

TRANSCRIPT

The phrase 'good things come in small packages' may be a cliché but in case of the compact and diverse Wales it is undeniably true.

Wales offers myriad opportunities for escaping into nature. An extensive network of paths makes Wales a hikers paradise and castles are a common feature of the Welsh landscape. You could visit a different one everyday for a year and still not see them all. But beyond that it is interactions with the Welsh people that will remain in your memory the longest.

Since 2012 all of Wales's famously beautiful coastal paths have been linked up in one continuous 870km route. The best stretch is taken in the Garrow's beautiful beaches, Pembrookshires beautiful multicolored cliffs and limestone arches. The rugged northwest corner of the country has rocky mountain peaks are glorious under the Summer sun and even better under a blanket of snow. Snowdonia is one of Wales's absolute treasures.

Some places have a presence all of their own and that is certainly true of St. David's. Officially a city, but more like a large village, the peaceful home of Wale's Patron Saint has attracted the spiritually minded for centuries.

There's barely a town in Wales of any note that doesn't have a castle towering over it but Conway's Castle's solid walls and fairy tale towers make it arguably the most beautiful of them all.

Many fine restaurants have sprung up in the flesh country side. Local craft breweries supply he better local pubs while Panderra has bought Whiskey back to this once teetotaler land.

High season runs July through August. April to June are the driest months. Travel costs in Wales can range from less than fifty pounds a day if you choose a dorm bed and a cheap meal in a cafe or pub to over 120 pounds a day for a good hotel and a three course meal.

Buses are the most useful form of public transport with routes connecting most towns and villages. A car will get you to remote corners of Wales not connected to public transport.

They talk a lot in Wales about "Hiraeth" A Welsh word that refers to a sense of longing for the green green grass of home. Even if you are not from Wales the feeling of Hiraeth can hit you when you leave, only to be sated when you return.



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