# Celebrity influx transforms Mawgan Porth with soaring property prices and community fears



The serene village of Mawgan Porth in Cornwall, affectionately labelled 'Hollywood on Sea', has recently entered the limelight, shining bright with star-studded attention. Once a tranquil fishing community, this picturesque locale is now a playground for the rich and famous, drawing concerns from long-standing residents who fear the surging tide of holiday home conversions will price them out of their beloved village.

Mawgan Porth has transformed into a sought-after retreat for celebrities such as Oscar-winning actress Cate Blanchett and action star Jason Statham, among others. The recent spike in property purchases is not merely a passing trend; it reflects a significant transformation of the area, with luxury homes replacing traditional bungalows. Many locals worry that the character of their village is being fundamentally altered. Blanchett, in particular, has been highlighted as a pioneer in this shift, having purchased a £1.6 million cottage in 2020, which she subsequently demolished to erect a five-bedroom eco-home. This construction project has not only drawn the interest of the press but has also sparked considerable irritation among local residents, leading to complaints about noise and disruptions that are perceived to threaten the tourism-dependent economy.

Concerns regarding rising property prices are echoed by residents like John Bradley, a long-term inhabitant of the village, who reflected on the changes in a community where once vibrant life is being supplanted by an influx of second homes. He noted with dismay how many traditional houses are being converted into holiday rentals or are being torn down for extravagant new builds. Echoing the sentiments of other locals, he mentioned: "If you look across the road, five of the seven bungalows are holiday homes, and do you think we're happy with that?”

With the village booming in notoriety, the prices for local properties have skyrocketed. One resident lamented the exorbitant rental prices now being commanded, stating that homes in the area are being advertised for as much as £7,500 per week, a steep sum that is making it increasingly difficult for locals to afford housing. One local shop owner recounted how historic homes have been purchased and razed, further intensifying the feeling of loss among residents whose histories are tied to these buildings.

Despite the economic benefits that come with an influx of affluent newcomers—such as increased business for local builders and suppliers—many residents feel a profound loss of community. John, an 81-year-old bed-and-breakfast owner, expressed frustration over the rising lack of local engagement, asserting that the only ones truly profiting are "the builders and gardeners." He fears that this trend continues to set a precedent that could erase the essence of what makes Mawgan Porth unique.

Among these concerns is the lack of regulation surrounding short-term rentals like Airbnbs, which some believe exacerbates the housing crisis. As demand for holiday homes rises, year-round residents are searching for viable solutions to retain the village’s charm and affordability. Debbie, a retired resident, reflects a mix of acceptance and worry, stating that while the wealth may not bother her personally, the lack of affordable housing creates a barrier for young locals seeking employment and residence in their hometown.

Amid the clashing views between the allure of celebrity influx and the realities faced by the community, the future of Mawgan Porth hangs delicately in the balance. Locals remain hopeful that with heightened awareness, some form of community cohesion can be retained, ensuring that the village does not devolve into an empty shell—an unrecognisable fragment of its former self, lost to the whims of wealth and celebrity.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2060192/quiet-beach-village-dubbed-hollywood-sea), [[4]](https://www.thisismoney.co.uk/galleries/article-12457809/Inside-British-seaside-village-Cornwall-dubbed-Hollywood-Sea.html)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2060192/quiet-beach-village-dubbed-hollywood-sea), [[2]](https://www.holsworthy-today.co.uk/news/hollywood-stars-eco-home-causes-anger-among-locals-670430), [[5]](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/columnists/2023/09/01/a-list-hollywood-influx-cornwall-mawgan-porth-jason-momoa/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.voicenewspapers.co.uk/news/mawgan-porth-locals-say-they-are-being-priced-out-of-living-in-the-community-636223), [[6]](https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/inside-beautiful-west-country-village-30860218)
* Paragraph 4 – [[2]](https://www.holsworthy-today.co.uk/news/hollywood-stars-eco-home-causes-anger-among-locals-670430), [[5]](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/columnists/2023/09/01/a-list-hollywood-influx-cornwall-mawgan-porth-jason-momoa/)
* Paragraph 5 – [[6]](https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/inside-beautiful-west-country-village-30860218), [[7]](https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/inside-cornwalls-celeb-haven-dubbed-8720917)
* Paragraph 6 – [[3]](https://www.voicenewspapers.co.uk/news/mawgan-porth-locals-say-they-are-being-priced-out-of-living-in-the-community-636223), [[4]](https://www.thisismoney.co.uk/galleries/article-12457809/Inside-British-seaside-village-Cornwall-dubbed-Hollywood-Sea.html)
* Paragraph 7 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2060192/quiet-beach-village-dubbed-hollywood-sea), [[7]](https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/inside-cornwalls-celeb-haven-dubbed-8720917)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2060192/quiet-beach-village-dubbed-hollywood-sea> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.holsworthy-today.co.uk/news/hollywood-stars-eco-home-causes-anger-among-locals-670430> - Cate Blanchett's eco-home in Mawgan Porth, Cornwall, has sparked controversy among locals. The Oscar-winning actress and her husband, Andrew Upton, purchased a £1.6 million cottage in 2020 and demolished it to build a five-bedroom eco-home. Neighbours have complained about the noise and disruption caused by the construction, with one local holiday let owner claiming a loss of £60,000 in revenue due to the ongoing building work. The development has led to concerns about the impact on tourism and the local community. ([holsworthy-today.co.uk](https://www.holsworthy-today.co.uk/news/hollywood-stars-eco-home-causes-anger-among-locals-670430?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://www.voicenewspapers.co.uk/news/mawgan-porth-locals-say-they-are-being-priced-out-of-living-in-the-community-636223> - Residents of Mawgan Porth, Cornwall, are expressing concerns about being priced out of their community due to the influx of second homes, many owned by celebrities. The picturesque village, dubbed 'Hollywood-on-Sea', has seen property prices soar as wealthy individuals, including Hollywood stars, purchase homes and convert them into holiday lets. Locals fear the changes are altering the village's character and making it unaffordable for long-term residents. ([voicenewspapers.co.uk](https://www.voicenewspapers.co.uk/news/mawgan-porth-locals-say-they-are-being-priced-out-of-living-in-the-community-636223?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.thisismoney.co.uk/galleries/article-12457809/Inside-British-seaside-village-Cornwall-dubbed-Hollywood-Sea.html> - Mawgan Porth, a seaside village in Cornwall, has become a sought-after destination for celebrities, earning the nickname 'Hollywood-on-Sea'. The village boasts a tranquil bay, picturesque cliffs, and multi-million-pound homes. Celebrities such as Cate Blanchett, Jason Statham, Stanley Tucci, and Jason Momoa have reportedly purchased properties in the area. The influx of wealthy individuals has led to concerns about the impact on the local community and housing affordability. ([thisismoney.co.uk](https://www.thisismoney.co.uk/galleries/article-12457809/Inside-British-seaside-village-Cornwall-dubbed-Hollywood-Sea.html?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/columnists/2023/09/01/a-list-hollywood-influx-cornwall-mawgan-porth-jason-momoa/> - Mawgan Porth, a picturesque village in Cornwall, has experienced an influx of Hollywood celebrities, leading to concerns among locals about the impact on the community. Celebrities such as Cate Blanchett, Jason Statham, Stanley Tucci, and Jason Momoa have reportedly purchased properties in the area. The development has raised questions about the preservation of the village's character and the affordability of housing for long-term residents. ([telegraph.co.uk](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/columnists/2023/09/01/a-list-hollywood-influx-cornwall-mawgan-porth-jason-momoa/?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/inside-beautiful-west-country-village-30860218> - Mawgan Porth, a seaside village in Cornwall, has become a popular destination for celebrities, earning the nickname 'mini-Hollywood'. Celebrities such as Cate Blanchett, Jason Statham, Stanley Tucci, and Jason Momoa have reportedly purchased properties in the area. The influx of wealthy individuals has led to concerns among locals about rising property prices and the impact on the village's character. ([mirror.co.uk](https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/inside-beautiful-west-country-village-30860218?utm_source=openai))
7. <https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/inside-cornwalls-celeb-haven-dubbed-8720917> - Mawgan Porth, a seaside village in Cornwall, has been dubbed 'Hollywood-on-Sea' due to the influx of celebrities purchasing properties in the area. Celebrities such as Cate Blanchett, Jason Statham, Stanley Tucci, and Jason Momoa have reportedly bought homes in the village. Locals express concerns about being priced out and the impact on the community's character. ([cornwalllive.com](https://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/inside-cornwalls-celeb-haven-dubbed-8720917?utm_source=openai))