

Chris Cordner falls in love with a gem of a caravan park



The two-person hideaway pods at Skelwith Fold.



The beautiful drive into Skelwith Fold, and the reception area.

Sheer beauty in the

Very occasionally, a holiday destination is so good it makes you fall in love with it.

Step forward Skelwith Fold, a gem of a caravan park set in beautiful countryside just outside Ambleside in the Lake District.

It is a dramatically stunning area of England and the caravan park is an idyllic haven of peace within it.

It is a place to relax and do nothing – or stretch yourself by climbing nearby mountains.

It is a place to browse art galleries, coffee shops and gift outlets – or a place to watch the wildlife.

It is everything in whatever form you wish it.

The park itself is 130 acres of woodland scenery with caravans strategically placed within it, positioned to allow wildlife to run freely and to give an impression of total tranquillity.

Our caravan came with all the mod cons such as en suite bathroom with the main bedroom, another bedroom and shower, well appointed lounge, balcony and decking.

It was a joy to watch the sun rise over the nearby valley.

Yards from our van, wildlife came out every morning and clearly were not fazed by human presence as they played.

The nearby shop – wonderfully stocked with everything from toffee vodka to Lakeland delicacies – was one example of the facilities.

There's a library, laundry, play areas, beautiful walks and scenery to gawp at in amazement.

And nearby Ambleside is typical of so many Lakeland towns and villages – quaintly packed into a small space under the watchful gaze of nearby mountains.

Our first night there was

the best night's sleep I'd had in years.

The three days that followed were filled with exploration of nearby communities.

Windermere is beautiful, Bowness just as spectacular.

Yet each seems to be dominated by restaurants and coffee shops to the point where you wonder how they can all continue to thrive.

We also lapped up the spectacular scenery at Brockhole, an adventure haven with zip slides and high level rope courses.

The garden centre near Ambleside is worth a look and the views of Windermere are breathtaking.

Yet for me, Skelwith Fold caravan park itself was the best of it all.

It has its own beauty and private splendour to rival the views of its better known nearby landmarks.

The sun over the hills as

you enjoy a coffee on the decking is an experience I shall remember for many a year.

Touring caravans and motorhomes can pitch from £20.50 per night while a new addition is the luxury two-person "Hideaway" pods.

Luxury caravan holiday homes can be bought to own from £25,000 to £80,000.

The park has 300 privately owned holiday homes, and 150 touring pitches and is open from March to November (inclusive).

TEN FACTS ABOUT SKELWITH FOLD

- The caravan park occupies the grounds of a former country house.
- The park provides caravan holiday homes for private owners and fully-serviced pitches for people with touring caravans and motorhomes.
- Skelwith Fold has been under the ownership of the Wild

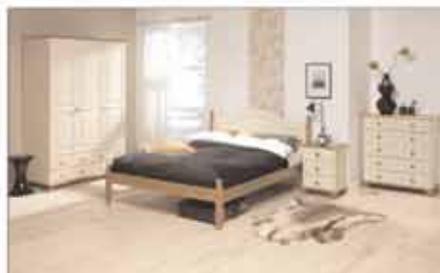
3^F 2^R IT'S BACK - THE BEST FURNITURE DEAL AROUND

BUY TWO OF OUR QUALITY ITEMS - GET A THIRD FREE

THESE ARE JUST A FEW EXAMPLES OF OUR SUPERB RANGES



Camden Oak Occasional



Bishop Creme / pine Bedroom



Cornish Oak Bedroom & Occasional



Solo White Bedroom

OUR 12,000 SQ FT SHOWROOM HOLDS MUCH MORE. WHY NOT PAY A VISIT TODAY?



Vogue Bedroom range



Kingston Pine Bedroom



Lorrane White Bedroom range



Pantone Painted Oak top Bedroom



Melbery Painted Living Range

The Store, Front Street
Sherburn Hill, Durham DH6 1PA
0191 3721266
www.durhamlinefurniture.co.uk
Open Mon - Fri 9am - 5.30pm Sat 9am - 5pm.
Sun 10am - 4pm. AMPLE FREE PARKING

Durham

FINE FURNITURE

.CO.UK



heart of Lakeland

family for 17 years. The business founder, Sydney Wild, has been involved in the parks industry for more than 40 years – and both he and his son Henry are closely involved in Skelwith Fold's day-to-day management.

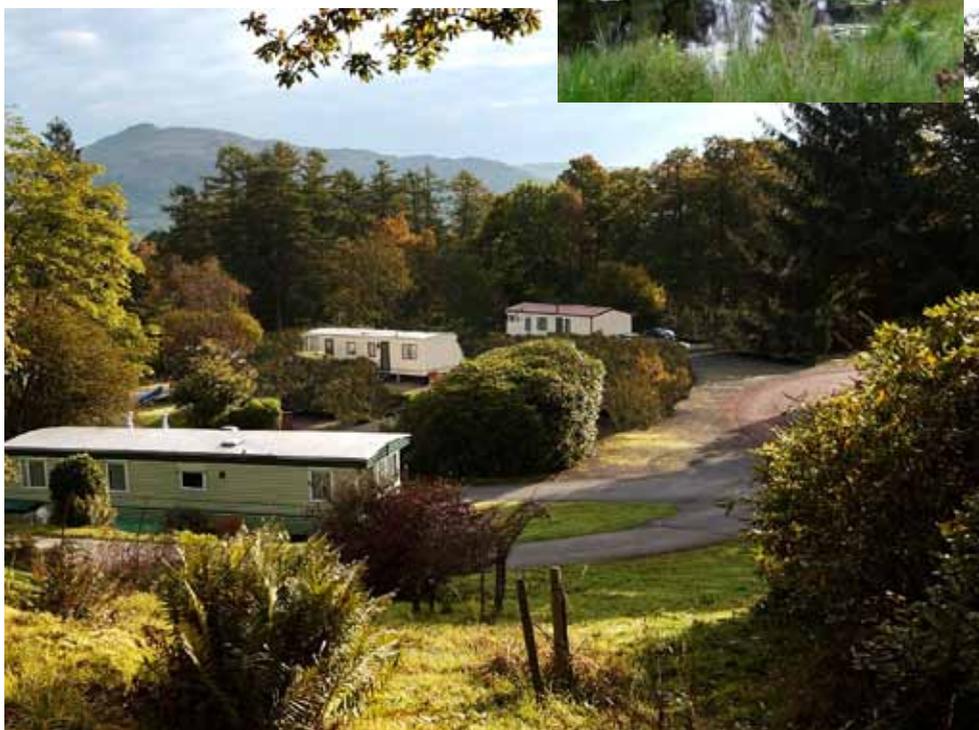
- Its main attraction is acres of woodland and their wildlife inhabitants which include red squirrels, red deers, badgers and lots of bird species.
- The grounds can be explored via a network of paths, and highlights include stunning views across the Lakeland fells, and the park's secret magical tarn.
- Skelwith Fold is the winner of the prestigious David Bellamy Conservation Award which it has received at the top Gold level for the past fifteen consecutive years.
- The park has also been congratulated by HRH Prince Charles for successfully re-introducing a colony of red squirrels – and has received an Association of National Parks

award for being the first park in Cumbria to construct a wetland reedbed system for the treatment of sewage.

- Skelwith Fold is involved in a co-operative project with other South Lakes enterprises to provide discounts and other incentives for guests, so spreading the "tourism pound" further afield.
- A series of events throughout the year bring guests together, culminating in an extremely popular summer arts show which attracts hundreds of entries.
- Recent developments include the introduction of electric bikes, encouraging guests to swap their cars for a more fun form of transport to explore the surrounding countryside.

FIND OUT MORE

ADDRESS - Skelwith Fold Caravan Park, Ambleside, Cumbria, LA22 0HX
TELEPHONE - 015394 32277
WEBSITE www.skelwith.com



The view of the Lakes countryside from Skelwith Fold. Inset, the tarn at Skelwith Fold.

Holiday ideas...

Pyrenees

Page! Lower Wildwood, in the French Pyrenees, is set in five acres of grounds and has plenty to keep youngsters entertained - from a huge wooden replica pirate ship and fort, to trains, go-karts and tractors. It's highly rated on www.babyfriendlyboltholes.co.uk which is a great resource for child-friendly getaways.

Paris

Parents hardly need to be told about Disneyland, as their little ones will have clamoured for a trip since they were old enough to watch TV. The Paris version contains the characters and rides you might expect, ranging from Mickey Mouse all the way to Frozen. www.disneylandparis.co.uk.

Find out how much cash you could release from your home

- ✓ Tax-free lump sum of cash
- ✓ No monthly repayments to make
- ✓ Maintain 100% home ownership¹
- ✓ Move home in the future



Age Partnership are multi-award-winning equity release specialists. If you are a homeowner aged 55 plus and want to find out how much money you could release from your home using equity release, whether it could be right for you and if your entitlement to means-tested benefits could be affected and what impact it could have on the size of your estate visit www.equity.agepartnership.co.uk/paper

Equity release may involve a lifetime mortgage or a home reversion plan. To understand the features and risks, ask for a personalised illustration.



Yes, I would like my free guide to equity release

Please return this coupon to FREEPOST, AGE PARTNERSHIP

Name.....
Address.....
.....
Postcode.....
Date of birth.....
Telephone.....
Email.....

JPPress15



To find out how much cash you could unlock from your home and to request your FREE guide
Freephone 08000 810 817

¹100% home ownership with a lifetime mortgage. Age Partnership Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. FCA registered number 425432. Age Partnership Limited, 2200 Century Way, Thorpe Park, Leeds, LS15 8ZB.