



Life's a beach

Facts on fab beaches

Pack your shades and take a journey to some of the world's most famous beaches. Escape to the beach by pressing SELECT.

Novel location

Cult travel novel 'The Beach', by Alex Garland, was turned into a movie starring Leonardo DiCaprio at Maya Bay in Thailand's Phi Phi Le National Park. Surrounded by spectacular cliffs and described as the perfect beach, filming caused a storm with environmentalists, who claimed the production and subsequent influx of tourists would harm the area.

Venice of America

Famous for its body builders and as the location for the 'Baywatch' TV series, Venice Beach once had grander aspirations. The name comes from a series of canals, built in 1905 to create the 'Venice of America'. Just a few blocks of the original 16 miles of canals remain, where a commemorative boat parade is held in December.

Bondi background

Bondi, Australia's most famous beach, is thought to be an Aboriginal word meaning "the sound of breaking waves". Aboriginal rock carvings can be found on Bondi - on the north beach at Ben Buckler and to the south near McKenzies Beach.

Sea for miles

A more accurate name for New Zealand's 90 Mile Beach would perhaps be 90 Kilometre Beach - as it stretches for just 54 miles! Situated on the Northern tip of NZ, it provides a spectacular beach highway, where you can drive through sand and sea spray to Cape Reinga.