



Dark Sky Friendly Business

Criteria

Essential

(where applicable for your type of business)

- ✓ We are based in the Yorkshire Dales National Park or the wider influence area and will act as Dark Sky ambassadors for the Yorkshire Dales National Park.
- ✓ We are proactive in reducing light pollution on our property and in our community and will support Yorkshire Dales National Park initiatives.
- ✓ We have considered how star-gazing customers might affect our neighbours.
- ✓ We provide customers with a check-list of what to bring to enjoy Dark Skies and stargazing events.
- ✓ We provide reference information and/or signpost customers to additional sources of information e.g. leaflets, star charts, books, websites, apps and places to stargaze across the Yorkshire Dales National Park.
- ✓ We promote and share Dark Skies events and activities (where appropriate) and Festival information via our website, literature, emails, social media and face to face.
- ✓ We promote other Dark Sky Friendly businesses (where appropriate) and venues
- ✓ We provide equipment that guests can use to view the stars and to aid enjoyment – e.g. blankets, deck chairs, binoculars, red torches, telescopes etc.
- ✓ We are flexible with guests and can allow late returns.
- ✓ We consider requests for late check out or breakfast.
- ✓ We have considered how stargazing guests will interact with other guests e.g. returning late and making noise.
- ✓ We display the Dark Sky Friendly logo wherever possible such as on websites, social media and promotional materials.
- ✓ We have all the relevant training, insurance and permissions in order to carry out our activities.

You may also wish to consider the following:

- ✓ Ensure views aren't obscured by indoor or other lighting
- ✓ Provide a designated viewing area on-site with appropriate outside lighting which should be minimal but still ensure the safety of guests.
- ✓ Give advice and tips (e.g. paint normal torches with red nail varnish)
- ✓ Organise public events that give people the opportunity to view the stars with expert guidance and provide advice on how to prepare, what to bring etc. and what plans are in place in case skies are not clear.
- ✓ Accommodation providers could provide facilities for refreshments – on return or as packed meals. (These facilities can be chargeable).
- ✓ Attend a Dark Skies Tourism workshop or other training

