An aerial photograph of a beach scene. A long wooden pier extends from the left side into the turquoise water. Several colorful rowing boats are beached along the pier. To the right, a sandy beach is populated with people, more boats, and a few parked cars. The water is clear, showing some seaweed and rocks near the shore.

VISIT
ISLES
OF
Scilly

2026 Press Pack

FEATURE STORY IDEAS AND TOPLINE INFORMATION

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The Isles of Scilly;

an enchanting and unique archipelago scattered like treasure in the Atlantic Ocean, just 28 miles off Land's End, the rugged peninsula of Cornwall.



“One of the most magical coastal spots in the UK if not, dare I say it, the world”

Coast Magazine

This isolated and low-lying cluster of 140 wild little islands are an idyllic, mythical myriad of contrasts. Bestowed with warm sunshine and cloudless blue skies in Summer, yet battered by ferocious storms in winter; surrounded by the calmest of crystal-clear azure waters, yet pounded by raging seas... Scilly encapsulates the purest of elemental living.

There are five inhabited islands, the largest just 2.5 square miles and scores of tiny, uninhabited rocks and islets, creating a densely concentrated but sparsely populated

ocean community. Home to just 2,200 residents, dependent on the land, sea and each other, the principles of community are threaded through daily life creating resilience, adaptability and innovation.

For visitors, Scilly is like nowhere else in England. Its natural beauty is apparent before you step foot on the land. From the air, gliding along at 1000ft, as if by magic the sand-fringed atolls appear beneath you; or from aboard the Scillonian ferry as you sail gently between them; for first time visitors, the experience is unforgettable.



Image - Mike Wright

With its scenic landscapes, footprint-less expanses of snow-white sand beaches, Scilly offers everything you need for exploration, discovery and adventure... or total relaxation. This island escape grants visitors the ultimate freedom to roam; uncrowded and entirely unspoilt.

Getting your bearings...

“Journey from the British mainland to the Isles of Scilly, a tiny archipelago 28 miles off the coast of Cornwall, and you feel as though you’re arriving in another world”

BBC Countryfile



St. Mary's

Arriving by ferry or flight will bring you to St. Mary's, the largest of the five inhabited islands, yet little more than 9 miles in circumference. St. Mary's is the hub of the archipelago, the only island with a town; Hugh Town and where the daily day-tripper boats depart from each morning. Hugh Town is a compact cluster of shops, cafés, galleries, a post office, restaurants and pubs, and has three beaches in close proximity: Porthcressa, a quiet, sheltered bay with a

long flat esplanade; Town Beach, a perfect spot to watch the comings and go-ings on the Quay; and Porthmellon, home to the iconic gig sheds. The coastline features large stretches of deserted white sandy beaches, dramatic rocky coves, stunning seascapes, amazing archaeological sites, beautiful walks and scenery along miles of coastal and country paths and nature trails. With horse-riding, bike hire, a vineyard, gin distillery and a plethora of artist open studios, there's plenty to do... if you so choose.



Image © Tresco



Tresco

There really is nowhere quite like Tresco. Under the stewardship of the Dorrien-Smith family for nearly two centuries, the family-run island is an escape from the rush of modern life - where families come together, couples retreat and where there is time to be.

Arguably the most sophisticated isle, this horticultural paradise with romantic Castle ruins, encapsulates laid back indulgence. Small but perfectly formed, Tresco blends clear azure waters, with white sand beaches and rolling fields juxtaposed by soaring granite cliffs, mesmerising moorland, and dramatic rocky outcrops. With its unique temperate climate, Tresco's home to the

world-famous Abbey Garden, a year-round visual explosion where sub-tropical plants from across the globe thrive and colour, unseen elsewhere in the UK, blooms early.

At the heart of the island is The New Inn, a pub with rooms fresh from refurbishment, alongside a selection of exceptional self-catered properties from beachfront abodes, to characterful traditional hideaways, and contemporary larger properties for special occasions and group gatherings. Days on Tresco are made to be savoured. Sample the finest local produce from the deli, soak away stresses in the award-winning spa, peruse the island's Art Gallery and tuck into delicious seasonal dishes at The Ruin Beach Café. Or simply watch the wildlife, gaze onto the horizon and soak-up island life.

St. Martin's

Widely regarded as the epitome of a deserted tropical island, St. Martin's boasts some of the best beaches in Britain... if not the world. Endless stretches of powder-fine sand strewn with cowrie shells, sweeping bays of shimmering blue and Chapel Down carpeted in heather, wildflowers and coconuty gorse, atop which sits the iconic red & white Daymark. Erected in 1683, the St. Martin's Daymark is the first visual indicator you've reached Scilly, as you cross from the mainland. Aside from its abundant aesthetic qualities, St. Martin's is also home to a luxury boutique hotel perched right on the water's edge, a

community-led Observatory to enjoy some of the UK's darkest skies and a flower farm, giving insight into Scilly's agricultural heritage and second largest economy; the delicate narcissi. Food and drink options are plentiful on St. Martin's with the Seven Stones Inn, a traditional old stone pub packed with charming character, a thriving vineyard using chemical-free, soil-nourishing methods, and a tea room serving delicious cream teas. A hive of creativity to boot, a wander from one end of St. Martin's to the other will show you a jewellery making studio and boutique, a potter and sculptor, an organic skincare brand creating products from nutrient-rich foraged seaweed, and a tiny but highly curated art gallery.



St. Agnes

The wild little gem, the outlier and the most South-westerly point in the United Kingdom... well, second to the legendary Bishop Rock lighthouse nearby.

St. Agnes is just a mile wide and the most unspoilt and untamed of the inhabited isles. This peaceful haven offers giant rocky outcrops on its exposed west coast, alongside paradise beaches within secluded coves. The sand bar between St. Agnes and the neighbouring island of Gugh, offers the chance to explore by braving the sand bar uncovered at low tide. Inland are

quaint cottages and a patchwork of flower fields, whilst a lighthouse stands at the highest point. Head off in search of the circular maze of rounded beach stones; marvel at the stone stacks and cairns that dot Wingletang Down, or comb the beaches for ship-wrecked treasures at Beady Pool. Periglis Beach is a fine spot for a picnic as well as a shell collectors' paradise. It also offers stunning views across to the bird sanctuary that is Annet, the Western Rocks and out to Bishop Rock. And then there's the Old Man of Gugh, who stands 3 metres tall and is believed to be associated with Bronze Age rituals.

Bryher

Compact, fierce yet refined. Bryher, with a population of just 80, epitomizes Scilly and its vibrant juxtapositions. Blustery winds and crashing waves on one side, calm sandy beaches on the other, it is the perfect place to enjoy a taste of untamed Scilly. Bryher's fame extends far beyond Scilly's shores: the luxurious Hell Bay Hotel has won many an award and the little island is also the setting of the film, "When the Whales Came", based on Michael Morpurgo's novel inspired by the island. Whether you're exploring rocky coves, lazing on white sandy beaches or

hiking up one of its small granite hills for some great views, Bryher serves up a wonderful sense of freedom and purity. It is one of the best places to storm watch, experiencing the Atlantic rollers thundering into Hell Bay before settling by the fire and nestling in for the night. The entire island is criss-crossed by tracks and dotted with stalls selling fresh produce including farm eggs, local vegetables, freshly-landed seafood and mouth-watering island fudge. With a fishing heritage and boat-building traditions apparent at every turn, Bryher is a wonderful place to hire a little boat of your own and explore nearby Tresco or uninhabited Samson.

An abundance of things to do...

Island-hopping

The translucent turquoise waters that surround the islands are a daily part of Scilly life and no matter which isle you choose to stay on, with each only 15-25 minutes apart, it's easy to explore a different one every day. Join the hustle and bustle of St. Mary's harbour every morning, as the colourful day-tripper boats line the quay, the blackboard chalked up with daily departure times and seasoned skippers and deckhands ready their vessels. With a map in your pocket, jumping on and off the boats with cheery and knowledgeable boatman, explore Scilly's authentic charm and discover each island's individual character.

"Soft, white, powdery beaches, clear turquoise waters, exotic gardens, vineyards, art studios and honesty boxes; this is Britain but not as you know it"

the Telegraph

Snorkel with seals

One of the most enduringly popular activities to do. Scilly is vital for Atlantic grey seals, there are an estimated 700 that live on the islands with more coming to shelter in the winter months. Seal Snorkelling Adventures has been running trips for over 25 years, taking just 10 lucky visitors

each time to the Eastern isles. Pop on a wetsuit and pair of fins, dip below the water and witness these magical, graceful creatures interact and nibble your flippers!



Get out on the water

With a watersports centre on all five inhabited islands, plus multiple boat hire and charters, it's incredibly easy to dive into an ocean-going adventure! For exploration under your own steam, hire a small boat, kayak or paddleboard and navigate the isles at your own pace. Many eateries will make up picnics ready for a day on the water, pack your sunscreen and towels and set off, anchoring up off one of the many secluded beaches or pulling your kayak up onto the untouched sands of an uninhabited isle... which you'll likely have all to yourself.



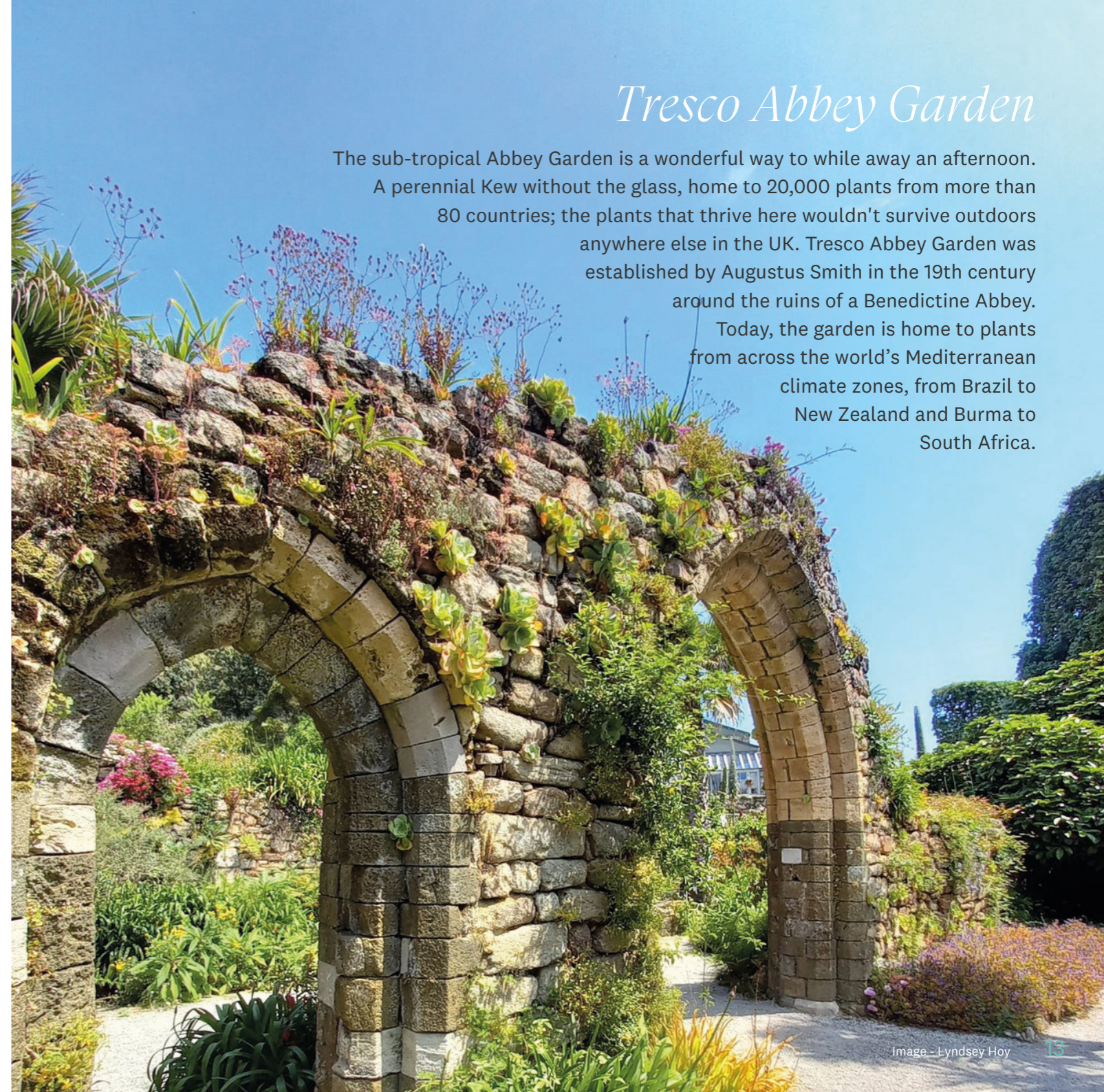
Island Dark Skies

Benefiting from the 28 mile stretch of water separating the islands with the land, Scilly has zero evening light pollution, meaning incredibly clear skies; coupled with uninterrupted views of the horizon, making Scilly one of the best places in the UK for stargazing. The community-funded observatory on St. Martin's offers visitors the chance to see the planets close-up and learn more about the galaxy above.



Tresco Abbey Garden

The sub-tropical Abbey Garden is a wonderful way to while away an afternoon. A perennial Kew without the glass, home to 20,000 plants from more than 80 countries; the plants that thrive here wouldn't survive outdoors anywhere else in the UK. Tresco Abbey Garden was established by Augustus Smith in the 19th century around the ruins of a Benedictine Abbey. Today, the garden is home to plants from across the world's Mediterranean climate zones, from Brazil to New Zealand and Burma to South Africa.



A remarkable haven for rare seabirds

Make 2026 the year you come to Scilly to experience some of the best Wildlife in the UK.

The islands are a well-established and much-loved destination for wildlife lovers and birders in particular, with regular sightings of the nesting Kittiwakes, hundreds of auks including the charismatic Puffin and the return of nesting Manx Shearwaters, following the success of the Seabird Recovery Project. Spring and autumn are outstanding times to admire an influx of birds, including some incredibly rare species. The last few years have shone a spotlight on Scilly for its various 'visitors'; in 2020 a handful of Fea's Petrels, a few Scopoli's Shearwater and a Zino's Petrel - and other recent highlights included a Belted Kingfisher, an Egyptian Vulture and a Blackburnian Warbler.



Image - Julie Munday

Several rare species made Scilly home this year including both a Parula Warbler and at least two Bobolink, however one which made National headlines, was the incredibly rare Red-footed Booby. Whilst this bird was not a first for the UK, it was however the first to not immediately require medical assistance from its strenuous travels. Far from a one-hit-wonder, the bird returned and made the iconic Bishop Rock lighthouse its resting place for a further few weeks, prompting over 140 bird-watchers to travel to the islands in just one day. A fortnight later, an equally rare Brown Booby was also found on the lighthouse, a truly unique wildlife experience.

July 2023 however, was the beginning of an extraordinary season for rare and vagrant species, as recorded and experienced with local business 'Scilly Pelagics'. Lead by international bird expert Bob Flood and skippered by Joe Pender aboard the MV Sapphire, Scilly Pelagics have operated trips out of St. Mary's since 2000 and has subsequently focused on seabird photography and a shark tagging research program. A flurry of sightings in July included; 68 Wilson's Storm Petrel's, 380 European Storm Petrels, 1,810 Great and 217 Sooty Shearwaters, two Long-tailed and four Arctic Skuas, 5,400 Cory's, five Scopoli's, three Sabine's Gulls and incredibly a South Polar Skua.



Maritime Heritage; shipwrecks, lighthouses and tales from the deep...



The Island's rich maritime heritage is woven into the very fabric of the landscape. These are true islands of legend; From shipwrecks to treasure, from Bronze Age burial chambers to deserted Iron Age villages, the history of Scilly is utterly compelling. Scilly's tiny land mass is home to 239 scheduled monuments, meaning there is a greater density of historical sites here than anywhere else in the British Isles. Maritime heritage on Scilly is perhaps some of the most in-depth and rich in the entire British Isles, delve into the vast history, from the part this archipelago played in World Wars, to its significant number of shipwrecks and subsequent lighthouse heritage.



Scilly has the ominous claim of having one of the highest concentrations of shipwrecks anywhere in the world – about 900 in total. A solemn reminder of these treacherous waters is the imposing, magnificent Bishop Rock lighthouse. Four miles west of the islands standing nearly 50 metres tall, it was built in 1858 to mark a rock ledge 45 metres long and 16 metres wide – the islands' most westerly danger. Of the hundreds of Scilly shipping disasters, by far the most devastating and famous of all was in 1707 with the loss of four Royal Navy warships; HMS Association, HMS Eagle, HMS Firebrand and HMS Romney, where 2,000 lives perished.

Tales told via the shipwrecks around the islands, of early steamships and merchants vessels, can be

learnt through the Valhalla Collection in Treco Abbey Garden. Some 30 figure-heads, name boards and other decorative ships carvings are displayed here and represent the final century in a tradition dating back over 3,000 years, with most of the figureheads dating from the middle and end of the 19th century.



*New for
2026/7*



*Celebration of the new
Isles of Scilly Museum
and Cultural Centre
in 2027*

The new Isles of Scilly Museum and Cultural Centre, currently under construction in the historic Town Hall on St Mary's, will become a vibrant new home for the islands' museum collections, archives and cultural life. When complete, it will feature museum galleries exploring island life, maritime heritage, nature and community stories, and will also offer flexible spaces for performances, exhibitions and events.



While the building itself remains a construction site throughout 2026, the museum team is bringing the spirit of the project to life across the islands. A lively programme of pop-up exhibitions, events and creative activities will take place in locations dotted across all five inhabited islands, sharing stories, objects and voices from Scilly's past and present. Visitors can also enjoy a series of visiting theatre, dance and music performances, bringing new cultural experiences to island audiences.

These events offer islanders and visitors alike a glimpse of the creativity, heritage and community spirit that will define the new museum when it opens.

→ iosmuseumandculturalcentre.org

Introducing Scillonian IV



The next chapter for Isles of Scilly Travel

In March 2027, Isles of Scilly Travel will be introducing Scillonian IV to its fleet, the next generation of passenger ferry connecting Cornwall with the Isles of Scilly.

Purpose-built to serve this unique route, this state-of-the-art ferry represents a major investment in the future of island travel.

Designed with passenger comfort at its heart, Scillonian IV will offer improved seating, modern facilities and enhanced stability to ensure a smoother journey. Sustainability has

also been carefully considered in the design, with more efficient engines and systems that reduce environmental impact while supporting the long-term future of the service.

Scillonian IV marks an exciting new chapter for sea travel to the Isles of Scilly – combining heritage with innovation and continuing the proud tradition of the iconic Scillonian service passengers know and love.

→ islesofscilly-travel.co.uk



Scilly60 Events

Scilly60 is the Isles of Scilly's flagship multi-island trail challenge, inviting runners to explore all five inhabited islands in one unforgettable event. Winding along coastal paths, across sandy beaches and through wild island landscapes, the route showcases the archipelago's natural beauty at every turn. With a welcoming community spirit and breathtaking sea views throughout, Scilly60 is as much about the journey as the challenge, offering participants a truly unique way to experience the rhythm and scenery of island life.

→ scilly60.co.uk

SCILLY110 16TH JUNE

The pinnacle of Scilly60 Events – an exclusive 110km ultra marathon reserved for Scilly60 finishers or very experienced endurance runners. This is the ultimate test of strength, resilience, pacing and island-running mastery.

555! 4TH - 8TH OCTOBER

Whether you're chasing your first 10k, an epic half marathon, a walk-through island paradise, or the five most south-western marathons in the UK, 555! is your next adventure. From walking a

single island loop at your own pace, to run-walking your first 10k, building up to your first half marathon, or tackling a marathon every day, this event truly has something for everyone.

THE TIDE RACE 14TH AUGUST

Returns in 2026, one of the UK's most unique 10km running events. Starting on Tresco, runners cross the sandbar to Bryher, complete a loop, and return – all before the tide returns. With a strict two-hour limit, anyone finishing the Bryher loop with less than 15 minutes remaining cannot attempt the return crossing.

VISIT ISLES OF Scilly

New additions...

Parting Carn Farm

Parting Carn Farm offers luxury, dog-friendly self-catering pods on a working farm, surrounded by countryside. Guests enjoy private gardens, Cotswold-crafted pods, generous local welcome packs, and the option of Upper Sty's private Scandinavian wood-fired hot tub.



Bryony's Sauna

Adventure Scilly offers outdoor wellbeing and adventure experiences including guided sea swims, trail running, yoga, meditation walks, and a wood-fired seaside sauna, helping visitors connect with the islands' spectacular coastline, wildlife, and restorative natural environment.



The Bishop & Wolf

The Bishop and Wolf is a historic 18th-century pub in Hugh Town, featuring photogenic maritime décor, a striking granite façade, hearty meals, real ales, and a scenic raised seating area—perfect for capturing the essence of the Isles of Scilly.



The Grub Hut

Following the success of Dibble & Grub on Porthcressa Beach, The Grub Hut is their new takeaway, serving freshly prepared Moroccan-inspired pitta breads and hearty salad boxes with falafel or spiced lamb.



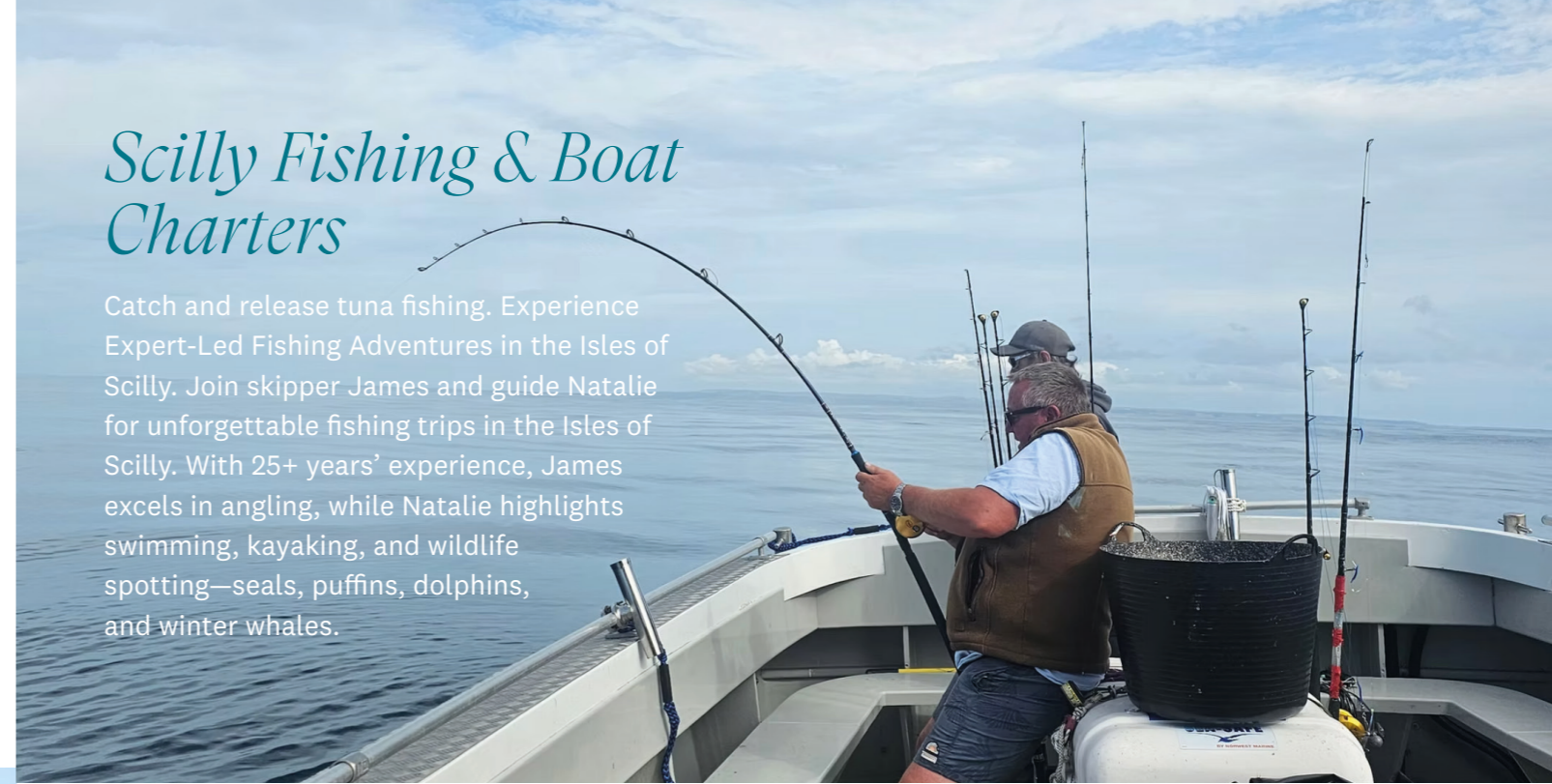
The Atlantic

Atlantic Hotel is a waterside gem in Hugh Town, St Mary's, offering stunning harbour views, stylish rooms, fresh seasonal dining, a relaxed pub atmosphere, and a prime base for exploring the Isles of Scilly.



Scilly Fishing & Boat Charters

Catch and release tuna fishing. Experience Expert-Led Fishing Adventures in the Isles of Scilly. Join skipper James and guide Natalie for unforgettable fishing trips in the Isles of Scilly. With 25+ years' experience, James excels in angling, while Natalie highlights swimming, kayaking, and wildlife spotting—seals, puffins, dolphins, and winter whales.



Trenoweth Flowers

Continues the Isles of Scilly's century-old flower farming tradition, thriving in its mild climate. Established by Bert and Ruth Whittaker in 1981, it builds on the islands' legacy as Britain's early winter flower supplier.



Kayak Scilly

Kayak Scilly offers day and half-day guided tours around the Isles of Scilly, including seal colonies, St. Martin's beach landings, Treco's northern rocks, and uninhabited islands, led by qualified, insured instructors with all equipment provided—perfect for families, groups, and nature enthusiasts.



Food, drink and island produce

In terms of provenance of produce and 'food miles', Scilly is hard to beat. These islands boast an array of award-winning producers and foodie entrepreneurs. From fisherman to fudge-makers, bee-keepers to bread-bakers... vineyards, distilleries, honesty stalls and an abundance of eateries and drinking holes dot the islands at every turn.



SC Dogs

On the island of St Martin's, a walk past the fields at Carron Farm may reveal an unexpected crop: sugarcane. Cultivated by island farmer Andrew Walder, the plants form part of an ambitious experiment to create Britain's first field-to-bottle rum. The venture, called SC Dogs – a nod to Scilly's fishing boat prefix and Andrew's seafaring past – already produces rum in a small distillery housed in the farm's former flower packing sheds.

Using Caribbean sugarcane molasses blended with pure island water and yeast, Andrew ferments and distils the spirit in traditional

pot stills. From this base he crafts a range of rums, including a crisp white rum, a golden rum enriched with molasses, and a barrel-aged rum matured in American oak. One of the most distinctive creations is a honey-spiced rum made with honey from Tresco, whose complex flavour comes from bees foraging among the exotic plants of Tresco Abbey Garden.

Andrew's path to distilling began during his years in the merchant navy, when a visit to a small Scottish whisky distillery sparked his fascination with the craft. After years of research, licensing and recipe development, he produced his first rum in 2019.

Today the distillery has helped diversify the family farm and celebrates collaboration with other island producers—while Andrew continues nurturing his experimental sugarcane crop for the future.





Island vineyards

It would be unusual for such a tiny land mass to have one vineyard... let alone two, yet both St. Martin's and St. Mary's have thriving vines. Couple James and Holly purchased St. Martin's vineyard in 2020 and have developed the site which is just over a hectare, now growing varieties including Orion, Seyval Blanc, Rondo, Pinot Meunier and Chardonnay. Meanwhile over on St. Mary's, Robert Francis owner of Holyvale Vineyard (and co-owner of Star Castle Hotel) with the help and guidance of the one of the world's foremost wine producers, Willi Opitz, planted 7,000 Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Pinot Gris vines across

seven acres of beautiful land on the island of St Mary's. It is thought to be one of, if not the only vineyard producing Pinot Gris in the UK.



Plough to Plate

Before 'Farm to Fork' became a buzz phrase, Scillonian farmers were quietly going about their business, guardians of the land they work, supplying islanders with fresh fruit and vegetables, ethically reared livestock and dairy produce.

On St. Mary's, Kylie and Dave who live on Salakee Farm embody 'the good life'. Free-range children help collect eggs from the equally free-range hens, the handful of milking cows - who remain with their calves - graze daily on new grass and the market garden nurtures produce so fresh, you want to sink your hands into the soil and pull it up yourself.

Thought to be the UK's smallest dairy farm, Troytown Farm on St. Agnes produce some of the smoothest, creamiest ice cream and milk you could hope to taste. Certainly the most south-westerly dairy in the British isles, Troytown Farm also run a campsite, making it a piece of cake (with clotted cream) to try a different flavour every day.

What's On in 2026

Every year, the Visit Isles of Scilly team programme and manage a calendar of events to celebrate and champion the very best of what the islands have to offer, exploring core themes and traditions of island life.

APRIL 10TH - 19TH

WALK SCILLY

The season opener, this 10-day festival offers the chance to explore the islands on foot with a series of guided walks and talks. Take a stroll through Tresco Abbey Garden, spot wildlife on Bryher or learn about the iron age village on St. Mary's... or relax with a G&T and listen to a talk by one of our guest speakers.



MAY 1ST - 3RD

THE WORLD GIG CHAMPIONSHIPS

Almost as famous as the islands themselves, the World Gig Championships champion the long and celebrated Pilot gig boats and the gig-rowing races is the busiest event in the whole year.



MAY 16TH - 26TH

CREATIVE SCILLY

A jam-packed, fun-filled, inspiring and intriguing celebration of culture and the arts, Creative Scilly is a lively festival of art in all its forms; music, literature, performance and workshops from our island makers.



AUGUST 22ND - 30TH

OCEAN SCILLY

Spanning nine days, this vibrant nautical event is a joyful celebration of all things sea-related: from thrilling watersports and fascinating marine life to the rich maritime heritage and everything that happens on, in, or above the water.



Image - Tom Ingram

SEPTEMBER 11TH - 20TH

TASTE OF SCILLY

The 10-day food & drink festival. This flagship Festival offers the best of the islands food and drink with a diverse and tasty programme. With beach feasts, BBQs, private dining, supper safaris visiting multiple islands, tours and tastings, farm walks and speciality cuisine nights... guest chefs will be revealed in Spring!

OCTOBER 4TH - 9TH

DARK SKIES EVENT AT THE ST. MARTIN'S OBSERVATORY

Dark Skies Week will again take place with a brand new programme and guest speakers. Full schedule to be revealed in the Summer.



APRIL 17TH & 11TH SEPTEMBER

TRESCO LOW TIDE EVENT

This pop-up food and drink micro-festival is surely the most unique in the UK. Timed to the minute when the tide is low enough for the sand bar between Tresco and Bryher to be accessible, tables and chairs, a gin bar and food stalls are set up to delighted visitors walking across the wet sand. Even the Pender family's fishing boat sits beached on the sand, the perfect place from which to serve home-made paella from crab shells, before the tide sneaks in and she sails away.



The world's most unique food and drink festival..

Travel to the Islands...

Your experience starts with the journey – it's all part of the adventure.

Travel to the islands by air or sea, the choice is yours.

By air with Skybus

Land's End / Newquay / Exeter

Step onboard the 19-seater plane, meet your pilot and watch them work. Skybus is "real flying". The journey takes just 20 minutes from Land's End Airport (all year round), 30 minutes from Newquay and an hour from Exeter (May to October).

You'll experience small and friendly airports, with no long waits at check-in and no passport control. Add in perfectly-timed transfers and it's about as stress-free as air travel gets. That's before the breathtaking aerial views of the Cornish coastline, and the islands coming into view for the first time. It's an experience you'll never forget.



By sea with Scillonian III

Penzance

Travelling onboard Scillonian III is a special experience. Not only are the views of the Cornish coastline incredible, but the opportunities for spotting wildlife are second-to-none. In fact, it's been named the UK's best ferry route for wildlife spotting for the second year in a row. Think whales, dolphins, sharks, fish, seals and birds.

The crossing takes two hours and 45 minutes to sail to the Isles of Scilly from Penzance, passing famous landmarks including St Michael's Mount, the Minack Theatre and Land's End, before the islands come into view.

Sailings leave Penzance up to seven days a week from spring until late autumn. Onboard, enjoy comfy, reclining seats; free WiFi; and snacks and drinks from the café. Dogs are welcome on board too with designated areas for your four-legged friend. Travelling to the ferry departure point is easy. Penzance Quay is just a short walk from the town's train station, with its direct rail services to London Paddington. If you're driving, there is ample car parking nearby.

If you're torn between flying and sailing, you can do both with a Fly+Sail option offering the chance to book a Skybus flight to Scilly with a Scillonian return journey - an especially memorable way of enjoying a day trip to Scilly.

For more information:

→ Islesofscilly-travel.co.uk



"The Ethereal shimmer of the quartz-encrusted sand as you step off the boat in the Isles of Scilly is the stuff of fairytales"

The Independent.co.uk

Getting there with Penzance Helicopters

The helicopter service, operated by Starspeed since November 2022, was launched in 2020 and flies direct from the newly built Penzance Heliport, a quick hop from the train station which offers a seamless connection via GWR, to Paddington in London. Boarding one of three 9-seater Sikorsky S76 helicopters, you'll take off and glide across Mounts' Bay, with stunning bird's-eye-views of Land's End below and just a few minutes later, the islands themselves come into view.

The Helicopter service flies to both Tresco and St. Mary's – taking just 15 minutes, with up to 12 scheduled flights a day in peak season and flying year-round. In addition to flying into St. Mary's airport, Penzance Helicopters also offers the only

direct route to Tresco, taking away the need for any onward transfers, allowing you to relax the moment you set foot on the islands. The service also operates day trips, plus the helicopters now take dogs, so with some of the best beaches in the UK and the abundance of walks across all five inhabited islands, Scilly is a dog-friendly holiday haven.

For more information:

→ Penzancehelicopters.co.uk



“Some moments never leave you, and kayaking through crystal clear waters towards a remote sandbar and lush deserted islands definitely rates as one of the most magical and un-forgettable experiences I’ve had”

Country Home & Interiors magazine

VISIT
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