

11 best active weekends

A short break still gives you plenty of time to pack in some adventure, so get ready to limber up

7 Sea kayak around Jersey

The mini-archipelago of the Channel Islands is a curious corner of the British Isles where all the villages appear to have French names, and where little time seems to have passed since the 1950s. Further south than Cornwall, the warmer seas around the main island of Jersey are perfect for a kayak tour – although you will still be given a wetsuit. It might be a small place, but Jersey has a great variety on offer: the gigantic sea caves at Greve de Lecq, kayaking the reefs on the remote islets of Les Ecrehous and Les Minquiers (reached by charter boat) and a chance to see puffins and dolphins. Trips can be arranged from April to October, and there are options for all levels of experience (from £37.50 for 2½ hours; jerseykayakadventures.co.uk).

■ **ARRIVE** Jersey has flights from most UK airports, with Flybe offering the widest choice – London Gatwick from £65 return for instance (1 hour).

Jersey is also 4 hours by ferry from Poole (from £200 for car and driver; condorferries.co.uk).

■ **STAY** The Old Court House Inn is a 15th-century charmer with low lintels, twisting staircases and views across the water, in the village of St Aubin (from £90; oldcourthousejersey.com).