

Accessible beaches in England

When you consider the length of England's coastline, and the amount of seaside towns along it, you'd be forgiven for assuming that many of the popular beaches would be accessible.

In parts, they are, but they're not fully accessible, and that's a real shame. But there are places that take access much more seriously than others.

- **Cornwall** is a beach lover's paradise. In fact, Cornwall has more than enough beaches to create an entire list of ones to visit. However, not all of its beaches are accessible. Cornwall Council, along with Cornwall Mobility, Cornwall Disability and other charities, have worked together to create a map of accessible beaches across the county. The map also lists where Sand Chairs (beach wheelchairs) are available to hire. You can find the map here: [Sand Chairs in Cornwall](#).
- **Devon**, not unlike Cornwall, has a lot of beaches, but not all of them are accessible. There are quite a few that advertise beach wheelchairs for hire though, which you can find on the website [Accessible Countryside](#).
- **Brighton and Hove** beach in East Sussex has won numerous accolades, most notably being named as a top beach by Lonely Planet and inclusion in [Visit England's](#) accessible coastal guide. Two beach wheelchairs are available to hire from the [Seafront Office](#).
- **Great Yarmouth**, the quintessential British holiday destination on Norfolk's golden coast. Miles of sandy beaches, unlimited fun and entertainment and, of course, a few [beach wheelchairs](#), available from the Great Yarmouth tourist office.
- **Skegness**, is one of the most exciting seaside towns in the UK. It has sandy beaches, a wonderful promenade for a wheelchair walk, more entertainment than you can handle in one visit and beach wheelchairs for hire. Find out more about its wheelchairs for hire by scrolling to the bottom of the page on the [Skegness tourism website](#).



Accessible beaches in Wales

The Welsh coast is home to many accessible beaches, some of which have beach wheelchairs available for hire.

- **Broadhaven Beach** in Pembrokeshire was awarded a Blue Flag for 2016 and is a worthy winner of a Seaside Award (Resort), also in 2016. At low tide, a broad expanse of firm sand is revealed, making it one of the most popular beaches on the Pembrokeshire coast. A limited number of [beach wheelchairs](#) are available to hire there.
- **Langland Bay**, another Blue Flag beach, is situated on the beautiful Gower Peninsula. Not too far from Mumbles, this sandy beach is flanked by pretty Edwardian beach huts. Visitors can take a walk along the accessible promenade, or reserve a beach wheelchair to access the beach.
- **Saundersfoot Beach** is a large South East facing beach with golden sand, disabled access and a selection of [beach wheelchairs](#) for rent. Nearby, the pretty harbour and shopping area add to the popularity of a day out in Saundersfoot.

The beaches above are a small selection, but for a full list and to check availability of wheelchairs, take a look at these two guides: [accessible beaches in Wales](#) and [beach wheelchairs in Pembrokeshire](#).

Beach wheelchairs in Scotland

[Beach Wheelchairs](#) is a Scottish charity in North Berwick that believes everyone should have access to the country's beaches. It has four beach wheelchairs available for hire from the beach hut in North Berwick, East Lothian.

Apart from this though, unless I'm missing something, Scotland doesn't seem to have many accessible beaches or other beach wheelchairs for hire.

Northern Ireland

I don't want to be unfair and not include Northern Ireland, as I'm sure it must have accessible beaches along its beautiful coastline. But if it has, their whereabouts is not immediately apparent.

Like most people, I've looked at the official tourism website and I can find information about disabled parking and toilets at individual beaches. But not actual access to the beach or beach wheelchair hire details.

As you can probably tell from my tone, I have become frustrated by the lack of access information. I genuinely believe that information is there, even if I can't find it. And, if I'm unable to find it as a travel blogger, what chance have casual visitors got?

Clearly, this is an area of UK tourism that needs a lot more investigation and work to collate the information. I will endeavour to build a more substantial list of accessible beaches and beach wheelchair hire locations over on my blog, [The Bimblers](#).

But in the meantime, if you've visited any of these beaches or any other accessible beaches for that matter, why not leave a comment and tell us all about them.

By Robert Obey

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- [10 accessible days out across the UK](#)
- [Lonely Planet publishes accessible travel resources](#)
- [10 awesome accessible pub restaurants and getaways](#)
- [Find solutions to everyday challenges on the Disability Horizons Shop](#)

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