

INTRODUCTION : "ROUGH" CAMPING AT BALL HILLFARM - GET AWAY FROM IT ALL!

Camping at Ball Hill Farm is a rural idyll. You have the run of the old cider orchard and lovely views over West Sedgmoor & the Quantocks beyond. You're camping in ancient, "unimproved" pasture, rich in wild flowers. Rabbits, birds and our Portland sheep are your neighbours. If you want peace & quiet and a return to the natural rhythms of an older existence, this is the place!

The notes that follow deal with the practical questions you may have, but do contact us by phone (01823 490460) or email (<u>nandtgane@gmail.com</u>) if you'd like further information, or to discuss your requirements. For further images please see our own website - <u>http://www.ballhillfarm.org/accommodation.htm</u> - and Facebook page - <u>http://www.facebook.com/ballhillfarmTaunton</u>

ESSENTIALS

Plan of campsite over. Please see the plan for parking, access paths, pitches, water & loos. On arrival, please come to the front door of the farm to register & pay, and for the latest information re pitches available, wood etc.

For information and emergency contact during your stay, please telephone the farm itself, 01823 490460, or my mobile, 07900 023912.

You can arrive on your first day anytime after 2.0pm. Please leave on your last morning by 11.0am.

THE SITE

Except for the bow-top, all pitches are in the Orchard.

There is no vehicle access to the Orchard itself.

The Orchard is one of the oldest in Somerset, & its trees are listed. The dead trees are a haven for wild-life. There are many species of wild-flowers including orchids.

You may see deer, foxes, rabbits & many species of birds, including green woodpecker.

You're welcome to explore the Orchard & sit or picnic anywhere, though please respect the privacy of other campers.

PITCHES

Pitch positions are numbered. Only 4 can be occupied at any one time. All pitches have views, though all have to be mainly screened from the road below.

THE CARAVAN

The Gypsy Caravan has a gas cooking stove, sink with cold-water via a pump-action tap, wood burning stove, double bed* and put-up single which can sleep up to 2 small children, pull-out table, bench seats, and 2 x folding chairs for your use round the camp fire.

(*Linen for double, but not single, incl. in price.)

(There's a new compost near the caravan, but the 2nd stand-pipe referred to on plan has not yet been put in place.)

FACILITIES

The compost loo is located at the top of the orchard, to the right of the barn – as you look up the hill. The loo has paper, and a bin of sawdust - after you've finished, please sprinkle a handful down the toilet. There's a (cold) water standpipe near the entrance gate. (Note that there's no shower-block.)

FIRES

Fires are permitted, but please keep them small & within the bounds of the fire-pits. We'll provide some wood, but you are welcome to bring your own. Please don't take wood from the trees, including the dead ones (see above).

SUPPLIES

The village of Curry Mallet is a (brisk) 15 minute walk away.

Here, there's a post-office/small shop, and a pub that serves food (The Bell 01823 480310). There are also pubs which serve food at North Curry & Wrantage, though these are a longer walk. The garages at the junction of the A378 & A358 and at Curry Rivel have larger shops & supply gas. There's a Sainsburys off the dual carriageway section of the main road into Taunton – proceed through Henlade on the A358, turn right at the roundabout after the Park&Ride, and take the first right. Our neighbours at UpNorDown have vegetables in season, and fresh eggs most days except Sundays.

