

Travel and tourism

VOCABULARY BANK

1 DESCRIBING PLACES

- a Complete the sentences with a word or a phrase from the lists.

breathtaking /'breθteɪkɪŋ/ **iconic** /aɪ'kɒnɪk/
 imposing /ɪm'paʊzɪŋ/ **lively** /'lɪvli/

off the beaten **track** /ɒf ðə 'bɪtn 'træk/ **picturesque** /'pɪktʃə'resk/
remote /rɪ'məʊt/ **unspoilt** /ʌn'spɔɪlt/

- 1 The view is absolutely **breathtaking**. (= impressive, spectacular)
 - 2 It's a really _____ area at night. (= full of life and energy)
 - 3 We found a tiny café in the back streets of Venice, right _____. (= away from where people normally go)
 - 4 We went to a very _____ little fishing village yesterday. (= pretty, especially in a way that looks old-fashioned)
 - 5 It's a lovely city, almost completely _____ by tourism. (= beautiful because it has not been changed)
 - 6 The site of the temple is extremely _____ – you can only get there on foot and it takes four hours. (= far away from places where other people live)
 - 7 The enormous statue at the entrance to the palace is very _____. (= large and impressive to look at)
 - 8 The Leaning Tower of Pisa is one of Italy's most _____ sights. (= acting as a symbol of the place)
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- dull** /dʌl/ **overcrowded** /'əʊvə'kraʊdɪd/ **overrated** /'əʊvə'reɪtɪd/
pricey /'praɪzɪ/ **run-down** /'rʌn 'daʊn/ **soulless** /'səʊləs/
spoilt /spoɪlt/ **tacky** /'tækɪ/ **touristy** /'tʊərɪstɪ/
unimposing /ʌnɪm'pəʊzɪŋ/
- 9 I think that restaurant's _____. (= with a better reputation than it really deserves)
 - 10 The museum's pretty _____, but the café's good. (= boring)
 - 11 The shops are quite _____, but we bought some nice things. (= designed to attract a lot of tourists)
 - 12 The seafront has been _____ by all the new hotels. (= changed for the worse)
 - 13 The hotel pool is always _____. (= with too many people)
 - 14 The souvenirs were all plastic Eiffel Towers and key rings, really _____ stuff. (= cheap, badly made, and / or lacking in taste)
 - 15 The main square is quite smart. But the buildings behind are very _____. (= in bad condition)
 - 16 The old town has a lot of character, but the modern part of the city is mainly _____ office blocks. (= with no attractive or interesting qualities)
 - 17 The hotel breakfast was a bit _____, but it was worth it. (= expensive)
 - 18 The hotel entrance is _____, but the lobby inside is spectacular. (= unimpressive)

- b **8.8** Listen and check.



"We would like an unspoilt paradise, but with lots of shops."

2 VERB PHRASES

- a Complete the phrases with a verb from the list.

chill out **extend** **get away** **go** **go on**
hit **postpone** /pə'spəʊn/ **recharge**
sample /'sæmpl/ **set-off** **soak up**
wander round /'wɒndə round/

- 1 **set off** (SYN **set out**) on a journey / early / late
- 2 _____ a trip / a visit (= finish later than planned)
- 3 _____ camping / backpacking / sightseeing / for a stroll
- 4 _____ holiday / an outing / a trip / a safari / a trek / a cruise / a journey
- 5 _____ (SYN **put off**) a trip / a visit (= reschedule it for a later time)
- 6 _____ the old town (= explore in a leisurely way)
- 7 _____ (SYN **unwind**) (informal) after a tiring day
- 8 _____ (SYN **immerse yourself in**) the atmosphere / the culture
- 9 _____ the local cuisine
- 10 _____ the shops **IDM**
- 11 _____ from it all **IDM**
- 12 _____ your batteries **IDM**

- b **8.9** Listen and check. What do you think the three idioms mean?

ACTIVATION Think of a place in your country that you could describe with each of the adjectives in 1.

Talk about your last holiday using some of the verb phrases in 2.

p.81