

Dates: May Bank Holiday Weekend – 23rd – 26th May 2008

Meet Leader: Emma Bastock

Accommodation: Runnage Farm, Nr Postbridge, Yelverton, Devon, PL20 6SY Tel: 01822 880222

This year we will be venturing off to a new location based in the heart of the **Dartmoor National Park**. Dartmoor's granite tors are a magnet for climbers and boulderers. Set amongst some of the most dramatic scenery in the West Country they offer interesting and demanding climbs for all abilities.

Climbing: Limestone, Sea cliff and granite trad routes with famous locations such as Hay Tor, Hound Tor and Dewerstone all within 20min drive from the farm. Classic climbs include:
LIMESTONE: Chudleigh Rocks:- Oesophagus E1 5b **, Sarcophagus VS 4a 4b **, Inkerman Groove VS 4c ***, Anstey's Cove HVS 5b 5a ***, St Gregory the Wonder Worker S 4b *. **Daddy Hole:-** Diamont Rib HS 4b *, Gates of Eden HS 4b 4a ***
GRANITE: Haytor/Lowman:- Haggis HVS 5a *, Raven Gully S 4a **, **Hound Tor:-** Suspension Flake VS 4c ***. **Sheeps Tor:-** Wind Wall HVS 5a ***, Crack & Chimney S *, Mushroom Wall VS 4c **. **Dewerstone:-** Needle Arete VD **, Central Groove HS 4b 4b ***, Tower Crack VS 4b **, Climbers Club Direct HVS 5a 4c ***

Bouldering venues include Chudleigh (3 star), Bonehill Rocks (3 star), Hound Tor (2 star) and Vixen Tor (2 star) again all within easy reach by car from the farm. **Sports** routes from 6a to 7c can be found at Torbryan Quarry and some other selected quarries in the region.

Campsite: 2 meadows alongside Walla Brook. Toilets and showers. **Dogs allowed under control**. Small fires and BBQs are permitted. Two pubs within walking distance in Postbridge village. £4.50 per night adults. Children 3-12 years £3.50 per night. See www.runnagecampingbarns.co.uk for further info.

Directions: Approx 20miles from Jn 31 of M5. For full details, please email emma_bastock@yahoo.co.uk

Maps/Guides: Ordnance Survey OL28 Dartmoor, Explorer 110 Torquay & Dawlish, Newton Abbot. South Devon & Dartmoor Climber's Guide.

Walking: Walking on Dartmoor is excellent. For the less demanding walker there are car parks from which brief, pleasant excursions can be made. For the more hardened explorer many miles over hard ground can be tramped in challenging conditions. Sources for walking routes: www.richkni.co.uk/dartmoor or why not walk some of The Templar Way. Below are 2 examples of walks in the area:

Postbridge CP - Broad Down - Longaford Tor - Powder Mills (Walk ID: 3593) 8.5miles moderate

This varied moorland walk to the north and west of Postbridge leads up by a Bronze Age settlement, where you visit two very different Bronze Age graves, right up to Broad Down which overlooks the wild and desolate northern moors. From Broad Down you loop around and visit five tors, some overlooking the West Dart River before descending to walk through Powder Mills then back along the northern edge of Gawler Bottom to return to the car park once again across new access land at Archerton.

Haytor - Boundary Stones - Tors - Emsworthy (Walk ID: 4658) 5.9miles moderate

A varied walk around Haytor Down, with one section offering challenging navigation across difficult ground. From the high points on this walk there are superb views across South Devon to Teignmouth and the English Channel beyond. The route encompasses a wide loop around Haytor Down and Black Hill visiting all the major points of interest en route. All the large tors are visited, plus two un-named on OS maps, the quarries too are included as well as the medieval Emsworthy Farm and fields and associated bronze age enclosures and hut circles.

Full details of these walks and others in the area will be available from Emma Bastock at the meet. If there is somewhere you'd particularly like to visit, let me know and I'll see if I can find a walk for you.

Cycling: A map of graded mountain bike routes is available from the park authority at www.dartmoor-npa.gov.uk. There are plenty of cycling opportunities including a 14.6m moderate ride out of Postbridge, the Hound Tor Route 20m graded Moderate or a 17mile Easy ride starting from Meavy.

Other routes can be found in the guide book from www.bikemaps.co.uk

If you need any further information or have any questions, please contact Emma on 07841 482469. Hope to see you there.