

The Original Hut Company

# Welcome to your Shepherd's Hut!

We (and the planet) thank you for choosing to relax and have fun in a way that also minimises environmental impact. Please read this Eco-Stay essential information to help us all protect this beautiful ancient woodland, farmland and river. They will, in return, reward you with a wellbeing boost and wonderful memories. Enjoy!

#### Fireside Fun

Sitting around the fire is a fabulous experience. Please ensure that all campfires are set up within the firepit outside your Shepherd's Hut.

To light your fire, please use some of the kindling and the eco firelighter provided. Once this has got going, add on a log. We provide one bag of local sustainable logs and you can purchase more from The Hub.

Please do not cut down or use wood from the protected woodland habitat around you.

You can cook over the fire using the cast iron pot, chain and tripod, or use the griddle plate for BBQs. With 48 hours notice we can provide a meal hamper for you to cook a meal. Ask at The Hub Cafe or check the App.

Please do not use a hard detergent to clean the pot. It's often easier to clean when the pot is still slightly warm just use hot water and the cleaning brush from your hut. Once cool, you can apply a thin layer of cooking oil to prevent it from rusting. Thank you!

## **Electricity & WIFI**

You are here to switch off for a while, yet we know it's hard to be fully off-grid. So we have blended lifestyle and eco-living to give you:

Solar powered battery lighting in your Hut. Please remember to switch off lights when not in use.

Phone/device charging lockers and WIFI at The Hub Cafe. You do get WIFI when you stand just outside too!

Your phone signal may vary depending where you are on the farm and your mobile provider.

You can be free of hairdryers, straighteners and other electrical items for a few days - go wild!

#### **Hot and Cold Water**

All water at the farm is drinking quality. You have cold water in the Hut and wonderful hot water for showers (and washing up!). We use bottled gas for the hot water boiler and your hob. This land is protected and we don't want to damage it by digging trenches for pipes!

The mains water supply is at The Hub. The water comes to the huts through flexipipe that is only a few inches below the ground, which minimised impact on the land.

#### **Gas Hob**

You can put the kettle and other pans on your gas hob in the Hut. Press the gas knob on the cooker and ignite with a match. The glass cooker cover must never be down over a lit flame.

## **Keeping Warm**

To turn your gas heater on, turn the dial to 0 and press. You'll hear the clicking sound of the ignition. With the knob pressed, turn to the selected heat number. If you look through the small opening at the bottom of the heater, you will see when it's lit.

The heater is externally flued and regularly checked by gas safe engineers, so are very safe. Carbon Monoxide detectors are also fitted for your safety.

## Is there something out there?

You may hear noises in the woodland. Don't worry, it will most likely be the deer, badgers, foxes, squirrels and rabbits enjoying their habitat.

There are also barn owls and little owls to listen out for.

We're here to help - visit the Hub Cafe or call us.

Office 01580 830932

Anna 07989 572 858 / Nick 07973 655 748

## **Local Guide**

#### Health

Hospital: The Conquest Hospital, The Ridge, Hastings, East Sussex, 01424 755 255 Local GP: Northiam Surgery, 01797 252 140 Pharmacy: Boots Pharmacy 17, 19 High St, Robertsbridge TN32 5AE

## **Transport**

**Train:** Robertsbridge TN32 5DJ is the closest, but Battle or Hastings are the closet stations with a taxi rank.

Taxi: 247 transport 01424 247 247

**Bus:** The closest bus stop is at the Steam Railway (K&ESR) Station on Bodiam Road. The 349 bus goes to Hastings. To plan a journey visit the Stagecoach website www.stagecoachbus.com or call 0345 241 8000.

#### **Church Service**

Saint Giles Church in Bodiam has a service at 11.15am on the First and Third Sunday of the month. There are also services in other surrounding village churches

### Oh - And Don't Forget...

## **The Countryside Code**

Please shut all gates behind you, keep to the edge of fields with standing crops, move quietly near farm animals and please do not feed them.

You will see a bounty of wild flowers (some very rare), as well as fruit, nuts and dead wood. All contribute to maintaining our biodiverse habitat. You are welcome to taste the blackberries, but please only take a few and resist picking wild flowers. Thank you!

## **Wear your Wristbands**

Please wear your wristbands throughout your stay. This enables our team to easily identify who should be on the site as part of our safeguarding measures.

## **Things To Do**

#### The Hub Cafe

You will have checked-in at The Hub already. This Cafe has a tasty, locally sourced, breakfast and all day menu.

Open 9am - 5pm, with last food orders 4 pm.

From May - September we have pizza nights every Friday - and don't miss our cocktail menu! During peak season the Hub is open until later in the evening so pop in for a sundowner! Look out for notices about other daytime events running in The Hub too.

### Wild Swimming and Self-Launch

The river offers a refreshing opportunity to swim and launch your paddle board or kayak. Please use the left jetty next door to Epic Life.

Please note there is no life guard, so this is at your own risk. Please always supervise children and look out for your friends/family.

#### **River Activities**

Epic Life offer a range of activities such as paddle boarding (SUP), mega SUP and kayaking from the riverside here on the farm. Open April to September. Visit www.epiclife.co.uk/

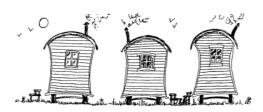
#### **Bodiam Castle**

This wonderful 14th century castle, owned by the National Trust, is one of Britain's most picturesque and romantic ancient monuments. It's only a 15 minute walk along the river (with the river on your left)!

## **Bodiam Steam Railway**

The Kent & East Sussex Railway provide trips on their steam and heritage diesel trains through beautiful countryside. The station is only a 10 minute walk away from The Hub follow the railway track (keeping it on your left). View the timetable online at kesr.org.uk/timetable/

Check out visit1066country.com for lots more ideas!



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