



## **Slapton, Kingsbridge, South Devon TQ7 2QF**

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### **A Guide for Guests**

We look forward to welcoming you to Dittiscombe 2021! We have altered this guide to allow for social distancing and safety in and around the cottages, and before and after your arrival. We've listed some suggested items to bring with you as we won't currently be able to provide them in your cottage.

We would be most grateful if you'd take a moment to read this through and if you have any questions then please call or drop us a line.

#### **Arrivals**

Your cottage will be ready for you from 4pm on the day of your arrival. A few days before your holiday please ring or e-mail Jon and Ruth to confirm your eta so that we can personally welcome you to Dittiscombe.

Please text us, if safe to do so, 30 minutes before arrival (07821 260787) so that we can look out for you. We'll meet you outside the Farmhouse gate. If you are delayed, or think you will be arriving later than 8pm, please contact us with your new eta.

#### **Departures**

Please would you vacate the cottage by 10am. We'd like to say farewell so please text us on 07821 260787 and we'll see you outside the Farmhouse gate.

We would be most grateful if you could strip the linen from your mattress, duvet and pillows and place it in the water-soluble bags provided, tying up the tops. If you need more bags please text Ruth on 07821 260787.

Please remember to check that you've packed all your own belongings and take home any extra items you bought such as toilet rolls, kitchen towels, plastic bags, and your own cleaning items.

#### **If you have signs of Coronavirus whilst on holiday**

If you have symptoms please tell us by text 07821 260787 then arrange to have a test done. You can call the NHS on 119 or 111 to seek advice about testing and your symptoms.

## **Doctors' surgery & making an appointment**

Chillington Health Centre, Orchard Way, Chillington, TQ7 2LB, 01548 580214.

If it is **not** an emergency (see below), then call Chillington Health Centre. They will ask you to contact your own doctors' surgery in the first instance to get a triage by phone and a short description of your medical records to be e-mailed over to Chillington HC to enable the doctors to give the best advice at this end. You may then either be given a surgery or telephone appointment at Chillington. These are new Covid procedures, but we have been reassured by Chillington HC that you will not be turned away.

## **Medical Emergencies**

In an emergency and if you are unable to get a signal on your mobile phone, please come to the farmhouse to call the emergency services on our landline 999. To contact a doctor when our Doctors' surgery is call Devon Doctors on 111. You will need to give your name, address and telephone number in case the doctor needs to visit or contact you: Dittiscombe Holiday Cottages (next to the Dittiscombe Equestrian Centre), Slapton TQ7 2QF, telephone 01548 521272.

## **Bedding, Towels & Cottage Supplies**

Beds are made up for your arrival. **Please bring your own towels.** We provide a tea towel and hand towel, washing up liquid, kitchen paper towel, one toilet roll per bathroom, antibacterial spray and other biodegradable cleaning liquids etc (bleach products should not be used with our septic tank). We provide an emergency torch in each cottage but recommend you bring your own. We have a supply of perfectly drinkable tap water from all taps in the cottages.

The fridges have small freezer compartments (except for Willows which has a fridge/freezer) but at the moment we are unable to store guests' extra frozen food in our Farmhouse freezer, so please bear this in mind when you are food shopping. We are not lending out BBQs so bring a disposable one if you'd like to have a bbq in the garden, but please ensure you place it on a heat proof surface when cooking.

## **Things to remember to bring:**

Hand sanitizer and Masks

Towels

Torch

Matches

DVDs, games/cards, books, magazines

Disposable BBQ

Supplies for dogs including towels, throws, poo bags, and cleaning solutions

## **Communal Laundry Room**

As this is a shared facility we are asking guests to book a time with Ruth by mobile 07821 260787. This is so that the machines can be wiped down between use. Many thanks for your understanding. There is an airer in your cottage.

## **Local shopping**

Slapton Community Shop, park in the Village Hall car park

Stokeley Farm Shop, Stokenham (4 miles)

Morrisons, Kingsbridge and Totnes (7 miles)

Tescos, Kingsbridge (7 miles)

Sainsburys, Dartmouth (7 miles)  
Marks & Spencer, Dartmouth (8 miles)

### **Food Deliveries**

Tescos, Waitrose and Sainsburys all make food deliveries to this area. Please book a time that you will be at your cottage, as we cannot take delivery on your behalf at the moment, but let us know what arrangements you make so we can direct the driver. Give your cottage name and the full address of Dittiscombe with postcode TQ7 2QF.

### **Local Eating Out**

We will be updating this section as and when we have more information, but for the moment check the following on their Facebook pages where you'll get the most up to date information:

#### **... Slapton**

The Queens Arms, Slapton – dog friendly 01548 580800.  
(Unfortunately The Tower Inn suffered a fire during lockdown and they have not yet reopened their doors.)

#### **... Torcross**

The Start Bay Inn 01548 580553, and Torcross Boathouse 01548 580747, dog friendly.

#### **... Beesands**

The Cricket Inn – dog friendly 01548 580215  
Britannia at the Beach takeaways and outdoor dining 01548 581168

#### **... Stokenham**

Stokeley Farm Shop and Café, breakfast, lunch and pizza oven 01548 58160  
Church House Inn 01548 580253  
Tradesmans Arms 01548 580996.

#### **... Chillington**

Bear & Blacksmith pub 01548 581171

### **Bins/Recycling**

We are not opening the waste/recycling area for guests at the moment. There is a dedicated bin for each cottage. Please place all general waste, including dog bags in there and ensure the lid is secure.

We are currently leaving a blue recycling bag for paper and cardboard and a clear recycling bag for some plastics and aluminium cans (sorry, no food containers in recycling). Please leave these bags in the cottage on departure for us to collect. Please take your glass bottles and jars to the glass bin in Slapton (opposite the Field Study Centre on the way to the beach), or to the Torcross main car park.

### **Our Lane**

Our lane is a wildlife highway as well as a lane for cars. It is used by hedgehogs, deer, badgers, horses, dogs and walkers. Please would drivers keep to a maximum speed of 20mph, especially at night, and take extra care around the last blind bend just before the welcome sign.

### **Children**

We are very sorry to have had to close the children's play area again this year, but we have 20 acres of space in which to run and play around the estate, and a whole 10-acre woodland to have adventures in!

Please bring your own toys, books and games for children as we have removed these from the cottages and communal areas.

We can provide cots and highchairs – please book these in advance of arrival, waterproof mattress protectors and bath safety mats on request, but please bring your own cot bedding, harnesses and any safety equipment such as stair gates or bed safety rails.

Safe family beaches with toilets and cafés are at Blackpool Sands, Mill Bay (East Portlemouth), North or South Sands (Salcombe), Bantham and Bigbury. Rockpooling is good at both Hope Cove and Thurlestone.

Have a look at our [Beaches](#) page for more information.

There are gentle walks at Beesands with a good family friendly pub The Cricket Inn; Start Point Lighthouse (good path down to the Lighthouse); and Slapton Ley Nature Reserve with a self-guided nature trail. Our [Great Outdoors](#) and [Family Friendly](#) page has lots more information and a list of accessible walks too.

### **Dogs and Puppies**

Dogs must not be left unattended at any time in cottages unless otherwise arranged, and are not allowed in bedrooms at any time.

We ask all dog owners to keep dogs under control in the gardens and grounds, and clear up immediately after their dog. Please bring your dog's bedding, some towels and throws and a crate for puppies. Please place lots of dog covers on the floors, and do not allow your dog onto the furniture or into the bedrooms. There is a bucket and cleaning solution under the sink and a vacuum cleaner in your cottage.

Dog poo bags will now go in your outdoor bin.

There is a guide to all the best beaches in the area on our website, including those which are dog-friendly [Best Beaches](#). Also have a look for more information at our dog-friendly page [We Love Dogs!](#)

If you'd like to go out for the day where dogs are not allowed, you can book your dog into [The Dog Lodge](#), a luxury licensed kennel just a mile from Dittiscombe. Kathy Bowles and her team are very welcoming and there are paddocks for your dog to walk in during their stay. Dogs must be fully vaccinated, including a kennel cough certificate which must be at least 10 days old.

### **Vets**

Vets are open but you should call them before visiting:

South Moor Vets [www.southmoorvets.co.uk](http://www.southmoorvets.co.uk) Derby Road, Kingsbridge TQ7 1JL. 01548 852766  
Selworthy Vet Group, Stumpy Post Surgery, Kingsbridge TQ7 4BL. 01548 853322

### **Local pet food shop**

Pet & Garden Supplies, 5 Mill Street, Kingsbridge. 01548 857174

### **Recommended Outdoor Events - Yoga, Paddleboarding, Canoeing**

Donna of **Simply Soulful Yoga** offers beach yoga sessions during the Summer months, and if you fancy combining yoga on top of a paddleboard then she has 1.5hr sessions which take place in the quiet waters of the Crabshell Inn, Kingsbridge. Bookings with Donna can be made online [here](#) or call her on 07941 508 004.

Marcus of [Salcombe Paddleboarding](#) offers lessons and board hire from a beautiful spot on the estuary at East Portlemouth. Call him on 07790 940059 or message him through Facebook.

Also Crispin at Waterborn of the Crabshell Inn, Kingsbridge

Dave Halsall **Singing Paddles** guides small groups in 2-man canoes to peaceful creeks and inlets around the Kingsbridge/Salcombe estuary and Slapton Ley. Have a look at the diary to make a booking on his website [www.singingpaddles.co.uk](http://www.singingpaddles.co.uk) or call him on 07754 426633.

### **Logburners in Honeysuckle, The Owlery, Buddleia and Dovecote**

Each of these cottages will have a starter basket of logs, kindling and firelighters. If you plan on using the logburner a lot we would recommend you pick up a supply of logs and kindling from the local garages at Totnes, Halwell and East Charlton. We can also supply more logs from Dittiscombe woods at £3 per basket and the money collected will go to our Tree Planting fund to plant indigenous trees to replace those lost through Ash dieback. **Golf**

There are some interesting courses at Bigbury, Dartmouth and Thurlestone.

### **Phone signals & Wifi**

Your cottage Network name is **Dittiscombe** and the password is **0154801548**.

Mobile phone signals are weak in the valley so it is unlikely there will be a signal in your cottage. You may like to give our landline number 01548 521272 to anyone who may need to contact you in an emergency. Have you thought about using Skype, Facetime or What's App to connect to family and friends while you are away – these apps use WiFi rather than a phone signal.

### **Car Parks**

Car parks are open and have a pay and display system. It's advisable to use your mobile phone to pay for parking where possible, by calling or using the RingGo App. This will avoid queues and mean that fewer people need to touch the pay machines.

### **Taxi Service**

Avon Cabs 07833 558813, A2B Taxis 01548 854050, Totally Taxis (will take dogs in the car) 07542 626545, Rob's Taxi 07970 758999.

### **Car Emergency Breakdown**

Kingsbridge Auto Repair & Rescue, Hallwell Business Park, Totnes TQ9 7LQ 01803 712300

AA breakdown service 0800 887766

RAC breakdown service 0800 828282

### **No Smoking**

In accordance with the Law we have a strict no-smoking policy inside all cottages.

### **Fire Hazards**

Please read the emergency plan in your cottage. There are heat alarms in all cottages, and carbon monoxide alarms in cottages with gas central heating and woodburners.

### **Chemists**

Boots, Price of Wales Road, Kingsbridge 01548 852354

Co-op Pharmacy, Ilbert Road, Kingsbridge 01548 857158

### **Further Information**

You'll find more specific information inside your cottage, such as how the heating works, the map and walk to Slapton village and emergency fire exit procedures. However if there is anything else you'd like to know at any time then please get in touch with us by e-mail [info@dittiscombe.co.uk](mailto:info@dittiscombe.co.uk), or text us on 07821 260787.

***EE&OE July 2021***