

## Hen party activity crib sheet!

If you're planning a hen party in or around the South Coast, we've put this list of activity ideas together. Many of these activities are close to the New Forest and some we've cribbed from previous hens who have hired our bell tents for their parties.

We've not jazzed it up to make it look pretty. We know if you're mid hen party planning you've got better things to do than look at pretty pictures! You want ideas and you want them NOW! So let's waste no more time ... here are our top selections of things to do on a hen party.

### 1. **Aqua assault course at the New Forest Water Park**

<https://www.newforestwaterpark.co.uk>

We had so much fun doing the aqua assault course in 2016 that we did it twice! Do expect to fall in. Do expect to laugh so much your stomach hurts when you finish! This has been a firm favourite things to do for hen parties over the last two summers.

There's also wake boarding on-site, kayaking and SUP. They do have camping but no longer accept hen party bookings. Don't worry though, we know a great campsite not far away and you can still visit the New Forest Water Park to enjoy the activities!

### 2. **Go Ape**

<https://goape.co.uk/days-out/moors-valley>

If tree top adventures are your thing, check out Go Ape for a hen party afternoon. Again we've done this and had an amazing time and it's not as scary as it sounds! Based at Moors Valley, it's on the Hampshire / Dorset border – a short drive from the New Forest.

### 3. **It's a Knock Out**

<https://www.actiondays.co.uk/outdoor-events/its-a-knockout>

Based on the TV show from the 70's and 80's this is one giant sports day – slapstick style! We're yet to try this ourselves but had great reviews from some of our hens who did it in 2016. Based in Bournemouth, it's not too far from the New Forest.

### 4. **New Forest Activity Centre**

<https://www.newforestactivities.co.uk>

Lots of outdoor activity options from 'paddle to the pub' (canoeing down the river to the pub!), raft building and archery. We completed the archery for a hen party and it was a brilliant afternoon's activity.

### 5. **Horse Riding**

<http://www.thenewforest.co.uk/activities/stables.aspx>

The New Forest tourist website has a whole list recommended stables if you fancy booking some horse riding for your hen party.

### 6. **Bike Hire**

<https://www.newforestactivities.co.uk/activities/hen-parties>

<http://www.newforestcyclehire.co.uk/cycle-hire/>

Various places for bike hire in the New Forest – so why not get on your bikes and mosey around!

## 7. **Houdini's Escape Room Adventure**

<http://www.houdiniescape.co.uk>

We've not tried this one (yet!) but we've done the same thing in Portsmouth and it was so good we were back two nights later to do another room! Use your brains, work as a team - and have some awesome fun!

## 8. **Make Do & Trend**

<http://makedoandtrend.co.uk>

Kirstie offers all sorts of craft activities from making a joint patchwork quilt for the bride to be, folded book art, and even scrapbook workshops. She is mobile so she can come out to you at your chosen campsite. But get in fast because she does book up quickly.

## Foodie stuff ...

### 1. **Limewood Hotel**

<http://www.limewoodhotel.co.uk/food>

There are simply too many beautiful country pubs to list here, but there's also lots of places for afternoon tea but check out the Limewood Hotel. They offer cookery classes as well as delicious food.

### 2. **The Icing On The Cake**

<http://www.theicingonthecake.info>

If you fancy afternoon tea in your bell tent, then talk to Dani to find out what she can offer. We have experienced her cake and it was a good one!

### 3. **Mix Masters Events**

<http://www.mixmastersevents.co.uk/>

If cocktail making is more your thing then Mix Masters can help. They offer cocktail making classes and specialise in gin tasting too!

## Ideas and recommendations from other hen party organisers ...

1. **Yoga in the forest** - they booked their own instructor to come in and do this with them.
2. **Cocktail master class** in their 7m chill out bell tent.
3. **Foraging** - where the hens employed a professional forager to show them what was edible and growing wild in the New Forest.
4. **Nights out in Bournemouth and Southampton** with minibuses hired to transport everyone.
5. **Golf buggy hire** in the New Forest for a pub crawl!
6. **Personal training** - luckily the bride organised this last one herself! She hired a personal trainer to get everyone out of bed on the Saturday for a boot camp!