

# WEST COUNTRY

## HIGH BIRD SHOOTING

**ROXTONS**  
FIELD SPORTS



**ROXTONS** has specialised in organising and developing the best pheasant and partridge shooting opportunities in the UK and abroad for over 40 years. Our reputation has been built on offering first-hand knowledge of the sport and destinations, combined with an attention to detail that dispels worries about where and when to go.

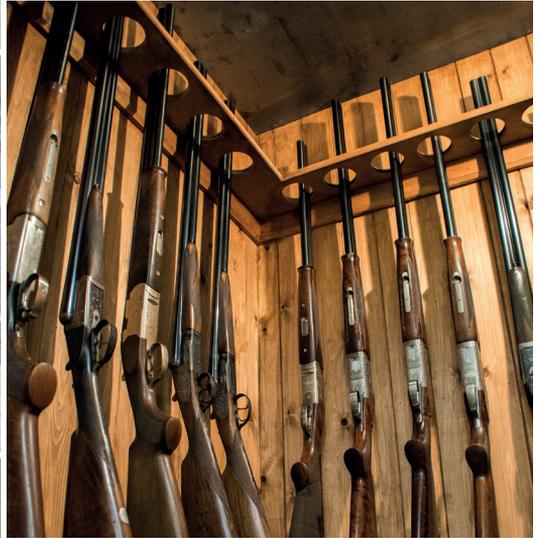
Britain has always been the spiritual home of driven game shooting. We have access to more than one hundred premier shoots in Britain, many of which would otherwise be inaccessible.

High curling pheasants rocketing downwind over deep wooded valleys, partridges flaring over high hedges or grouse contouring over heathery slopes are the stuff of shooting dreams. Whether you shoot as a group or singly, we can ensure that the dream becomes reality. We know every shoot intimately, we maintain close relationships with the owner and head gamekeeper throughout the year and plan every last detail with absolute precision.

We are on hand personally throughout your day and our experience in the shooting world is second to none. Our mission is to provide guns with stunning sport that runs seamlessly from start to finish. You will enjoy fabulous accommodation, transport to, from and around the shoot, hire of guns, provision of cartridges and gun import permits, delicious lunches and recommendations for entertainment for non-shooting guests.

We believe we offer exceptional value for the service we provide. Whether your dream consists of partridge over steep sided ravines, high pheasants in Devon or Yorkshire, grouse in Northern England or Scotland, or the classic downland shoots of Southern England, you can rest assured that we can make it happen. 





## SAMPLE ITINERARY

Arrive in London on Friday/Saturday. Enjoy the sights, attractions and hotels which we are able to recommend

Sunday - Travel via coach to Exmoor (3 hours).

	Shoot	Bag
Monday	Molland	400
Tuesday	Miltons	400
Wednesday	Wellshead	400
Thursday	Miltons	400
Friday	Stuckeridge	400
Saturday	AM - return to London.	



## ESTATES



### MOLLAND

The rural village of Molland, just 15 minutes to the west of Tiverton in Devon, nestles at the base of the Exmoor Hills to the South West of the moor. The estate itself has been in the Throckmorton Family since 1732. The shoot occupies about 2,500 acres has been run for many years and is renowned as a high quality partridge and pheasant shoot.

The estate has ideal terrain for producing partridges and pheasants as there are plenty of deep valleys with mature pine and traditional broadleaf woodland utilising the strategically placed cover crops.

The team of guns meet at Bremley Farm, a traditional Devon Longhouse which acts as a base for the shoot day. They are met here by a Roxtons representative and the estate manager who jointly run the day.

Drives such as Gourte, Inkwell, The Folly and West Molland Wood are some which will test even the most competent line of guns.

The day and shoot are based on having a good fun day out, shooting the highest quality birds. 🏹

### MILTONS

The Miltons Shoot has a very impressive track record. Situated around the village of Bridgetown, it led the way when the great shoots of Exmoor were pioneered in the early 1980's.

During the last 25 years, two significant tenants of the shoot have developed the stunning ground and realised most of the potential. Comprising 5,000 acres, the very best of the dramatic topography has led to the development of famous pheasant drives such as Collies Head, Howe Wood, Tom's Hedges, Rookery and Dark Corner.

The partridges have a loyal following too; with old established drives such as Farm, Church, Squeakitts-Top and Aerial all providing excellent sport. New improvements this year look set to create more exciting drives. The focal point for the shoot is Hollam Farm, where guns meet in the morning and return for tea. 🏹



## WELLSHEAD

The Wellshead Estate is home to a true Exmoor shoot. Situated near the village of Exford in the middle of the moor itself, Wellshead is without doubt one of the most beautiful shoots anywhere in the UK. Extending to 1,500 acres of wild moorland and steep valleys, the shoot shows top quality pheasants. The owner and the head keeper are passionate about continued improvements and this is borne out year-on-year with new drives, new tree planting and adjusted and expanded areas of game crop.

The day is centred around a small cottage situated in the middle of the shoot and the hospitality here is renowned on Exmoor. Home produced beef, great quality food and wines ensure that everyone leaves lunch well fed and watered. The shoot is run exactly along the lines of the owner's own days and, as a result, a very friendly and non-commercial atmosphere prevails. 🐦



## STUCKERIDGE

The Stuckeridge Estate close to Oakford Bridge is situated in The Exe Valley on Exmoor. The estate is owned by the Llewellyns and has been in the family for several generations. The estate could not be better suited to show high pheasants as the majority of the estate is made up of deep river valleys with mature woods on either side. There is however a great variety of different drives, all of which can produce some very testing pheasants in rather beautiful surroundings.

Drinks are taken in the hall back at the main house and lunch is served in the main dining room if a more formal lunch is required, or in the large and wonderful kitchen, which lends itself to a very cosy and relaxed but never the less delicious lunch.

The shoot has improved greatly since the arrival of a new head keeper who has a vast amount of experience with showing high pheasants as he served time at a number of top Exmoor shoots before settling as head keeper at Stuckeridge. 🐦

## ACCOMMODATION



## OAKHAMPTON PARK

Located on the eastern edge of the Exmoor National Park, this private house focuses on a home from home experience.

Oakhampton Park is not a hotel, it is a relaxing family home which is sumptuously comfortable with plenty to entertain you and your guests whatever the weather. You will have exclusive occupancy of the house, garden and facilities for your stay, so the feeling of privacy is complete.

It has 12 well appointed en-suite rooms, all of which have comfortable double beds, ensure everyone has a great nights rest before returning to the field each day.

The private chef is able to cook meals to your exact requirements and with a wealth of experience cooking for shoot parties will ensure you are not over faced but enjoy each and every meal.

Each morning you are met outside by the Roxtons representative with a fleet of four wheel drives to take you to your shoot for the day.

We are able to arrange cooking classes, spa days and other activities for those who do not wish to go out in the field each day. 🐦

# USEFUL INFORMATION

## A typical itinerary for a shoot day:

- 09.00 *Arrive at the estate*
- 09.00 *Coffee in the house or shoot lodge; shoot talk; peg draw; meet loader etc*
- 09.30 *Leave for the first drive*
- 10.00 *Shoot two drives*
- 11.00 *Stop for elevenses - hot soup, drinks etc*
- 11.30 *Shoot a further two drives*
- 13.00 *Lunch in the house or shoot lodge*
- 14.00 *Shoot a further two drives depending on bag achieved by lunchtime. Some estates will only shoot one drive after lunch*
- 16.00 *Return to the house or shoot lodge for tea and seeing the headkeeper before departing*

## Clothing

A shirt and tie is the norm. The majority of guns wear plus twos with a jumper and waterproof jacket, or a shooting suit. Outer clothes should be a darkish colour – bright colours would scare off the birds. Wellington boots or waterproof shoes and if necessary, waterproof leggings. Practicality and comfort are the two main issues to consider when dressing to go shooting – in all types of weather!

## Hire Guns

Overseas residents – we can apply for a visitor's shotgun permit on your behalf. It is possible to hire either over & unders or side by sides in either 12 gauge or 20 gauge. A 12 or 20 bore over & under would probably be the best choice for an inexperienced shot.

## Attending a Day's Shooting

Roxtons always send a representative on the day who is on hand to make certain that every aspect runs smoothly. We always call the host the night before to check that there aren't any problems and then on the morning of the shoot come to the hotel to escort the party to the meeting place for the shoot.

## Keywords

**Pickers Up** – Gun dog handlers who pick up the shot birds

**Flankers** – Beaters on the edge of the beating line

**Loaders/Stuffors** – Gun bearers/helpers for the participant

**Shoot Through** – Usually lunch is eaten as per the timetable, but if the weather is awful, sometimes an estate will have lunch after all the drives are completed, so that the client gets their shooting finished without having to go back out in the wet.

## Tips

It is necessary to tip the head gamekeeper at the end of the day who then typically presents each participant with a complimentary brace of birds.

How much to tip depends on the bag size achieved but we advise £80 to the head keeper and £80 to the loader/helper. Tips are always paid in cash.

## Insurances

The following insurances are included in our costing:

- 1) Third Party Liability which covers every participant for up to £10,000,000.
- 2) Adverse Weather Insurance which covers the party if the estate has to cancel due to inclement weather on the day making it unsafe to proceed (fog, low cloud, torrential rain or exceedingly high winds). The decision to cancel is taken in conjunction with host, owner and head keeper. However, there are three important clauses which are:
  - i) The decision to cancel cannot be taken before 11am
  - ii) No cartridges must have been discharged
  - iii) Once a day is cancelled no one may go back out and shoot if the weather changes.

**ROXTONS**  
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25 High Street, Hungerford  
Berkshire, UK, RG17 0NF

t: +44 (0) 1488 689 788

e: [shooting@roxtons.com](mailto:shooting@roxtons.com)

[www.roxtons.com](http://www.roxtons.com)

