

Taking a Break from Divisive Devices

A countryside cabin in which the best things in life are free — digital-free

DIGITAL DETOX CABIN
ESSEX,
ENGLAND

Just an hour's drive from London, this small cabin sits overlooking the open Essex countryside. The quiet, secluded hut, kitted out in a back-to-basics style, has a ban on digital devices — guests have to lock away their smartphones upon arrival. To help city dwellers cope with withdrawal symptoms, there's a 'Digital Free' box of goodies that includes a Polaroid camera, a retro cassette player, and postcards to send to the device-dependent friends and relatives they have left behind. With more time on their hands, visitors are free to roam their rural surroundings, to stroll to the village pub for a slow pint, or to simply sit on the bench outside the cabin and do absolutely nothing. The charming retreat is the creation of startup duo Hector Hughes and Ben Elliott, who believe you can only truly escape the manic pace and long working hours that come with city living when you take a break from digital devices. The ultimate in disconnecting from the trappings of modern life, there's no better place in which to idle away your time.

