

News Release

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For Immediate Release

Cary Arms greets Global Guests

Award winning luxury boutique inn, the Cary Arms in Babbacombe Bay, has been chosen to host a group of international VIP guests, who will be visiting Torbay in September.

The seventeen-member UNESCO Global Geopark Council is being newly formed following the recent decision by UNESCO to formally adopt Global Geoparks as a key programme. The Council will hold their inaugural meetings at the Cary Arms before attending the 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks in Torquay the following week.

Being held in Great Britain for the first time, the main conference will welcome eight hundred delegates from over thirty countries concerned with the Global Geoparks agenda. Geoparks work to develop sustainable economies, eco-tourism and engagement with their local communities, as well as being areas of significant geological interest.

Owned by the de Savary family since 2009, the Cary Arms has been awarded Five Star Inn by VisitBritain and will shortly be completing a major expansion in the form of six chic Beach Huts, two luxurious Beach Suites and a luxury spa.

Lana de Savary, said “We’re delighted to have been chosen as the base for these important visitors from UNESCO. They will be some of our first guests to experience the newly opened luxury Beach Huts and Beach Suites following an £2million investment, as well as enjoying the picturesque setting and unique experience of the Cary Arms.”

Frances Hughes, Torbay Council’s Assistant Director, Community and Customer Services said, “This internationally significant conference will bring the world’s attention to Torbay, and is worth over £1.6million in visitor spend to our local economy. I’d urge local businesses to get involved and make the most of this

opportunity to promote everything our wonderful Bay has to offer, opening up new overseas markets and bringing further prosperity to Torbay.”

The English Riviera was granted the status of Global Geopark in 2007, receiving international recognition for its rich geological, historical and cultural heritage.

Nick Powe, Chair of the conference project board said: “There are currently one hundred and twenty Geoparks in thirty three countries worldwide, and we’re very excited to be welcoming colleagues to the English Riviera, the first urban area ever to be granted the status of Global Geopark. The conference will shine a spotlight on our work to engage local communities and make the most of our natural heritage, and offers local businesses a fantastic opportunity to promote themselves to an international audience.”

The conference will be held at the Riviera International Conference Centre, 27 – 30 September 2016. For more information or to register interest in sponsorship, attendance or volunteering opportunities please visit www.ggn2016.com and @GGN2016 on twitter.

Editor Notes:

About the Cary Arms

Sitting in the sheltered and sunny spot of Babbacombe Bay on the south Devon coast, the Cary Arms, a de Savary property, is the perfect setting to relax and enjoy a stay by the sea on the English Riviera.

With ten sea facing, en-suite bedrooms and suites, each with an effortless seaside feel, rooms have a spacious balcony or terrace, each with magnificent views of the bay. The Cary Arms are also launching 8 new unique Beach Huts and Suites to the existing accommodation in Summer 2016 which skirt the water’s edge and offer unparalleled accommodation in the area. There are also three luxury cottages, ranging from three to five bedrooms, all boasting stunning views.

The onsite restaurant is passionate about fresh, local ingredients. Expect superb Devon beef, Lyme Bay lobster and line caught seafood. Guests can dine outdoors in the warmer months and watch south Devon life in the bay unfold. A new luxury Spa will also be added in the Summer.

The English Riviera Global Geopark successfully bid for the 7th International The English Riviera Global Geopark successfully bid for the 7th International Conference on Global Geoparks with the support of Torbay Council, Torbay Development Agency, Plymouth University, Exeter University, The Geological Society, British Geological Survey, English Geodiversity Forum, Natural England, Arts Council England, Natural History Museum and Flybe.

The conference takes place every two years and has previously been staged in China (2004) Northern Ireland (2006) Germany (2008) Malaysia (2010) Japan (2012) and Canada (2014.) 2016 will be the first occasion that the conference takes place in Great Britain.

There are seven Global Geoparks in the UK, out of a total UNESCO network of one hundred and twenty in thirty three countries. A Geopark is concerned with conservation of natural heritage, sustainable economic development, promotion of science education and community engagement.

About UNESCO and the UK National Commission for UNESCO (UKNC)
The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) aims to enhance peace, security and sustainable development by fostering international collaboration through its work in education, science, culture, communication and information.

The UK National Commission (UKNC) works to support the UK's contribution to UNESCO and bring the benefits of UNESCO to the UK.

The UKNC has three core priorities:

- To provide independent policy advice to devolved and central government on UNESCO related issues
- To support the UK government's agenda in helping UNESCO to become more institutionally effective
- To help UK individuals and institutions to access UNESCO resources and accreditations

In carrying out these roles, the UKNC relies on advice and support of its expert network, including specialists in the fields of education, culture, the sciences and communication and information from across the UK.

Relevant links:

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

<http://www.unesco.org.uk/>

www.ggn2016.com

www.englishrivierageopark.org.uk

For further information please contact: Angela Cappello, Communications Officer on 01803 208851.

