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FIVE OF THE BEST ROMANTIC HOTELS IN CORNWALL BY THE SEA

By Ben Cooper

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With cold weather apparently just around the corner courtesy of a Siberian freeze, here's our pick of the best romantic hotels in Cornwall by the sea for a wintry weekend away...

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The Luggier, Portloe

A cluster of whitewashed buildings huddled together in the tiny harbour of Portloe, if you were to paint a picture of the archetypal hotel in Cornwall by the sea, it'd look something like The Luggier. On the facilities front its romance credentials are impeccable, too: the rooms are gorgeous, there's a tiny spa, an excellent restaurant, and a bar where, to hole up in and listen to the wind whistle in from the Atlantic on wild, wintry nights, counts as one of the most atmospheric hotel experiences anywhere.

[Read our full review of The Luggier](#)

The Llawnroc, Gorran Haven

Over in the lovely little village of Gorran Haven is The Llawnroc, one of the newest and boldest additions to the Cornwall boutique hotel scene. In contrast to the typical Cornish seaside surroundings, the interiors are a model of sleek, urban, boutique chic. The modern look might not be to everyone's taste, but the luxe-y facilities and, especially, the food in the fine dining restaurant almost certainly will be.

[Read our full review of The Llawnroc](#)

Driftwood, Rosevine

Contrary to the images the name conjures up – with its hints of beachside flotsam and jetsam and perhaps even a faintly hippie vibe – Driftwood is smart. Very smart, in fact. Yes, there's the odd sculpture of sea-smoothed sticks, but the rooms are simple but stylish, there are L'Occitane smellies in the bathroom and the [restaurant](#) has recently been awarded a Michelin star. If that's not enough, stretching away from the hotel's cliff top location, the Roseland peninsula is a series of one jaw-dropping view after another – the perfect setting for windswept walks by the sea with the other half.

[Read our full review of Driftwood](#)

The Old Quay House, Fowey

The Old Quay House boasts a handful of coastal cool rooms, a fabulous quayside location and a top-class bistro-style restaurant. Better still for anyone looking for a romantic Cornish weekend away by the sea, there are no small children allowed. Wearily settling in for a meal of Fowey Estuary mussels, Cornish lemon sole and chocolate brownies after a day's being battered and blown about on the South West Coastal Path is absolutely heavenly...

Read our full [review of The Old Quay House](#)

Westcroft Guesthouse, Kingsand

In some ways, Westcroft Guesthouse should have been the first name down on this list of Cornish hotels by the sea. Because, at just a hop, skip and a jump away from Plymouth, it's one of the easiest to get to in a notoriously inaccessible part of the country. Not only that, but the 15-minute Cremyll ferry crossing provides a wonderfully romantic start to the weekend.

A slender Kingsand townhouse, it's more stylish little boutique B&B than hotel: the rooms are a lovely mix of Toile de Jouy patterns on the walls, four-posters and wooden floors, while the very special Clocktower Suite has a [bath with a view](#) up amongst the skylights. It even has its own gallery should you fancy picking something up to take home with you.

Read our full [review of Westcroft Guesthouse](#)

Like our pick of the best romantic hotels in Cornwall by the sea? For more wintry weekend away ideas, check out our selection of the [best inns in the UK](#). Or see our full collection of [places to stay](#).

THE LUGGER

Cornwall, TR2 5RD, United Kingdom

★ ★ ★

From £90

By The ELLE Team

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A coastal-cool hideaway in the tiny Cornish fishing village of Portloe...

Hidden away in the picturesque fishing village of Portloe, between the towering cliffs of the Roseland peninsula and the endless Atlantic Ocean, it's hard to imagine a more atmospheric setting for a hotel than **The Lugger's**. A 17th-century, white-washed building, while it's rich with history and tales of brandy smuggling, in spite of this dark past it's now home to a very chic boutique bolthole.

Set in three separate buildings spread across the tiny harbour, the 22 bedrooms are as chic as they are cosy - with a soothing, muted colour palette on the walls, bleached Portuguese wood flooring, seagrass furniture, deep baths and deluge showers. The crowning feature, however, is the over-sized beds swathed in crisp white Italian linen. If that's not enough, once you've sunk in, the sound of the rolling waves outside the window will be sure to lull you to sleep.

The calming white interiors continue downstairs to the restaurant, where terracotta floor tiles and oak-beamed ceilings mix with impressive views of the tiny harbour below to very pleasing effect. Being as near as it is to the sea (you can see the nets and lobster pots outside) means, of course, that the freshest of fish is brought straight from the boats up to the kitchens. The small bar is located in the restaurant: in winter you can cosy up with an aperitif in the homely library, while come summer, you can head to the sun-drenched terraces outside.

The really special part about a stay at The Luggier, though, is its has-to-be-seen-to-be-believed idyllic location. From the bobbing boats in the harbour to the village filled with tiny slate-roofed fisherman's houses sheltering from the waves rolling in from the Atlantic, it's a picture postcard scene and the perfect place for blustery autumn walks or just a little R&R by the sea.

What's hot?

- The gorgeous location
- The enormous beds
- The fresh fish dishes
- The sea views from the bedrooms

What's not?

- The rural location can mean it's impossibly hard to find – leave some extra time for getting lost...

Need to Know: The Luggier

Number of rooms: 22

Check-in/check-out times: 2pm and 11am

Room service: Yes, although there is a £5 charge

Swimming pool: No

Spa: Yes, a wide variety of treatments are on offer in the Seboni spa

Dogs welcome: Yes

Eating and drinking: Food is pretty high on the agenda at The Luggier. Didier Bienaime heads up the team, applying a modern British-cum-European slant to the freshest of fresh fish dishes, as well as a particularly tasty rump of Cornish lamb or two, for non fish-eaters. The bar is small, but with its spectacular sea views makes for the perfect spot for a sundowner or two.

Near to? You'll be ideally placed for coastal walks in Portloe, as it's one of Cornwall's 'Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty'. The Eden Project is a short drive away, as are the Lost Gardens of Heligan. If proper local Cornish pubs are what you're after, then The Ship Inn is well worth a visit.

Getting there: It's just a short drive from Newquay airport, which has regular flights to Gatwick, Glasgow and Manchester. The closest main train station is at Truro (which is 13 miles away) and has a regular service to London Paddington. Driving-wise, Portloe is around a 30-minute drive from Exeter, and it's located off junction 31 of the M1.