

North Cornwall is a great place for holidays with a huge selection of beaches along the north Cornish coast. Many of the beaches can be surfed and there are plenty of seaside towns to visit, such as Perranporth or Bude.

There are picturesque coastal villages to visit too, such as Port Isaac or Boscastle. Also of interest is the ruined castle at Tintagel, rumoured to be the Camelot of Arthurian legend.

For the walker, the coastal scenery is spectacular and inland the north of Bodmin Moor can be explored, including Brown Willy the highest point in Cornwall. The Camel Trail can also be walked or cycled.

In the west Portreath, Porthtowan and Chapel Porth are good surfing beaches and from Chapel Porth there is great walking to St Agnes Head. At St Agnes is another surfing beach at Trevaunance Cove and a small pebble beach at Trevellas Porth.

Perranporth is a big seaside town with a huge two mile long surfing beach. North of Perranporth is Holywell Bay, Porth Joke and the huge sandy beach of Crantock Beach.

North of Crantock are the surfing beaches at Fistral Beach and Newquay. North of Newquay is a nice sweep of sandy coastline with east facing beaches all of which can be surfed, including Porth, Whipsiderry, Watergate Bay, Mawgan Porth, Bedruthan Steps, Porthcothan, Treyarnon Bay, Constantine Bay and Boobys Bay.

From Boobys Bay, there is great walking around scenic Trevose Head and its lighthouse. East Of Trevose Head are the beaches at Mother Iveys Bay, Harlyn Bay and Trevone Bay.

The north of Cornwall is split into two by the Camel Estuary and the Camel Trail can be walked or cycled from Padstow to Wadebridge and beyond. Padstow is a nice harbour town to visit, with a fabulous stretch of sand which stretches along the west bank of the Camel.

On the west of the Camel is another super stretch of sand from Rock to Daymer Bay. North of Daymer Bay is the super surfing beach at Polzeath.

East of Polzeath are the small coves at Lundy Bay, Port Quin, Port Isaac and Port Gaverne. Trebarwith Strand is another popular surfing beach and there is another sandy beach at Tregardock Beach, but there is limited parking here. There is a small and picturesque cove at Bossiney Haven.

Further north is the surfing beach at Crackington Haven with its impressive cliffs. There are also some quieter beaches at The Strangles and Millook. North of Millook is the big beach at Widemouth and then the big seaside town of Bude which has a great beach at Summerleaze Beach.

North of Bude are more surfing beaches at Northcott Mouth, Sandymouth, Duckpool and Stanbury Mouth.

The region is easily accessible via the A30, A38 and A39 roads.

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Cornwall Beach Guide