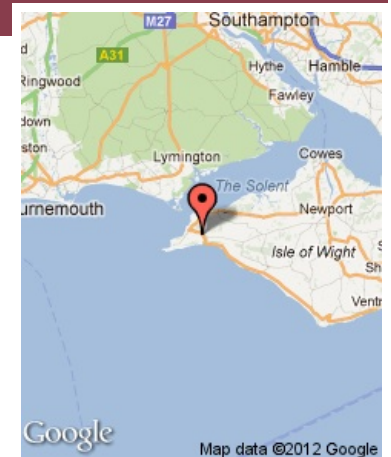


Stay in a Yurt on the Isle of Wight!



Highlights

Try a camping trip with a difference! This super-green yurt holiday offers all the rest and relaxation at a fraction of the carbon cost. And it's located within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty - what more could you want?

For an island that measures just 23 miles by 13 miles, the Isle of Wight boasts an awesome array of habitats and scenery, lending it the nickname 'England in miniature'! Along with storybook villages and farmlands there are river valleys, creeks, marshes and downland, making the island an area of precious biodiversity. You'll also find award-winning beaches, the ideal spot for water sports, cliff top walking and cycling and wildlife watching. The Isle of Wight is one of the warmest and sunniest place in Britain – Queen Victoria built her summer home, Osborne House, here – and has a rich cultural heritage; the diamond-shaped landmass has been fought over since Roman times, with each challenger leaving their own mark on the landscape.

Staying in a yurt gives you the chance to get up close and personal with this beautiful island without sacrificing comfort and convenience. The luxurious yurts are situated in the famous Afton Park Apple Orchard, located in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It's a fantastic spot to unwind and perfectly placed for exploring the local landscape; crisscrossed with paths and bridleways, there's some great cliff top and riverside walking to be had. There are also two very decent pubs within walking distance, should you fancy a post-BBQ nightcap! A yurt holiday is all about connecting with the environment in the least disruptive possible way. Think 'holiday unplugged' – literally!

Is it for me?

Pretty much anyone can enjoy a stay in a yurt. You don't need any prior experience or know-how, you can be as private or as sociable as you like and you're free to come and go as and when you please. There are loads of activities to try in the local area, from leisurely rambling to extreme water sports, or you can just relax with a book amidst the apple trees.

Yurt holidays are great for groups, be they families or friends, young or old, as it's nice to share this unique experience with others. So long as you don't mind cooking your own food – a big part of the fun in our opinion – you're bound to find a lot to love about this trip.

Please note, there is no mains electricity at the site, but you can charge mobiles etc in the shop if needs be.

Accommodation

This is not your usual camping trip. These 16ft yurts can sleep up to 5 people, with one double bed, a double futon / day bed and a single camp bed if required. They come equipped with a whole host of green mod cons, from solar showers and compost toilets to sustainable wood stoves and candle lanterns. Food isn't included (though continental breakfasts can be arranged), but everything else is, including fuel wood, bedding and cooking equipment. The yurts themselves have raised carpeted floors and are furnished with beds, tables, chairs and comfy rugs – everything you'd expect from a cosy holiday cottage. And each yurt comes complete with a barbecue/brazier for outdoor cooking and there is also a covered communal cooking area with Calor stoves that comes in handy if the weather turns. If you want to eat out, there are two pubs in walking distance and also a licensed cafe on site. Transfers to and from the local ferry port are provided free of charge, and there are bus stops within walking distance.

There are shared bathroom facilities on the site, which consist of composting toilets and solar showers.

Prices from

175 GBP (4 nights) per person

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Itinerary

There are a huge range of activities available in the local area. This includes walking and cycling (cliffs, marshes, downland, rivers), water sports (sailing, swimming, etc.), cultural heritage trips (Brading Roman Villa, Carisbrooke Castle, Botanic Gardens, The Needles, Dinosaur Isle, etc.) and fine dining in Newport. The Isle of Wight also plays host to several music festivals, including the Isle of Wight International Jazz Festival, the Isle of Wight Festival and Bestival, as well the globally-renowned Cowes Week, the longest-running regular regatta in the world. More than half of the island is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and 30 miles of the seashore is Heritage Coast, one of the richest fossil sites in Europe.

The location is near the main road to Newport, on good bus routes, is on main cycle and footpath routes that run around the Island, and bridleways nearby provide wonderful walks and cycle rides. For example there are cliff walks to the Needles via Tennyson Down, to Yarmouth along the river bank and Freshwater Bay through the beautiful Afton marshes. There are 2 pubs in walking distance.

Details

Getting there

Ferry discounts can be arranged - please enquire at the time of booking. If you are coming without a car, your hosts can pick you up from the ferry terminal if required.

Price includes

Prices include basic bedding (1 duvet per bed, 2 pillows for adults, 1 for children, and 1 blanket or quilt per bed) and an initial basket of wood for your stove and a bucket of Isle of Wight Sustainable Carbon Neutral Charcoal. Additional wood and charcoal are available to purchase on site. 100% cotton bedding is available at a charge of £18 per double set and £12 per single set. 100% organic cotton towels for use on site only are available at a charge of £2 per person. These can be arranged after making your booking.

Prices for the yurts start at £175 for a mid week break off season and £220 for the weekend. During the summer, stays are a minimum of 1 week and cost £595.

When is best

Open April to November. Minimum stay of 7 days in summer holidays

Comfort level

Reasonably comfortable (Inns, B&Bs, luxury camping etc.)

Experience required

Not relevant

Reviews (5)

Reviews of this experience

“ We'd def recommend to others (and have already been spreading the word to our friends). A real bonus of the Yurt hol is the excellent site manager, LJ. She is extremely helpful and welcoming. She went out of her way to make our trip a really enjoyable one. ”

Kate Rowson reviewing Stay in a Yurt on the Isle of Wight!

“ Very happy with everything, very nice yurt site, Anthony who runs it was very helpful, booked the ferry and was always about to help out, he communicated by text and was always available, would def recommend to friends and revisit ”

JohnB reviewing Stay in a Yurt on the Isle of Wight!

“ We had a wonderful time, it was simple yet magical; toasting marshmallows on crackling fires at the end of the evening, cooking locally caught fresh fish over hot coals, being a stones through away from the beach, stunning landscapes and beautiful bike rides, waking up to birdsong...we loved it and would recommend it to anyone. ”

MarieC reviewing Stay in a Yurt on the Isle of Wight!

“ We love camping and cooking outside but we also like a bit of luxury - this was the perfect combination of both.

We loved being able to hire bikes for the whole family - including a tag along for our four year old - and to be able to cycle on quiet lanes and cycle paths to Yarmouth. Successful crab fishing in Yarmouth also went down very well with our young family.

We loved it and would recommend this to other travellers ””

Mike reviewing Stay in a Yurt on the Isle of Wight!

“ I stayed here with my wife, sister and young son in early July and enjoyed it can highly recommend it.

The location is great, close to some stunning coastline, off the beaten track family beaches whilst the site itself is nestled amongst an orchard which keeps any breeze to a minimum.

We stayed in a yurt which was as good if not better than it looked in the pictures. I really liked the fact that it was in an Orchard criss crossed by pathways rather than in an open field like most camping setups.

Love, love, loved cooking by open fire and savoured the smell of the woodsmoke in the evenings. (we we're lucky with weather, could be a little of a bind if it rains).

Each Yurt had decent quality table and chairs to enjoy the al fresco dining which was a nice touch and meant we spent nearly all our time outside. (Very rosy cheeks on return).

Some might find the compost toilet a little much but the cafe next door offered use of their toilet. Owner Anthony was very welcoming and helpful, even when it came to helping us contact a local GP for our son.

The site was perfect for little ones and we felt very comfortable giving out two and a half year old a fairly free rein. There were also lots of other little ones to play with when we were there. (but not so many as to annoy;))

The only very slight disappointment was that the adjoining Farm Shop had very limited stock (particularly on the drink front) which forced us to visit the local Co-op more than we would have ideally liked.

Excellent mid week value for us means I wouldn't hesitate in giving this fabulous holiday experience a 5 out of 5 and will hopefully visit again. ””

almacaw reviewing Stay in a Yurt on the Isle of Wight!