Great British Getaways: 10 summer breaks in Cornwall to book now (before they sell out)

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Our Cornwall expert has chosen her favourite breaks from what's still available

Cornwall is on a roll. Hardly a night goes by without its golden beaches and azure sea starring on television. As restrictions eased last summer, the crowds descended. Rooms of any kind were scarce and enterprising farmers even plonked a couple of portaloos in a field so that exhausted motorists could camp out in the back of their cars. Walking around resorts like St Ives it was as if the Ibiza Set had come to town.

But while bookings for next July and August are strong, there have been plenty of cancellations for early summer in recent weeks, especially from Europeans concerned about continuing travel restrictions. Holiday providers expect an explosion of interest once there's news of a release date for lockdown, and recommend making a commitment now. Most are offering far more flexible booking terms this year including a full refund if you find yourself stuck in a high tier and cannot travel beyond it.

Seaside boltholes with class

'Luxury hideaway' can be a misnomer but Unique Homestays (01637 881183; uniquehomestays.co.uk) sets very high standards for its 70 self-catering properties. It represents some of Cornwall's most remarkable homes set in inspirational locations. Quite a few are designed for couples; romantic retreats such as The Edge, a clapboard cabin with a hot tub that has a bird's eye view of Whitsand Bay, or rustic-chic Little Portion, near Porth Joke's sandy strand. From £2,450 for a July week.

