

Examples of PR Coverage received up to 4th August 2021

The Times, May 2021



'Shorelines don't get much more spectacular than at this bay' (Three Cliffs Bay)

'Our first and arguably finest Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty' Philip Thomas

Country Walking, March 2021

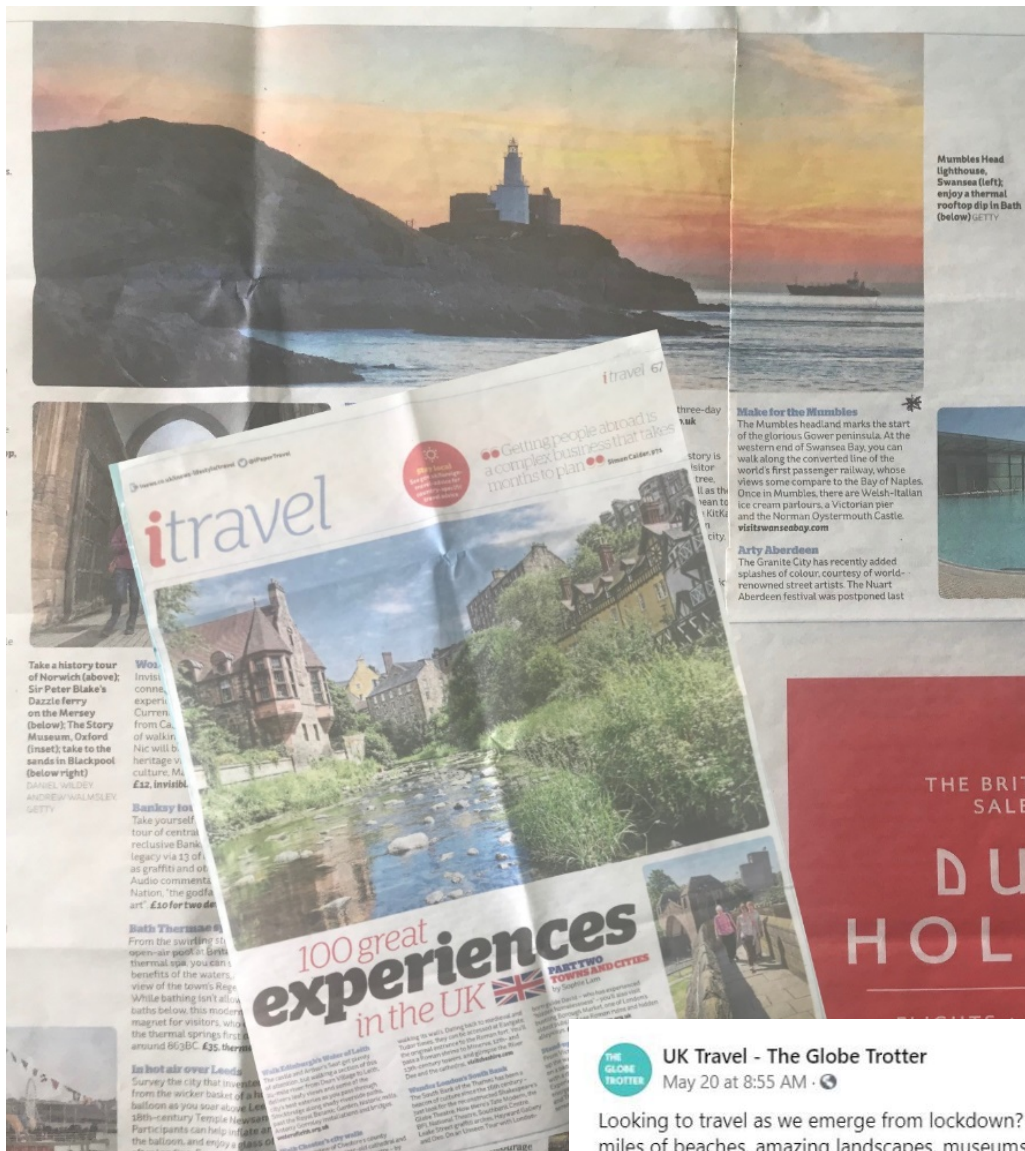
Naturally outstanding

Our first and arguably finest Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Gower is the coast with the most rocky razzmatazz and woodland calm; serene marshes and blustery hills. Where else can walkers revel in such glorious variety crammed into 73 squares miles?

WORDS: PHILIP THOMAS PHOTOS: TOM BALLEW

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The 'i' Newspaper, May 2021

'... whose views some compare to the Bay of Naples' Sophie Lam

'You must plan a visit to Swansea Bay' Deeptha Doshi

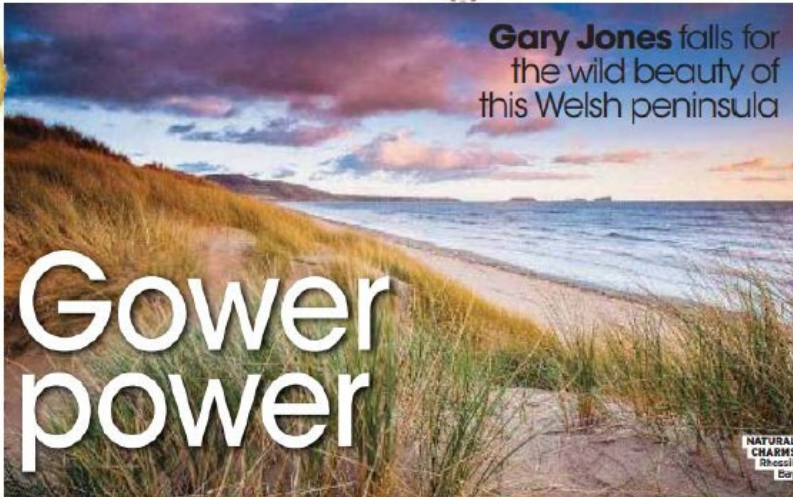
The Globe Trotter Blog, May 2021



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DAILY EXPRESS



'one of the world's most beautiful locations' Gary Jones

You'll fall in love at first glance. Jaw-droppingly beautiful, the light bounces off her majestic features, which were first celebrated 65 years ago as the UK's first Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. After the tedium of a long drive, the sight of the Gower Peninsula in West Wales instantly eradicates any feelings of tiredness and you want to embrace the panoramic scenery. We had switched from the M4 to the coastal road approaching Swansea, and stopped at the seaside city - dramatically transformed in recent years - before winding our way to the Oxwich Bay Hotel and its incredible beach views. We've visited the hotel on several occasions, lured by excellent surfing conditions for our teenagers, and fabulous coastal walks for us - never disappointing,

whatever the weather. We stayed in the hotel's Secret Garden, housing six modern accommodation pods. They are small but comfortable, and an enjoyable alternative to traditional hotel accommodation. The staff worked wonders to keep them spotlessly clean - no mean feat after we returned somewhat grubby after a day in the great outdoors. The hotel itself, a former rectory, prides itself on offering a warm Welsh welcome and tasty food using locally sourced ingredients. To set you up for the day I'd recommend the Welsh full breakfast with laverbread, a traditional delicacy made from seaweed. You'll certainly need your energy for surfing on the amazing Rhossili Bay. Our instructor, Guy Richards, has a friendly and easy-going manner that is perfect for beginners. And if you're less than agile on the waves there are always the views to admire.

After a morning of strenuous activity, we had an excellent lunch at The Bay on top of Rhossili cliffs. In the afternoon, we explored the endless expanse of coastal paths. Part of the appeal of this rugged coastline is that you can easily avoid the crowds. We took a stroll to the rocky promontory known as Worms Head, where poet Dylan Thomas was once stranded when he misjudged the tides. Two of his short stories, Extraordinary Little Cough and Who Do You Wish Was With Us? were inspired by his love of this "very beautiful peninsula, some miles from the blowsy town and so far the tea-shop philistines have not spoil: the most

The Daily Express, July 2021
This was syndicated across the media company's other titles, also appearing in **The Daily Mirror, Sunday People** and **six regional titles**

BOOK IT
Secret Garden Pods at Oxwich Bay Hotel, Gower Peninsula, start at £69 a night. oxwichbayhotel.co.uk
Beach House reservations at beachhouse01wch.co.uk
Surf lessons at flangeninthsurfschool.com
MORE INFO
visitswanseabay.com



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Yours



'Plantasia – the UK's answer to a tropical rainforest'



Yours Magazine, June 2021

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Car-free coast
Wales holidays

Phoebe Taplin
Wed 4 Aug 2021 06:30 BST

f t e

I could be by the Med: a car-free short break in Swansea

▲ Marina in Swansea from above, on a sunny day. UK Photograph: Alamy

A vibrant waterfront sets the tone for a trip of cultural delights, Dylan Thomas sights, great food and the beauty of the Gower peninsula nearby

Tall plane trees, hanging baskets and pavement cafes line pedestrianised Wind Street as it passes the ruined castle. I don't know what I expected Swansea to look like but it wasn't quite this.

My preconceptions were partly based on Dylan Thomas's "ugly, lovely town" by the sea, "white-horsed and full of fishes". After three hours on an air-conditioned Great Western Railways train from London, I'm striding past the 17th-century No Sign bar towards the city's five-mile-long beach.

Any lingering doubts about Swansea as a holiday base are dispelled when I reach Morgan's Hotel near the marina. The Edwardian building, with its dome and grand staircase, was once the offices of the Port Authority. The decor nods to its maritime history with stained-glass boats, wave-form lamps and an anchor on the stairs; my high-ceilinged, wood-floored bedroom is cool and elegant.

▲ Morgan's Hotel at dusk. Photograph: Greg Ball/Ear Evans/Alamy

Almost next door, Swansea Museum reopened in June. Inside its Victorian neoclassical mansion is a humble

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I could be by the Med: a car-free short break in Swansea

A vibrant waterfront sets the tone for a trip of cultural delights, Dyl...

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Stuart Cox
Caroline Williams ... always by the "Med" in Swansea

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"How's it above?" characters ask Cap (boiled, pureed sea Swansea Market, the her family's shellfish Penclawdd, eight mile tide sands, as they hawk cockles were brought as toast, with pasta, in a guche, or as part of a Welsh breakfast fried in bacon fat.

▲ Carol Watts (left) and sister Jo at the stall in Swansea Market. Photograph: Phoebe Taplin

I take a couple of raisin-dotted welshcakes, cooked on the hotplate of a stall nearby, for a picnic, and catch bus 118 from the nearby bus station to the village of Penmaen. It's half an hour's ride away on the lovely Gower peninsula.

Visit Swansea Bay has a list of walking routes you can reach by bus. The short ones are mostly circular, so drivers can use them, too. With no parked car to get back to, I adapt the Penmaen route and make it linear. Following the panoramic Wales Coast Path a mile or so eastwards, through bracken and pink spires of rosebay willowherb, I climb down the sandy track to Three Cliffs Bay, past carpets of samphire and purple sea lavender.

▲ Walking to Three Cliffs Bay from Pennard. Photograph: Phoebe Taplin

The coast path crosses the Pennard Pili stream on stepping stones (except at high tide), but by the time I get there, I want nothing more than to take off my walking boots and wade towards the sea. The Bristol Channel has the world's second-highest tidal range and Gower beaches change dramatically every six hours. I've been swimming for 20 minutes near a cave under the three crags that give the bay its name before I realise the tide is rising and hurry to rescue my boots from their rocky island. Cooler now, I follow the grassy bank of Pennard Pili, with the ruins of a medieval castle on the hill above, and wind through shady woods to Parkmill, home of Gower Heritage Centre (£2 for car-free visitors).

'the smell of garlic and fresh fish frying, the boats backed by pine-covered hillside: it's not too hard to imagine I'm somewhere Mediterranean.' Phoebe Taplin

The Guardian (online), August 2021