

BLACKPOOL HOTSPOTS

THE TOWER...

1 You can't not spot this iconic structure. Built in 1894, it houses five attractions, including the "Dungeon" – but a trip in the lift to the top (the pinnacle is more than 500ft up) is a must-do. Assuming you don't suffer from vertigo...

FY1 4BJ

THE PLEASURE BEACH

2 Thrill-seekers will love this. It's home to The Big One, the UK's tallest and fastest roller coaster which includes a drop at an incline angle of 65deg and takes you to speeds of up to 87mph. Maybe one to do before lunch.

FY4 1EZ

THE WALKABOUT CLUB

3 "Get ready for a chilled out arvo or a legendary night out – Aussie style." That's what this popular venue says. A case of the Outback meets the North West, perhaps. So don't forget to pack your cork hat as well as your club T-shirt.

FY1 1NL

THE ZOO

4 YFC members are, of course, no strangers to livestock – but you're probably not so familiar with the creatures great and small that reside here. From lions to ring-tailed lemurs, this attraction is situated in 12-plus hectares of parkland.

FY3 8PP

C FRESH

5 There's plenty of chippies in the town – but the FW crew once had a very satisfactory cod and chips in this one. Mushy peas, anyone?

FY4 1DZ

THE WINTER GARDENS

6 Basically, where it's happening. You'll need to go here to register on arrival and it's where a lot of the weekend action occurs – from the ARAC forum to the evening entertainment.

History buffs will be interested to know that the building was opened in 1878.

FY1 1HL

REVOLUTIONS

7 We've all had a good night out or two in a Revs, right? This one was a popular spot for members to chill in on the Sunday afternoon at last year's convention...

FY1 1EZ

THE BEACH

8 Brave souls can roll up their trousers and go for a paddle. Or maybe an early morning walk to blow away the cobwebs? A game or footie or rugby? You might even get to top up your tan – or is that a little too optimistic? Here's a bit of pub quiz trivia: Blackpool is the only British holiday resort to have three piers – North, Central and South.

FY1 4BJ

SEA LIFE

9 A watery wonderland with more than 2,000 aquatic creatures including tropical sharks, colourful reef fish, turtles, rays and sea horses and including Britain's biggest crab, a 9ft Japanese spider crab.

FY1 5AA

STARBUCKS

10 OK, so a caramel frappuccino or chai latte might not be top of your beverage list for the weekend, but this is close to the Winter Gardens and a nice little spot (upstairs, particularly) to have a natter with friends. Lured by the free WiFi, it's traditionally been the FW team's base – so come and say hello.

FY1 4HU



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