

DARK SKIES IN THE DALES

The feedback from astronomer Martin Lunn's 'Star Party' in Buckden on Thursday, 02 March has been amazing. The evening was a huge success and Martin would love to come back if we invite him.

One of the glories of the Dales is the night sky and the brilliance of the stars. Currently there are 4 Dales 'designated Dark Sky Discovery sites' and the National Park is doing fantastic work in organising many Dark Sky events

however . . .

unlike, say, the Exmoor National Park, the Yorkshire Dales does not have a major 'Dark Sky Reserve' or 'Park' which is certified by the International Dark-Sky Association. If Exmoor - why not the Dales!

Our dark skies here are a precious resource. They are forever in danger from light pollution and, as for other aspects of the natural environment, they cry out for protection. If you or any of your friends might be interested in forming a local group (with grand or simple aims from working towards international Dark Skies certification to simply enjoying Dark Sky walks) please contact:

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DARK SKY SITES IN THE UK & IRELAND (INTERNATIONAL DARK-SKY ASSOCIATION)

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CERTIFIED IDA INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY 'RESERVES'

- Brecon Beacons National Park (Wales)
- Exmoor National Park (England)
- Kerry (Ireland)
- Moore's Reserve (South Downs, England)
- Snowdonia National Park (Wales)

CERTIFIED IDA INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY 'PARKS'

- Elan Valley Estate (Wales)
- Galloway Forest Park (Scotland)
- Northumberland National Park and Kielder Water & Forest Park (England)

CERTIFIED IDA INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY 'COMMUNITIES'

DARK SKIES IN THE DALES

- [Coll \(Scotland\)](#)
- [Sark \(Channel Islands\)](#)

YORKSHIRE DALES DESIGNATED DARK SKY 'DISCOVERY SITES'

1. Buckden National Park Car Park
2. Hawes National Park Centre
3. Malham National Park Centre
4. Tan Hill Inn

BUT. . . IN THE DALES . . . NO 'CERTIFIED INTERNATIONAL' DARK SKY PLACES

FURTHER INFORMATION

- < www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/visit-the-dales/things-to-see-and-do/stargazing >
- < <http://darksky.org> >
- < www.britastro.org/dark-skies >
- < www.cpre.org.uk/resources/countryside/dark-skies >

ADVICE ON STAR-FRIENDLY LIGHTING (TO HELP COMBAT LIGHT POLLUTION)

- < <http://darksky.org/lighting/lighting-basics> >
- < www.britastro.org/dark-skies/pdfs/ile. >