



A BRITISH TREASURE

The B&B arrangement is a very old one. The British B&B can trace¹ its history back to ancient times. Britain invented the B&B as a low-cost accommodation service for Roman officials travelling the conquered land. Today B&B on roadside signs is very popular in the British Isles – typically with a ‘vacancies’ sign swinging² below to show that there are rooms available. B&B stands for ‘Bed and Breakfast’. As its name suggests, a B&B is a private house that offers overnight accommodation and breakfast included in the price but today guests can find much more than a warm welcome, a delicious homemade breakfast and a lovely bed. Staying at

a B&B is a great way to experience life in Britain’s local communities. Small B&Bs only have one guest room, so you really feel like part of the family. Basic rooms include a sink or en suite bathroom, television, wardrobe, clean bed linen, towels and tea/coffee making facilities. The hosts recommend local attractions, help with dinner reservation and make you feel at home. Whereas bigger B&Bs can include luxury cottages, historic mansions³ and castles set in picturesque gardens. They usually have several rooms or even suites and offer a wide range of facilities from room service and WIFI access to outdoor swimming pools and archery⁴ lessons. In the British Isles, B&Bs offer their guests a so called ‘full English breakfast’ or simply ‘fry up’. The traditional English breakfast consists

of both sausage and bacon, eggs, fried bread (a slice of bread fried in either lard, butter or bacon fat), sliced⁵ fresh tomato and baked beans. As a lighter alternative, to minimise the calorie intake⁶, guests can have a ‘continental breakfast’, consisting of tea, milk or coffee and fruit juices with bread, croissants or pastries. Today, instead of looking through huge travel guidebooks, people can easily find the top-rated B&Bs by browsing photos and reviews on travel sites or B&B websites, like *Airbnb* or *Tripadvisor*. Tourists can connect with hosts, read other travellers’ comments and book the best accommodation for them online. Seven of the ten B&Bs recommended in the *Michelin Main Cities of Europe Guide* are in Scotland – six in Edinburgh and one in Glasgow.

GLOSSARY

1 **to trace**
risalire

2 **to swing**
oscillare

3 **mansion**
villa signorile

4 **archery**
tiro con l’arco

5 **sliced**
a fette

6 **intake**
assunzione

1 Leggi il testo e rispondi alle domande.

- 1 What does the ‘vacancies’ sign show?
- 2 What does B&B mean?
- 3 Can you have dinner in a B&B?
- 4 What do basic rooms include?
- 5 What facilities can luxury B&Bs offer?
- 6 What is the difference between ‘full English breakfast’ and ‘continental breakfast’?
- 7 How can tourists find the right B&Bs for them?
- 8 What can you see from the Belle Tout Lighthouse?
- 9 How can you reach Skiddaw House?

TRAVEL DICTIONARY

2 Abbina i vocaboli (1-7) tratti dal testo alle definizioni (a-g).

1 ☐ accommodation

2 ☐ vacancy

3 ☐ guest

4 ☐ en suite

5 ☐ host

6 ☐ reservation

7 ☐ facilities

- a an arrangement for a place in a hotel or restaurant to be kept for you to use in the future
- b a bedroom that has a bathroom joined onto it
- c services or equipment provided by a hotel
- d someone who pays for staying in a hotel
- e a room in a hotel that is available for someone to stay in
- f a place for someone to stay
- g the owner of a B&B



The Belle Tout Lighthouse

This B&B is a unique place to stay. The lighthouse dates from 1832. Partly destroyed during the Second World War, it is now a B&B. There are 360 degree views over the English Channel and some rooms have names like *The Captain's Cabin*.



Skiddaw House

This B&B, near Keswick in the Lake District, is miles from the nearest road or car park. You can arrive here only on foot or by bike. It's well worth the effort because of the almost untouched views of the National Park.

BLOG IT!

- 3 Ora scrivi tu la tua pagina di blog seguendo le indicazioni date.

AN ITALIAN B&B EXPERIENCE

Are there B&Bs in Italy? Have you ever stayed at a B&B? Describe your own personal experience or do some research on the internet and choose one. Say:

- where the B&B is
- what the B&B offers
- what the food is like
- a positive/negative experience; why?
- the differences between British and Italian B&Bs
- the differences between staying in a B&B or in a hotel

TRAVEL LANGUAGE



- 4 **Completa il dialogo tra l'ospite di un B&B (G, guest) e la receptionist (R) con le parole date. Poi ascolta e controlla.**

*breakfast • city centre • en suite
available • credit card • double
check out • facilities*

- R** Can I help you?
- G** Yes, have you got any
1 rooms?
- R** Yes, we have. Would you like a single room or a
2 room?
- G** A double 3 room, please.
What facilities does your B&B offer?
- R** In each room there is WIFI access and tea and coffee making 4 All rooms have a fantastic sea view. In fact we are close to the beach and a few minutes from the 5
- G** What time is 6 at?
- R** The dining room is open from 7.00 to 9.30. Would you like a wake up call?
- G** Yes, please. At 6.30 pm. When can we 7 tomorrow morning?
- R** You can check out any time before 10.30.
- G** Can I pay by 8?
- R** Sure, both cash or credit card are possible.

- 5 **Sei alla reception di un hotel. Formula domande per chiedere:**

- 1 se ci sono camere disponibili.
- 2 se c'è la televisione in camera.
- 3 se l'albergo è vicino alla spiaggia.
- 4 a che ora viene servita la colazione.
- 5 come si può pagare.