



# Falmouth

One of Cornwall's largest towns, shaped by the sea, where creativity flourishes. Traditional crafts and fascinating maritime heritage sit alongside the quirky, original and contemporary. The third largest natural harbor in the world.

Henry VIII built Pendennis Castle to defend the Carrick Roads in 1540, which, together with St Mawes Castle on the east side meant that the estuary entrance was well guarded. Sir John Killigrew created the town of Falmouth shortly after 1613, which received a charter from Charles II in 1661. A new church was consecrated in 1665 and there was soon a cluster of a few hundred homes around the Church of "King Charles the Martyr". In 1805, the news of Britain's victory (and Admiral Nelson's death) at Trafalgar was landed here at the steps of Fishstrand Quay from the schooner H.M.S. Pickle and taken to London by stagecoach. The development of Falmouth Docks began in 1858 with the first ship entering in 1861. The railway reached the town soon after, in 1863.

Falmouth is a very centrally situated base from which to explore Cornwall's south coast from Lands End to St Austell, including the impressive St Michael's Mount and the fascinating Eden Project.



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## In Falmouth

1. [Glendurgan Garden](#)
2. [National Maritime Museum](#)
3. [Pendennis Castle](#)
4. [St Mawes Castle](#)
5. [Trebah Gardens](#)

## Day Excursions

6. [Eden Project](#) 30 miles east
7. [Land's End](#) 37 miles west
8. [Lost Gardens of Heligan](#) 25 miles east
9. [St Michael's Mount](#) 24 miles west
10. [Truro Cathedral](#) 12 miles north

## 1. Glendurgan Grden

A National Trust property, There are three valleys of Glendurgan to lose yourself in - full of fun, informality, natural beauty and amazing plants. Big leaves and exotic flowers thrive in the jungle-like lower valley and sun-loving specimens enjoy the upper banks.



## 3. Pendennis Castle

An English Heritage property. Explore a mighty fortress built by Henry VIII to defend against invasion. Set on a headland with breathtaking views out to sea, this picturesque castle has defended Cornwall since Tudor times .



## 5. Trebah Gardens

Top 100 gardens worldwide. A magical result of 180 years of inspired creation. The natural spring at the top of the garden drops 10ft into the Koi Pool and cascades through drifts of brightly colored water-side plants.



## 7. Land's End

The most westerly point of the England mainland and one of the most popular sites in Cornwall and one of England's great coastal landscapes. Enjoy a magnificent natural setting, great eating places and shopping plus exciting pay-as-you-go family attractions .



## 9. St Michael's Mount

A National Trust property. Linked by a tidal causeway. Rewind to classical times and the island is thought to have been a trading centre for the tin industry. More than two thousand years ago Phoenician ships may have sailed into the Mount's harbour and exported Cornish tin to the rest of Europe.



## 2. National Maritime Museum Cornwall

A place to enrich our understanding of the sea, and Cornwall. Through our exhibitions programme we aspire to bring new and diverse perspectives to maritime issues, and highlight their relevance to the present day. We also bring rare objects from around the world to Cornwall to tell local, national and international stories.



## 4. St Mawes Castle

An English Heritage property. One of the best-preserved of Henry VIII's coastal artillery fortresses, and the most elaborately decorated. Part of a chain of forts built to counter an invasion threat from Catholic France and Spain, St Mawes would have guarded the important anchorage of Carrick Roads alongside Pendennis Castle.



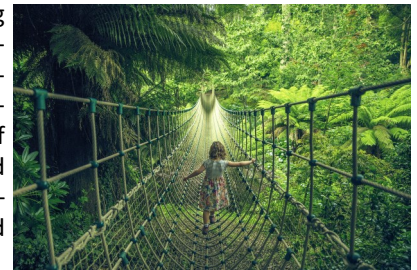
## 6. Eden Project

Massive Biomes housing the largest rainforest in captivity, stunning plants, exhibitions and stories serve as a backdrop to our striking contemporary gardens, summer concerts and exciting year-round family events.



## 8. Lost Gardens of Heligan

Explore Victorian Gardens and Pleasure Grounds along winding paths laid out over two centuries ago. Journey across the forgotten world beneath the historic rhododendron boughs of Sikkim, beside New Zealand Maori-carved tree ferns, to explore our Italian Garden and Alpine inspired Ravine.



## 10. Truro Cathedral

The foundation stone for the first new Cathedral in England since 1220, was laid in 1880 and building completed in 1910. It is seen as a triumph of Gothic Revival Architecture with its spires soaring above the city skyline.

