

GETTING TO DUNSTER

The closest large town is Taunton. From Taunton, a ride on bus 28 lasts just over one hour to the medieval town of Dunster, with a couple of departures per hour available most days.

DAY ONE: Dunster Castle and Village

Visit [Dunster Castle](#) to start your exploration of the village. We recommend planning your visit early, with a walk of the castle gardens one hour before the castle opens for visitors. Plan on at least 2 hours or a bit longer if you add on any of the optional tours.

Afternoon: Stroll the main streets in [Dunster Village](#) (High Street and West Street). Start with a visit to the [Priory Church of St. George](#) located in the heart of the village. Continue exploring the village by browsing the local shops. Stop by the historic [Yarn Market](#) and read the posted information to learn about this site.

DAY TWO: Cleeve Abbey and Exmoor National Park

Morning: Plan a visit to [Cleeve Abbey](#), one of the best preserved medieval monasteries in England. It is about a 10 minute journey from Dunster to the Abbey.

Afternoon: Take a hike in [Exmoor National Park](#). Stop by the Visitor Center in the village for trail information.

DAY THREE: Dunster Beach and Dunster Museum

Enjoy a stroll along [Dunster Beach](#). If you are comfortable walking for about 40 minutes, you can get there from Dunster Village. You'll journey through walking trails after you cross the main road A39 and soon after, arrive at the beach. Take your time here - it's a peaceful place to relax.

Afternoon: Back to the village, visit [Dunster Museum and Doll Collection](#). It's a small museum, but presents a rich and thorough history on Dunster, from the stone age to the present day.



FOOD & DRINK RECOMMENDATIONS

[Stags Head](#): 10 West Street: One of several excellent dinner options in the village

Locks Victorian Tea Rooms: 18 High Street - a nice place for scones and tea

Styles Ice Cream: Adjacent to Dunster National Park Centre, for ice cream and lighter fare



LODGING RECOMMENDATIONS

[Exmoor House Bed & Breakfast](#): 12 West Street. Walking distance to Dunster Castle.

LEAVING DUNSTER: If you are headed toward Taunton, we recommend taking the [West Somerset Railway](#) from Dunster. This is the longest heritage railway in England. Enjoy a ride on a steam train through beautiful Somerset countryside.



IF WE HAD MORE TIME, WE WOULD HAVE EXPLORED THE FOLLOWING:

[Minehead](#): With more time, take a short journey into the adjacent coastal town of Minehead.



LOCAL EVENTS

See if any events will be happening during your visit. Recommended venues include

- [Discover Dunster](#): Consult the Discover Dunster website for upcoming events
- [Visit Dunster](#): Another site for Dunster events
- [Dunster Festival](#): High quality classical chamber music and Art - May
- [Dunster Country Fair](#): One day only. If you're there on the day, enjoy an English country fair
- [Dunster by Candlelight](#): A winter-season event with music and entertainment



ARCHITECTURE

Architecture Buffs should reference the [Listed Buildings in Dunster](#) and choose among the 30 listed buildings to explore in Dunster



READ/WATCH/LISTEN: Soak up the vibe of Dunster with these selections before your trip

Overview: [Minehead and Dunster Through Time](#) by Simon Haines

History: [Dunster-A Castle at War: A Journey Through 900 Years of Savage and Colourful History](#)

History: [The Ladies of Dunster Castle](#) (Jim Lee)

Watch: [Dig Village](#) - Collection of archeological dig videos on YouTube



YOUR PERSONAL ITINERARY

- Selected attractions: Check attraction websites for your selections for open days, times, prices, and ticket information.
- Lodging: We recommend a [Bed and Breakfast experience in Dunster](#).
- Transportation: Especially if you are relying on public transportation, plan in advance how you will get to and from places on your personalized itinerary. Dunster can be a bit tricky, but it is possible to get around without a personal car. We did it!
- Walk through the town. Consult the [Countryside Walks in Dunster](#) at the link provided here.
- Google maps: We recommend downloading an offline version of Google Maps to help you with navigation. Note that the offline version of Google maps provides driving routes versus walking routes.

