

2chill

# PERFECT PITCHES

Stunning locations for summer escapes



Packed with the pick of the parks, advice on buying a luxury lodge and some incredible routes for tourers

A BOOK BY  
**Reach**



## WELCOME

After being pent-up for long periods during lockdown, undoubtedly many are craving the countryside and more scenic surroundings. As a result, holiday homes, campervans and caravans are becoming more popular than ever, offering a haven both financially and personally.

So, if you are thinking about investing in a second home but don't know where to start, our latest digital book aims to help make your dreams of being closer to the great outdoors come true.

We look at the pros and cons of choosing a static or touring caravan and give advice on buying your first holiday home, plus there are some perfect pitches and three totally awesome road trips to try.

Your guide to a new lifestyle of  
holiday homes, caravans and touring



CREATED BY LISA WALSH

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**ABOUT OUR PARTNER**

**Spill Land Farm Country Park**

They say an Englishman’s home is his castle – and it really could be at this fabulous new holiday park amid woodland in the Kent countryside, surrounded by stately homes and picturesque villages. Spill Land Farm Country Park is offering second homes you can visit all year round – one of the few holiday parks in the country open 365 days a year.

Part of the Monte Carlo Parks group, this luscious countryside retreat is just one mile from the village of Biddenden in the Weald of Kent, four miles from the historic market town of Tenterden and half an hours’ drive away from Hastings Beach on England’s southeast coast.

Hugely popular with people who are retired, the single-storey, fully furnished luxury lodges offer space, security and they are so easy to maintain. Prices are really competitive too.

To find out more see page 9 and visit [www.spillandfarm.co.uk](http://www.spillandfarm.co.uk) 



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# Pitches with a view



*The sunlight floods the valley near Beddgelert and Cae Du*

One of the many great benefits of caravan holidays is gorgeous scenery just outside your window. Here, we pick out seven UK must-visit sites that simply need to be on your radar for their views...

## 1. Cae Du site, Gwynedd

A mountainscape to take your breath away, this peaceful caravan site is great for watching the sun disappear on the horizon at the end of the day. Set in 30 acres at the edge of the beautiful village of Beddgelert, there are circular walks from the campsite and paths up the local mountains, including Snowdon.

**Click [here](#) to find out more**

## 2. Compton Farm, Isle of Wight

Some families have come to this campsite for more than 30 years. Pure Enid Blyton, it's set on a working farm where kids can play on old tractors and collect freshly laid eggs. There's a safe, shallow sandy beach within walking distance and the site boasts stunning natural views to the chalk down land valley and Compton Bay.

**Click [here](#) to find out more**

## 3. Dunnet Bay, Thursco

Ideal for motorhomes, this Scottish site offers golden sands and excellent wildlife-spotting opportunities. Dunnet Head is the most northerly point of mainland Britain and it's just a few minutes north of the site. Catch a boat over to Orkney from John O'Groats or Scrabster.

**Click [here](#) to find out more**



*The view from Compton Farm*



*Dunnet Bay*

*There are excellent walking routes from Turner Hall to the summit of Scafell Pike – England's highest mountain*



#### 4. Turner Hall, Cumbria

Turner Hall Farm is tucked into the folds of the fells between the mountains of Scafell Pike and the Old Man of Coniston. It's a basic campsite set up for walkers and climbers, the attraction being its location and the views rather than the facilities. The beautiful, rugged landscape is hard to beat for sheer natural beauty.

**Click [here](#) to find out more**

#### 5. Llanungar, Pembrokeshire

Surrounded by farmland, private lanes and a bridleway, the site is blessed with amazing sunsets over St David's Head and sea views across St Brides Bay to the islands of Skomer and Grassholm.



*Solva's headlands and sweeping shores*

It's a peaceful holiday park in a rural location, within walking distance of a breathtaking coastline yet still very well placed to reach Solva and St Davids.

**Click [here](#) to find out more**

#### 6. Wirral Country Park, Thurston

Located in a country park of 2,000 acres of unspoiled nature, some pitches look out over the boulder-clay cliffs and the Dee Estuary. There are lots of lovely wooded areas on site with a wealth of wildflowers and birdlife. You can also spot up to 10 kinds of butterfly in the height of summer. Another site that's a photographer's paradise.

**Click [here](#) to find out more**



*Nature at its best in Wirral Country Park*



*The low rocky headland at Godrevy Point*

#### 7. Godrevy Park, Porthkidney beach, Cornwall

Facing St Ives Bay, the Godrevy Park club site has access to the South West Coastal Path and Three Mile Beach with some of the most stunning scenery in the UK. The views take in beautiful St Ives Bay to the left and the rugged splendor of the lighthouse on Godrevy Island to the right, with a low rocky headland and dramatic Atlantic swell.

**Click [here](#) to find out more**

## ... AND SEVEN SITES SIMPLY PERFECT FOR FAMILIES



***Presthaven boasts a large pool complex***

### **1. Haven's Presthaven, Prestatyn**

Haven's Presthaven beach resort boasts a sandy beach just a short walk away and there's plenty of pretty countryside to explore. The site has a large pool complex, pottery activities, an aerial adventure course and evening entertainment. Activities range from water games in the heated indoor pool to rock climbing, to adventure golf and segway adventures.

**Click [here](#) to find out more**

### **2. The Cotswold Farm Park, Cheltenham**

If your kids love farm animals, book a stay at The Cotswold Farm Park; a working farm with cattle, goats, sheep, pigs, horses, donkeys and ponies. There are shows throughout the year, from milking demonstrations to sheep-shearing. The site has a play area, a café serving homemade cakes, lunches and snacks, and a wildlife walk that takes in a Bronze Age burial ground.

**Click [here](#) to find out more**

### **3. Keswick, Lake District**

There are more than 250 pitches at the Keswick camping and caravanning club on the shores of Derwentwater, which has wonderful views across the lake to the hills beyond. The site has plenty of facilities including washing machines, showers, toilets, boating and Wi-Fi. There's a dedicated parent and baby room for those with little ones, not to mention a children's play area – and if you've got a family pet, they're welcome on-site too.

**Click [here](#) to find out more**



***The donkeys at Cotswold Farm Park***



***Keswick has wonderful views across the lake***

#### 4. Glenbrittle, Isle of Skye

In the grounds of Dunvegan Castle, ancestral home of the MacLeod clan on the Isle of Skye, this is a true Monarch of the Glen experience that's raved about in the new Cool Camping book. There's nature in abundance, from a private stretch of beach, a collection of streams known as the Fairy Pools and, above all, plenty of space. Facilities are good, including hard stands with electric hook-ups and a shop selling fresh food.

**Click [here](#) to find out more**

#### 5. Woodovis Park, Devon

Woodovis Park near Tavistock is in an area of outstanding natural beauty on the edge of Dartmoor. It is an ideal base for exploring the moorlands, visiting the Eden Project and days on the beach. There are holiday homes, cottages, camping pods and tent pitches. Activities include water walking – bobbing around in a giant see-through ball – in the indoor pool, archery, a children's play area, table tennis, a games room and a pétanque court.

**Click [here](#) to find out more**



**Woodovis Park**

#### 6. Herding Hill Farm, Northumberland

Herding Hill Farm in Haltwhistle, not far from Hadrian's Wall, is a five-star site with pitches, glamping pods and luxurious amenities. The amenities block even has underfloor heating, a sauna and a family shower room. It's ideal for young families with a playground and petting farm with donkeys, a miniature Shetland pony and sheep. For days out there's Vindolanda Roman archaeological site, three miles away.

**Click [here](#) to find out more**

#### 7. Sandringham Estate, Norfolk

You'll be staying at one of the Queen's royal residences when you pitch up at this camping and caravanning club site on the Sandringham Estate. Explore the gardens and woodlands, drop into the visitor centre and visit the museum of royal memorabilia and vehicles. Many of the pitches are set in secluded areas and there are wash blocks, a family shower room, washing machines, a children's play area, wifi and a parent and baby room.

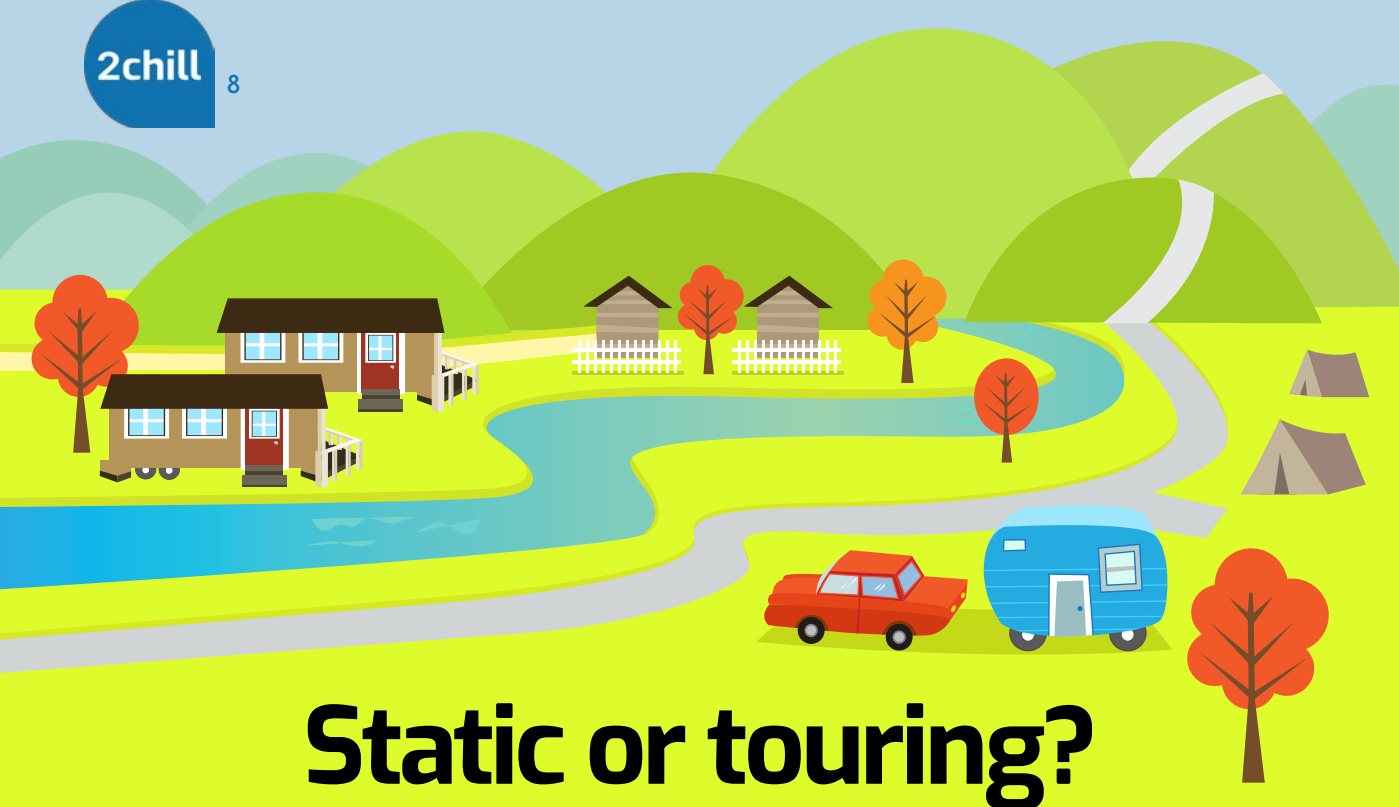
**Click [here](#) to find out more**



**Sandringham**



**Dunvegan Castle built on a rocky outcrop on the shores of Loch Dunvegan**



# Static or touring?

**A common dilemma while buying a holiday home is choosing between a static or touring caravan. After all it's a significant financial investment. Take a look at these pros and cons to help you decide.**

## Static caravans and lodges

### Pros

- Static lodges are equipped with all the comforts of home. They are more spacious than touring caravans and can have fully fitted kitchens and proper bathrooms. They are also double glazed and centrally heated.
- Some caravan parks are licensed for the whole year so you can spend time there whenever you want to. A holiday home is not classed as a permanent residence, which explains why you don't pay council tax on it.
- A well-organised park will make sure your home is safe, communal areas are maintained and maintenance staff are on hand to fix anything that goes wrong.
- You will have exclusive access to park facilities and free entertainment. Or, if your park is open to the public, discounted rates.
- You can rent your caravan out when you are not using it.

### Cons

- As static caravans are stationary by nature, moving them is not as easy as hitching them up to a car and towing them away. Special transport is required and can be expensive depending on where you want to move it to. Most caravan sites will also include disconnection fees in your contract. And, if you are relocating from one park to another, you will need to account for levelling and siting fees.

- When you have paid annual site fees – it can be frustrating to then be told that your second home is off limits during the winter months.

## Touring caravans, campervans and motorhomes

### Pros

- Endless freedom; with a touring caravan or campervan you don't have to stay in one place. There are so many beautiful places to visit in the UK – you can hit the open road and visit as many as you like.
- You can make a last-minute decision to take a break without having to pay for accommodation or site fees.

### Cons

- There may be restrictions on keeping a touring caravan outside your house plus you will need a car powerful enough to tow it.
- Campsites often close during the winter, so it may not be as flexible as you first imagined.
- While a campervan will provide an instantly available warm living space, its not going to hold that heat as well as a static caravan.





# Luxury lodges you can visit all year round



*The Omar Newmarket lodge, from £164,995, benefits from tall windows allowing plenty of natural light*

## SURROUNDED BY CASTLES AND PICTURESQUE VILLAGES

Spill Land Farm Country Park is a new holiday park in the Kent countryside that prides itself in offering the ultimate leisure homes for residents to visit throughout the year.

Unlike many holiday parks that close for a couple of months in the winter, this luxury venue – set in some of the most beautiful countryside in Britain – welcomes homeowners from January to December.

Homes are available to buy from top manufacturers like Stately Albion and Omar. They are supplied with a five-star finish.

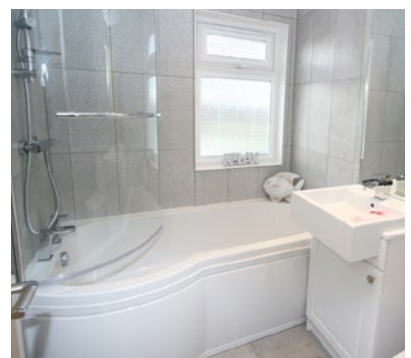
There is also an option for a bespoke finish with a design especially to suit your tastes and

requirements. The only requirement is that you must have a second address – a home at Spill Land Country Park cannot be your only UK address as these are holiday homes.

There are properties available now with lodges from £92,500 and park homes from £164,995. A dedicated sales team is on hand to talk you through all the options and explain in detail how to buy.

All you have to do is book an appointment at [www.spilllandfarm.co.uk](http://www.spilllandfarm.co.uk) or call 01580 438550 or email [enquiries@spilllandfarm.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@spilllandfarm.co.uk)

**See page 10 for more on Spill Land Farm Country Park's prime location...**



**Each property is superbly equipped with all the comforts of home**

ADVERTORIAL



**Sunset on the beach at Camber Sands**

**A FANTASTIC LOCATION**

Coast, castles and countryside surround Spill Land Farm Country Park where luxury homes sit in individual plots with decking and outdoor space in stunning grounds which are tended to with care.

As well as living among a friendly community the park is a short distance from some of the UK's best-loved attractions.

Bus routes are less than 0.4 miles away and can take you to a host of local villages and towns where you can find pubs, restaurants, shops and markets. Or just relax with a delicious cream tea.

The nearest village is Bibbenden which boasts a fantastic vineyard and a par-three golf club.

Ashford is just a 35-minute drive away and has an international train station covering the UK and Europe.

The historic seaside town of Hastings is only half an hour away by car and is a fascinating

place to visit and full of charm.

The remains of William the Conqueror's first English castle still stand there today along with other places of interest such as the Shipwreck Museum and Blue Reef Aquarium.

Other nearby castles include Leeds Castle – known as the loveliest castle in the world – and Sissinghurst Castle Garden, a refuge dedicated to beauty.

You can also enjoy visits to the beautiful Bedgebury National Pinetum and Forest and Bewl Water.

There is miles of coast to explore, but the nearest beach is Camber Sands – home to the only sand dunes in East Sussex and renowned for its fine, golden sand which unspoiled and stretches nearly five miles east of the village.

Fishing enthusiasts may prefer to take a trip to Cackle Hill Fishing Lakes which are just two miles away from Spill Lands Country Park.

**See page 11 for more on how to buy...**



**A hunting tower in the gardens at Sissinghurst**



**Leeds Castle**

Photo: Reach PLC



***The Stately Albion Wooburn park home, from £189,995, is built to residential spec***

## HOW TO BUY

Your existing holiday home may be considered in part exchange for one of the new lodges at Spill Land Farm Country Park. Every person's circumstances are different so each holiday home is assessed individually. Alternatively, save on fees and speed up the buying process by paying with cash for your luxury lodge. Have peace of mind in the knowledge that you own it outright. Secure your chosen lodge with a deposit then sell your existing home privately. Once sold, a dedicated sales advisor will guide you through the buying process every step of the way.



***The Countryside lodge, from £96,995, boosts comfort and space from some clever styling***

**Don't let your dream holiday home pass you by.  
Book an appointment to view Spill Lands Country Park today** 

# Taking the slow road

With soaring mountains, quaint seaside towns and beautiful beaches the UK has as much to see as anywhere else you can think of. Here, we plot three circular scenic road trips that can take you anything from a couple of days to a couple of weeks

Overlooking Upper Loch Torridon near Shieldaig



## 1. SCOTLAND'S NORTH COAST 500

The North Coast 500 is Scotland's answer to Route 66 and one of the most beautiful coastal touring routes in the world. Here, Robin McKelvie gives seven reasons why you should tackle this breathtaking 500-mile drive from Inverness and back, through the land of Macbeth, Highlander and Outlander.

### 1. Because it's there

Let's not be snobbish – I reckon this is a valid reason. Some people want to take on the North Coast 500 partly because it's there. It is indeed becoming an icon to be coveted. This Highland artery is becoming increasingly famous around the world so why not try it for yourself and knock it off the bucket list?

### 2. Epic scenery

The scenery is unremittingly dramatic from the moment you leave Inverness to the sad time you ease back into the Highland capital over the Kessock Bridge. The highlight for me was Wester Ross with its epic Highland mountains, heavily indented coast and silvery sea lochs. It's hard driving here and I don't just mean the sinewy single track roads. I mean actually getting anywhere as you just want to keep stopping to take photos! I could stay for hours at spots like the top of the Bealach na Ba. There really is no dull stretch as you drive through Easter Ross, The Black Isle, Sutherland and Caithness either.

Road Trip



### North 500





*Dunrobin Castle is the most northerly of Scotland's great houses*

### 3. Bountiful beaches

If you like beaches the North Coast 500 is the ideal drive for you. Some of my favourite beaches in Scotland lie on or near the route. I'm a little reluctant to share them, but I will recommend two breathtaking gems for you to enjoy. First up is Achnahaird Bay, just off the NC500 on the Coigach Peninsula. When I wrote the first Cool Camping: Scotland guide the campsite here made the front cover, an epic arch of pure white sand framed by mountains. The site has closed, but (whisper it) there is a wee parking area near the beach where campervans can park up overnight. I did and enjoyed a great view of the Milky Way with my nightcap! Then there is Sandwood Bay. It's good walk from the nearest parking spot to this hallowed stretch of sand in the far northwest.

### 4. Getting active

This might sound slightly skewed as I travelled by campervan, but you don't have to take a bike to get active on the NC500. I used the route and the campervan for making dashes up dramatic local hills and ridges. I thoroughly recommend the Beinn Eighe Mountain Trail. This half-day option is very well waymarked and allows most reasonably fit people with the right gear to enjoy a taste of the mountains proper. There is a gentler Woodland Trail too if the mountain trail is too steep or the weather is closing in. Sea kayaking and surfing also tempt along the NC500.

### 5. History and heritage

The route takes in a swathe of castles, ruins and other historic sites that evoke the drama of Outlander. The Ullapool Museum is a great place to discover more about the wild west. On the east coast, Dunrobin Castle is a must,

both for its palatial style and the role it played during the Highland Clearances.

### 6. Discover wee secrets

Travelling over 500 miles really opens up the Highlands. I've been exploring Scotland for decades, but still found things I had not discovered before. Here are some ideas for you – have you ever been to Smoo Cave, one of the largest sea caves in the British Isles? Or seen the special loch where the waters flow out to both the Atlantic to the west and the North Sea to the east? If you answer no you will find them on the North Coast 500.

### 7. Feeling part of something

This one really took me by surprise. On the NC500 I enjoyed feeling part of something bigger. Fellow campervan drivers waved at our van as we passed and when I stopped to take photos at the endless scenic parking spots other NC500 devotees were always also on hand. I loved too that local businesses have really embraced the North Coast 500 with signs welcoming users in cafes, restaurants and hotels. You really feel that you are part of something special rather than just aimlessly drifting around the Highlands.



*Spectacular Sandwood Bay*

Tenby with its walled-town, turquoise crystal clear waters and soft sandy beaches



## 2. THE COASTAL WAY

Famous for its beaches, cliffs and wildlife, the coast of Pembrokeshire is one of the most beautiful places in the UK and paradise for anyone who wants to explore the coast and the sea.

Take the M4 west until you pick up the A48 then A477 to our first recommended stop-off – the quintessential seaside town of Tenby, recently named the second-best place to live in the UK by Garrington Property Finders (if you were wondering, Bath was top). It's arguably among the cream of Welsh holiday destinations with its beautiful beaches, boutique shops and brilliant pubs and restaurants.

The walled town's historic Norman setting and colourful harbour are key factors in its attraction, along with popular family adventure parks of Folly Farm and Heatherton World of Activities.

**Where to stay:** **Meadow Farm**, with its fantastic panoramic views.

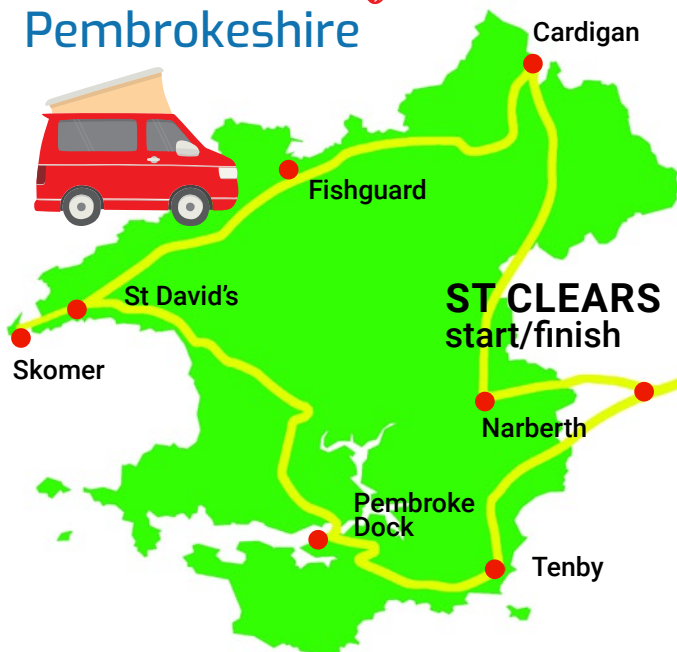
Moving on from Tenby head west to Pembroke Dock, then north west to the smallest cathedral city in the UK, St David's. St David's Cathedral and its adjacent Bishops' Palace are magnificent medieval buildings to explore, while coastering, surfing and water sports are all available here. It's also worth spending a day at the gorgeous sandy Porthsele beach.

**Where to stay:** **Pencarnan Farm** for its close proximity to St David's.



## Road Trip

### Pembrokeshire





*Whitesands Beach on the St David's peninsula*

From St David's, we recommend spending a night on the wild island of Skomer – a haven for migrant birds including puffins, Guillemots, Razorbills and Manx Shearwaters. Skomer is the first and only Marine Nature Reserve in Wales. The surrounding waters are rich in marine life, with a huge population of seals, as well as porpoises, dolphins, and even whales.

**Where to stay:** Family-run **West Hook** for its superb sea views. Note, the site does not have electric hookups, but will charge all sorts of batteries from phone to car.

Back on the road, the next stop is Fishguard – the location of the last invasion of Great Britain in 1797. Visit the Last Invasion Tapestry situated in the town hall, before taking photos of the Royal Oak, where the surrender by the invading French force was signed.

**Where to stay:** **Fishguard Bay** caravan site for its breathtaking views and first-class facilities. Plus the secluded location is really easy to find, less than a mile off the main A487 coastal road.



*The picturesque tiny town of Narberth*

Heading home, follow the signs for Cardigan before heading south along the B roads to the tiny town of Narberth. Antique shops, vintage and craft outlets, delicatessen featuring local produce, award-winning cafes, restaurants and pubs are just some of the high street offerings, but there's also a museum and romantic castle ruins said to once have been home to Pwyll, Prince of Dyfed.

**Where to stay:** **Snooty Fox** for the name alone!



*Skomer is most famous for its Puffins*



*The tidal island of St Michael's Mount is linked to the town of Marazion by a man-made causeway passable at low tide*

### 3. THE CORNISH COAST

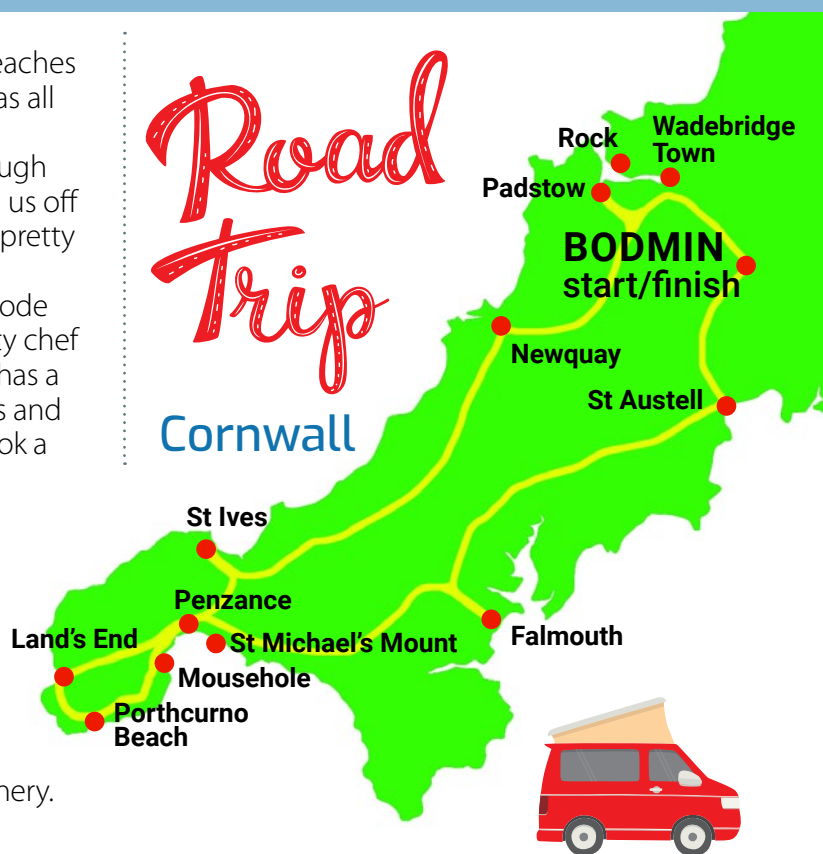
With quaint seaside towns, beautiful beaches and some great attractions, Cornwall has all the makings of a great road trip.

The A30 is the main arterial road through the county and our starting point takes us off the A road towards Bodmin and to the pretty fishing port of Padstow.

The town has seen its popularity explode over recent years with a certain celebrity chef putting it firmly on the map. Rick Stein has a number of renowned restaurants, shops and hotels, but be warned you'll need to book a few months in advance to get a table!

In terms of what to do in Padstow, you can hire a bike on the quayside and head along the Camel Trail towards Wadebridge town or cross the River Camel via the passenger ferry from Padstow to the upmarket resort town of Rock.

**Where to stay:** **The Laurels** for its manicured pitches surrounded by greenery.



*The tiny fishing village of Mousehole*



*Padstow at the head of the Camel River*



Next on route is the quintessential Cornish holiday town of St Ives, renowned for its award-winning cafes, surf beaches and art scene. Check out the exhibitions at the seafront Tate St Ives gallery and take a stroll along the historic Smeaton's Pier to get a stunning view back to the town.

**Where to stay:** **Ayr Holiday Park**, because it's the closest campsite to the centre and has a coastal path down to the famous Porthmoer beach.

Travelling all the way to Land's End for amazing coves and beaches is a must. Porthcurno beach is about three miles east of Land's End and where two great bodies of water meet. It regularly features on lists of the UK's most spectacular beaches, with its Caribbean-esque soft white sands and crystal-clear waters. Explore Cornwall's famous Minack Theatre, tucked away amidst the surrounding cliffs.

**Where to stay:** **Trevedra Farm** for a back-to-nature feel and beach access.

Heading east to the charming fishing village of Mousehole, one of Cornwall's hidden gems, it was once described as the loveliest village in England by poet Dylan Thomas.

The market town of Penzance comes next. Spot the Egyptian House in Chapel Street with its colourful styling and sphynx like adornments then walk to the splendid St Michael's Mount, accessible on foot when the tide is out. Stop off in Falmouth for the best sunsets and sunrises, its as simple as that.

**Where to stay:** **Merrose Farm in Truro** for stunning views and its position to explore the surrounding countryside.



**St Ives is known for its art scene**



**The pretty fishing port of Mevagissey**

Before heading back to our starting point of Bodmin, visit St Austell – one of Cornwall's biggest towns and most famous for its China Clay heritage discovered by William Cookworthy in the 18th century. The town is a welcoming place with the beautiful Carlyon Bay, Mevagissey and Charlestown on its doorstep. There are almost two miles of coarse sand with some amazing ocean views.



**Porthcurno's perfect sandy beach**

Photo: Camptoo



By Ed Bassett

# The power of nature

**“Whenever I escape into nature for a few days, I always feel the benefits long after I return home. There is something primal and simplistic about sleeping under the stars, or waking up with the sunrise, that helps me to recalibrate and reset, particularly during stressful periods,”** notes Ed Bassett, who has the enviable title of ‘Head of Wanderlust’ at the caravan and motorhome hire company Camptoo. Here Ed explains why he thinks touring is so good for your mental wellbeing.

We’re all guilty of spending too much time on our phones and in front of screens, but studies continually show the benefits of taking regular breaks from tech.

While touring, I take advantage of the lack of

phone signal and wifi and embrace being more present as a result. It’s easy to feel overwhelmed with the constant amount of information and images vying for our attention, but touring gives you the power to be in the moment and enjoy your surroundings and time with loved ones.

It’s also more likely you will naturally do more exercise, such as walking or hiking. Parking up in campsites near the coast, mountains or forests are a great option if you fancy a more active trip.

Reap the benefits of getting your heart rate up and endorphins flowing by cycling, taking a hike, or paddling a kayak – I’d recommend checking out the various tours operated by Call To Adventure for those seeking a fun but more challenging experience.



Immersion in nature counters the impact of online and urban living as it helps to calm the brain, and even increases production of serotonin, known as the 'happy chemical' which helps to maintain a balanced and positive mood.

A good serotonin boost can also improve focus and concentration levels, lower levels of anger and anxiety, and promote higher confidence and self-esteem.

So, if you are lacking these feel-good hormones, start planning a trip to nature, asap.

The effect of the natural world on our mental health relates to how our senses connect us to the environment around us.

Being immersed in nature allows our minds a break from gadgets and email notifications, instead stimulating a more primal area of the brain. Being surrounded by the wonder of the natural world can remind us that we're just a small part of something much larger, making our worries seem less troubling.

Forest bathing, a technique used in Japan, is growing in popularity and encourages us to be at one with nature by using all the senses, and taking in the surroundings through the ears, eyes, nose, mouth, hands and feet. Watching water is particularly meditative – seeing the tides change or water from a river course its way across the land reminds us that



the world keeps moving forwards, and we will progress in the same way.

Touring can help foster stronger connections and bonds with loved ones. We're all more relaxed and care-free when on holiday, so more likely to enjoy fun and games that we normally wouldn't have time or energy for.

Another bonus is simply enjoying the happy memories made during the trip for years to come. We recommend packing a zero-waste disposable camera to capture memories without the need for your phone.

**Ed Bassett is 'Head of Wanderlust' at Camptoo. Visit [www.camptoo.co.uk](http://www.camptoo.co.uk) for some great roadtrip ideas and to find out how you can hire a campervan close to home.**

Photo: Camptoo



# The best UK beaches to dodge holiday crowds



If you're looking to hit the road and have some fun but avoid the holiday crowds, check out these 15 secluded, tucked-away beaches. OnBuy.com sought to discover hidden gems by finding the least tagged beaches on Instagram, and this is what they found.

First place (with the least amount of hashtags) was Traeth yr Ora on the north-eastern coast of Anglesey, it's one of Wales' best-kept secrets. If you're lucky enough to visit this remote paradise at low tide, you'll be rewarded with sparkling warm golden sand. The unique view of Dulas Island and its famous tower also make the mile walk to get there worthwhile.

In second, peaceful Horden Beach was once known as one of the most polluted beaches in Europe, but this natural haven is now home to rare butterflies and wildflowers. Cliffs such as Blackhall create a picturesque view, perfect for walks along Durham's Heritage Coast.

In third, Porthdinllaen Beach in Llŷn Peninsula is a stretch of coast owned by The National Trust. The panoramic view around this sandy bay also greets us with the picturesque old fishing village of Porthdinllaen and its pub!

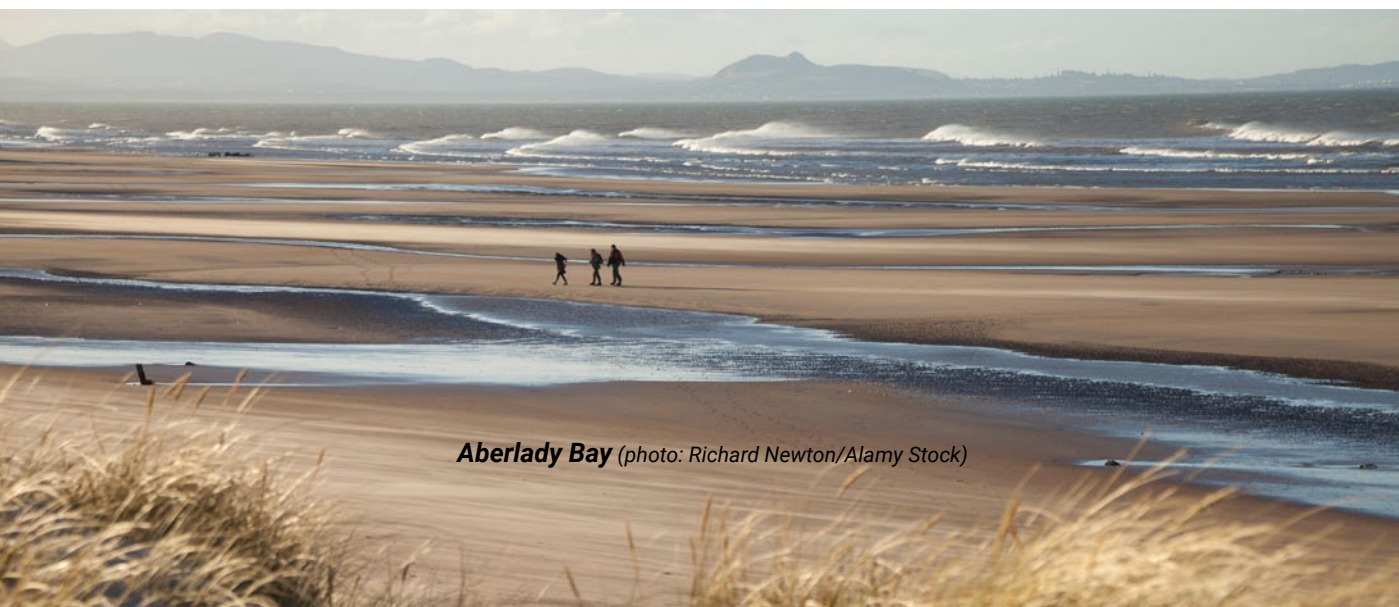
**Full list on page 21**



**Horden beach** (photo: Craig Connor)



**Porthdinllaen beach** (photo: Richard Williams)



**Aberlady Bay** (photo: Richard Newton/Alamy Stock)

## 15 hidden gems that are the least tagged beaches on Instagram

- 1 **Traeth yr Ora Beach**, Anglesey
- 2 **Horden Beach**, County Durham
- 3 **Porthdinllaen**, Llŷn Peninsula
- 4 **Sugary Cove**, Dartmouth
- 5 **Haverigg Beach**, Cumbria
- 6 **Bossington Beach**, Somerset
- 7 **Llanddwyn Beach**, Anglesey
- 8 **Ross Back Sands**, Northumberland
- 9 **Aberlady Bay**, East Lothian
- 10 **Winterton Beach**, Norfolk
- 11 **Dunwich Beach**, Suffolk
- 12 **Church Ope Cove**, Dorset
- 13 **Traigh Seilebost**, Isle of Harris
- 14 **Kingsgate Bay**, Isle of Thanet
- 15 **Steephill Cove**, Isle of Wight



**Dunwich beach** (photo: The People)



**Llanddwyn Island** (photo: Western Mail)



**Traeth yr Ora beach** (photo: Daniel Start, [www.wildswimming.co.uk](http://www.wildswimming.co.uk))

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