

travel

Luxury self-catering *without the hassle!*

Following the new breed of boutique B&Bs, self-catering has also recently undergone a facelift. Today's rental cottages and apartments are equipped with five-star bathrooms, Egyptian cotton sheets – and even chefs, as Rhiannon Batten discovers

CEFNMEURIG, WEST WALES

An 18th-century farmhouse on the Carmarthenshire/Pembrokeshire border, this family-run property won a best self-catering award at the 2007 Wales National Tourism Awards. Renovated in 2005 by Anne Owen Taylor, a former chartered accountant who worked her way up to become the highest-ranking woman on the Welsh Tourist Board, Cefnmeurig is exceptionally well thought out. Stylish yet very comfortable, it boasts luxury appliances, a wood-burning stove, Egyptian cotton sheets and a carefully chosen library of CDs.

SLEEPS Up to seven people.

THE EXTRAS All guests are welcomed with a gourmet hamper, an array of storecupboard foods, fluffy bathrobes and luxury Welsh toiletries. If you're after a little more pampering, various add-on services can be arranged, including good quality ready-meals or private chefs, grocery shopping, maid service and beauty treatments.

TO DO The Pembrokeshire Coast National Park and the Brecon Beacons National Park are nearby, or walk among the patchwork of fields, rolling hills and bluebell woods that surround the property.

THE GUESTBOOK "What a fantastic place, they've thought of everything. We couldn't think of anything to improve on! Truly this is five-star accommodation," enthuses Saran Nicholas from Cardiff.

COSTS From £660 per week. Visit visitwestwales.com or call 02920 899280.

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Retreat to the Lodge's gorgeous, cosy bathrooms



Enjoy supper in the stylish 10-seat dining room