

Some helpful information about your cottage from Peter your host:

Arrival & Departure

- I live on site, in the Hayloft, the oak framed property/garage at the end of the drive, opposite the main house. The office is located here too. The best time to catch me for general queries is between 10.00am-1.00pm. Please come to the front door at the top of the steps or do contact Emma on 07957 398127.

- **Car Parking**
Guests staying in Maristow, Meavy, Haytor, Burrator & Yennadon Barns:
After unloading, kindly leave your car in the main car park located behind the row of barns, behind the main house. This includes the cars of any day visitors.
Guests staying in the Garden House, Gitcombe Retreat and Coach House can park directly outside their property.
Guests staying in Gitcombe House can park directly outside the main walls. Please ensure your car faces the house as this allows three cars to park outside. If you have more than three cars then please park these in the main car park below the other barns.

- For safety purposes, we operate a 'one way' system around the main row of barns, behind Gitcombe House. When driving up the gradient, towards the barns, please leave these on the driver's right hand side, proceeding in a clockwise direction

- There is no smoking anywhere at Gitcombe, in the properties, facilities or grounds.

- Our housekeepers do an interim clean for guests staying two or more weeks, usually mid-morning/early afternoon, on the same day of the week that you arrived (i.e Friday or Saturday). Please note this is not a full clean, as the property is occupied. We clean the kitchens and bathrooms, change your bed linen & towels and vacuum the floors throughout. Food/personal items are cleaned around, but not moved. Personal items are not tidied.

- Check-out is 10.00am on your departure day to enable us to fully prepare the properties for our next guests. Please leave the front door key on the dining table. Use of the leisure facilities here ends at this departure time.

- Please leave your cottage clean and tidy, disposing of all rubbish and empty bottles in the communal waste bins and ensure all crockery, cutlery, glassware and cooking utensils are clean and replaced in the cupboards. If staying in a larger group, return any inventory items shared between cottages to the appropriate property.

The Cottages

- **Free WiFi** access is available in all the properties and in the indoor leisure facilities at Gitcombe. **The password is “Gitcombe” and for Gitcombe Retreat it is “Retreat1”**. All properties have IPOD connectivity.
- We have reasonable mobile phone reception, depending on your phone and network. We are located in a rural valley, so the signal can be variable. If you have any difficulties, there is usually a strong signal outside the indoor pool complex.
- Manuals for appliances are located in each property, usually in the kitchen drawers or small units above the fridges. There is a fire extinguisher and a fire blanket in the kitchen and a torch, for emergency use on each floor (if one is missing, please let us know). Please familiarise yourself with the location of these items.
- In the event that the electricity trips (perhaps because a light bulb has ‘blown’) the fuse box is located within each property (usually within the broom cupboard where the washing machine/tumble dryer is located). The exceptions to this are Gitcombe House, Gitcombe Retreat and the Coach House. The fuse box for Gitcombe House is located under the stairs, in the cupboard opposite the pantry. The Coach House fuse box is located in Gitcombe House’s utility room, adjoining the Coach House, via the stable doors. The fuse box is located high up on the wall, to the left hand side, as you enter. Gitcombe Retreat’s fuse box is downstairs in the utility room. There is a selection of replacement light bulbs in each property but do let us know if you require more.
- The lights in some properties work on a ‘push & slide’ mechanism for switching on/off as well as to dim them. *Please remember the environment and switch off the lights when you go out.*
- Some lights in Garden House, and in some of the bedrooms in other properties, are linked to a central wall switch. If this is switched off, the lights and freestanding lamps lights cannot be turned on individually until you turn this switch on!
- If using the log burner/open fire, do help yourself to logs and kindling, located in the open-fronted log store, opposite the row of barns behind the main house. We supply an initial quantity of firelighters; further supplies are available from local garages/supermarkets. The fire needs plenty of kindling wood, a few smallish logs together with an ample supply of air to get it going. So, to start the fire, do not overcrowd the grate or overload it with very large or damp logs! Close the burner doors and open the vents. Close the vents to control the air input and fire once it has got going.
- Each property has a travel cot, highchair and bed guard for a single bed normally stored in an under stairs cupboard, in one of the wardrobes or in the living area. Booster seats are available by request. There is a hair dryer, generally in a wardrobe or a bedroom drawer.

- All properties have a free standing Weber BBQ during the summer which can be found in your patio area. Please can you clean the BBQ's when you have finished and please keep their use to your patio (ground floor patios in Meavy & Maristow). Regrettably, BBQs cannot be used anywhere else on site.
- Do not remove the telephone connection to the satellite which offers the full range of Freeview channels.
- Please do not put wooden chopping boards in the dishwasher.
- **We do our best to check the inventories each week but things do get broken, misplaced or left in another cottage during gatherings of larger parties, and these may not be noticed during our weekly housekeeping. If you find something is missing or is/becomes damaged, or it is not as you would expect, do let us know straight away so that we can try and do something whilst you are here. To ensure consistency of inventory brands and styling, please talk to Peter or the team before replacing anything that you may have damaged or broken.**
- Large, communal waste/rubbish bins are located to the front of the main house, in a timber slatted store area. Please do not leave nappies or rubbish directly outside your property, as this attracts the attention of our local wildlife! Kindly break up boxes before disposal, otherwise the bins become very full, very quickly.
- We do not formally recycle here as our local council classes our refuse as commercial/trade waste, and collects and processes it accordingly. We are looking at alternative options. The nearest bottle banks are located at Morrisons supermarket, Totnes and the Ham car park, Dittisham.