

# WELCOME TO DURLSTON

**Jurassic Coast**  
Durlston's rocks tell a key chapter in the formation of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site. In Durlston Bay, the remains of tiny prehistoric mammals found within the layers of Purbeck Limestone reveal the story of life 135 million years ago.

**A Wealth of Wildlife**  
More than 3,000 species of wildlife have been found on Durlston's National Nature Reserve. Bustling seabird colonies, rare orchids, migrant birds, flower-filled meadows and beautiful butterflies mean there's always something new to discover.

**Durlston Castle**  
An extraordinary Victorian building well worth exploring. The completely refurbished Castle offers rooftop views, changing exhibitions, interactive displays, shop and seventhwave - a stunning café and restaurant.



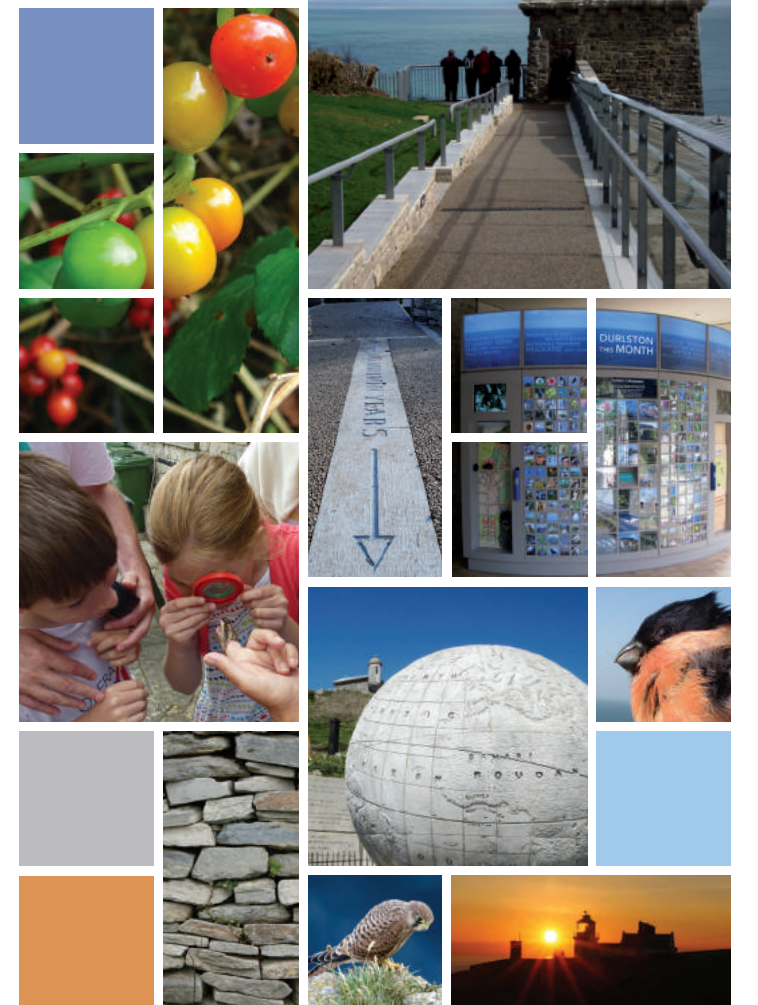
Durlston is the perfect place to start exploring Dorset's internationally acclaimed coast and countryside. With stunning sea views, superb coastal walking, exciting events and amazing wildlife, there's plenty to see and do. Durlston is carefully managed for conservation and public enjoyment by Dorset County Council.

# DURLSTON

COUNTRY PARK AND NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE, SWANAGE

OCTOBER - APRIL  
2017 / 2018

## WHAT'S ON GUIDE INSIDE



Owned and managed by Dorset County Council

# DURLSTON CASTLE

## A Victorian Legacy

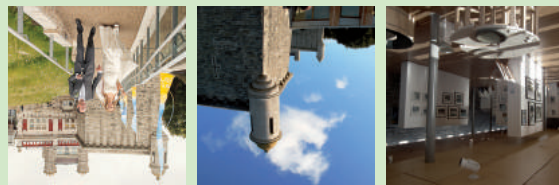
The Castle and Great Globe are just part of the curious legacy of George Burt, a Victorian entrepreneur also known as the 'King of Swanage'. Discover his fascination with the natural world and grand plans for the Durlston estate as you explore the Park.

## Weddings and Functions

The Castle is a unique and beautiful venue for that special day. Weddings, receptions, seminars, conferences and private parties can all be held at the Castle and at the Learning Centre.

## Changing Exhibitions

The Fine Foundation Gallery offers a year-round programme of exhibitions and events. Highlights include an exhibition exploring the themes of this year's Purbeck Film Festival, an exhibition of stunning photographs of night-time Dorset by Kevin Ferrioli and an exhibition of wildlife photography by Julian Sawyer...



Entry to the Castle and all exhibitions is free of your visit.

## Ranger Service

A Ranger is always on-hand to provide information and help you get the most out of your visit.

Enjoy amazing interactive displays, relax on the rooftop terrace or check out live wildlife cameras and the latest dolphin sightings. The Castle offers superb access for visitors with disabilities.

## Visitor Centre

Restored in 2011, Durlston Castle is a must for visitors to Dorset and the Jurassic Coast.

# MUCH MORE...



Find out more on our website [www.durlston.co.uk](http://www.durlston.co.uk) or follow us on Twitter or Facebook.

## Friends of Durlston

A range of benefits are available to members, and just by joining you are helping to protect and enhance this very special place.

## Outdoor Learning

Durlston is a superb outdoor classroom. Ranger-led 'Discovery Sessions' offer teachers and students an unforgettable day, linked to the National Curriculum. Please book if visiting with a group.



With more than 150 events on offer every year, there is something for everyone from mini-beast safaris and treasure hunts, to astronomy evenings, guided walks and art exhibitions. If you prefer to do your own thing, there are way-marked trails to follow, a bird-watching hide or just relax and enjoy the views and tranquility. For less mobile visitors, a Trampler electric buggy and a Trekkinetic off-road wheelchair are available to help you explore.

## Your Day at Durlston

Relax and unwind in [seventhwave](#) café, bar & restaurant which offers stunning views from our indoor dining room and terrace.

Open daily from 9.30-4pm for breakfast, lunch, light bites, cakes, treats and hot & cold drinks.

We will be offering a fantastic Christmas menu throughout December - please book.

Our '7 Mile Menu' features a guest supplier each month, with specials showcasing great local tastes and talent from within 7 miles.

For information, enquiries or to book call 01929 421111, email [seventhwaverestaurant@gmail.com](mailto:seventhwaverestaurant@gmail.com)



# FOOD + DRINK

# PLEASURE GROUNDS

## Parks for People

Over the next few years, the Rangers, volunteers, local organisations and charities will work together to restore and enhance Durlston's Victorian landscape for people and wildlife. We need your help to secure the future of this historic landscape! Why not...

- Sponsor a bench, viewpoint, dry-stone wall, artwork or a piece of play equipment?
- Make a donation online or at the Castle?
- Enjoy a day volunteering?
- Tell us what you think and develop ideas?
- Contact the Rangers to find out more....



## Dorset County Council

Durlston Country Park  
National Nature Reserve

Lighthouse Road  
Swanage  
Dorset BH19 2JL  
t: 01929 424443  
e: [info@durlston.co.uk](mailto:info@durlston.co.uk)  
w: [www.durlston.co.uk](http://www.durlston.co.uk)  
[www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk](http://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk)

Supported by:



Photo credits:  
Catherine Annetts, Peter Bell, Simon Breeze, Ben Delaney, Durlston Country Park, Roy Egglestone, Christine Hall, David Haysom Collection, Simon Kidner, Edward Parker, Julian Sawyer, Mark Simons, Heather Snow, [www.onethousandwords.co.uk](http://www.onethousandwords.co.uk)



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## DURLSTON

The Park, car parks, hide and toilets (at the Learning Centre) are accessible throughout the year between sunrise and sunset.

## Durlston Castle:

- November - March 10.00am - 4.00pm, every day
- April - October 10.00am - 5.00pm, every day (except Christmas & Boxing Days)
- 01929 424443

## Durlston café:

- Serving 9.30am - 4.00pm
- café enquiries: 01929 421111
- [seventhwaverestaurant@gmail.com](mailto:seventhwaverestaurant@gmail.com)

## Fine Foundation Gallery:

- 11.00am - 5.00pm, every day (except when changing over exhibitions. See 'What's On' for details).

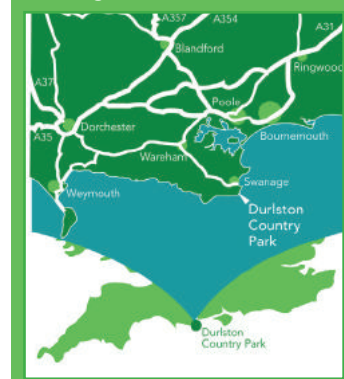
Overnight camping and car parking are not permitted.

Parking charges directly support the conservation of Durlston.

Dogs are welcome on a lead or under very close control, but please clean up after your dog.

## How to find us:

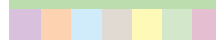
Follow the brown tourist information signs through Swanage.




For all events, meet at Durlston Castle Reception unless stated otherwise. Where booking is required, email [info@durlston.co.uk](mailto:info@durlston.co.uk) or call 01929 424443

Adults £3 / children & FoDs £2, unless stated otherwise

FFG - Fine Foundation Gallery / LC - Learning Centre

 Exhibitions in the FFG

 Many of our events are 'Dementia Friendly' but ones with the flower logo are especially suitable. These events are supported by 'Stepping Into Nature' & the Big Lottery Fund

## OCTOBER

Sat 7 Oct, 7pm  
**Stargazing**  
Join Wessex Astronomical Society to view Saturn, galaxies, star clusters, autumn constellations. Weather dependent. Phone 01929 424443 on day to confirm. £3 LC

Fri 13 Oct - Sun 29 Oct, 10.30am - 5pm  
**Purbeck Film Festival Exhibition**  
Exhibition exploring the messages behind the films, including Biotrack's high tech world of animal tracking and questions about the conservation of sea life raised by the film Sharkwater, supported by the Isle of Purbeck Sub Aqua Club and others. FREE FFG

Sun 15 Oct, 2pm  
**Rough Guide to Durlston**  
Guided walk - wildlife, history, geology and more! £3



Sun 15 Oct, 7.30pm  
**Purbeck Film Festival Film: 'Sharkwater' (PG)**  
A battle between the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society & shark poachers in Guatemala, exploring how these magnificent creatures have gone from predator to prey. £7 incl parking FFG

Tues 17 Oct, 7pm  
**Purbeck Film Festival Film: 'Mulholland Drive' (15)**  
Intriguing, bizarre, astounding, surprising, confounding and brilliant, David Lynch's 'Mulholland Drive' is a dark, complex and enthralling mystery. £7 incl parking FFG

Thu 19 Oct, 7.30pm  
**Purbeck Film Festival Special Event: 'Theatre of the Wandering West'**  
Cabinet of Living Cinema return with a live music performance, animation & film. A moving story of love & loss, set in Kafka's Prague. Lottery funded through Arts Council. £11 incl parking FFG

Sat 21 Oct, 10 - 11am  
**Nordic Walking Taster**  
Join a local NWUK instructor to see how this fun activity can help you get fitter in the fresh air! No experience necessary, poles provided. Please book through [www.purbecknordicwalking.co.uk](http://www.purbecknordicwalking.co.uk) or calling 03331234540. FREE LC

Sun 22 Oct, 10am  
**October Birds**  
Walk to look for migrant and resident birds. £3



Sun 22 Oct, 7.30pm  
**Purbeck Film Festival Special Event: 'The Good Lie' (12A)**  
We follow the lives of 6 siblings who have lost everything in the second Sudanese Civil War. Their employment counsellor (Reese Witherspoon) is pivotal in supporting them through life changing events. Includes a talk. In aid of Swanage Action for Refugees. £7 incl parking FFG



Mon 23 Oct, 10am - 1pm and 2 - 5pm  
**Puppet Making & Animation Workshops**  
Two kids workshops led by Andy Gent known for his work on Corpse Bride, Fantastic Mr. Fox & Frankenweenie. For ages 8+. Please book. £12 incl materials & light refreshments LC

Tues 24 Oct, 2pm  
**Bushcraft Bootcamp**  
Children's event. Join a ranger in the woodland - making dens, cooking marshmallows and creating wild art! Please book. £3 per child LC

Tues 24 Oct, 7.30pm  
**Purbeck Film Festival Film: 'Mindhorn' (15)**  
Spoof following the antics of a washed up actor, who played Detective Mindhorn. An blend of crime parody & calamitous detective misadventure. £7 incl parking FFG

Wed 25 Oct, 11am - 3pm  
**Wild Wednesdays**  
Free drop-in craft activities for families in the Belvedere, Durlston Castle. Donations welcome

Thu 26 Oct, 2.30pm  
**Delinquent Dinosaurs and Fantastic Fossils**  
Family event. Games & activities to explore Durlston's prehistoric past. Please book. £3 LC

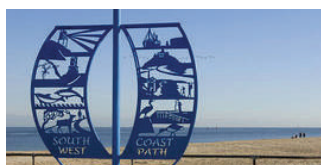


Thu 26 Oct, 7.30pm  
**Purbeck Film Festival Film: 'Like Father Like Son'**  
The life of an architect is overturned when hospital administrators reveal the unthinkable: Keita is not his biological son. His 'true' son has been raised in the dishevelled but warm-hearted home of working-class shopkeeper Yudai Saiki and his wife Yukari. £7 incl parking FFG

Fri 27 Oct, 7.30pm  
**Stargazing**  
Moon, galaxies, star clusters, autumn constellations. See 7 Oct for details LC

Sat 28 Oct, 10am - 2pm  
**Stop Frame Animation Workshop**  
Led by Richard Haynes from the Arts University Bournemouth whose work includes Roary the Racing Car, Postman Pat, Shaun the Sheep, and Pirates! In an Adventure with Scientists! Ages 8+. Please book. £12 incl materials & light refreshments

Sun 29 Oct, 10.30am  
**Purbeck Footprints - Wildlife Photography Walk**  
Join wildlife photographer Julian Sawyer to 'develop' your photographic skills. Please book. £5



Sun 29 Oct, 9am at Shell Bay for Bus transfer. 10am at Durlston for registration and start  
**South West Coast Path Challenge**  
10 mile Sponsored Walk from Durlston Head to South Haven Point in aid of the South West Coast Path! Bus transfer from Shell Bay to Durlston at 9am if you want to leave your car at the finish. For info or to register, [www.southwestcoastpath.org.uk](http://www.southwestcoastpath.org.uk)

## NOVEMBER

Wed 1 - Sat 18 Nov, 10am - 4pm  
**Miracle of Migration**  
Discover the amazing journeys undertaken every year by birds, butterflies and moths, with this free exhibition. FFG

Sun 5 Nov, 10am  
**November Bird Walk**  
Walk to look for winter birds. £3

Mon 6 - Sun 12 Nov, all day  
**Café Closed**  
The café will be closed for winter refurbishment. Teas, coffees & cakes will still be available.

Fri 17 Nov, 7.30pm  
**Stargazing**  
Leonid meteors, galaxies, star clusters, autumn constellations. See 7 Oct for details LC



Sun 19 Nov, 7 - 9pm  
**Live Jazz: FB Pocket Orchestra**  
The FB Pocket Orchestra takes its listeners back to the hot jazz, blues, ragtime & popular dances of the 1920/30s & earlier. £8 (parking incl with advance sales) FFG

Tues 21 Nov - Tues 5 Dec, 10am - 4pm  
**Victorian Durlston**  
Exhibition exploring the curious Victorian history of Durlston & George Burt's Grand Plans for the estate. FREE FFG

Sat 25 Nov, 7.30pm  
**Stargazing**  
Moon, star clusters, nebulae, galaxies, autumn constellations. See 7 Oct for details. LC

Sun 26 Nov, 10.30am  
**Wildlife Photography Walk**  
See 29 Oct for details

## DECEMBER

Sat 2 Dec, 11am - 12.30pm  
**Glass Engraving Workshop**  
Try the art of glass engraving & take home your masterpiece & create a unique glass Christmas card. No experience necessary, tools and glass provided. Courses suitable for ages 8 to 80. Please book. £10 LC

Sun 3 Dec, 2pm  
**Victorian Durlston Walk**  
Discover Durlston's curious Victorian past. £3

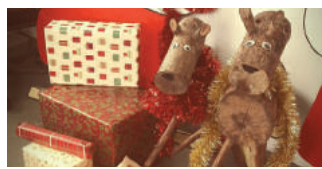


Tues 5 Dec, 2.30pm  
**Castle Tour**  
A free half-hour tour of Durlston Castle. Donations welcome

Sat 9 Dec, 8.30 - 8.45am:  
Registration, 9am: Race start  
**Durlston Dash Christmas Special!**  
Enjoy a 2.5K challenging fun-run through Durlston in festive fancy dress, alongside your fellow Santas, elves and reindeers! All participants receive a medal. 8-13 year olds, refreshments provided. Please book. £2 suggested donation LC

Sun 10 Dec, 11am - 2pm  
**Drawing and Pen Workshop**  
Draw in pencil, pen and ink. Learn drawing skills & go home with your pieces of work. For beginners or improvers. Please book. £20 LC

Thu 14 Dec, 7.30pm  
**Stargazing**  
Geminid meteors, galaxies, star clusters, autumn & winter constellations. See 7 Oct for details LC



Sat 16 Dec - Mon 1 Jan, 10.30am - 3.30pm  
**Christmas Trail**  
With Christmas quickly approaching come down to Durlston and get in the festive spirit with our Christmas Trail. £3

Sat 16 Dec, 11am - 12.30pm  
**Glass Engraving Workshop**  
See 2 Dec for details

Sat 16 Dec - Wed 31 Jan, 10am - 4pm  
**Durlston and the Sea**  
Find out about the wildlife & history hidden beneath the waves of our coast. FREE FFG

Wed 20 Dec, 11am - 3pm  
**Wild Wednesdays**  
See 25 Oct for details

Wed 27 Dec, 11am - 3pm  
**Wild Wednesdays**  
See 25 Oct for details

## JANUARY 2018

Sun 7 Jan, 10am  
**New Year Bird Walk**  
Look for winter bird life on a guided stroll. £3

Tues 9 Jan, 2.30pm  
**Dementia Friendly Stroll**  
A gentle stroll for people with dementia and their carers. Supported by Stepping Into Nature. Donations welcome LC

Tues 16 Jan, 2.30pm  
**Castle Tour**  
See 5 Dec for details

Sat 20 Jan, 10 - 11am  
**Nordic Walking Taster**  
See 21 Oct for details

Sun 21 Jan, 2pm  
**Durlston Rocks! Geology Walk**  
Take a stroll to discover the stories written in the rocks. £3

Fri 26 Jan, 7.30pm  
**Stargazing**  
Moon, star clusters, galaxies, Orion Nebula, winter constellations. See 7 Oct for details LC



Sun 28 Jan, 10.30am  
**Wildlife Photography Walk**  
See 29 Oct for details

Tues 30 Jan, 2.30pm  
**Castle Tour**  
See 5 Dec for details

## FEBRUARY

Sat 3 Feb, 10 - 11am  
**Nordic Walking Taster**  
See 21 Oct for details

Sat 3 Feb - Sat 3 Mar, 10am - 4pm  
**Durlston Past**  
Exhibition tracing the history of Durlston through the 20th Century, using photos and recollections. FREE FFG



Sun 4 Feb  
**Durlston Past, Present and Future Walk**  
Discover Durlston's curious Victorian past & exciting future. £3

Sun 11 Feb  
**February Bird Walk**  
Take a stroll with a Ranger to look for winter bird life. £3

Mon 12 Feb, 2pm  
**Beachcomber Crafts!**  
Children's event. Join a Ranger for beach arts & crafts - getting creative with everything from shells, driftwood & beachcombed rubbish! Please book. £3 LC

Tues 13 Feb, 2.30pm  
**Castle Tour**  
See 5 Dec for details

Wed 14 Feb, 11am - 3pm  
**Wild Wednesdays**  
See 25 Oct for details

Thu 15 Feb, 2.30pm  
**Dolphins & the Deep Blue Sea**  
Family event. Discover the lives of the Durlston Dolphins, with games & activities. Please book. £3 LC

Sat 24 Feb, 7.30pm  
**Stargazing**  
Moon, Orion Nebula, galaxies, spring constellations. See 7 Oct for details LC

Sun 25 Feb, 10.30am  
**Wildlife Photography Walk**  
See 29 Oct for details

Tues 27 Feb, 2.30pm  
**Castle Tour**  
See 5 Dec for details

## MARCH

Sun 4 Mar, 7.30pm  
**Impressions of Spring & Summer: Classical Music with the BSO**  
BSO Trio of Flute, Viola & Harp. Musicians Barbara Brown (flute), Tom Beer (viola) & Eluned Pierce (harp) present music including Beethoven, Debussy, Handel & Bizet in a spring concert arranged by Artsreach, the county's touring arts charity. Booking advised. £10/£6 FFG



Tues 6 - Wed 21 Mar, 10.30am - 4pm  
**Purbeck: Up Close & Personal**  
Local wildlife photographer Julian Sawyer walks the many paths that crisscross the Isle of Purbeck, getting close to its wildlife & taking photographs in its most natural form without impacting on its day to day life. FREE FFG

Tues 13 Mar, 2.30pm  
**Castle Tour**  
See 5 Dec for details

Sat 17 Mar, 8.30 - 8.45am:  
Registration, 9am: Race start  
**Durlston Dash**  
Enjoy a 2.5K challenging fun-run through Durlston! All participants receive a medal. 8-13 year olds, refreshments provided. Please book. £2 suggested donation LC

Sat 24 Mar, 8pm  
**Stargazing**  
Moon, star clusters, Orion Nebula, galaxies & spring constellations. See 7 Oct for details LC



Sun 25 Mar, 10am - 3pm  
**Durlston Castle Spring Wedding Fair**  
Explore this unique venue, find out about dates and meet the teams who could help plan your special day! With local suppliers on hand to help you with finishing touches. For details, please email [events@bluebayevents.co.uk](mailto:events@bluebayevents.co.uk) FFG

Sun 25 Mar, 10.30am  
**Wildlife Photography Walk**  
See 29 Oct for details

Tues 27 Mar, 2.30pm  
**Dementia Friendly Stroll**  
A gentle stroll for people with dementia and their carers. Supported by Stepping Into Nature. Donations welcome LC

Fri 30 Mar - Sun 15 Apr, 10.30am - 3.30pm  
**Easter Trail**  
An exciting Easter trail around the park with a delicious prize to be won! £3

Fri 30 - Sun 15 April, 10.30am - 5pm  
**'Landing Among the Stars': Exhibition of Night-time Photography**  
Witness the magic of the starry nights in Dorset & beyond captured by photographer Kevin Ferrioli. FREE FFG



Sat 31 Mar, 11am - 2pm  
**Drawing and Pen workshop**  
See 10 Dec for details

## APRIL

Wed 4 Apr, 11am - 3pm  
**Wild Wednesdays**  
See 25 Oct for details

Thu 5 Apr, 2.30pm  
**Bottle Rockets**  
Bring along a pop bottle and have a go at building and launching your very own rocket! Please book. £3 LC

Sat 7 Apr, 11am - 3pm  
**Drop-in Willow Weaving**  
Try willow crafting for beginners with drop-in sessions. Variety of makes from 50p

Sat 7 Apr, 8.30pm  
**Stargazing**  
Venus, star clusters, galaxies, spring constellations. See 7 Oct for details LC

Sun 8 Apr, 11am  
**Mindfulness Walk**  
Join 'mindful nurse' Nikki Harman for a stroll to learn some simple relaxation techniques. Please book. £5 LC

Sun 8 Apr, 2.30pm  
**Early Spider Orchids and Other Spring Flowers**  
Take a stroll to look for spring flowers, including orchids. £3



Tues 10 Apr, 2.30pm  
**Castle Tour**  
See 5 Dec for details

Wed 11 Apr, 11am - 3pm  
**Wild Wednesdays**  
See 25 Oct for details

Thu 12 Apr, 2.30pm  
**Glorious Gardens**  
Children's event. Join a Ranger in our nature garden - learning about garden wildlife, making bird feeders & pond dipping! Please book. £3 per child LC

Sat 14 Apr, 10 - 11am  
**Stargazing**  
See 21 Oct for details

Sun 15 Apr, 2.30pm  
**Birds of the Cliffs Walk**  
Discover life in Durlston's internationally important seabird colonies. £3

Fri 20 Apr, 8.30pm  
**Stargazing**  
Moon, Venus, nebulae, galaxies & spring constellations. See 7 Oct for details. LC

Sun 22 Apr  
**The Spring has Sprung! Guided Walk**  
Take a stroll to look for spring wildlife. £3

Wed 25 Apr, 10.30am  
**Clifftop Tour**  
A gentle half-hour stroll along the clifftop. Donations welcome

Sat 28 Apr, 2.30pm  
**Dementia Friendly Stroll**  
See 9 Jan for details

Sun 29 Apr, 10.30am  
**Wildlife Photography Walk**  
See 29 Oct for details