



# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

## Wales - Cardiff

### Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Cardiff
- ✓ **Language:** Welsh, English
- ✓ **Population:** ± 335,200
- ✓ **Sq. km:** ± 140.3
- ✓ **Currency:** Pounds (GBP - £)
- ✓ **Country code:** +44 (029)
- ✓ **Visa:** Yes, not part of EU. Info [here](#).
- ✓ **Emergency phone:** 999
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** None



### History Recap Over 1 Drink

1277: King Edward of England invaded Wales – Llywelyn ap Gruffydd last prince of independent Wales. History marked by revolts against English. 1671: Welsh Captain Morgan in Panama. 1801: UK formed. '15: Role in defeating Napoleon: Britain imperial power. '65: Welsh formed Puerto Madryn in Argentina. Early 1900s: Coal mining industry Wales. 40s: Industrial Revolution, peak in 2<sup>nd</sup> half 19th Century. '14-'18: WWI, against Germany. '29: World stock market crash. '31: Economic crisis. '39: Germany invades Poland, UK declares war. '40: Churchill. Battle of Britain. German bombings. '44: Allied invade France on D-Day (6/6). '45: Germany surrenders. UK: UN Security Council. '49: Founder member NATO. '73: joins. '79: Thatcher prime minister, free market policies, privatization state-run industries. '82: Falkland war Argentina. '93: Welsh official tongue (recognized by EU in 2008). '97: Blair - Labour Party. Diana dies. '99: UK takes part in war against Yugoslavia. 2000: Intervene in Sierra Leone. 01: UK supports US. '05: London bombings. IRA (Ireland) ends armed campaign. Blair. '08: Financial crisis. '10: Cameron. Euthanasia law Wales. '11: Intervention Libya. '13: Anti-EU ideas start. '14: Raising Islamic immigration & 2<sup>nd</sup> generation. '14: Gay marriage legal. '17: "Islamist" attacks. '20: Brexit.

### Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Spring												
Summer												
Autumn												
Winter												
Budget												

Altitude: 307m (highest point: Garth Hill). Climate: Oceanic Climate (Cfb).

### Bucket List For Free

☺ **Sights:** Cardiff Bay, [Mermaid Quay](#), Ianto's Shrine (Mermaid Quay), [Pierhead Building](#), [Tinkinswood Burial Chamber](#), Dead Man's Alley, [The Pumping Station](#), Elm Street, [Llandaff](#) & [St. David's Cathedral](#), [City Hall](#), [Cardiff Central Library](#), Water Tower, [Insole Court](#), [Rhondda Heritage Park \(Welsh Mining Experience\)](#), [Cardiff Indoor Flea Market](#), [Cathays Cemetery](#), Merchant's Seafarer's statue, [St. Fagans Castle](#)...  
 ☺ **Geocaching** is a great way to check off famous and less-famous sights in Cardiff.

☺ **Free Museums:** [National Museum Cardiff](#), [Museum of Cardiff](#), [St. Fagans National Museum of History](#), [Off The Wall Art Gallery](#), [Albany Art Gallery](#) & More.

### Worth The Extra \$€¥

👍 **Museums & Sights:** [Cardiff Castle](#), [Firing Line Museum](#), [Castle Coch](#), [Techniquet](#).

👍 **Other:** [Cardiff International Pool](#), [Glyndwr Vineyard](#), [Cardiff Ski & Snowboard Centre](#), [Wales National Ice Rink](#), [Fluidity Freerun Academy](#).

☺ **Nature & Walks:** [Fforest Fawr](#), Twmbarlwm Mountain, [Parc Cefn Onn](#), [Forest Farm Country Park](#), [Cardiff Bay Barrage](#), Roath / Bute / Victoria / Cathay's Heath Park, Sophia / Alexandra Gardens, [St. Fagans Walk](#), [Rhondda Cynon Taf](#), [Garth Mountain](#), [Brecon Beacons National Park](#), Cardiff Bay Wetland Reserve.

Use apps such as [Outdooractive](#), [Viewranger](#) and [Komoot](#) to find hikes!

## Budget Bites

- ⌘ **Big supermarkets:** Lidl, Aldi, Tesco (*not Express*), Sainsbury's, Waitrose, Coop, Morrisons.
- ⌘ **Markets:** Cardiff Central Market.
- ⌘ **Local food:** Fish and Chips (*deep-fried*), Bangers and Mash (*sausages and mashed potatoes*), Black Pudding (*blood and pork fat pudding*), Shepherd's / Cottage Pie (*lamb / beef pie*), Steak and Kidney Pie Beef Wellington (*pasty steak*), Cornish Pasty (*meat and vegetable pastry*), Full English Breakfast (*incl. bacon-beans-sausages*), Sunday Roast, Toad in the Hole (*sausages in gravy*), Scotch Egg (*boiled eggs wrapped in sausage meat, then deep-fried*), Haggis (*minced sheep's heart, liver and lungs*), Scones, Eton Mess (*meringue and cream*), Eccles Cake (*pastry*).
- ⌘ **Go vegan:** Being vegan is ridiculously easy in Europe, and also in Wales. Local vegan dishes: Laverbread (*boiled and pureed seaweed*), Bubble and Squeak (*fried mashed potato with cabbage*), Pease Pudding (*with split peas*), Water-based Porridge. Check vegan-friendly restaurants here: [Happy Cow – Cardiff](#).

## Mama Said

- ☠ Europe is generally safe, but Cardiff contains the same risks as any other big city. More 'dangerous' areas are Tremorfa, Adamsdown, Riverside, Llanrumney, Plasnewydd, Splott, Ely, Butetown, Llanerdyrn, St. Mellons, Canton, Grangetown, Llandaff, Caroline Street.
- ☠ Tap water is drinkable.
- ☠ Wales is not England. Don't try to compare them or insinuate it's the same thing, as you might rather easily offend someone.

## Next?

- ➔ **In Wales / the UK:** Barry, Newport, Swansea, Bristol, Bath, Gloucester, Exeter, Southampton, London.
- ➔ **International destinations close by:** (*England, Ireland, Scotland*), France, Belgium, The Netherlands.

## Sleep Cheap

- ❖ Hostels and alternative accommodation are very expensive in Wales. Check [Booking.com](#) for deals.
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or Housesitting ([20% discount for Trusted Housesitters via this link!](#)). Also check [WorkAway](#) or [HelpX](#) for work-exchanges.

## Festivals

- ☼ Gin Vodka Festival: June.
- ☼ Pride Cymru: Aug.
- ☼ HUB Festival: Aug.

## Nights Best Spent

- ◆ **Nightlife areas:** West End (*St. Mary Street / Mill Lane / Brewery Quarter*).
- ◆ **Theatres:** New Theatre, Norwegian Church Arts Centre, Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama, Acapela Studio, Chapter Arts Theatre, Welsh National Opera, Sherman Theatre, The Gate, The Prince of Wales.

## Free-Riding?

- Walking is an excellent option to see the more subtle details of Cardiff.
- Biking is another fun way to explore. [Nextbike](#) is a bike sharing system that charges £1 for 30 minutes, with a max. charge of £10 per 24hrs. Take into account: they drive on the left!
- Cardiff has an excellent bus system. You can pay the driver (*cash – exact change*) for a 1-fare or request a day ticket. There is also a discount ticket for entire South East Wales. Intercity travel is served by [National Express](#), or cheap bus lines are [Flixbus](#) and [Megabus](#).
- Cardiff Central is the town's main railway station, connecting Cardiff with the entire UK. The earlier you book, the cheaper the ticket (*although trains are generally expensive*).
- Airports: Cardiff International Airport (CWL).

The Earth Becomes My Throne