

Hanging Out with the Stars in Northumberland



DOXFORD HALL
HOTEL AND SPA

Northumberland 'officially' has the most pristine dark skies in England with Northumberland International Dark Sky Park being the largest Gold Tier Dark Sky Park area of protected night sky in Europe. Essentially that means that the skies above Northumberland have an exceptional quality of starry nights and a nocturnal environment that is protected for its scientific, natural, educational, cultural heritage, and/or public enjoyment. So, you've come to the right place!

With the best time for stargazing centred on the autumn and winter months, it's important that you're well prepared for a chilly night under the stars. Here's our list of the most important inclusions in any astronomer's arsenal:

What to Bring

- Warm clothing including a hat, scarf and gloves
- Thick socks and sturdy boots
- A deckchair or a blanket to lie on. Admire the heavens without hurting your neck.
- Binoculars or a telescope
- A compass - handy if you're searching for a particular constellation.
- A camera for a permanent memory of a fun night out!

Included in your Stargazer Stay at Doxford Hall Hotel & Spa

- A flask of hot soup and snacks to keep your energy levels up
- A red beam torch to enable you to see in the dark without spoiling your night vision



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Suggested Stargazing Apps & Information

apps.apple.com/us/app/night-sky/id475772902

play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.t11.skyviewfree&hl=en_GB

vitotechnology.com/apps/star-walk

play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.vitotechnology.StarWalk2Free&hl=en_GB

play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.vitotechnology.StarWalk2Free&hl=en_GB

[google.android.stardroid&hl=en_GB
www.darkskydiscovery.org.uk/Simple%20Winter%20StarsDSD.pdf](https://www.darkskydiscovery.org.uk/Simple%20Winter%20StarsDSD.pdf)

Where to Stargaze

www.northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk/things-to-do/discover-dark-skies/where-to-stargaze/

www.northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk/things-to-do/discover-dark-skies/

www.visitnorthumberland.com/inspire-me/blogs/where-to-stargaze-in-northumberland

www.visitnorthumberland.com/explore/destinations/darkskies

gostargazing.co.uk/events/locations/wooler-common/

There are a number of locations within easy reach of Doxford Hall.

- Lindisfarne Island is designated a Dark Sky approved village.
- Certain village halls within the county are also good places to watch the stars. Ingram Village Hall, near Powburn, NE66 4LT, is just over 30 minutes away from Doxford Hall.
- For a 'wider' view, you can try Wooler Common, a small town near the Cheviot Hills, just 30 minutes away by car. The common is a short walk from the town centre or you can park in The Forestry Commission car park and watch the stars.

What 3 Words *recliner.proclaims.bluffing*