time of year. Snow on the high ground, frozen spider webs on the hedges, semi-frozen lakes. And what better than a warm hostel, a mug of tea and games to entertain you through the long evenings? Here's our pick of properties for a memorable winter break.

## YHA Ilam Hall

**Live the high life in a Peak District manor**

YHA Ilam Hall is a remarkable place, a 17th-century Gothic manor located within 84 acres of pristine parkland. For a winter escape to the country, there can be few more evocative places. The perennially lovely Dovedale is a short walk away, and the hostel has grand lounges and a games room to return to.

[yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-ilam-hall](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-ilam-hall)





## YHA Brecon Beacons

Relax in a homely farmhouse under the South Wales giants

Wood-burning stove? Tick. Bookshelves loaded with games and novels? Of course. Hearty meals? We've got you covered. This refurbished 19th-century farmhouse is one of the cosiest places to return to after a blustery walk or muddy mountain bike among the highest mountains in South Wales.

[yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-brecon-beacons](http://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-brecon-beacons)

## YHA Keswick

Stay busy at Lake District bolthole with activities

We imagine our winter walks plodding across frost-cripsed grass, but – news flash – it does rain occasionally. That's why YHA Keswick is a great off-season destination, with plenty to do in this large, lovely town when the rain falls and easy access to the fells for the bits in between.

[yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-keswick](http://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-keswick)



## YHA South Downs

Enjoy the town and country in Sussex

Lewes, a couple of miles from YHA South Downs, is a gorgeous, fun little town with independent shops and old, atmospheric pub – perfect for a cold-day amble. The refurbished farm that is today YHA South Downs is located directly on the South Downs Way.

[yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-south-downs](http://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-south-downs)

## YHA Snowdon Pen-y-Pass

Nestle yourself among the highest mountains in Wales

This former hotel has been frequented by some of the world's greatest mountaineers, including George Mallory, as a base for early Everest expedition training in the notorious Welsh winters. YHA Snowdon Pen-y-Pass still attracts winter mountaineers and those looking for captivating snowy views.

[yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-snowdon-pen-y-pass](http://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-snowdon-pen-y-pass)





## YHA Treyarnon Bay

**Clear the cobwebs at a Cornish clifftop residence**

You may be one of those brave souls who look forward to the Cornish winter swells for a spot of surfing, and if so, YHA Treyarnon Bay is where to stay. It's also where to head if your idea of a winter break involves brisk clifftop walks followed by mugs of hot chocolate and long sunsets.

[yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-treyarnon-bay](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-treyarnon-bay)

## YHA Penzance

**Take a winter Cornish holiday**

Penzance has all the ingredients for an invigorating winter break: long beaches, independent shops and galleries, a busy harbour and the South West Coast Path, which passes through the town. The hostel itself is a stately Grade II-listed Georgian mansion, and St Ives is a relatively short hop away, too.

[yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-penzance](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-penzance)



## YHA York

**Explore Medieval York and countryside**

York is a lovely city to discover at any time of year, with its cobbled streets and medieval Shambles, but in winter, it is particularly evocative. There are dozens of wet-weather attractions – among them JORVIK Viking Centre, York Minster, National Railway Museum – as well as easy access to North York Moors National Park.

[yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-york](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-york)

## YHA Borrowdale

**Visit a much-loved Lakeland adventure centre**

There are few cosier places to be in the Lake District than in the wooden-clad Alpine-style bar and lounge at YHA Borrowdale. When it's time to venture outside, you'll be met by some of the Lake District's biggest mountains for chilly walks and – for those on two wheels – high mountain passes.

[yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-borrowdale](https://yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-borrowdale)



# Exclusively yours this winter

Now's the time to book a relaxing break to spend quality time with friends and family in the great outdoors.

Some of our most beloved properties are available on YHA Exclusive Hire this season, including YHA Coniston Coppermines (pictured).

Hire a whole hostel.

[yha.org.uk/exclusive-hire](https://yha.org.uk/exclusive-hire)



# How to... start landscape painting

Emma Robinson was YHA's Wales Development Manager until December 2023. She now runs Little Tree Studio and is Wales' only Bob Ross certified instructor; specialising in teaching landscapes using the oil paint 'wet on wet' technique, made famous by Bob Ross and his *Joy of Painting* TV series.

Here she shares her top tips on how to get started.



## Keep it simple

Try not to get too bogged down in the details. Start with a simple picture or photograph until you build up the confidence to work outside – painting plein air is trickier, as the sun moves across the sky and changes the light before you have time to paint it!

Use large brushes and loose broad brushstrokes to begin with, and cover your canvas with a background colour so you're not staring at a daunting blank canvas. Use the grid technique – dividing the picture or photo into smaller squares – to help with positioning each element in your composition.

Use a limited colour palette: a white, a black or brown and three other colours, with one for lights, one for mid-tones and one for darks. This allows you to focus on the composition of the landscape and not worry about including every single colour you see.

## Find inspiration

Don't be afraid to copy other styles and try to replicate those you like. Can you paint as thickly as Van Gogh? Can you mimic the light in a Constable? Watch online tutorials, look in reference books, go to classes and soak it all up! You'll begin to find out what you like and start to develop your own style.

Try other mediums, too: acrylics, oils, watercolour, gouache or a combination of them all. Enjoy getting to know how they react on the canvas, on your brush and on your palette. Don't worry about the end product, just enjoy the process and give it a go.

Get out and about into landscapes you love. Look around and think about why you like them – what are the elements and conditions that have drawn you to that place? Try and reflect these in your paintings to convey feeling and emotion, like the rush of the waterfall or the movement of the trees.

## Slow down

Force yourself to go slowly. Painting demands that you look closely, and really look.

Try to stop your busy brain from leaping to conclusions and forcing you to shortcut the process.

Don't start with the intention of painting a tree, or a cloud. Instead start to see the landscape and the elements within it as shapes, lines, colours, and tones; start by making those marks on the canvas and the landscape will eventually reveal itself.

Look for contrasts. Where is it really bright? Where are the darkest areas? What does that look like when the two jut up against each other? Pay attention to colour, too. What colour is that cloud? Is it really white or should it be more of a lilac? Use a viewfinder to isolate each area and take your time to work out what the colours and tones really are in front of you.

## Practise, practise, practise

Like most things in life, you will get better the more you do it. Make it easier for yourself to put in the practice by having a space set up with your materials, or take a small sketchpad and pencils with you on a train journey. If you get frustrated with one painting, move onto something else – you'll only practise what you enjoy.

Happy painting, y'all.

You can find out more about Emma and her workshops at Little Tree Studio at [www.littletreestudio.co.uk](http://www.littletreestudio.co.uk) or [@littletreestudiowales](https://www.facebook.com/littletreestudiowales) on Facebook and Instagram

# Three of the best headtorches

The first stirrings of spring may be not far away, but the early months of the year are still a time of limited daylight. A reliable headtorch should be an essential inclusion in your backpack at any time of year, but never more so than over winter. Here we review three of the best new models.



## Best for top-of-the-range quality

**Silva Free 1200 XS**  
[silvasweden.uk](http://silvasweden.uk) | £140

Swedish outdoor firm Silva has been producing premium kit since 1933. Its latest headtorch range, the ISPO Award-winning Silva Free, is billed as 'the world's first modular headlamp', with interchangeable lamp units and battery packs depending on your activity. The lightweight 1200 XS is aimed at trail runners, with two beams – one a spotlight, the other a floodlight – three brightness settings, rear red light strips and no distracting cords. Excellent.

## Best low-cost option

**Lifesystems Intensity 300 LED Head Torch**  
[lifesystems.co.uk](http://lifesystems.co.uk) | £30

More than anything, a headtorch needs to be incredibly easy to use. For hiking, it's also useful to have a red light mode that maintains night vision while you're looking at a map, and beyond that, you need to be easily able to turn it on and off with gloves on. The Intensity 300 LED Head Torch from Lifesystems is this torch. A USB cable charges it, it has a battery life of up to 38 hours, and there's a clear battery power indicator. It is DoF-approved too.

## Best for trail running

**BioLite HeadLamp 425**  
[blacks.co.uk](http://blacks.co.uk) | £70

For trail running, you need two things: a very bright light and a headtorch that doesn't weigh you down. Brooklyn brand BioLite makes outdoor cooking gear, power banks and, more recently, headtorches. This model is designed not to bounce. It's achieved thanks to two ultra-slim lights. One is at the front, and, a bonus for a runner, a red light is at the back. It weighs a mere 78g and has a very impressive maximum battery life of 60 hours.



# How to dress for winter walking

Winter walking in the hills of England and Wales is its own experience. It's colder and wetter than summer, and the days are shorter. That said, with a low sun shining on the slopes, for our money it's the best time of the year.

Snow on steep ground requires an ice axe and crampons, and most importantly the skills to use them. Need to get up? Head to Plas y Brenin in Eryri (Snowdonia), an excellent option for fun and informative winter skills courses covering avalanche safety, equipment and navigation ([pyb.co.uk](http://pyb.co.uk)).

## Warm clothing

The way to keep warm is to layer your clothing. Avoid cotton and denim, instead using a synthetic or Merino wool base layer that moves sweat away from the skin and dries quickly. You'll also want a warm fleece or midlayer – wind can feel exceptionally cold, so something windproof, such as a softshell, is a great option.

You'll also need a waterproof jacket and an insulated down or synthetic jacket, to throw on when you stop for a summit sandwich. A good warm hat is a great way to regulate your body's temperature, and for your hands, carry a pair of gloves, a pair of mittens and a spare.

## Footwear

Boots are essential. Underfoot conditions can be slippery, so you'll need the extra ankle support, grip and warmth that synthetic or leather boots provide.

## Emergency kit

The days are short in winter, so carry two torches and spare batteries. Bring extra socks, gloves and waterproof trousers (which also act as good insulators). And be sure to carry an emergency group shelter just in case there's an accident. They're light and relatively cheap.

### Did you know?

All YHA members receive discounts at gear stores including Cotswold Outdoor, GO Outdoors, Snow+Rock, Runners Need and Cycle Surgery

[yha.org.uk/membership/  
member-benefits](http://yha.org.uk/membership/member-benefits)

# Hostel guide



**Book now**

Visit [yha.org.uk](http://yha.org.uk)

YHA All Stretton	Meadow Green, Batch Valley, All Stretton, Shropshire, SY6 6JW
<b>YHA Alnwick</b>	<b>34 to 38 Green Batt, Alnwick, Northumberland, NE66 1TU</b>
YHA Alston	The Firs, Alston, Cumbria, CA9 3RW
<b>YHA Alstonefield</b>	<b>Gypsy Lane, Alstonefield, nr Ashbourne, Derbyshire, DE6 2FZ</b>
YHA Ambleside	Waterhead, Ambleside, Cumbria, LA22 OEU
<b>YHA Bath</b>	<b>Bathwick Hill, Bath, BA2 6JZ</b>
YHA Beer	Bovey Combe, Beer, Seaton, Devon, EX12 3LL
<b>YHA Berwick</b>	<b>Dewars Lane, Berwick Upon Tweed, Northumberland, TD15 1HJ</b>
YHA Beverley Friary	Friar's Lane, Beverley, East Yorkshire, HU17 ODF
<b>YHA Black Sail</b>	<b>Black Sail Hut, Ennerdale, Cleator, Cumbria, CA23 3AX</b>
YHA Blaxhall	The Old School House, Blaxhall, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 2EA
<b>YHA Boggle Hole</b>	<b>Mill Beck, Fylingthorpe, Whitby, North Yorkshire, YO22 4UQ</b>
YHA Borrowdale	Longthwaite, Borrowdale, Keswick, Cumbria, Lakes, CA12 5XE
<b>YHA Borth</b>	<b>Morlais, Borth, Ceredigion, SY24 5JS</b>
YHA Boscastle	Palace Stables, Boscastle, Cornwall, PL35 OHD
<b>YHA Boswinger</b>	<b>Boswinger, Gorran, St Austell, Cornwall, PL26 6LL</b>
YHA Brecon Beacons	Libanus, Brecon, Powys, LD3 8NH
<b>YHA Brecon Beacons Danywenallt</b>	<b>National Park Study Centre, Talybont-on-Usk, Brecon, LD3 7YS</b>
YHA Bridges	Ratlinghope, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY5 OSP
<b>YHA Brighton</b>	<b>Old Steine, Brighton, BN1 1NH</b>
YHA Bristol	14 Narrow Quay, Bristol, BS1 4QA
<b>YHA Broad Haven</b>	<b>Broad Haven, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3JH</b>
YHA Buttermere	Buttermere, Cockermouth, Cumbria, CA13 9XA
<b>YHA Cambridge</b>	<b>97 Tenison Road, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB1 2DN</b>
YHA Canterbury	54 New Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3DT
<b>YHA Castleton Losehill Hall</b>	<b>Castleton, Hope Valley, Derbyshire, S33 8WB</b>
YHA Cheddar	Hillfield, Cheddar, Somerset, BS27 3HN
<b>YHA Chester Trafford Hall</b>	<b>Ince Lane, Wimbolds Trafford, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4JP</b>
YHA Cholderton Stonehenge	Beacon House, Amesbury Road, Cholderton, Wiltshire, SP4 OEW
<b>YHA Clun Mill</b>	<b>The Mill, Clun, Craven Arms, Shropshire, SY7 8NY</b>
YHA Coniston Coppermines	Coppermines House, Coniston, Cumbria, LA21 8HP
<b>YHA Coniston Holly How</b>	<b>Holly How, Far End, Coniston, Cumbria, LA21 8DD</b>
YHA Conwy	Larkhill, Sychnant Pass Road, Conwy, LL32 8AJ
<b>YHA Cotswolds</b>	<b>New Brewery Arts, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 1JH</b>
YHA Coverack	Parc Behan, School Hill, Coverack, Helston, Cornwall, TR12 6SA
<b>YHA Dalby Forest</b>	<b>Old School, Lockton, Pickering, North Yorkshire, YO18 7PY</b>
YHA Dartmoor	Bellever, Postbridge, Devon, PL20 6TU
<b>YHA Dufton</b>	<b>Dufton, Appleby, Cumbria, CA16 6DB</b>
YHA Eastbourne	1 East Dean Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN20 8ES
<b>YHA Edale</b>	<b>Rowland Cote, Nether Booth, Edale, Hope Valley, Derbyshire, S33 7ZH</b>
YHA Eden Project	Eden Project, Bodelva, Cornwall, PL24 2SG
<b>YHA Edmundbyers</b>	<b>Low House, Edmundbyers, Consett, Co Durham, DH8 9NL</b>
YHA Elmscott	Elmscott, Hartland, Bideford, Devon, EX39 6ES
<b>YHA Ennerdale</b>	<b>Cat Crag, Ennerdale, Cleator, Cumbria, Lakes, CA23 3AX</b>
YHA Eskdale	Boot, Holmrook, Cumbria, CA19 1TH
<b>YHA Exford</b>	<b>Exe Mead, Exford, Minehead, Somerset, TA24 7PU</b>
YHA Eyam	Hawkhill Road, Eyam, Hope Valley, Derbyshire, S32 5QP
<b>YHA Gower</b>	<b>Port Eynon, Swansea, SA3 1NN</b>
YHA Grasmere Butharlyp Howe	Easedale Road, Grasmere, Cumbria, LA22 9QG

YHA Grinton Lodge	Grinton, Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL11 6HS
<b>YHA Hartington Hall</b>	<b>Hall Bank, Hartington, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 OAT</b>
YHA Hathersage	Castleton Road, Hathersage, Hope Valley, Derbyshire, S32 1EH
<b>YHA Hawes</b>	<b>Lancaster Terrace, Hawes, North Yorkshire, DL8 3LQ</b>
YHA Hawkshead	Hawkshead, Ambleside, Cumbria, LA22 0QD
<b>YHA Haworth</b>	<b>Longlands Drive, Haworth, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD22 8RT</b>
YHA Hawse End	Hawse End Cottage, Portinscale, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5UE
<b>YHA Helmsley</b>	<b>Carlton Lane, Helmsley, North Yorkshire, YO62 5HB</b>
YHA Helvellyn	Greenside, Glenridding, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 0QR
<b>YHA Holmbury</b>	<b>Radnor Lane, Dorking, Surrey, RH5 6NW</b>
YHA Honister House	Seatoller, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5XN
<b>YHA Hunstanton</b>	<b>15 Avenue Road, Hunstanton, Norfolk, PE36 5BW</b>
YHA Idwal Cottage	Nant Ffrancon, Bethesda, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 3LZ
<b>YHA Ilam Hall</b>	<b>Ilam Hall, Ilam, Ashbourne, Derbyshire, DE6 2AZ</b>
YHA Ingleton	Greta Tower, Sammy Lane, Ingleton, North Yorkshire, LA6 3EG
<b>YHA Ironbridge Coalbrookdale</b>	<b>1 Paradise, Coalbrookdale, Telford, Shropshire, TF8 7NR</b>
YHA Ironbridge Coalport	John Rose Building, High Street, Coalport, Shropshire, TF8 7HT
<b>YHA Jordans</b>	<b>Welders Lane, Jordans, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, HP9 2SN</b>
YHA Keswick	Station Road, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5LH
<b>YHA Kettlewell</b>	<b>Kettlewell, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 5QU</b>
YHA Kings	Kings, Penmaenpool, Dolgellau Gwynedd, Wales, LL40 1TB
<b>YHA Kington</b>	<b>Victoria Road, Kington, Herefordshire, HR5 3BX</b>
YHA Lands End	Letcha Vean, St Just-in-Penwith, Penzance, Cornwall, TR19 7NT
<b>YHA Langdale</b>	<b>High Close, Loughrigg, Ambleside, Cumbria, LA22 9HJ</b>
YHA Langdon Beck	Forest-in-Teesdale, Barnard Castle, Co Durham, DL12 0XN
<b>YHA Leominster</b>	<b>The Old Priory, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 8EQ</b>
YHA Littlehampton	63 Surrey Street, Littlehampton, West Sussex, BN17 5AW
<b>YHA Litton Cheney</b>	<b>Litton Cheney, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 9AT</b>
YHA Liverpool Albert Dock	25 Tabley Street, off Wapping, Liverpool, Mersyside, L1 8EE
<b>YHA Lizard</b>	<b>The Polbreen, Lizard Point, Cornwall, TR12 7NT</b>
YHA Llanddeusant	The Old Red Lion, Llanddeusant, Camarthenshire, SA19 9UL
<b>YHA Llangattock</b>	<b>Wern Watkin, Hillside, Llangattock, Crickhowell, NP8 1LG</b>
YHA London Central	104 Bolsover Street, London, W1W 5NU
<b>YHA London Earls Court</b>	<b>38 Bolton Gardens, Earl's Court, London, SW5 0AQ</b>
YHA London Lee Valley	Windmill Lane, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, EN8 9AJ
<b>YHA London Oxford Street</b>	<b>14 Noel Street, London, W1F 8GJ</b>
YHA London St Pauls	36 Carter Lane, London, EC4V 5AB
<b>YHA London Thameside</b>	<b>20 Salter Road, Rotherhithe, London, SE16 5PR</b>
YHA Lulworth Cove	School Lane, West Lulworth, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 5SA
<b>YHA Malham</b>	<b>Malham, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 4DB</b>
YHA Manchester	Potato Wharf, Castlefield, Manchester, M3 4NB
<b>YHA Mankinholes</b>	<b>Mankinholes, Todmorden, Lancashire, OL14 6HR</b>
YHA Manorbier	Manorbier, nr Tenby, Pembrokeshire, SA70 7TT
<b>YHA Medway</b>	<b>351 Capstone Road, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 3JE</b>
YHA Minehead	Alcombe Combe, Minehead, Somerset, TA24 6EW
<b>YHA National Forest</b>	<b>48 Bath Lane, Moira, Swadlincote, Derbyshire, DE12 6BD</b>
YHA New Forest	Cott Lane, Burley Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 4BB
<b>YHA Newport Pembrokeshire</b>	<b>Lower St Mary Street, Newport, Pembrokeshire, SA42 0TS</b>

**YHA Ninebanks**  
YHA Okehampton

**YHA Okehampton Bracken Tor**  
YHA Osmotherley

**YHA Patterdale**  
YHA Penzance

**YHA Perranporth**  
YHA Poppit Sands

**YHA Port Eynon**  
YHA Portreath

**YHA Pwll Deri**  
YHA Ravenstor

**YHA Rowen**  
YHA Scarborough

**YHA Sheen Bunkhouse**  
YHA Sheringham

**YHA Sherwood Forest**  
YHA Skiddaw House

**YHA Slaidburn**  
YHA Snowdon Bryn Gwynant

**YHA Snowdon Llanberis**  
YHA Snowdon Pen-y-Pass

**YHA Snowdon Ranger**  
YHA South Downs

**YHA St Briavels Castle**  
YHA St Davids

**YHA Stratford**  
YHA Streatley

**YHA Street**  
YHA Swanage

**YHA The Sill at Hadrian's Wall**  
YHA Tanners Hatch

**YHA Thurlby**  
YHA Tintagel

**YHA Totland Bay**  
YHA Treyarnon Bay

**YHA Truleigh Hill**  
YHA Wasdale Hall

**YHA Wells Next The Sea**  
YHA Whitby

**YHA Wilderhope Manor**  
YHA Windermere

**YHA Wooler**  
YHA Wye Valley

**YHA York**  
YHA Youlgreave

**Orchard House, Mohope, Ninebanks, Hexham, NE47 8DQ**  
Klondyke Road, Okehampton, Devon, EX20 1EW

**Bracken Tor, Saxongate, Okehampton, Devon, EX20 1QW**  
Cote Ghyll, Osmotherley, Notherallerton, North Yorkshire, DL6 3AH

**Patterdale, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 ONW**  
Castle Horneck, Penzance, Cornwall, TR20 8TF

**Droskyn Point, Perranporth, Cornwall, TR6 OGS**  
Sea View, Poppit, Cardigan, Pembroke, SA43 3LP

**Old Lifeboat House, Port Eynon, Swansea, SA3 1NN**  
Nance Farm, Illogan, Redruth, Cornwall, TR16 4QX

**Castell Mawr, Trefasser, Goodwick, Pembrokeshire, SA64 0LR**  
Millers Dale, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 8SS

**Rhiw Farm, Rowen, Conwy, LL32 8YW**  
Burniston Rd, Scarborough, North Yorkshire, YO13 ODA

**Peakstones, Sheen, Derbyshire, SK17 OES**  
1 Cremer's Drift, Sheringham, Norfolk, NR26 8HX

**Forest Corner, Edwinstowe, Nottinghamshire, NG21 9RN**  
Bassenthwaite, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 4QX

**King's House, Slaidburn, Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 3ER**  
Nantgwynant, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 4NP

**Llwyn Celyn, Llanberis, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 4SR**  
Pen-y-Pass, Nantgwynant, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 4NY

**Rhyd Ddu, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL54 7YS**  
Itford Farm, Beddingham, Lewes, East Sussex, BN8 6JS

**St Briavels, Lydney, Gloucestershire, GL15 6RG**  
Llaethdy, Whitesands, St David's, Pembrokeshire, SA62 6PR

**Hemmingford House, Alveston, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 7RG**  
Reading Road, Streatley, Berkshire, RG8 9JJ

**The Chalet, Ivythorn Hill, Street, Somerset, BA16 0TZ**  
Cluny, Cluny Crescent, Swanage, Dorset, BH19 2BS

**Military Road, Bardonia Mill, Northumberland, NE47 7AN**  
Off Ranmore Common Road, Dorking, Surrey, RH5 6BE

**16 High Street, Thurlby, Bourne, Lincolnshire, PE10 0EE**  
Dunderhole Point, Tintagel, Cornwall, PL34 ODW

**Hurst Hill, Totland Bay, Isle Of Wight, PO39 0HD**  
Tregonnan, Treyarnon, Padstow, Cornwall, PL28 8JR

**Tottington Barn, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex, BN43 5FB**  
Wasdale Hall, Wasdale, Seascale, Cumbria, CA20 1ET

**Church Plain, Wells, Norfolk, NR23 1EQ**  
Abbey House, East Cliff, Whitby, North Yorkshire, YO22 4JT

**Manor, Longville in the Dale, Shropshire, TF13 6EG**  
Bridge Lane, Troutbeck, Windermere, Cumbria, LA23 1LA

**30 Cheviot Street, Wooler, Northumberland, NE71 6LW**  
Near Goodrich, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 6JJ

**Water End, Clifton, York, North Yorkshire, YO30 6LP**  
Fountain Square, Youlgreave, nr Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1UR

# Readers' pics

@Countrystride1

Morning after the night before, from Ambleside YHA @YHAOfficial.



@Haroon\_Mota

Not a bad view that!

#Ambleside #LakeDistrict

#KendalMountainFestival



@alanhinkes

😊😊 Earls Court

@YHAOfficial great

place to stay



🐦📷 Don't forget the hashtags  
#YHANatureChallenge #LiveMoreYHA

# WIN A Goal Zero Venture 75 power bank worth £120

## Can you name the National Parks?

England and Wales currently have 13 National Parks between them – with plans afoot for more. But how well do you know them? To be in with a chance of winning the prize, simply tell us the five National Parks in which these natural features are located.

- 1 The Carneddau, the Glyderau, Tryfan
- 2 Dunkery Beacon, River Barle, Hangman Cliffs
- 3 Lathkill Dale, Kinder Scout, Mam Tor
- 4 Kielder Forest, Cheviot Hills, River Coquet
- 5 Bowfell, Haystacks, Skiddaw

To enter, send us an email with your five answers to [magazine@yha.org.uk](mailto:magazine@yha.org.uk) by 5 April 2024. Feel free to share your thoughts on this magazine at the same time.

## About the prize

The new Goal Zero Venture 75 power bank is where fast-charging technology meets rugged durability, making it ideal for outdoor, travel and emergency use. The upgraded 19200 mAh power bank features an IP67 dustproof/waterproof rating and a USB-C port designed to speed up charging. You can power up phones, tablets, laptops, and other USB-C devices using the 60W USB-C Power Delivery port. It recharges in only 1.5 hours, and weighs just 577g.

Find out more about Goal Zero power banks at: [goalzero.co.uk/collections/usb-power-banks](https://goalzero.co.uk/collections/usb-power-banks)



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