

Published based on [The Word Cottage](#)

The Word Cottage

The term cottage has of course been around for many, many years and people still purchase them and live in them and sometimes they are still even built nowadays. Some people choose to look at [Sussex cottages](#) and even travel on vacation to one but none of this actually explains why the term cottage came into existence. so here is just a bit more information on that all important word, cottage.

The term actually came from the Middle Ages and housed agricultural workers as well as their families. cotter is the word it comes from. back in the day a cottage would not just refer to the one building we see and know it as today but a whole farmhouse as well as a yard, the thing is, it would not be one for the rich to have as they were more often than not, very small buildings indeed. back then the larger properties were called the messauges. So to sum that one up, in the middle ages a cottage would refer to a house as well as a barn and usually a fenced piece of land also. The word most like comes from the old English for cot, cote which stands for hut.

In the late 18th century you will see the same kind of cottages we are familiar with nowadays cropping up like the miner and weaver cottage types. Of course this is the British meaning for the word cottage and if you were in the USA it would mean something very different indeed. In North America the term cottage is another word for summer residence which is why you will often find them by a body of water like a lake.

All in all it is worth taking that visit to [west Sussex cottages](#) because they are great properties and well worth a stay at if you have the time and money!

You can also find this article published on [The Word Cottage](#), and on the tag pages [agricultural workers](#), [bit](#), [course](#), [information](#), [weaver cottage](#), [west sussex](#).