

TO LET: Near Bridport, Dorset

Beautiful six-bedroom farmhouse
AVAILABLE FOR LONG-TERM RENT



6 Bedrooms • Kitchen/Diner • 2 Reception Rooms • 4 bathrooms • Large Garden.
(Paddocks available by separate negotiation).
Furnished, Part Furnished, or Unfurnished.

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Your home in England's *Westcountry*

An article in a recent copy of *The Times* online newspaper received many quizzical comments when it suggested that Chard in Somerset may be an upcoming property investment opportunity. Stating that the town had been named as the 'top housing hotspot' after the number of homes sold there more than doubled last year, the article went on to say that Chard had been 'boosted by an uplift in demand for detached homes as the postcode boasts a large number of four-bedroom houses.' Although many of those commenting on the article had been surprised, there were those that pointed to the town's wide high street with its many attractive old buildings, and the fact that it boasts three supermarkets, a new leisure centre, and claims itself as the birthplace of powered flight.

Whether a town like Chard is the ideal place to come and live, or even to invest in, it's part of a Westcountry that still holds an incredible draw for people looking for somewhere to settle, whether escaping city life or just wanting a better life and more space for their children.

Stretching from Cornwall's rugged coastline to Somerset's rolling hills, the Westcountry is a mystic region that's as diverse as it is intriguing. It is still an idyllic part of the UK, full of picturesque villages, historical landmarks, and unspoiled natural landscapes.

The Westcountry is steeped in history with a past that whispers tales of ancient Celtic tribes, Roman conquests, and heroic battles. It is also home to

unique customs and traditions, such as the practice of Wassailing in apple orchards and festive Morris Dancing, which can both be traced back to the region's Celtic roots.

The area paints a landscape that is as captivating as it is diverse. A particular highlight is the South West Coast Path, England's longest waymarked long-distance footpath, providing stunning views of the coastline.

Dorset is a particular gem and the area around Bridport is much sought after, particularly due to its distance from main arteries and motorways. The county landscape that leads to the sea features a diversity that appeals to all tastes as it takes visitors and residents alike to the majestic Jurassic Coast, England's first natural UNESCO World Heritage site that stretches over 95 miles.

True to its rural roots, Dorset's food offering is a product of its lush landscape. Dorset Blue Vinny cheese, Dorset Apple Cake, Moore's Dorset Knobs and ales and ciders from local businesses such as Cerne Abbas Brewery or Issac Cider and Dorset Nectar are some of the many favourites.

Whether it's Chard, Bridport, Glastonbury or Lyme Regis—whether you're a thrill-seeker, a nature lover, a history buff, or a foodie—the Westcountry offers something for everyone. But keep it to yourself. When *The Times* newspaper recently published a list of the top 25 places to live in the UK most of us breathed a sigh of relief when there was no mention of west Dorset.