

The best UK staycation ideas according to the Condé Nast Traveller editors

These are the staycation destinations to check out – they come highly recommended

4. Dartmouth

For winding down from one chapter and starting anew. Back in **November**, the weekend before my first day at *Condé Nast*, my partner picked me up from my old office, arms full of Champagne and flowers and drove us through the night to Dartmouth, **Devon**. Our arrival was greeted by the myriad of colours reflecting off the River Dart from the lit-up houses lining the quay and stillness, which would be borderline eerie if it wasn't for the echoes of laughter coming from families and friends in the local **restaurants** and pubs. Waking up to glittering **winter sunshine** is worth the visit alone but once you see Aegean-esque water and the foray of colourful coastal houses and cobbled streets, you could easily believe your travels have taken you as far as the Italian Riviera. Round off your stay with dinner at the Rockfish for the catch of the day and a glass of prosecco. Well worth the journey from **London**, no matter how long the stay.

Where to stay: **Ellesmera Mill** is 400 years old and is a stunning feat of a restoration project. The old millhouse is tucked away in a vallery near Dartmouth and South Hams, shaded by trees and just a stroll away from Blackpool Sands. The stay can house 10 guests and is equipped with a wood-fired hot tub and sauna for the ultimate end to a day of exploring. *Megan Wilkes, art production manager*