



The English Riviera is the must-visit place for water adventure this summer!

From the reopening of the UK's largest outdoor waterpark to a range of watersport activities and a historic international sporting debut, the English Riviera - the coastal stretch of Torquay, Paignton, and Brixham - is set for its most exciting summer yet, combining family-friendly attractions with world-class events on one spectacular coastline.

For those wanting a memorable, action-focused staycation, below is a list of the seven best attractions on offer this summer on the English Riviera in South Devon.

1. [Splashdown Quaywest](#) has reopened for summer 2026

The UK's largest outdoor waterpark, Splashdown Quaywest, has officially reopened for the 2026 season. Overlooking Goodrington Sands, a family-friendly sandy beach in Paignton, Splashdown Quaywest has high-adrenaline flumes, twisting tyre rides, a pirate-themed interactive water play zone and more for all ages in the adventure-filled aquaplay arena.

2. [A UK First: SUP World Cup comes to the English Riviera](#) (26 - 28 June 2026)

In a landmark moment for British watersports, the English Riviera will host the UK's first-ever International Canoe Federation (ICF) Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP) World Cup. Around 200 elite athletes from across the globe will descend on the English Riviera's uniquely sheltered turquoise waters to compete across Torquay, Paignton and Brixham, marking a major milestone for the sport in the UK. This is a unique opportunity for the UK to welcome the global SUP community and to enjoy world-class racing,

Running alongside the competition, the SUPERFestival (24 - 28 June) will transform the long sandy shore of Torre Abbey Sand into a vibrant hub of activity, with paddleboarding taster sessions, workshops, live entertainment, and a lively festival village designed to get visitors on the clear water themselves to encourage a lifelong love for paddleboarding.

3. [Fireball World and National Championships](#) (20 - 31 July 2026)

Torquay's renowned sailing waters will host the prestigious Fireball World and National Championships later in the summer, welcoming up to 100 boats and top international competitors. Spectators can enjoy high-performance racing set against the backdrop of the Riviera's bustling harbours and waterfront dining.



4. [A Coast built for the water](#)

Beyond the headline events, the English Riviera offers some of the UK's most high quality and accessible waters for paddleboarding, kayaking and wild swimming. Its sheltered bays, shallow waters and warm microclimate make it ideal for beginners and experienced water sports enthusiasts alike, thanks to the range of independently owned watersports rental services on the coast.

5. [Boat Trips and Ferries](#)

Exploring the English Riviera by boat offers a fresh perspective on its UNESCO Global Geopark coastline. A variety of cruises and ferry services connect Torquay, Paignton and Brixham, and longer trips are available along the beautiful River Dart, revealing historic towns, hidden coves and abundant marine life.

6. [Coasteering](#)

For thrill-seekers, coasteering offers an adrenaline-fuelled way to discover the Riviera's rugged coastline. Guided experiences combine swimming, scrambling, and cliff jumping, taking visitors into sea caves and along dramatic rock formations that are inaccessible by foot, delivering a unique and memorable coastal adventure.

7. [Kayaking and Canoeing](#)

The calm, sheltered waters of the English Riviera are ideal for kayaking and canoeing, with options suited to all abilities. Holidaygoers can enjoy gentle paddles along the shoreline of the excellent waters or guided tours by expert locals exploring secluded beaches and sea caves.

Carolyn Custerson, CEO of the English Riviera BID Company, said: "Summer 2026 is set to be a landmark season for the English Riviera. From the reopening of the UK's largest outdoor waterpark to hosting the UK's first-ever SUP World Cup, we're offering visitors an unbeatable mix of family fun and world-class sport - all set against our stunning UNESCO Global Geopark coastline and world class waters."

For more information about the range of events and activities to enjoy, visit <https://www.englishriviera.co.uk/>

For more information about accommodation offerings across the English Riviera, visit <https://www.englishriviera.co.uk/accommodation>

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**NOTES TO EDITOR:**

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About the English Riviera

The English Riviera Business Improvement District (BID) Company is a collaborative effort between over 1000 local businesses, authorities, and stakeholders dedicated to enhancing the tourism experience and promoting sustainable economic growth for Torbay.

With 22 miles of stunning coastline the English Riviera covers Torquay, Paignton and Brixham. Torquay is the birthplace of Agatha Christie, the world's greatest crime writer, and the resort offers a vast array of culture, history, water activities, spas, festivals, entertainment and food and drink experiences.

As a designated UNESCO Global Geopark, the English Riviera has gained international recognition for its 400 million years of geological heritage and is promoted as one of Earth's Extraordinary Places.' The resort is also an international cruise port.

For more information for consumers visit www.englishriviera.co.uk and for businesses visit www.englishriviera.co.uk/bid.