# VisitEngland Assessment Services



Self-Catering Visit Report

#### Old Barn Tregonetha

The Old Barn, St Column, TREGONETHA, Cornwall, TR9 6EL

**Premier Cottages** 

**Summary** 

STAR RATING

**SCHEME** 

**QUALITY SCORE** 

\*\*\*\*

**Self-Catering** 

97%

Gold Award

Walkers Welcome, Welcome Pets!

**VISIT DATE** 

**VISIT TYPE** 

22 July 2025

Day Assessment

**CONTACT** 

Mr Stephen Chidgey Owner / manager

Old Barn Tregonetha retains the high scoring Five Star Self Catering rating. The Gold Award also held for a further twelve months. Walkers Welcome and Pets Welcome schemes awarded.

A cosy, comfortable and outstanding quality cottage which displays a very high standard of maintenance. Owners Alan and Stephen work exceptionally hard to delight guests and create memorable holidays.

Accompanied visit and debrief with Stephen Chidgey, owner.

## **Quality Rating**

#### How the Overall Quality Rating is Achieved

When VisitEngland assessors visit your property, they will evaluate and give a quality score to all aspects of the accommodation and service.

The total of all these scores establishes an overall percentage score for quality. Based on this score, establishments will be given an overall quality rating on a scale of Three to Five Stars, based on the chart below, as long as all minimum entry requirements for the star rating are met.

3 STAR 4 STAR 5 STAR 60% - 74% 75% - 86% 87%-100%

There are three levels of quality ranging from Three to Five Stars. To obtain a higher star rating a progressively higher quality and range of services and physical facilities should be provided across all areas with particular emphasis in the following five key areas:

<b>BEDROOMS</b> 3 STAR 60% - 74%	4 STAR <b>75% - 86%</b>	5 STAR <b>87%-100%</b>
<b>BATHROOMS</b> 3 STAR 60% - 74%	4 STAR <b>75% - 86%</b>	5 STAR <b>87%-100%</b>
<b>CLEANLINESS</b> 3 STAR 70% - 79%	4 STAR 80% - 89%	5 STAR 90%-100%
<b>PUBLIC AREAS</b> 3 STAR 60% - 74%	4 STAR <b>75% - 86%</b>	5 STAR <b>87%-100%</b>
<b>KITCHENS</b> 3 STAR 60% - 74%	4 STAR <b>75% - 86%</b>	5 STAR <b>87%-100</b> %

2 of 9

The Old Barn		97%	5 Star
	SCORE	PERCENTAGE	RATING
Exterior	15	100%	
Appearance of Buildings/Kerb Appeal	5		
Grounds/Gardens/Parking	5		
Privacy/Peace & Quiet	5		
Cleanliness	20	100%	5 Star
Bedrooms	5		
Bathrooms	5		
Living/Dining Areas	5		
Kitchen	5		
Management & Efficiency	15	100%	
Pre-arrival Information	5		
Welcome & Arrival Procedure	5		
In-unit Guest Info & Personal Touches	5		
Public Areas	24	96%	5 Star
Decoration	5		
Flooring	5		
Furniture/Furnishings/Fittings	5		
Lighting/Heating/Ventilation	5		
Space/Comfort/Ease of use	4		
Bedrooms	33	94%	5 Star
Decoration	5		
Flooring	5		
Furniture/Furnishings/Fittings	5		
Lighting/Heating/Ventilation	5		
Beds	5		
Bedding & Bed Linen	5		
Space/Comfort/Ease of use	3		
Bathrooms	24	96%	5 Star
Decoration	5		
Flooring	5		
Furniture/Fittings/Sanitaryware	5		
Lighting/Heating/Ventilation	5		
Space/Comfort/Ease of use	4		
Kitchen	39	97%	5 Star
Decoration	5		
Flooring	5		
Furniture/Furnishings/Fittings	5		
Lighting/Heating/Ventilation	5		
Electrical & Gas Equipment	5		
Crockery/Cutlery/Glassware Kitchenware/Pans/Utensils	5 5		
Space/Comfort/Ease of use	4		

## **Exterior**

Old Barn is located in a peaceful countryside location, yet only a short drive from coastal attractions.

The cottage offers guests a spacious enclosed garden, parking and EV charging point. Alan and Stephen take great pride in the beautiful garden and flower displays.

#### Cleanliness

Once again, outstanding cleanliness levels noted throughout all areas of the property. Alan and Stephen work exceptionally hard to keep each area spotlessly clean and pristine for every guest arrival. On quieter times, a full deep clean is performed which includes stripping down of the Aga. Bathrooms are spotless and sparkling. Bedrooms dust free and regular attention paid to moving furniture.

### **Management & Efficiency**

Stephen manages all marketing which includes promotion via a number of online platforms and the very comprehensive website. Bookings can be made direct or also online.

Owners Stephen and Allen live next door, therefore able to provide a very comprehensive service including a through changeover clean, property maintenance and assistance with any guest queries or holiday tips. Fresh pasties are delivered to guests the day after arrival.

A very generous welcome pack is provided which includes a hamper of Cornish goodies, cake, breakfast pack, flowers, variety of sauces and condiments. Plenty of excellent quality eco friendly cleaning products supplied.

Many thoughtful personal touches added to the property including books, games, cocktail kit, EV charger, piano, log burner and a wine fridge.

#### **Public Areas**

A very cosy and thoughtfully designed upstairs living space with the grand piano a striking feature. The property benefits from a separate dining area and conservatory space. Attractive artwork is thoughtfully selected to complement the style of the house. All decoration, furniture and easy seating is pristine.

#### **Bedrooms**

Bedrooms are high quality and comfortable using deep Hypnos mattresses and pristine Egyptian cotton. Linen and bedding is equal quality, regularly checked for quality and comfort. Decoration, flooring and furniture items present like new.

#### **Bathrooms**

The bathrooms are beautifully presented using high quality tiling, sanitary ware and fixtures. All sealant, grouting and paintwork is immaculate.

#### Kitchen

An outstanding kitchen is noted with all appliances, decoration, flooring, worktops and units presenting like new. Appliances range is excellent with high quality makes throughout. A new eco friendly tumble dryer has been added. A vast selection of crockery, cutlery and glassware and cookware is provided.

#### **Units Seen**

Old Barn is a single unit and viewed entirely on the day.

#### Website Feedback

Website viewed: https://www.oldbarncornwall.co.uk/

A very well presented and informative website which is easy to navigate. The website provides guests with detailed information on the accommodation, local area and all required contact details. Images are professional, clear and accurately reflect the accommodation.

VisitEngland star rating logo and Gold Award logo displayed.

Online booking is provided on the dedicated website. Owners also use a variety of online platforms including Premier Cottages.

Provision of accessibility information is a key barrier to disabled people participating in tourism. It is therefore a scheme requirement to have accessibility information on your website, stating your venue's key accessibility features. From summer 2024, you will also be required to complete a questionnaire in order for your key accessibility features to be shown on your RatedTrips.com venue listing.

In addition, you are encouraged to provide detailed accessibility information, with the recommended format being an AccessAble Detailed Access Guide. Find out more via the AccessAble Your Accessibility Guide portal (not a scheme requirement). Further information can be found at https://visitengland.youraccessibilityguide.co.uk/

The VisitEngland business advice hub is a very useful resource for legal obligations, tips and practical support: https://www.visitbritain.org/business-advice

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The badge of trust for hospitality and tourism-join businesses around the UK in gaining enhanced consumer trust with our simple, free mark of compliance: https://visitorready.com/

PASC UK is a comprehensive source of industry information and owners can sign up for the free newsletter. Further information viewed by visiting: https://www.pascuk.co.uk/

### Potential for Improvement

Ongoing maintenance and updating as required.

#### **Highlights**

Beautifully presented interior.

Thoughtful range of additional touches including EV charger, piano, log burner and the Aga. Superb kitchen with a very comprehensive inventory.

Dog friendly.

Very generous welcome pack.

Feature slipper bath.

Excellent cleaning standards.

Stephen and Allen actively support the local community and also the Air Ambulance through the property.

## Minimum Entry Requirements

For a rating to be awarded by VisitEngland, a property must meet all Minimum Entry Requirements and any additional requirements appropriate for the star rating level.

Name	The Old Barn
Standard	Self-Catering
Designator	Self-Catering Unit

Rating 5 Star Gold Award

At the time of our visit, all of the Minimum Entry Requirements and Additional requirements/Key Requirements were provided.

## Specialities (optional)

The following specialities have been awarded:



Walkers Welcome
Deficiencies: None



Welcome Pets!

Deficiencies: None

#### **Useful Numbers**

#### **Customer Support**

01256 338350

All property enquiries, including assessments, reports, ratings, signage, training, and logo requests

VisitEnglandAssessmentServices@aamediagroup.co.uk

#### **Assessment Services Accounts**

01733 207324

All financial and payment enquiries

VECreditControl@aamediagroup.co.uk

#### **Useful Links**

#### Online Details Portal

Change your online information on RatedTrips.com; add up to 20 photographs and showcase your facilities.

http://www.ratedtrips.com/update-your-profile

#### **Business Support**

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## VisitEngland Inspection Appeals Procedure

Proprietors who wish to appeal against the results of a VisitEngland assessment carried out at their establishment must follow the procedure outlined below:

- 1. Any appeal must be made in writing to VisitEngland Assessment Services within 21 days of the original report being received.
- 2. The Appeal should detail the main reason for the appeal.
- 3. Should the appeal be about the level of star rating proprietors should ensure that their establishment meets all the necessary minimum requirements outlined in the Quality Standards booklet (a PDF or hard copy may be requested from Customer Services).
- 4. Appeals will be formally acknowledged within 7 working days of receipt of the appeal together with a form to organise an appeal visit on a day basis.
- 5. The appeal visit will be subject to a non-refundable fee which will not be organised until full payment had been received.
- 6. Once the application and fee is received, an appeal visit from a member of the senior assessor team will take place within 4-6 weeks of receipt (Subject to the establishment's availability).
- 7. The findings of the appeal visit will be fed back in the normal way of both discussions and a report following the visit.
- 8. The outcome of this report will supersede the previous visit and will be final.

Appeal Visit Fees (non-refundable) are available on request from Customer Services.