

1 DESCRIBING PLACES

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

+ brehtaking /'breθtɜːkɪŋ/ iconic /aɪ'kɒnɪk/
imposing /ɪm'pəʊzɪŋ/ lively /'laɪvli/
off the beaten track /ɒf ðə 'biːtn 'træk/ picturesque /'pɪktʃə'resk/
remote /rɪ'məʊt/ unspoilt /ʌn'spɔɪlt/

- The view is absolutely brehtaking. (= impressive, spectacular)
- It's a really _____ area at night. (= full of life and energy)
- We found a tiny café in the back streets of Venice, right _____. (= away from where people normally go)
- We went to a very _____ little fishing village yesterday. (= pretty, especially in a way that looks old-fashioned)
- It's a lovely city, almost completely _____ by tourism. (= beautiful because it has not been changed)
- 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)
- The enormous statue at the entrance to the palace is very _____. (= large and impressive to look at)
- The Leaning Tower of Pisa is one of Italy's most _____ sights. (= acting as a symbol of the place)

- dull /dʌl/ overcrowded /ˌəʊvə'kraʊdɪd/ overrated /ˌəʊvə'reɪtɪd/
pricey /'praɪsi/ run-down /rʌn 'daʊn/ soulless /'səʊləs/
spoilt /spɔɪlt/ tacky /'tæki/ touristy /'tʊərɪsti/
unimposing /ˌʌnɪm'pəʊzɪŋ/

- I think that restaurant's _____. (= with a better reputation than it really deserves)
- The museum's pretty _____, but the café's good. (= boring)
- The shops are quite _____, but we bought some nice things. (= designed to attract a lot of tourists)
- The seafront has been _____ by all the new hotels. (= changed for the worse)
- The hotel pool is always _____. (= with too many people)
- The souvenirs were all plastic Eiffel Towers and key rings, really _____ stuff. (= cheap, badly made, and / or lacking in taste)
- The main square is quite smart. But the buildings behind are very _____. (= in bad condition)
- 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)
- The hotel breakfast was a bit _____, but it was worth it. (= expensive)
- 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 /'sɑːmpl/ set off soak up
wander round /'wɒndə raʊnd/

- set off (SYN set out) on a journey / early / late
- _____ a trip / a visit (= finish later than planned)
- _____ camping / backpacking / sightseeing / for a stroll
- _____ holiday / an outing / a trip / a safari / a trek / a cruise / a journey
- _____ (SYN put off) a trip / a visit (= reschedule it for a later time)
- _____ the old town (= explore in a leisurely way)
- _____ (SYN unwind) (informal) after a tiring day
- _____ (SYN immerse yourself in) the atmosphere / the culture
- _____ the local cuisine
- _____ the shops **IDM**
- _____ from it all **IDM**
- _____ 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.

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