



Family experience of Cornwall

8 night driver-guided tour



Customisable itinerary
Luxury vehicles
Private driver-guide

LUXURY VACATIONS UK

SINCE 2002



The Brits have been taking family summer vacations to Cornwall forever. It is not hard to see why, world-class must-see coastline, plenty of beach activities and historic fishing villages.

Not just a beach vacation; this is a full-on family adventure—the history of smugglers, pirates, D-Day departure sites, incredible gardens and adventure sports.

All ages will be intrigued by the old coastal defences, castles that have defended our precious island from an invasion. This tour features some old grand estates, which tend to be the perfect locations for picnics. You can even add on those famous sites such as Stonehenge and Bath, plus Oxford and Windsor if you have the time and make it an all-round great family tour.

This eight-night suggested tour can be customised to match personal interests, the pace of travel, and the style of the hotel.

Day 1

Arrival day, Stourhead Gardens and afternoon tea

Meet and greet London Heathrow: your driver-guide will meet you inside the arrivals hall, assist with luggage and escort you to the vehicle.

Stourhead Gardens is the most awe-inspiring and remarkable landscaped gardens in Europe. The garden was begun in the 1740s by Henry Hoare, who inherited the estate and transformed it into a breathtaking work of art. Your driver-guide will take you to the Temple of Apollo, overlooking the entire 18th Century garden. Tunnels lead to an artificial cave with a pool and a life-size statue of the guardian of the River Stour. Stop by and see the Grotto, made of volcanic rock with a lookout to the lake.

Continue the journey into the South West and stop for afternoon tea and your first sample of REAL Devonshire clotted cream.

Overnight: Bovey Castle, Devon.





Day 2

Dartmoor National Park, exploring

Tour the **Dartmoor National Park**; the 'Hound of the Baskervilles' country. Dartmoor is now the least inhabited part of England. See wild Dartmoor Ponies, wooded valleys with quaint thatched cottages and heather-clad moors which glow purple and maroon in the evening sun. Also dotting the landscape are scores of prehistoric remains which have survived due to the durability of granite. Many establishments offer cream teas and warming fires of weary walkers. Hear the tales of one of Britain's most notorious prison, Dartmoor Prison. American prisoners were kept here during the 1812 war.

The guardian of the moors is Castle Drogo, watching over the landscape for miles. During inclement weather tour the castle. The home was built from local granite in the 20th Century, for Julius Drewe, a self-made retail millionaire. Julius owned 500 stores during the 1900s, creating the castle personified his life's achievements. The estate has beautiful secluded gardens and a beautifully designed interior. The well-known and admired architect was Edwin Lutyens, who designed numerous country homes.

Other afternoon options include hiking, zip wires, boating, and wild swimming. Activities at Bovey Castle, include cider making, 4X4 car driving, golf, and spa treatments.

Overnight: Bovey Castle, Devon.





Day 3

Tamar valley, Eden project and fun activities

Visit **Cotehele**, a magical Tudor house in the Tamar valley. The beautiful gardens draw people from around the World. Make your way to the serene Tamar River, look out for Otters, rare birds and Orchids.

Onto the Eden Project. One of the enormous greenhouse 'biomes' at the Eden Project is home to the World's most massive jungle in captivity. The other houses flora from temperate regions of the World, including the Mediterranean and South Africa.

The adventure starts at the **Eden project**. Take part in three thrilling experiences, The Drop, The Giant Swing and Sky Wire (a colossal zip wire). Both are terrifying, do you have the 'guts' to a free-fall drop onto a giant airbag followed by a 20-meter drop over a cliff on a free all simulator? Or can you handle travelling at 60 mph on England's longest and fastest ZIP wire? Or the stomach altering Giant Swing? For younger children, the Eden project will have special summer activities planned, contact us for further information at the time of booking.

Overnight: The Rick Stein Collection, Padstow, Cornwall.



Day 4

Beaches, Kite surfing and coasteering

Cornwall's beaches and the rocky coastline is famous throughout the world. The surf is world-class, and the weather is ideal for various adventure sports.

Try Coasteering, which is a physical activity whereby you (with instructors) make your way around a tidal zone of cliffs and rocks. Climbing, jumping off cliffs and ocean swimming is required. This fully guided activity first began in Britain, and it's super fun and scary at the same time.

Kite surfing is prominent in this part of the country, the breeze rarely stops, and the surf is ideal for this activity. All equipment and training will be supplied.

Overnight: The Rick Stein Collection, Padstow, Cornwall.





Day 5

St Ives and fishing villages

Drive the coastal road to the Cornish seaside port of **St Ives** with a beautiful harbour and bustling atmosphere. St Ives is a fishing village busy with artists studios and art lovers exploring a labyrinth of cobbled pathways to find that piece of work perfect for the bare wall at home. Relax and enjoy browsing the galleries and craft shops.

Enjoy lunch by the harbour, the town has super restaurants. We will make all the arrangement if required.

St Michael's Mount is a granite crag just offshore from the town of Marazion. Low tide reveals a human-made causeway which links the mainland to the mount.

The option can be to explore the mount and castle or visit the tiny fishing village of Mousehole. Another option is to have our driver-guide find you a quiet, secret beach to relax, paddle, eat ice cream with strawberries. We wouldn't like to sway you either way, but this is our favourite option.

Overnight: The Rick Stein Collection, Padstow, Cornwall.





Day 6

Sea safari, King Arthurs Castle and Rocky Valley

Set high on the rugged North Cornwall Coast, visit **King's Arthur's Castle** at **Tintagel**. Learn about the myths and legends which are associated with King Arthur. Britain is home to the largest colonies of **Grey Seals** and vast numbers of migrating sea birds; you will get as close as you possibly can. There is a chance to see Dolphin, Basking Sharks (second largest shark in the world) and giant Sunfish. You may get airborne while riding on the high-speed rib along the wild Atlantic coast.

Plunge into a rocky gorge-like valley (Rocky Valley) and follow a tumbling stream to the sea. The stream starts its journey 820 ft above sea level; it cuts its way through fields before tumbling dramatically through a series of falls. See the strange labyrinth patterns carved into the rock face, their origins are a mystery.

Overnight: The Rick Stein Collection, Padstow, Cornwall.



Day 7

St Mawes, Treliassick Gardens and a secret beach

St Mawes fishing village overlooks a large natural harbour, thought to be the third-largest in the world. The two old castles guard the port on adjacent peninsulas' Pendennis and St Mawes. This lovely little village has an excellent collection of pretty houses with thatched roofs with brightly coloured stonework. Enjoy seafood or Fish and Chips on the quayside assured that no invaders are going to attack!

Head down to the Fal estuary into a sub-tropical microclimate. Treliassick Garden clings to hills around the Fal River, an exotic place with palms, and Jurassic park-like species of plants all in a hidden valley in England; it is extraordinary. The pathway leads down to a shingle bay of crystal clear waters surrounded by green hills. There is also an art gallery to explore.

Alternatively, your guide can take you to our secret beach and enjoy your fish and chip supper in the peaceful surroundings of a tranquil place, watching yachts' pass by.

Overnight: The Rick Stein Collection, Padstow, Cornwall.





Day 8

Beach activities and relaxation

A day to enjoy the beach simply, surf or board, enjoy a lazy lunch and afternoon tea. If you prefer, leave earlier in the day and enjoy the facilities at Stoke Park, which include and are not limited too paddle tennis, tennis, swimming, golf, gym and spa. The flight from Newquay, Cornwall to London Gatwick takes 50 minutes.

Transfer to Stoke Park from Gatwick Airport.

Overnight: Stoke Park Hotel and Country Club, near Heathrow.



Day 9

Chauffeur-driven transfer from Stoke Park to London Heathrow

Your chauffeur will be with you 15 minutes before you need to depart. He or she will assist with luggage and listen for any final requests.



"I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you for all your help in making our trip to London a "once in a lifetime" trip. The itinerary was superb and the accommodations were perfect. I would not change a single thing."

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Hotels, restaurants and
travel information

Guest Houses and historic places



Guesthouses and B&B's have come a long way in the past 20 years. High-end bedding, luxurious surroundings, and refined touches are now much more common.

You get a massive bang for your buck with this category of accommodation. Stay in a private castle, gatehouse, folly, fort, lighthouse or historic country cottage is the way the British enjoy Britain. Be surrounded by glorious countryside, walking distance to a genuine village pub, and be intrigued by living if but for a short time somewhere special.

Castles & Manor House Hotels



There's nothing quite like arriving at an authentic medieval castle or manor house and knowing you are staying the night. Every portrait, grand staircase and corridor has a tale to tell.

Each chamber will be unique, have quirks and exciting features. This style of hotel will have historic landscaped grounds, gardens, and produce grown onsite. Some have golf courses and other leisure facilities such as spas.



Town House & Boutique Hotels



Location, location, location, your traditional townhouse hotel will be centrally situated right in town. Walk out the door and be surrounded by shops, cafes, restaurants and historical landmarks.

The boutique versions of these town centre locations will have a contemporary feel with designer bars and lounges. There is a choice of out of town boutique hotels too.

Contemporary & Designer Hotels



Cutting edge design with elegance, setting new standards of luxury. Contemporary British hotels embody comfort, style and tech. Britain's designer hotels are just that.

Every last detail created for that place to stay and that place only. Door handles, keyholes, wine glasses and spa have seamless themes and motifs, generating the feeling of being inside a work of art.

Classic & Britain's finest Hotels



Start and end your day in a refined and grand hotel with the best service. Known as Britain's finest Hotels, enjoy the grandeur, history, architecture along with high-end facilities.

The Classic British, five-star hotel, has world-class restaurants, up to date spas, and beautifully designed golf courses. These hotels will have manicured gardens and extensive grounds to explore. Rooms tend to have antiques and valuable works of art.

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Additional Information



Virtuoso on-site | Visit Britain Partner | European Tour Operator Association Member | UK-Inbound Member



We look forward to seeing you soon!