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Captivating Cornwall – the perfect family getaway

NEED TO KNOW

A yurt at The Park Mawgan Porth costs from £550 for three nights outside of peak periods (Easter, summer holidays and half terms). Visit mawganporth.co.uk.

school. Pretty Padstow, with its four Rick Stein restaurants, is eight miles away; his battered fish cooked in beef dripping is legendary. Drive an hour south for St Ives with its Tate

Gallery and beautiful harbour, or north to windswept Tintagel Castle, built in 1233 on a cliff top and reputedly the birthplace of King Arthur.

STAY: Set just a few hundred metres back from the surf, the yurts at The Park Mawgan Porth sleep up to four people, and offer the perfect family holiday adventure. Forget about roughing it – the solid floors, wood burners, four-poster beds, vintage eiderdowns and TVs all mean you'll feel as pampered as if you were in a luxe hotel. Yet you'll still have the full sleeping-outside experience, waking up to the sound of birds chirping in the trees. There's also a hot tub for late-night stargazing.

3 Family fun IN MAWGAN PORTH, CORNWALL

For a truly English family beach holiday, Cornwall's north coast can't be beaten. Mile upon mile of sandy beaches, picturesque villages and clotted-cream ice cream on every corner, this is the British seaside of childhood dreams. Nestled below dramatic cliffs is

Mawgan Porth, a wide, sandy beach that has a glorious, cut-off-from-the-real-world feeling, though it's a mere five miles from bustling Newquay with its buzzing nightlife. It has sheltered spots to poke about in rock pools, plus more grown-up pursuits such as body-boarding and a surf

4 Exotic elegance IN MARRAKECH

With its souks, sunsets and snake-charmers, Marrakech offers a tantalisingly different experience to most city breaks. The sights can be soaked up in just a few days – especially if you stay in the Medina (old walled town) with its alleyways leading to royal palaces, tombs and the famous Koutoubia Mosque. The newer part of the city (Ville Nouvelle) has a more

Western feel, with cocktail

bars and the beautiful Majorelle Garden, renovated by Yves Saint Laurent. Don't leave without visiting the Medina's main square, Djemaa El Fna, at dusk, when acrobats and fire-eaters entertain to a backdrop of bustling market stalls. Chez Chegrouni restaurant on Djemaa El Fna is the best spot to watch a magical sunset. Book a 'Summer Stopover' spa day at La Mamounia hotel and spend the day enjoying the award-winning treatments, with lunch and afternoon tea included (£91 per person; mamounia.com).

STAY: Once a 17th-century merchant's house, Dar Les Cigognes is a tranquil paradise. Most of the 11 sultan-esque bedrooms face onto a beautiful courtyard. Lounging spots offer the perfect places to sip mint tea, and there's also a hammam and spa to help you unwind, before dinner under the stars on the rooftop terrace. ●

NEED TO KNOW

Dar Les Cigognes costs from £150 per night, based on two sharing. Visit lescigognes.com. Flights to Marrakech cost from £37 one way with EasyJet; easyjet.com. Flight time: three and a half hours.

From top: Intoxicating Djemaa El Fna in Marrakech; shop for traditional ceramics at the souk



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