



Wales

TRAVEL GUIDE

Oliver's Travels
— YOUR GREAT ESCAPE —

While the image of lush valleys and a laid-back lifestyle are right at the heart of a holiday in Wales, don't think stunning landscapes and a bit of relaxation are the only thing on offer in this beautiful country. It has its own culture to explore, its own language to hear and its own landscapes to discover. Things to do vary from buzzing, cosmopolitan cities with lively festivals to breath-taking mountain ranges and the gorgeous coasts, hills and valleys that lie in between.

WALES 101

CURRENCY	POUND	TIME ZONE	GMT
ELECTRICAL	THREE PIN	HIGHEST TEMP.	20° C
LANGUAGE	ENGLISH/WELSH	LOWEST TEMP.	2° C
EMERGENCY	999	PEAK SEASON	MAY-AUG





TRANSPORT TALK



BY WHEELS

If you are happy to drive around convoluted though scenic routes, then driving is the most flexible option for travel within Wales. [RentalCars](#) lists all the available firms.



BY BIKE

Cycling makes a great way to see the scenic parts of the region. With a variety of routes including the Swansea Valley trail to coastal routes. If you're a keen cyclist you'll have so much to choose from!



BY TAXI

Taxis are available in and around towns and cities from taxi ranks or to hail down. They are also available to pre book over the phone from any of their local providers in advance.



BY WATER

There are regular crossings between Wales and Ireland provided by [Irish ferries](#) & [Stena Line](#) sailing in to three ports including Pembroke, Holyhead & Fishguard.



BY AIR

There are direct flights into [Cardiff airport](#) from most UK destinations. Which fly on a regular basis, daily providers include [Flybe](#) and [KLM](#).



BY BUS OR TRAIN

There are main train lines that run across the towns of the north, from Prestatyn to Holyhead, and the south from Chepstow to Pembrokeshire. Buses offer greater flexibility as you travel around Wales.

HIDDEN GEMS

Pistyll Rhaeadr

Pistyll Rhaeadr is the highest waterfall in Wales yet remains something of a secret to the country's visitors.

Anglesey

The island of **Anglesey** encompasses the best of Wales's landscapes, packing in hills, coast and stretches of sandy shore into one compact space.



The Valleys

The **Valleys** capture much of the character and culture of the Welsh. The area is rich with mining history.

Llyn y Fan Fach

Hunt in the hills for the hidden lakes of Wales. **Llyn y Fan Fach** is a scenic point surrounded by flat-topped mountains, which can only be reached by foot.

- ★ Hidden Gems
- ★ Picks for Kids
- ★ Best Activities
- ★ Foodie Delights

TOP PICKS FOR KIDS

Over Mountains



Heading to an adventure playground is always a win-win! If you're looking for a great park [Zip World](#) provides miles of high-octane experiences with their huge zip lines, which you can even enjoy in an underground cavern!



Merge with Nature



With [Welsh Bass Guide](#) you'll head out into the woods with your guide, where you'll learn how early settlers survived while foraging for ingredients to make an authentic meal cooked on an open fire.



Ride a Steam Train



[Ffestiniog & Welsh Highland Railways](#) runs one of the world's oldest narrow gauge railways. Their routes take in the mountains, fields and forests so you get to take in everything the Welsh countryside offers!



Spring Underground



Put trampolines in an old slate mine underground and you have the recipe for loads of fun! [Bounce Below](#) has this and other subterranean delights in its play area, spread across caverns beneath the hills of Wales.



Meet Wild Animals



Kids can get face to face with all sorts of cute creatures while learning about conservation and ecology on a fun day out. [Folly Farm Adventure Park and Zoo](#) home to more than 250 animals for the kids to discover.



Paint Pottery



Children love colouring in and painting. At [Lollipops and Ladybirds](#) they'll be able to create art that lasts a lifetime! It's the perfect chance to spend some quiet time with the family and to get creative with the kids.



MAP IT OUT: WHERE TO FIND THE BEST FOR KIDS





CROWD-PLEASERS: BEST ACTIVITIES

Abseil



Explore with [Snowdonia Adventure Activities](#), they'll take you to the heart of the region's beautiful natural playground. A wide range of fun is on offer, from abseiling and kayaking to mountain biking.



The Top of the World



Head up the impressive Mount Snowdon in the safest way possible with [Climb Snowdon](#), whose expert guides can help you to the top no matter your experience or fitness level!



Visit Ramsey Island



[Voyages of Discovery](#) take you over to Ramsey Island bird sanctuary where you can meet some of Wales' indigenous birds. They've also got a whole load of other adventures on offer to suit everybody.



Watch Wildlife



One great way to unwind is to enjoy some of the wonderful natural wildlife of Wales. [Bay to Remember](#) takes you on the ultimate nature excursion spotting bottlenose dolphins off the coast of Mwnt.



Go Stargazing



If you're looking for something a bit more in-depth, [Good Day Out's](#) stargazing evening doesn't just instruct you on the best way to stargaze, you'll learn about the science and history of this pastime.



Step into an Old Mine



One delightfully quirky and interactive museum is the [Big Pit](#), which delves into the history of coal mining you can even head an impressive 90 metres underground to see what life was really like for a miner!



MAP IT OUT: WHERE TO FIND THE BEST FOR GROUPS





BEST FOODIE DELIGHTS



Cwmcwrwth Farm

At [Cwmcwrwth Farm](#) you'll be able to learn truly rustic skills such as how to make cheese, sausages and even how to raise your own pigs and goats. It's a foodie experience not to be missed!



Tyddyn Llan



Try the Michelin-starred [Tyddyn Llan](#). Their impressive nine course tasting menu is a wonder in itself, though choosing between that and the delicious a la carte offerings is no easy task.



Penderyn Distillery

A Celtic treat you wouldn't normally associate with Wales – whiskey. Enjoy one of [Penderyn Distillery's](#) masterclasses to get to grips with Welsh whiskey, and have a dram afterwards..



The Potted Pig



[The Potted Pig](#) in Cardiff specialises in everything pork! Dig in to some of their porky treats, from glazed ham hock to fried bacon cake. You'll also find some tasty sounding vegetarian options on the menu.



Dishes to Try



Welsh lamb is a real treat, have it in the traditional hearty stew known as **cawl**. For breakfast, why not try something a little out of the ordinary with some **laverbread**, or try some buttermilk known as **crempogs**.

Sosban



Kick back in the wonderfully restored Victorian elegance of [Sosban](#). The ingredients might be Welsh but the flavours are French, the menu also changes on a daily basis..



MAP IT OUT: WHERE TO FIND THE BEST FOR FOODIES





We'd like to think we know travel pretty well. Since we first hatched [Oliver's Travels](#) in 2003 it's been essentially all we've talked about. You could call us obsessed.

Our extensive [blog](#), Oliver's Journal has got tons of information and inspiration on locations across Europe and the Caribbean. It's a one-stop shop for family-friendly holiday fun, the best group activities, foodie finds and a good dose of adventure. If you found this travel guide useful, (we hope you did!), you can find a whole host more on the blog, too!

At Oliver's Travels we don't do ordinary. From [family chateaux in France](#) and [luxury cottages in Wales](#), to Mediterranean [villas with pools](#) and [Caribbean beach villas](#), we have something for everyone, everywhere.



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