



*Welsh wildlife focus*

# IMMERSIVE NATURE EXPLORER EXPERIENCE

The  
**Nature** Centre  
Recovery



*at*

 **Bug** Dr. Beynon's Farm

A photograph of a field of white daisies with yellow centers in the foreground. In the background, there is a stone building with a wooden door and a window. The scene is set outdoors under a clear sky.

## ONCE UPON A TIME ON A HISTORIC FARM IN ST DAVIDS

We invite you on a journey to a Grade II listed **farm and wildlife reserve** where, behind the quaint stone buildings, something rather special is happening: A farm is being brought back to life.

This truly unique and bespoke 1.5-2hr immersive experience involves a peek into **one of Wales's premier nature recovery projects**, which links up two internationally important parts of a Special Area of Conservation.

A photograph of a field of wildflowers. In the foreground, several tall, thin stems with clusters of small purple flowers are in focus. Behind them, a dense field of yellow wildflowers stretches towards the horizon. The sky is a clear, bright blue with a few wispy white clouds. The overall scene is vibrant and natural.

## THE FARM NATURE RESERVE

*Ten years ago, this 100-acre farm was an intensively-farmed wildlife desert.*

*Through a mixture of research, active nature recovery and rewilding, in just a decade, founders Dr Beynon and her husband Andy have turned the farm into a flourishing wildlife reserve that is to be designated as a **Site of Special Scientific Interest**.*

A black cow stands in a field of tall grass, looking towards the left. The background shows a sunset over a landscape with rolling hills and a few buildings in the distance. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene.

## A NETWORK FOR NATURE

*The farm is now a tapestry of wildflower meadows, heath, new woodland, wetlands and ponds. It is now one of Wales' top 10 farms for rare arable plants and home to one of the world's 100 rarest species - willow blister fungus!*

*The habitats are managed by the farm's herd of Welsh Black cattle - the native breed of Wales.*

*Also running as a research centre, the site is home to cutting-edge research on food, farming and nature.*



## MEET THE ECOLOGIST & FARMER BEHIND THE VENTURE

*You'll be treated to a fascinating and thought-provoking talk by founder, Dr Sarah Beynon.*

*Dr Beynon is an Oxford-educated ecologist and farmer.*

*Winner of the Royal Agricultural Society's Research Medal and named as a Welsh 'Environment Hero', she was also named as 'One of Wales' Legendary People'.*

*An engaging speaker, Dr Beynon will wow you with a discussion on her research into the future of farming and nature recovery.*



## VISIT THE PEMBROKESHIRE FARMING HISTORY MUSEUM

The Bug Farm is Dr Beynon's family farm. Her family have been farming here in Pembrokeshire since the 1700's and does she have some stories to tell you!

Take a guided tour around the new **Pembrokeshire Farming History Museum** with Dr Beynon as she brings the past alive.

The Museum includes the **Nature Recovery Centre** - a fascinating centre about what you can do to support nature.



## A GUIDED WILDLIFE WALK

Join Dr Beynon on a guided walk through the farm's varied habitats to see innovative nature recovery in action.

Hear the skylarks sing, watch the hen harriers swooping and the swifts screeching over the meadows bursting with colour and life.

This is also a unique opportunity to see Wales's first marsh fritillary butterfly reintroduction in action.



## VISITOR CENTRE

*As you're here...*

*Make the most of your trip by visiting the farm's other attractions. Be wowed by one of the the UK's **largest private butterfly collections** in the Invertebrate Museum and see some of the world's most incredible invertebrates in the **Tropical Bug Zoo**.*

*Make sure to grab a bite to eat in Grub Kitchen - the UK's first edible insect cafe, also proudly serving a nature-friendly menu, including the farm's own honey and bread made from wheat grown onsite.*

# Food For Nature

Mess!  
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## Put Up A Bird Box, Nest Cup & Bat Box

Why not **put up a bird nest box**? If you have eaves (an overhang) on your roof, you could put up house martin nest cups. If you have a garden shed, barn or horse shelter, you could put up swallow nest cups or a barn owl box. If you have a building over 5 metres tall, you could put up a swift box. Some species also benefit from calls being played to beam them in! Why not put up a **nest box camera** so you can enjoy watching life inside a nest? Beware though, it becomes addictive!



Have a look at examples on the walls here and around The Bug Farm. We have also written a report that you can download from our website suggesting how you can include wildlife habitats in buildings.

## Dig A Wildlife Pond

One of the best things you can do for wildlife is to **create a wildlife pond**. There are lots of guidelines online (have a look at **Amphibian and Reptile Conservation** and **Froglife's** websites), but make sure that the pond has shallow, gently-sloping edges, no central island and you only fill it with native pond plants. Don't be tempted to move amphibians, such as frogs and toads, from one pond to another, as you could be spreading diseases along with them. And, whatever you do, don't add fish - they eat the wildlife!



## Build A Bug Hotel

It is great fun to build a bug or bee hotel in your garden and watch solitary bees diligently packing the tubes full of mud or leaves to protect their eggs. Make sure to get one with tubes at least 10cm long that can be replaced each year or you may be creating habitat for bee parasites instead. A few small hotels are better than a big one. Site them around 2m high, facing south or south-east, near pollinator-friendly plants. You can also **build bee bricks into walls**, like we have done on the front of the Nature Recovery Centre. Making a bee bank out of a pile of sand is another simple, yet effective, way to encourage solitary bees!



## Lighting

If you want to light up your patch, make sure to choose downward-pointing lights that are shaded from above so they don't affect nocturnal wildlife activity. Bright white lights are the most disturbing for wildlife - choose warm white or, even better, red lights instead. Check out the report on our website about reducing the impact of artificial light on wildlife.



## Delay The Spring Clean

One of the most important ways  
of life is to **leave**  
and

## Kids Corner

What could you do in  
your garden to create  
for wildlife?



## THE IMPORTANT BITS

- 1.5-2 hour bespoke visit.
- Unique experience that includes areas not accessible by general visitors.
- A world-renowned centre of excellence and nature reserve.
- Except for the walk, suitable for wheelchairs and those with limited mobility.
- Opportunity to extend the visit to include the Tropical Invertebrate Zoo, Invertebrate Museum, Art Gallery, Walled Garden and Grub Kitchen.
- Fabulous for nature and sustainability enthusiasts.



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