Brecon Beacons Hideaway ♡

A quirky romantic retreat, surrounded by spectacular Welsh landscapes

Space & setting.

This eclectic cottage is the cosiest of hideaways, a traditional 19thC stone barn set on a 70-acre non-working farm overlooking Brecon Beacons National Park. Walks from the front door lead up through ancient oak woodlands and past tumbling waterfalls, before you reach the top where views stretch forever; a patchwork of copper, brown and emerald, interspersed by the craggy Cambrian Mountains. Drives through the nearby valleys are even better, past deep rivers and heather-strewn hillsides: breathtaking and you're unlikely to see another soul.

Trundle back down and into the village pub for a pint, where you'll be greeted as friends. Then it's back to your cottage, to revel in its gorgeously quirky décor. The stained glass windows, salvaged by the previous artist owner. The exposed wooden beams. The peacock-blue Chesterfield and the rolltop bathtub with a ledge for wine glasses. The owners restored and renovated every inch of this cottage on their own, teaching themselves how to plumb, tile and do electrics as they went. They're an inspiring and lovely couple, and this place is very special.

Getting here: *you can train to Llandovery, from where the owners will collect you, but you'll likely want to drive here and have a car/bikes to explore.*

Owners Tanya and Duncan decided to share their spectacular 70 acres with guests, so renovated 3 of the traditional outbuildings ino quirky holiday cottages entirely by themselves, with much love (and plenty of tears).

She loves

“Snuggling up with a book in the window seat, as the afternoon sun streams through the stained glass windows. And lounging on the mezzanine to look up to Mynydd Mallaen, the first peak in the Cambrian Mountains.”

We love

The owners’ absolute passion for the local area and the attention to detail in the renovation. So many things have been salvaged, upcycled and made locally, from antique Minton tiles to beautiful beech worktops in the kitchen.

You may not love

There’s a 3-night minimum stay. The bathroom is downstairs. It’s 3 miles to the nearest shop.

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"A hidden gem of a cottage, lovingly restored and oozing with character and charm. Tanya and Duncan gave us a really warm welcome and were more than happy to offer local suggestions but equally gave us space to enjoy the tranquility of the location. A hike up to Sally’s bench and the waterfalls on the farm estate are a must! Stock up at Cashell’s in Crickhowell en route (their Welsh cakes are amazing!). Favourite features have to be the

stunning stained glass windows and really comfy bed. Would make a great hideaway for Christmas a deux!"

KATY, APRIL 2021

Sustainability.

The owners are hugely conscious about their impact on the planet. They have a Green electricity tariff, which means that **all energy comes from renewable sources**, and a full recycling programme. The log burner is fuelled by their own woodland, and during 2019 they planted 130 trees, which will each sequester 15 tonnes of carbon over their lifetime as part of their **aim to achieve net zero as a business**. Water is pure, filtered Welsh spring water, from deep within the mountains, and the farm's traditional hay meadows are a rich habitat for wildlife. Most unusually, the **sumptuous eco duvet** is made of fibres from recycled plastic bottles, which feels as good as feathers, but has half the resource impact of microfiber duvets.

Surrounds.

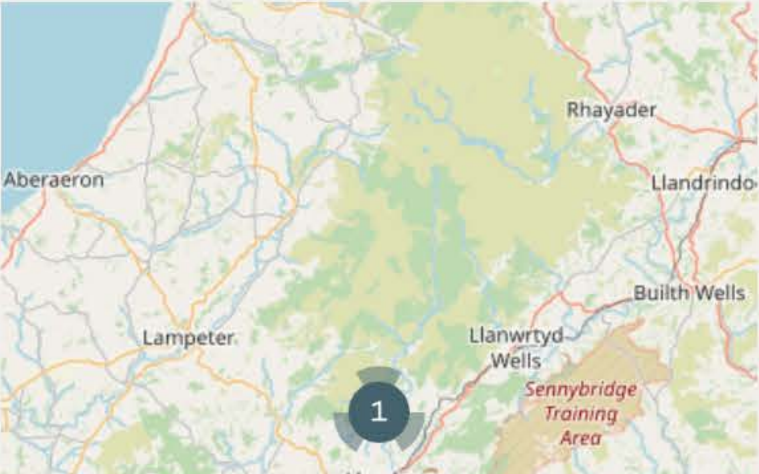
Surrounds

- There are 70 private acres to explore. Hike up the farm's hill for incredible views and **a hidden valley of waterfalls, which you'll have all to yourself**. The crystal-clear mountain stream, The Gwenlais, runs right through the farm.

- You're 3 miles from the border of Brecon Beacon National Park, with its **stunning wild scenery**. And while there are quite a few visitors, the nearby Fans are quieter than Pen Y Fan.
- Bring bikes and whiz down the red route at Cwm Rhaeadr,or try **two of the most-famous bike trails in Wales** – the Brecon Beacons Gap and the Doethie Valley.
- Take a dip in the River Towy; there's a glorious **wild swimming** spot.
- This is **a Dark Skies area with blankets of stars** and you can see the Milky Way from your doorstep on a clear night.
- Drive through the wilds of the Cambrian Mountains, stopping off to visit the most remote chapel in Wales and **explore the**

Victorian reservoirs of the spellbinding Elan Valley.

- Two of Wales' best gardens are nearby: the Botanic Gardens of Wales and Aberglasney, and there are a couple of **brilliant foodie havens** in between for lunch: *Y Polyn* or *Wrights Food Emporium*.



Llandovery
Brecon
Brecon Beacons National Park
Llandeilo
arthen
Brynaman
Ystradgynlais
Glyn-neath
Merthyr Tyd
dweli
Pontarddulais
Pontardawe
Aberdare

Specifics.

- Cottage set on a 70-acre non-working farm
- Part of a courtyard of traditional buildings, and there are 2 other cottages on site.
- Mezzanine area with kingsize bed
- Downstairs bathroom with double-ended slipper bath and shower attachment; luxe local toiletries
- Living area with woodburner, books and board games. Free WiFi
- Well-equipped kitchen; basic ingredients provided

- Meal hampers on request
- The owners live on-site
- Walk to the pub (one mile); drive to shops and restaurants (3 miles)
- **One dog welcome (must be at least a year old)**
- **Booking conditions**: a 3-night min stay
- **Remember to pack**: a torch, maps for the Brecon Beacons and Cambrian Mountains if you're keen walkers