

10 INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT CORNWALL

1. Cornwall's coastline is 422 miles long! That's further than London to Edinburgh which is a mere 403 miles!
2. The deepest mine in Cornwall is Dulcoath Mine near Camborne and it is 3,300 feet deep. 3,300 feet is like 10 Big Ben clocks standing on top of each other! It would take 2-3 hours for those who worked in the deeper levels to go down and return to the surface!
3. Redruth in Cornwall is one of the most deprived towns in the UK now but used to be one of the richest towns in the world thanks to the mining industry. It was the first town in the world to have gas lighting when William Murdoch lit his house with piped coal gas in 1792!
4. At least 120 million Cornish pasties are made every year and the pasty generates around £300 Million worth of trade for the Cornish economy!
5. St Ives in Cornwall was once one of the three most important sites in the world for art alongside New York and Paris. It was the epicentre of the British Modernist movement.
6. The world's first steam powered locomotive was invented by Richard Trevithick from Camborne in Cornwall. It made its first journey in 1804.
7. Cornwall has an amazing open air theatre (The Minack) which was cut into the cliff side down near Lands End. It looks ancient but was started by artist and builder Rowena Cade in the 1930's who nearly single handedly transformed a rugged cliff into one of the most famous stages in the world!
8. Cornwall is a land of legends. We have many folk tales such as the Mermaid of Zennor, The Giant Bolster and The Beast of Bodmin Moor. The beast of Bodmin Moor is a rarely sighted big black cat who is said to stalk the moors.
9. Cornwall has long boasted many famous singers who have travelled the world. Richard Jose (pronounced JOEss) was born in Cornwall in 1862 and left to find work in America aged just 14 years old. He went on to become an early recording star, having gramophone records at the beginning of the 20th century! This tradition continued.. Brenda Wootton well known in folk singing circles during the 70's and 80's once had a number 1 hit in Japan!
10. Cornwall has long been a lover of sport. Cornwall is rumoured to have invented Rugby which is said to have evolved from Cornish Wrestling and Hurling which are both much older sports played in Cornwall! Cornwall also introduced football to Mexico when miners travelled there in the 19th century. The first football team in Mexico (Pachuca Athletic Club) was originally comprised exclusively of Cornish mine workers!