14 OF THE BEST HOLIDAY COTTAGES IN CORNWALL

With sea views and smart interiors
One of the best ways to get under the skin of this salty corner of the UK is to take over a cottage and live like a local. These are our favourite cottages, holiday houses and manors in Cornwall, whether you’re looking for a romantic retreat with a sea view or a mansion with space for the whole crew.

TRIED AND TESTED HOLIDAY COTTAGES IN CORNWALL
THE LIMIT, HOLLYWELL BAY

Just a couple of miles south of Newquay – but a million miles away from its raucous atmosphere – is Holywell, a village whose main charms are a 13th-century thatched pub, the Treguth Inn, and Holywell Bay beach, backed by huge dunes. At the end of the village is The Limit, which was rescued from brambly overgrowth and renovated by local couple Rebecca and Steve Peck.

Accommodation is in two 1930s clapboard beach huts – one for living in, the other for sleeping. Painted in pretty pastel colours, they have just enough space for two people and a refreshing lack of hi-tech wizardry. The huts are linked by a lovely deck with a hot tub and a fire pit overlooking the dunes.

The area’s wildlife makes it a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and there are binoculars on hand if you fancy twitching. You have to go outside to get from one hut to the other, so inclement weather might put paid to cups of tea in bed; but the quirkiness and secluded setting are a major part of The Limit’s appeal.

Address: The Limit, Hollywell Bay
Price: From £1,395 per week, £1,095 per short break (sleeps two)
BOOK YOUR STAY
THE SHIPWRECK, WHITSAND BAY

Set on the cliffside near the 17th-century fishing village of Portwrinkle, this cabin is more resurrection than ruin, entirely fashioned from wood recovered from Kodima, an actual shipwreck that sailed her last into nearby Whitsands Bay. Now the home is a masterclass in maximising space. A puzzle of pocket doors and loft cupboards; an old-fashioned trunk serving as a coffee table; a TV that swings between rooms; and a squeezed-in window seat for gazing out to sea.

What pulls everything together, like the buttons on a sailor’s trousers, is the nautical theme. Spot illustrations of sails throughout the centuries on walls and the odd shell or message in a bottle on shelves. There’s just no escaping the sea here – its repetitive chorus fills your eyes, ears, lungs, bones.

Read the full review in our guide to the best holiday homes in the UK

Address: The Shipwreck, Portwrinkle, Whitsand Bay
Price: From £1,195 for a three-night long weekend (sleeps two adults and two children)
BOOK YOUR STAY

CREDIT: DAVID CURRAN / UNIQUE HOMESTAYS
SIREN, COVERACK COVE

This traditional thatch cottage is packed with vintage finds that make the interiors more bohemian than beachy. Velvet sofas are the colour of sea foam, Sixties artworks are displayed on the dappled walls and a cosy window seat looks out across the sea. Plus there are miles of coastal paths to explore nearby.

Address: Siren, Coverack Cove
Price: From £950 a week (sleeps two)
BOOK YOUR STAY