

## Things to See and Do

Cornwall is packed with activities and adventure! There is no point duplicating here the many attractions further afield, so this list provides only a short list of local walks attractions and features that you may not have heard of or get on a 'visit Cornwall' website. These are just our personal recommendations based on experience and we have no connection with any of the attractions listed below :

### Walking:

- There are wonderful coastal walks straight from the House. Turn left out of the house and half a mile along the road you will reach Readymoney cove, beyond that, the coastal path leading to Gribben Head – and for the more adventurous, walk on to Polkerris where there is an excellent restaurant (Sam's on the Beach) and pub. This takes a couple of hilly hours. Taxis are available to return to Fowey if you've had enough!
- The 'Hall Walk' <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/fowey-estuary/trails/fowey-hall-walk> is a 4 mile walk through National Trust land taking around 2 hours (+ pub stops) over light/moderate terrain. It involves two ferry rides and there are good pubs at the beginning/end. A great morning with stunning scenery. Take the ferry to Polruan and follow signs to the Hall Walk (or ask).
- A great day trip is to take the bus to Looe and then back to Polperro (a very quaint fishing village) and then walk back across the cliff path from Polperro. Only for serious walkers! The Polruan to Looe bus timetable is here : <https://www.transportforcornwall.co.uk/services/SMMC/481>

### Beaches

- Fowey is an amazing natural harbour and this part of the Cornish coast is steep and rocky; if you want large sandy beaches, you need a day trip out to the north coast. That said, Fowey has a small beach – Readymoney Cove – which is sheltered, has a bathing platform in summer and small gift/coffee shop open all year round. A smaller beach (Whitehouse) is just 200m from the house with an outdoor, wave-filled pool for the little ones. Turn left out of the house, then first left. The Red Rocket café overlooking the pool is brilliant but only open in season.

### Exploring the Harbour and Estuary by boat

There are many activities available within Fowey Harbour:

- Fowey River Hire does kayak and paddleboard hire, self-drive motorboat hire and kayak tours. Call 01726 833627 or go to their booking office which is located in central Fowey opposite the Albert Quay. Full details available here <https://www.foweyriverhire.co.uk>
- Cornwall Seafari offer amazing 'safaris' lasting between 40 minutes and 2 hours. Great value, exhilarating and informative, but very popular so book in advance! 07814 269959 or <https://cornwallseafari.co.uk>

- Take the ferry to Mevagissey – a quaint fishing village - across St Austell Bay. The ferry runs return trips three times a day in season but is weather dependent. Check <https://www.mevagissey-ferries.co.uk> for the timetable and fares.
- Small motor boats can be booked by the hour from Fowey's Town Quay
- Fowey River Cruises (0776 141241) offers a 45 minute trip around the harbour, a three hour round trip to Lostwithiel and a two hour trip to the upstream village of Lerryn (with one hour ashore). Other destinations can be arranged. All these trips are weather dependent. Details available here : <https://www.foweycruise.co.uk/our-services/>

## Fowey

Fowey itself has become a super-trendy and very popular place in recent years. Traditional local shops have been replaced with coffee and gift shops, fancy restaurants and wine bars – meaning lots to do and enjoy if you are visiting. It is easy to spend the best part of a day visiting the galleries, gift and clothes shops and buying artisan cheese, bread and meat! In our opinion, the best of Fowey is summarised below:

- The Lifebuoy café on Lostwithiel Street for a 'proper' cooked breakfast or Brown Sugar for a more trendy version/brunch.
- Pintxo on the Esplanade for Spanish tapas
- Fowey Harbour Hotel has a lawn with amazing views and does a great afternoon tea
- The Fowey Hall Hotel (up the top of Fowey) has a 'family friendly' indoor pool and spa plus a creche where you can leave the kids while you book a spa treatment. It also does excellent food, if expensive. Call 0208 0765555
- The best coffee is served in the Cornish Bakery and Brown Sugar in the centre of town and at the Red Rocket café by Whitehouse beach (amazing sandwiches and seafood platters with great views over the water).
- Kittows (now called Richards) is a long-established local butcher who now has a good delicatessen in the centre of town by the church
- Sam's (on Fore Street) is an ever-popular eatery with a lively vibe and a renowned fish stew on the menu. Sam's has a fish-specific sister restaurant on the beach at Polkerris, a few miles along the coast. A taxi costs around £7-10 each way from Fowey, but is worth it.
- Sunny Spice is a really excellent Indian restaurant and take-away on Fore Street.
- There are some excellent traditional pubs too. In our opinion, the best beer and most traditional interior is at the Ship Inn (the Lugger is also very traditional).
- Bufola is best for genuine Italian food and good pizzas
- For a special occasion and a high price tag, Narla in the centre of town is the most upmarket, Michelin-style food.
- If you wish to delve into a little local history, visit the Fowey Museum (a one room affair but packed with local artefacts) or walk St Catherine's Castle or to 'the Blockhouse' in Polruan to explore the fortifications originally built in 1380 to protect the harbour from invaders. St Fimbarrus Church in Fowey is stunning:  
[http://www.castlesfortsbattles.co.uk/south\\_west/polruan\\_blockhouse.html](http://www.castlesfortsbattles.co.uk/south_west/polruan_blockhouse.html)  
<https://www.museumsincornwall.org.uk/Fowey-Museum/Cornwall-Museums/>  
<https://www.britainexpress.com/counties/cornwall/churches/fowey.htm>

## Further Afield

If you wish to get in the car and explore further afield, best check the internet, but we recommend the following (relatively) local attractions which are all within a 40 minute drive:

- Polperro is a super quaint fishing village set in a narrow valley with a little drying harbour. Parking is a nightmare, so get there early if you wish to explore the little streets and shops/pubs (no beach). Take the car ferry across the river and follow the signs.
- Looe is a larger fishing port in the same direction (so combined with Polperro is a day out) with a large sandy beach (at low tide) at East Looe. Lots of shops, souvenirs, boats.
- Charlestown is the last intact Georgian port in England and a UNESCO world heritage site about 30 minutes away <https://charlestownharbour.com>
- The National Trust's stately home at Lanhydrock (40 minutes by car) is a magnificent late Victorian country house with a garden and a wooded estate. Details here : <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/lanhydrock>
- No list would be complete without mention of the world famous Eden Project which is only 25 minutes by car. <https://www.edenproject.com> and the amazing Lost Gardens of Heligan <https://www.heligan.com>
- For those interested in gardening the Duchy of Cornwall Nursery at Lostwithiel is well worth a visit. Exotic and rare plants and great gifts. About 30 minutes by car.
- Further afield still, if you fancy exploring the north coast towns and beaches, Padstow is a deservedly popular destination, with many restaurants and a quaint harbour. You can hire bikes and cycle along a nice flat former railway line to Padstow from Wadebridge (a nice town in itself). It's about 11 miles. This will be a full day out. There are a range of bike hire companies in Wadebridge. Google 'Bike Hire Wadebridge' for info'.