## **Exceeding Expectations at Millbrook**

Luxurious and romantic 5 Star Cottages in North Devon & Exmoor

Visitors to the five star and five star gold cottages on the Millbrook Estate in North Devon tend to arrive a little bemused. Whether the online pictures can't do justice to the beauty of the location or whether the sheer style and luxury of the accommodation is deliberately underplayed is open to debate. What Kate and Bob Boothby, owners of the 32 acre patch of heaven in tranquil North Devon, do though is truly surpass their guests' expectations. "We do like to delight," smiles Bob, "it gets the holiday off to a great start."

There are four luxurious cottages on the peaceful and incredibly scenic 32 acre Millbrook Estate all of which sleep two people (and two of which can also accommodate a dog). In addition there are two further Devon Cottages; <a href="Little Owl">Little Owl</a> located on the edge of Exmoor and <a href="Rose Cottage">Rose Cottage</a> right in the middle of the ancient village of High Bickington. All of the cottages are decorated and furnished to the highest standards and have been graded 5 star or 5 star gold by Visit England. They variously feature Villeroy & Boch cutlery, granite work surfaces, Egyptian linen, coffee makers, Emma Bridgwater crockery and Laura Ashley and original French furniture and high-tech entertainment and sound systems. Little Owl and Rose Cottage have their own private hot tub and romantics at Millbrook Cottages can take advantage of a magical hot tub in the woods.

The grounds at Millbrook Estate are stunning. Guests are invited and encouraged to explore the green rolling fields, wild flower meadows, woods, walking trails and two beautiful lakes. There is a fly fishing and a coarse fishing lake and fishers are welcome to have a go. Tuition can be arranged if necessary. Surrounded by the spectacular North Devon countryside, the peace and tranquillity of the area is almost mesmerising.

Many guests stay on the estate venturing out only to sample a delicious evening meal at the local pub in High Bickington 10 minutes' walk away, however there are many delightful places to visit in the area. The nearby Royal Horticultural Society gardens at Rosemoor are open throughout the year and there is plenty to see whatever the season. The surfing beach at Westward Ho! and heritage village of Clovelly are within a half hour drive, and the whole of the stunning North Devon coastline is easily accessible. Exmoor National Park with its famous ponies is less than an hour away as is the vibrant university city of Exeter.

Kate and Bob took over the Millbrook Estate almost 10 years ago and running the business has been a steep learning curve for them both. Like everything at Millbrook, what seems so effortless is actually the result of a great deal of hard work. "We're like the ducks on our lake," says Kate, "gliding effortlessly along whilst paddling like mad under the surface! The estate has been completely re-landscaped and the cottages are redecorated every year to keep them fresh. We have a fantastic team here and guest comfort and enjoyment is our absolute priority. We are delighted that we have so many return visitors."

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