

Welcome to The Coppice

We hope you have had a good journey and that you can now relax and enjoy your stay in this idyllic location on the slopes of Bredon Hill.

WIFI Code: Coppice!
INSTAGRAM AND FACEBOOK: @Thecoppice

THE ALARM IS THE SAME CODE AS THE KEY SAFE (KEY IN THE NUMBER AND PRESS THE GREEN TICK FOR ENTRY AND EXIT).

JUST A FEW NOTES WHICH MAY HELP WHILE YOU ARE HERE:

- We moved to The Coppice in 1982. We have extended and renovated it over the years and very happily brought up our family here. It was a very tough decision, but an opportunity came up to buy the next door property (The Croft), and similarly to renovate and extend that and most importantly, it enabled us to stay in this beautiful spot! One word of warning - The Coppice dates back to the 1400s (look at the stone inscription at the top of the chimney). We have extensively renovated the property, but have tried - as much as possible - to retain its original features. This does, we are afraid, involve some low beams, wonky floor boards, steps, and quirky features both inside and outside. Please be aware of this and take care.
- We keep horses in the stables and paddocks that surround The Coppice. Please be aware of this and keep all the field gates shut. Also please don't feed the horses - they get quite enough already! They are kept quite separately from the house and garden and are hopefully a pleasure to see but we would be grateful if you respect their area as they will yours if you keep the gates shut! We cannot take any responsibility for any incidents if you don't. (Sorry, this sounds a bit legal but it is necessary).
- PARKING – Please leave space from the stables to the main gate as access to the stables is essential, potentially 24 hours a day.
- MONDAY is BIN DAY – The bins in the kitchen are labelled so that you can separate your rubbish into 'recycling' and 'non-recycling'. Food waste goes into the non-recycling (black bin outside). Please place either the green (recycling) or black (non-recycling) wheelie bin outside the big gate on Sunday evening or first thing Monday – green/black bins go out on alternative weeks. Please check refuse collection schedule for the correct week – see attached.
- We are DOG FRIENDLY and they are welcome, but please not up-stairs, on the carpets or on the furniture. We do want to keep the The Coppice as fresh and lovely as possible and our next guests may not be as dog loving as you!
- MOWING/GARDENING – in order to maintain the garden (especially during longer bookings) we may just need to call round during your stay – The timings aren't always fixed and are governed by the weather. Many thanks for your understanding.
- The Coppice is always carefully and thoroughly cleaned before your visit but, as the interior is old and we are in a rural location, spiders, woodlice, ladybugs etc.

may appear! There are some cleaning materials and a Henry in the cupboard under the spiral stairs & under the sink in the laundry room. Feel free to use them or not, as you wish.

- Please explore all the KITCHEN cupboards - we have tried to supply everything that you need (within reason!), and hope that we have succeeded.
 - There is a cafetière coffee pot, and also a Nespresso machine if you have the capsules. There are a few spare ones in the pink pot.
 - Please don't put high volumes of veg waste down the garbage grinder in the sink. It will block! It's fine to do it in small batches (or throw it out with your general waste). The grinder is operated by a silver button on the front of the sink unit. You MUST put the cover over the grinder before use and never attempt to refill if it is running.
 - The fridge, freezer and microwave are in the free standing "House Keepers" cupboard. The microwave is multi-functional – the instruction booklet is on the shelves just inside the kitchen door. Apologies for the state of the drawers in the freezer – new ones are on order!
 - There is an instruction booklet by the Rangemaster cooker, which is hopefully self-explanatory.
 - There is a switch on the right hand wall to the side of the cooker. This operates the fan and cooker lights.
 - Most of the plates and glasses are in the wall unit and cupboard below, but there are some larger plates in the small cupboard in the conservatory and the wine & bubbly glasses are in the corner cupboard in the sitting room.
- The LAUNDRY ROOM has a washing machine, tumble drier and an additional fridge which is useful for drinks etc. There is an iron in one of the cupboards – the ironing board is under the spiral stairs.
- The TV is internet based. There are a host of internet channels and services available. The best way to find them is to turn the TV on (top button of remote). Then press the button shaped like a house half way down the left hand side of the remote. This brings up the main menu which you can scroll along to highlight the service of your choice. Good options are Netflix (We have set up an account for your use) and Amazon (if you have an account) or BBC IPlayer as well as YouTube and a wider internet browser.
- There is a LOEWE SOUND UNIT in the kitchen (it only works when plugged into the mains). If you have a reasonably up to date iPhone you can dock it by pressing the rectangular hatch in the centre of the top of the unit. The lid pops up. Just plug your iPhone in and play your tunes. Otherwise it will pair with almost any BLUETOOTH ENABLED phone/tablet/laptop etc. Press the telephone icon on top and look for SOUNDPORT 5 in your list of devices (sometimes the title varies slightly. Hopefully you will recognise it!).

- CENTRAL HEATING – There are 2 fixed thermostats that control the temperature of the house. One thermostat is in the entrance hall and basically controls that end of the house and the other above the stairs in the TV room and controls the other end. There is also a free standing thermostat in the kitchen that controls the under floor heating in the kitchen and conservatory. You need to press the top button to the right of the numbers to increase the temperature (you should see a flame appear to show that the boiler has responded) and the bottom button to reduce the temperature.
- Each of the beds has a 10.5 tog duvet. There are spare duvets (4.5 tog) in the drawers / cupboards in each bedroom if you need extra warmth. The duvets and pillows are all goose and duck feathers, but we do have a couple of synthetic ones if you are allergic to feathers. They are in the top cupboard in the middle bedroom.
- Please take extra care when using the OPEN FIRES – Always use the fire guard provided. Extra wood and kindling may be available on request. If the fires smoke when first lit (sometimes happens if the chimneys are cold) open a window a crack. Once the fire is drawing well you can shut the window.
- Please NO SMOKING ANYWHERE in the house.
- HOUSEKEEPING – Whilst we endeavour to ensure that every aspect of your stay is pleasant and comfortable, should a problem arise, we are available on 07831 430985 or 07768880505 between the hours of 9am- 7pm. Please only contact us outside of these hours in an emergency.
- ON YOUR DEPARTURE – We will of course come in and clean after you leave, but we expect you to leave the house tidy, with all dishes either washed or in the dishwasher. Please also take the rubbish out to the outside bins.
- Please take extra care when using the stone steps around the house and garden as they are very uneven.

NOW THE MORE INTERESTING STUFF:

- If you enjoy WALKING AND WILDLIFE, you are in the right place! – There are a number of lovely walks locally without driving. Bredon Hill is the most wonderful place and from the top you have a view of 5 counties and into Wales. Watch out for fallow, muntjac and roe deer, foxes and badgers, together with a whole host of bird life. In the spring, you should notice a beautiful carpet of bluebells in the woods surrounding The Coppice. Have a look at the OS maps which will show you the footpaths including part of the COTSWOLD WAY over Bredon Hill. In addition to the footpaths, THE OVERBURY ESTATE opens up “permissive paths” on Bredon Hill. They are fairly permanent and are clearly marked. Please respect this by staying on the paths.
- There are several books, maps and local info. in The Coppice for your use, but please leave them here for future guests- many thanks.
- For a short circular walk, leave the gate and take the steep tarmac track diagonally opposite. Walk up through the woods turning left in the large clearing (recently planted with new trees). Head straight up hill and through the small wooden gate out onto the grass fields. Turn immediately left. Follow the edge of the wood for a short distance and then across to the metal gate ahead of you (roughly at the same height). Keep straight on until you get to the next small woodland. Turn sharp left down a stone track. This leads down to the farm immediately above us where you will pick up the tarmac lane leading back down to the Coppice.
- On this walk, you will notice that you have only gone part way up Bredon Hill. For a more adventurous walk start in reverse and after the farm and stone track keep heading straight up following the footpath markers. You then have access to a host of different routes. If you follow the ridge line all the way to the Western end of the hill you will find Parsons Folly and the most breath-taking views across the rivers Avon and Severn to the Malvern, Welsh and Shropshire Hills. Many of the footpaths offer you the opportunity to drop down off Bredon Hill to the ring of villages around its base almost all of which have wonderful pubs!.... You might want to drop a car beforehand or face the walk back. So many decisions, but good ones are the Yew Tree in Conderton or The Queens in Elmley Castle. For the less adventurous, there is the Star in Ashton under Hill. There is a footpath which goes past the Church almost to the door or there is a longer loop up the hill and back round.
- Much of Bredon Hill is also accessible by MOUNTAIN BIKE or HORSEBACK by following the BRIDLEWAY SIGNS. There are other great routes up on the Cotswolds a short pedal or drive away. For the ROAD BIKER, there is a 16.2 mile road loop round the base of Bredon Hill. IT'S A GOOD WORKOUT. Try going under the hour! To go further afield you can cross the Vale of Evesham and access The Cotswolds via STANWAY or FISH HILL (Broadway). If you don't fancy climbing, there is a wonderful network of country lanes to the west of Bredon Hill towards and even over THE RIVER SEVERN accessed by crossing the river Avon at PERSHORE.

- THE STAR pub in Ashton under Hill serves great food and ales and is just a stroll away! As mentioned above there are some other great pubs around the Hill and up on the Cotswolds, where our personal recommendations are The Plough at Ford and The Hollow Bottom at Guiting Power.
- LOCAL COFFEE STOPS. Independent cafes are located in Beckford at The Old Post Office and Bredon Hill Country on the A46 (turn left at the T junction and it's less than half a mile on the left).
- TAXIS – We often use either Emerald Taxis 01386 761705 / mobile 07983 280435 or Rod R&B Taxis 01386 303030 / mobile 07710 18310
- There is a great sports field and PLAYGROUND in the village accessed off the main street (adjacent to Hollymount).
- Our local riverside town of EVESHAM is only a few miles away and has a wide range of small independent retailers plus a wider range of shopping including Waitrose, Tesco. Morrisons, Lidl, Aldi and other main brand retailers. CHELTENHAM, which needs no introduction, is a stunning place to visit and shop. The famous race course is only 10miles away on the outskirts of the town. For more leisurely trips, the delightful Cotswold village of BROADWAY, with its charming stone buildings, is only a 10 minute drive away and the beautiful old wool merchants town of CHIPPING CAMPDEN is only 20/25 minutes away – they are both well worth a visit and have numerous shops, cafes, restaurants and pubs.
- LOCAL SHOPPING is possible. Teddington Stores (3 miles away on the first roundabout on the A46 heading towards the M5 & Cheltenham) is an excellent deli as well as having a first class butcher. It might be worth a phone call first if you want something special. 01386 725400. For emergencies, there is the 24 hour SPA at the petrol station on the A46 a few hundred yards south of the Ashton junction.
- THE REGAL CINEMA IN EVESHAM (PORT STREET) is an absolute must if you enjoy movies - an art deco picture house, fully restored and brought back to life in 2012, it really is a great way to watch a good film, music or live acts, and you can either relax in a double love seat, or sit in very comfy armchairs around a table and you can even have cheese and biscuits with a glass of wine if you wish!

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS SO THAT WE KNOW YOU ARE HAPPY WITH YOUR STAY – IF YOU HAVE TIME PLEASE WRITE YOUR COMMENTS IN OUR GUEST BOOK.

WE HAVE AN INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT AND FACEBOOK PAGE PLEASE FEEL FREE TO TAG @Thecoppice WHEN YOU ARE POSTING ABOUT YOUR ADVENTURES HERE.

Wishing you a really happy stay at THE COPPICE

John and Louise Beach

THE COPPICE: STEP BACK IN TIME WITH ALL MOD CONS
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