

Pack for the Weather on Exmoor — Your Checklist

How to use this list: It's a "pick-and-mix" for winter days on Exmoor — not everything is needed every time. For short, well-trodden outings like the Valley of Rocks loop or a quick up-and-back to Hollerday Hill, you'll usually be fine with the basics: sturdy footwear, warm layers, a waterproof shell and a fully charged phone.

Add more (head torch, map, hot drink, dog gear, etc.) as weather, daylight, and route exposure increase. When in doubt, check the forecast and pack a little extra warmth.

Daypack (20–30L)

- ☐ Insulated water bottle
- ☐ Hot drink flask
- ☐ High-energy snacks / mini picnic
- ☐ Fully charged phone + power bank
- ☐ Waterproof phone pouch / zip bag
- ☐ Small first-aid kit + blister plasters
- ☐ Whistle + foil emergency blanket
- ☐ OS Maps/AllTrails (downloaded offline)

- ☐ what3words enabled

Clothing (Layers)

- ☐ Wicking base layer (top & optional leggings)
- ☐ Warm mid-layer (fleece / light down)
- ☐ Waterproof, windproof shell (hooded)
- ☐ Hat, gloves, neck warmer/buff
- ☐ Spare warm layer (packs small)

- ☐ Spare socks (wool blend)

Footwear

- ☐ Waterproof walking boots with grip
- ☐ Gaiters (boggy sections)
- ☐ Microspikes (only if icy)

- ☐ Trekking poles (optional)

Navigation & light

- ☐ Head torch + fresh batteries
- ☐ Paper OS map (backup)
- ☐ Tide-times app (coastal sections)
- ☐ Check forecast (Met Office) before you go

Comfort & Extras

- ☐ Reusable cup (takeaway hot drinks)
- ☐ Hand warmers
- ☐ Sunglasses (low winter sun)
- ☐ Microfibre towel
- ☐ Cash/cards (parking & cafés)

For Dogs

- ☐ Lead + collar with ID tag
- ☐ Poo bags
- ☐ Collapsible bowl + water
- ☐ Dog coat (short-haired breeds)
- ☐ Towel for muddy paws
- ☐ Treats / snacks

Car Kit

- ☐ Ice scraper & de-icer
- ☐ Windscreen cloth
- ☐ Blanket
- ☐ Spare water & snacks
- ☐ Phone charging cable

Quick Safety Notes

- ☐ Check wind speed; avoid cliff edges in gales.
- ☐ Keep well back from waves when storm-watching.
- ☐ Stick to marked paths; leads near livestock.
- ☐ Tell someone your route & return time.
- ☐ Leave no trace — take all rubbish home.