

English Riviera: Coverage Report

**Q1 Report 2025
(January – March)**

www.fourmarketingagency.com

Coverage summary in numbers

	Q1 2025 Results
Total pieces of coverage	55
Total opportunities to see	142,081,278
Total number of press releases	8
Total number of interview opportunities secured	4
News reported in positive sentiment	100%

English Riviera 2025: A Year of Unmissable Events!

DevonLive

OTS = 1,274,415

Torbay airshow among incredible South Devon events not to miss in 2025

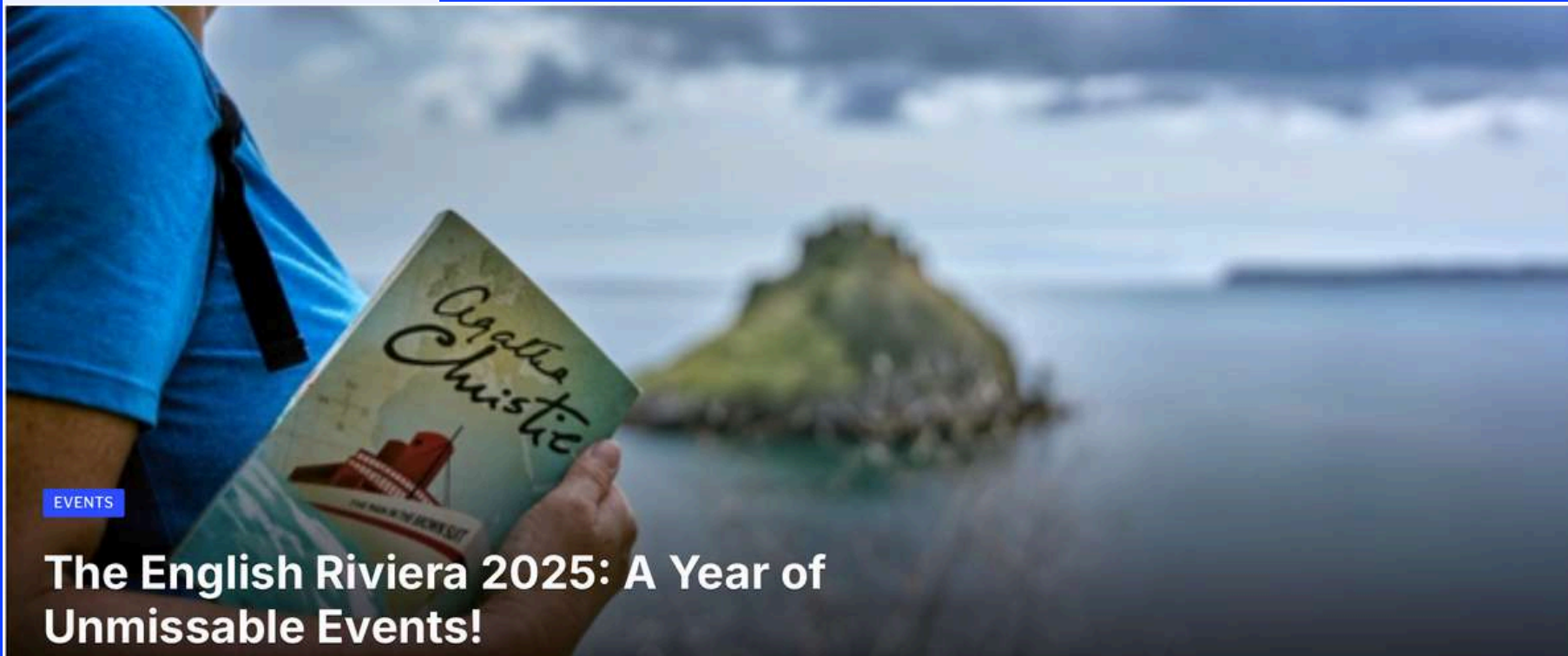
OTS = 9,900,000

yahoo!news

Torbay airshow among incredible South Devon events not to miss in 2025

Travel
NEWS

OTS = 299,665



The English Riviera 2025: A Year of Unmissable Events!

NationalWorld

OTS = 1,274,415

Travel

The English Riviera 2025: A year of unmissable events

The English Riviera is excited to announce its extraordinary calendar of events for 2025, promising a year of excitement, culture, and adventure in one of the UK's most stunning coastal destinations. From swashbuckling fun to gastronomic delights, there's something for everyone in South Devon next year.

English Riviera 2025: A Year of Unmissable Events!



UK NEWS Group.

OTS = 160,235

The English Riviera 2025: A year of unmissable events



Express & Star 50th Anniversary 1979-2024

OTS = 1,900,000

The English Riviera 2025: A year of unmissable events!



60th Anniversary Shropshire Star .com

OTS = 1,200,000

The English Riviera 2025: A year of unmissable events!

OTS = 3,193



Festivals galore in bumper year of events taking place around the English Riviera

by STAFF REPORTER
newsdesk@heraldexpress.co.uk
@DevonLiveNews

AN exciting year of events is planned for around the bay including firm favourites The Agatha Christie Festival, Brixham's Pirate Festival, the English Riviera Airshow and the Seafood Feast.

A new attraction will be the Superchamps Stand-Up Paddleboard (SUP) Championships as part of the bay's drive to attract more watersports-based events.

The SUP championships forms part of a four-year plan to bring international level competition to the English Riviera.

The two-day event will include a festival of SUP races, activities, demonstrations and presentations. Focusing on bringing the joy of SUP to families through to elite competitors, the SUP championships aims to raise the profile and make the bay a leader in the sport.

Tourism bosses say this year will be filled with "excitement, culture, and adventure".

Carolyn Custerson, CEO of the English Riviera BID Company, said: "The English Riviera is ready for an extraordinary year in 2025, with a calendar full of exciting events that showcase the very best of our region's culture, heritage, and natural beauty. From world-class festivals to unique local celebrations, there is something for everyone."

THE AGATHA CHRISTIE FESTIVAL PRESENTS: A SPRING GATHERING APRIL 12

The Agatha Christie Festival will welcome visitors to experience A Spring Gathering to celebrated the new Agatha Christie statue which will be installed on the new public realm area around Torquay Harbour.

There will be author talks, book signings and the Swinging Christies podcast.

The day will end with a glamorous ball at the Imperial Hotel. Those attending will receive exclusive memorabilia, celebrating Agatha in her home town of Torquay with style and flair.

» www.englishriviera.co.uk/whats-on/the-agatha-christie-festival-presents-a-spring-gathering-p3581253

BRIXHAM PIRATE FESTIVAL MAY 2-4

The pirate festival will offer another action-packed weekend of family-friendly entertainment, live music and maritime history as Brixham transforms into a bustling haven for pirates and skulduggery, complete with re-enactments, pyrotechnics and skirmishes on land and sea.

» www.englishriviera.co.uk/whats-on/featured-events/pirate-festival

ENGLISH RIVIERA AIRSHOW MAY 31-JUNE 1

Torbay's flagship tourism event returns with aerobatic displays, vintage aircraft and thrilling stunts. Although it is too early for the official flying schedule to be announced it is hoped the RAF Red Arrows display team will again headline the event.

And the fun isn't limited to the skies - there will also be funfair rides, craft stalls, music, food and drink and the chance to meet visiting military experts and crews. The English Riviera Airshow has been a hit with spectators annually since 2016, with the exception of 2020. The air show is free to attend and funded by partners including Torbay Council, the English Riviera BID Company, corporate sponsors, individual donors and others.

» www.englishriviera.co.uk/whats-on/featured-events/english-riviera-airshow

ENGLISH RIVIERA WALKING FESTIVAL JUNE 14-22

Immerse yourself in the stunning landscapes of the South West Coast Path and Unesco Geopark at the English Riviera Walking Festival with guided walks from gentle strolls to challenging hikes, yoga, sunset sketching, wild swimming, sea shanties and foraging.

» www.englishriviera.co.uk/whats-on/featured-events/english-riviera-walking-festival

SUPERCHAMPS STAND-UP PADDLEBOARD CHAMPIONSHIPS SEPTEMBER 5-7

Catch the action as top competitors take to the water for the Superchamps Stand-Up Paddleboard competition. Whether you're a seasoned paddleboarder or a curious onlooker, the event will showcase the thrill of the sport.

» www.englishriviera.co.uk/whats-on/stand-up-paddle-superchamps-english-riviera-championships-p3540873

AGATHA CHRISTIE FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 13-21

Step into the world of the Queen of Crime and become immersed in author talks and themed performances extolling the impact Agatha Christie has had on the literary world. Delighting literature lovers and mystery fans alike, join exclusive tours of her birthplace and the sites that inspired her novels.

» www.englishriviera.co.uk/be-inspired/agatha-christie/international-agatha-christie-festival

ENGLAND'S SEAFOOD FEAST SEPTEMBER 26-OCTOBER 12

Savour the very best of local seafood at England's Seafood Feast, which will see restaurants and eateries across the region presenting their finest dishes. Expect fresh catches, eye-catching menus and foodie experiences.

» www.englishriviera.co.uk/whats-on/featured-events/seafood-feast

The English Riviera Walking Festival is back!

DevonLive

OTS = 1,274,415

Huge festival celebrating iconic Devon coast returns this summer

OTS = 26,000,000

Huge festival celebrating iconic Devon coast returns this summer



yahoo!news

OTS = 9,900,000

Huge festival celebrating iconic Devon coast returns this summer

OTS = 6,000

The English Riviera Walking Festival returns this June with a programme of guided walks and immersive experiences led by expert guides. Running from 14–22 June, highlights include Agatha Christie’s ‘[The Queen of Crime Waves](#)’, a 12-mile guided tour along the iconic [South West Coast Path from Torquay to Brixham](#). Showcasing the area’s status as a UNESCO Global Geopark, the festival celebrates the English Riviera’s unique charm.

TravelWorld

**BBC RADIO
Devon**

Graham Kerr interview

OTS = 944,000

OTS = 40,503

The unmissable English Riviera Walking Festival is back

The highly anticipated event is making a grand return for 2025

torbaytoday

The English Riviera Walking Festival is back!



The International
Travel Writers
Alliance

The English Riviera Walking Festival, Devon

UK
14 to 22 June 2025
The English Riviera Walking Festival offers a nine-day programme of guided walks and immersive experiences led by expert guides.



The festival puts a spotlight on the area's status as a UNESCO Global Geopark.

Highlights for 2025 include Agatha Christie's *The Queen of Crime Waves*, a 12-mile guided tour along the South West Coast Path from Torquay to Brixham.

The English Riviera covers Torquay, Paignton and Brixham and has 22 miles of coastline.

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 'Earth's Extraordinary Places.'

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.

OTS = 2,150

Herald Express

Explore delights of English Riviera with guided walks



OTS = 3,193



We Are South Devon
for the people, by the people

Discover hidden gems and brand-new experiences at the English Riviera Walking Festival 2025

Western Morning News

OTS = 5,863

Festival will see visitors hotfooting it to the coast

OTS = 17,000

Escape to the English Riviera this February Half Term

DevonLive

OTS = 1,274,415

Devon coast transformed into ultimate family destination

There's something for everyone, whatever the weather



yahoo!news

OTS = 9,900,000

Devon coast transformed into ultimate family destination

There's something for everyone, whatever the weather



msn

OTS = 26,000,000

Devon coast transformed into ultimate family destination

Experience Valentine's Day on the English Riviera

NationalWorld

OTS = 2,500,000

From stunning sea views to sensory delights: Experience an unforgettable Valentine's Day on the English Riviera

Looking for a dreamy day out or something truly special to declare your everlasting love this Valentine's Day? The English Riviera, nestled on the stunning South West Coast in Devon, offers the perfect romantic escape whether you're newly smitten or a seasoned romantic. With breathtaking views, luxury spa breaks, and exquisite fine dining, love is truly in the sea air.

BristolWorld

OTS = 221,370

From stunning sea views to sensory delights: Experience an unforgettable Valentine's Day on the English Riviera

Looking for a dreamy day out or something truly special to declare your everlasting love this Valentine's Day? The English Riviera, nestled on the stunning South West Coast in Devon, offers the perfect romantic escape whether you're newly smitten or a seasoned romantic. With breathtaking views, luxury spa breaks, and exquisite fine dining, love is truly in the sea air.

Express & Star 50th Anniversary 1974-2024

OTS = 1,900,000

From stunning sea views to sensory delights: Experience an unforgettable Valentine's Day on the English Riviera

Shropshire Star.com

OTS = 1,200,000

From stunning sea views to sensory delights: Experience an unforgettable Valentine's Day on the English Riviera

The Sun, Press Trip

OTS = 6,174,000



OTS = 12,481,380

GOING BACK IN TIME I visited the English Riviera and found delicious seafood festivals and hidden beaches

Dolphins, seals and porpoises that frequent the coast and you may be lucky to spot them

THE sun-bleached boards of Torquay's Princess Pier have seen millions promenading along them over the years.

But I'd do anything to go back in time and watch queen of [crime](#) novels Agatha Christie rollerskating along them at the start of the 20th century.



Sun travel AWARD-WINNING
Edited by LISA MINOT

hot spot IT'S 32C in GOA – seven nights' B&B at the 4* Ocean Palms Goa is from £599pp with flights from Heathrow on March 11, holidaybuzz.co.uk. **TURKEY** is 28C – seven nights' all-inclusive at 5* Ramada Resort by Wyndham Lara from £320pp with Gatwick flights on March 8, thomascok.com.

FOLLOW ME ON X @lisaminot **2 MORE PAGES**

JET2 is launching two new routes to Morocco. From November 4, a weekly service will run from Bournemouth to Agadir until March 24 next year, while a twice-weekly service from Leeds Bradford to Marrakech will operate from October 3 until April 28, 2026. The routes have been added after a rise in demand for beach holidays and city breaks in the North African country. Jet2 boss Steve Heapy said: "Since launching our Morocco programme, customers and independent travel agents have jumped at the chance to book our flights and holidays." See jet2.com or jet2holidays.com.

TUI has launched a host of new tours in the holiday hotspots of Asia, Europe and South America. The group and private tours range from seven to 14 nights, ticking off bucket-list experiences like visiting the Tomb Raider temple in Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City and trekking through the Amazon rainforest. Those keen to soak up South East Asia can book to join the Discover Vietnam and Cambodia tour, where prices start from £2,754pp. It travels through Vietnam to Ho Chi Minh City with a cruise along Halong Bay, left, to explore the temples and sacred forests of Cambodia. For something a little closer to home, the seven-night Discover Sardinia and Corsica tour will take visitors to the pretty beaches of the Italian and French islands in the Mediterranean. Plus you will have the chance to hop around the Italian Maddalena archipelago, all for £1,533pp. The third new trip is the Incredible Brazil Private Tour, which ticks off Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and the Amazon rainforest in 14 days for £5,170pp. See tu.co.uk.

DISCOVER AGATHA CHRISTIE'S TORQUAY

Getaway...with murder

TRENDY ... motel
MOLLIE'S MOTEL
Buckland, Oxon
WHAT'S IT LIKE? The stylish hotel combines roadside diner locations with trendy interiors by the team behind Soho House.
ROOMS ANY GOOD? Cosy, contemporary rooms, with wooden panelled walls and velvet armchairs have frills including Dyson hairdryers and GHD straighteners as well as smart TVs and USB ports by the bed. Each ensuite has a power shower and Cowshed shampoo and conditioner. To cut down on wasteful plastic water bottles, there is a hot and cold water tap in the corridor with glass refillable bottles. A free tea and coffee station is in the lobby.
EAT HERE OR GRAB A PIZZAZ? There isn't much else nearby but just opposite is the equally trendy Mollie's Diner. Expect classic American dishes with huge burgers, sloppy hot dogs and fried chicken waffles. There are a few token healthy options, such as green salads and fruit smoothies but the huge pieces of lemon-meringue pie can't be missed. Stay for breakfast for dishes including pancakes and eggs Benedict.
ANYTHING ELSE? The lobby is a great co-working space featuring long tables and lounge chairs, complete with enough plugs for everyone. It's 'gift shop' sells everything from luxury chocolate brands and toiletries to Mollie's Mugs. Attractions a short drive away include the Cotswolds Wildlife Park and Crocodiles Of The World. It's also just a 30-minute drive from Oxford.
WOULD YOU GO BACK? Absolutely, it's affordable, chic and a great place for exploring the Cotswolds.
WHAT'S THE DAMAGE? Rooms start at £70 a night. See molliemotel.com

check in... check it out

BUST ... Agatha Christie tribute in Torquay

WRITE STUFF ... author's famous sleuths Miss Marple and Hercule Poirot

FISHY BUSINESS ... Lisa enjoys seafood platter

TOWN OF THE TOWN ... pretty quayside and harbour

ROLLERSKATES ... Agatha Christie, centre

KARA GODFREY

STYLE ... panelled walls

THE sun-bleached boards of Torquay's Princess Pier have seen millions promenading along them over the years. But I'd do anything to go back in time and watch queen of crime novels Agatha Christie rollerskating along them at the start of the 20th century. In full Edwardian skirts and jaunty feather-trimmed hat, a young Agatha sashayed along with giggling friends when what we think of as a very modern craze first became popular. My guide Graham, from English Riviera Walking Tours, describes the moment so evocatively that if I close my eyes against the bright September sunshine, I can picture it perfectly. We're midway through a fascinating tour of Agatha Christie's Torquay, the town where she was born in 1890 and spent her formative years.

Notorious villains
Graham's walk reveals her links to Torquay – and surrounding English Riviera – and the places that inspired many of her most popular novels. At Torre Abbey we learn Agatha met Belgian refugees at social functions there, one no doubt the inspiration for that most famous of detectives, Hercule Poirot. Today, the Abbey is a public art gallery and its manicured, landscaped grounds feature a quirky hidden gem – Agatha Christie's Poison Plants Garden, filled with plants used to create poisons beloved by some of her most notorious villains. The two-and-a-half-hour tour flew by, from the Grand Hotel where Agatha and Archie Christie spent their one-night honeymoon to the Imperial Hotel that featured in three of her novels, being visited by Poirot and Miss Marple. We end on the seafront having built up quite the appetite. At the Offshore Bar & Restaurant on the harbourside we wolf down a seafood platter. Plump prawns and steaming mussels are accompanied by fresh crab, hot smoked salmon and a delicate pan-fried sea bass. The platter was created as part of the annual England's Seafood Feast – held this year from September 26 to October 12. The event celebrates the best of the English Riviera's fish and seafood, with everything from tours of Brixham Fish Market to barbecues and kayak cookouts. There are special offers at more than 30 restaurants across Brixham, Paignton, Torquay and the surrounding countryside. At night, we take the fishy feast up another level with a £55 five-course tasting menu featuring bass, brill and more at Circa, the intimate restaurant at the Sandridge Barton vineyard in the Dart Valley. A chance to explore the coastline on a thrilling, high-speed RIB (rigid inflatable boat) brought a completely different perspective of the sea. Setting out from the marina, Torquay Water Sports' Coastal Explorer was a 90-minute thrill ride across Torbay, our enthusiastic skipper full of fabulous facts about the unique geography that has seen the area awarded Unesco Global Geopark status. We whizz past limestone cliffs, secluded coves and beaches before spotting birdlife on Thatcher Rock

GO: ENGLISH RIVIERA
STAYING THERE: The Headland hotel has a special Sunday Stay offer for February with a one-night visit including breakfast, spa access and a cream tea from £50pp. See headlandtorquay.com.
OUT & ABOUT: Agatha Christie tour is from £20pp, see englishrivierawalkingtours.co.uk; Coastal Explorer 90-minute boat tour, from £45, see torquaywatersports.co.uk; Kents Cavern tours, book in advance, £16 for adults and £14 for children age three to 15. Under-threes are free. See kents-cavern.co.uk.
MORE INFO: See englishriviera.co.uk.

and at Hope's Nose, a rugged headland. While we failed to spot the dolphins, seals and porpoises that frequent the coast, the blue skies and birdlife made up for it. And more animal encounters were to come. Behind an unremarkable wooden door in a modern building in Torquay lies an astonishing secret – a labyrinth of prehistoric caves. At Kents Cavern, guides will lead you through the complex of caves formed 2.5million years ago. Explorations over the last 200 years have uncovered the remains of woolly mammoths, woolly rhinos, cave bears, sabre-toothed cats and hyenas. And the 1927 discoveries of a jaw fragment and three teeth, dating back around 40,000 years ago, were later confirmed to be the oldest evidence of modern humans in Europe.

Best vistas
There was more modern history at our hotel, the Headland, which was formerly a grand villa built by the imperial Russian Romanov family. It has fabulous views, a lovely terrace and cosy spa. Ask for a room high up at the back for the best vistas. It was also a world away from the other hotel Torquay has become synonymous with – Fawley Towers. Although, as Basil once referred to his wife Sybil in the 70s sitcom as a "sabre-toothed tart", you do wonder if they too were visitors to the ancient caverns.

LISA MINOT

Agatha Christie: 'A Spring Gathering'

DevonLive

OTS = 1,274,415

What's On ▸ What's On News ▸ Torquay

Jeremy Vine and Death in Paradise creator heading to Devon for huge celebration

It will be a momentous occasion



 A special Agatha Christie event will see the unveiling of a new statue of the Queen of Crime in her Devon home town (Image: English Riviera BID)

yahoo!news

OTS = 9,900,000

Jeremy Vine and Death in Paradise creator heading to Devon for huge celebration

It will be a momentous occasion

torbaytoday

OTS = 40,503

Agatha Christie statue to be unveiled at Torquay literary event

The statue shows Agatha alongside her dog Peter

DEVON DAILY

OTS = 5,000

Agatha Christie Festival Presents 'A Spring Gathering' - A Star-Studded Celebration of Crime Fiction and New Statue Unveiled on the English Riviera

Agatha Christie 'A Spring Gathering'



OTS = 1,900,000

Agatha Christie statue for Torquay waterfront



TORBAY COUNCIL

A new statue of crime writer Agatha Christie in a south Devon town is due to be unveiled later this year.

OTS = 5,863

Western Morning News

Celebration of Queen of Crime will unveil statue

ATHWENNA IRONS

athwenna.iron@reachplc.com

TORQUAY is set to welcome a star-studded literary line-up as part of the upcoming Agatha Christie Festival.

Crime fiction figureheads Jeremy Vine, Robert Thorogood, Victoria Dowd, Mark Aldridge and Gray Robert Brown will be among the guests at 'Agatha Christie: A Spring Gathering' on Saturday, April 12.

The celebration is centred around the unveiling of a new Agatha Christie statue, depicting the 'Queen of Crime' alongside her dog, Peter.

Commissioned by Torbay Council and created by Brixham-based sculptor Elisabeth Hadley, it is hoped the sculpture will serve as an enduring tribute to the world's most beloved crime writer, who was born in Torquay and remained on the English Riviera for much of her life.

Taking place at Torquay Museum, the Spring Gathering programme features an array of crime fiction enthusiasts. Mr Thorogood, bestselling author and creator of BBC One series Death in Paradise, will deliver a compelling talk titled 'How to Kill People for Profit'; while Mr Vine, broadcaster and lifelong Christie devotee, will use the event to launch his debut crime novel 'Murder on Line One'.

Mr Vine, host of The Jeremy Vine Show on BBC Radio 2, said: "Agatha Christie inspired me from the age of 11 - I cannot wait to launch my debut crime novel at this festival."

Speaking about this event, Mr Thorogood added: "I have loved Agatha Christie's books

my whole life. It's an honour to be part of this celebration and share a day with fellow Christie fans."

To complete this star-studded line up is Ms Dowd, award-winning author of The Smart Woman's Guide to Murder, who will explore Agatha and Dartmoor. Dr Aldridge and Mr Robert Brown, hosts of the hit podcast The Swinging Christies: Agatha Christie in the 1960s, are also due to appear, sharing fascinating insights from their show.

Mr Aldridge shared his thoughts on the upcoming event: "Torquay is the birthplace of the Queen of Crime, and I'm delighted to be returning for this long-awaited tribute."

Attendees will also have the opportunity for exclusive book signings and to purchase the latest crime fiction titles courtesy of The East Gate Bookshop.

Following the literary sessions, guests will gather for the highly anticipated unveiling of the Agatha Christie statue on the Strand.

The day concludes in spectacular style with a Celebration Ball at The Imperial Hotel. Guests will enjoy a complimentary welcome drink, a three-course meal with vegetarian and vegan options, an after-dinner speech and live music from Ain't Misbehavin'.

Carolyn Custerson, chief executive of English Riviera BID, said: "Agatha Christie is one of Torquay's most treasured cultural icons, and we are

thrilled to celebrate her enduring legacy with this very special Spring Gathering.

"The unveiling of her statue is a fitting tribute to the Queen of Crime, honouring her deep connection to the English Riviera. This event brings together crime fiction enthusiasts, bestselling authors, and Christie devotees from near and far for a truly unforgettable day in her hometown."

For further details and tickets, visit www.agathachristiefestival.com.

Agatha Christie 'A Spring Gathering'

Western Daily Press

OTS = 4,705

Fans head for Queen of Crime's hometown

A STAR-STUDDED literary line-up is heading West as part of the upcoming Agatha Christie Festival.

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Mr Vine, host of *The Jeremy Vine Show* on BBC Radio 2, said: "Agatha Christie inspired me from the age of 11 - I cannot wait to launch my debut crime novel at this festival."

Mr Thorogood added: "I have loved Agatha Christie's books my whole life. It's an honour to be

part of this celebration and share a day with fellow Christie fans."

To complete the line-up is Ms Dowd, award-winning author of *The Smart Woman's Guide to Murder*, who will explore Agatha and Dartmoor. Dr Aldridge and Mr Robert Brown, hosts of the hit podcast *The Swinging Christies: Agatha Christie in the 1960s*, are also due to appear, sharing fascinating insights from their show.

Attendees will also have the opportunity for exclusive book signings and to purchase the latest crime fiction titles courtesy of The East Gate Bookshop.

Following the literary sessions, guests will gather for the unveiling of the Agatha Christie statue on the Strand.

The day concludes with a Celebration Ball at The Imperial Hotel. Carolyn Custerson, chief executive of English Riviera BID, said: "Agatha Christie is one of Torquay's most treasured cultural icons, and we are thrilled to celebrate her enduring legacy with this very special Spring Gathering."

For further details and tickets, visit www.agathachristiefestival.com.

OTS = 3,193

Herald Express

Star-studded line-up of characters to witness Agatha statue reveal

by STAFF REPORTER

newsdesk@heraldexpress.co.uk
@DevonLiveNews

STARS from the world of crime fiction are heading to Torquay for a celebration of all things Agatha Christie.

The one-day event, hosted by the Agatha Christie Festival, will mark the unveiling of a new statue of the famous author in her home town.

Broadcaster Jeremy Vine will be at A Spring Gathering to launch his debut crime novel, *Murder on Line One*, which is set in Devon. There will also be a guest appearance from Robert Thorogood, bestselling author and creator of hit BBC series *Death in Paradise*.

Commissioned by Torbay Council, the statue - created by Brixham-based sculptor Elisabeth Hadley - depicts the Queen of Crime reading on a bench alongside her beloved dog, Peter.

Radio show host Vine said: "Agatha Christie inspired me from the age of 11. I cannot wait to launch my debut crime novel at this festival."

Thorogood, who will deliver a talk titled *How to Kill People for Profit*, added: "I have loved Agatha Christie's books my whole life. It's an honour to be part of this celebration and share a day with fellow Christie fans."

The star-studded line-up at Torquay Museum will be completed by Victoria Dowd, award-winning author of *The Smart Woman's Guide to Murder*, who will explore Agatha's connection to Dartmoor. Dr Mark Aldridge and Gray Robert Brown, hosts of podcast *The Swinging Christies: Agatha Christie in the 1960s*, are also due to appear, sharing insights from their show.

Dr Aldridge said: "Torquay is the birthplace of the Queen of Crime, and I'm

delighted to be returning for this long-awaited tribute."

Those who attend will have access to exclusive book signings and can purchase the latest crime fiction titles courtesy of The East Gate Bookshop. Following the literary sessions, guests will gather for the highly anticipated unveiling of the Agatha Christie statue on the Strand. The day ends with a celebration ball at The Imperial Hotel.

Carolyn Custerson, chief executive of English Riviera BID, said: "Agatha Christie is one of Torquay's most treasured cultural icons, and we are thrilled to celebrate her enduring legacy with this very special spring gathering. The unveiling of her statue is a fitting tribute to the Queen of Crime, honouring her deep connection to the English Riviera."

"This event brings together crime fiction enthusiasts, bestselling authors, and Christie devotees from near and far for a truly unforgettable day in her hometown."

» A Spring Gathering will take place on Saturday, April 12. Each ticket also includes a commemorative newspaper.

» Find out more at www.agathachristiefestival.com

Stand Up Paddling World Cup 2026



OTS = 1,900,000

Devon to host Stand Up Paddling World Cup in 2026



PADDLE UK

Devon has been chosen to host an international paddleboard competition in 2026.



OTS = 5,600



EVENTS

Paddle UK Lands Prestigious ICF Stand Up Paddling World Cup Event for 2026

BBC RADIO
Devon

Brendon Prince interview

OTS = 944,000

BBC RADIO
Devon

Lee Pooley interview

OTS = 944,000

Stand Up Paddling World Cup 2026



OTS = 820,000

Torbay aims to become 'UK's watersports destination' after being named host for next year's World Cup



OTS = 5,000

English Riviera to host international Stand Up Paddling World Cup



OTS = 17,000

English Riviera to host international Stand Up Paddling World Cup 2026

torbaytoday

OTS = 40,503

Torbay to host the Paddleboard World Cup



Paddleboard World Cup in Torbay

Stand Up Paddling World Cup 2026

torbaytoday

OTS = 40,503

Jim Parker: The way to boost our economy has been 'staring us in the face'

Our founding Editor explains discusses Torbay's most valuable assets
The value of events from so many different angles for the Bay and its economy is crystal clear.



Making the most of what we have staring us in the face every moment of the day is absolutely essential when we look to come up with new events to boost business. By the way, it also costs nothing.

Western Morning News

OTS = 5,863

Riviera set for stand-up paddling World Cup

ATHWENNA IRONS
athwenna.iron@reachplc.com

GLOBAL paddleboarding talent is set to take centre stage at the Stand Up Paddling World Cup 2026, with South Devon's English Riviera chosen to host the prestigious international contest.

This is the first time that an International Canoe Federation (ICF) Stand Up Paddling (SUP) event of this scale has been held in the UK, and the first since Paddle UK was announced as a governing body for the sport in February 2023.

The World Cup will be held from June 24-28 on the stunning waters of the English Riviera, Torbay, which has become a go-to spot for stand up paddleboarding in England.

The five-day event is expected to attract around 200 of the world's best athletes, as well as up to a thousand other paddlers who will take part in a festival of paddling, that will showcase the breadth of SUP from recreational paddlers to elite competition.

Ashley Metcalfe, chief executive of Paddle UK, said: "I am delighted that Paddle UK has successfully bid to host an international stand up paddling event within the UK."

"We know that stand up paddling has grown over the last five years and is

hugely popular with our members and recreational paddlers.

"I look forward to working with key partners and stakeholders on the English Riviera to deliver an excellent event and help support the area to become the number one destination for stand up paddling."

The SUP World Cup event will be supported by the English Riviera Business Improvement District (BID) Company and Torbay Council.

Cllr Jackie Thomas, Torbay Council's cabinet member for tourism, culture and events, said: "We are absolutely thrilled to be hosting the 2026 Stand Up Paddling World Cup on the English Riviera."

"Our beautiful bay enjoys worldwide importance with our designation as the English Riviera Unesco Global Geopark, and it will be a fabulous backdrop to the events out on the water."

"As one of the UK's premier coastal resorts, we look forward to offering a warm welcome to the many competitors, support teams and visitors that the event will attract from around the world to our sparkling waters and award-winning beaches."

"We are sure they will appreciate the results of our work with partners and our whole community to deliver an

ongoing exceptional commitment to environmental sustainability, water quality, safety, and beach management across Torquay, Paignton and Brixham."

Carolyn Custerson, chief executive of English Riviera BID Company, said: "We are delighted to welcome the ICF Stand Up Paddling World Cup to the English Riviera in 2026."

"This is an incredible opportunity to showcase our stunning coastline to a global audience and reinforce our reputation as a premier water sports destination in the UK."

■ For more details, please visit www.paddleuk.org.uk

'This is an incredible opportunity to showcase our stunning coastline to a global audience'

CAROLYN CUSTERSON

Bay of Lights 2025

DevonLive

Bay of Lights to return 'even bigger and brighter' for 2025

OTS = 1,274,415



Group
TravelWorld

OTS = 115,000



Following the success of Bay of Lights 2024, the English Riviera BID Company, working in partnership with Torbay Council, has released dates for the 2025 event. Running from 28 November to 2 January, [Bay of Lights 2025](#) promises to be even bigger and brighter this year, featuring dazzling new attractions and illuminations that will transform the region into a festive wonderland.

Bay of Lights 2025



We Are South Devon
for the people, by the people

OTS = 17,000

English Riviera announces dates for Bay of Lights 2025 following record-breaking event last year

torbaytoday

OTS = 40,503

Bay of Lights to shine brighter after 2024 success

The dates for the 2025 illumination trail have been annouced



We Are South Devon
for the people, by the people

OTS = 17,000

Dates announced for Bay of Lights 2025

DEVON
DAILY

OTS = 5,000



Dates announced for Bay of Lights 2025

Following the resounding success of Bay of Lights 2024, the English Riviera BID Company working in partnership with Torbay Council has today released dates for the 2025 event. Running from 28 November - 02 January, [Bay of Lights 2025](#) promises to be even bigger and brighter this year, featuring dazzling new attractions and breathtaking illuminations that will transform the region into a festive wonderland.

Experience an English Riviera Easter

NationalWorld

Travel

**Forget passports and airport queues –
Experience an English Riviera Easter**



**Escape your everyday and embrace picturesque coastlines for a
staycation to remember**

OTS = 1,274,415

DevonLive

OTS = 1,274,415

**Precious Devon day trips where ever-lasting memories are
made**

yahoo!news

OTS = 9,900,000

**Exciting attractions near Plymouth where
precious memories are made**

PlymouthLive

OTS = 210,000

**Exciting attractions near Plymouth where precious
memories are made**

Strategy & Ambassador Relations

2025 Planning and Strategy

- We have crafted bespoke 2025 PR planner, tailored to specific target demographics and including the promotion of key ERBID events
- We created a comprehensive media outreach strategy, including refreshed media lists, journalist meetings and research into media landscapes
- We have been working collaboratively with Chalk & Ward to support dedicated advertising campaign, offering PR support where appropriate
- We have working to support dedicated Brixham PR campaign to spotlight the town
- We have identified key press trip targets for 2025
- We have identified influencer targets for 2025
- Regular reporting, including mid-month reports, quarterly reports and adhoc activity evaluations



Ambassador Workshops

- We created English Riviera BID Company's Ambassador Programme, in collaboration with the ERBID team
- We hosted the first ERBID Ambassador Workshop in March 2025, attended by 17 key ambassadors
- We have begun working with Beverley Holidays and Torquay Watersports to highlight key newsworthy activity
- We are due to share a Doodle Poll with the ERBID Ambassador Network for the Q2 workshop, where ambassadors can join, understand more about the work we do, and share their news

Appendix: Coverage Summary

'The English Riviera 2025: A Year of Unmissable Events!'

- Travel News (online) The English Riviera 2025: A Year of Unmissable Events! (OTS = 299,665)
- UK News Group (online) The English Riviera 2025: A year of unmissable events (OTS = 160,235)
- Yahoo News UK (online) The English Riviera 2025: A year of unmissable events (OTS = 9,900,000)
- Devon Live (online) Torbay airshow among incredible South Devon events not to miss in 2025 (OTS = 1,274,415)
- National World (online) The English Riviera 2025: A year of unmissable events (OTS = 2,500,000)
- Herald Express (print) Festivals galore in bumper year of events taking place around the English Riviera (Circulation = 3,130)
- West Midlands Express and Star (online) The English Riviera 2025: A year of unmissable events! (OTS = 1,900,000)
- Shropshire Star (online) The English Riviera 2025: A year of unmissable events! (OTS = 1,200,000)

'The unmissable English Riviera Walking Festival is back'

- Torbay Weekly (online) The unmissable English Riviera Walking Festival is back (OTS = 40,503)
- We Are South Devon (online) Discover hidden gems and brand-new experiences at the English Riviera Walking Festival 2025 (OTS = 5,000)
- Group Travel World (online) The unmissable English Riviera Walking Festival is back (OTS = 6,000)
- Western Morning News (print) Festival will see visitors hotfooting it to the coast (Circulation = 5,863)
- Devon Live (online) Huge festival celebrating iconic Devon coast returns this summer (OTS = 1,274,415)
- Yahoo News UK (online) Huge festival celebrating iconic Devon coast returns this summer (OTS = 9,900,000)
- MSN (online) Huge festival celebrating iconic Devon coast returns this summer (OTS = 26,000,000)
- Herald Express (print) Explore delights of English Riviera with guided walks (Circulation = 3,130)
- International Travel Writers Alliance (print) The English Riviera Festival, Devon (Circulation = 2,150)
- BBC Radio Devon (broadcast) Graham Kerr Radio Interview (OTS = 124,000)

Appendix: Coverage Summary

‘Escape to the English Riviera this February Half Term – A Family Adventure Awaits!’

- Devon Live (online) Devon coast transformed into ultimate family destination (OTS = 1,274,415)
- Yahoo News UK (online) Devon coast transformed into ultimate family destination (OTS = 9,900,000)
- MSN (online) Devon coast transformed into ultimate family destination (OTS = 26,000,000)

‘From stunning sea views to sensory delights: Experience an unforgettable Valentine’s Day on the English Riviera’

- West Midlands Express and Star (online) From stunning sea views to sensory delights: Experience an unforgettable Valentine’s Day on the English Riviera (OTS = 1,900,000)
- National World (online) From stunning sea views to sensory delights: Experience an unforgettable Valentine’s Day on the English Riviera (OTS = 2,500,000)
- Shropshire Star (online) From stunning sea views to sensory delights: Experience an unforgettable Valentine’s Day on the English Riviera (OTS = 1,200,000)
- Bristol World (online) From stunning sea views to sensory delights: Experience an unforgettable Valentine’s Day on the English Riviera (OTS = 221,370)

‘Agatha Christie Festival Presents ‘A Spring Gathering’ – A Star-Studded Celebration of Crime Fiction and New Torquay Statue Unveiled’

- Devon Live (online) Jeremy Vine and Death in Paradise creator heading to Devon for huge celebration (OTS = 1,274,415)
- Yahoo News UK (online) Jeremy Vine and Death in Paradise creator heading to Devon for huge celebration (OTS = 9,900,000)
- Torbay Weekly (online) Agatha Christie statue to be unveiled at Torquay literary event (OTS = 40,503)
- Devon Daily (online) Agatha Christie Festival Presents ‘A Spring Gathering’ – A Star-Studded Celebration of Crime Fiction and New Statue Unveiled on the English Riviera (OTS = 5, 000)

Appendix: Coverage Summary

'Agatha Christie Festival Presents 'A Spring Gathering' – A Star-Studded Celebration of Crime Fiction and New Torquay Statue Unveiled' (continued)

- Western Morning News (print) Celebration of Queen of Crime will unveil statue (Circulation = 5,863)
- Western Daily Press (print) Fans head for Queen of Crime's hometown (print) (Circulation = 4,705)
- BBC News Devon (online) Agatha Christie statue for Torquay waterfront (OTS = 375,000)
- Herald Express (print) Star-studded line-up of characters to witness Agatha statue reveal (Circulation = 3,130)

'English Riviera to Host Prestigious Stand Up Paddling World Cup 2026'

- BBC News Devon (online) Devon to host Stand Up Paddling World Cup in 2026 (OTS = 375,000)
- We are South Devon (online) English Riviera to host international Stand Up Paddling World Cup 2026 (OTS = 17,000)
- Torbay Weekly (online) Torbay to host the Paddleboard World Cup (OTS = 40,503)
- Western Morning News (print) Riviera set for stand-up paddling World Cup (Circulation = 5,863)
- Travel News (online) Paddle UK Lands Prestigious ICF Stand Up Paddling World Cup Event for 2026 (OTS = 5,600)
- Torbay Weekly (online) Jim Parker: The way to boost our economy has been 'staring us in the face' (OTS = 40,503)
- Greatest Hits Radio (online) Torbay aims to become 'UK's watersports destination' after being named host for next year's World Cup (OTS = 820,000)
- BBC Radio Devon (broadcast) Brendon Prince Interview (OTS = 944,000)
- BBC Radio Devon (broadcast) Lee Pooley interview (OTS = 944,000)
- Devon Daily (online) English Riviera to host international Stand Up Paddling World Cup (OTS = 5,000)

Appendix: Coverage summary

'English Riviera Announces Dates for Bay of Lights 2025 Following Record-Breaking Event Last Year'

- We are South Devon (online) English Riviera announces dates for Bay of Lights 2025 following record-breaking event last year (OTS = 17,000)
- Group Travel World (online) English Riviera announces dates for Bay of Lights 2025 following record-breaking event last year (OTS = 5000)
- Devon Daily (online) Dates announced for Bay of Lights 2025 (OTS = 5,000)
- Devon Live (online) Bay of Lights to return 'even bigger and brighter' for 2025 (OTS = 1,274,415)
- Torbay Weekly (online) Bay of Lights to shine brighter after 2024 success (OTS = 40,503)
- We are South Devon (online) Dates announced for Bay of Lights 2025 (OTS = 17,000)

'English Riviera Announces Dates for Bay of Lights 2025 Following Record-Breaking Event Last Year'

- National World (online) Forget passports and airport queues – Experience an English Riviera Easter (OTS = 2,500,000)
- Devon Live (online) Precious Devon day trips where ever-lasting memories are made (OTS = 1,274,415)
- Yahoo News UK (online) Exciting attractions near Plymouth where precious memories are made (OTS = 9,900,000)
- Plymouth Live (online) Exciting attractions near Plymouth where precious memories are made (OTS = 210,000)

The Sun – Lisa Minot Press Trip

- The Sun (online) GOING BACK IN TIME: I visited the English Riviera and found delicious seafood festivals and hidden beaches (OTS = 12,481,380)
- The Sun (print) GOING BACK IN TIME: I visited the English Riviera and found delicious seafood festivals and hidden beaches (OTS = 1,200,000)



Pamela Badham
Founder and CEO
M: 07825 567808
E: pamela@four-pr.com

Olivia Boyce-Phillips
Junior Account Manager
M: 07913 676311
E: olivia@four-pr.com

Lauren Andrew
Account Executive
M: 07380 374696
E: lauren@four-pr.com

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