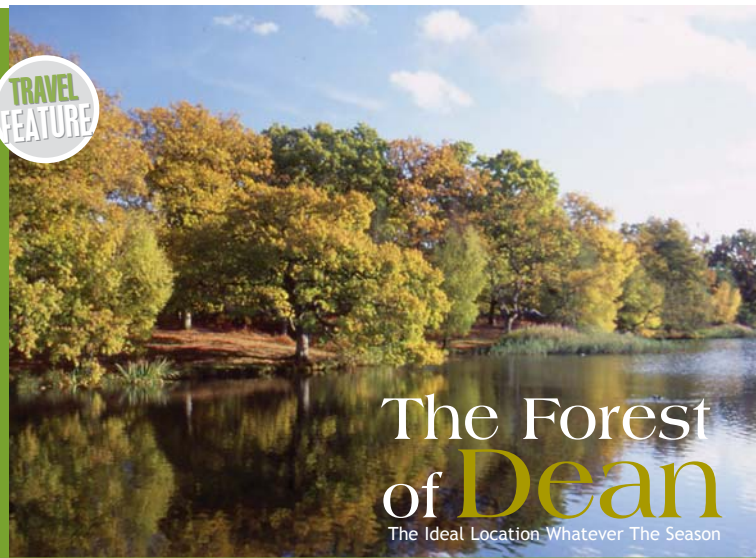


TRAVEL  
FEATURE



# The Forest of Dean

The Ideal Location Whatever The Season

The Forest of Dean is a genuinely magical place, where you can really get away from it all and enjoy yourself during any season. The area has something for everyone, fascinating and unique heritage, spectacular landscapes with warm and friendly hospitality.

This very special area became the country's first National Forest Park in 1938 and it is England's largest oak forest. Tucked between the rivers Wye, Leaden and Severn in western Gloucestershire, it is a place waiting to be discovered!

Visitors are always amazed at the amount of things there are to do - with all ages and weather conditions catered for! For those of you with a love of the outdoors, why not visit the renowned viewpoint that is Symonds Yat, take a canoe trip down the River Wye or try something a bit more adventurous like zip-wiring through the trees? If you prefer something a bit more leisurely, walk the Sculpture Trail, then stop for a cuppa at the



café at Beechenhurst Lodge.

For those wet weather days, the Forest is home to a great range of attractions, all of which are worth a visit. How about spending some time riding a train through the forest or learning more about the very unique heritage of the area? There is even the opportunity to delve deep into the caves at Clearwell.

Whatever the season, the Forest of Dean is bursting with events both old and new, there is something for everyone! For all you 'foodie' lovers there is the annual 'Forest Food Showcase' that is held every October. For the car enthusiasts amongst you there is 'WyeDean Rally' every February and Coleford's very own 'Carnival of Transport' every Easter Monday. For something truly unique to the Forest of Dean, whatever you fancy you are sure to find it here!

Sound like an ideal escape? It is really easy to reach, and perfect for short-breaks or surprise getaways. There is a great range of quality assessed accommodation available to reserve online, just visit [www.visitforestofdean.co.uk](http://www.visitforestofdean.co.uk) for some additional inspiring information.

ABOVE: Enjoy the natural beauty of Cannop Ponds

FAR LEFT: Take a leisurely walk on the Sculpture Trail

RIGHT: Eat, drink and relax in the gorgeous surroundings of Tudor Farmhouse Hotel & Restaurant

## PUB QUIZ: WHAT WAS NAMED ENGLAND'S MOST RECENT NATIONAL PARK?

The Tudor Farmhouse is a historic 20-bedroom hotel in Clearwell, which is undergoing a transformation under the guidance of owners Hari and Colin Fell.

Colin and Hari took over 4 years ago when Hari's parents retired and have set about an ambitious programme of renovations to give the hotel more of an updated feel. The Tudor Farmhouse attracts visitors from far and wide for its tranquillity and also for the excellent food in the restaurant.

Head Chef Blaine Reed returned to his native Forest of Dean to take over the helm of the 2 Rosette Restaurant 2 years ago. Using as much local produce as he can, the hotel has a policy of buying from local producers where available and much of the fruit and vegetables are grown on site.

Blaine's modern British food has recently been described by respected food critic Mark Taylor as "a revelation" with dishes "sure to place him on the radar of the Michelin Inspectors".



The Kitchen offers 2 evening menus to allow diners the choice between a fine dining style of cooking or a lighter and quicker seasonal menu. The new lunch menu has also been carefully written to provide a range of dishes to suit different occasions from a special celebration to a quick business lunch.

This attention to detail extends to the recently refurbished bedrooms where guests can enjoy thoughtful touches such as home-made biscuits. The hotel also offers guests wild food foraging trips with a local expert who also supplies the hotel with wild produce picked in the Forest and Wye Valley.



### Would you like to know MORE?

FOREST OF DEAN  
[www.visitforestofdean.co.uk](http://www.visitforestofdean.co.uk)

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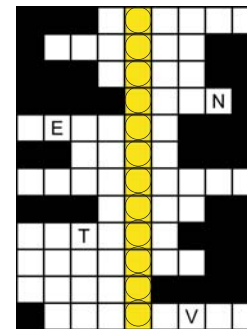


## ★ Competition

Here's your chance to win a 2-night stay for 2 - Sunday to Thursday - at the Tudor Farmhouse Hotel & Restaurant. The prize is on a bed and breakfast basis with one evening meal included. The prize is subject to availability.

For a chance to win, place the listed words into the grid to reveal the answer in the marked column.

BLAINE  
CARNIVAL  
DEAN  
FOREST  
LANDSCAPE  
MENU  
NATIVE  
PARK  
REED  
SEASON  
TUDOR  
WYEDEAN



PLEASE FILL IN YOUR COMPETITION ANSWERS ON THE EASY ENTRY FORM PAGE 49/50