



why move to ... NEWQUAY

THERE'S MORE TO NEWQUAY THAN
FAMOUS BEACHES AND NIGHTLIFE

Words by **Viki Wilson**

It's famed as a mecca for surfers and for those who like to enjoy some nightlife during the summer season. But there truly is something for everyone, whether you're a café connoisseur or an art lover. We asked readers via our social networks what's to love about Newquay, and discovered a wealth of best-kept secrets.

THE EATERIES

Whether you're looking for fresh seafood in a beachside location, or a bohemian café to snuggle up inside and enjoy a hot chocolate, there is plenty to choose from in Newquay. "You get the most amazing milkshakes and ice cream from Moo-moos, where my kiddies get to indulge in the magic of having a frozen yoghurt covered in fizz whizz and skittles," says Bekkie Graham. "Also, heavenly hot chocolates at Bodhi's, overlooking Fistral on a crazy blustery day." Preggo Preggo café (opposite Rocky Point) does the best panini in the country, according to Jo Wood. Lewinnick Lodge was also a popular choice, whether you want to enjoy a glass of wine on the terrace, a romantic supper or just cosy up by the fire and enjoy the panoramic views. Café Irie also got lots of votes, as did The Beached Lamb, while The Boathouse and the Kahuna were praised for great seafood. Apparently, it's a little-known fact that Newquay is famous around Europe for its shellfish, with bucket-loads of crab and lobster landed in the harbour every day. "The Kahuna has a really good vibe, beachy and relaxed, yet the food is the best in town, and Little Kahuna in the town centre is just as lovely," says Cheryl Dee. The Harbour, the Headland Hotel, Bankside café and breakfast at Lakeside also came in for lots of compliments.

THE EVENTS

There are festivals and events for everyone to enjoy, ranging from the Newquay Art Festival and Cornish Film Festival to other annual highlights including Relentless Boardmasters, the Nike Night Surf, the British Surfing Championships, the Fish Festival, the Zap Cat Championships and Lusty Glaze music sessions. "I love the fish festivals and surf festivals," adds Bekkie Graham.

THE BEACHES

"I personally think Newquay is all about the beaches," says Cheryl Dee. She certainly has a point. There are beaches for everyone around the town, ranging from Fistral - the surfing capital of Cornwall, host to international events - to more sheltered beaches such as Towan, pretty horseshoe-shaped Lusty Glaze and Porth, Tolcarne and Great Western. There's even a lovely sandy spot at the harbour to soak up the sun. "There are such fabulous beaches here," says Kate Mulligan. "You can't beat watching the waves pounding in on Fistral Beach." Dreams of Cornwall and Cheryl Dee both favoured

Whipsiderry, as something of a hidden gem. "I love watching the Cribbar - a big wave that comes into Fistral - with a crowd when it gets big and the brave folk head out," says CT writer Katy Davidson. "It's brilliant free entertainment, and we get to enjoy all those lovely beach days and cliff walks." Even if you don't feel the urge to dive into the waves, the beaches provide a constant source of inspiration and escape to those who live in the town. "I love taking a walk from the harbour south along the point, past the Huers Hut to Little Fistral, escaping most of the crowds and taking in some glorious scenery," says Jo Wood.

WATER SPORTS

Newquay is an adrenalin junkie's mecca nowadays, with coasteering, stand-up paddleboarding, zip wiring, bodyboarding, and many more water sports available at the many activity centres and surf schools around the town. This is the place to go to buy surfwear and equipment too, with major shops such as Headworx and Ann's Cottage vying for space with independent boardmakers and traders. For those who prefer a different kind of activity on the water, Newquay is also a great place to go gig rowing. It was Newquay Rowing Club which reinvigorated this classic Cornish sport, and Newquay's finest have a proud history in international events, including a first place in the 2009 World Championships. Wildlife fans can enjoy sea safaris out of the harbour during the summer with the Cornwall Wildlife Trust and other organisations.

THE GANNEL

"If Fistral is Brad Pitt, then the Gannel is Johnny Depp," explains Georgie Carter. It may not be a haven for surfing, but certainly the Gannel is breathtakingly beautiful, and a treasure which is enjoyed by walkers and twitchers alike. The Gannel estuary is home to a stunning range of wildlife, from beautiful salt marsh plants to an array of wader birds, from godwits to greenshank. Kayakers and stand-up paddleboarders also enjoy gently cruising up the quiet waters of the Gannel.

HOW MUCH?

£499,950 will net you a four-bedroomed detached house with panoramic views across the Gannel estuary, close to Trenance gardens and boating lake.

£244,950 will finance a four-bedroomed detached bungalow on the outskirts of Newquay, a short walk from Lusty Glaze beach.

£89,950 - For this price, you could enjoy a one-bedroomed ground-floor flat on the outskirts of Newquay town centre, with open-plan kitchen and living room.

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