

# Car Free Ideas for Lynmouth and Lynton



A great car-free day out around Lynmouth and Lynton, taking in the town and the surrounding countryside on foot with options to take the bus to local villages and attractions nearby.

## Highlights

- The East and West Lyn Rivers
- The Town Hall at Lynton
- The Rhenish Tower
- The Cliff Railway
- The 1952 Flood Disaster
- Exmoor National Park Centre
- Scenic walks along the East Lyn River
- Open-top bus ride to Porlock or Minehead and bus back
- Bus rides to local attractions

## Explore Lynmouth and Lynton

Lynmouth and Lynton are twin towns, Lynton being some 500 feet above Lynmouth. This is not a problem though. The funicular cliff railway was built in 1888 and joins the two towns up the cliff. Powered simply by the weight of water, it is used to make the top car heavier than the bottom, thus pulling the lower car up the cliff while it descends.

The two towns are blessed with stunning scenery. Lynmouth is at the mouth of two fast-flowing rivers, together clearing a large expanse of moorland. Steep-sided wooded combes make for some excellent walks, as does the coast path. The Glen Lyn Gorge is located in the West Lyn and shows the power of the water coming down this steep valley being used to generate electricity for the village.

Both towns are quite different and worthy of investigation. Lynmouth lost some of its original built character during the flood disaster in 1952. Nine inches of rain fell in a day in the catchment areas of the two rivers. The picturesque Lynmouth harbour is overlooked by the Rhenish Tower perched on the harbour wall. Lynmouth Street has a charming selection of shops as well as an exhibition of the flood disaster.

Lynton still keeps its original character with its unique town hall given to the town by Sir George Newnes the publisher. This is home to the local tourist information centre. Next door is the local cinema, a redundant church converted by local people into a superb cinema showing up-to-date films. You will also find the Lyn Valley Arts and Crafts here selling the talented work of local craftspeople.

An enjoyable circular walk can be taken to the Valley of Rocks from Lynton. Go to the church and turn down

North Walk. Follow this narrow road as it passes over the cliff railway and then follows a level walk which becomes a coastal footpath. This was built by the Victorians to promenade along. Keep on it as it follows the cliff edge to reach the middle of the Valley of Rocks at the roundabout by Castle Rock. The return is along the road where you can enjoy refreshments at Mother Meldrum's tearooms. You then pass probably one of the most spectacularly positioned cricket pitches followed by the Poets Shelter. This area was loved by Shelley, Wordsworth and Coleridge who got inspiration from the scenery. Watch out for the feral goats!

## Explore further afield by public transport from Lynmouth and Lynton

**Using the 300 Exmoor Coastal Link bus service from Lyndale Car Park, Lynmouth** (7 days a week April to October):

- Take the open-top double-decker bus 300 from Lynmouth heading east along the coast to Minehead and back.
- Go to County Gate on the 300 bus (heading to Minehead) for a 5.2 mile, 3 hour walk back to Lynmouth. Walk description available from [www.exploremoor.co.uk](http://www.exploremoor.co.uk) or from the National Park Centre in Lynmouth.

**Using the 300 Lynmouth – Ilfracombe service from Lyndale Car Park, Lynmouth** (Weekends all year, 7 days a week during the summer):

- **Combe Martin Wildlife & Dinosaur Park** (01271 882486). The 300 bus to Ilfracombe passes this attraction.

Using the 309/310 bus service from Lyndale Car Park, Lynmouth (Weekends all year, 7 days a week during the summer):

- Take either the 309 or 310 bus to the village of **Parracombe**. Enjoy a pub lunch before returning by bus.
- **Outovercott Riding Stables** (01598 753341 booking essential). For those who would like to experience horse-riding over Exmoor take either the 309/310 bus for about 3.5 miles from Lynton.
- **Lynton to Barnstaple Railway, Woody Bay** (01598 763487). This narrow-gauge railway follows part of the route of the original railway between Barnstaple and Lynton. This attraction is on either the 309 or 310 bus route (and the 300 service) approx. 4.5miles from Lynmouth.
- **Exmoor Zoo** (01598 763352). Take the 310 bus which passes the road on which the zoo is situated. A half mile walk along a lane gets you to the zoo.

### Visitor Information

Lynmouth National Park Centre, Lyndale car park, Lynmouth, 01598 752509

Lynton Tourist Information Centre, Town Hall, Lynton, 01598 752225

### Public Transport Information

For further information, ideas and inspiration for exploring Exmoor without the car visit [www.exploremoor.co.uk](http://www.exploremoor.co.uk). For up-to-the-minute public transport information and to confirm timetables call Traveline on 0871 200 22 33.

### Disclaimer

Whilst all information is correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of going to press we cannot be held responsible for any errors or changes over the lifetime of this leaflet. We strongly recommend that you check the current bus timetables and opening times of attractions before travelling.



Woody Bay