

COMPTON POOL FARM

**ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY &
THE GREEN TOURISM BUSINESS
SCHEME**



The Green Tourism Business Scheme

The Green Tourism Business Scheme was originally established in Scotland and is established to promote good environmental practice in Tourism throughout Europe. It covers issues such as business efficiency, waste management, transport and social responsibility.

Members of the scheme are assessed every 2 years and dependant on the standards achieved, receive a bronze, silver or gold award. Tourism businesses participating are graded against over 120 measures relating to best practice, reflecting a balance of environmental, economic and social issues. The assessment considers energy efficiency, nature conservation, community support and general sustainability issues.

Currently there are almost 2000 green tourism business scheme members nationally of which about 20% are in the South West region.

Green tourism businesses must make efforts to reduce their impact on the environment and may not use the environment or nature as a marketing tool.

As a consumer, ultimately it is you that makes the difference by choosing businesses that are committed to you and the environment. In selecting tourism businesses that are members of Green Tourism you can be sure that these businesses care and are acting responsibly in reducing the impact on the environment.

We are proud to have received a Gold Green Tourism award, the first 5 star accommodation provider in Devon to do so, and hope you will support this initiative by reading our environmental policy, enclosed, and acting with environmental responsibility whilst staying with us.

We would also ask that in considering activities and visitor attractions whilst on holiday, that you support other Green

Tourism Business Scheme local members wherever possible. We have listed these members within this information pack accordingly. All of these businesses have leaflets which are available in reception.

Green Tourism Visitor Attractions in the area

Paignton Zoo (Gold Award)

Certainly the best Zoo in the UK and one of the best in Europe. They have an excellent conservation and breeding record. Allow at least half a day.

Living Coasts (Gold Award)

Torquay's Coastal discovery centre. Seabirds (notably penguins) and seals are the star attraction, plus many educational features.

Pennywell Farm (Gold Award)

This is a friendly farm near Buckfastleigh on the A38. It provides lots of fun for young families with hands on animal experiences, games and activities. It is perfect for all weather as many of the facilities are indoors. There is a café on site. Allow 2 to 3 hours ideally. We have discount vouchers for this attraction available at the Farmhouse.

Canoe Adventures (Gold Award)

An innovative canoeing experience with canoes for 2 to 11 people on the tidal water of the beautiful River Dart. Launched from Bow Creek at Tuckenhay, the canoes are chaperoned and you will have the opportunity to visit Dartmouth, Dittisham and Stoke Gabriel. Allow a half-day for maximum benefit and enjoy picnicking on this delightful river.

The National Trust

Greenway Gardens (Gold Award)

Rugged, hilly gardens on the banks of the River Dart at Greenway, opposite Dittisham. Formally the home of Agatha Christie and recently acquired by the National Trust which has recently restored the House.

Coleton Fishacre (Silver Award)

Located near Kingswear on Berry Head, Coleton Fishacre is the former home of the D'Oyly Carte family. The art deco house is packed with Gilbert & Sullivan memorabilia and the Gardens sweeping down to the sea are an absolute delight. Café and shop on site.

Crealy Adventure Park (Silver Award)

Family fun with both indoor and outdoor activities from roller coasters to slides and go karts, suitable for all ages. On the A3052 between Exeter and Sidmouth

Kents Cavern (Silver Award)

Famous prehistoric caves located on the edge of Torquay and now a protected national monument. Many events at this award winning attraction.

Dartmoor Miniature Pony Centre (Silver Award)

Perfect for all ages, miniature ponies and lots more, located 2 miles west of Moretonhampstead.

Powderham Castle (Silver Award)

Historic family home of the Earl of Devon. Guided tours of the castle, deer park safari, lovely gardens and bird of prey displays in summer. Located just outside Exeter on the A379 towards Dawlish.

Dart Pleasure Craft (Bronze Award)

Boat trips up the River Dart between Dartmouth and Totnes. See one of England's most beautiful Rivers in comfort.

The tourist information centres in Kingsbridge, Dartmouth and Salcombe are all members.

All other members are listed on the website www.green-business.co.uk

COMPTON POOL FARM ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Compton Pool Farm is committed to a policy of protecting the local environment through a number of initiatives implemented at the recent refurbishment of the site.

Our aim is to ensure long term sustainability and to act responsibly to ensure the preservation of the natural beauty of the site, it's wildlife and plant life, to minimise use of fossil fuels and water and to reduce the amount of waste generated which cannot be recycled. We are proud to be the first 5 star property in Devon to receive a Gold green tourism award

We have

- 1 Double glazed every door and window on the site
- 2 Reinsulated every loft space
- 3 Installed low energy light bulbs wherever possible, including all outdoor lights
- 4 Replaced all inefficient electric night storage heaters and oil boilers with more efficient and less polluting propane gas central heating systems
- 5 Installed a water pump from the lake for animal use and garden irrigation
- 6 Planted over 200 new trees, shrubs and garden plants
- 7 Installed timer controls on all outdoor communal lights
- 8 Installed computer controlled pool management systems to reduce energy use including heat recovery technology..
- 9 Introduced a no smoking policy
- 10 Replaced our paper based booking system with website based administration.
- 11 Set up links with local organic food producers to supply our guests
- 12 Replaced all detergents and cleaning products with eco-friendly equivalents
- 13 Improved our recycling facilities. 75% of all waste generated is now recycled.
- 14 Replaced all paper products with recycled alternatives.

We have raised over £1400 in the last 2 years for the Devon Wildlife Trust, through our voluntary donation scheme when guests use washing machines or tumble dryers. We thank you for your continued support in this initiative.

Similarly all funds received from our games machines and the sauna now go to the Devon Wildlife Trust.

We will soon be:

- 1 Acquiring sheep for grassland control
- 2 Replacing all few remaining halogen light bulbs with low energy alternatives.

How to be a responsible guest;

As a guest at Compton Pool Farm we ask you to support these initiatives by acting responsibly and implementing the actions listed below;

- 1 Use water sparingly, e.g. showering instead of taking a bath when possible
- 2 Switching all lights off when not required, especially outside lights and pool lights.
- 3 Manage central heating responsibly, switching off at night and turning radiators off in unused rooms.
- 4 Using low temperature dishwasher and washing machine programmes.
- 5 Using rotary dryers instead of tumble dryers whenever possible
- 6 Organising waste efficiently to separate glass bottles and paper for recycling.
- 7 Covering the swimming pool after use in cold weather
- 8 Switching TVs and DVD players off, not leaving on standby.
- 9 Consider a car free day; spend it here enjoying the peace, wildlife and other facilities, or ask us at reception for other car free ideas.
- 10 Shop local at the great and passionate food retailers and producers we suggest in the Information pack.

Currently we use 1.4 million litres of water, 70,000 kwh of electricity and 40,000 litres of propane each year. Please help us to reduce these enormous figures!

Thank you