

This new naturist centre opened in 2002 near Wimborne in Dorset. It is a reincarnation of a previous venture operated in nearby Ferndown by the energetic couple Dave and Christine Maidment. They now have four acres to develop and have already, in just a few months, built up an excellent place for a naturist holiday with a heated outdoor swimming pool, a jacuzzi, a sauna and a sun-bed.

The premises are based on a good-sized bungalow with various barns and other outbuildings. One of these has been rebuilt as a block of south-facing en-suite cabins alongside the new pool. The jacuzzi and sauna are at each end of the pool, thus making, with the bungalow, a pleasant courtyard complex. Our visit was in early April but during the intermittent sunny spells it was obvious that the sun-loungers outside the cabins were in an effective sun-trap. The bungalow is in farmhouse style internally with big rooms - kitchen, dining room, lounge and a games room. A Heritage-model wood-burning stove in the dining room gave an additional welcoming touch. Outside a boules court has been made together with a badminton court, a steam room, a conservatory extension (again Heritage style). Four more cabins are planned for completion by the end of this year.

Several Heritage members stayed at the Ferndown Dilly Dally's and we can confirm that the friendly welcome and easy-going ambience are maintained at Wimborne. The Dorset countryside around is peaceful and very pleasant, Chris is an excellent cook and it's only just the other side of Hampshire for most Heritage members. Highly recommended and excellent value.

Howard L

The Vera Playa Complex

Truly a shang-gri-la, with a naturist hotel and self-catering complex all on a lovely stretch of sand. We have stayed 7 times at the hotel and once in the Vera Nature self catering (s/c) apartments. Our view is they are very different, but compliment each other. The s/c apartments are quite well furnished, many with fridge freezers, washing machines, satellite television, whilst some have more fully equipped kitchens. Most have the round double bath that seems to be special to the area. Vera Nature s/c boast a well-equipped gym (extra cost to use it), an outdoor pool that we feel is warmer than the hotel's, a Jacuzzi, a kiddies' pool, and a nice sized heated pool. Some of the apartments also have a bar-b-q. The little super market is quite well stocked and very helpful. Ken