



Visit the Dean Wye for your 'Sex Education'

Forest of Dean and Wye Valley gets ready 'Sex Ed 2 Effect' following release of Season Two of Netflix drama expected to attract more visitors to the area



Tourism businesses in the Forest of Dean & Wye Valley (Dean Wye) are hoping to welcome more visitors looking to search out some of the main locations used in the filming of the Netflix drama 'Sex Education' this year.

Following Season Two's release on Friday, 17th January, the destination continues to play a starring role throughout the series with the picturesque River Wye also featuring in the main publicity mural used to announce the TV show's return and subsequently in all promotional posters going up in locations up and down the country as well as in the USA beyond.

Season One saw the area used regularly including locations such as Tintern, Bigsweir House on the River Wye and Browns Village Stores in Llandogo doubling as the local store for Otis (Asa Butterfield), one of the main stars. One of the most striking locations was the distinctive red and white house known as The Chalet, which overlooks Symonds Yat and doubled as the home of Otis and his mother Jean (Gillian Anderson).

Season Two has revealed a storyline following Otis' 'coming of age' with even more of the region's beauty spots starring. Viewers can enjoy scenes of the historic town of **Monmouth**,

its high street and riverside playing fields, the arcade at **Symonds Yat West**, the lido at Lydney (**Bathurst Pools**), the heritage steam railway, **Dean Forest Railway** and its **Parkend station**, the 19th Century bridge at Redbrook, as well as the village of **St Briavels** and the 12th Century castle - http://www.wyedeantourism.co.uk/Sex_Education

Helen O’Kane, co-chair of Forest of Dean & Wye Valley Tourism commented,

“We are no strangers to screen tourism having benefitted from the attention gained from blockbuster films such as Star Wars, Harry Potter and King Arthur over the years. Location managers seem to be drawn to our diverse landscapes, accessibility and the fact we are still perceived as something of a hidden gem.”

She continued: “Our members are really hoping that the beauty of the region will continue to shine through in the latest series and really motivate more visitors to seek us out. Where else can you explore one of Britain’s most ancient forests, zipline over a flooded quarry, explore ancient underground caverns and paddle down a meandering river crossing counties and countries?”

Region’s update Film & TV Guide

Forest of Dean and Wye Valley Tourism has created a downloadable **Film & TV** location guide which details all the films and TV series shot in the area and the location details making it easy visitors to explore the region’s filming hotspots. To download the guide head to www.wyedeantourism.co.uk/film_TV

“With great places to stay and delicious local food and drink on tap, we can’t wait to welcome even more setjettlers to the area,” added O’Kane.

Chris Rollinson, proprietor of the Saracens Head, the gastro pub located at Symonds Yat, a stone’s throw from The Chalet, commented,

“We can’t wait for a new wave of interest from this next series. We’ve been totally blown away by the number of people coming to the Saracens Head and explaining they are here because of Sex Education. They usually want to know if we have had the main stars of the show into the pub and how they can get the best selfie with the chalet in the background!”

Sex Education is just the latest production of many to capture the beauty of the Forest of Dean & Wye Valley which include children’s television shows such as Tree Fu Tom and iconic BBC dramas, Merlin and Doctor Who, with the remake of The Secret Garden starring Colin Firth and Julie Walters (to be released this April) to be added to this line up.

-ENDS-

For more information and images contact Fiona Reece and Ryan Baker at Travel Tonic Fiona@traveltonic.co.uk / ryan@traveltonic.co.uk / 01452 346116 / 07702 684682

Notes to Editors:

High resolution images of all the locations in both series one and two are available on request.

About Forest of Dean & Wye Valley Tourism

Forest of Dean & Wye Valley Tourism was formed in 2006 and is the official Destination Management Organisation representing the interests of almost 300 tourism related businesses spread across Gloucestershire, Monmouthshire and Herefordshire and is the only cross-border tourism association in the UK, spanning Wales and England.

The region covers over 1,000 square miles and is home to one of Britain's largest and most ancient forests, as well as the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

Within this unique landscape of forested hillsides, limestone gorge scenery, waterfalls, rocky outcrops and unspoilt villages, are some of Britain's best walking fishing, cycling and canoeing opportunities, not to mention tidal surfing on the Severn Bore, a natural phenomenon coinciding with the full moon.

The region regularly takes a starring role as the filming location for major blockbusters including Star Wars, Harry Potter and in 2020, The Secret Garden. With over 20 million trees it's the perfect place to forest bathe, explore new heights from tree top trails, or even spot a deer or two, nature surrounds.

Tourism statistics for the Forest of Dean & Wye Valley in 2018

Total staying and day trips: 7,105,400

Total visitor related spend: £372 million

Total day trips: 6.3 million

Total staying trips (UK and overseas): 805,400

Total overseas staying trips: 100,400

Social media handles:

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