**OUTSTANDINGLY BEAUTIFUL**

**Pendle is a place of outstanding natural beauty where new perspectives open up in every direction**

Pendle Hill is part of the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) – one of 46 designated landscapes in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Straddling the Lancashire and Yorkshire Borders, the Forest of Bowland comprises some 300 square miles of upland landscapes characterised by rugged moorland, intimate valleys and some of the highest hills in Lancashire.

Located on its south-eastern border Pendle Hill is slightly detached from the rest of the AONB, yet the hill shares many of the characteristics of the Bowland Hills that crowd the horizon when looking north from the summit.

**FARMING AROUND PENDLE**

Pendle’s appearance change from season to seasons and this brooding beacon is a constant presence with a shared sense of place among the close-knit communities clustered around its slopes.

Pendle Hill has long-established links with farming dating back 700 years when the area was dominated by large-scale ‘vaccaries’ – enclosed land dedicated to rearing cows. Deer and horses were also raised among the foothills and valleys of Pendle and for much of the early medieval period, the wider Forest of Pendle was a hunting ground for the De Lacy family.

Pendle Hill is one of a dwindling number of areas of England where the farming community remains close to its customers and many of the traditional farms have remained in the same family for generations.

Cattle farming remains an important part of the local economy in the surrounding valleys although you are more likely to see sheep grazing the rough grassland of the hill itself.

Pendle Hill is privately owned by a number of local landowners including the Downham and Huntroyde Estates. Some parts of the hill are common land and local famers hold the rights to graze their livestock in these areas; these commons also make up the bulk of the 'Open Access Land' where we all have the right to roam, but only under certain conditions.