

# WOOLLY JUMPER & WELLY WEEKENDS

Fancy a few days in the country holed up in a cool but cosy boutique hotel with fab food and chic bathrooms? Take your pick from our 20 stylish British B&Bs



The Wild Rabbit restaurant and bar, right, and above, the Rabbit Room

## DREAMCATCHERS, ST MAWES

The only problem with the Great British seaside is the weather. But off-season it doesn't matter one jot. Hunkering down in a fabulous self-catering house, only venturing out to the pub or for the odd bracing beach walk, is one of the best things about winter. Dreamcatchers is an idyllic and beautiful house in the Cornish village of St Mawes on the Roseland Peninsula. The house has all the luxury and amenities of a five-star hotel and all the wow factor too; when you first open the door you come across the most gorgeous living space with a panoramic view of St Mawes Harbour. Have your groceries delivered and stored away in cupboards before you get there (the local bakery produces fresh scones daily;

combine with clotted cream and jam from the deli for a Cornish cream tea). Eat out at The Idle Rock Hotel ([idlerocks.com](http://idlerocks.com)) or book a water taxi to Pandora Inn ([pandorainn.com](http://pandorainn.com)) on the waterfront at neighbouring Restronguet Creek, which does great fish and chips. There are loads of great quiet coastal walks from St Mawes around the Roseland Peninsula. End your day with coffee, lunch or afternoon tea at the Nare hotel ([narehotel.co.uk](http://narehotel.co.uk)).

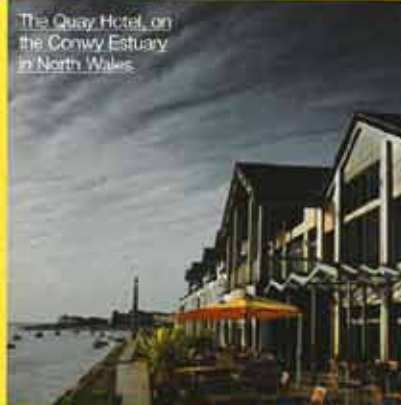
*Dreamcatchers is part of St Mawes Retreats, self-catering holiday houses with sea views sleeping two to 12 guests. A chef, boat charter, art teacher, outdoor activities, spa treatments and childcare can be arranged on request. Dreamcatchers sleeps eight and offers breaks from £750 for up to four people and £895 for up to eight ([stmawesretreats.co.uk](http://stmawesretreats.co.uk))*



From top: spectacular St Mawes; Caerhays Castle at St Austell

## 5 THE CORNWALL, ST AUSTELL

The fabulously luxurious Clearing Spa at the four-star Cornwall Spa & Estate is just perfect for when it's blowing a gale and you can't face venturing out. Located in converted 19th-century stables, it offers a range of treatments, from waxing to facial mapping. There are two daily adults-only swim sessions, and the impressive infinity pool has retractable glass doors that open out on to a secret walled garden. If you do manage to drag yourself away from the spa, try The School House Restaurant ([theschoolhouserestaurant.co.uk](http://theschoolhouserestaurant.co.uk)) in nearby Pentewan: the seafood stew or cheese soufflé are heaven on a plate! When you book, ask for a room at the front of the White House manor – they've got the best views of the parkland beyond, which is great for a Sunday stroll. From £99 per room per night B&B ([thecornwall.com](http://thecornwall.com); 01726 874050)



**13. The Quay Hotel, Conwy** Set on the idyllic Conwy Estuary, the hotel has scenic views of North Wales and is located within easy reach of both medieval Conwy and Victorian Llandudno. Meticulous design throughout and a great spa and pool. Room only from £95 for double occupancy ([quayhotel.co.uk](http://quayhotel.co.uk)). **14. The White Hart, Somerset** In pretty Somerton, this 16th-century inn has had a 21st-century makeover. Some rooms have claw-foot bathtubs, all have super-comfortable beds. Rooms from £85 per night based on two sharing ([i-escape.com/the-white-hart-somerton/overview](http://i-escape.com/the-white-hart-somerton/overview)). **15. Cannizaro House, London** In Wimbledon, this is perfect for a chic city break with a bit of countryside thrown in. Its Orangerie restaurant is streamlined elegance with green glass-tiled flooring and a high glass ceiling. Rooms from £240 per night double occupancy ([cannizarohouse.com](http://cannizarohouse.com)). **16. The Grove, Pembrokeshire** Nestling in the the beautiful Welsh countryside, the Grove is a class act with a great restaurant and stylish rooms – the perfect spot for a romantic weekend. Doubles from £180 including Welsh breakfast ([thegrove-narberth.co.uk](http://thegrove-narberth.co.uk)). **17. The G! Boutique Hotel, Portsmouth** This quirky hotel at Southsea has a stunning guest lounge and funky cellar bar. Prices from £80 per room per night for two sharing ([g-boutiquehotel.co.uk](http://g-boutiquehotel.co.uk)). **18. The Printworks, Hastings** This is a cool bolthole you'll want to return to again and again. All rooms have satellite TV and free fast broadband. From £80, room only ([theprintworkshastings.com](http://theprintworkshastings.com)). **19. The Hoste, Norfolk** This chic hotel in Burnham Market, spread over six properties, including the original coaching inn, a Georgian boutique house and converted railway carriage, provides a great escape, with individually styled rooms and suites, all with beautiful bathrooms, plasma TVs, pure Egyptian cotton sheets and Arran Aromatics toiletries. From £65 per person per room based on two people sharing ([thehoste.com](http://thehoste.com)). **20. Seaham Hall, Northumberland** Built in 1791 on the north-east heritage coast, Seaham Hall has just had a refit, and is now sleek and utterly gorgeous. A two-night stay costs from £590 per suite/£295 per person (two sharing) with breakfast and use of the spa facilities ([prideofbritainhotels.com](http://prideofbritainhotels.com)).