Durlston Country park

National Nature Reserve

What's On May - September 2024

Ongoing

Everyone Needs a Shed! SH
A variety of sessions at the Durlston Shed. Visit durlston.co.uk/everyone-needs-a-shed for details.

Weekly Work Parties
Visit durlston.co.uk/volunteer

The Wild Walking Book Club
Walking book club with nature therapist Vicki Powell. Call 07896 604495 or email vickibarefootresolution@gmail.com for details. £8

Every Monday, 2 - 4pm
Cuppa and a Chat FREE **SH**
Make friends and enjoy the lovely setting of the Durlston Shed.

Every Saturday, 9am
parkrun FREE
Get fit in a great location. Register through parkrun.org.uk

May

Thursday 2 May, 11am - 12pm
Castle Tour FREE **CR**
Discover the history behind Durlston Castle. Donations welcome.

Saturday 4 May, 11.30am
Life on the Edge: Seabirds Walk CR Discover life in Durlston's seabird colonies. £3.50

Sunday 5 May, 11am - 12.30pm
Glass Engraving Workshop LC
Learn this fascinating craft. Adults and children (8+) welcome. Please book. £15

Tuesday 7 May, 7.30pm
A Swanage Photographic Society Pot Pourri: Evening Talk LC
Photographer Simon Parvin presents landscape and travel photography. £3.50. FREE for Friends of Durlston.

Friday 10 May, 6.50pm (7pm departure) **Seabird Boat Trip**
Guillemots, Puffins, Peregrines and geology with the Durlston Rangers. Book with City Cruises: 02077 400400 or visit www.cityexperiences.com/poole/city-cruises/summer-birdwatching-cruises/ Meet at Swanage Pier. £20

Sunday 12 May, 11.30am
Early Spider Orchids and Spring Flowers Walk CR Join a Ranger to enjoy Durlston's spring flowers. £3.50

Friday 17 May
Seabird Boat Trip See 10 May

Saturday 18 May, 11am
Meet a Moth FREE **CR**
See what we found in last night's moth trap. Donations welcome.

Monday 20 May, 10.30am
Birdwatching for Complete Beginners CR
Borrow some binoculars, join a ranger and learn some birdwatching tips. £3.50

Wednesday 22 May - Wednesday 5 June, 10am - 4pm
Super Seabirds Activity Trail CR Discover what makes our seabirds so super and win a prize! £3.50 per trail pack.

Friday 24 May
Seabird Boat Trip See 10 May

Sunday 26 May, 11am
Spring Meadows Walk CR
Stroll through Durlston's beautiful wildflower meadows. £3.50

Tuesday 28 May, 11am
Meet a Moth FREE See 18 May

Wednesday 29 May, 11am - 3pm
Wild Wednesdays FREE **BD**
Painting, crafts and activities.

Thursday 30 May, 10.30am - 12pm
Brilliant Bird Feeders BD
Make brilliant bird feeders for our flying friends! Please book. £3.50

Friday 31 May, 10.30am - 12.30pm
Drawing in Pencil, Pen and Ink Workshop BD Workshop with Madelaine Devanay for beginners and improvers. Please book. £20

Friday 31 May, 2pm
Beginnings: Heather Gibbons and Robin Mackenzie in Conversation BD A painter and printmaker discuss their work and shared love of the Purbeck landscape and demonstrate their techniques. Please book. £5

Friday 31 May
Seabird Boat Trip See 10 May

June

Sunday 2 June, 11am
Wildflowers of Durlston Walk CR Join a Ranger to enjoy Durlston's summer flowers. £3.50

Tuesday 4 June, 7.30pm
Nature Heals: Evening Talk FFG
Join photographer Trevor Parsons to hear his story of the healing powers of nature. £3.50. FREE for Friends of Durlston.

Thursday 6 June, 11am - 12.30pm
Pleasure Grounds Walk CR
Discover the curious history of the Pleasure Grounds and its recent restoration. £3.50

Friday 7 June
Seabird Boat Trip See 10 May

Saturday 8 June, 2pm
Life on the Edge: Seabirds Walk CR See 4 May

Sunday 9 June, 11am - 12.30pm
Glass Engraving Workshop BD See 5 May

Tuesday 11 June, 11am
Moths and Butterflies CR
Join a gentle walk to discover the butterflies of Durlston, and open last night's moth trap. £3.50

Friday 14 June
Seabird Boat Trip See 10 May

Saturday 15 June, 11am
Meet a Moth FREE See 18 May

Sunday 16 June, 10.30am - 12.30pm
Park to Pier CR
Walk from Durlston Castle to Swanage Pier - wildlife, geology and history. Adult £5, child £3

Friday 21 June
Seabird Boat Trip See 10 May

Sunday 23 June, 11.30am
Midsummer Meadows Walk CR
Enjoy Durlston's meadows in their midsummer glory! £3.50

Friday 28 June
Seabird Boat Trip See 10 May

Sunday 30 June, 2pm
Wildlife Safari
Come and spot Durlston's 'Big Five'! A wildlife walk for all ages! £3.50

July

Tuesday 2 July, 7.30pm
Swanage Swift Group: Evening Talk LC Learn about this fascinating bird and how to help its survival. £3.50. FREE for Friends of Durlston.

Thursday 4 July, 11am - 12.30pm
Victorian Durlston Walk CR
Take a walk to discover Durlston's curious Victorian past. £3.50

Friday 5 July
Seabird Boat Trip See 10 May

Saturday 6 July, 11am
Meet a Moth FREE See 18 May

Sunday 7 July, 10.30am - 12.30pm
Park to Pier CR See 16 June

Wednesday 10 July, 10.30am - 12pm
Coast Path Creative Workshop FREE **LC** Try playful art activities and create postcards from the Path in words and pictures. Age 16+. Please book.

Friday 19 July – Monday 12 August, 10am - 4pm
Pirates of Purbeck Activity Trail CR X marks the spot! Follow the map to find the treasure! £3.50 per trail pack.

Friday 19 July, 9pm
Stars in the Grass: Glow-worm Walk CR Look for these beautiful creatures of the night. Please book. £6

Sunday 21 July, 2pm
Summer Flowers Walk CR
Join a Ranger to enjoy summer flowers and butterflies. £3.50

Wednesday 24 July, 11am - 3pm
Wild Wednesdays LC
See 29 May

Thursday 25 July, 9pm
Stars in the Grass: Glow-worm Walk CR See 19 July

Saturday 27 July, 11am
Meet a Moth FREE See 18 May

Tuesday 30 July, 10.30am - 12pm
Kids Drawing Workshop 7+ LC Join Mark Page to learn to draw animals and plants. Materials included. Please book. £17

Wednesday 31 July, 11am - 3pm
Wild Wednesdays LC
See 29 May

August

Thursday 1 August, 10.30am - 12pm
Family Orienteering LC
Try orienteering, for all ages. Please book. £3.50

Thursday 1 August, 11am - 12pm
Castle Tour FREE **CR**
See 2 May

Wednesday 7 August, 11am - 3pm
Wild Wednesdays LC
See 29 May

Thursday 8 August, 10.30am - 12pm
Mini Beast Safari LC
Join a Ranger to hunt for mini-beasts! Please book. £3.50

Saturday 10 August, 11am
Meet a Moth FREE See 18 May

Sunday 11 August, 10.30am - 12.30pm
Park to Pier CR See 16 June

Monday 12 August, 11am - 1pm
Drawing in Pencil, Pen and Ink Workshop LC See 31 May

Monday 12 August, 8pm
Stargazing LC View Perseid meteor shower, the Moon, Milky Way and summer constellations. Visit durlston.co.uk to check for cancellation. £4

Tuesday 13 August – Thursday 5 September, 10am - 4pm
Meadow Discovery Activity Trail CR Discover what makes our meadows so special and win a prize! £3.50 per pack.

Wednesday 14 August, 11am - 3pm
Wild Wednesdays LC
See 29 May

Thursday 15 August, 10.30am - 12pm
Dolphins and the Sea LC
Find out more about Durlston's dolphins through games and activities. Please book. £3.50

Saturday 17 August, doors open at 7.30pm
Outdoor Cinema: Ghostbusters (1984) For details and to book, visit www.purbeckfilm.com

Sunday 18 August, 11am
Wildlife Safari See 30 June

Wednesday 21 August, 11am - 3pm
Wild Wednesdays LC
See 29 May

Thursday 22 August, 10.30am - 12pm
Flower Pot Planting LC
Join a Ranger to decorate your own flower pot then plant your seeds. Please book. £5

Sunday 25 August, 11am
Downland Delights Walk CR
Join a Ranger for a walk through Durlston's downland - flowers, butterflies, birds and more! £3.50

Tuesday 27 August, 10.30am - 12pm
Kids Drawing Workshop 7+ LC See 30 July

Wednesday 28 August, 11am - 3pm
Wild Wednesdays LC
See 29 May

Thursday 29 August, 10.30am - 12pm
Dinosaur Discovery LC
Find out about Durlston's prehistoric past through games and activities. Please book. £3.50

Saturday 31 August, 11am
Meet a Moth FREE See 18 May

Saturday 31 August, 7.30pm
Stargazing LC View the Milky Way and Summer constellations. Visit durlston.co.uk to check for cancellation. £4

September

Sunday 1 September, 10.30am
Birdwatching for Complete Beginners CR See 20 May

Tuesday 3 September, 7.30pm
A Naturalist's Purbeck: Evening talk LC Photographer Simon Parvin presents landscape and travel photography. £3.50. FREE for Friends of Durlston.

Thursday 5 September, 11am - 12.30pm
Pleasure Grounds Walk CR
See 6 June

Saturday 7 September, 7.30pm
Stargazing LC View Saturn and the Autumn constellations. Visit durlston.co.uk to check for cancellation. £4

Sunday 8 September, 10.30am - 12.30pm
Park to Pier CR See 16 June

Saturday 14 September, 10.30am - 4pm
Introduction to Linocut Workshop
Join printmaker Robin Mackenzie to learn reduction linocut. To book email robin@robinmackenzie.co.uk or call 07979 812083. £85 per person including materials.

Saturday 21 September, 11am
Meet a Moth FREE See 18 May

Sunday 22 September, 11am - 12.30pm
Glass Engraving Workshop LC
See 5 May

Thursday 26 September, 11am - 1pm
Drawing in Pencil, Pen and Ink Workshop LC See 31 May

Saturday 28 September, 10.30am - 4pm
Robin Mackenzie Wood Engraving Workshop LC
Create a wood engraving. To book email robin@robinmackenzie.co.uk or call 07979 812083. £85 per person.

Saturday 28 September, 7pm
Stargazing LC See 7 September

Sunday 29 September, 11am
Layers in the Landscape Walk CR
Discover how geology, history and natural processes have created Durlston's unique landscape. £3.50

Gallery Exhibitions

Tuesday 23 April - Tuesday 7 May, 10.30am - 5pm
Covergence FREE **FFG**
"twenty3" art collective explore themes from human experience inspired by Durlston.

Monday 13 - Tuesday 21 May, 10am - 5pm
Low Carbon Dorset: Our Journey to Net Zero FREE **FFG**
Display of photography, exploring how Dorset is preparing for a greener future.

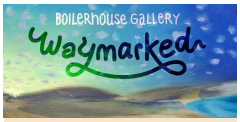
Saturday 25 May - Sunday 9 June, 10..30am - 5pm
The Instinct of Hope: Dorset Art Weeks Exhibition
FREE **FFG**
Celebrating Dorset's landscape and wildlife, featuring artists from around the county. Curated by Dorset Visual Arts.

Wednesday 12 - Thursday 27 June, 10.30am - 5pm
Rooted in Nature FREE **FFG**
Paintings, drawings and mixed media by Julie Herring and Julia Polonski, inspired by natural and human connections.

Wednesday 3 - Thursday 18 July, 10..30am - 5pm
Hierarchy and other Stories
FREE **FFG**
Colourful narrative paintings by Josh Hollingshead with socio-political and environmental themes.

Tuesday 23 July - Tuesday 6 August, 10..30am - 5pm
Fragile Earth FREE **FFG**
Artist Sally Baldwin presents ephemeral white installation and wall pieces evoking trees, flowers, pods, sealife and insects.

Friday 9 - Friday 23 August, 11am - 5pm
The Art of Motherhood
FREE **FFG**
Artist Sharon James offers a view into her journey through motherhood with vibrant paintings of domestic family life.



Monday 26 August - Tuesday 10 September, 10.30am - 5pm
Waymarked FREE **FFG**
Explore the tracks and pathways of Purbeck with the Boilerhouse Gallery artists and makers.

Tuesday 17 September - Thursday 10 October, 10.30am - 5pm
An Exhibition by Ilona Skladzien FREE **FFG**
An exploration of childhood and parenthood through ordinary objects and domestic materials.

Closures **Fine Foundation Gallery** is closed for weddings on Saturday 29 June and Saturday 14 September.

Belvedere Displays

Thursday 23 - Monday 27 May, 10am - 5pm
Low Carbon Dorset
FREE **BD**
See Gallery exhibition

Friday 5 - Monday 15 July, 10am - 5pm
The Creative Path
FREE **BD**
Emma Scattergood's celebration of the South West Coast Path Association's golden anniversary with sketches and paintings inspired by the path.

Monday 22 July - Thursday 1 August, 10am - 5pm
Low Carbon Dorset
See Gallery exhibition

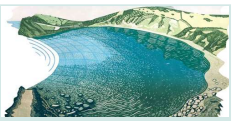
Sunday 4 - Sunday 11 August, 10am - 5pm
Robin Mackenzie Printmaking
FREE **BD**
Wood engravings and linocuts of the Dorset Coast and British Isles.

Wednesday 14 - Friday 23 August, 10am - 5pm
Nature Heals
FREE **BD**
Enjoy photos by Trevor Parsons and learn about his story and the healing powers of nature.

Tuesday 27 August - Thursday 5 September, 10am - 5pm
A Parliament of Owls
FREE **BD**
Drawings and mezzotints of British owls by Katy Harrald.

Wednesday 18 - Thursday 26 September, 10am - 5pm
A Hiker's View
FREE **BD**
Landscape photography by Ben Delahay.

Learning Centre



Saturday 25 May - Sunday 9 June, 10.30am - 4pm
On the Wild Side FREE **LC**
Artists Heather Gibbons and Robin Mackenzie explore the coastal landscape in oils, wood engravings and lino cuts.

Key and information

Where booking is required, visit **durlston.co.uk** or call **01929 424443** (unless stated otherwise).

Locations

CR	Castle Reception
SH	The Shed (located on the Woodland Trail, approx. 500m walk from Durlston Castle)
LC	Learning Centre
BD	Belvedere
FFG	Fine Foundation Gallery

Event info

- Children's Activities
- Artwork for sale
- Dementia Friendly
- FREE, donations welcome

For more events and further information visit **durlston.co.uk/events**