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Christmas illuminations at Saltram

©National Trust Images/John Millar



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## Find out more

The selection of events here is a small part of what's on offer. You can visit the events page of the website at [nationaltrust.org.uk/whats-on](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/whats-on) and use the search function to find out everything that's going on near you, or at your favourite place.

Facilities and access information can be found on each place's homepage on the website, as can contact details if you require further information.

### How to book

We have indicated where there is an event charge and where booking is necessary. Please note that normal admission charges apply unless you are a member. All children must be accompanied by an adult. And please check beforehand as to whether or not dogs are welcome. We do take every effort to ensure that all event details are correct at the time of going to press. The National Trust reserves the right to cancel or change events if necessary. **Tickets are non-refundable.**

### Key to symbols

- Half-term
- Halloween
- Christmas
- Father Christmas

## CORNWALL

### Antony

Torpoint PL11 2QA

#### Glorious garden tour

Wed 16 Oct, 2.30-4pm

A walk-and-talk with a gardener, taking you from sweeping views designed by Humphry Repton to formal gardens conceived by the still live-in family, the Carew Poles.

#### Twilight rambles

Mon 21 Oct, 6-8.30pm

See Antony's landscape in a different light as you walk around the garden at dusk, looking for signs of badgers and detecting bats with a special monitor.

**Booking essential 01752 812191 (option 0)**  
**Adult £10, child £8 (includes hot chocolate)**

#### Halloween pumpkin trail

Tue - Thu, 22 - 31 Oct, 12 noon-4.30pm

Hunt for the pesky, decorated pumpkins hidden around the garden and make your way to the spooky finale to claim your prize. **£2 (includes prize)**

### Cotehele

Near Saltash PL12 6TA

#### Autumn market

Sat 19 & Sun 20 Oct, 11am-4pm

You'll find great local food and crafts at this autumn market, with stalls selling everything from tasty Cornish pasties to modern jewellery.

#### Haunting Halloween week at Cotehele Mill

Sat 19 - Sat 26 Oct, 11am-3pm

Are you brave enough for all the spooky things going on at the mill this Halloween? Follow the children's trail through the decorated mill buildings to claim a treat.

#### Halloween half-term fun on Cotehele Quay

Mon 21 - Fri 25 Oct, 11am-3pm

Have some spooky, creative fun on Cotehele Quay. On Mon and Tue there'll be monster making (£1), on Wed make leaf crowns (free), Thu and Fri will be Pumpkin carving (£3).

#### Fright night in the house

Sat 26 Oct, 5.30-7.30pm

Experience the spooky side of Cotehele as you explore the house after dark. Wander by torchlight for this spooky event, suitable for children and families. Timed tickets issued on arrival.

#### Winter craft fair

Sat 2 & Sun 3 Nov, 11am-4pm

Get ahead of the game this year with some early Christmas shopping. You'll find local art and craft makers exhibiting and selling a range of handmade and affordable gifts.

#### The building of the Christmas Garland

Mon 4 - Fri 15 Nov, 11am-4pm

It's been an annual tradition for over 60 years; come along to see the garden team busy in the Great Hall at Cotehele as they put together this year's cut flower garland.

#### Secret Cotehele tour and lunch

Thu 7, Fri 8, Mon 11 & Tue 12 Nov, 10am-1.30pm

An in-depth tour of Cotehele house. Meet the team as they give the house its annual deep clean, learn about conservation practices and peek behind closed doors.

**Booking essential 01579 351346**  
**£27.50 (includes morning coffee and lunch)**

#### The Christmas flower garland

Sat 16 Nov - Sun 5 Jan (excluding 25 & 26 Dec), 11am-4pm

When the first modest Christmas display was hung in Cotehele hall in the 1950s, little did anyone know it would become a magnificent tradition. This year's 60ft-long garland has 32,000 flowers, all grown on the estate.

#### Festive wreath making

Thu 5 Dec, 10.30am-12.30pm

Join artisan florist, Miranda Hackett, for a wreath making workshop using seasonal foliage and berries.

**Booking essential 01579 351346**  
**£60 (includes materials)**

#### Victorian family Christmas at Cotehele Mill

Sat & Sun, 7 - 15 Dec & daily 21 Dec - 5 Jan (excludes 25 & 26 Dec), 11am-3pm

Come along to Cotehele Mill this winter to see how the Langsford family celebrated Christmas. Decorated for a traditional Victorian yuletide, there'll be festive family activities and dressing up.

#### Let's wassail

Sat 21 Dec, 11.30am-12 noon

Put on your festive waistcoat, dig out your trombone and help scare away the evil spirits in the Cotehele Orchards. Embellished hats and fancy dress are encouraged.

#### Apple tree pruning workshops

Tue 7 & Wed 8 Jan, 10.30am-1pm

Join us in the orchard for an introduction to apple tree pruning with Cotehele's gardeners. Part theory, part practical. Tools provided, but wrap up warm.

**Booking essential 01579 351346 (option 0)**  
**£25**

### Glendurgan Garden

Near Falmouth TR11 5JZ

#### Celebrating autumn at Glendurgan

Sat 19 Oct - Sun 3 Nov (excluding Mon 21 & 28 Oct), 10.30am-4.30pm

Pose for a picture in the outdoor autumnal photo frame, decorate a willow crown with colourful fallen leaves from the garden floor or have a go at an autumn-themed garden trail.

#### Beach clean

Sun 24 Nov, 10am-12 noon

Help to keep the beaches clean along the Helford River. Gloves, bags and litter-pickers provided. Finish with a complimentary hot or cold drink and cake in the Fish Cellar in Durgan village.

## Godolphin

Near Helston TR13 9RE

### Spooky stories in the Undercroft 🧟👻

Mon 21, Wed 23, Fri 25 & Sun 27 Oct, 11am-12 noon, 1-2pm, 2-3pm & 3-4pm, Storyteller Mark Harandon will be in the Undercroft, with spooky stories to intrigue children and adults. Hear about the ghostly white lady who haunts Godolphin at night, and mysterious black dogs that prowl the mines.

### Christmas house weekends 🌲

Sat & Sun, 30 Nov - 15 Dec, 10am-4pm

The house will be traditionally decorated for Christmas, reflecting the wealth that past generations lived in as a result of mining. Get that Christmassy feeling from an open fire, seasonal treats and festive crafts.

### Christmas show:

#### 'A Christmas Made of Tin' 🌲

Sat & Sun, 30 Nov - 29 Dec, 11-11.45am, 12.30-1.15pm & 2-2.45pm

Christmas is coming but Tiny Tin is too busy making his fortune down the Godolphin mines. Can Sparkle, the Christmas Spirit, help him rediscover the true meaning of Christmas? Find out at this festive performance.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**  
**£5.50**

### Christmas wreath workshops in Godolphin House 🌲

Tue 3 - Fri 6 & Mon 9 - Thu 12 Dec, 11am-4pm

Learn to make a traditional wreath using fresh, natural foliage. Enjoy exclusive use of Godolphin House and express your festive creativity with winter greenery, berries, fruit, pinecones and ribbons.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**  
**£50 (includes materials, refreshments and lunch)**

## Lanhydrock

Near Bodmin PL30 5AD

### Ranger day - helping history

Sat 12 Oct, 11am-2pm

Help to preserve the history of Lanhydrock, from clearing scrub from archaeological sites and maintaining access, to removing mud and silt from the ha-ha.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**

### Spooky Halloween trail 🧟👻

Sat 19 Oct - Sun 3 Nov, 10am-4pm

Join us for a spooky adventure around the garden and unravel the creepy clues as you go.

### Mobiloo at Lanhydrock

Sun 20 Oct & 22 Dec, 10am-3pm

A fully accessible loo and hoist will be available in the main car park all day.

### Ranger Day - cut and burn

Sat 23 Nov, 10am-3.30pm

Join the rangers for a day cutting and burning scrub to help maintain one of the rare habitats. No fire is complete without marshmallows, which will be provided for a midday sugar hit.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**

### Masked ball Christmas at Lanhydrock 🌲

Sun 1 Dec - Sun 5 Jan

(excluding 25 & 26 Dec), 11am-4pm

See Lanhydrock ready for an 1893 fancy dress ball; pose for a photo in the Victorian Christmas carriage, or take the 'downstairs' route and catch the servants on their night off, and play parlour games in the kitchens.

### December bird watch

Thu 5 Dec, 10.30am-12.30pm

Wrap up warm and discover bird life in the garden with expert gardener Ian.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**

### Christmas lunches at Lanhydrock 🌲

Thu & Fri, 12 - 20 Dec, 12-2.30pm

Enjoy a delightful festive lunch in the Servants' Hall restaurant. See website for menu information.

**Booking essential via website**  
**Adult from £19.95, child (12 and under) from £11.95**

## North Cornwall coast and countryside

### Geology rocks at Sandymouth

Thu 3 Oct, 2-4.30pm

See the extraordinary cliffs and rocks of the coast and how it affects today's wildlife and landscape on a walk with Geologist Jane Anderson and a National Trust ranger.

**£4**

### Half term ranger day - build a bird box 🐦

Wed 23 Oct, 10am-2pm

Come to the Tubestation above Polzeath beach to build a bird box and get some handy tips on how to put it up in your garden at home.

**£5 (includes materials)**

### Geology rocks at Glebe Cliff, Tintagel

Thu 24 Oct, 10.30am-1.30pm

Interpret the landscape from Glebe towards Trebarwith cliffs from a different perspective, with local Geologist Jane Anderson guiding you through the geological history of the area.

**Booking essential 01208 863046**  
**£3**

### Christmas scrub 'n' spuds

at Pentire Head, near Polzeath 🌲

Sat 7 Dec, 10am-3pm

Help the rangers' conservation work by spending a few hours clearing scrub on the coast at Carnweather Point. As a thank you for your efforts, enjoy a jacket spud baked on the bonfire and a mince pie.

**Booking essential 01208 863821**

## Tintagel Old Post Office

Tintagel PL34 ODB

### Photography competition display

Sat 5 - Sat 12 Oct, 11am-4pm

The theme for this year's photography competition is 'my favourite thing.' See how visitors have interpreted the Old Post Office and vote for your favourite photograph.

### Torchlight trail 🧟👻

Sat 19 Oct - Sun 3 Nov, 11am-3pm

For a treat of tricks, using a UV torch, uncover symbols hidden in the house and solve the puzzle to win yourself a bag of goodies.

**£2.50**

## Trelissick

Near Truro TR3 6QL

### Apple weekend

Fri 4 - Sun 6 Oct, 10.30am-5pm

A weekend of family activities in the orchard including a specialist day on Friday for those wanting to learn about cultivating, growing and the uses of apples.

### Autumn children's trail 🐦

Sat 19 Oct - Sun 3 Nov, 10.30am-5pm

Walk through the autumn colours of the garden as you take part in the trail to learn what nature is up to at this time of the year.

### Trelissick Christmas craft fair 🌲

Sun 1 Dec, 10.30am-4.30pm

Pick up that perfect Christmas gift from the Trelissick craft fair, with a variety of gifts handmade by National Trust staff and volunteers.

### Trelissick illuminated 🌲

Fri 6 - Sun 8, Fri 13 - Mon 23 & Fri 27 - Tue 31 Dec, 4-7pm

Trelissick becomes an illuminated wonderland as the sun sets. Meander along the garden paths and enjoy a magical experience of colour and light.

### Trelissick house festively decorated for Christmas 🌲

Daily, 6 - 31 Dec (excluding 24 - 26 Dec), 11am-4.30pm (plus evening opening for Trelissick illuminated)

A warm welcome awaits you through the wreathed front door; the halls have been decked with Christmas decorations, flowers, and twinkling lights and will be alive with festive cheer.

### An audience with Father Christmas 🌲

Fri - Sun, 6 - 22 Dec & Mon 23 Dec, various times (see web)

Join Father Christmas as he returns to Trelissick to entertain families with his festive tales in the stables and hands out small gifts at the end of the story.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**  
**£6 (includes gift)**

### Meet the reindeer 🌲

Sat 7, 14 & 21 Dec, 11.45am-2.45pm

The reindeer fly in for a festive visit to Trelissick stable yard this Christmas.

### Wooden reindeer making 🌲

Sun 8 & 15 Dec, 11-11.20am, 11.30-11.50am, 12 noon-12.20pm, 12.30-12.50pm, 1-1.20pm, 1.30-1.50pm, 2-2.20pm & 2.30-2.50pm

Learn how to make a reindeer from green wood with the ranger team.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**  
**£5 (includes materials)**

### Storytelling with the elves 🌲

Fri 27 - Tue 31 Dec, 11.30am-12 noon, 1-1.30pm, 2.30-3pm & 4-4.30pm

As Father Christmas takes a well-earned rest between Christmas and New Year, two of his elves will be telling their story of the 12 days of Christmas.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**  
**£4**

## Trengwainton Garden

Near Penzance TR20 8RZ

### Autumn fun day 🧟👻

Sun 20 Oct, 11am-3pm

A day to celebrate all things autumnal; with pumpkin carving (£3 per pumpkin), games, and kitchen garden snacks. Go welly wandering, follow the funky fungi trail and spot the autumn colours.

### Autumn half-term fun 🧟👻

Mon 21 - Thu 24 & Sun 27 Oct, 11am-4pm

Autumn-themed games in the orchard plus apple bobbing with Trengwainton-grown apples (while stocks last). You can also have a go at some of the '50 things to do before you're 11¾.'

### Autumn half-term storytelling 🧟👻

Thu 24 Oct, 11am-4pm

In the bell tent in the orchard, storyteller Mark Harandon spins stories of giant turnips, apples and lost shadows. Stories start on the hour (none at 1pm).

### Christmas lantern walk 🌲

Fri 6 & Sat 7 Dec, 5.30-8pm

The walled garden and orchard will be lit with lanterns, flaming torches and fairy lights, and local bands will be performing festive songs.

**Booking essential (from 1 Oct)**

**0344 249 1895**  
**Non member adult £4.50, child £2.25, family £11.25**

### Visit Father Christmas 🌲

Fri 6 & Sat 7 Dec, sessions from 5.45-7.45pm

Father Christmas will be dressed in traditional green robes, telling a story and sharing small gifts. Father Christmas can't be visited without a ticket for the lantern walk.

**Booking essential (from 1 Oct)**

**0344 249 1895**  
**£4 (includes souvenir keepsake)**

### Christmas late night discount shopping 🌲

Mon 9 Dec, 3-7pm

Linger by the log burner with a complimentary glass of mulled wine and a mince pie while the Christmas songs ease you into the festive spirit as you shop, and enjoy a 10% discount.

## Trerice

Near Newquay TR8 4PG

### October half term 🧟👻

Mon 21 - Sun 27 Oct, 10.30am-5pm

As harvest ends, Trerice prepares to welcome the long winter ahead, with a Halloween-themed trail, storytelling and corn dolly making to ward off evil spirits over the coming months.

**Prices and times vary: see website**

### Christmas crafts 🌲

Sat & Sun, 9 Nov - 22 Dec, 11am-3pm

In November, make festive willow wreaths to welcome the Christmas season. In December, get creative and make festive decorations to dress your tree.

**Prices vary: see website**

### Tours with the conservation team

Sat & Sun, 9 Nov - 1 Dec, 11.30am-12.15pm, 1-1.45pm, 2-2.45pm & 3-3.45pm

Join the conservation team as they give tours of the house during select weekends this winter. They'll be pointing out their collection highlights and discussing how they care for Trerice.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**

### Christmas Tudor banquet 🌲

Fri 8 & 29 Nov, Sat 14 & Fri 20 Dec, 7.30-10pm

It's 1573 and Sir John Arundell has invited you to a Christmas feast in his brand new mansion. The night will include a three-course meal, live entertainment and music and song from a bygone era.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**  
**£32**

### Christmas choir performances 🌲

Sat & Sun, 30 Nov - 22 Dec, 2-4pm

Enjoy carol performances from local choirs and festive treats in the barn restaurant.

### Father Christmas at Trerice 🌲

Sat & Sun, 7 - 22 Dec, 11.15am-12 noon, 12.05-12.55pm, 1.30-2.15pm, 2.25-3.10pm & 3.15-4pm

Christmas wouldn't be complete without a visit from Father Christmas; he'll be sharing festive tales and traditions, with 30 minute performances throughout the day.

**Booking advisable 0344 249 1895**  
**Adult £3, child £4 (includes gift for children)**

## South Cornwall coast and countryside

### Community beach cleans

Sat 5 Oct, 2 Nov, 7 Dec & 4 Jan,

10-11am at Hemmick beach

Mon 7 Oct, 4 Nov, 2 Dec & 6 Jan, 10-11am

at Porthcurnick beach & 2-3.30pm at Pendower beach

Soak in fantastic views whilst helping to keep these beautiful beaches clean. Gloves, bags and litter pickers provided, just bring your enthusiasm to help out for an hour or so.

## West Cornwall coast and countryside

### '50 things to do before you're 11¾'

at Mayon Lookout 🧟👻

Sat 19 - Sun 27 Oct, 10am-4pm

There is lots of fun to be had this half term. Borrow a pair of binoculars to watch seabirds swooping, and find your way with a map.

### 'Gorthwedh: Contrasts of the Tin Coast'

Throughout Nov (see web)

Discover a new installation by Cornish artist Callum Mitchell, created in response to the landscape; encounter something extraordinary while out walking.

## DEVON

## A la Ronde

Near Exmouth EX8 5BD

### Inspired by nature: autumn family trail 🧟👻

Sat 19 Oct - Sun 3 Nov, 10.30am-4.30pm

Crunch through leaves and follow the craft trail to win your prize. Nature inspired Jane and Mary Parminster: find out how they brought the outside in on this family trail.

### Inspired by nature: beautiful bouquets

Daily in Oct, 11am until 4pm

Inspired by the creative spirit of A la Ronde and the natural world, local artists are creating flower arrangements throughout October using different natural materials.

## Arlington Court and the National Trust Carriage Museum

Near Barnstaple EX31 4LP

### Celebrating the harvest

Sat 19 Oct & Sun 20 Oct, 11am-3pm

Enjoy the best of the season with a magnificent display of crops from the kitchen garden, apple and honey tasting, pressings, recipe suggestions and family activities.

### Pumpkin trail 🍂🍻

Sat 19 - Sun 27 Oct, 10.30am-4pm

Find the pumpkins hidden around the grounds and discover more about harvest and Halloween traditions.

£1

### Spooky night walk 🍂👻

Fri 25 Oct, 6.30-7.15pm, 7.15-8pm & 8-8.45pm

On a tour of the grounds at night, follow a spooky tale of unusual happenings. Listen out for bumps and shrieks in the night and see if you can spot any ghostly visitors.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**

**Adult £8, child £4**

### Christmas fair 🌲

Sat 16 & Sun 17 Nov, 11am-4pm

Start your Christmas shopping early: local stall holders will be selling items including jams, chutneys, jewellery, textiles, home furnishings, scarves, quilts, toys, cards, decorations, wood work and more.

£5

### Christmas at the Court 🌲

Sat & Sun, 23 Nov - 22 Dec, 11am-4pm

Join us to get into the festive mood this winter. The house will be decorated for a Victorian Christmas, along with an outdoor festive family trail and a craft activity.

### Father Christmas at Arlington Court 🌲🎅

Sat & Sun, 14 - 22 Dec, 12-12.30pm, 12.30-1pm, 1-1.30pm, 1.30-2pm, 2-2.30pm & 2.30-3pm

In the festive grotto in the stables at the Carriage Museum you can meet Father Christmas in his traditional green outfit and receive a present.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**

**£6 (includes gift)**

### New Year's Day walk with a ranger

Wed 1 Jan, 11am-3pm

A four mile walk around Arlington's beautiful estate to welcome the New Year and blow away the cobwebs.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**

£6

## Buckland Abbey

Yelverton PL20 6EY

### Volunteer recruitment weekend

Sat 12 & Sun 13 Oct, 11am-3pm

Ever thought about volunteering? Why not come along to this volunteer open weekend and find out more? With lots of options available, there's something for everyone.

### October half term family fun 😊

Sat 19 - Sun 27 Oct, 11am-4.30pm

Come and join a craft workshop taking place throughout the week, or become a ranger for the day at Buckland Abbey's special outdoor days.

### Christmas food and craft fair 🌲

Fri 8 - Sun 10 Nov, 10am-4.30pm

With around 50 stalls of locally produced crafts and tasty treats, Buckland's fair is the place to go for your Christmas shopping. No parking at the abbey: free park and ride service from Harrowbeer Airfield.

**Non-member adult £3**

### An audience with

#### Olde Father Christmas 🎅

Sat & Sun, 30 Nov - 22 Dec (see web for times)

A very special guest is coming to visit Buckland. Olde Father Christmas gives magical storytelling sessions in the Abbey, dressed all in green.

**Adult £4, child £8 (includes keepsake gift)**

### Christmas at Buckland 🌲

Daily, 1 Dec - 2 Jan (excluding 25-26 Dec), 11am-4.30pm

Step back in time and experience an Elizabethan style Christmas at Buckland Abbey, with cooking in the kitchen, festive dancing in the great hall and the traditional Lord of Misrule causing mischief.

### Festive family fun trails 🌲

Daily, 1 Dec - 2 Jan (excluding 25-26 Dec), 11am-4.30pm

Wrap up warm and head out on the estate to take part in a festive family trail in the woodland.

### Festive family crafting 🌲

**Selected dates in Dec (see web for details)**

If crafting is your thing, then Buckland Abbey is the place for you this Christmas with the reurn of Naturemake for family craft making on set dates in December.

### Wassail

Sun 5 Jan, 11am-4pm

No New Year's festivity is complete without a traditional Wassail. Dartmoor Border Morris leads the Wassail to celebrate and hope for a good harvest next year. Bring your pots and pans to make lots of noise.

## Castle Drogo

Dartmoor EX6 6PB

### Hydro Turbine open house

Fri 4 Oct, 11am-4pm

The Hydro Turbine building on the River Teign will be open for a look inside, with guides sharing the history of this building, its restoration and how it works.

### Early evening garden walk

Thu 10 Oct, 5-6.30pm

Join one of the team for a walk and talk through the garden to take in the highlights of the season after everyone else has gone home.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**

£5

### Fungi foray

Sun 13 Oct, 2-4pm

Join an experienced mycologist finding and identifying the wide range of fungi on the Castle Drogo estate.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**

£5

### Autumn woodland deer walk and breakfast

Sat 19 & Sun 20 Oct, 7.15-10am

Join this guided walk during the fallow deer rut to search for the sights and sounds of deer in the woods. Afterwards enjoy a delicious home-cooked English breakfast in the café.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**

**Adult £17.50, child £10 (includes breakfast)**

### Bat trail 😊

Sat 19 - Sun 27 Oct, 11am-4pm

Follow the trail through the garden and grounds learning about which bats have made Castle Drogo their home.

**£1 (includes a badge as a prize)**

### Drogo 10 Run

Sun 17 Nov, 10.30am-12.30pm

One of the most spectacular cross-country races in England, this challenging 10 mile run goes up and down the Teign Gorge. Organised in co-operation with the South West Road Runners.

**Booking essential www.thedrogo.co.uk**

**Adult £17**

### The First Christmas at Castle Drogo 🌲

Sat 30 Nov - Mon 23 Dec, see web for times

After six years of building work, Christmas comes back to Castle Drogo. The castle will be decorated just as the Drewe family would have for their first Christmas there in 1926.

### Father Christmas

comes to Castle Drogo 🎅

Fri - Sun, 14 - 22 Dec, 11am-4pm

Father Christmas is returning to the Castle Library to read festive stories and give out presents.

**Booking essential (from 1 Oct)**

**0344 249 1895**

**£5 (includes gift)**

## Coleton Fishacre

Kingswear TQ6 0EQ

### Mini walk & talk - trees and colour in the garden's landscape design

Wed 2 Oct, 9, 16, 23 & 30 Oct, 2-2.15pm

Find out about the importance of the tree collection and autumn colour within the design of the garden on a 15 minute walk and talk with the garden team.

### Mini talk on interior design features of Coleton Fishacre

Fri 4 Oct, 11, 18 & 25 Oct & Sat & Sun,

2 - 24 Nov, 12 noon-12.15pm & 3-3.15pm

Find out about the interior design of Coleton Fishacre in the 1920s, from the Marion Dorn carpet to the Lalique light fittings.

### Leaf patterns trail 😊

Sat 19 Oct - Sun 3 Nov, 10.30am-4pm

Calling all budding designers: this half term follow the trail to explore the garden, looking for some of the best patterns in the leaves to use with autumnal colours to create unique designs.

### Wild Wednesdays 😊

Wed 23 & 30 Oct, 2-4pm

Come to Wild Wednesdays as the ranger team lead '50 things to do before you're 11½' activities in the garden such as campfire cooking.

£3

### Countryside walk

Thu 24 Oct, 11.30am-2pm

Explore Coleton Fishacre's coastline in the company of a ranger; on the way they'll be talking about the wildlife that thrives here, and the work done to care for it.

### Trust10 trail run

Sun 27 Oct, 24 Nov, 22 Dec & 26 Jan 9-10.30am

A free monthly 10k trail run along the rugged South West Coast Path and through Coleton Fishacre garden. Free, fun, informal; come and Trust10 with us.

### Evening torchlit walk

Fri 25 Oct, 6pm-9pm

An evening flaming torchlit walk taking in the coast path around Coleton Fishacre and Froward Point with the countryside ranger team.

**Booking essential 01803 842382**

£10

### Self-led tree trail

Mon 28 Oct - Sun 3 Nov, 10.30am-5pm & Sat & Sun, 9 - 24 Nov, 11am-4pm

Find out more about trees in Coleton Fishacre garden at your own pace on a self-led tree trail prepared by the garden team.

### Christmas carols, cocktails and canapés 🌲

Thu 12 & Mon 16 Dec, 6.30-9pm

A festive, fun evening with a 1920s twist, with music, singing, cocktails and canapés in the Art Deco Saloon, and a behind the scenes house tour guided by Lady Dorothy.

**Booking essential 01803 842382**

**Adult £35 (includes cocktails and canapés)**

### Coleton Aglow 🌲

Dates between Fri 29 Nov - Tue 31 Dec

(see web), 5.30-8pm

Wrap up warm and explore Coleton Fishacre this Christmas. The garden is merry and bright with illuminations, while inside the house beckons to Christmases past with a 1920's festive party.

**Booking essential 01803 842382**

**Adult £12, child (5-17) £6, family £30**

## Compton Castle

Marldon TQ3 1TA

### Minibeast monsters trail 😊👻

Tue - Thu, 22 - 31 Oct, 10.30am-4pm

There are mysterious goings-on with the mini beast monsters in Compton Castle this half term. Can your little one spot the spooky spiders, witchy woodlice and scary snails to claim a small prize?

## East South Devon coast and countryside

### Shute Barton open weekend

Sat 16 & Sun 17 Nov, 10.30am-4pm (45 minute tours begin every 15 minutes)

Usually let as a holiday cottage, take a guided tour of this a medieval house complete with battlements, towers, royal connections and one of the largest fireplaces in England.

**Non-member adult £6, child £3**

## Finch Foundry

Near Okehampton EX20 2NW

### Halloween fun at Finch 🍂👻

Sun 27 Oct, 11am-4pm

The fiery furnaces of Finch present a spooky backdrop for some scary stories and a fun Halloween trail.

**Donations to the story teller welcome**

### St Clement's Day

Sat 23 Nov, 11am-4pm

Celebrate the patron saint of blacksmiths, with demonstrations, competitions, items for sale and mulled apple juice to keep out the cold. Blacksmiths from all over converge at Finch Foundry to compete.

## Greenway

Near Brixham TQ5 0ES

### Tea time trail 😊

Sat 19 Oct - Sun 3 Nov, 10.30am-5pm & Sat - Sun, 9 - 24 Nov, 11am-4pm

What do squirrels like for tea, and where does tea come from? These questions and more will be explored on this fun garden trail for families. Pick up a trail from Visitor Reception.

**Pre-booked parking essential 01803 842382**

### Countryside walk with a ranger

Fri 25 Oct, 11.30am-1pm

Join a ranger for a walk through Greenway garden out to part of the estate, and find out about the work that the rangers do to care for this special place.

**Pre-booked parking essential 01803 842382**

### Autumn tea festival

Sat 2 & Sun 3 Nov, 10.30am-5pm & Sat - Sun, 9 - 24 Nov, 11am-4pm

Whether your choice of tea is a delicate white of Japan or a typical builder's brew, the tea festival is the perfect way to discover your new favourite, with activities for kids and adults.

**Pre-booked parking essential 01803 842382**

### The Adventure of the Christmas Pudding 🌲

Sat & Sun, 30 Nov - 15 Dec & Sat 21 - Tue 24 & Fri 27 - Tue 31 Dec, 11am-4pm

Expect Christmas puddings everywhere as Agatha Christie's story 'The Adventure of the Christmas Pudding' has once again inspired the Christmas decorations and activities in her beloved holiday home and garden.

**Pre-booked parking essential 01803 842382**

### Father Christmas visits Greenway 🎅🌲

Sat 7, 14 & 21 Dec, 11.30am-1pm & 2-3.30pm

Father Christmas will be meeting children and sharing out keepsake gifts. His helpers will be telling stories and helping little-ones to write their letters to Father Christmas to pop into the Greenway post.

**Booking for Father Christmas advisable and pre-booked parking essential 01803 842382**

**£5 (includes gift)**

## Killerton

Near Exeter EX5 3LE

### Tree of life

Daily until Sat 2 Nov, 11am-5pm

Explore Killerton's link with nature through this fashion exhibition which delves into the use of plants in clothing worn through history.

### Seeing the wood and the trees

Daily until Sun 3 Nov, 11am-5pm

Killerton is celebrating 100 years of the Forestry Commission, telling the story of Francis Acland and his crucial role in its formation in 1919, and how we are looking after forests now for the future.

### The big pick weekend

Sat 5 & Sun 6 Oct, 11am-4pm

Come along to Killerton's orchard for family fun, helping to harvest the apples which make the famous Killerton cider.

### Killerton apple festival

Sat 12 & Sun 13 Oct, 10am-5pm

Discover a family festival tucked in amongst the apple trees at Killerton's orchard. There will be live music, a hog roast, great local food and apple products, including Killerton apple juice and cider.

**Non-member adult £10, child £5**

### Pumpkin trail

Sat 19 Oct - Sun 3 Nov, 11am-4pm

We dare you to go on this trail around the garden and parkland to see if you can spot all of the pumpkins hiding off the beaten track.

### Christmas at Killerton

Daily, 23 Nov - 5 Jan (excluding 25-26 Dec), see web for times

Explore Killerton and see it shine with decorations inspired by the popular poem 'Twas the night before Christmas'. The fun continues outside with twinkling lights, a themed trail and games.

**Booking advisable for house entry (timed tickets) 0344 249 1895**

### Father Christmas

Sat & Sun, 30 Nov - 15 Dec & Thu 19 - Mon 23 Dec, 11am-1pm & 2-4pm

Meet Father Christmas dressed in his traditional green suit, to share your Christmas wish and be given a gift to take home.

**Booking advisable 01392 881345 £7.50 (ages 8 and under, includes gift)**

### Christmas wreath making

Sat 30 Nov - Tue 3 Dec & Thu 5 - Sun 8 Dec, 10.30am-12.30pm & 2.30-4.30pm

Learn the festive art of wreath making with Sarah Pepper using foliage from the Killerton estate. Take home your beautiful creation and use your new talent to make one every year.

**Booking essential 01392 881345 £27.50**

### Harp concert

Thu 5 & 12 Dec, 6.30-10pm

The Music Room comes alive with beautiful music from harpist Elizabeth-Jane Baldry, followed by a three-course dinner served in the award-winning Killerton Kitchen restaurant.

**Booking essential 01392 881345 £35 (includes dinner)**

## Knightshayes Court

Near Tiverton EX16 7RQ

### Astronomical autumn trail

Sat 19 Oct - Sat 2 Nov, 10am-4pm

As the nights start to draw in, it's the perfect time to find out a bit more about the sky above us. Find out what you can see after dark, where and why.

**£1 (includes prize)**

### Four of Swords: 'Doctor Dracula'

Wed - Sat, 23 Oct - 2 Nov, 6.30-7.50pm & 8.30-9.50pm

Immersive theatre examining the role of vampires in Gothic literature and their connection with medical understanding of blood in the 21st century. Story vignettes from classic vampire stories draw the audience through time.

**Booking essential [www.four-of-swords.com](http://www.four-of-swords.com) £15**

### Christmas craft and gift fair

Fri 15 - Sun 17 Nov, 10am-4pm

The fair showcases the best local artisans, craftspeople and producers, with over 50 stalls selling everything from handmade soaps and jewellery, to prints and chocolate.

### Tremendous trees talks

Mon 18 - Fri 29 Nov, 10am-4pm

Join a short guided tour to find out more about where the trees in Knightshayes' garden collection come from and why they are so special.

### A taste of Christmas

Sat 23 & Sun 24 Nov, 10am-4pm

Stuck for ideas for the perfect present? At this Christmas fair, you'll find small brewers and vineyards selling by the glass and bottle, and many stalls selling locally-sourced foods and edible gifts.

### Old, odd and outstanding trees walk

Sat 23 & Sun 24 Nov, 2-3pm

In celebration of National Tree Week, this walk takes in Knightshayes' champion tree collection; from the largest Turkey Oak in England, to one of the first giant redwoods planted in Britain.

**Booking advisable 0344 249 1895 £10 (includes hot drink)**

### Wreath making

Wed & Thu, 27 Nov - 12 Dec, 10.30am-1pm & 1.30-4pm

Led by the talented Jennifer from Goldfinch Floral Studio, make your own wreath using greenery and foliage collected from Knightshayes' garden, followed by lunch or a cream tea in the cafe.

**Booking essential (from 1 Oct) 0344 249 1895 £50 (includes materials and refreshments)**

### A traditional Christmas at Knightshayes

Daily, 1 - 23 & 27 - 31 Dec, 10am-5pm, plus Wed 1 Jan, 10am-4pm

See the house decorated for a traditional family Christmas, celebrating yuletide traditions from throughout the ages. Glimpse the garden terraces bathed in light from 3.30pm; a taster of Knightshayes by night.

### Knightshayes by night

Fri - Sun, 1 - 29 Dec, 5-7pm

From twinkling fairy lights to dancing lasers, discover a hidden world swathed in colour and festive magic. Explore the house decorated for a traditional family Christmas, with presents, toys and greenery galore.

### Father Christmas visits Knightshayes

Sat & Sun, 7 - 22 Dec & Mon 23 Dec, 11am-4pm

No child is truly ready for Christmas until they've met with the jolly man in green. Father Christmas will be visiting his workshop at Knightshayes to hand out keepsakes and share Christmas traditions.

**Booking essential (from 1 Oct) 0344 249 1895 £6.50 (includes gift and craft activity)**

## Lydford Gorge

Near Tavistock EX20 4BH

### Apple day

Sat 5 Oct, 11am-3pm

Come along to help press the apples from the orchard, have a go on the apple shy, create a creature from apples and cook up some tasty apple-inspired treats on the camp fire.

### Halloween trail

Sat 19 - Sun 27 Oct, 10am-3.30pm

The rangers have all turned to skeletons! Follow the trail through witches' wood avoiding the giant spiders and creepy creatures. Work out what jobs the skeleton rangers are doing to win.

**£3 (includes prize)**

### Spooky day

Sun 27 Oct, 11am-3pm

Get into the spirit of Halloween: make a pencil broomstick, weave a dream catcher and take home a magic wand. Join in the potions class to brew up some strange concoctions.

**£5**

### Torchlit walk

Fri 18 & Wed 23 Oct, 5.30-7pm & Sat 14 Dec, 3.30-5pm

Light your way to Whitelady Waterfall with a flaming torch while enchanting music fills the gorge. Then head back to warm up with a hot chocolate and toast marshmallows over the fire.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895 £8 (includes torch), additional ticket (without torch) £2**

## North Devon coast and countryside

### Brownsham family nature trail

Sat 19 Oct - Sun 3 Nov, 9am-4pm

This gentle self-led nature trail starts from the car park at Brownsham, near Hartland Point, and leads through the beautiful Beckland Woods in search of hidden clues.

### Autumn walling workshop

Mon 21 - Tue 22 Oct, 10am-4pm

Learn the ancient skills of drystone walling with the rangers at Morteohoe, near Woolacombe. Help rebuild an ancient Devon stone-faced bank and learn how to shape the stones and what makes a good capping stone.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895 £40**

### Barton Woodfest

Tue 22 Oct, 10am-3pm

Celebrate autumn with this day of woodland activities in the woods above Watersmeet. Learn traditional skills such as green woodworking and horse logging, and have a go at wildlife spotting and campfire cooking.

**Donations welcome**

### Family volunteering bash and burn

Thu 24 Oct, 11am-3pm

Bring all the family for some free outdoor fun. Help the rangers cut and burn gorse bushes on Woolacombe Down and then toast some marshmallows on the bonfire. Tools and training provided.

### Dunsland rural skills pruning course

Sat 16 - Sun 17 Nov, 10am-4pm

Join the rangers to learn the stages of planting and looking after an orchard, and take home your own fruit tree to plant at home. Tools, training and equipment provided.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895 £35 (includes fruit tree to take home)**

### Watersmeet Christmas trail

Sat 21 Dec - Wed 1 Jan, 11am-3pm

Brave the chill for a trail through the valley where the Hoar Oak water and the East Lyn river meet. Father Christmas' reindeer have escaped and hidden in the valley - can you help him find them?

**Free trail from Watersmeet tea-room, donations welcome**

### Brownsham Christmas cracker trail

Sat 21 Dec - Sun 5 Jan, 11.30am-3pm

It's a cracker! Can you find the terrible cracker jokes in Brownsham woodlands on this self-led trail? Begins at the car park at Brownsham, near Hartland Point.

**£1**

## Overbeck's

Sharpitor TQ8 8LW

### Exploring the trauma of combat through the World War One heritage of Overbeck's

Daily until Sun 3 Nov, 11am-4.30pm

A joint exhibition with veterans' mental health charity Combat Stress, telling the stories and experiences of soldiers affected by the trauma of World War One and their convalescence at the Red Cross VAD Hospital at Overbeck's.

### Garden tour

Wed 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 Oct, 2-3pm

One of the gardeners leads a seasonal tour of the garden, discovering its short but interesting history and amazing collection of plants.

### Halloween spooky fun

Thu 31 Oct, 11am-4pm

Calling all budding witches and wizards: come to Overbeck's for spooky fun this Halloween, with craft activities, story telling and a ghostly garden trail.

**£3**

## Saltram

Near Plymouth PL7 1UH

### October half-term fun

Sat 12 - Sun 27 Oct, 10am-5pm

Try out the pesky pumpkin trail in the garden or dressing up in the house, ride your bike in the park and see autumnal displays.

### Storytelling in the orangery

Wed 23 Oct, 1-4pm

Join Mr Storyfella in the orangery for tales from lands near and far.

### Trust10

Sun 27 Oct, 24 Nov, 22 Dec & 26 Jan, 9-11am

A free monthly way-marked 10K run around the Saltram estate. A chance to enjoy traffic free routes, great views and a unique training opportunity. Free, fun and informal; come and Trust10 with us.

### Christmas craft & food fair

Fri 15 Nov, 10am-4pm & Sat 16 - Sun 17 Nov, 9am-4pm

Soak up the festive atmosphere and stroll amongst local craft and food stalls whilst sipping on a warm glass of mulled wine.

**Non-members £3**

### Enchanted Saltram

Fri 22 Nov - Mon 30 Dec, 12 noon-8pm (excluding 25-26 Dec).

Tue 24 Dec, 12 noon - 4pm

Step into the magical world of Enchanted Saltram and become spellbound by what you see. Follow the illuminated trail through the garden after dusk and discover fairytales brought to life.

### Storytime with Father Christmas

Thu - Mon, 1 - 23 Dec, 3-3.45pm, 4-4.45pm, 5-5.45pm, 6-6.45pm

Sit down and join Father Christmas in the stables as he shares magical stories and some festive songs.

**Booking essential via web**

**Adult £4, child (over 1 year old) £8 (includes keepsake gift)**

### Storytime with Father Christmas: relaxed sessions

Sun 1, Thu 5, Sat 14 & Mon 16 Dec, 3-3.45pm

Join Father Christmas in the stables for relaxed performances, designed for audience members who may benefit from a more informal experience, such as those with autism and sensory or communication needs.

**Booking essential via web**

**Adult £4, child (over 1 year old) £8 (includes keepsake gift)**

### Storytelling with Father Christmas: grown-ups only

Sat 14 Dec, 6.30-7.30pm

Who said Christmas was just for kids?

If you're tired of missing out and struggling to get into the Christmas spirit, we have just the thing for you: a grown-ups only performance.

**Booking essential via web**

**Adult £9 (includes a glass of mulled wine or hot chocolate and keepsake gift)**

### Winter walks

Wed 1 - Fri 31 Jan, 10am-5pm

Wrap up warm and discover Saltram's parkland this January. After an estate walk, why not pop into the café for a winter warmer or visit the garden to complete the children's trail?

### Wassail

Sat 25 Jan, 5-9pm

Join the ranger team in Saltram's orchard to bless the 2020 crop as the Wassail King and Queen share how to 'toast' the trees.

**Booking essential 01752 333500**

**Adult £8, child £5, family tickets available**

## South Devon coast and countryside

### Festive fun at East Soar

Sun 15 Dec, 12 noon-3pm

Join the rangers to make your own wreath or festive lantern from natural materials, and help the wildlife through the long winter by making simple feeders to take home.

**Donations welcome towards the wreath making materials**

### Night run at East Soar

Sat 25 Jan, 6.30-9pm

The 9km Night Run, in partnership with Cotswold Outdoor, is a great chance to explore East Soar after dark. Your trail run entry fee will also raise funds for our ongoing nature conservation work on the farm.

**Booking essential 0344 249 1895**

**Adult £15, child (12+) £15**