

#RealNewForest

What are the common rights of the New Forest?

Commoners of the New Forest are those who occupy land or property to which attaches one or more rights over the Forest. These rights are:

- **Common of pasture:** commonable animals – ponies, cattle, donkeys and mules – are turned out into the Open Forest;
 - **Common of pasture for sheep:** although some of the large estates have this right, it is infrequently exercised;
 - **Common of mast:** the right to turn out pigs in the autumn pannage season which lasts for at least 60 days, to devour the autumn harvest including beech mast, chestnuts and acorns – this provides food for the pigs and reduces the threat to ponies and cattle from the poisonous acorns;
 - **Estovers (Fuelwood):** the free supply of a stipulated amount of firewood to certain properties;
 - **Common of marl:** the right to dig clay to improve agricultural land – this right is no longer exercised;
 - **Common of turbary:** the right to cut peat turves for the Commoner's personal use – this right is no longer exercised.
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