



Study trip

“Regional development and tourism in protected areas”

Brecon Beacons National Park, Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and Cotswolds AONB, UK
16 - 22 October, 2016



Preliminary programme

Day 1 16 October Sunday	Afternoon Evening	Arrival at Brecon Beacons National Park Check-in The Grange Guest House Dinner Welcome, introduction and short presentations of participants: Experiences, projects in the field of regional development and tourism, work with volunteers
Day 2 17 October Monday	Morning Midday Afternoon Evening	Breakfast Presentation at the national park headquarter in Brecon: 1) Introduction to the Brecon Beacons National Park, 2) The strategy and action plan for sustainable tourism in the Brecon Beacons 2012-16, 3) The Brecon Beacons visitor management plan; goals of the plans, process of development and experiences with implementation Visit of a Brecon Beacons National Park Ambassador , discussion with business representative: the national park from the point of view of a national park related local business Lunch at ambassador’s business Guided walk through Brecon Beacons National Park upland terrain: Working places and activities of the Upland Paths Volunteer Scheme Dinner Review of the day: Sharing impressions, lessons learned





Day 3 18 October Tuesday	Morning	<p>Breakfast</p> <p>Presentation of the Green Tourism Accreditation Scheme: status of the programme, effects on tourism businesses and national park</p> <p>Visit of a Green Tourism accredited business, discussion with representative of accredited business: the national park from the point of view of a national park related tourism business</p>
	Midday	<p>Visit of the national park visitor centre in Brecon: presentation of the exhibition, and shop concept with souvenirs made by local arts and crafts producers</p> <p>Lunch at the national park visitor centre</p>
	Afternoon	<p>Transfer to Wye Valley AONB</p> <p>Presentation at the Wye Valley AONB office in Monmouth: 1) Introduction to the AONB, 2) Walking with Offa Project, 3) Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Tourism Destination Management Partnership, 4) Volunteers as walk leaders, back markers and event assistants, 5) Wye Valley Wanderer bus, 6) AONB Farming Awards & Open Farm Sunday</p> <p>Visit to Symonds Yat Rock viewpoint</p>
	Evening	<p>Check-in The Royal Lodge</p> <p>Dinner at Saracens Head</p> <p>Review of the day: Sharing impressions, lessons learned</p>
Day 4 19 October Wednesday	Morning	<p>Breakfast</p> <p>Guided hiking tour "Walking with Offa", circular walk using hand ferry and Biblins Bridge returning along Peregrine Trail Cycle-path and Wye Valley Walk: Aspects of sustainable tourism</p>
	Midday	<p>Lunch at The Boat Inn, Redbrook</p>
	Afternoon	<p>Destination Wye Valley Visitor Centre – Old Station Tintern, presentation of activities for strengthening local actors and local identity: Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Tourism Association, Overlooking the Wye scheme, Wye Valley River Festival</p> <p>Visit to Tintern Abbey</p> <p>Review of the day: sharing impressions, lessons learned</p>
	Evening	<p>Dinner at The Royal Lodge</p>





Day 5 20 October Thursday	Morning	Breakfast Transfer to Cotswolds AONB Visit of the Cotswolds Discovery Centre in Northleach: introduction to the AONB, the Cotswolds Conservation Board and the Discovery Centre
	Midday	Lunch at the Cotswolds Discovery Centre
	Afternoon	Presentation of programmes and initiatives for sustainable tourism in the Cotswolds AONB : 1) The Cotswolds Destination Management Organisation 2) The Cotswolds Discoverer Pass 3) the Visitor Giving Scheme Cotswolds Rural Skills – courses on traditional skills and crafts : introduction to the programme and practical workshop in the blacksmiths forge
	Evening	Dinner Review of the day : Sharing impressions, lessons learned
Day 6 21 October Friday	Morning	Breakfast Guided walk along the Cotswold Way National Trail : Aspects of sustainable tourism, the Walkers Are Welcome initiative, the work and activities of volunteers on the trail and the dry stone walling rural skills programme
	Midday	Lunch
	Afternoon	Presentation of the Cotswolds Choice : experiences with a brand for supporting local producers of food, goods and services An Arts and Crafts tour of the northern Cotswolds with GoCotswolds : a minibus tour on the northern part of the AONB exploring the influence of the Arts and Crafts movement
	Evening	Dinner Review of the day : sharing impressions, lessons learned
Day 7 22 October Saturday	Morning	Breakfast Review of the week Departure



The study trip is part of the **project "International exchange of competences of players in protected areas"** (ANNIKA), run by EUROPARC Germany. The project supports the international exchange of know-how, experiences, and working practices between European protected areas. Therewith it aims to increase the expertise of German and European park staff in the fields of park management and nature conservation. At large, the intention is to strengthen the co-operation between the participating European parks and to support long-term relationships.

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