



52 WEEKENDS

Saturdays and Sundays for 2013 sorted, whatever your idea of the perfect break away

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We're already one weekend into 2013 — hope you've been able to make your own fun. For the remaining 51, we're here to help. Don't know where to go? We've found great weekends to take you through to the end of the year. So fetch that new diary, read on and start planning. Unless otherwise stated, you'll be setting off on Friday afternoon for two nights away, meaning you're back home by Sunday night — but we've thrown in some more generous short breaks, too.



5 Guided walking, Shropshire

The Caradoc Hills are a landscape of mystery and myth, of Iron Age battles and ancient apple orchards. And Ramblers Countrywide ([01707 386800](tel:01707386800), www.ramblerscountrywide.co.uk) has introduced a three-night, fully guided weekend ramble there. Running from May to August, they cost from £299pp, half-board, with accommodation at the Lion Hotel, in Shrewsbury.

6 Wildlife-watching, New Forest

The New Forest is one of Britain's most ecologically significant areas. Its 144 square miles of forest, heath and wetlands are home to 47 nationally important species, including otters, Dartford warblers and stag beetles. You'll need a good guide to see them, so join one of two weekend breaks run by Naturetrek ([01962 733051](tel:01962733051), naturetrek.co.uk), exploring the flora and fauna of the forest. Starting on February 1 or May 17, the two-night trips cost £295pp, half-board, including all guiding.

7 Tennis coaching, Spain

The Weekend Warrior Tennis Academy, at La Manga Club, in Murcia ([00 34 968 33 12 34](tel:0034968331234), lamangaclub.com), involves six hours of coaching and four hours of matchplay. It's designed to raise your game, with special drills for forehand, backhand, first and second serves and net play. A weekend in April starts at £299pp, B&B, including coaching. Airlines flying to Murcia include easyJet ([0843 104 5000](tel:08431045000), easyjet.com) and Jet2 ([0871 226 1737](tel:08712261737), jet2.com).

8 Mountain biking, Wales

Mud Trek ([07590 923604](tel:07590923604), mudtrek.com) offers fully catered mountain-bike breaks in Carmarthenshire, combining fresh air and adrenaline with fine dining in a converted barn beside the demanding Brechfa trails. Think of it as a ski chalet for mountain bikers. Two-night weekend breaks start at £295pp, full-board, based on two sharing, dropping to £125pp for eight sharing. Bike hire costs £40 a day.

9 Terry-Thomasing, West Sussex

If the idea of blatting along country lanes in a spanking little roadster with a game filly at your side is the stuff of your weekend fantasies, you should check into the Goodwood Hotel ([01243 775537](tel:01243775537), goodwood.co.uk). Its two-night Classic Car Weekender includes a day's use of an Austin Healey or an E-type Jag, and costs £435, B&B, per couple. Bring your own filly.