

THE
SADDLE, SPA
AND CASTLE STAY

CREATED BY LIBERTY TRAILS



Highlights of The Saddle, Spa and Castle Stay

- ▶ Stay in the five-star luxury of Bovey Castle hotel with its magnificent public spaces, chic modern bedrooms, large indoor pool and Elan Spa.
- ▶ Revel in prize-winning adventure riding on quality horses deep within Dartmoor National Park. There are lots of places to enjoy fast canters, and a superb sit down lunch is served en route.
- ▶ Enjoy exclusive guiding from Liberty Trails; you will not be grouped with any other riders, enabling you to adjust the pace and itinerary to suit precisely your wishes and energy levels.
- ▶ Full concierge service included: your Liberty Trails representative will meet you the night before your first ride to discuss the route, horses etc, and will collect and deliver you daily to/from your ride start and end point. If you come by train or plane to Devon, collection from the station/ airport is included too.
- ▶ You'll be accompanied by an experienced mounted guide who can tell you all about the moors, their wildlife, history and legends, and a ground support vehicle carrying refreshments, spare kit etc, who is also there for safety.
- ▶ Dine in Smith's Brasserie, the hotel's bright and relaxed brasserie.



- ▶ Option to bring your own horse. We've always loved welcoming riders who bring their own horses, but recommend you bring your own usual hard feeds and supplements with you. We can supply advice from a local vet on how to get your horse nicely fit for this sort of adventure, plus a suggested packing list. We will guide you to your yard if you bring your own horse once you approach Dartmoor.
- ▶ Extra activities and trip extensions (E-biking, guided foraging, autumn hunting, falconry etc) easily arranged for non-riders and riders alike, not to mention the 18-hole championship course at Bovey itself.

Itinerary

PLEASE NOTE: some details of the trip outlined below may vary; we amend our routes to make the most of weather conditions and energy levels etc.

Day one:

Arrive at Bovey Castle from 4pm, settle into your room and enjoy a cream tea in the library or a refreshing indoor swim or walk around the grounds after your journey. Your Liberty Trails representative will join you for a pre-dinner drink to discuss the following day's ride, the horses that have been chosen for you and what to expect next day.



Day two:

After a delicious cooked breakfast, a Liberty Trails representative will arrive to collect you from the hotel lobby, and drive you to your ride start point. We will choose the route the night before based on the most up to date weather forecast; conditions can vary considerably from one side of the moor to another. You will then mount up for a fabulous 5-hour ride covering some 15 or so miles, with a good dismounted stop for lunch.

You will cross some splendidly varied, remote and stunning country, climbing to the top of tors, crossing rivers, and enjoying long, contour-hugging canter. You will definitely encounter Dartmoor's famous native pony herds, see standing stones and more.

Your ground support crew will meet you mid-morning with refreshments (and spare kit if you need it) and will set out a gorgeous sit down picnic in a favourite beauty spot at lunch time. At the ride's end, the horse box will meet you at an agreed finish point, and there's often a tot of something warming passed round before you are driven back to Bovey Castle. There's time to enjoy a treatment in the Elan Spa before supper in Smith's Brasserie.



Day three:

As for day two. You will be collected after breakfast and taken to a new ride starting point. There will be a further five or so hours out on the moors among the skylarks, buzzards and moorland cattle. You can expect to see very few other people while you are out, just two pricked ears framing every view – and your ground support crew takes some super photographs of you while you ride to share with you later.

Once again, lunch will be served mid-way through your ride, and if the weather doesn't quite behave, we have contingency plans, usually in the form of a barn-based picnic.

Celebrate the end of your ride as you dismount with some port or bubbly, before you are driven back to Bovey Castle, to relax, swim, freshen up etc ahead of dinner. We will book you a table at a favourite nearby gastro-pub to give you an altogether different dining experience on your final night.

Day four:

After a relaxing final breakfast in your hotel, it's time to check out. If travelling without a car, a Liberty Trails representative will arrive to deliver you to your train or flight. Bovey Castle also has a helipad.



Accommodation and meals

This premium trip is based from Bovey Castle. You will stay in a Castle Room at the five-star Bovey Castle hotel, once home of the W H Smith family, which stands in 275 acres of grounds.

Bovey's 60 individually designed rooms combine luxury with stunning views over the National Park – you can't beat gazing at a grazing horse on the other side of the valley as you brush your teeth.

The cooking at Bovey Castle is excellent. Enjoy dining at the Mediterranean, bistro-style menu in Smith's Brasserie or on its terrace overlooking Dartmoor and the River Bovey. We can also organise a 7 course set tasting menu in the Tasting Room if you are staying with us Thursday - Monday evenings which is a supplement. We recommend eating on the third night in a favourite Dartmoor gastropub nearby.

Single/Shared occupancy:

Either is available but prices quoted are based on two sharing a room. There is a minimum number of two riders required for this trip, however.



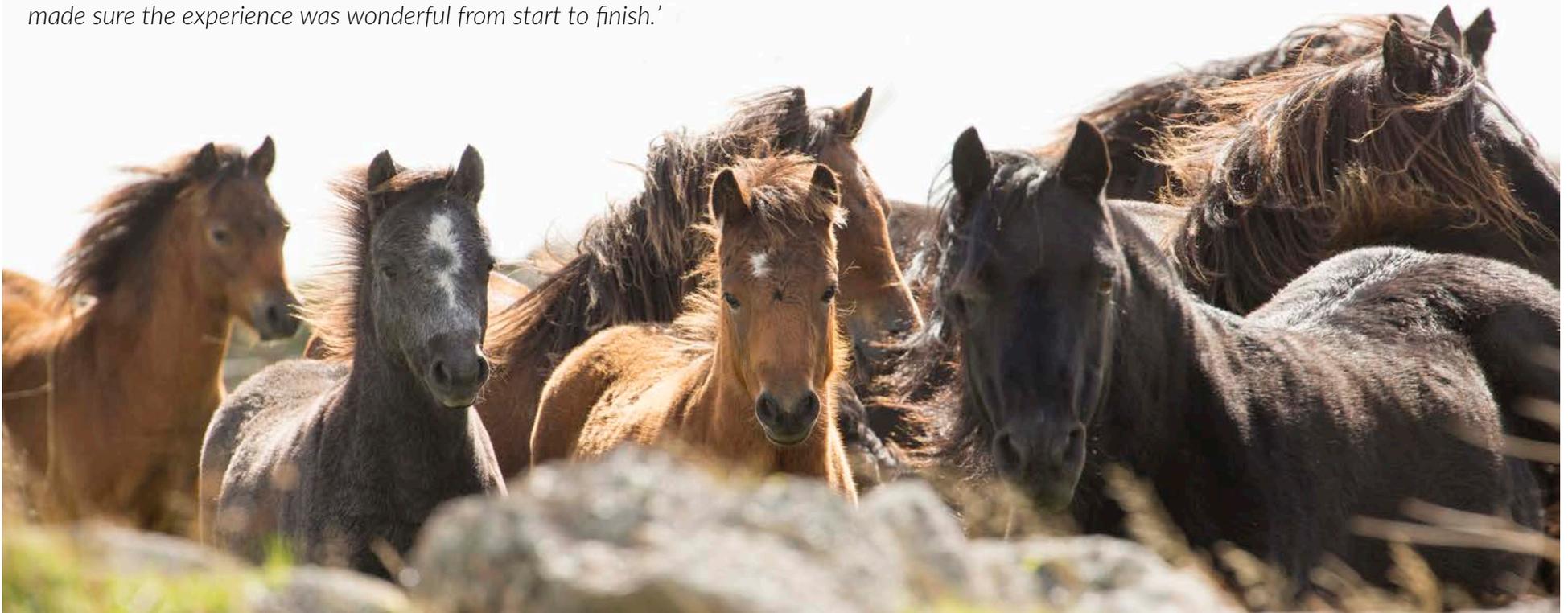
What previous Saddle, Spa and Castle Stay guests have said:

'Nothing was too much trouble, from the welcome the moment I walked out of the train station. Thank you for an amazing time. My life has been enriched by you and this experience.'

'A one of a kind experience. Beautiful scenery, healthy, fit horses and first class accommodations at Bovey Castle. I enjoyed it so much the first time I had to come back again this year.'

'An unforgettable, wonderful experience. The riding was first class, owing to the perfect horses, and Elaine, our friendly guide who took us on hours of never-ending breathtaking views, long stretches of canter grassland and fun creeks and streams to cross.'

'The behind the scenes crew were well organised and would appear with perfect timing like magic with refreshment breaks. Liberty Trails made sure the experience was wonderful from start to finish.'



The package includes:

- ▶ Horse hire (where needed) or livery, bedding, ad lib forage if bringing your own horse
- ▶ Exclusive guiding and ground support
- ▶ Mid-ride lunch and refreshments
- ▶ All accommodation and breakfasts
- ▶ Transfers to/ from your horse each day
- ▶ Both dinners taken at Bovey Castle up to the value of £45 per head, per night (anything above this to be paid as a supplement by you).
- ▶ Photos taken by our ground crew will be shared with anyone who would like them.
- ▶ Any transfers needed to/ from a local train station or airport.

Next Steps:

Please email us at enquiries@libertytrails.com stating your preference for single occupancy or shared occupancy room, with hired horse or livery for your own horse.

We will confirm pricing and availability and send you a Rider Information Form. To reserve your place, we ask each rider to complete and return the Rider Information Form along with a 30% deposit.

If your trip has to be re-arranged, due to covid regulations it will be transferred to an identical or similar experience (in consultation with you) on another agreed date, with no rearrangement fees. We are proud to have achieved 100% customer satisfaction with how we've handled this so far and intend to keep it that way.

Have a question?

Contact us **HERE** or send a WhatsApp message to 07967 823674 requesting call back to discuss The Saddle, Spa and Castle Stay.

Booking Conditions

<https://liberty-trails.com/booking-conditions/>

