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St Ives: A Town On Canvas

By Steven Cronin

One of my favourite places in England sits in the far south-westerly reaches of the country, amongst

the myths and legends of Cornish past. St Ives is a beautiful little harbour town, largely unspoilt by commercialisation. Resting at the northern tip of the A3074 (off the A30) in western Cornwall, St Ives is not easily accessible for the majority of the country but is well worth the effort.

A vast myriad of narrow paths and cobbled streets remind of days gone by and offer great contrast to modern day town planning. Most of St Ives is old-school, a throwback to bygone days of uncomplicated living. Artists seem to be on every corner, benefiting from the excellent natural light as the fresh Atlantic winds blow pollution from the air.

Car parking is at a premium in St Ives during the holiday seasons and therefore it's advisable to arrive as early as possible in the day. A good alternative is to park in Lelant and catch the train. It runs at half-hour regular intervals during high season and is reasonably priced. The short ten-minute journey takes the coastal route, part of which feels like you are directly over the water. The journey is worth taking for the view alone, a magnificent vista taking in the whole of St Ives Bay, from the town itself, stretching all the way to Godrevy Point. However, some of the younger travellers can get somewhat restless.

"SIT DOWN!" orders an irate mother whose children scurry about a crowded carriage. The smell of sunscreen exudes around a noisy carriage as day-trippers gather their buckets and spades ready for disembarking.

The station is at the top of the high street, approximately five to ten minutes walk downhill to the harbour front. The narrow streets can get extremely congested as pedestrians and vehicles fight for the same space. Shoppers are frequently forced to move aside for passing traffic.

The tight, cobbled streets are home to some enticing shops, relatively free of the typical seaside souvenir rubbish. Art galleries are everywhere, many displaying local work of St Ives and the beautiful surrounding coastline. Tiny little shops display local craftsmen's intricate work; sometimes you can see them working on their next masterpiece.

As the road winds downhill to the shore, the harbour suddenly opens up in front of you. The smell of the salty sea breeze hits you in the face; cries of the seagulls echo about the quay. The local ice-cream tastes delicious, though beware the seagulls. My young son once had his rudely stolen from his grasp and devoured by a hungry bird!

Steven Cronin owns the Sargas Travel online magazine featuring travel reviews, news, inspiration, advice and special offers. For further reading please visit

<http://www.sargas.co.uk>

How to choose the canvas for your awning

By Carlos Mello

How to choose the canvas for your awning by Carlos Mello

Guidelines: You may publish my article in your newsletter, on your website or in your print publication provided you include the resource box at the end. Notification would be appreciated but is not required.

How to choose the canvas for your awning

By Carlos Mello

The main factor for the canvas for your awning, it's to choose to do in PVC, because will be light and malleable.

Between their advantages we have the following ones:

- It's resistant to the UV rays
- Allows any color
- They possess some protection coatings, as the following:
 - Not to allow the fire propagation
 - With blockade against UV rays (with great resistance against the effects of the ultraviolet rays that discolour along the time)
 - Fungicides (addictive that avoid the formation of mould and stains)
 - Non oxidizer, to avoid the appearance of iron stains
 - Addictive to avoid negative effects to the aesthetics and the brightness, that could damage the coating and to reduce the useful life of the canvas)

St Ives: A Town On Canvas

— A varnish layer or lacquer in the coating (the varnish is not only designated for protection of the canvas from the UV rays, but also improves the self-cleaning characteristics; one of the used material for that is the Tedlar).

If you choose the canvas of your awning taking the above suggestions, certainly you will have an awning with excellent useful life, allowing the change of the canvas to be in a much larger period than the standard one.

To improve the useful life of the canvas of your awning, we suggested that the canvas cleaning to be in every 3 or 4 weeks and using a neutral detergent.

Those two decisions

- A good choice of the canvas type
- Cleaning of the awning at each 3 or 4 weeks

will give you a very larger useful life for your awning.

About the Author: Carlos Mello is the Director of Arquitetoldos, an awnings manufacturing company. See the sites <http://www.amx.com.br/toldos> and <http://toldos-toldo-coberturas-aluguel-dias-rio-de-janeiro-recreio.us>.



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