

*CHANNEL VIEW*  
*GUEST HOUSE*

# Guide to Weymouth



# Hi, my name's Melaney



I moved into CV in March 2018 during a snow storm, the Beast from the East was raging, the roads were treacherous and 99% of the UK had batten down the hatches. But when I picked up the keys, I didn't care that this was a terrible day for driving down from London, moving house and starting a new life, it was the best day ever, hands down, no question.

My friends and family have been part of the adventure - decorating, breakfast tasting, thoughtful touches, they have been absolute legends and you'll probably meet some of them when you come to stay, they're here a lot (I've become quite popular since moving here!)

Being a Weymouth newbie has meant I have had the pleasure of finding places to eat, drink, hang out for myself, which means I've been to a lot of pubs, restaurants, cafes, tough gig I know. So I wanted to put together this guide to help my guests have an incredible stay in Weymouth at CV. If you like it and want to follow me on social channels to see updates, news and random stuff –

- Fb: [@ChannelViewWeymouth](#)
- Insta: [Channel view bandb](#)



## Award Winning

Weymouth Beach has been awarded a blue flag and a seaside award by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy, two of our public gardens have won Green Flag awards, [Sunday Times](#) declared it the best beach in the UK and [daysoutwiththekids.co.uk](#) gave us the gold award for family seaside towns. Everyone loves Weymouth!

## CV recommendations

When you visit a town for the first time, it's tricky to know what's good and where to head. Of course everyone has their own preferences, but I've done a recce and here are my personal recommendations for the best pubs, restaurants, ice cream, fish n chips, coffee, views. And please give me your recommendations too, I love to try new places and they might make the next guide

## Where to start

If you're staying the weekend, you don't have time to waste blundering around (unless you want to), so here's a few itinerary ideas that have been tried and tested with friends and family. They include girls weekends, romantic breaks and family fun so you can fit in as much good stuff as possible

***Disclaimer: Weather not guaranteed***



## SO FIRST THINGS FIRST....

### ....BEST PUB – [RED LION](#), HOPE SQUARE

This is a special pub as me, mum and dad found it when we were exploring Weymouth for the first time pre-move in and their team gave me the warmest welcome ever. They also have my fav wine, lovely pub grub, a huge outdoor area for summer and a warm fire for winter, literally a perfect pub



## Girls weekend ideas



### Day

- [Monart Spa](#) treatments
- [Jurassic jet ski tour](#)
- Walk to Bowleaze Cove via [The Lookout café](#), have a [private Sauna](#) overlooking the sea and hire [sunbeds with bar service](#)!
- Afternoon tea at [Wishing Well](#)
- Shopping down St Alban St

### Evening

- Harbourside sundowners
- Cocktails at [Caffeine](#) / 44
- Dinner at [Rockfish](#) (fish), [Bacaro](#) (Italian / pizza) or [Red Lion](#) (pub grub)
- Weybiza pubs and bars for live music
- [The Closet](#) for late drinks and dancing



## ← BEST ICE-CREAM – [ROSSI'S](#), THE ESPLANADE

Not sure what they put in it, but it tastes like nothing else. This comes with a Steven warning – my first summer, he swooped from behind and stole the flake clean out of the cone, so beware



## BEST FISH N CHIPS – [BENNETTS](#), OVER THE HARBOUR BRIDGE →

Best place to eat them is on the benches outside Bennetts overlooking the harbour, although this comes with another Steven warning (again, from personal experience)



### **BEST WHOLE BAY VISTA – THE LOOKOUT CAFE, BOWLEAZE COVEWAY**

It's at the top of a steep hill, but its worth the climb, you can see the Osmington, Bowleaze cove, Weymouth bay and Portland in one go. Treat yourself to the view, coffee and cake or smashed avo on toast

### **BEST CHANNEL VISTA – OLIVETO, PIER BANDSTAND, ESPLANADE**

There are several reasons to book Oliveto – it's staggering distance from CV, the Italian food is delicious, service is delightful, but the biggest pull is the incredible sea view from almost every table, stunning at sunset

### **BEST HARBOUR VISTA – HARBOUR TERRACE / VINOLO / QUAYSIDE / HATCH**

The harbour is the buzziest place during Summer as all the bars and restaurants maximise the outside space, creating a fun al fresco experience. People and boat watching is literally compulsory during your stay – for cheese and wine, Vinolo; for seafood platters, Harbour Terrace; for varied good quality food, Quayside bar and kitchen; and fishy street food, Hatch

### **BEST KEPT SECRET – DUMPLINGS AND BUNS AT MARRIA'S**

Proper real fresh homemade Chinese dumplings and buns in a cafe on Westham rd. Would choose these as my last meal on death row



### **BEST CRAB SANDWICH – HAMILTONS, BRUNSWICK TERRACE →**

Yes, best crab sandwich, but I need to give a nod to everything about Hamilton's as it's one of my most favourite places ever. Lunch, dinner, coffee, wine, ice cream, cake, staff, location, it's all amazing and I'm so chuffed they're my neighbours. They are also my supplier of the sandwiches and cakes for the CV Happy Hamper



## **BEST AFTERNOON TEA – WISHING WELL, UPWEY**

This place is so special, I cannot recommend it enough and don't want to spoil the surprise by saying too much here. The gardens are wonderful, but also a kids hide n seek dream, the tea and cakes on vintage crockery are truly lovely, the service is amazing and the hot lunches are delicious. It's slightly outside of Weymouth in the chocolate box village of Upwey (thatched cottages, big church and small roads), so need to drive / cab. A real treat

## **BEST BOAT TRIPS - MOONFLEET TALL SHIP, PORTLAND MARINA → / RIB CHARTER BAY BLAST**

You can usually spot Moonfleet in Weymouth Bay from CV, just look for her three sails. You can bring a picnic and join in with the sailing on a 2 hour or day long trip around the Jurassic Coast 🚤. The captain and his crew know everything about the area, so feel free to ask questions. And the Bay Blast is 20 minutes of pure speed and joy. They play 80's rock, perform donuts and you might get a bit wet, but it's awesome. Head to the pier by Bennetts to book

## **BEST MASSAGE – BREEZE, ST EDMUNDS ST**

There are some beautiful day spas near Weymouth, but I'm loyal to Breeze for my monthly pamper. It's in town, the staff are so lovely and they are reasonably priced. I can personally recommend the Swedish massage, but they also do beauty treatments such as facials, lashes, waxing and nails #becauseyourreallyworthit



## **BEST RESTAURANT FOR FISH – CRAB HOUSE CAFÉ, FERRYMAN'S WAY →**

So ferryman's many reasons, they're award winning, they have their own onsite oyster farm, crabs come with tools, bibs and buckets and there's alfresco dining and beautiful garden overlooking the estuary

## **FOR MEAT – SAMBO, ESPLANADE**

A Brazilian rodizio so bring your loose pants. Really good quality food but be ready for meat sweats

## **FOR BRUNCH – NAUTICO LOUNGE, ST THOMAS ST / COFFEE JAZZ, ST THOMAS ST**

I don't get to have brunch often, but when I do, this is where I head – Nautico has a great menu including all your fav brunch options and Coffee Jazz is a friendly café with good portions, mad hot drinks and homemade cakes



## **FOR FANCY DINNER – LES ENFANTS TERRIBLE, CUSTOM HOUSE QUAY**

Tried, tested and tres formidable. Chef Eric brings all the personality too, it's quite an experience!

## **FOR INFORMAL DINNER – SEABEATS, ESPLANADE**

The chef owner comes from Crabhouse Café, nuff said. Also, awesome sushi, lobster linguine and affogatos

## **FOR DORCH – AL MOLO, HIGH WEST ST, DORCHESTER**

They've moved this fab Italian from opposite CV to Dorchester, but it's still the same lovely service, menu and atmosphere

## **FOR A LOCALS SECRET – OASIS, OVERCOMBE CORNER**

This place is at the end of the promenade towards Bowleaze Cove, a beach café by day with tables on the pebbles, but it changes to a twinkly nightlit supper club on Fridays and Saturdays nights with new menu every month and the best fish stew in town

## **BEST RESTAURANT FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS – CATCH AT THE OLD FISH MARKET**

This place is above Weyfish fishmongers in the harbour, it's very special and included in the Michelin Restaurant Guide, the only one in Weymouth and one of only handful in Dorset! I need more birthdays

## **FOR BIG GROUPS – THE GEORGE BAR & GRILL, HARBOURSIDE**

The George has never let me down, the service is great, the food is good, they've always fit me in last minute, they host large parties and they overlook the harbour, my personal go-to

## **FOR ROMANCE – HALL'S KITCHEN, ST MARYS ST**

Delicious fish, impressive menu, lovely ambience. Definitely pre-book as it's so popular and it's not big

## **FOR ASIAN CUISINE – MONA'S, ST MARYS ST / MING WAH, ST THOMAS ST / CHILLI'S, QUEENS ST / WHITE PEPPER, ST MARYS ST / DRGNFLY, BREWERY QUAY, DORCH**

- Mona's is authentic Thai food – eat in or takeaway. It's small so book ahead
- Ming Wah is Chinese with old school lazy susans and fortune cookies
- Chilli's is Indian and has modern décor, delicious food and good service
- White Pepper is traditional Keralan cuisine and a little bit mind-blowing
- Drgnfly is pan Asian fusion and I love their sushi and prawn toast!

## **LAST BUT NOT LEAST, THE STRIP – ROCKFISH, THE NOOK, KIKA, BACARO →**

These places are prime location on the sea front and provide excellent food and drink as well as some late night options

- Rockfish is Mitch Tonks place, good for kids and different daily catch of the day (with a surprise in the loos!)
- Kika is tapas (the new menu is amazing) and cocktails with gorgeous décor and big tables for parties
- The Nook is cocktails and DJ's, fun for pre-vening drinks outside and dancing after hours
- Bacaro is a solid Italian with great risottos and are very good at fitting you in without reservations



## BEST COFFEE / TEA – [FINCA](#), ST THOMAS ST

Loads of coffee beans to pick from, friendly staff, cool interior, great for people-watching and having a pit stop mid-shop, plus the best tiffin ever

## BEST BEACH BAR - [THE BOAT CAFE-BAR](#)

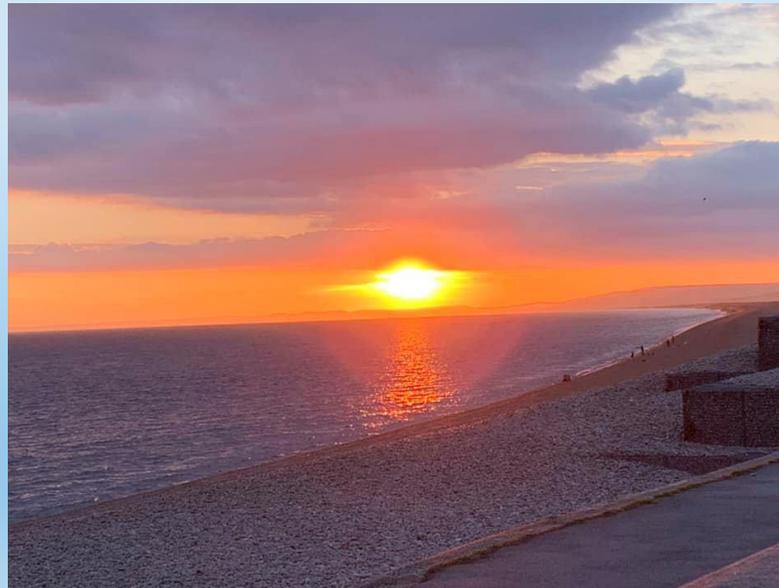
Only place actually on Weymouth beach and views across the sands and Jurassic coast. You can get ice-cream, chips, coffee or beers here whilst keeping one eye on the kids playing on the sands (although I'm afraid this comes with yet another Steven warning)



**BEST SUNRISE GOES TO.....CV OBVS ↓**  
I'm not bias, it's just facts



**BEST SUNSET PLACE - [COVE HOUSE INN](#), CHESIL BEACH ↓**



## Key Events

- [Weymouth half marathon](#) – March
- [Weymouth 10k](#) – March
- [Wessex Folk Festival](#) - May
- [100k Jurassic coast challenge](#) – May
- [Fayre in the square](#) – May
- [Armed Forces Day](#) – June
- [70.3 Ironman](#) – September
- [Dusk till Dawn performing arts](#) – September
- [Beach Motocross](#) – October
  
- Live music in [Greenhill Gardens](#) – every Sunday through summer
- [Quayside festival](#) – Bank Holiday weekends, Easter, New Year
- Fireworks – Mondays in summer, Bonfire Night, New Year
- [Pavilion Theatre](#) – year-round programme

## Romantic weekend ideas

- Picnic on [Moonfleet Tall Ship](#)
- Drinks at [Billy Winters](#) then dinner at [CrabHouse Cafe](#)
- Walk round Nothe Gardens then lunch at [Nothe Tavern](#) followed by drinks at [Red Lion](#)
- Cheese and wine (fondue in winter!) at [Vinolo](#)
- Harbour sundowners watching the bridge lift with fish n chips

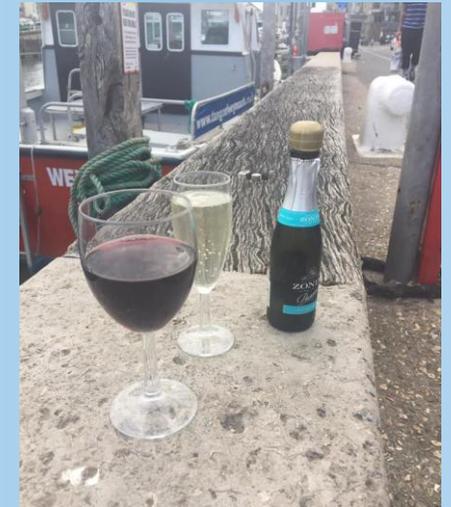
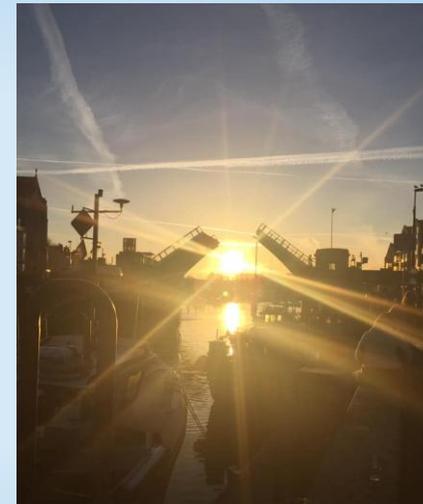
## BEST SUNDAY LUNCH – [THE GLOUCESTER](#), ESPLANADE / [NOTHE TAVERN](#), NOTHE FORT →

The carvery at The Gloucester has never let me down with 3 meat choices and so much veg, plus it's delicious. And Nothe Tavern is a lovely pub with a great view of the harbour

**BEST LIVE MUSIC** – tricky to choose, because the amount of live music here is epic. Buskers in Hope Square and round the harbour, Sunday afternoons in Greenhill Gardens, Finn's rock pub, Karen on Sundays (4-7pm) at The Royal Oak, but my top tips have to be [The Belvedere Inn](#) (known for their band nights and the beer garden is pretty cool too), [Duke of Cornwall](#) (always buzzing) and Saturday evenings at the [Stone Pier Café](#) (live music as the sun goes down does not get better than this)

## BEST FOR HARBOUR FUN...THE HARBOUR WALL! →

You \*can\* sit inside a harbour pub, but why miss the sun set, the bridge lift, the fishing boats coming in and soaking up the marina vibes? Grab a pint from the pub and find a sunny spot on the wall





## Active day out – Durdle door and Lulworth Cove

- X54 / 55 Bus / drive / taxi (£35) to Durdle door car park

Short walk (30 minutes)

- View Man O War beach and Durdle door then walk the coastal path to Lulworth Cove

Longer walk (3 hours 30 minutes)

- Walk a loop to [White Nothe via Bats Head](#)

Refreshments at Lulworth Cove -

- Coffee and cake in [Boat Shed Café](#) on the beach
- Pint and lunch in [Lulworth Cove Inn](#)
- Poolside drinks overlooking the bay at [Rudd's](#)

## Dorchester day out

- 10 bus at Prince Regent / train to Dorchester South / East
- Play Bargain Hunt at [Curiosity Centre](#)
- [Prison tour](#) and [Shire Hall Museum](#)
- Market Day on Wednesdays
- Lunch at [Ambience](#) for Japanese food or the many places in [Brewery Square](#), wine tasting at [Pursuit of Poppiness](#)

## BEST DESSERT SHOP

Once again, I've selflessly taken one for the team and this time, I've been researching the dessert shops that are literally everywhere at the moment. Here's the results of a tough week eating and drinking sugar:

[W2 milkshake - bubble tea - gelato / Drink inc.](#) for bubble tea

[Suttons Coffee Shop](#) for homemade cakes

[Baboo](#) beach kiosk for milkshakes

[Creams Cafe Dorchester](#) if you're in Dorchester

## BEST BAR – DEPENDS ON WHAT TICKLES YOU

[Nook](#) for DJ dancing, [Kika](#) for alfresco Esplanade drinks, [Caffeine](#) for cocktails, [Closet](#) for gay friendly fun, [Vinolo](#) for wine, [The Dog House](#) microbrewery for real ale, [Finn's](#) for it's rock jukebox, [44](#) secret cocktail club for vodka martini's, [Dry Dock](#) for alcohol free nights, [Sticks n Bones](#) for board games whilst you drink, [Convivial Rabbit](#) in Dorch for independent local beers and ales, [Pursuit of Poppiness](#) for Bride Valley wines especially their local Crémant!



## Driving day out – Isle of Portland

1. [Watersports](#) lessons and hire in Portland Harbour
2. Coffee / lunch at [Jail House Café](#)
3. [Tout Quarry sculpture park](#) (spot the Antony Gormley)
4. [Portland Bill](#) lighthouse (scones at Lobster Pot)
5. [Church Ope](#) cove (via pirate's graveyard)
6. Vista at [The Heights Hotel](#)
7. Sunset dinner at [Cove House Inn](#)



## Kids fun

### Dry / sunny weather

- Weymouth sands for donkey rides, Punch & Judy, Alexandra Gardens (rides and arcade), M&S beach picnic
- Crabbing in the harbour
- [Pirate adventure golf](#)

### Wet weather

- [Sticks n Bones](#) has so many board games and computer games, adults and kids love it! Escape rooms coming shortly
- Bowleaze cove [Fantasy Island](#) fun fair and soft play
- [Sealife Centre](#) / [Sandworld](#), Weymouth
- [Monkey world](#), Wareham
- [The Palm house](#) play cafe, Weymouth
- [D Day Centre](#), Portland
- Pottery painting at [Gone Potty](#), St Marys St

### Kid-friendly eating

- [The George](#), harbourside (pub grub)
- [Rockfish](#), Esplanade (fish)
- [Nautico Lounge](#), St Thomas St (brunch, everything)
- [Enzo's](#), Esplanade (Italian)



## Ideas for Dorset fun

### Foodies and drinkies

1. Celeb eateries – MasterChef winner Mat Follas's café in Sherborne – [Bramble](#) (second left), Mark Hix's [Oyster & Fish House](#) in Lyme Regis, Mitch Tonks' [Rockfish](#) group in Weymouth and Poole, [Rick Stein's](#) at Sandbanks
2. Michelin eateries – [Catch](#) overlooking Weymouth harbour, [Lilac](#) in Lyme Regis, [Brassica](#) or [Ollerod](#) in Beaminster, [Shell Bay](#) in Studland, [Seaside Boarding House](#) in Burton Bradstock (far left), [The Green](#) in Sherbourne, [White Post](#) in Rimpton
3. Sample some local tipples at [Little Waddon Vineyard](#) (second right), [Langham Wine Estate](#) or [Bride Valley](#)
4. Country pub grub with beautiful gardens or cosy fires at [The Thimble Inn](#) or [The Wise Man Inn](#)

### Walkers

1. Forest rambling around [Thomas Hardy's Cottage](#), Higher Bockhampton
2. Walk along the [Rodwell Trail](#) ending up at Billy Winters for mackerel baps (5k)
3. South West Coastal Trail to Osmington Mills ending up at Smugglers Inn (7.5k)
4. [Shute's Lane and Hell's Lane](#) near Symondsburry is a stunning sunken trail (far right)
5. Park at [Moonfleet Manor](#) and do a [loop](#) before afternoon tea on the lawns (10k)



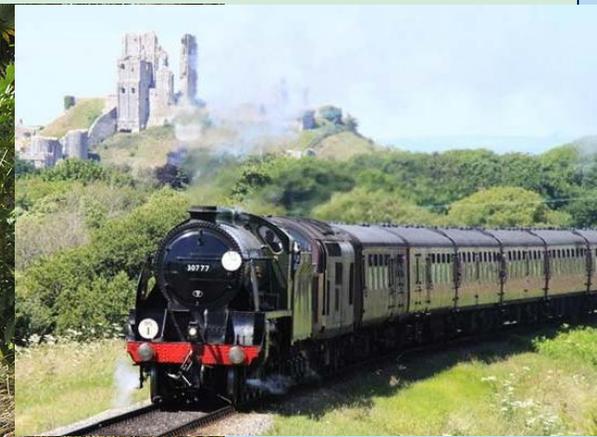
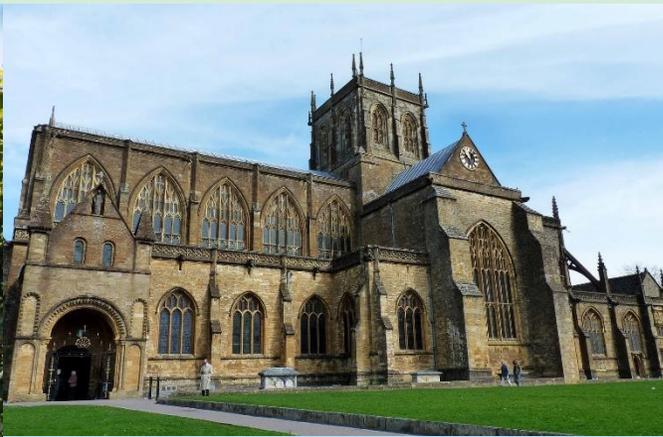
## More ideas for Dorset fun

### Day trippers

1. Drive along the [Jurassic Coast](#) to Lyme Regis (the prettiest seaside village – far left) and West Bay (great emporium)
2. [Steam train at Swanage](#) (far right)
3. Catch a flick at an independent cinema - [Plaza](#) in Dorchester or the [Rex](#) in Wareham, so much nicer
4. Potter round [Poundbury](#) built on Duchy of Cornwall land – visit my award winning butchers and deli Braces, get a beauty treatment at Monart Spa, drinks at The Duchess of Cornwall
5. Market Day is Wednesday in Dorchester and Bridport and an [amazing vintage market](#) in Bridport last Sunday of the month

### Culture vultures

1. Sightseeing at [Sherborne Abbey](#) (second left) and [Corfe Castle](#)
2. Potter round the [Sub-tropical Gardens](#) (second right) in Abbotsbury
3. Visit to [Tyneham](#), the forgotten village where time has stood still since 1943
4. Soak up the awesome art at [Sculpture on the lakes](#) and take a picnic for the many seating areas (no under 14's)
5. Head to Bere Farm in Lytchett Matravers for lunch at [The Barn Café](#) , a wander round [The Old Piggery garden centre](#) and pick up a French antique



## BEST TAKEAWAYS / DELIVERY

If town restaurants are full or you just fancy a takeaway, there are plenty of places that do great food to eat on the beach, harbour or book a table at CV (cutlery, plates, etc. will be provided):

Sunday carvery – [Galley Roasts](#), (01305) 784059

Scotch eggs – [Fantastic Sausages](#), St Marys St, 776212

Lunchtime sandwiches / pasties – Crusty Cob, St Albans St, 784605

Afternoon tea – [St Johns Guesthouse](#), Dorchester Rd, 775523

Chinese – [Ming Wah](#), St Thomas St, 773282

Indian – [Chilli's](#), opp. Station, 766601

Pizza – [Napoli](#), next to the bridge, 781706

Kebab, [Weymouth Kebab House](#), Westham Rd, 771616

Or for that special occasion and day trip.....



## .....THE CV HAPPY HAMPER!!

Order it 48 hours in advance:

Crab / ham / cheese sandwiches (select one per person)

Dip and pitta

Homemade cakes – all from Hamiltons

Handmade scotch egg / pork pie from Fantastic Sausages

Olives / crisps / fruit

Bottle of water

Flask of tea

Cost: £35 (plus £5 refundable on hampers return)

Add a bottle of prosecco and / or beers at additional cost

All in a beautiful wicker hamper complete with cutlery, crockery, glasses, rug, bottle opener AND exclusive use of the CV beach hut



As mentioned at the beginning, these are only my humble opinions and we might not agree, but I hope you find your new favourite places and have a fab time in Weymouth

There is more tourist information available at CV, including local attraction leaflets, maps, bus and train time tables and taxi phone numbers. There is also tourist information available [here](#)

If you have any questions or need any more information, please do not hesitate to call me on 01305 782 527

See you soon!

