

## VisitEngland Assessment Services

Self-Catering Visit Report

### Old Barn Tregonetha

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

**Premier Cottages** 

Summary

STAR RATING

★★★★

DESIGNATOR

**QUALITY SCORE** 

Self-Catering

97%

Gold Award

**VISIT DATE** 

**VISIT TYPE** 

31 October 2022

Day Assessment

**CONTACT** 

Stephen Chidgey Owner

Old Barn Tregonetha retains the high scoring Five Star Self Catering rating. The Gold Award also held for a further twelve months.

A characterful and beautifully maintained converted barn located in the peaceful hamlet of Tregonetha. This exceptionally well equipped property offers an excellent quality retreat for guests to relax and enjoy the many carefully selected features including the Aga, log burner and the piano. Owners work hard to maintain high standards all throughout the year and this is certainly reflected in the impressive number of bookings.

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 One to Five Stars, based on the chart below, as long as all minimum entry requirements for the star rating are met.

34% - 47%	48% - 59%	60% - 74%	75% - 86%	87%-100%	
1 STAR	2 STAR	3 STAR	4 STAR	5 STAR	

There are five levels of quality ranging from One 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:

BEDROOMS				
1 STAR	2 STAR	3 STAR	4 STAR	5 STAR
34% - 47%	48% - 59%	60% - 74%	75% - 86%	87%-100%
BATHROOMS				
1 STAR	2 STAR	3 STAR	4 STAR	5 STAR
34% - 47%	48% - 59%	60% - 74%	75% - 86%	87%-100%
CLEANLINESS				
1 STAR	2 STAR	3 STAR	4 STAR	5 STAR
60% - 64%	65% - 69%	70% - 79%	80% - 89%	90%-100%
<b>PUBLIC AREAS</b>				
1 STAR	2 STAR	3 STAR	4 STAR	5 STAR
34% - 47%	48% - 59%	60% - 74%	75% - 86%	87%-100%
KITCHENS				
1 STAR	2 STAR	3 STAR	4 STAR	5 STAR
34% - 47%	48% - 59%	60% - 74%	75% - 86%	87%-100%

The Old Barn 97% 5 Star RATING SCORE PERCENTAGE

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

#### Exterior

The garden has enjoyed further planting for this season with a variety of bright flowers, hedging and shrubs. Guests can enjoy the spacious enclosed lawn area which has a BBQ and seating. Parking well allocated to the frontage and an EV charger provided.

### Cleanliness

Stephen and Allen thoroughly clean the property from top to bottom on every changeover, taking great care to even pull out appliances, furniture and beds each time. All areas noted to be immaculate, fresh smelling and displaying an excellent standard of cleanliness. Surfaces highly polished, flooring throughout vacuumed/mopped and all high/low levels dust free. The kitchen appliances kept spotless and all inventory items checked. Bedrooms kept pristine with all linen perfectly laundered. Bathrooms sparkling and tidy.

## 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.

Wi-Fi and television connection updated for this season.

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

## **Public Areas**

The public areas are very comfortably appointed and neatly maintained. Paint finishes are kept mark free and the variety of thoughtfully selected artwork compliments beautifully. Furniture is sturdy and practical for guests needs. SOft furnishings and easy seating all kept mark free with regular cleaning as required. Heating and lighting provision modern and very easily controlled.

### **Bedrooms**

The bedrooms are very well maintained with neat decorative finishes, thoughtfully selected artwork and attractive original features. Flooring is practical and easy to clean. Furniture remains very sturdy and offers plenty of storage/set down space. Beds are deep, supportive and very comfortable. All linen and bedding is immaculate, finishing the overall excellent bed presentation.

## **Bathrooms**

The bathrooms are certainly a delightful feature of the property with a striking slipper bath and walk-in shower offered to the upstairs ensuite. Both facilities have been very carefully maintained with excellent quality tiling, mark free sealant and neat grouting.

It is understood the ground floor bathroom is planned for refurbishment in due course with a new walk-in shower layout proposed.

### Kitchen

The kitchen is cooks highlight, being extensively supplied with almost every inventory item a guest could need! Regular checks are made and items replaced as required; new for this year is the excellent coffee machine and milk frother. Bespoke units, granite worktops and outstanding quality appliances add to the very impressive overall quality of this superb kitchen. Guests also have additional space and items located in the utility room- a very handy area.

#### **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.

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

Visit www.RatedTrips.com for AA and VisitEngland rated places to stay, eat and visit Follow us on Twitter @ratedtripsUK, Instagram @ratedtrips and Facebook @ratedtripsuk

## Potential for Improvement

Ground floor bathroom is planned for refurbishment.

## 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)

These have not been awarded or assessed.

#### **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.

www.ratedtrips.com/update

#### **Business Support**

Advice and support for your business, including training opportunities and discounts.

www.ratedtrips.com/business-support

#### **Participant Benefits**

Exclusive offers and discounts to help your business

www.ratedtrips.com/participant-<u>benefits</u>

## Participant offers and discounts























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Got a question? – email us at <a href="mailto:contact@ratedtrips.com">contact@ratedtrips.com</a>

## 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.