



MEDIA BRIEFING FACT SHEET

MARITIME LEISURE

South Devon's Beautiful Bay

The English Riviera resort towns of Torquay, Babbacombe Bay, Paignton and Brixham are set around one of the most beautiful bays in England. With over 16 square miles of sheltered waters, the English Riviera is ideal for all kinds of watersports. Tor Bay, part of the UNESCO endorsed English Riviera Global Geopark, spans four miles between headlands. There are no significant obstructions or sandbanks and the bay provides a natural amphitheatre for spectators. The depth of water is an average of 10 metres across the bay at low water and the tidal streams are usually less than one knot in the bay. This makes the idyllic, horseshoe shaped Tor Bay ideal for all types of maritime leisure.

www.englishriviera.co.uk/maritime

Exceptional Weather

Coupled with one of Britain's best climate records, you will find mild sea temperatures and the perfect conditions for a wealth of activities on the water.

Watersports for the Beginner, Enthusiast or Professional

Popular activities include; sailing, sail-boarding, powerboats, kayaking, waterskiing, jet skiing, kite surfing, scuba diving and sea-fishing. There are many watersports clubs and centres.

www.royaltorbayyc.org.uk

www.paigntonsailingclub.com

www.brixhamyachtclub.com

www.grenvillehouse.co.uk

A Safe Haven for Major Events

Through the summer months the Bay is filled with activity and the English Riviera plays host to around 50 regional, national and international watersports events.

Scuba Diving

The horseshoe-shaped Bay offers good protection from the prevailing winds, making it the ideal place for sheltered scuba dives. Popular shore dives in the Geopark include Babbacombe Beach, Brixham Breakwater and Meadfoot Beach. Boat dives include Thatcher Rock, the Orestone and Berry Head. The Geopark status recognises the bay's remarkable marine ecology, a great diversity of underwater species inhabit the reefs, seagrass beds and submarine caves; these include the short snouted seahorse, jewel and snakelock anemone and the spectacular cuttlefish.

www.diversdown.co.uk

Harbours and Marinas

Two world-class marinas at Torquay and Brixham and the three enclosed harbours of Torquay, Paignton and Brixham together offer excellent facilities with an abundance of on-shore amenities including harbourside restaurants and marine stores selling chandlery, specialist clothing and equipment.

www.mdlmarinas.co.uk/mdl-torquay-marina

www.mdlmarinas.co.uk/mdl-brixham-marina

Boat Trips

Another option is to simply enjoy one of the many pleasure trips on offer from each of the three towns, including an extended trip to Dartmouth and on to Greenway Gardens, the home of Agatha Christie.

For detailed information on harbour facilities, tides, berthing and anchorages visit our harbour website: www.tor-bay-harbour.co.uk

To find out more visit: www.englishriviera.co.uk/whats-on

English Riviera Tourism Company Welcomes Journalists

We host a number of familiarisation visits throughout the year and tailor each itinerary to suit your perfect story! We are always happy to welcome journalists to the English Riviera, if you are interested in visiting please contact;

Louise Smith/Holly Hollis e-mail: marketing@englishriviera.co.uk

Telephone: 01803 296296

Launched in October 2010 the ERTC is a new private sector led public/private tourism partnership leading on the official promotion of the English Riviera as a leading UK resort and overseeing the effective delivery of the 2010-2015 Turning the Tide for Tourism in Torbay Strategy. To download a copy of the strategy please visit:

www.englishriviera.co.uk/ertc