



## **Dinosaur displays and immersive illusions: Why the English Riviera is perfect for families this May**

*Take a break this May, as the South West destination presents a line up of unmissable events for families looking for the perfect staycation*

This May, the English Riviera is the go-to destination for families with a range of world-class entertainment, from historic dinosaur displays to National Gallery exhibitions. Following a record-breaking Easter period, the English Riviera has a standout programme of events and activities putting the region as a 'must visit' for families.

The [English Riviera Airshow](#) (29 May - 31 May) will be returning for its landmark 10th anniversary year for an action packed weekend along the beautiful coastline. The excitement will begin on the Friday as the Red Arrows take flight for an evening of spectacular entertainment before showcasing their unparalleled skills for the remainder of the weekend. Visitors will be able to enjoy extraordinary aerial displays and on-ground entertainment for the whole family.

For animal lovers, the English Riviera is full of unmissable things to do and see at [Paignton Zoo](#). For any young aspiring zoo keepers, Paignton Zoo's experiences gives families the opportunity to come face-to-face with their favourite creatures. Those travelling to the area may also enjoy the [Paignton Harbours Markets](#) where the fishing haven is embraced by residents offering local produce and a range of arts and crafts .

[Art on Your Doorstep at Torre Abbey](#) is the showstopping event for art enthusiasts as the exhibition is only one of few nationwide from the National Gallery. Free to attend by visitors, the showcase offers families the special opportunity to see life sized reproductions of masterpieces against a backdrop of 400-million-year-old coastal heritage. For those looking to tap into regional gems, Torre Abbey is hosting '[Colour-ing the Bay](#)', a vibrant exhibition showcasing local artist Zoe Curley's evolving artwork, drawing inspiration from the English Riviera's 22 mile stunning coastline.

For explorers and dinosaur enthusiasts, Kents Cavern is providing families the rare chance to take a journey through time to discover the fascinating creatures that once ruled our earth. Throughout the [Age of the Dinosaur Exhibition](#), visitors will experience the prehistoric stories from incredible dinosaur displays to ancient fossils.

The UK's largest outdoor water park is also back and better than ever as families can enjoy rides for every type of adventure. Nestled along the south coast, [Splashdown Quaywest](#) has introduced a number of thrilling new attractions from the Devil's Drop for the adrenaline junkies to the shipwreck island - ideal for all ages.

Also in the line up this May is the [Brixham Pirate Festival](#) (02 - 04 May). Guaranteed to bring swashbuckling fun, this free to attend family-friendly event brings live music, street theatre, historical re-enactments, activities and themed food and drink, all set against the town's historic harbour. With pirate costumes, sea shanties and a lively waterfront atmosphere, it's not one to miss.

Families can also enjoy a magical and memorable theatre experience at [Celebration at the Babbacombe Theatre](#). Steve Laister, Comedy Excellence award winner, headlines the show, featuring



showstopping illusions alongside special moments from West End and Broadway musicals, Oscar-winning soundtracks, Grammy-worthy pop anthems and the comedic gems of classic entertainment.

**Carolyn Custerson, CEO of the English Riviera BID Company, commented:** "The English Riviera is truly coming alive this May. From prehistoric caves and exotic wildlife, to a world-class National Gallery exhibition and the breathtaking spectacle of our 10th anniversary Airshow, the breadth and quality of what's on offer this year is something we are incredibly proud of. Whatever brings you to the English Riviera this summer, we promise it will stay with you long after you leave."

With a range of accommodation to suit all budgets and group sizes from friendly, family-run B&Bs, action-packed holiday parks, self-catering and seafront hotels, the English Riviera really does have something for everyone.

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 'Earth's Extraordinary Places.' The resort is also an international cruise port.

Please find below a list of exhibitions and activities this Easter in the English Riviera with respective prices.

For more information for consumers visit [www.englishriviera.co.uk](http://www.englishriviera.co.uk) and for businesses visit [www.englishriviera.co.uk/bid](http://www.englishriviera.co.uk/bid).