

WIGHTLINK

FREE GUIDE

Wightlife

ISSUE 3: 2025

TM

GLAMPING
& CAMPING
HIDDEN GEMS

LOCAL GUIDE
WHAT'S ON
AND WHERE
TO GO

FAMILY DAYS OUT
WHATEVER
THE WEATHER

Wightlink's essential guide to the Isle of Wight

accommodation | attractions | activities | food & drink | map | what's on | wightlink.co.uk



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Extraordinary*



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Welcome to summer on the Isle of Wight

As we move into the height of summer, we're looking forward to welcoming thousands of visitors to the Isle of Wight – the ultimate UK staycation destination. With its stunning coastline, vibrant events, and unique mix of seaside charm and countryside tranquillity, there really is no better place to relax, explore and make memories.



I've had the pleasure of spending time outdoors on the Island recently – cycling through winding country lanes, walking along breathtaking cliff paths and even running around sections of the coast. It's been nothing short of glorious. The Island always offers something special, but summer truly brings it to life.

At Wightlink, we've been working hard to make sure your journey is just as enjoyable as your destination. Recent improvements include the addition of a brand-new Calm Room on St Clare, designed to support neurodivergent or overwhelmed customers who may find travel challenging. We've also remodelled part of Deck 5 as a Quiet Lounge – a low-stimulation area for those looking to avoid noise, bright lights and crowds while crossing the Solent.

To give our customers even more flexibility, we've added extra weekend sailings to our summer timetable between Fishbourne and Portsmouth. And at our Gunwharf port,

we've completed a major maintenance and improvement programme to make check-in and boarding quicker and more comfortable for all.

We've also made a number of enhancements to our website to improve your experience, whether you're planning a trip or already on the go. Our new Best Fare Finder tool helps you quickly compare prices across different sailings, so you can choose the option that best suits your plans and your budget. It's all part of our commitment to making ferry travel easier, more transparent and better value for everyone.

As always, we love hearing from you. Your feedback helps us keep improving, whether you're a regular traveller, here for a holiday or an Island resident. Please do get in touch via feedback@wightlink.co.uk, or look out for our Meet the Team events, where you can chat to us in person and share your thoughts.

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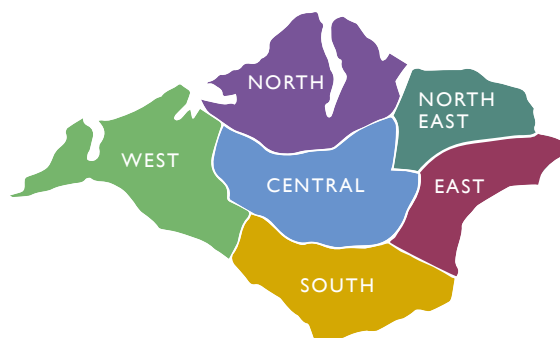


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Discover what's going on in the next few months at the cities and towns near to our mainland ferry ports.

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The Guide

The who, the what, the where on the Isle of Wight...



Delivering precious cargo

We had some very special passengers travelling with us in June. It was an honour to be a part of brother bears Benji and Balu's journey to Wildheart Animal Sanctuary.

The bears have had an unfortunate start to their lives, spending years as 'restaurant bears' in a concrete cage on the side of a restaurant. Thanks to the hard work of Wildheart Animal Sanctuary and the generosity of the community, after two years, they were finally on the last leg of their journey to the Isle of Wight.

Benji and Balu travelled onboard Victoria of Wight, and after a short drive to the Sanctuary, they finally made it to their forever home – a carefully made habitat that simulates and encourages all their natural behaviours, allowing them to rehabilitate from their previous traumas and to become bears again.

Find out more about their journey at wildheartanimalsanctuary.org

Window Seater app

Train and ferry passengers can discover the world outside their windows with new audio guide app – Window Seater.

Wightlink have teamed up with the New Forest Community Rail Partnership and Cross Country Trains to provide some of the stories from the route through the New Forest to Lymington and the onward sailing to Yarmouth.

The guide automatically plays as passengers reach places of interest and features the voices of people who live and work in the New Forest and across the Solent including historians, writers, New Forest commoners as well as one of our Captains.

Find out more at windowseater.com



Kids go free during the school holidays

Travelling with little ones? You can take the kids to the Island or mainland for free during the school holidays with Wightlink.

Under 5s always travel free with us, but when the schools break up, you can take up to two children (aged 5–15) for free with every paying adult or senior foot passenger day return.

Make the most of this deal throughout 2025, with the offer covering the summer and Christmas holidays as well as the October half term.

For details and to book, visit wightlink.co.uk/kgf



CELEBRATING 200 YEARS OF THE MODERN RAILWAY

Railway 200 is a year-long nationwide partnership-led campaign to celebrate 200 years of the modern railway and inspire a new generation of young, pioneering talent to choose a career in rail. It invites community, rail, and other groups to get involved.

Starting in January 2025, a wide variety of activities and events are being planned to celebrate rail's remarkable past, its role today, and its importance to a sustainable future.

In this edition, we talk to some of the Isle of Wight's workers, volunteers and enthusiasts from both the Island Line and Isle of Wight Steam Railway and find out their favourite Island hidden gems.

Meet our Inspirational Islanders on pages 38, 52, 68, and 74.





Win a Luxe Island Getaway: Dine & Stay at The Royal Hotel, Ventnor, worth over £860!

Enter our competition and you could win a getaway at The Royal Hotel for two people, dinner in the Geranium Restaurant and a delicious breakfast the following morning, with ferry travel included!

Escape to the Isle of Wight and experience The Royal Hotel, a luxury four silver star retreat in the heart of Ventnor's subtropical microclimate. One lucky winner will enjoy a two-night stay for two adults in a stylish Classic King/Twin Room, worth £610! Plus, £250 of Wightlink ferry travel to get you there – with three convenient routes, Wightlink is your link to the Island.

Indulge in next-level dining at the famous Geranium Restaurant, a two AA Rosette culinary hotspot, where Head Chef Jacob Gough crafts incredible dishes using the freshest seasonal produce. Your prize includes a £45 dinner allowance per person each evening, so you can savour The Royal's signature flavours in style. Wake up to a delicious full English breakfast each morning, before heading out to explore Ventnor's boutique shops, beach bars, and scenic coastal trails.

Unwind in their beautiful subtropical gardens, savour a Royal Afternoon Tea experience (not included in the prize), and enjoy the elegant cocktail and wine bar, all complemented by The Royal's renowned five-star service.

For your chance to dine and stay in style at The Royal Hotel, visit wight.link/royal and use the form to enter by 30 September 2025.

This prize draw is open for entries from 1 July 2025. Entries must be received by 23:59 on 30 September 2025. Entrants must be 18+. Cannot be transferred, refunded or exchanged for cash/vouchers. The prize must be redeemed by 18 December 2025 and is subject to availability. The prize is for a two-night stay and is based on two adults sharing a Classic king or twin room with a £45 dinner allowance per person each evening at Geranium Restaurant and a full English breakfast each morning. For full terms and conditions, visit wight.link/royal



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Waves of excitement

Taking a dip in the sea is all well and good, but get more from those lapping Isle of Wight waves this summer with a spot of watersports. From coasteering and surfing, to windsurfing and kayaking, there's truly something for everyone. Plus, we've got a few tips on nautical know-how from the team at Yarmouth RNLI to ensure smooth sailing (and no rough waters!)

iSURF

Not many people know that the Isle of Wight holds a pioneering place in British surfing history, with our first local surfing club hitting the waves at Ventnor back in 1965. Hop on a board and help continue that legacy with a surfing session from iSurf. Usually taking place at Compton Beach (a rugged stretch of coastline, where robust waves roll in from the Atlantic), you'll be shown the ropes over the course of an hour and a half, with experienced instructor Chris Mannion there to guide you. After donning a lifejacket and wetsuit, surfers of eight years and older will take to the water, ready to start riding those waves.

FRESHWATER BAY COASTEERING

If rock jumping, sea swimming and belly flopping are more likely to put the wind in your sails, then consider a session of coasteering. Treating the coastal environment as a giant natural playground, the seasoned instructors at Freshwater Bay Coasteering will lead you through caves, over ledges and amongst a range of nautical obstacles, all with the stunning chalk cliffs of West Wight as your backdrop. Choose from either the challenging high water adventure (punctuated with rock climbing and body surfing), or the more gentle low-water alternative (with caving, rock scrambling and the odd bit of sea swimming).

The stunning chalk cliffs of the West Wight coast are a giant natural playground, under the watchful eye of Freshwater Bay Coasteering's instructors.

As long as you can swim 100 metres confidently in the sea, you're good to go, and with helmets, wetsuits, and buoyancy aids ready and waiting, you know you're in safe hands.

TACKT-ISLE ADVENTURES

For something a little more sedate and family-friendly, set coordinates for Woodnutt's Yard, located amongst the sand dunes of The Duver at St. Helens. Here, Tackt-Isle Adventures offer a range of water-based activities, ranging from dinghy sailing and windsurfing to kayaking and canoeing.



Pick up a paddle with Tackt-Isle and explore the Island's coastline.

Amongst the options on offer, we'd highly recommend the Canoe Adventure – a three-hour guided paddle to a secluded beach, with a stop for lunch or a swim, as well as an option to include a short session of bushcraft too. Ideal for canoeists of all abilities, from eight years and up, Ben, Ollie or George will show you the ropes (and how to get back on board if you accidentally capsize) so you can feel calm and confident before heading out onto the open waves.

SALTY SAILING

Perhaps you prefer to be at the helm of a more substantial vessel, complete with anchors to weigh and sails to unfurl. Thankfully, Salty Sailing have got you covered, with beginner, refresher and 'skills and drills' courses available on board their very own shipshape yacht.



Get behind the ship's wheel and learn the ropes with Salty Sailing.

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Learn to sail and see the Isle of Wight from a unique perspective with Salty Sailing.

Based in Shepherds Marina in the maritime town of Cowes (internationally famous for its annual sailing regatta), you'll set sail for the Solent, before Salty Sailing's patient and friendly skippers teach you everything from man overboard procedure, to the skills you'll need to start training for a Royal Yachting Association certification. If, however, you decide you're not that keen on getting stuck in after all, the firm also offers a sailing charter service, which can whisk you away to tranquil Newtown Creek for a picnic on the water, or cruise round to Osborne Bay so you can dive into its chilly waters (where Queen Victoria also did a few strokes back in the day).

ISLE OF WIGHT AQUA PARK

For those curious about watersports, but with a fear of the open sea, we've got the ideal alternative for you. Safely inland, at Tapnell Farm, you'll find the Isle of Wight Aqua Park, an inflatable water-based assault course, encompassing twenty floating challenges such as bouncy stepping stones, ramps and staircases. What's more, there's a spectator area, where friends and family can watch you slip and slide your way to victory, or perhaps go down with a splash.



Dive in and have a splashing good time at the Isle of Wight Aqua Park!

Anyone seven years and older (with a height of at least 110 centimetres too) can take part, with buoyancy aids and wetsuits on hand, plus trained lifeguards and first aiders watching over the proceedings. And, to recharge after those intense 55 minutes on the water, treat yourself to one of the best burgers on the Island, over at The Cow.

THEO VICKERS ROCKPOOL SAFARIS

Last, but by no means least, there's another unusual way to get involved with the Island's marine environment without a helmet or lifejacket in sight. Try a rockpool safari from local marine biologist (and award-winning underwater photographer) Theo Vickers, where you'll discover the incredible and varied wildlife hidden amongst the nooks and crannies of the Isle of Wight shoreline.

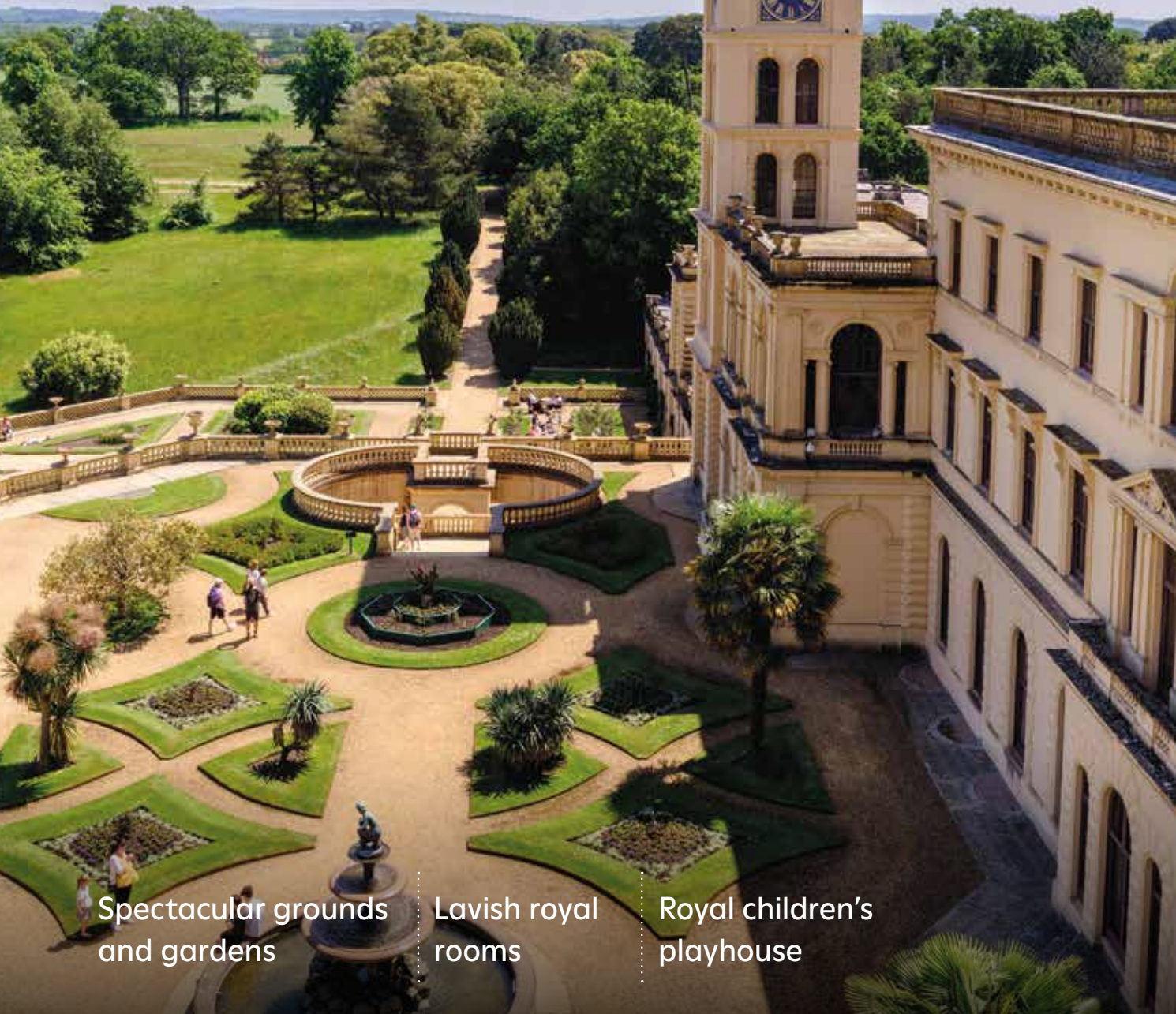


Try a rockpool safari and you'll find a wealth of life living along the shoreline.

So far, Theo's safaris have encountered over 140 marine species, and with a bit of luck, you might be able to spot anything from blennies and black-headed shrimp to velvet crabs and straight-nosed pipefish. Assisted by marine specialist Laura McConnell, sessions take place at Seaview Duver, Bembridge Ledge, Castle Cove and Compton, with sightings being submitted to the local biological records scheme to help environmental researchers of the future.

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STAYING SAFE AT SEA

For those thinking of testing out some watersports on their own, keep these top safety tips in mind:

- It is always safer (and usually a lot more fun!) to try watersports activities with friends, but if you're heading out on the water alone, take a means of communication and let someone on dry land know where you're going and what time you expect to be back.
- Always have a scan of the tide times well in advance; it's important to know if the tide will be coming in or if it's on its way out. What about the wind, is it blowing onshore or offshore? Inflatable kayaks and paddleboards can easily be swept out to sea.
- Trying your hand at surfing? Remember to keep that ankle leash on, so you and your board don't become separated in the swell. Look out for rip currents and, if you do get caught in one, swim at right angles to the shore until you are clear of it.
- When exploring rockpools or caving, don your grippiest footwear, so you can stride amongst the rocks and seaweed with ease and remember to watch out for a rising tide; it is very easy to get cut off.
- If you just fancy a swim, don't go out of your depth unless you are a confident swimmer, and opt for beaches manned by lifeguards. At this time of year, the water can still be very cold and may take your breath away, so if you do find yourself struggling, just float for a minute until you get used to it, and then call for help or swim ashore.



iSurf's instructors will give your youngsters all the skills they need to be safe in the sea.

- Once you're back ashore, make sure you've got some warm clothes to slip into and a hot drink ready to take away any chills.

For more safety advice on activities from the RNLI, visit [rnli.org/safety/choose-your-activity](https://www.rnli.org/safety/choose-your-activity). You'll find our beach guides on pages 67–87. For more ideas on things to do, visit [wightlink.co.uk/explorer](https://www.wightlink.co.uk/explorer)

James Rayner



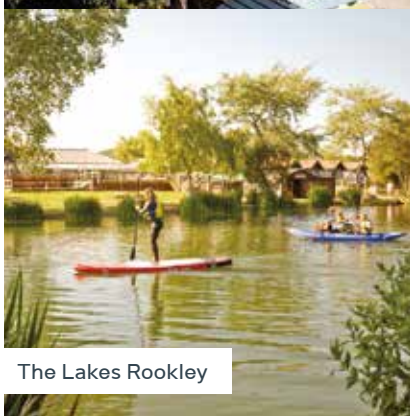
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FOOTBALL
GOLF

East Afton
FARMHOUSE
ISLE OF WIGHT

You can't leave the Island without...

#1 STEAMING THROUGH THE ISLAND'S COUNTRYSIDE

The Island Steam Fair returns for its 50th year at the Isle of Wight Steam Railway. The majestic steam trains will be running along the line, plus there's vintage transport, a traditional fairground and live entertainment to enjoy. Find out more in our What's On Guide on pages 106–112.



#2 HITTING THE BEACH

Whether you love nothing more than a little paddle along the shoreline or are a seasoned adrenaline-fuelled watersports junkie, now is the time to hit the beach. Build a sandcastle, swim in the sea and soak up the sun. You'll find our Beach Guides on pages 67–87.

#3 EATING AL FRESCO

Is there anything better on a sunny day than kicking back and relaxing in a country pub beer garden? We think not! Grab a bite to eat outdoors with our pick of the Island's cafés, pubs and restaurants on pages 24–28.



#4 PITCHING YOUR TENT

Spend some time sleeping under the stars this summer. Whether you're packing the trusty tent to take it back to basics or on the hunt for a full boutique glamping escape, our guide on pages 32–36 has plenty of ideas for all budgets.

#5 STEPPING BACK IN TIME

Experience the exhilarating spectacle of speed and skill as four legendary knights compete for honour and glory in the Legendary Joust at Carisbrooke Castle on 12–14 August. Who will be your champion? See our What's On Guide on pages 106–112 for more.





#6 GOING SCOOTER SPOTTING

Between 22–25 August, thousands of vintage scooters and their owners will descend on the Island for the Isle of Wight Scooter Rally. Featuring live music, custom shows and trade stalls and the legendary 'big ride-out', it's not to be missed. For more details, see pages 106–112.

#7 LEARNING A NEW ACTIVITY

If you've always wanted to dip your toe in the water and have a go at something different, the Island has plenty of qualified instructors who will help you get to grips with watersports. Pick up a paddle with our watersports feature on pages 14–18.



#8 GETTING OUT... WHATEVER THE WEATHER

The Isle of Wight is one of the sunniest places in the UK, but rain doesn't stop play! There are many attractions to keep the family occupied, such as Amazon World, Robin Hill, Tapnell Farm Park and Brading Roman Villa. For great days out, rain or shine, see our feature on pages 46–50.

#9 VISITING A COUNTRY SHOW

Summertime is show time with the Royal Isle of Wight County Show, Chale Show, the Garlic Festival and Wolverton Manor Garden Fair all taking place. Offering everything from motorcycle displays and vintage funfairs to rural crafts and agricultural animals, they guarantee fun for all the family! Turn to pages 106–112 for more details.



#10 CATCHING FESTIVAL FEVER

2025 is the summer of music! There really is something for everyone – retro music lovers will enjoy Jack Up Event's ABBA Chic Party Night, the Wight Proms Festival will keep classical connoisseurs happy, and dance fans will love Robin Hill's The Wight Isle – Classic Ibiza White Party and Chicane:Sunsets events. For more events, see our What's On Guide on pages 106–112.



So don't miss
out – book your
Island escape
today at
wightlink.co.uk

Eating al fresco

It's a well-known fact that the Isle of Wight punches well above its weight when it comes to food, and while there are plenty of pleasant restaurant and pub interiors, you can't beat sitting down to a meal outdoors. So, unfurl that napkin and make the most of those precious rays of British sunshine, with our guide to some of the finest local spots to dine al fresco.

THE SUN INN

As far as locations go, The Sun Inn at Hulverstone should be pretty hard to beat. Set in a rural West Wight hamlet, this centuries-old stone pub with a thatched roof boasts a restful and grassy beer garden with views across the undulating fields and out to sea. Homemade pies are in high demand here, while options from the specials board include dishes such as pan-fried sea bream with lemon and chilli butter, BBQ pork loaded poppadoms and turkey Thai green curry. If you're feeling a bit on the thirsty side,

The Sun offers an IPA and a bitter on tap from sustainable Brading-based brewers Wight Knuckle, as well as a range of beers from some more well-known names, such as London Pride. If Hulverstone is just a bit too far away, try the equally characterful Fisherman's Cottage, which sits a (very short) stone's throw from the Shanklin Chine.



The food at Fisherman's Cottage tastes even better in the sea air.



The Sun Inn at Hulverstone has bags of rural charm.

WIGHTWOOD PIZZA

Meanwhile, further west, local foodie fans can often be found queuing up for artisan (and surprisingly affordable) pizzas from Wightwood Pizza's vintage Citroën truck. Parked up at Yarmouth Harbour on Tuesday nights, and along the shore at Freshwater Bay on Friday and Sunday evenings. Every pizza is made from scratch by owner Josh, with vegan cheese options available on demand. Pre-order by text to get your request in early, whether you're plumping for the classic margherita (made with Arreton Valley tomatoes), or specials such as the chorizo, mascarpone and roquito chilli. Then, as the sun begins to set, find a spot to sit by the sea and tuck into your artisan slice of deliciousness.



Keep your eyes peeled for Wightwood Pizza's vintage Citroën truck. You'll be in for a tasty treat if you spot it at Yarmouth or Freshwater.

TRUE FOOD KITCHEN AT CASTLEHAVEN BEACH

Perhaps a little splurge is in order for a special occasion, in which case, try the upmarket True Food Kitchen, located in the idyllic fishing cove of Castlehaven. Perched on the Island's very southern tip, you'll find stunning views across the sparkly blue waters of The Channel, as well as an Asian influenced menu, often using locally-caught seafood.



True Food Kitchen at Castlehaven is an off-the-beaten-track hidden gem serving Asian influenced food and amazing sea views.

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Foresters Hall has a serene and sophisticated terrace that's a real sun trap.

Take a seat on the decked clifftop terrace and pick from such enticing menu options as bao buns with teriyaki tofu and miso mayo, or Wagyu beef burger with tempura nobashi prawns, yuzu and chilli mayo. There are also Hawaiian poke bowls on offer and a short but sweet selection of desserts. Once you're feeling refreshed and revived, it's only a brief but scenic walk to the impressive Victorian lighthouse of St. Catherine's. Alternatively, if you're spending time in West Wight, make a reservation at the recently revamped Albion Hotel, where outdoor dining tables overlook the dramatic Stag Rock.

THE RESTAURANT AT FORESTERS HALL

For something completely different, head to the historic winding streets of Cowes, where, amongst the colourful Georgian cottages and circling seagulls, sits the impressive Foresters Hall. Tucked away at the back of this boutique hotel is a sophisticated restaurant, complete with a walled sun-trap of a terrace, well-dressed outdoor dining tables and top-notch service.

At the helm is chef Jay Santiago (known locally for his stints at a number of classy dining venues), whose revamped menu features finely crafted dishes, including Moroccan lamb rump skewers with tahini vierge and honeyed labneh. Alternatively, there's also the 'nduja and local crab linguine, with the hand-picked crustaceans sourced every morning from Yarmouth firm We've Got Crabs. If lunch just isn't lunch without a little drop of wine, Foresters Hall offers an impressive selection of small-vineyard bottles, sourced by Cowes-based wine specialist Wine Therapy. Booking recommended.



Left: The tables at the Albion Hotel overlook the dramatic Stag Rock at Freshwater.
Right: Tuck into a platter of local shellfish at Foresters Hall.

FIN'S BEACH CAFÉ

Meanwhile, over in Sandown, sisters Molly and Betty have been offering up healthy breakfast, brunch and lunch dishes from their seaside hut on the Western Revetment since 2021. Located just metres from the vast sandy shore, Fin's Beach Café is a popular spot with locals and is especially well-known for its smoothie bowls. Try the Island Lover for instance, which includes a base of mango, pineapple and banana, topped with raspberries, passion fruit, desiccated coconut and a maple-pecan granola.



What could be better than a cocktail and dinner overlooking the sea at the Albion Hotel?

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Fin's Beach Café serve up delicious breakfast, brunch and lunch dishes on Sandown's Western Revetment.

If you're craving something savoury instead, pick from fish tacos with mango salsa, gochujang chicken burger, loaded hash browns and more. For summery beverages to match the sunny seaside location, order a cool mango-mint refresher, tropical frappe, or 'Nutty Professor' smoothie. If, however, you prefer your brunch to come in the form of homemade cake, make your way to the award-winning Blueberrys Café, perched on the clifftops north of Shanklin.

SCENIC SPOTS TO PICNIC

With so many impressive local food and drink products on offer, there's always the option of assembling your own Isle of Wight al fresco meal and picking from any number of scenic picnic spots to enjoy it. Start with some seven-seeded bread from Lost Mill Bakery, before adding in heritage speciality tomatoes from Isle of Wight Tomatoes and creamy red cheese from Briddlesford Farm.



Left: Start your picnic with some seven-seeded bread from Lost Mill Bakery. Right: Why not pop a cheeky afternoon tipple from The Isle of Wight Cocktail Company in your basket?

For the adults, add in a mixed drink from The Isle of Wight Cocktail Company, such as a Wight Vesper Martini, and for younger attendees, a bottle of Godshill Orchards cloudy apple juice. Once your picnic blanket is ready to be shaken out and carefully laid down, consider laying it on the grassy slopes of Carisbrooke Castle, in the cool shadow of Bembridge Windmill, or amongst the heather and gorse of Headon Warren (with impressive coastal views of the Needles as your backdrop).



You can virtually taste the sunshine in Isle of Wight Tomatoes produce.

For more ideas for places to eat, turn to pages 62–101 or visit wight.link/where-to-eat

James Rayner

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Glamping and camping hidden gems

Tis' the season – no, not that one. The one where you dust off the camp chairs, throw away the bent tent pegs, and prepare your spine for a geographically-induced realignment. It's camping season! So, whether you're packing the trusty tent to take it back to basics or on the hunt for a full boutique glamping escape, our guide has plenty of ideas for all budgets.

A VERY BRITISH SAFARI

Make the most of your summer holidays with a very British safari! Okay, we can't promise awe-inspiring sightings (unless goats are your thing), but we can promise that a stay in one of Tom's Eco Lodge safari tents will feel like you're deep in the heart of the Serengeti – just without the heat, mosquitoes, or risk of becoming a lion's lunch.

Set among the sprawling grounds of family-favourite Tapnell Farm, these spacious tents offer panoramic views over the Downs, the Solent, and beyond. With access to award-winning attractions and amenities, including The Cow, home of the “Best Burger on the Island”, the luxury safari tents at Tom's promise to leave you refreshed, recharged, and maybe just a little reluctant to leave.

Situated on the outskirts of Freshwater, Glamping the Wight Way delivers the pinnacle of luxury camping and is just a 30-minute walk from the beautiful waters of Colwell Bay, as well as one of the Island's culinary crown jewels, The Hut.

Their cosy lodges are styled from top to bottom with comfort in mind, offering a stay that's as indulgent as it is relaxing. Set in a prime location surrounded by scenic walking trails, cycle routes, and perfectly positioned with minimal light pollution for nights of truly breathtaking stargazing, this is how glamping should look.

The safari tents at Tom's Eco Lodges at Tapnell Farm give you all the feel of being out in the wild but will all the comforts of home.

BUDGET-FRIENDLY BUNKING

Perched on the cliffs of Brighstone with staggering views across the English Channel, Grange Farm Campsite offers one of the most enviable camping spots on the Island. With over two acres of open land and a path leading directly to Brighstone Bay below, it's a prime location for seaside adventurers. Choose from traditional pitches, cosy cliffside cottages, cute shepherds' huts or a selection of fully furnished caravans – all offering fantastic value without skimping on the scenery.



Pitch up at Grange Farm at Brighstone, and you're just a stones throw from the sand – don't forget your bucket and spade!

This stretch of the Island's Jurassic coastline boasts some of the best fossil-hunting in the entire country, so don't forget your dino-digging kit. Who knows? You might just stumble across a long-lost species!

If value, variety, and family-friendly fun are top of your list, Parkdean Resorts delivers with four unique sites dotted across the Isle of Wight – perfect for those who love exploring the great outdoors. Each resort comes fully equipped with swimming pools, entertainment, on-site eateries, and easy access to scenic cycle routes and adventurous walking trails, making it the perfect base for packing every day with something new.



With scenic surroundings and accommodation to suit every budget, Parkdean Resorts Nodes Point site has everything on site to keep the family occupied.

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IN THE THICKET OF IT

There's no better way to unplug from the noise of daily life than with a nature-filled escape to the Isle of Wight's lush woodlands. Tucked away in the trees of Wootton Park, just ten minutes from our ferry ports at Ryde and Fishbourne and the lively towns of Ryde and Newport, Into the Woods offers the unmissable opportunity to channel your inner child and spend your holiday in the charm and comfort of a luxury treehouse. Be sure to keep an eye out for red-furred, bushy-tailed intruders scampering past, or listen for the hoots of the resident owls as night falls over the canopy.

If spending your nights suspended in the treetops doesn't do it for you, don't pack up just yet – because Camp Corve at Chale Green might be exactly what you need. A true hidden gem and the closest you'll get to wild camping on the Island, Camp Corve offers one of the most serene campsites around. Set amongst ancient woodland, the site is illuminated by magical twinkling lights which give

your stay a genuine sense of wonder. With open pitches, campervan hook-ups and pre-built luxury tents, as well as Squirrel's Den, a stylish and cosy lodge, this woodland retreat offers options for any budget.

Oh, and did we mention there's a professional indoor skatepark? It's the combo you never knew you needed!



Twinkling lights strung through the trees make for a magical stay at Camp Corve.

SOMETHING OUT OF THIS WORLD

Sometimes, a tent in a field overlooking the coast, a luxury treehouse nestled in woodland, or even a cliffside lodge just doesn't quite hit the mark. When only the truly unexpected will do, how about spending the night in a 4-person UFO? Or an original 1940s Airstream? Maybe you'd prefer sleeping under the stars on the grounds of a working garlic farm?

Quickly becoming one of the Island's worst-kept secrets, The Garlic Farm is home to some of the Island's most beloved produce – and some of its most unique places to stay.



What wildlife will you spot when you're amongst the canopy at Into the Woods?



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The Garlic Farm is a real feast for the senses. Staying in the yurts mean you're mere minutes from tasty garlicky goodies!

Enjoy a stay in one of the stunning on-site yurts, alongside a variety of charming accommodation options perfect for everything from intimate group getaways to unforgettable weddings. Wake up to the soothing sounds and scents of nature drifting across the fields, stroll down to the award-winning Garlic Farm restaurant for an unforgettable breakfast, and don't leave without grabbing a bottle of their infamous Vampire Slayer garlic hot sauce. Who knew farm life could look this good?

Looking for a slice of nostalgia to break free from the everyday and hit the reset button? Retro Staycations, based at Hazlegrove Farm in Ryde, offers the chance to step back in time with a stunning collection of original American Airstreams. Lovingly restored and brimming with vintage charm, these iconic silver bullets deliver a one-of-a-kind holiday experience.

As featured on the popular Channel 5 series *Isle of Wight: Jewel of the South*, Windmill Campersite is home to some of the quirkiest, most unconventional accommodation options you'll ever encounter.

Set among expansive fields – perfect for letting your furry friends roam – and with views overlooking Carisbrooke Castle, this offbeat hideaway offers once-in-a-lifetime stays in everything from a prop submarine used in a Bond film to a repurposed military helicopter from the Falklands!



You're guaranteed a break with a difference at Windmill Campersite, where you can bed down for the night in a repurposed military helicopter.

With a communal BBQ area, silent disco, cinema, and even a Doctor Who-themed toilet appropriately named 'The Turdis', you'll be well equipped for a stay that's anything but ordinary.

For more ideas on places to stay, turn to pages 62–101 or visit wightlink.co.uk



Step back in time in one of Retro Staycations fleet of vintage American Airstreams.

Brad Stockdale

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Brothers Benji and Balu in Azerbaijan

Inspirational Islanders: Erin Flynn, Isle of Wight Steam Railway

Erin is a young volunteer in the platform Customer Service team. She originally joined the Isle of Wight Steam Railway as a member of the Calbourne Club for younger volunteers, and recently moved into the full volunteering team.

“The Island is a very appealing place to live, as it’s often quite calm and peaceful. It’s close to beaches and all sorts of other wonders that those on the mainland don’t get to enjoy as often.

My favourite place on the Island has to be around Tennyson Downs, in the evening. The sunsets are beautiful up there.

My favourite Isle of Wight beach is in Ryde. It’s big and sandy, with some nice cafés close by, and I’ve made so many memories there.

I love walking along the Red Squirrel Trail, especially around Sandown and Shanklin, as you get some nice views out to sea.

My favourite event has to be the 1940s weekend at the Isle of Wight Steam Railway on 5–6 July. I’ve attended every year, and I love dressing up in my 40s gear. There’s always so much going on around the station, and it’s a real trip back in time.

If I had an hour left on the Island, I would probably go for a walk with the dog down by the seafront in Ryde.”

To find out more about the Isle of Wight Steam Railway, visit iwsteamrailway.co.uk. Meet more of our Inspirational Islanders on pages 52, 68 and 74.



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ISLE OF WIGHT PUBS

Character Inns have been family-owned and run for three generations and offer a collection of landmark Isle of Wight pubs. Discover three traditional inns offering an abundance of charm, personality and character – whether dining, staying or drinking your favourite tipple. New for 2025 are three beautifully refurbished pubs with new boutique ensuite rooms each offering the opportunity to stay at these landmark inns.

Nestled in some of the Island's most scenic spots and just a stone's throw from the sea, you'll find a wonderful selection of Character Inns, each one unique and rich in local history.

These charming inns combine the warmth of your favourite British pub with the welcoming feel of a guesthouse, making them a perfect home away from home for travellers. They offer a lovely place to dine, unwind and enjoy your stay in a distinctive period setting.

THE BUDDLE SMUGGLERS INN NITON



Tucked away in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in Niton Undercliff, at the southern-most point of the Island, this Grade II listed inn is a true gem. As one of the oldest pubs on the Island, it boasts charming flagstone floors, exposed beams, and a warm log fire that invites you to unwind.

In summer months its large garden overlooking the sea is a really a very pleasant way to unwind and forget about everyday life. The Buddle Inn has a lovely cosy vibe and stunning views of the English Channel that will make you not want to leave.

Recently the pub has been converted to an inn with a complete renovation of the upstairs into 4 en suite boutique rooms that maintain the inn's historic charm. This has been 200 years in the making but the reviews certainly agree that this is a great addition to the pub.



The pub has recently been awarded much acclaim by travellers and locals alike and it's no wonder that both The Times and The Guardian have recognised it as one of the UK's top inns!

**The
Guardian**

Voted in the Top 10
'Best Renovated
English Foodie Inns'

THE TIMES

Voted in the Top 10
'English Cosy English
Country Pub Stays'

The kitchen serves up tasty pub favourites and a beloved Sunday roast, all in a welcoming atmosphere that even your furry friends can enjoy. It's the perfect spot for those exploring the Island, with plenty of footpaths and local sights to discover. The building itself has an intriguing history, dating back to the 16th century when it was a barn for smugglers to hide their treasures before becoming an inn in 1829.

Speaking of treasures, the Buddle is steeped in tales of smuggling, and rumour has it that there might still be some hidden gems beneath the floorboards today! buddleinn.co.uk

THE BUGLE COACHING INN YARMOUTH

Located In the very heart of Yarmouth's Square, you'll discover The Bugle Coaching Inn, a charming Grade II listed inn. This winter has been a busy one for the Bugle team – all nine of their guest rooms have been lovingly restored to offer boutique ensuite accommodation which is a perfect starting point to explore all that the West Wight has to offer.



Dating back to the 16th century, this pub is full of character with its inviting flagstone floors, traditional inglenook beams, cosy snugs, and a warm open fire that makes you feel right at home. Guests can retreat to comfortable King, Twin, or Family rooms, all in a setting that's bursting with charm. Plus, it's dog-friendly! Enjoy spacious dining areas, both indoors and outdoors, where you can savour a delightful year-round menu featuring classic pub favourites, often accompanied by live music.



The Bugle is a vibrant and welcoming place to be... in the summer months the inn boasts a large sun garden with outside bar and live music at the weekends. The inn is a beloved local spot and favourite for visitors alike in this picturesque Island fishing town. It's the ideal destination to gather and enjoy sharing memories, no matter what the occasion has to offer. thebugleinn.co.uk

THE CRAB & LOBSTER INN BEMBRIDGE

Nestled at the far eastern tip of the Isle of Wight, in the village of Bembridge, this charming inn is a beloved spot for locals and visitors alike to wind away the day enjoying a meal, your favourite tipple or even a relaxed stay over.



Offering stunning views of Bembridge Ledge, and just a stone's throw from the sparkling sea and beach, you really would not wish to be anywhere else. The inn's accommodation has been completely refurbished for the 2025 season and now offers 5 boutique ensuite rooms in this stunning location. The inn offers something for every one. The pub itself is traditional with inglenook beams, cosy snugs and a warm open fire that makes you feel right at home. On sunny days, you can dine alfresco while soaking up the expansive views across the English Channel.



Afterwards, if you are lucky enough, you can head upstairs to one of the cosy, refurbished rooms for a well-deserved rest – pure bliss! The pub is also dog-friendly and conveniently located right by the coastal path, making it an ideal starting and finishing point for your adventures exploring Bembridge and the gorgeous East Wight coastline and beaches. crabandlobsterinn.co.uk

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- 11 Chad Powell Gallery & Shop

- 12 Fortune Leathercraft
- 13 The Craft Cabin
- 14 Little Art at the Barn
- 15 Isle of Wight Stone Creations
- 16 Squirrel's Den Collectibles
- 18 Isle of Wight Glass Museum
- 20 St George's 12th-Century Church
- 21 Historic Carp Pond
- 23 Lavender Cottage Holiday Let

Set in beautiful countryside at the heart of the Island, Arreton Barns is home to a vast array of arts and crafts studios, showcasing some of the best in local artisans and craftspeople. Browse independent local shops and find interesting and unique gift ideas, or even have a bespoke piece commissioned to take home.

There is a real historic charm at Arreton Barns. Here you can visit the family-owned real ale pub, a 12th-century church, duck pond, traditional sweet shop and well stocked farm shop, all on site. It's the perfect place to spend a day with the whole family.

Watch the skilled artisans at work as they create unique, yet affordable items, all of which can be bought directly from the makers in their individual studios. They create a wide range of handmade items from a variety of mediums including silver, leather, glass, wood and much more.

17 WIGHT CLASSICS

A friendly garage specialising in the maintenance and repair of classic cars. The team aims to provide a high quality service at down to earth prices and regularly look after a diverse range of cars from Jaguars and Fiats to Land Rovers and Rolls-Royces and everything in between.



5 THE DAIRYMAN'S DAUGHTER

A key feature of Arreton Barns, The Dairyman's Daughter pub is enjoyed by locals and visitors alike. Traditionally decorated with original memorabilia, the pub has a lovely paved courtyard and sheltered conservatory seating area, perfect for enjoying a cold drink in the summer months.

Much of the produce used in the kitchen is sourced locally, with the menu and daily specials board boasting a range of home-cooked pub favourites. There are extensive gluten free options available, plus a range of choices for vegetarians and vegans. Real ales (many of which are local) line the bar, with a great selection of fine wines and spirits on offer too.



2 THE CORN EXCHANGE

Offering a wide choice of home and interior accessories to suit any home. As well as interior decorations, the Corn Exchange is fast becoming known among locals and holidaymakers for its great range of designer handbags, accessories and jewellery.





1 THOMAS P COCHRAN

Solid sterling silver jewellery, handmade by the team in their workshop at Arreton Barns. Cast in recycled silver using real shells as moulds, come and browse their unique pieces based on nature. Day courses in jewellery making now available. Group or individual bookings.

19 ISLE OF WIGHT STUDIO GLASS

As seen on Channel 5's *Isle of Wight: Jewel of the South*, take the opportunity to experience the magic of Master Artist and leading British designer-maker Timothy Harris and team.

The world famous, innovative family run studio has for over 50 years been inspired by the Island's breathtaking year round scenery, flora, fauna and magical coastlines. The ground floor easy access studio and both shop areas are free for all to enjoy. Browse the shop for something special, from a small gift to a lasting investment. Experiences available, commissions welcome. Not to be confused with any other Island glass studio, Isle of Wight STUDIO Glass is located at the very top of the site above the pond and church.



ARRETON BARNES

THE ISLAND'S LARGEST ARTS AND CRAFTS CENTRE...

Nestled in the heart of the Arreton Valley, visit some of the Isle of Wight's most talented artists and artisans alongside boutique shops.

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Instagram: @missy_theromanianrescue

22 SHIPWRECK CENTRE

Originally founded in 1978 by professional diver, Martin Woodward. In 2017 the Maritime Archaeology Trust, a charity with over 30 years experience in research, investigations and pioneering techniques for the study of marine cultural heritage, took over the management of the museum. Inside you will find deep sea treasures, legends of shipwrecks from local waters, plus exhibits on prehistory and protected wrecks.



To find out more about the artisans, including their individual contact details, visit arretonbarns.co.uk



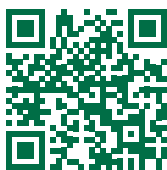
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Shanklin Chine has long been at the forefront of countless childhood holiday memories with its main waterfall, tumbling down the cliff edge from 45 feet being a key feature.

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Shanklin, PO37 6BW | 01983 866432 | shanklinchine.co.uk | Follow us on   

**Visit our 'pub on the beach',
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SCAN ME!



**FISHERMAN'S
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Nestled beneath Shanklin Chine and located on the beach at the end of Shanklin Esplanade, the Fisherman's Cottage Inn is the perfect spot to enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner.

2025 Pub Opening Times

Opening times may vary. Please see our website, social media or call our booking office.

To book a table inside contact bookings@shanklinchine.co.uk

Shanklin Esplanade, PO37 6BN | 01983 863882 | fishermanscottageinn.co.uk | Follow us on  

Island days out – whatever the weather!

Whether the sun shines or the rain pours, the Isle of Wight has plenty to offer its visitors. From relaxed strolls around historical sites to activities to excite the thrill-seekers, the Island has something for everyone. So pack your suncream and your umbrella, and be prepared for fun, adventure and culture as you take a tour of some of our favourite destinations.

OSBORNE

Step back in time at Osborne, Queen Victoria and Albert's Island residence. Immerse yourself in history amongst the sumptuous interiors, explore the state and family rooms and view the Royal Collection, which includes beautiful paintings and many of the family's personal belongings.

Visit Swiss Cottage at Osborne, where Queen Victoria and Prince Albert's children once played.

On sunnier days, enjoy a stroll around the wonderful, landscaped gardens, which bloom with seasonal colour, and take in the historic trees, many of which were planted by Prince Albert. Guests can also visit Swiss Cottage – where Victoria and Albert's children once played and worked their vegetable plots – and bathe at the private beach. The Walled Garden is also not to be missed; it's a haven of peace and tranquillity, where citrus fruit trees grow on the south-facing walls and herbaceous plantings and fresh flowers thrive.



Immerse yourself in the sumptuous interiors at Osborne.

AMAZON WORLD

Home to a fascinating array of rare and exotic animals, Amazon World is a great all-weather, educational destination for all ages. Take a tour and meet the menagerie, which includes red pandas, giant tortoises and tropical birds. Conservation is the goal here, and the park offers plenty of interesting information about its breeding and research programmes, as well as 'Animal Experiences', giving animal lovers the opportunity to meet meerkats, sloths, armadillos, capybaras and tapir. There's also a playground and a well-equipped soft play area on site (great for letting the kids burn off some steam!), as well as a gift shop brimming with animal-themed books, toys and souvenirs.



Meet the menagerie at Amazon World – which includes armadillos.



THE NATIONAL POO MUSEUM

Have you been?



Department
29/30 Cross Street, Ryde
PO33 2AA

poomuseum.org





The Isle of Wight Aqua Park at Tapnell Farm is great fun, come rain or shine!

QUAY ARTS

Situated in the town of Newport, right in the centre of the Island, Quay Arts is one of the leading galleries on the South Coast. Take in a wide range of exhibitions, dedicated to supporting the work of both emerging and established artists. Entry to the galleries is free, and for those who wish to try their hand at learning a new creative skill, there is a varied programme of workshops, often including activities such as pottery, printing and life drawing. The café bar is a great spot to relax, serving home-made food, sourced from local growers and suppliers where possible, as well as fresh ground coffee and decadent slabs of cake!



The café bar at Quay Arts in Newport is a perfect spot to relax on the riverside.

TAPNELL FARM PARK

Home to farm animals, reptiles and even wallabies, Tapnell Farm Park is a brilliant destination for young families. The kids will love the tower slides, trampolines, soft play and climbing apparatus, which are all handy undercover. When the sun is shining, kids and big kids will enjoy the outdoor space, entertained with giant, bouncy pillows, a zipline, playgrounds and go karts.



Left: Why not try your hand at archery at Tapnell Farm? Right: The Cow restaurant serves a wide range of award-winning burgers if you've worked up an appetite.

If you're keen to make a day of it and get active, the site also houses an aqua park, archery and axe throwing, football golf and clay pigeon shooting. The cherry on the top of your visit might be a visit to The Cow restaurant, a converted Swiss Barn serving award-winning burgers and delicious steaks. Make sure to plan your trip in advance, though – the restaurant can get busy in peak times, and some activities need to be booked before arrival.



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There's plenty to keep little ones (and the big kids too) entertained at Robin Hill, including unleashing their inner construction worker at Digger School.

ROBIN HILL

An adventure park set in ninety-eight acres of countryside, with trails meandering through ancient woodland and landscaped gardens, Robin Hill is a great place for the children to run free, while the adults soak up the picturesque surroundings. The park is home to a host of activities for the whole family, including a winding maze, a falconry experience and an indoor ice rink.

Here, there's plenty to keep the little ones entertained on overcast days, with playgrounds and play villages that are sure to spark their imaginations. Meanwhile, thrill-seekers will enjoy exploring the treetop walkways, suspended above the forest floor, and whizzing down the toboggan run! For families that enjoy a bit of friendly competition, the woodland adventure golf is a must-visit, with a variety of challenges for golfers of all ages and abilities.



Left: Thrill-seekers will love climbing and bouncing around in Robin Hill's Jungle Heights.
Right: Hold on tight as you whizz down the toboggan run.

BRADING ROMAN VILLA

Explore one of the finest Roman sites in the country, boasting magnificent, preserved mosaic floors and an extensive collection of Roman archaeology. The discovery of the Bacchus mosaic in 1880 led to the excavation of the site, where visitors can now see the remains of the villa, believed to have once belonged to a wealthy family. Guests can also enjoy browsing the shop, which offers a unique range of gifts, many crafted by local artisans. If all that exploring has worked up an appetite, head to the café and take in the views of the rolling countryside while enjoying a delicious light lunch or cream tea.



Perfect for a rainy day, Brading Roman Villa boasts beautiful, preserved mosaic floors.

For more ideas on places to visit, turn to pages 62–101 or visit wightlink.co.uk/explorer

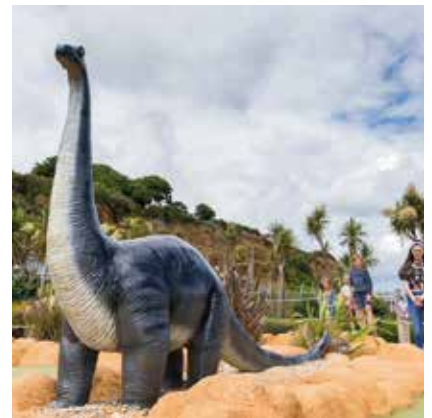
Ginnie Taylor

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Inspirational Islanders: Alan Martin, Island Line

Born and raised on the Island, Alan has worked for the railway for 22 years. He began his railway career in 2003 as a Revenue Protection Assistant at Portsmouth & Southsea Station with South Western Railway before spotting an opportunity on the Island Line covering both Guard and Ticket Office duties. Following a move to the Administration Office at Ryde St Johns, Alan qualified as a Train Driver in June 2007 and is now a Train Driver Instructor for the Island.

In his spare time, he enjoys baking, going to the gym, walking and is a keen runner, having taken part in many races over the years, including the London Marathon, the Isle of Wight Half Marathon, and The Needles Half Marathon.

He also helps with a running group called The Caulkhead Runners and is involved with voluntary work, having previously been a Special Constable with Hampshire Constabulary when he was younger, and Chairperson of the Island Lesbian & Gay Switchboard (ILGS), which subsequently became WightOUT Helpline before its closure.

"I was born on the Island, so maybe I'm biased, but I love the fact that I live and work on such a beautiful Island with great beaches and some stunning picturesque countryside and the slightly slower pace of life.

It's really hard to choose a favourite place on the Island as there are so many different ones to choose from! I do love the area around St Catherine's Lighthouse and the views over The Needles are hard to beat. Barrington Row (known as Winkle Street) at Calbourne has real chocolate box charm.

Well, for ease of getting to, I have to say Appley Beach in Ryde is my favourite. It's less than a 10-minute walk from my house!

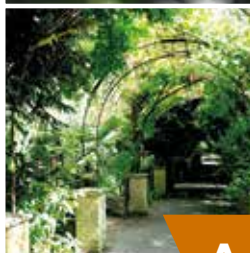
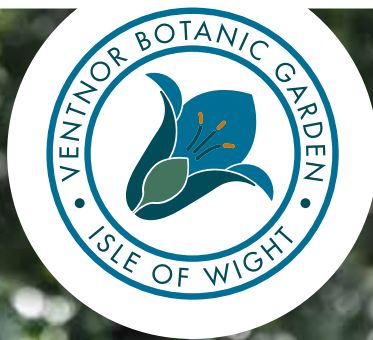
I love to walk from Ryde to Fishbourne via Ladies Walk at Binstead Golf Course and on to Quarr Abbey Tea Rooms for a cuppa and slice of cake. If it's a charity walk, then obviously, Walk The Wight from start to finish is the best. A great way to see the Isle of Wight and support Mountbatten.

In terms of events, my favourite sporting one has got to be the Isle of Wight Festival of Running which takes place each year in early June, or Wight Proms Festival (12-17 August).

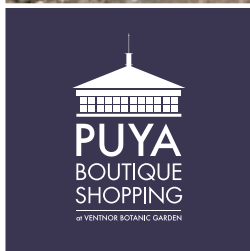
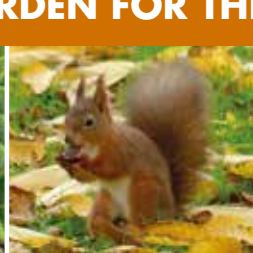
If I only had an hour to spare on the Island, I'd go for a nice long walk along Ryde Esplanade and the seafront to Seaview before turning around and grabbing a cuppa and a bite to eat on the return leg at one of the cafés en route."

To find out more about Island Line, visit southwesternrailway.com/island-line. Meet more of our Inspirational Islanders on pages 38, 68 and 74.





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EXPLORE | DINE | SHOP | STAY

Glorious Godshill

Nestled between Newport and Ventnor, the historic village of Godshill is a wonderful place to while away a day. Utterly charming and brimming with history (and tea rooms), Godshill is a quintessential English village, full of character and surrounded by rolling countryside. With its quaint, thatched-roof cottages and quirky attractions, many equate Godshill with stepping back in time. Indeed, there are rumours that it was frequented by Queen Victoria, who allegedly enjoyed an afternoon tea in the village.



The view from Church Hill, Godshill is arguably one of the most famous on the Isle of Wight.

HISTORY

Godshill, as you may have guessed from its name, has a history entwined with faith. At the brow of the hill stands the medieval All Saints Church, which can be seen from miles away. Local legend goes that the original foundations were laid in the village, and each morning the villagers would wake to find the foundations had been moved to the top of the hill by an unknown force. It's well worth the trek up stone steps to reach the peaceful sanctuary, where you can take in a stained-glass window by artist and craftsman William Morris. Notably, the church is also home to a lily crucifix – a rare symbol found in Anglican churches and one of only two paintings in Europe.



All Saints Church has a stained-glass window by William Morris.

THINGS TO DO

The Model Village, tucked away in the grounds of The Old Vicarage, is a highly engaging attraction reminiscent of a bygone era. Originally built in 1952 and lovingly maintained over the years, the detailed model depicts both Godshill and Shanklin's Old Village. Set in beautiful, landscaped gardens, the detailed scenes can keep both children and adults entertained for hours. The expertly curated site is a Royal Horticultural Society partner garden, with an impressive collection of conifers, shrubs and even bonsai trees, which are sure to delight any keen gardener.



The Model Village even has a miniature version of The Model Village!

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Take a leisurely wander around The Old Smithy and browse the extensive collection of gifts, clothing and accessories.

If you're after some souvenirs or just a spot of retail therapy, pay a visit to The Old Smithy. From Dartington and Joseph Joseph to Beatrix Potter and Pusheen memorabilia, their extensive collection of gifts, collectables, clothing and accessories has something to suit all tastes. Afterwards, take a leisurely wander around the landscaped garden outside, complete with pixies and fairies that will enchant young visitors.

Another shop to note is Daisy Daisy, where visitors can browse a collection of beautiful, ethically sourced gifts from around the world. Enjoy the treasure trove of colourful jewellery, trinkets and homewares in this boutique – and shop safe in the knowledge that items are sourced with care and ethics in mind.

If you're looking for something with a little sparkle, Island Gems is the place for you, housing the Island's biggest collection of gems, amber and fossils. The team also

host educational fossil hunting trips, offering a unique opportunity to see the Island's famous dinosaur footprints and hunt for your own fossils, with expert guidance.

For those who enjoy sampling local produce, a stroll to Hollow Lane will take you to Vivienne's Larder, a self-service shop offering fresh, seasonal fruit and vegetables and Island milk. Owned by Godshill Orchards, this hidden gem houses luscious locally-grown cherries and apricots, as well as a delicious range of jams and chutneys.



You can taste the sunshine in Godshill Orchards locally-grown produce.



Daisy Daisy sells carefully selected and sourced gifts from around the world.

If you're keen to get active, Godshill is a great base for rambling, with circular walks of varying lengths around the village. For those wanting to explore a little further afield, we recommend heading towards Appuldurcombe House, the grand remains of 18th-century English Baroque architecture, now managed by English Heritage and open to the public. A former priory, convent, home and even hotel, it's rumoured to be one of the most haunted places on the island.



ROBIN HILL

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Coffee and brunch in the sunshine at Cook + Baker is hard to beat.

FOOD AND DRINK

For those who delight in a classic cream tea, Godshill is the place to be. First established in the 1890s, The Old World Tearooms and Gardens offer a wonderful range of cream teas – including a Biscoff special and unusual savoury options such as a crab cream tea! Leal's Tea Gardens is also worth a visit, with its striking stone columns and manicured shrubs.

If you fancy an alternative sweet treat, The Old Smithy café boasts a fabulous display of decadent cakes and pastries, as well as a traditional cream tea. The portions are generous, and the menu includes both classic cake offerings and inspired new recipes. It's also a great destination to stop for lunch, with tasty homemade quiche, comforting jacket potatoes and freshly made sandwiches.

If you're visiting between Friday and Monday, head to Cook + Baker for a leisurely brunch. The traditionalist will enjoy the classic menu items, such as Eggs Benedict, and the café also serves Asian-inspired, gut-friendly breakfasts,

including Korean eggs with homemade kimchi, Persian pancakes with candied orange, walnuts and pomegranate, and much more.

In the evening, we recommend heading to Thai Journey restaurant, which offers a contemporary twist on authentic Thai cuisine, with rich and diverse flavours spanning traditional dishes and innovative specials. If you're looking for classic pub fare or a hearty Sunday roast, The Griffin serves a wide range of favourites and it's family-friendly, with ample outdoor space – so the children can play, while parents enjoy the sunshine.



The Old Smithy café has a decadent display of cakes and pasties.



Bring your appetite, The Old World Tearooms and Gardens put on quite a spread!

With a wide range of eateries and things to do, Godshill is well worth a visit. Whether you're searching for educational activities, relaxing rambles or quirky attractions, a trip to this historic village will tick the boxes!

For more ideas on places to visit, turn to pages 62–101 or visit wightlink.co.uk/explorer

Ginnie Taylor

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Sandown Pier



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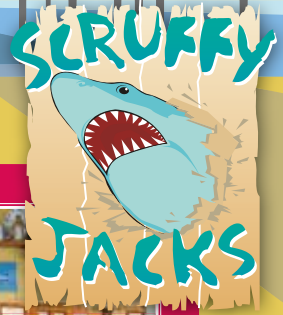


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Green News

Supporting sea life beneath the surface

We're proud to share that the waters around our ferry ports at Ryde Pier and Portsmouth Harbour are playing host to some extraordinary marine visitors – and not just passing through. Seahorses and cuttlefish, two iconic species of British marine life, have been using our ports as safe spaces for the cuttlefish to lay their eggs and the seahorse to raise their live newborn young.

As part of a partnership with the University of Portsmouth, postgraduate students have installed special underwater habitats at both locations. These act like nurseries, offering cuttlefish and seahorses somewhere to shelter and spawn. The fact that they're choosing these waters to reproduce is a strong sign that the local marine environment is healthy and suitable for life.

This is now the third year of the study, and monitoring continues to show that both species are making use of the artificial habitats. It's particularly encouraging because cuttlefish have seen their numbers fall in recent years due to overfishing and loss of habitat. By providing them with new safe spaces, we're helping nature bounce back.

The work is part of Wightlink's wider Green Solent Project – our commitment to protecting the Solent's precious environment. As a ferry company, we're not just travelling across the water, we're part of the marine landscape. That means doing our bit to look after it, whether it's investing in cleaner vessels or supporting marine science and conservation.



Left: Cuttlefish eggs. Right: 'Team Cuttlefish' from the University of Portsmouth.

Our port teams at Ryde and Portsmouth are always keen to get involved, helping students set up equipment and keep the research going. Together, we're proving that ferry ports and wildlife can coexist – and even support each other.

For more information on our Green Solent Project, visit wightlink.co.uk/environment



The waters around our ferry port at Ryde Pier Head are playing host to some extraordinary marine visitors.



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INTERACTIVE MUSEUM

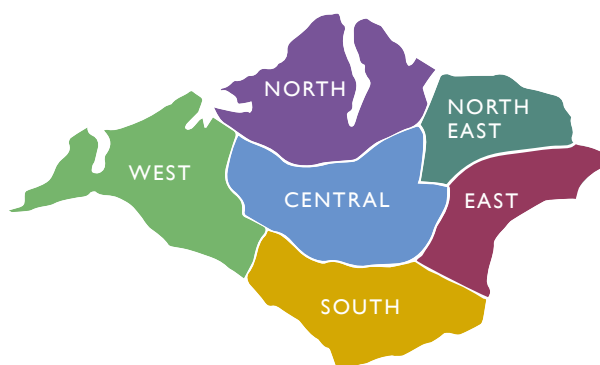


Isle of Wight Council

Island destinations
















Let us take you on a journey through the Island's towns and villages, as our destination guides paint a picture of the Isle of Wight, ready for you to explore. Broken down into North, North East, East, South, West and Central, it is full of things to see and do...



This handy guide will become your companion for your holiday. Enjoy!

LISTINGS KEY

-  B&B / Guesthouse
-  Café / Tea room
-  Camping / Glamping
-  Dog friendly
-  Fine dining
-  Caravan site
-  Hotel
-  Pub / Bar
-  Rainy day activity
-  Restaurant
-  Self-catering
-  Shop
-  WiFi



Pause a while and soak up the sun on Yarmouth Pier.

66 NORTH

Including Cowes, East Cowes and Northwood, looking out towards the busy shipping lanes of the Solent.

70 NORTH EAST

Coastal villages from Fishbourne and Wootton, around to Ryde, Seaview and St Helens.

76 EAST

The beautiful beaches of Sandown Bay from Shanklin through to Bembridge and including the town of Brading.

82 SOUTH

'Back of the Wight' following the rugged southern coastline from Luccombe and Bonchurch to Ventnor and Niton.

86 WEST

The western peninsular running from Brighstone via The Needles to Yarmouth and Newtown Creek.

94 CENTRAL

Covering Newport and the surrounding villages of Carisbrooke, Calbourne, Arreton, Godshill and Rookley.



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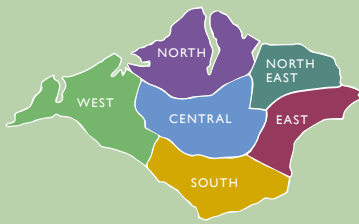


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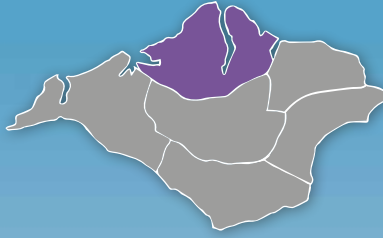
Yarmouth

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North



The north of the Island is home to possibly the best-known town on the Isle of Wight, Cowes. Long associated with sailing and all things nautical, Cowes is a hive of activity during the summer months...

From the sailing competitions, including the Round the Island Race and Cowes Week, to dry land entertainment, there are a multitude of events taking place. Many of the pubs that line the High Street have live music playing and street entertainers – it's a real party atmosphere. A summer stroll from Cowes to the neighbouring village of Gurnard is a must, with perfect

vantage points lining this flat and even walk. Upon arrival, you will find Gurnard to be a pretty little village with a couple of pubs, a post-office-come-coffee shop and a peppering of beach huts lining the esplanade.

Across the River Medina is East Cowes. Once the holiday destination of Queen Victoria and her family, a trip to the Island would not be complete without a tour around her palatial holiday home, Osborne. It was built between 1845 and 1851 in a quintessential Italian Renaissance palazzo style, with its sweeping terraces, towers and stunning formal gardens leading down to a beautiful beach, only accessible through the grounds.

Discover more things to do at wightlink.co.uk/explorer

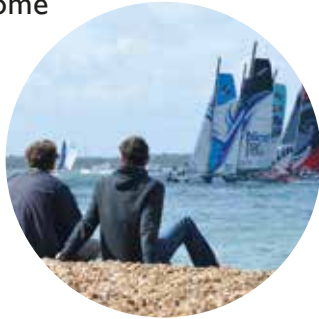


Queen Victoria's palatial holiday home, Osborne, has its own private beach.



Best beach for some sailing action: COWES

Cowes is the Mecca for all things sailing. The beach itself is shingle and you can often unearth some sea glass treasures. Watch out for passing cruise ships and high-octane sailing sports.



Best beach for sunsets: GURNARD



Gurnard is a great place to catch a sunset as it lights up the sky over the Solent. The beach is pebbly and good for swimming – just watch out for learner dinghy sailors. There is a pub and public toilets close by. Keep your eyes peeled too, as the beach also benefits from regular visits from an ice cream van!

Best beach to feel like a queen: OSBORNE

Not just any beach, this was Queen Victoria's beach. Accessed via paid entry to Osborne, take a stroll through the Italianate-style gardens or catch the shuttle bus. Once here, you will find a café serving up classic ice creams and teas and coffees, plus Queen Victoria's bathing machine.






Find out more at
wightlink.co.uk/explorer

NUMBER 1 BUS PASSES RIGHT OUTSIDE THE DOOR

W.M.A.H.M

WIGHT MILITARY AND HERITAGE MUSEUM


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**W.M.A.H.M, Northwood Camp,
490 Newport Road, Cowes, PO31 8QU**
wmahm.org.uk | 01983 305555
enquiries@wmahm.org.uk

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Inspirational Islanders:

Jack Singleton, WightWanderer

Born in Newport, content creator Jack lived in France for 8 years before returning in 2009 to study for a music degree. In 2023, he started the WightWanderer YouTube channel, which he writes, produces and presents alongside his partner, Eleanor. Devoted to telling the story of the Island's history, especially its railways, videos are released weekly, and the channel has over 3.6k subscribers.

"When it comes to the benefits of living on the Isle of Wight, there are perhaps too many to mention, but for someone who is interested in history, it is a treasure trove of information. The Island, in general, is just a wonderful place to walk and discover. No matter where you are, there will always be something to find and beauty to witness. Work can be a little difficult to find, but much easier if you network, something I wish I'd learnt earlier on. Indeed, once you do find your way, it can be a great way of socialising and meeting new locals.

My favourite place is the Isle of Wight Steam Railway. It's a wonderful place that I can't seem to escape. The work that goes into preserving the railway and the Island's heritage on site is extensive and thoroughly enjoyable to watch/take part in.

I'm not much of a beach goer, but I think Yaverland is the prettiest, though there are many to choose from. Yaverland was once the home of one of my favourite Island character stories involving a mischievous lady called Dorothy O'Grady,

who caused chaos during WW2 pretending to be a German spy; the topic of whether she was or wasn't a spy is still debated to this day. I think that's why I like the place, it's mysterious.

There are two places I'd recommend for a walk, the first being St Boniface to St Martin's Down, also known as the horseshoe plateau and possibly the best views on the Island, accessible via Ventnor or Shanklin. The second is Newtown Creek, a birdwatcher's paradise and one of the most historically fascinating places on the Isle of Wight. Newtown was once the largest port town on the Island until it was hit first by the Plague of 1348 and later by a French invasion in 1377, which destroyed almost all its architecture. The town never recovered, and all that is left today is a small yet achingly beautiful hamlet overlooking the Creek.

Natural bias would have me say the Isle of Wight Steam Show (22-25 August) is my favourite, but the Island is so diverse when it comes to events that it is very hard to pick just one. The Isle of Wight Classic Motor Show (6-7 September) is a superb car show which lasts the weekend. It has grown increasingly in size over the last couple of years and is always a wonderful event to attend.

If I had but an hour on the Island (assuming I'm arriving and departing from a ferry dock), I would inevitably go to the pub. The King Lud on Ryde Esplanade has always been a favourite of mine and serves a great pint, then perhaps a nice stroll along the wonderful beach at Appley before returning to the pier."

To subscribe to the channel, visit youtube.com/@WightWanderer. Meet more of our Inspirational Islanders on pages 38, 52 and 74.





ATTRACTIONS

Osborne



Once Queen Victoria's seaside holiday home, the house was designed by her beloved husband, Prince Albert. There is so much to see, from the royal rooms, to the magnificent walled garden, extensive grounds and beach where the royal children once played. Book online now and save.

York Avenue, East Cowes,
PO32 6JT
0370 333 1181
english-heritage.org.uk



Wight Military & Heritage Museum



Come and enjoy the military exhibits in the museum halls. Relax in Churchills, licensed in-house tea room (gluten free options available) decorated with memorabilia and enjoy a coffee and a selection of light snacks. Phone for details of vehicle rides.

490 Newport Road, Cowes,
PO31 8QU
01983 305555
wmahm.org.uk



FOOD & DRINK

Churchills



Enjoy a light lunch, snacks, cakes or a cream tea at Churchills, the in-house tea room at the Wight Military and Heritage Museum. Entry to the museum is not necessary to enjoy the atmosphere at Churchills.

490 Newport Road, Cowes,
PO31 8QU
01983 305555
wmahm.org.uk



ACCOMMODATION

Thorness Bay Holiday Park



With stunning views over the Solent, a beautiful countryside location and a beach on your doorstep, you know you're in for an incredible holiday at Thorness Bay. The park is packed full of fun for everyone to enjoy, with an adventure playground, kids club and indoor pool, as well as a convenience store for any essentials.

Thorness, Nr Cowes,
PO31 8NJ
0344 381 9128
parkdeanresorts.co.uk



Solent Cruises

Enjoy a fantastic view of the Island's coastline with Solent Cruises. Discover Cowes Harbour with a full live commentary, get up close to historic Portsmouth Harbour with a cruise around the Naval Base and view warships past and present or even explore both, on a Two Ports Cruise of these world-famous maritime locations. The Day Trip to Portsmouth cruise is great value and perfect for those looking to explore the city or enjoy some retail therapy. All vessels are available for private charter, corporate events, private trips or special occasions.

Thetis Wharf, Medina Road,
Cowes, PO31 7BX
01983 564602
solentcruises.co.uk



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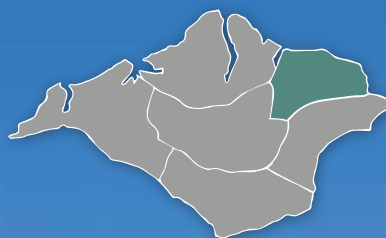
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f ROYALWIGHTESTATE | @ ROYAL_WIGHT_ESTATE



North East



The north east has everything going for it. From the miles of golden sands that hug the coastline, to the wildlife-rich limestone ledges off St Helens Duver and the hustle and bustle of the Island's largest town, Ryde...

Here you will find miles of perfect sandy beaches coupled with excellent entertainment. Stripey beach huts sit alongside coastal cafés and restaurants, whilst traditional funfairs, trampolines, a bowling alley, and a boating lake provide hours of entertainment for all the family. The town itself is built up a hill that provides wonderful views when looking back down towards the Solent and the pre-Victorian pier. You will find a good range of boutique shops for that one-off treasure, as well as plenty of places to relax with a drink and a bite to eat.

Venturing out of Ryde, you will undoubtedly stumble across Seaview. The picturesque Edwardian coastal town has a nostalgic charm, with regattas galore during the summer months, and the sea is busy with Mermaid boats and kitesurfers. The beaches here are slightly quieter and have a distinctly desert island feel.

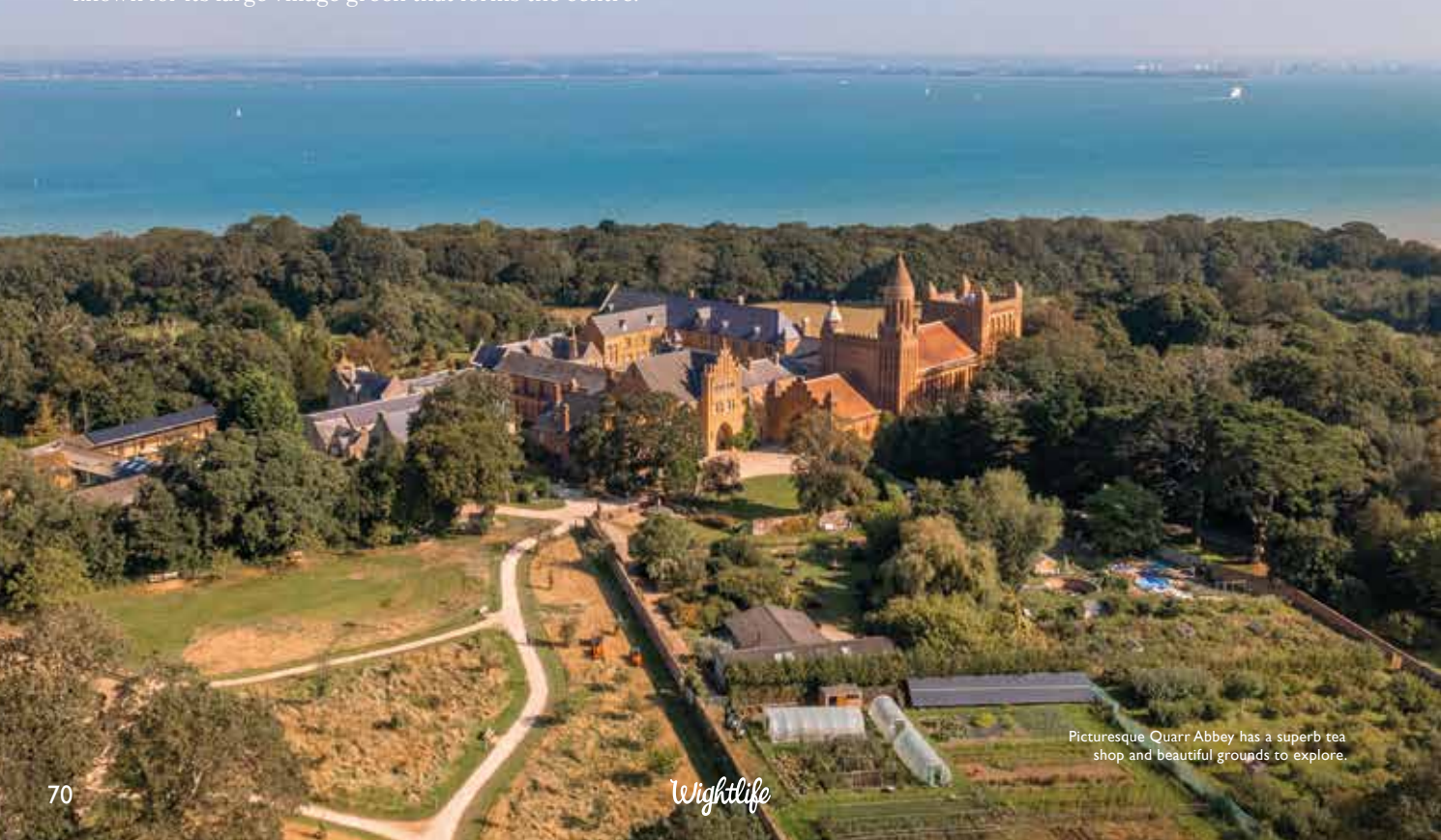
Around the corner, before you hit the most easterly tip of the Island, you will pass through the village of St Helens, known for its large village green that forms the centre.

On the outskirts towards Brading, Oasis is well worth a visit. Family-owned and run, this shop is a veritable treasure trove, packed with interesting and unique items for the home, many hand-picked in Bali. They also have a coffee shop where the cakes are worth the visit alone!

The small parish of Fishbourne could be mistaken for not much more than a place to get on and off the Island at Wightlink's ferry port, but you would be missing a trick. It is the ideal place to start a walk to neighbouring Quarr Abbey along a well-trodden path. Quarr Abbey was built next to the ruins of the original abbey in 1911. There are beautiful grounds to explore, where you will find pigs to feed and watch as they revel in the mud. The Tea Shop does a superb ploughman's and the Farm Shop stocks the Abbey's own produce, including the refreshing Quarr Abbey Ale.

Further inland, you can step into a perfectly preserved piece of history. The Isle of Wight Steam Railway provides a brilliant family day out. Take the steam train along the line from Wootton to Smallbrook Junction. Alight at Havenstreet for a trip around the award-winning Train Story Discovery Centre, watch engines being renovated or stretch your legs and venture through the Woodland Walk.

Discover more things to do at wightlink.co.uk/explorer



Picturesque Quarr Abbey has a superb tea shop and beautiful grounds to explore.



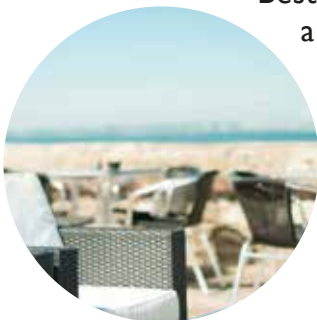
Best beach for sandcastles: APPLEY

Perfect for families, Appley offers miles of fine, golden sand and a long flat promenade, perfect for pushing a buggy or wheelchair. When the tide goes out, you feel like you can walk to Portsmouth. Along the seafront, you will find plenty of cafés, toilets, parking and children's play areas as well as Appley Tower, a gothic folly built in the 1870s.



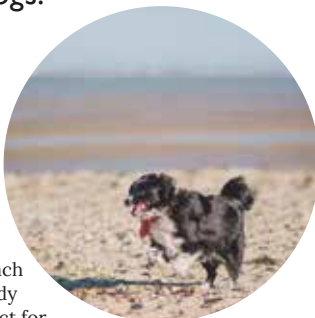
Best beach to sit with a G&T: SEAVIEW

This sandy beach is popular with the sailing crowd during the warmer months, culminating in the Seaview Regatta in August. The sands are good for beach games at low tide or just sitting and relaxing, looking across the Solent.



Best beach for dogs: ST HELENS

Four-legged friends are welcome on the beach here all year round. It's easily accessible for buggies and wheelchairs with a flat promenade. There are pretty painted beach huts, a café and toilets all close by. The beach itself is backed by the sandy dunes of The Duver, perfect for the dog to have yet another walk.



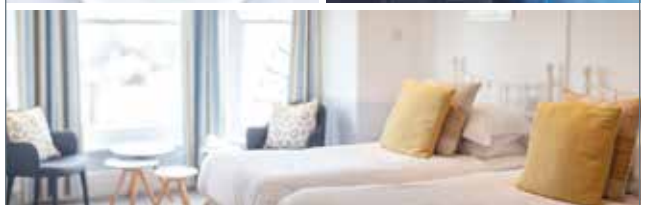
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wightlink.co.uk/explorer



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reception@seaviewhotel.co.uk



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ATTRACTIONS

Isle of Wight Steam Railway



This award-winning railway will charm and captivate, leaving you with lasting memories. Settle back in beautifully restored carriages and discover an idyllic view of the Island's countryside. Visit online for special events and to book in advance.

Havenstreet, PO33 4DS
01983 882204
iwsteamrailway.co.uk

The National Poo Museum



Now a mobile exhibition, The National Poo Museum is currently located at Department in Ryde for the summer season. A world of waste awaits! From the Romans to the natural world, this museum exists to safely explore the amazing world of poo, using quirkiness and family-friendly humour to break through the poo taboo. The unique collection and displays will engage, entertain and inform visitors.

Department, 29/30 Cross Street, Ryde, PO33 2AA
07732 858637
poomuseum.org



SHOPPING

The Christmas Imaginarium



The Christmas Imaginarium is an emporium of wonder where magic abounds. Home of the world famous Santa Claus: The Book of Secrets, the shop offers an exquisite range of Christmas curiosities and festive finery.

4 Cross Street, Ryde, PO33 2AA
01983 566937
christmasimaginarium.com



Oasis



Looking for different, unique and exciting home gifts and furniture? Shop Oasis! This large shopping emporium has carefully chosen items from around the world, combining quality and design at direct 'import prices'. With a myriad of rooms and walkways to explore all on one level, you will be surprised with the selection of products beautifully displayed that have been chosen and designed for customers. There's also a coffee shop and large free car park.

Carpenters Road, Brading, PO36 0QA
01983 613760
oasis-iow.co.uk

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Travel the line and enjoy a family day out at the Isle of Wight Steam Railway.



Slip off your shoes and go for a paddle at Seagrove Bay.

The Goose



The Isle of Wight's bookshop on the green, The Goose has been based in St Helens for over 40 years, selling second hand and antiquarian books to locals and holiday-makers alike. The shop is a real hidden gem, stocking rare hard-to-find titles and treasured classics, alongside a wide selection of interesting and readable books for both adults and children.

Newlands House, Lower Green Road, PO33 ITS
01983 874063
thegoosebooks.com



ACCOMMODATION

Nodes Point Holiday Park



At Nodes Point you can expect all the makings of a brilliant seaside holiday. Stroll along picturesque harbours, take a horse ride along the sands, discover amazing views and beautiful beaches or explore everything the park has to offer.

St Helens, Ryde, PO33 IYA
0344 381 9128
parkdeanresorts.co.uk



St Helens Coastal Resort



Escape to the beautiful St Helens Coastal Resort on the north east of the Island. Just a short walk from a sandy beach, this secluded retreat offers luxury lodge and caravan accommodation in a tranquil setting. The little ones will love the adventure playground and outdoor swimming pool and you'll love the lodges with private hot tubs.

Field Lane, St Helens,
PO33 IUX
0330 053 7000
awayresorts.co.uk

The Fishbourne



Choose from five en suite rooms, each one tastefully furnished to provide for a relaxing break. With its wonderful sea views and idyllic setting, you will want to come back time and time again.

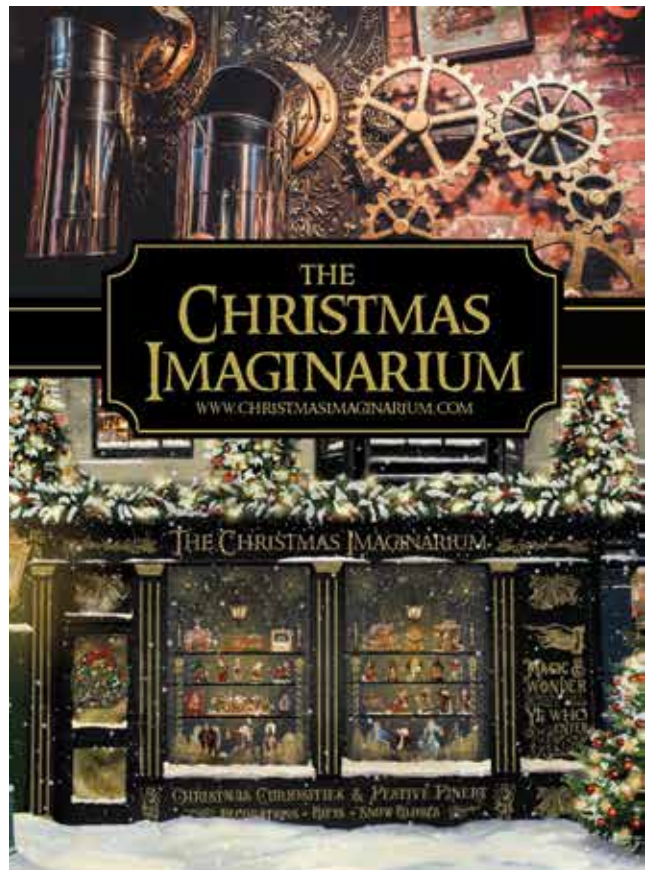
Fishbourne Lane, Fishbourne,
PO33 4EU
01983 873572
thefishbourne.co.uk

The Seaview Hotel



This famous hotel has 25 rooms, including dog-friendly accommodation. Located in the sailing village of Seaview, it's renowned for good food and the restaurant has been awarded two AA Rosettes for the past seven years. Car park with Tesla and electric vehicle chargers.

High Street, Seaview, PO34 5EX
01983 612711
seaviewhotel.co.uk



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POST CODE
PO33 2AA



Inspirational Islanders: Tristan Allen, Isle of Wight Steam Railway

Tristan volunteers in a number of roles at the Isle of Wight Steam Railway. We caught up with him on the Locomotive footplate during a day as a Fireman, but he can also be found volunteering as a Guard or Signalman.

“The Isle of Wight is a calm and peaceful place that harks back to tradition rather than modernisation. There are lots of beautiful walks and views right on your doorstep.

My favourite place on the Island is St Mary’s Church, Carisbrooke. It is stunning to look at on the inside, peaceful bells to listen to and beautiful views.

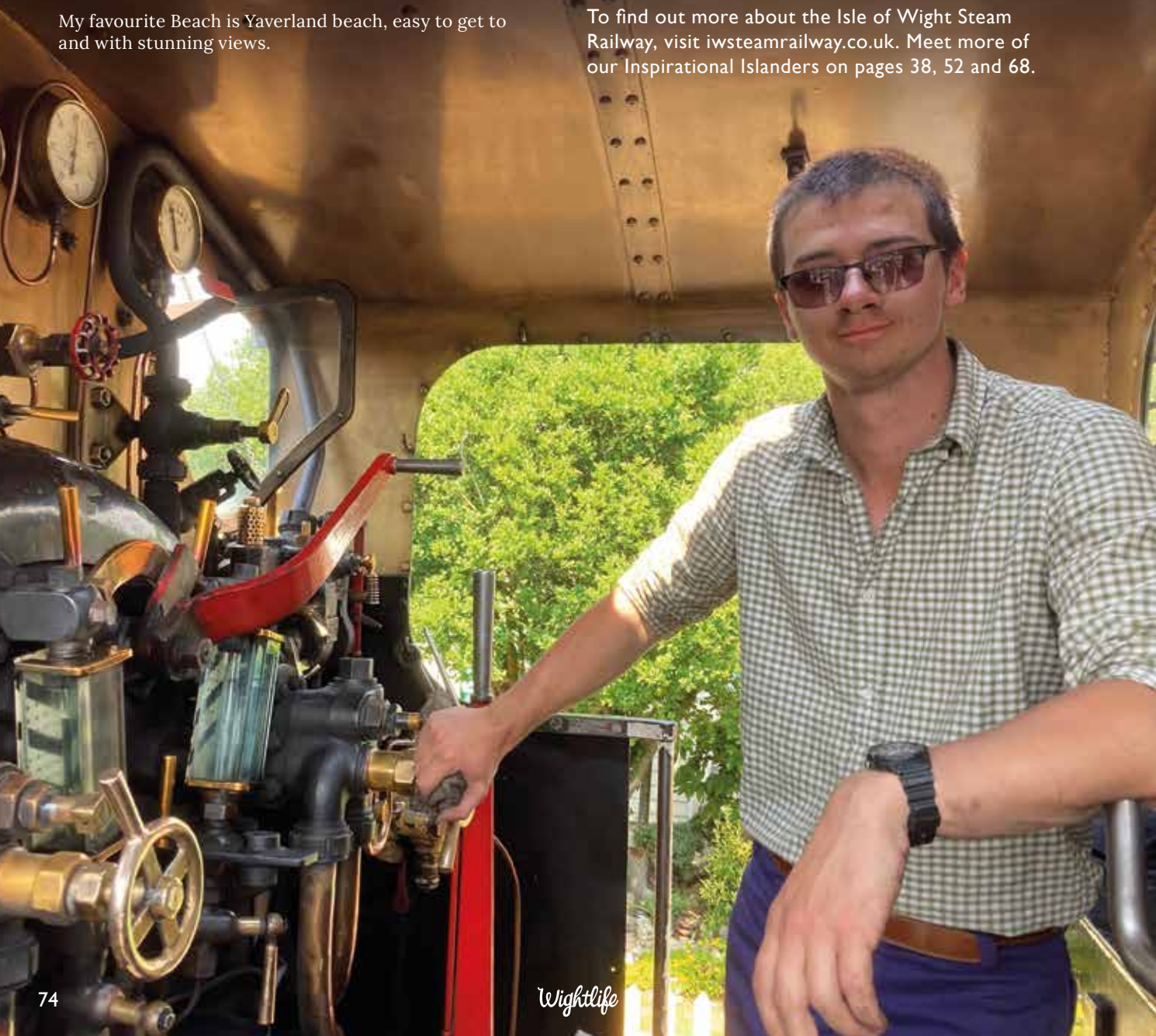
My favourite Beach is Yaverland beach, easy to get to and with stunning views.

The Tennyson Trail from Carisbrooke to the Needles is my favourite walk. Over the course of 14 miles, it takes you over downs, through Brighstone Forest and even passes some ancient burial mounds.

My favourite event is the Island Steam Fair, here at Havenstreet between 22-25 August. Now in its 50th year, there’s plenty to entertain people from steam traction engines, vintage fairground rides, historic vehicles and live music.

I know it sounds a bit of a cliché, but if I only had an hour to spare on the Island, I would enjoy a ride on the Isle of Wight Steam Railway to be really transported back in time. It gives you access to some views you would otherwise never get to see.

To find out more about the Isle of Wight Steam Railway, visit iwsteamrailway.co.uk. Meet more of our Inspirational Islanders on pages 38, 52 and 68.





FOOD & DRINK

Oasis Coffee Shop



Enjoy refreshments in the friendly coffee shop which adjoins Oasis. Serving quality coffees and speciality teas, cakes, pastries and so much more. Delicious homemade food using only the freshest and finest ingredients. Large free car park.

Carpenters Road, Brading,
PO36 0QA
01983 613760
oasis-iow.co.uk

The Fishbourne



Just along from the Wightlink car ferry port, The Fishbourne prides itself on offering quality dining in a pub environment, matched with superb ales and an extensive wine selection. AA Dining Awards 2011 to 2021.

Fishbourne Lane, Fishbourne,
PO33 4EU
01983 882823
thefishbourne.co.uk

The Mermaid Bar at the Isle of Wight Distillery



Located in the pretty village of Pondwell, just outside Ryde. Discover the pub and visitor centre. View the stills in action and taste the Island-inspired spirits. Visit website for seasonal opening hours.

Pondwell Hill, Ryde, PO33 IPX
01983 613653
isleofwightdistillery.com



The Seaview Hotel



Good food coupled with relaxed informal dining is at the heart of The Seaview Hotel. The food on offer is modern British with a regional Isle of Wight twist and the restaurant has been awarded two AA Rosettes for seven consecutive years.

High Street, Seaview,
PO34 5EX
01983 612711
seaviewhotel.co.uk



Using locally sourced ingredients in a modern British style, the food at The Seaview Hotel is a feast for the eyes as well as the tastebuds.



OASIS

Coffee shop

Coffee shop
open daily

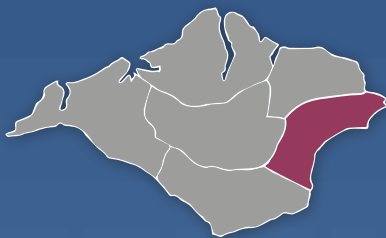
Find us





Carpenters Road • Brading • PO36 0QA
oasis-iow.co.uk | 01983 613760

East



The east of the Island delivers the classic British seaside vibe in spades! Deckchairs, ice cream cones and shops selling flags for your sandcastle, are joined by beachside cafés and bars, hotels with some of the best views around and plenty of fun for all ages...

Sandown comes complete with a traditional pleasure pier. Take a stroll out to sea and pass through a range of entertainment in the form of amusement games, bowling and even indoor crazy golf.

The east side boasts several of the best family attractions on the Island. Visit the Wildheart Animal Sanctuary for a close encounter with a tiger, lion or monkey, to name but a few. For animals of a more prehistoric nature, Dinosaur Isle is a fun, imaginative and engaging museum – even the building is shaped like a giant pterosaur.

For history and imagination combined, Brading Roman Villa offers an interactive experience. Sandham Gardens provides hours of entertainment with a dinosaur-themed adventure golf, go-karts and plenty of ice cream to go round.

The beaches on the east coast of the Island are some of the best in the country. In fact, Sandown Beach has been awarded prestigious Blue Flag status. Try your hand at watersports in Lake, search for fossils along Yaverland beach, or enjoy a good old-fashioned lie in the sunshine on Small Hope beach.

Sandown's neighbouring town of Shanklin is a seaside destination with charming style. Visit the Old Village for thatched pubs and tea rooms, and keep the kids happy with a trip to a gorgeous traditional sweet shop. The Rock Shop specialises in sticks of rock and old-fashioned sweets and is sure to delight all who visit.

On the seafront, you will find a range of activities including pitch and putt and traditional amusement arcades. You can even take a trip down to the Esplanade in the famous cliff lift to save your legs, or just to enjoy the views. Satisfy hungry tummies with fish and chips enjoyed in the salt air or a sweet treat – Toppings Ice Cream Parlour has over 50 flavours to choose from!

Find out more at wightlink.co.uk/explorer



Sandown's iconic pleasure pier promises traditional seaside fun!



Best beaches for little ones: **SANDOWN OR SHANKLIN**

Choose from either beach or visit both, as they are equally brilliant for families. The waters here are ideal for swimming or paddling, and there are plenty of options to get on the water. The golden sands are perfect for sandcastles, and you will find all the traditional amusements of classic seaside resorts.



Best beach for rock pooling: **BEMBRIDGE**

Revealed when the tide is out, the rocky outcrop of Bembridge Ledge extends as far as the slipway ramp at Bembridge Lifeboat's offshore boathouse. Expect to find various crabs (including the famous edible Bembridge crab), shrimps, anemones, goby fish and brittle stars amongst the rockpools.



Best beach for a barbecue: **RED CLIFF**

Red Cliff at the end of Yaverland beach is the one beach on the Island where barbecues are permitted. When the tide is out, it's the perfect spot to relax with a bite to eat, whilst the kids play.



Find out more at
wightlink.co.uk/explorer

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www.royalwightestate.com

Fisherman's Wharf, Embankment Road, Bembridge, PO35 5NS



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Isle of Wight
NHS Trust



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The most you'll pay for a trip with Wightlink to a mainland NHS appointment is £35 each way with a vehicle. Usually, with the 50% discount, fares are much lower.

Full information at:
wightlink.co.uk/nhsappointments

Blueberrys Café

Relax and enjoy a wide variety of great food and drink at the award winning Blueberrys Café (fully licensed) with some of the most stunning views on the Island.

Offering breakfasts, light snacks, lunches, delicious homemade specials, sweet treats and our fabulous cakes featuring unique flavours.

Dog friendly, wheelchair accessible and steps leading down to the beach 50 yards away. Please look on our website or social media pages for more information.



45 Littlestairs Rd, Shanklin PO37 6HS (adjacent to Winchester House car park)
blueberryscafe.iow.co.uk | 01983 866378

Facebook: BlueberrysCafe | Twitter: @BlueberrysCafe | Instagram: blueberrys_cafe



ATTRACTIONS

Bembridge Fort

This Victorian fort, now managed by the Bembridge Fort Trust as part of an ambitious conservation and community programme, is undergoing major restoration work. It is currently only accessible through volunteer-led guided tours and special events.

To book visit bembridgefort.org for further details.

Bembridge Down, PO36 8QY
01983 741020
nationaltrust.org.uk/isleofwight

Bembridge Windmill



This picturesque, 300-year-old windmill is one of the Island's best-loved landmarks and is the only surviving windmill on the Island. Please note: dogs are welcome in the grounds but not in the windmill. See online for opening times at nationaltrust.org.uk/bembridge-windmill

High Street, Bembridge,
PO35 5SQ
01983 873945
nationaltrust.org.uk/isleofwight

Brading Roman Villa



One of the finest Roman sites in the UK. The award-winning visitor centre and museum offers a unique insight into Roman life in Britain, from beautifully preserved mosaic floors to an extensive collection of Roman archaeology. Visit the on-site licensed café and shop. Don't miss the nature trail, which is open all year and changes with the seasons.

Morton Old Road, Brading,
PO36 0PH (SatNav PO36 OEN)
01983 406223
bradingromanvilla.org.uk

Dinosaur Isle



In a spectacular, pterosaur-shaped building just over the sea wall, this is Britain's first purpose-built dinosaur attraction. It's a unique destination, where you walk back through the Ice Age and ancient oceans to 126 million years ago. Phone or check website for opening times.

Culver Parade, Sandown,
PO36 8QA
01983 404344
dinosaurisle.com



iSurf

iSurf is the Island's only fully mobile surf school. For anyone interested in getting into the water under expert supervision, iSurf can help any ability learn to surf. Perfect for beginners or anyone looking to build on existing skills. Typically these sessions operate from the Compton area but do move depending on tides and conditions. Sessions for schools and groups are also available at the base in Sandown providing water-based activities suited to the weather on the day. This includes surfing, body boarding, giant paddle boards, slip and slide and water-based games.

07968 609169
iowsurf.com

Lilliput Doll & Toy Museum



One of Britain's finest private collections of antique dolls and toys with more than 2,000 exhibits from 2000BC to 1950 on display, including antique bisque dolls, rocking horses, teddy bears, trains, tinplate vehicles, dolls' houses and many rare and unusual toys. Open 10:00–16:00 Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday (closed Monday and Thursday). See Google for latest opening times.

High Street, Brading,
PO36 0DJ
01983 407231
lilliputmuseum.co.uk



Sandham Gardens



Located on the northern side of the town, Sandham Gardens is the ideal place to relax and enjoy some quality time with friends and family. Offering a great value day out for all ages, with activities including Go Karting and Adventure Golf.

Culver Parade, Sandown,
PO36 8AT
01983 407802
sandhamgardens.com

Sandown Pier



All year round entertainment for the whole family including indoor golf, ten pin bowling and indoor play area. The end of the pier opens from Easter with fishing available and has rides for everyone. There is a café, ice cream kiosk, burger bar and sports bar.

Esplanade, Sandown, PO36 8JT
01983 404122
sandownpier.co.uk



Shanklin Chine



A Site of Important Nature Conservation – this stunning tree-lined gorge has been a magnet for visitors since 1817. Wander amid the natural tranquillity until dusk then enjoy the lights illuminating the narrow paths, streams and waterfalls in the evening. Seasonal exhibitions, tea gardens, nature and heritage displays and antiques gift centre.

3 Chine Hill, Shanklin,
PO37 6BW
01983 866432
shanklinchine.co.uk

Shanklin Seafront



Rediscover the Great British seaside on Shanklin Seafront. Indulge yourself with traditional seaside family fun whatever the weather. Open daily from 09:00. Hot and cold food is available across a range of eateries, serving seaside favourites.

Shanklin Esplanade, Shanklin,
PO37 6BG
01983 867585
shanklinseafront.co.uk

Shanklin Theatre



Shanklin Theatre is open all year round offering great entertainment from household names such as Russell Watson, Annabel Croft and Harry Redknapp. The venue also hosts comedians including Jack Dee and Jason Manford, as well as a diverse selection of top quality tribute acts.

Prospect Road, Shanklin,
PO37 6AJ
01983 868000
shanklintheatre.com

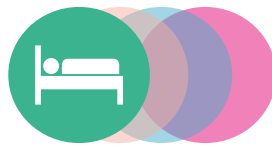


The Wildheart Animal Sanctuary



Situated opposite the glorious sandy beaches of Sandown Bay, the Wildheart Animal Sanctuary gives a forever home to rescued exotic animals from all over Europe including lions, tigers, monkeys and more. Enjoy daily talks from the Animal Carers, explore the Primate domes and wander through the Sanctuary at your own pace, enjoy play areas for children and the dog friendly, plant-based Wildheart Café.

Yaverland Road, Sandown,
PO36 8QB
01983 403883
wildheartanimalsanctuary.org



ACCOMMODATION

Landguard Holiday Park



Between Shanklin and Sandown, you'll find Landguard, which offers both the peace of the countryside and fun of the seaside, so you don't have to choose. Both here, and at nearby Lower Hyde, there's fun facilities for the whole family!

Shanklin, PO37 7PJ
0330 123 4897
parkdeanresorts.co.uk

Lower Hyde Holiday Park



If you're looking for a scenic location open 12 months a year, with fantastic facilities, Lower Hyde Holiday Park is a great choice. There are indoor and outdoor pools, a multi-sports court, an adventure playground and even a kids club, perfect for keeping the little ones entertained. Not only does it have two beautiful beaches nearby, there's countryside in your back garden too.

Lower Hyde Holiday Park,
Shanklin, PO37 7LL
0330 123 4897
parkdeanresorts.co.uk

THE LILLIPUT Antique Doll & Toy MUSEUM

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RARE AND UNIQUE EXHIBITS ESTABLISHED
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Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday 10am – 4pm
(closed Monday and Thursday). See Google for latest opening times.

High Street, BRADING, PO36 0DJ
Tel: (01983) 407231 | lilliputmuseum.co.uk

10% off your entry fee with this voucher

the harbour view cafe



Treat yourself to our exquisite cuisine,
with fresh seafood and local produce

EMBANKMENT ROAD
BEMBRIDGE PO35 5NR

Contact Us:

01983 872742

theharbourviewbembridge@gmail.com



Luccombe Hall Hotel



Perched on the breathtaking cliffs of Shanklin, the multi-award-winning family-run Luccombe Hall Hotel offers a truly unforgettable escape. Providing unrivalled sea views and a diverse range of luxurious bedrooms including balcony rooms and private garden rooms with hot tubs. Plus, with an array of exceptional facilities, from a tropical indoor pool experience to free-to-play retro gaming and outdoor pool and activities, every stay is designed to delight.

Luccombe Road, Shanklin,
PO37 6RL
01983 869000
luccombehall.co.uk



Sandhills Holiday Park



Nestled under Culver Cliff, family-owned and run Sandhills Holiday Park is situated in beautiful countryside above the beach at Whitecliff Bay. A peaceful, relaxing retreat for coastal holidays and holiday home ownership providing the perfect base to explore the Island.

Peacock Hill, Bembridge,
PO35 5QB
01983 872277
sandhillsholidaypark.com

The Crab & Lobster Inn



This Island gem is tucked away above Bembridge Ledge overlooking the sea. Dine with breathtaking views over the beach and sea at the Crab and Lobster or cosily inside its vintage interior with open fires. Known Island-wide for serving locally sourced seafood and Island-reared meats. The Inn has five fully refurbished en suite rooms with many boasting astonishing sea views.

32 Forelands Field Road,
Bembridge, PO35 5TR
01983 872244
crabandlobsterinn.co.uk

The Steamer Inn



A traditional seaside pub sitting opposite the beautiful sandy beach of Shanklin, offering the ideal spot for a family break. The Steamer is a great base for your holiday and has a range of five en suite bed and breakfast rooms.

Shanklin Esplanade, Shanklin,
PO37 6BS
01983 862641
thesteamer.co.uk



Vectis Holiday Homes



The Seascape is a ground floor luxury apartment, located in exclusive Luccombe in Shanklin. With sweeping views over Sandown Bay, this spacious self catering three bedroom holiday accommodation with its own hot tub is as tranquil as it gets.

Seascape, Luccombe Road,
Shanklin, PO37 6RR
07775 764246
theseascape.co.uk



Whitecliff Bay Holiday Park



Perfectly situated by its own stunning secluded beach, Whitecliff Bay makes for the ideal holiday base to explore the Island. This park offers superb family facilities including indoor and outdoor swimming pools. Choose from a range of self-catering options from classic caravans to their exclusive luxury accommodation, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Hillway Road, Bembridge,
PO35 5PL
0330 127 9881
awayresorts.co.uk



BRADING ROMAN VILLA

Let us take you on a discovery of Roman life on the Isle of Wight over 1800 years ago. The Romans were famous for their mosaics and our museum has some of the best in Great Britain!

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once,
visit
all year



We are
open
throughout
the year

There are activities for all ages,
nature trails, a great cafe,
sea views and free parking.

For our opening hours and what's on please check our website
www.bradingromanvilla.org.uk or call 01983 406223



FOOD & DRINK



Blueberrys Café



Relax and savour some of the most spectacular views on the Isle of Wight. Fully licensed and extremely dog-friendly, serving delicious home-cooked food and cakes. Located on the cliff path between Sandown and Shanklin. Visit Facebook, Instagram or Twitter/X for further information.

45 Littlestairs Road, Shanklin,
PO37 6HS
01983 866378
blueberryscafeiw.co.uk

Fisherman's Cottage



Nestled beneath Shanklin Chine at the end of Shanklin Esplanade, Fisherman's Cottage is the town's original thatched pub on the beach. Frequented by visitors and locals alike, the pub dates back more than 200 years and is a real hidden gem. Famed for its friendly and welcoming atmosphere, the pub serves delicious home-cooked food and specialises in seafood which can be found on the daily specials board.

1 Esplanade, Shanklin,
PO37 6BN
01983 863882
fishermanscottageinn.co.uk

The Best Dressed Crab



Situated in Bembridge, preparing the most delicious crab and lobster direct from the fishing boat. Enjoy dressed crab, tubs of crab, whole crabs and lobsters, prepared lobsters, giant crab claws and spider crab claws. Come and eat in this lovely floating café and enjoy the fantastic views of the harbour.

Embankment Road, Bembridge,
PO35 5NS
01983 874758
thebestdressedcrabintown.co.uk

The Crab & Lobster Inn



This Island gem is tucked away above Bembridge Ledge overlooking the sea. Dine with breathtaking views over the beach and sea at the Crab and Lobster or cosily inside its vintage interior with open fires. Known Island-wide for serving locally sourced seafood and Island-reared meats. The Inn has five fully refurbished en suite rooms with many boasting astonishing sea views.

32 Forelands Field Road,
Bembridge, PO35 5TR
01983 872244
crabandlobsterinn.co.uk

The Forum Café



The Romans were renowned for their love of fine food and feasting so there is nowhere more perfect to eat. The Forum Café at Brading Roman Villa is privy to some stunning panoramic views over Sandown Bay and serves up a great range of lunches, snacks, cakes and drinks including daily specials. Entry to the café is free.

Morton Old Road, Brading,
PO36 0PH (SatNav PO36 OEN)
01983 406223
bradingromanvilla.org.uk

The Harbour View



The Harbour View is a beachside café with stunning views of Bembridge Harbour, serving breakfast and lunch as well as a great selection of chef's daily specials. The café is also fully licensed, so pop along and enjoy some great food and drink while watching the boats sail on by.

Embankment Road, Bembridge,
PO35 5NR
01983 872742

The Steamer Inn



Situated on Shanklin seafront, The Steamer Inn enjoys some of the best views on the Island. On warmer days, you can relax on the terrace gazing out across the English Channel or stay warm and enjoy a drink at the bar, admiring the nautical memorabilia that adorns the walls. Family-friendly and renowned for home-made food (especially the famous Steamer Seafood Chowder), muddy boots and well-behaved dogs are welcome.

Shanklin Esplanade, Shanklin,
PO37 6BS
01983 862641
thesteamer.co.uk

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SANDHILLS HOLIDAY PARK

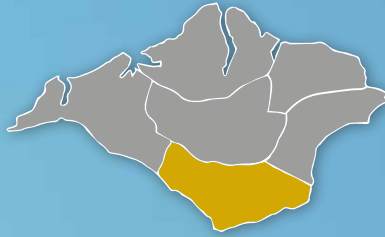
WHITECLIFF BAY



01983 87 22 77 | sandhillsholidaypark.com

Sandhills Holiday Park
Peacock Hill, Bembridge
Isle of Wight PO35 5QB

South



The southern point of the Island has its own distinct feel, due to the unique microclimate and the artistic heritage that is still in full swing today...

Ventnor is a real mini-Mediterranean town, bustling with pavement cafés, where people sit and take in the views of the English Channel. The town has a distinct artisan vibe, as zigzag roads with Victorian terraces lead down to one-off shops including art galleries, vintage and antique emporiums and jewellers. There are plenty of independent eateries that use local produce. Being close to the sea, seafood is, of course, a local speciality. Watch the fishermen sail in on their boats and then pick up the day's catch at the shop on the harbour. Try one of the pubs and restaurants that will be offering fresh fish as the daily special, such as The Spyglass Inn which sits atop the sea wall.

The unique climate of the south is perhaps best experienced with a trip to Ventnor Botanic Garden, where you will find an unrivalled selection of subtropical and exotic plants and flowers set in 22 acres. From the garden, take a walk down to Steephill Cove, where after the (many) steps, you will be rewarded with a picturesque cove and a smattering of eateries serving up the speciality of locally-caught crab.

A visit over this side provides the perfect excuse for a trip to the Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary, where everyone is welcome, including well-behaved dogs. Rugged beaches, steep cliffs and beautiful walks, the south coast has it all, and it's no wonder it has inspired a few famous names over the years, including Charles Dickens, who wrote several chapters of *David Copperfield* here.

Discover more things to do at wightlink.co.uk/explorer

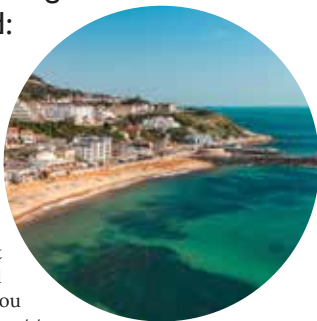


St Catherine's Down offers stunning views over Blackgang and the Island's coastline beyond.



Best beach for feeling like you're in the Med: VENTNOR

Most of the south coast feels decidedly Mediterranean thanks to its unique microclimate and sub-tropical plant species. Ventnor beach, backdropped by pavement cafés, cliff-top houses and winding roads can make you think you have taken the boat to the Amalfi Coast by accident!



Best beach for dogs: STEEPHILL COVE

Dogs are permitted on the beach here on a lead during the day and then given free rein after 18:00. Steephill Cove is a true hidden gem and could easily be mistaken for a tropical island. Only accessible by foot, making it ideal for beachgoers with dogs so your four-legged friends get a good walk there and back.



Best beach to have to yourself: BINNEL BAY

Its relative inaccessibility means that if you make the trip to Binnel Bay, you are usually rewarded by having this rugged and unspoilt beach to yourself. You will not find any facilities here so best to pack a picnic and you certainly need to be able to walk and climb over some of the larger rocks to get there.



Find out more at wightlink.co.uk/explorer

The WIGHT MOUSE INN

Facebook: [wightmouseinn](https://www.facebook.com/wightmouseinn)
Instagram: [thewightmouseinn](https://www.instagram.com/wightmouseinn)

The Wight Mouse Inn is a friendly, fun, family run pub in Chale on the south coast of the island with amazing views across to the Needles and Tennyson Down. We are well known for value for money, honest pub food and can cater for party's large and small; choose any occasion from popping in for a quick bite to family celebrations. We are open for breakfast (open to non-residents) then full menu from midday and always have a daily specials board to complement our extensive menu.

Excellent Pub Food	Large Garden & Car Park
Live Music	Outdoor Play Area
Breakfast Served 8:30-10:30	Dogs Welcome
Food Served 12:00-21:00	Amusement Arcade!
Stay: En-suite Bedrooms	

Reservations, Party & Group Bookings **01983 730 431**
info@wightmouse.com

Church Place, Chale, PO38 2HA wightmouse.co.uk

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HONEYBOURNE JEWELLERY
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www.honeybournejewellery.com

Facebook and Instagram icons.



ATTRactions



Blackgang Chine



Explore the UK's oldest amusement park for an action-packed family day out with thrilling rides and Lands of Imagination to explore. Become a rootin' tootin' Sheriff in Cowboy Town, or carefully tread through Restricted Area 5 as a courageous dinosaur keeper. From epic adventures like Extinction, the Island's only 360° ride, and the thrilling new Jolly Robin, to nostalgic attractions like Rumpus Mansion. Unlock core memories, and make new magical ones at Blackgang Chine.

Blackgang Chine, Nr Ventnor,
PO38 2HN
01983 730330
blackgangchine.com



Isle of Wight Donkey Sanctuary



A forever home for over 100 donkeys and ponies in a beautiful South Wight location. Free to enter, free parking, donations welcome. Countryside walks, café, gift shop, hands-on donkey experiences and tours (please book in advance). Dogs welcome. Open all year round, check website for opening hours.

Lower Winstone Farm,
St Johns Road, Wroxall,
PO38 3AA
01983 852693
iowdonkeysanctuary.org



Ventnor Bay Charters

Explore the Isle of Wight like never before with Ventnor Bay Charters – where history, nature, and adventure come together on the open sea! Whether you're after a one-hour boat trip, a three-hour lighthouse run or round-the-Island cruise, or even a custom day on the water, each experience is tailored to suit your needs. The luxury catamaran seats 12 people, and with comfortable indoor and outdoor seating, you can enjoy the journey in style, whether soaking up the fresh sea air or relaxing in a sheltered space.

Ventnor Esplanade, Ventnor,
PO38 1JX
07930 161090
ventnorbaycharters.com



Ventnor Botanic Garden



Explore 22 acres of sub-tropical gardens, with over 6,000 species of rare and exotic plants, shrubs and champion trees. Visit the Heritage Centre, plus enjoy delicious cuisine. Look out for kids' activities, hidden gardens and tours of the secret tunnel.

Undercliff Drive, Ventnor,
PO38 1UL
01983 855397
botanic.co.uk



SHOPPING

Honeybourne Jewellery



Established for over 20 years, Honeybourne Jewellery is a fully stocked boutique with three in-house designers creating jewellery pieces on the premises. They handcraft their unique beautiful jewellery under Head Jeweller Sophie Honeybourne (MA RCA). Working in silver, gold, vitreous enamels, diamonds and semi precious stones to create your bespoke piece of jewellery.
3 Church Street, Ventnor,
PO38 1SW
01983 854618
honeybournejewellery.com



The Spyglass Inn serves great food and is right on the water's edge at Ventnor.

Mermaid Lights



Beautiful Italian Murano glass Isle of Wight Mermaid Gin bottles cleaned and crafted into stunning table lights. The perfect present for anytime of the year. The bottle lights come in five colours – original turquoise, coral pink, zest green, ice white and rum. Each have a wonderful relaxing, warm glow to light up any room. Postage available to all of the UK or delivery to your accommodation on the Isle of Wight.

07885 720503



ACCOMMODATION

The Buddle Inn



The Buddle is an Island landmark sixteenth-century cliff-top smugglers' inn set in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. With fine views across the English Channel, this Inn is a great base for walkers and nature lovers. Follow the path opposite down to St Catherine's Lighthouse or walk along the 'silent' route to Ventnor. Boasting real ales and an extensive menu featuring homemade dishes and specialities, for 2025 they are also now offering brand new en suite accommodation

St. Catherine's Road, Niton,
PO38 2NE
01983 730243
buddleinn.co.uk



The Spyglass Inn



Offering accommodation in four characterful self-contained apartments, composed of double bedrooms with en suite facilities, a lounge and balcony/terrace all with views overlooking Ventnor Bay.

The Esplanade, Ventnor,
PO38 1JX
01983 855338
thespyglass.com

The Wight Mouse Inn



The Wight Mouse Inn is a great base to stay and explore along the southern stretch of the Island. Perfect for walkers, cyclists and families alike.

Church Place, Chale,
PO38 2HA
01983 730431
wightmouse.co.uk



Ventnor Seafront



Choose between two luxurious beach houses, situated just yards away from Ventnor Seafront. Both offer effortless beach access and stunning views of the English Channel, as well as convenient access to Ventnor's many shops and eateries, which are just a short walk away.

Esplanade, Ventnor,
PO38 1JX
07484 174872
ventnorseafront.co.uk



FOOD & DRINK

edulis Restaurant



Meaning edible in Latin, *edulis* is a relaxing space boasting huge picture windows that bring the lovely surroundings of Ventnor Botanic Garden's Mediterranean garden and fountain court inside. The chefs create ultra-fresh cuisine sourced locally and picked fresh from the garden.

Undercliff Drive, Ventnor,
PO38 1UL
01983 855397
botanic.co.uk

The Buddle Inn



The Buddle is an Island landmark sixteenth-century cliff-top smugglers' inn set in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. With fine views across the English Channel, this Inn is a great base for walkers and nature lovers. Follow the path opposite down to St Catherine's Lighthouse or walk along the 'silent' route to Ventnor. Boasting real ales and an extensive menu featuring homemade dishes and specialities, for 2025 they are also now offering brand new en suite accommodation

St Catherine's Road, Niton,
PO38 2NE
01983 730243
buddleinn.co.uk

The Met



Set right on the seafront on Ventnor Esplanade, The Met serves fresh coffee, tasty tapas and fine wines. Enjoy the distinct Mediterranean feel and soak up the sunshine in this natural sun trap. The perfect hot-spot for whiling away an afternoon. The adjoining Queenies serves bubble waffles, ice creams and smoothies.

The Esplanade, Ventnor,
PO38 1JP
01983 853544
themetwinebar.co.uk



The Plantation Room Café



Open daily from 09:00. Located on the top level of Ventnor Botanic Garden, this cosy café has a sheltered outdoor terrace which overlooks the historical Palm Garden. With free parking, the café provides a retreat for visitors who want to relax, read or are looking for a hot drink, a glass of wine or a light lunch and a catch up with friends.

Undercliff Drive, Ventnor,
PO38 1UL
01983 855397
botanic.co.uk

The Spyglass Inn



The Spyglass Inn sits right above the sea on Ventnor Esplanade. The location is second to none, with spectacular views across the English Channel and Ventnor Bay. The pub is bursting with character with authentic seafaring memorabilia adorning the walls. Its well-deserved reputation is founded on good grub, great beer and a fantastic atmosphere.

The Esplanade, Ventnor,
PO38 1JX
01983 855338
thespyglass.com



The Wight Mouse Inn



A family run freehouse enjoying spectacular views out to The Needles, Tennyson Down and beyond on the south coast of the Island. The menu includes home-cooked pub classics and local ales – but don't miss the specials board! A large south facing garden, with childrens indoor and outdoor play areas.

Church Place, Chale,
PO38 2HA
01983 730431
wightmouse.co.uk

BOAT TRIPS

Depart from Ventnor Haven and travel west, passing Steephill Cove, Woody Bay, Spindles Folly, and onto the picturesque St.Catherines lighthouse!

St Catherine's boat trip is 1 hour only

PRICES:

Adults: £30

Children: £25

Family Pass:

(2 adults + 2 children) £100

Needles and round the Island trips also available.

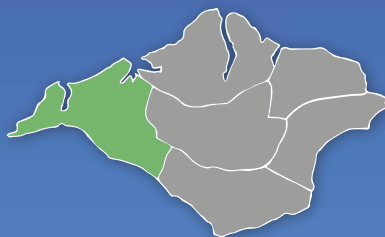


BOOK WITH US TODAY!

07930 161090

bookings@ventnorbaycharters.com

West



The West Wight is a stunning part of the Island. Fields, forests and miles of coastline stretch out ahead of you as you go west...

Open space, unspoiled landscapes and rugged coastline, plus pretty towns and villages, lively pubs and independent shops make this a top destination. If you're arriving on the Wightlink ferry from Lymington, you will find yourself in the heart of Yarmouth. This historic harbour town contains some of the Island's oldest architecture, including English Heritage's 16th-century Yarmouth Castle, the last addition to King Henry VIII's coastal defences.

The beauty of the west has inspired many artists over the years, including Julia Margaret Cameron, the pioneering art photographer and her neighbour Alfred, Lord Tennyson, Poet Laureate during Queen Victoria's reign. Take a walk from Freshwater Bay to the Tennyson Monument, and the panoramic views mean it's not hard to see why. The poet used to walk on the down almost every day, saying that the air was worth 'sixpence a pint'.

No trip over to this side would be complete without a visit to the iconic landmark of The Needles. The three chalk stacks and the classic red and white striped lighthouse are synonymous with the Isle of Wight, adorning many a picture postcard. Take a chairlift ride down to Alum Bay, past the coloured sands.

The west side has more than its fair share of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, with Newtown perhaps being the jewel in the crown. A village built on the site of a medieval borough and a nature reserve makes for a great day out. Spot red squirrels, egrets and even a resident seal as you take a stroll around the estuary.

Brighstone is a pretty and busy village, nestled between the chalk downland to the north and stretching to the south-west facing coast. Famous for numerous dinosaur finds in the eroding cliffs, stop off along the way at Isle of Wight Pearl in Brighstone for some of the most impressive views of the English Channel and a beautiful shop dedicated to pearls, catering for all styles and tastes, plus The Pearl Café is open daily.

Discover more things to do at wightlink.co.uk/explorer



The iconic rock formations and lighthouse make The Needles the Isle of Wight's most Instagrammable location.



Best beach for watersports: COMPTON BAY

Well known for its waves and when they are big, Compton is great for surfing and when they are small, even better for bodyboarding and just general fun in the water. The reddish sand is backed by natural cliffs. Take the wooden steps down but don't forget your beach gear – there is a car park, toilet and ice cream van within walking distance.



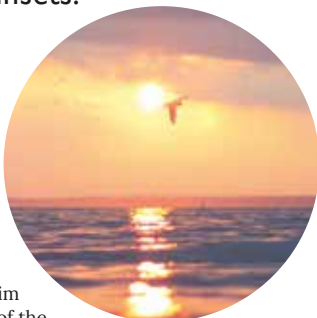
Best beach for swimming: FRESHWATER BAY

Once you have made your way down to the sea (we suggest wearing sea shoes as this is a pebbly beach) you will be rewarded with almost instantly deep water, perfect for swimming. Swim round to the secret coves that can't be accessed by foot. Do let someone know if you are going swimming as this beach does not have a lifeguard but does have an independent lifeboat station.



Best beach for sunsets: COLWELL

They say west is best and that is certainly the case when it comes to sunsets. The beach at Colwell provides a stunning display with Hurst Castle creating a dramatic silhouette across the Solent. Take a dip in the sea here for an evening swim followed by a drink at one of the few pubs and eateries nearby.



Find out more at
wightlink.co.uk/explorer



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A modern blend of silky lustre and geometric shapes for statement pieces that are both unique and sophisticated.

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More Routes. More Fun. More Adventure

DEPART FROM

YARMOUTH

Yarmouth Station
PO41 0QTFor Freshwater Bay,
The Needles, Newtown Creek
& The Tennyson Trail

NEWPORT

Newport Quay
PO30 2QRFor The Red Squirrel Trail to
Cowes, Godshill, Shanklin
& SandownBEST TO BOOK WWW.WIGHTCYCLEHIRE.CO.UK

f X Instagram OR CALL 01983 761 800



ATTRACTIONS

Activities at Tapnell



Open throughout the summer season, the Island's only Football Golf course at Tapnell Farm. Great fun for all the family; if you can kick a ball, you can play! Plus, there's an all weather Archery & Axe Throwing range, suitable for ages 11+. New for 2025: Frisbee Golf.

Tapnell Farm, Newport Road,
Yarmouth, PO41 0YJ
01983 758722
tapnellfarm.com/play

Farringford Estate



The main home of renowned Victorian poet Alfred, Lord Tennyson, from 1853–1892, Farringford is furnished and decorated in a late 19th century style that reflects the Tennysons' taste, interests, and lifestyle. Open Tuesday–Thursday from 29 April–25 September 2025. Pre-booking essential, please see website. Outside, the estate has been returned to its original informal planting scheme, including a walled garden and parkland walk. The gardens are open Tuesday–Saturday from 1 April–25 October 2025.

Bedbury Lane, Freshwater Bay,
PO40 9PE
01983 752500
farringford.co.uk



Hill Farm Stables

The oldest established stables on the Island is still run by two generations of the same family, with the best horses and ponies and the most beautiful riding country on the Island. Offering rides tailor made for all abilities from experienced to the complete beginner, as well as lessons in the rubber surfaced school.

Hill Farm, Hill Lane,
Freshwater, PO40 9TQ
07543 074004
hillfarmstables.com

Isle of Wight Aqua Park at Tapnell Farm



Open from early May, the Island's only outdoor, floating Aqua Park at Tapnell Farm. Great fun for confident swimmers aged 7+, the Aqua Park lake features over 20 obstacles, including free fall slides, joined together to create a series of fun challenges. Wetsuits and buoyancy aids provided. Online bookings only.

Tapnell Farm, Newport Road,
Yarmouth, PO41 0YJ
01983 758722
tapnellfarm.com/play

Isle of Wight Pearl



The Brighstone venue is home to a vast collection of beautiful pearl jewellery, a popular indoor and outdoor café with spectacular cliff-top views over the English Channel, pearl master class and family fun Pick-a-Pearl experience for a day like no other. Plus, don't forget to grab a bite to eat at The Pearl Café, which champions small-scale local producers. It's the perfect spot to enjoy great quality Island delicacies.

Chilton Chine, Military Road,
Brighstone, PO30 4DD
01983 740352
iowpearl.co.uk



Freshwater Bay Coasteering

Enjoy a 2 hour guided adventure around the stunning Freshwater Bay. Choose from an adrenaline filled high tide adventure including sea swimming, rock climbing, cliff jumping and caving or explore this hidden stretch of coast with a gentler low tide session. Whatever you choose, you will be kitted out with the equipment required and introduced to a world of hidden caves, secret beaches and stunning scenery.

Gate Lane, Freshwater Bay,
PO40 9RA
07968 609169
fbciow.com

est 1965



Hill Farm Stables

Discover the beautiful Isle of Wight on horseback.

HACKING • TUITION • PONY RIDES • PARTIES

To book call 07543 074004

hillfarmstables.com

All Abilities Welcome

Hill Lane, Freshwater, Isle of Wight PO40 9TQ

Bluebells at Brighstone

Come and visit us in the picturesque village for a range of greetings cards and gifts. Beautiful local handmade gifts available.

Open Monday 9.30am to 1.30pm
and Tuesday to Saturday
from 9am to 4.30pm.

Visit Bluebells at North Street, Brighstone, PO30 4AX





◡ A LITTLE LUXURY BESIDE THE SEA ◡

Experience the perfect blend of comfort and coastal charm and relax in our fully air-conditioned rooms, each thoughtfully designed to provide a restful retreat.

From our premium Victoria and Albert suites to beach deluxe and dog-friendly rooms, each has been designed with your relaxation in mind.

Our hotel restaurant, The Rock, has a perfectly appointed terrace with stunning views of Stag Rock and sweeping Freshwater Bay and is the perfect spot to enjoy delicious dishes made with locally sourced produce whether you're joining us for breakfast, lunch, or dinner.

And, as we're right beside the sea you can enjoy coastal walks, windsurfing, and paddle boarding all just steps away.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND TO BOOK YOUR STAY

www.albionhotel.co.uk

01983 755 755



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ALONG THE ISLAND'S
SECRET COASTLINE**

GROUPS & INDIVIDUALS WELCOME

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WWW.FBCIOW.COM**

iSurf

iSurf is the Island's only fully mobile surf school for anyone interested in getting into the water under expert supervision. Perfect for beginners or anyone looking to build on existing skills. Typically these sessions operate from the Compton area but do move depending on tides and conditions. Sessions for schools and groups are also available at the base in Sandown providing water-based activities suited to the weather on the day. This includes surfing, body boarding, giant paddle boards, slip and slide and water-based games.

07968 609169
iowsurf.com

Mottistone Gardens



A magical garden with colourful herbaceous borders, shrub-filled terraces and views to the sea. Lovely tea garden, ideal for lunch or a cream tea. Some manor rooms open, including a second-hand book shop. Large wider estate for country walks, taking in the legendary Longstone. Gardens open daily. See online for opening times at nationaltrust.org.uk/mottistone-gardens-and-estate

**Mottistone, Nr Brighstone,
PO30 4ED
01983 741302**
nationaltrust.org.uk/isleofwight

Needles Pleasure Cruises



Boat trips from Alum Bay on the west tip of the Isle of Wight viewing the famous Needles Rocks and Lighthouse. Choose between a 20 minute slow cruise or a 15 minute high-speed rib ride both operating from 1 April until 1 November, trips starting 10:30 daily.

**Alum Bay, Totland Bay,
PO39 0JD
01983 761587**
needlespleasurecruises.co.uk

Newtown National Nature Reserve

Natural harbour, creeks and woodlands home to native and visiting birds and wildlife. Bird hide and visitor point. The Old Town Hall is evidence of Newtown's former importance. For opening times and to download walks, visit nationaltrust.org.uk/newtown-national-nature-reserve-and-old-town-hall

**Newtown, Near Shalfleet,
PO30 4PA
01983 531785**
nationaltrust.org.uk/isleofwight

Tapnell Farm Park



Award-winning Tapnell Farm Park is one of the Island's biggest all-weather, fun-filled family attractions, with lots of indoor and outdoor play, including the adventure barn, pedal go-karts, jumping pillows, sledge slides and soft play. Plus, meet the farm animals and wallabies and take part in daily animal activities. New for 2025: huge indoor Tower Slide and Crazy Golf course! Online booking.

**Newport Road, Yarmouth,
PO41 0YJ
01983 758722**
tapnellfarm.com/play



The Needles Landmark Attraction



Explore the extraordinary at the Island's best value family attraction with world-famous coloured sand cliffs that overlook The Needles Rocks and Lighthouse. Experience the spectacular chairlift ride to the beach. Offering a range of pay-as-you-go attractions, a variety of children's activities from a traditional Victorian carousel, Dino Jeep Safari, to the 4D family cinema. Don't miss the glassmaking demonstrations and Sweet Manufactory.


**Alum Bay, Totland, PO39 0JD
01983 752401**
theneedles.co.uk

The Needles New Battery






Fascinating underground rooms which are home to the extraordinary exhibition about the secret rocket-testing programme that was carried out here during the 1950s and '60s, as part of Britain's Race for Space during the height of the Cold War. Outdoor remnants in a spectacular cliff-top location. Open selected dates, see online for opening times. nationaltrust.org.uk/the-needles-old-battery-and-new-battery

**West High Down, Alum Bay,
PO39 0JH
01983 754772**
nationaltrust.org.uk/isleofwight



**Boat trips to
the Needles
Lighthouse
from Alum
Bay Beach.**

Tel. 01983 761587
needlespleasurecruises.co.uk
Open from 1st April until 1st November

The Needles Old Battery



A spectacular clifftop fort overlooking the Needles. The attractions include two original guns situated on the parade ground and dramatic views of the sea and the Needles Lighthouse. The tea room tops it off with hot and cold drinks, ice creams, snacks and cakes. Walk, cycle or take the bus to the battery – car parking at Needles Landmark Attraction. See online for full site opening times. nationaltrust.org.uk/the-needles-old-battery-and-new-battery

West High Down, Alum Bay,
PO39 0JH
01983 754772
nationaltrust.org.uk/isleofwight

West Wight Alpacas



West Wight Alpacas & Llamas is set in 20 acres of picturesque countryside in the village of Wellow and is home to a prize-winning herd of alpacas and llamas and much more including miniature donkeys, rare breed sheep, pygmy and Golden Guernsey goats, Kune Kune pigs and a vast array of different rare breed poultry. You can book and have a walk with either alpacas or llamas or just simply take a stroll around the farm and enjoy tea and cake in their on-farm café after. A chilled out delight to visit.

Wellow Alpaca Stud, Main
Road, Wellow, PO41 0SZ
01983 760900
westwightalpacas.co.uk



Wight Cycle Hire



Wight Cycle Hire are the Island's Cycle Hire specialists, with two locations and a great choice including mountain bikes and hybrids, kids bikes, electric bikes and even tandems! Depart from either Newport for the Red Squirrel Trail or Yarmouth for Freshwater Bay and The Needles Landmark Attraction.

Yarmouth Station, Station
Road, Yarmouth, PO41 0QT
01983 761800
wightcyclehire.co.uk

Yarmouth Castle



Completed in 1547, the final year of King Henry VIII's reign, Yarmouth Castle was built to guard the western entrance to the Solent and protect the Isle of Wight. Enjoy the spectacular view across the Solent from the gunners platform – it also provides one of the best picnic locations on the Island. For car parking use PO41 0NS. Book online now and save.

Quay Street, Yarmouth,
PO41 0PB
0370 333 1181
english-heritage.org.uk



SHOPPING

Bluebells at Brighstone



Located within a row of pretty thatched cottages in picturesque North Street, Bluebells at Brighstone is a real treasure trove. Selling a wide range of cards, gifts and crafts from local artists including cushions, bags, candles and jewellery. Open Monday 09.30 to 13.30 and Tuesday to Saturday from 09:00 to 16:30.

North Street, Brighstone,
PO30 4AX
07906 826884



ACCOMMODATION

Farringford Estate



Discover the West Wight. Set in the grounds of Farringford, the former residence of Alfred, Lord Tennyson, the self-catering cottages are ideal for exploring the Isle of Wight. Equipped with every comfort from home, all of the cottages are available to let throughout the year, including the dog friendly ones.

Bedbury Lane, Freshwater Bay,
PO40 9PE
01983 752500
farringford.co.uk



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iowsurf.com

GRANGE FARM

Grange Farm, Brighstone Bay, PO30 4DA
01983 740296 | grangefarmcamping.co.uk



NEW shepherd's huts



Static caravans by the sea



Clifftop camping pitches

Come and stay at this beautiful farm on the stunning south west coast – the perfect base for cycling, walking and fishing. Choose from either centrally heated static caravans, new shepherd's huts, camping pods or converted barns. Family-run with friendly farm animals.



DOGS
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IN CERTAIN
AREAS

ESTD 1984
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A warm welcome awaits you
at The Waterfront Totland Bay

Come and see some of the finest
sunsets in the whole of Europe in
our picturesque setting with stunning
views over the Western Solent and
the Dorset Jurassic coastline.

Enjoy freshly prepared Mediterranean
cuisine with a fine selection of
wines, beers and spirits.

Open everyday from midday.

The Beach, Totland Bay, PO39 0BQ
01983 756969 | eatbythesea.com



Book your amazing Isle of Wight holiday at Linstone Chine!

Self Catering Holiday Accommodation at Colwell Bay, Freshwater in the West Wight area on the Isle of Wight.

With fantastic sea views of the Needles and Hurst Castle, fresh air and amazing sunsets.



Fancy owning your own slice of the Isle of Wight?

Linstone Chine have a number of holiday bungalows for sale. With prices from between £70,000 - £170,000 for 2 bed bungalows.

Set in 37 acres of unspoilt coastal countryside. The Island's best kept secret!



For current offers and to book visit linstone-chine.co.uk

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Grange Farm



One of the few non-commercial sites situated on the beautiful south west coast, with easy access to the sandy beach and picturesque views of the chine and Brighstone Forest. Choose to camp, pick a pod, shepherds hut or book a cottage or static caravan. The whole area is ideal for cycling, fishing, fossil hunting – a walkers' paradise.

Brighstone Bay, Military Road, Brighstone, PO30 4DA
01983 740296
grangefarmcamping.co.uk

Linstone Chine



Come and escape to your very own Jewel of the South and stay in a holiday chalet by the beach. With fantastic sea views of the Needles and Hurst Castle, fresh air, amazing sunsets and two sites to choose from, Linstone Chine Holiday Village is the best-kept secret on the Island.

Monks Lane, Freshwater, PO40 9SU
01983 755933
linstone-chine.co.uk

The Albion Hotel



Nestled in Freshwater Bay, a stone's throw from the Needles, the newly refurbished Albion Hotel invites you to indulge in the art of simplicity, where every detail is thoughtfully crafted to ensure your stay is as effortless as it is enjoyable. The fully air-conditioned rooms, elegantly designed with your comfort in mind, offer a cosy retreat where you can unwind and savour the view. Whether enjoying a meal whilst watching the waves, or relaxing in your room, your time at The Albion is guaranteed to be memorable, comfortable, and effortless.

Freshwater Bay, Freshwater, PO40 9RA
01983 755755
albionhotel.co.uk

The Bay Colwell



Stunning hot tub cottages and laidback beach houses are waiting for you and the family. Just a stroll away from the sandy shores of Colwell Bay, this sunny resort features an indoor heated swimming pool, licensed coffee house and children's soft play area.

Fort Warden Road, Freshwater, Totland Bay, PO39 0DA
0330 053 7000
awayresorts.co.uk



The Bugle Coaching Inn



A charming sixteenth-century freehouse inn located in the very heart of Yarmouth's market square. The Bugle Coaching Inn is a stone's throw from the harbour, with great hospitality, food and real ales. New for 2025 they offer fully refurbished en suite rooms with many having exceptional views of the square.

The Square, Yarmouth, PO41 0NS
01983 760272
thebugleinn.co.uk

The Orchards Holiday Park



Set amongst rolling countryside and with stunning panoramic views, The Orchards is a special place to make memories, relax and explore. Choose from a holiday caravan, touring and camping pitches or self-catering accommodation. There are two swimming pools to enjoy and a poolside coffee shop – as well as holiday homes for sale.

Main Road, Newbridge, Yarmouth, PO41 0TS
01983 531331
orchardsholidaypark.co.uk



Tom's Eco Lodge & Farm Accommodation



Tom's Eco Lodge is one of the Island's best known glamping experiences, with accommodation offered in a variety of quirky lodgings including safari tents, eco pods, wood cabins, modulogs and geo domes. Plus charming farm cottages too. Guests can enjoy the beautiful rural setting with space to roam, sea views and stunning sunsets!

Tapnell Farm, Newport Road, Yarmouth, PO41 OYJ
01983 758729
tapnellfarm.com/stay



FOOD & DRINK

Marconi's Tearoom



Enjoy a refreshing cup of tea or speciality coffee at The Needles Landmark Attraction. There's a range of delicious cakes and pastries and a wide selection of soft drinks, cold beers and other alcoholic beverages.

Alum Bay, PO39 0JD
01983 752401
theneedles.co.uk

The Bugle Coaching Inn



A charming sixteenth-century freehouse inn located in the very heart of Yarmouth's market square. The Bugle Coaching Inn is a stone's throw from the harbour, with great hospitality, food and real ales. Why not experience the large garden with live events over the weekends in the season?

The Square, Yarmouth,
PO41 0NS
01983 760272
thebugleinn.co.uk



The Cow Restaurant & Bar



One of the Island's most unique eateries, set in a converted Swiss barn at the heart of Tapnell Farm. Open seven days a week during the summer serving delicious, home-cooked, award-winning burgers and steaks plus gluten free, vegetarian and vegan choices. Family friendly, relaxed restaurant with lots of outdoor space and stunning views. Booking advised.

Tapnell Farm, Newport Road,
Yarmouth, PO41 0YJ
01983 758725
tapnellfarm.com/eat/the-cow



The King's Head



The King's Head is a most charming traditional pub with a beamed interior, and open fires in the winter. Nestled in the very heart of the picturesque coastal town of Yarmouth, popular with the sailing community, this historical pub, dating from the sixteenth century, is well-known by locals and tourists alike for its great atmosphere and superb food and drink.

Quay Street, Yarmouth,
PO41 0PB
01983 760177
kingsyarmouth.co.uk

The Pearl Café



Settle down in the comfortable café serving a wide range of dishes and light bites and take in the stunning panoramic views across the English Channel. Plus, don't miss the new Island Deli at The Pearl Café – championing small-scale local producers, it's the perfect spot to enjoy great quality Island delicacies.

Military Road, Brighstone,
PO30 4DD
01983 740352
iowpearl.co.uk

The Rock at The Albion Hotel



The Rock at The Albion Hotel is a new 100-seater restaurant with the most spectacular views. While fully air-conditioned, the team can throw back the large windows when the weather allows, giving access to the sun-drenched terrace just yards from the waves lapping against the shore. The menu is as inviting as the view, and there is something for everyone. You can kick back, enjoy your favourite food and one of the best views this idyllic island has to offer.

Freshwater Bay, Freshwater,
PO40 9RA
01983 755755
albionhotel.co.uk

The Waterfront



A popular seafront pub less than 20 feet from the sea. Experience some of the finest sunsets on the Island over a drink, or the freshly prepared Mediterranean cuisine.

The Beach, Madeira Road,
Totland Bay, PO39 0BQ
01983 756969
waterfrontiow.com



WEST WIGHT
Alpacas
And Llamas

Alpaca & Llama Farm Park



Book online

Alpaca & Llama walking on the Isle of Wight







Walk around the farm to see all of our animals!

Café open to all, Alpaca themed country shop

Outdoor children's play area

On the hourly number 7 bus route



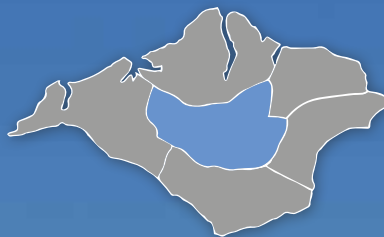


westwightalpacas.co.uk  

Main Road, Wellow, Isle of Wight, PO41 0SZ

(We advise pre-booking for all of our treks)

Central



At the heart of the Island you will find several quaint villages, as well as the Island's capital town, Newport. Here you will enjoy a mixture of High Street names and some excellent independent boutiques for both fashion and homewares...

The town centres around two main squares then stretches down to the historic quay where you will find an art gallery and café. The Bargeman's Rest pub sits on the water's edge and is an ideal spot to relax.

For local heritage, Carisbrooke Castle is hard to beat. The history of the castle can be traced back to about AD 1000. Raided by both the Spanish and French, the castle's most famous inhabitant was King Charles I, who was imprisoned here during the Civil War between 1647–1648, before being executed in 1649.

Take a drive through Arreton and be sure to stop off at Arreton Barns, the Island's largest centre for arts and crafts. Here you will find traditional crafters mixed with contemporary artisans. There is also a pub serving real ales and home-cooked food, a farm shop packed to the

rafters with local produce and The Corn Exchange – a beautiful interiors and giftware store.

The whole family will love a trip to Amazon World Zoo Park, with its vast array of tropical and endangered animals, plus play parks, wildlife museum and café, where you can relax and listen to the monkeys chattering. Alternatively, stop off at nearby Goddards Brewery and sample a locally brewed pint. The state-of-the-art visitors centre also has an onsite restaurant – Goddard's Bar and Kitchen – and a shop, so don't forget a few bottles to take home!

Further inland, nestled in the beautiful countryside of Newchurch, is The Garlic Farm. Home to all things garlic (you might smell it before you see it) you can enjoy a meal and purchase local produce from the well-stocked shop.

For the quintessential English village, a trip to Godshill is a must. This pretty village is complete with chocolate-box thatched cottages and some of the oldest architecture on the Island. The Old Smithy, once the village blacksmith's, is now home to a range of stylish shops centred around a popular café. Wander around The Model Village, the 1/10th scale 'Island in miniature' depicting Godshill and other landmarks including Shanklin Old Village and the Chine.

Discover more things to do at wightlink.co.uk/explorer



Arreton Barns is the Island's largest arts and crafts centre and is nestled at the heart of the village.



ATTRACTIONS

Amazon World

Zoo Park



Home to the Island's largest collection of exotic animals, including; mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, insects, fauna and flora. This multi-award-winning zoo offers you more than just animals, it includes a large Jurassic playground, museum, dino dig and the Island's largest indoor soft play area. A great day out rain or shine, the café and snack shack have ample seating, and a large gift, souvenir shop to buy some memories.

Watery Lane, Nr Arreton,
PO36 0LX
01983 867122
amazonworld.co.uk

Arreton Barns



Set in the stunning Arreton countryside, Arreton Barns is the Island's largest arts and crafts centre, showcasing the best in local artisans. Open seven days a week, with free parking. Find unique gifts then enjoy delicious food, fine wines and real ales at The Dairyman's Daughter pub.

Main Road, Arreton,
PO30 3AA
01983 539365
arretonbarns.co.uk

Carisbrooke Castle



Steeped in history, once the prison of Charles I and the official residence of the Island's Governor, now a fascinating historical attraction. Experience vast panoramic Island views from the castle's high walls, and meet the charming resident donkeys. Book online now and save.

Castle Hill, Newport,
PO30 1XY
0370 333 1181
english-heritage.org.uk



Holliers Park



Holliers Park and House of Chilli is an exceptional retail park with original art and creative crafts, antiques and collectables, clothing and fancy dress, as well as interior decor and furniture, plus much more. Visit the Bus Stop Café for a light lunch, cake, tea or coffee, or pick up your essentials at Branstone Village Shop.

Newport Road, Branstone,
PO36 0AF
01983 864449



Island Gems



Island Gems offers a range of natural fossils, gemstones, amber and jewellery. With prices starting at just 50p, there's something to suit every pocket. Also available are the multi-award-winning fossil hunting trips. Trips are two hours and everything found can be kept. Advance booking recommended.

The Cottage, High Street,
Godshill, PO38 3HZ
01983 740493
islandgems.co.uk



Monkey Haven – The Leaf Foundation



Swing on by to the award-winning primate rescue centre making animals happy – and people happy! Meet rescued gibbons, monkeys, meerkats, birds of prey and reptiles. Lots of fun for everyone, including wonderful keeper talks, a fun free App, children's trail, tea room, gift shop and free return within a week. See website for opening times.

Five Acres Farm, Staplers
Road, Newport, PO30 2NB
01983 530885
monkeyhaven.org



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Handmade silver and gold jewellery with collections for men and women.

Solid sterling silver jewellery handmade on the Isle of Wight. Gifts for everyone.

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Day courses in jewellery making now available. Group or individual bookings.



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For more inspiration visit
wightlink.co.uk/explorer

Arreton Barns Craft Village, Isle of Wight, PO30 3AA
thomaspcochrane.com | 01983 685578

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 01983 740493 www.islandgems.co.uk

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www.thejewellerycabin.com

Naturezones Wildlife Education Trust



Naturezones field study centre provides a home for wildlife and a haven of peace and tranquillity for us. Take a walk through the 10-acre wildlife garden. Sit and listen, smell the scents of nature, close your eyes and breathe it all in. Spend quality time with your children exploring the wonders of nature and enjoy pond dipping, chasing butterflies and scavenger hunting at a price you can afford.

Birchmore Lane, Blackwater,
 PO30 3BP
 01983 296110
naturezones.co.uk

Robin Hill



Discover Robin Hill – 88 acres of open parkland, ancient woodland and landscaped gardens for adventure, exploration and entertainment. Burn off some energy on the treetop canopy walkways and sky nets, drive a digger and captain an electric boat. Enjoy the thrill of an exhilarating quarter-mile downhill toboggan, and dare to fly in the epic Adrenaline Zone. Robin Hill also plays host to spectacular daily falconry displays, incredible performances, live music, and year-round events to keep everyone entertained.

Downend, Nr Newport,
 PO30 2NU
 01983 527352
robin-hill.com

Shipwreck Centre & Maritime Museum



With one of the largest collections in the country of items brought up from real shipwrecks, diving equipment and maritime curiosa. Join in with one of the free family activities, marvel at the amount of rare and special items in the collections and learn more about the local diver who made it all possible. Don't miss the protected wrecks exhibit.

Arreton Barns, Main Road,
 Arreton, PO30 3AA
 01983 533079
shipwreckcentre.co.uk



The Garlic Farm



Get the full garlic experience at this unique, idyllic farm set in beautiful Newchurch. Free entry and parking. The farm shop overflows with garlic of all varieties, along with mayonnaises, chutneys, beer, vodka and even garlic ice cream! Discover everything you want to know about garlic and enjoy great food in the restaurant.

Mersley Lane, Newchurch,
 PO36 0NR
 01983 865378
thegarlicfarm.co.uk



Energy to burn? The kids will love the giant air-filled jumping pillow at Robin Hill!



The Jewellery Cabin



This beautiful teaching studio offers a variety of courses from beginner days to masterclasses. The well-equipped workshop is also available for private parties, so whether you're looking to celebrate a special occasion or spend some time with loved ones, they can teach groups of up to 8 people. Whether you're a total beginner or hoping to further your skills, the friendly tutors will make sure you leave with a creation you're proud of.

3a Sheat Manor Farm,
Gatcombe, PO30 3HP
07813 030676
thejewellerycabin.com



The Old Smithy



Boasting a variety of well-stocked gift shops, including fashion brands and home interiors. Browse in the Old Forge and cottage, stroll through the landscaped garden with pixie and fairy grottos, then relax and enjoy lunch, a cream tea or a slice of cake in the coffee shop. Choose from a wide selection of gifts including cards, pictures, glassware, candles and more.

High Street, Godshell,
PO38 3HZ
01983 840364
theoldsmithy.com

Wight Cycle Hire



Wight Cycle Hire are the Island's Cycle Hire specialists, with two locations and a great choice including mountain bikes and hybrids, kids bikes, electric bikes and even tandems! Depart from either Newport to explore the Red Squirrel Trail or head to Yarmouth for cycle rides around Freshwater Bay, the Causeway and The Needles Landmark Attraction.

Riverside Centre, The Quay,
Newport, PO30 2QR
01983 761800
wightcyclehire.co.uk

Red Squirrel Hot Spot

A 10 ACRE WILDLIFE GARDEN and Field Study centre

A home for wildlife, a place of peace and tranquility for us

HAPPENINGS 2025

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- GIFT SHOP AND CARDS
- WILDFLOWER SEEDS
- NATURE TRAILS
- HOLIDAY CLUBS
- NATIVE SPECIES PLANT CENTRE

Please check open days
naturezones.org.uk

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ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT

The Complete Garlic Experience!

RESTAURANT · FARM SHOP · GARLIC GIFTS · FARM WALKS · HOLIDAYS

Explore our certified organic farm, enjoy nature, farm animals, excellent food and large range of garlicky products.

*See website for shop & restaurant opening & serving times, book a table or book a stay

The Garlic Farm, Mersley Lane, Newchurch, PO36 0NR

www.thegarlicfarm.co.uk

FREE ADMISSION
Open 7 days a week*



Open 7 days a week MON - SAT: 10.30am - 4pm
Antiques | Arts & Crafts | House of Chilli | Bus Stop Cafe | Branstone Village Shop



A collection of island creativity, vintage and antiques. Artisan bespoke items, vintage collectables, clothes, jewellery, dolls houses, miniatures and more.

Visit the renowned double decker bus café. Home of one of the last surviving 1938 London underground rolling stock. Visit our newly opened Branstone Village Stores, supporting our local community.

(Opening times may differ, see their site)

Colovaria
supplier of Frenchic paint
Branstone Village Shop
for all your local needs and supplies
Green Barn Antiques
furniture and collectables
Bus Cafe
tea / coffee, cakes, pastries,
selection of light lunches
Holliers Tunnel
handcrafted unique gifts and vintage items



Follow us on Facebook | [f HolliersParkIOW](#) | 01983 864449
Holliers Farm, Branstone, Sandown, Isle of Wight, PO36 0AF



Welcome to House Of Chilli

The premier source of chilli products on the Isle of Wight

Let us guide you through the flavours and textures of chillies from the delightful Jalapeño to the Carolina Reaper, a chilli that refuses to be quiet and is always an angry little fellow.

We are always happy to talk chilli, be it on the phone or come in and taste some of our favourites and see what's new.



The House Of Chilli IOW
Holliers Park
Branston
PO36 0AF

www.the-house-of-chilli.com
Tel: 07487 565305
Email: sales@thehouseofchilli.shop



SHOPPING



Briddlesford Farm Shop



Visiting the Briddlesford Farm Shop is like stepping straight into the Island's very own larder. Stocking products from over 50 local producers as well as the full range of the farm's own products, including milk from the award-winning Guernsey herd, luxurious clotted cream and butter, a range of farmhouse cheeses and Briddlesford Veal. There's also Bluebells Café, the heritage centre, milk processing factory and cheese room.

Briddlesford Road, Wootton,
PO33 4RY
01983 884650
briddlesford.co.uk

House of Chilli



Whether you prefer a warming glow or are a hardened chilli head who likes to feel the burn, House of Chilli sell an eye watering range of chilli-inspired products to suit all tastes. Let the team guide you through the flavours and textures from the delightful Jalapeño to the Carolina Reaper, a chilli that refuses to be quiet. From their own brand spice blends and seeds, to hot sauces, chutneys and jams, there's plenty to get your tastebuds tingling!

Holliers Farm, Branstone,
PO36 0LT
07487 565305
the-house-of-chilli.com



Thomas P Cochran



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01983 685578
thomaspcochran.com

Fields Menswear



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Main Road, Rookley,
PO38 3LU
0330 053 7000
awayresorts.co.uk



FOOD & DRINK

Bluebells Café at
Bridlesford Farm

Serving breakfast, light lunches, daily specials and delicious home-made cakes, the Bluebells Café menu is focused on quality fresh seasonal food from the Island's farmers and growers, expertly prepared by the team of talented chefs. Bridlesford rose veal and dairy products feature in a number of signature dishes, including the home-made pies, burgers and 'Bridlesford mess' dessert.

Bridlesford Road, Wootton,
PO33 4RY
01983 882885
bridlesford.co.uk

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mermaidlightsiw@gmail.com
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Browsing the artisans and craftspeople at Arreton Barns? Make time for a pitstop at The Dairyman's Daughter and you won't be disappointed.

Snacks & Ladders Board Game Café



Snacks & Ladders is a little oasis where you can escape the real world and lose yourself in the world of games. Along with the huge menu of 870+ games, there is a full restaurant menu, as well as barista coffees, house cocktails and luxury milkshakes. Enjoy a snack bowl to graze while you play or a freshly made panini, pizza, burger or pancakes. Booking advisable.

70 Upper St James Street,
Newport, PO30 1LQ
01983 716710
snacksandladders.co.uk



The Bargeman's Rest



Set on Little London Quay, The Bargeman's Rest is located close to Newport town centre and is the perfect pitstop on a walk along the River Medina. Experience the cosy atmosphere and nautical charm as you sample the extensive menu. Serving all day breakfasts, light bites and rustic baguettes as well as traditional pub favourites and speciality burgers.

Little London Quay, Newport,
PO30 5BS
01983 525828
bargemansrest.co.uk

The Dairyman's Daughter



The Dairyman's Daughter is a bustling freehouse pub nestled at the centre of Arreton Barns. A traditional pub serving home-cooked food from an extensive menu, using local produce and ingredients where possible. Enjoy a wide selection of fine wines and real ales, including some local brews.

Arreton Barns, Main Road,
Arreton, PO30 3AA
01983 539361
dairymansdaughter.co.uk

The Garlic Farm Restaurant



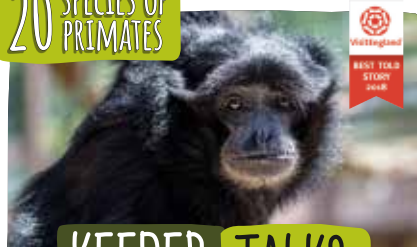
At The Garlic Farm Restaurant you can sample the best garlicky food in beautiful farm surroundings with friendly service, fully licensed bar and excellent views across the valley. Open daily for breakfast and lunch, the menu and specials board make the most of locally sourced Island ingredients wherever possible. Free entry and parking.

Mersley Farm, Mersley Lane,
Newchurch, PO36 0NR
01983 865378
thegarlicfarm.co.uk



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20 SPECIES OF MINI BEASTS



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Portsmouth

Summer is here, so get ready to enjoy some of the biggest and best events in the Portsmouth calendar!

New for 2025 are a host of world-class sailing events. The Emirates Great Britain Sail Grand Prix (19–20 July) kicks things off with fast and furious racing on the Solent. There will be a British team to cheer on, featuring among its ranks multiple Olympic gold medallists as well as post-racing headline performances from Tom Grennan and Pete Tong as part of the Après-Sail entertainment.

Next comes The Ocean Race Europe (14–17 August). As well as the high-tech boats that can reach record-breaking speeds, the event will have an environmental angle too, with crews collecting water samples to monitor ocean health.

Last but not least, it's the return of the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race (28–31 August), which departs from Gunwharf Quays. Wave off the competitors, then enjoy the installations set up around the outlet centre.

Back on dry land, there are a host of big events and festivals scheduled for the coming months.

Get your foodie fix with fresh eats prepared before your eyes at Southsea Food Festival (5–6 July). Some of the best cooks, brewers and distillers from across the South will be showcasing their talents.

Next, all ages will be wowed at the Portsmouth International Kite Festival (26–27 July). Marvel at the dazzling dancing displays, and pick out your favourites from the fancy novelty kites in all manner of fun shapes.

Live at the Bandstand hosts free outdoor shows each weekend until August, with performances across a huge range of styles and genres. Alternatively, for something a little more decadent, why not treat yourself to some bubbles in the sun, all soundtracked by smooth live music, as the Sunday Sessions return to the Queens Hotel.

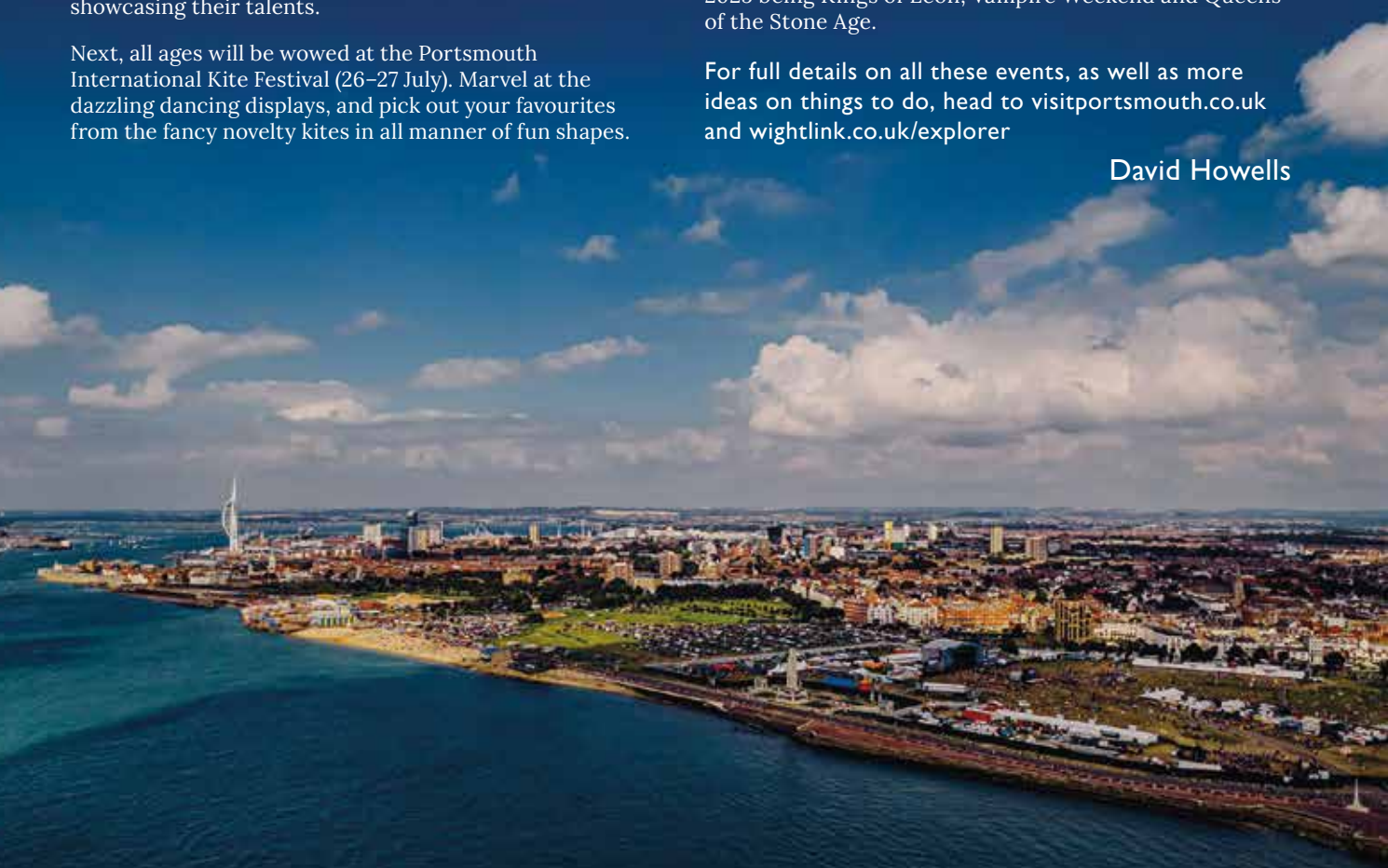


During Southsea Food Festival the streets are filled with sights and smells that are sure to get your mouth watering.

Plus, of course, who could forget Victorious Festival (22–24 August)? Some of the biggest names in music and comedy head to Southsea Common, with headliners for 2025 being Kings of Leon, Vampire Weekend and Queens of the Stone Age.

For full details on all these events, as well as more ideas on things to do, head to visitportsmouth.co.uk and wightlink.co.uk/explorer

David Howells



Some of the biggest names in music and comedy will flock to Southsea Common for Victorious Festival.



Discover the view

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COMING SOON



GUILDHALL

PORTSMOUTH



1 - 2 AUG

1 AUGUST
AN EVENING OF
FILM MUSIC

2 AUGUST
THE MUSIC OF ABBA

**SUMMER CONCERTS
IN THE SQUARE**

1 SEP

**the Spooky
Men's
Chorale**

**SPOOKY MEN'S
CHORALE**

3 OCT

BEN PORTSMOUTH
THIS IS ELVIS

BEN PORTSMOUTH

16 OCT

**THAT FEELS
SIGNIFICANT**
LIVE!

ELIS & JOHN

1 NOV

ADAM ANT

29 NOV

**LOVE ACTUALLY
FILM WITH LIVE ORCHESTRA**

2 - 5 DEC

**RIVERDANCE
30**

RIVERDANCE

27 - 29 DEC

elf
THE MUSICAL

FOR FULL PROGRAMME: PORTSMOUTHGUILDHALL.ORG.UK

Lymington & the New Forest

Summer has arrived, and the New Forest is ready to welcome you. Just a short ferry ride from the Isle of Wight, this spectacular corner of the south offers open skies, ancient woodlands, unique wildlife and over 40 miles of peaceful coastline – perfect for an unforgettable summer escape.

MAKE A SPLASH

Whether you're seeking adventure or gentle exploration, summer is the perfect time to get on the water. Glide along the beautiful Beaulieu River by kayak or canoe with New Forest Activities – dogs are welcome, too! Prefer to sit back and soak up the scenery? Hop on a Beaulieu River Boat Tour with Wild New Forest Guided Tours for a relaxing wildlife cruise, where you might spot seals, herons or even a kingfisher darting by.

AL FRESCO FEASTING

The New Forest is made for outdoor dining. Enjoy a pub garden lunch after a forest walk or cycle, unwind on a quiet restaurant terrace, or pack a picnic with delicious treats from a local farm shop. Find your perfect picnic spot, roll out a blanket, and take it slow while ponies wander past and butterflies drift by.

RAIN-PROOF DAYS OUT

Even on rainy days, there's plenty of places to explore. Visit fascinating museums, distilleries, or galleries, book a forest spa or yoga session, or try your hand at local crafts.

SUMMER EVENTS NOT TO MISS

The New Forest & Hampshire County Show (29–31 July) brings country traditions to Brockenhurst with animals, displays, food and fun. Then it's time to feast at the New Forest Food Festival (16–17 August) – a treat for every palate.



The New Forest & Hampshire County Show has action and fun for all the family.

SLEEP BENEATH THE TREES

Although wild camping isn't permitted, you'll find tranquil campsites like Aldridge Hill and Matley Wood for a back-to-nature stay. Or upgrade to glamping at Gambledown Farm for rustic charm with a little extra comfort.

This summer, the New Forest is calling – will you answer?

For more details on what to do in the New Forest, visit thenewforest.co.uk and wightlink.co.uk/explorer

Go New Forest



In summer, the New Forest's open moors and heathland come alive with colourful heathers.

NEW

THE ISLE OF WIGHT

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wightwhisky.com

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What's on...

The Island's events calendar is bursting at the seams and there's always so much to see and do, you will be spoilt for choice. Here is our pick of what not to miss in the coming months...

Ventnor Fringe Festival.

JULY

Fish & Chip Evenings



1 July–19 August, Isle of Wight Steam Railway (IW)

Head to the Isle of Wight Steam Railway any Tuesday evening in July and August for a relaxed evening that includes a proper Fish and Chip supper and a ride through the Island's countryside in the luxury of an Edwardian carriage pulled by an historic steam locomotive. Enjoy an evening drink sat inside or outside the Barn Café while you watch the kids let off their own steam in the park and play area. A tasty treat for all the family.

iwsteamrailway.co.uk

Isle of Wight Mardi Gras



5 July, Ryde (IW)

A collaboration between The New Carnival Company and local schools, the Isle of Wight Mardi Gras procession takes inspiration from New Orleans Mardi Gras as well as Latin and Caribbean carnivals. With samba bands and other arts organisations along with visiting carnival groups, it's a fantastic spectacle of colour and sound!

thenewcarnivalcompany.com

Isle of Wight Symphony Orchestra: Season Finale



5 July, Medina Theatre (IW)

The Isle of Wight Symphony Orchestra returns to Medina Theatre to perform *Invitation to the Dance* Weber (orch. Berlioz), *Appalachian Spring* (Ballet) Copland, *La Fille mal Gardée* (Ballet Suite) Hérold, *Slavonic Dances Opus 46 Nos 3 and 8* Dvořák, *Adagio from the ballet Spartacus* Khachaturian and *Pineapple Poll* (Ballet Suite) Sullivan.

THIS EVENT IS PROUDLY SPONSORED BY WIGHTLINK

iwso.co.uk

South Island Sevens



5 July, Ryde (IW)

An entirely different approach to 'Sevens' creates a sports festival experience quite unlike any other. Get set for sports such as; netball, NACRA 20, footy 9s, and of course rugby sevens. Book now – ticket numbers are limited.

southislandsevens.co.uk



The 1940s Experience



5–6 July, Isle of Wight Steam Railway (IW)

Enjoy a memorable day of nostalgia for the whole family and be immersed in the sights and sounds of England during the 1940s. Dance to the music of the era, dig out your best vintage clothes and pop those locks into pin curls. There will be shops for quirky clothes, traditional games, shows, period vehicles and a fairground for little ones. Visit the refreshment room to refuel with hearty themed food and a drink or two and get those Union Jack flags at the ready to wave in the steam train before your 10 mile round trip.

iwsteamrailway.co.uk

British Classic Week



6–11 July, Cowes (IW)

The annual regatta organised by the British Classic Yacht Club attracts not only entries from the UK, but also across Europe, Australia and New Zealand. The regatta is a celebratory occasion for classic boat enthusiasts to enjoy good racing and to spend time with fellow sailors who share the same appreciation of classic yachts.

britishclassicweek.co.uk



Open all year round hosting a full programme of professional and amateur productions.

Box Office (01983) 868000
shanklintheatre.com

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Lymington Seafood Festival



11–13 July, Bath Road Park,
Lymington (Mainland)

This unique culinary celebration showcases the best in the New Forest and south coast artisan food and drink. Sample local seafood and fish produce, find inspiration as chefs prepare food in the demonstration kitchens, sip craft beer, sparkling wines, boutique gin and enjoy music from the live bands.

lymingtonseafestival.co.uk



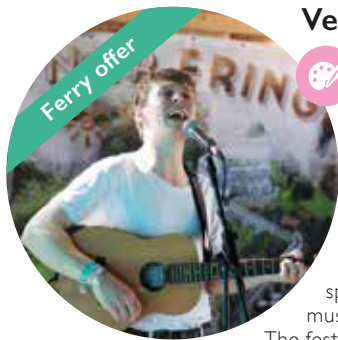
Royal Isle of Wight County Show

12–13 July, Isle of Wight County Showground (IW)



Celebrate the best of Island life at the Royal Isle of Wight County Show. See prize winning animals and livestock, sample delicious local produce, experience displays of showjumping, sheep shearing, tractor rides, clay pigeon shoots, 4x4 driving and arts and crafts. There'll be a chance to talk to the experts about their skills and gain their advice. Great outdoor fun for all the family.

iwcountyshow.co.uk



Ventnor Fringe Festival

18–27 July, Ventnor (IW)

Ventnor Fringe brings together a rich, varied and eclectic blend of arts and culture. Launched back in 2010, the festival has developed into one of the Island's cultural highlights, presenting a programme of live acts and performances spanning theatre, comedy, cabaret, music and special one-off screenings.

The festival remains proudly independent and accessible to all, with a vibrant programme of events this summer.

vfringe.co.uk

Isle of Wight Pride 2025



19 July, Ryde (IW)

Isle of Wight Pride is a riot of colour and fun, a celebration of diversity and equality and a display of love throughout the community. The day will start with the traditional parade and will be followed by an afternoon and evening of entertainment.

iwpride.org



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



ABBA Chic Party Night

26 July, Retro Staycations,
Ryde (IW)



Chale Show

2–3 August, Chale (IW)



Wight Proms

12–17 August,
Northwood House (IW)



50th Island Steam Fair

22–25 August, Isle of Wight
Steam Railway (IW)



Isle of Wight Classic Motor Show

6–7 September, Newport Quay
and Ryde Esplanade (IW)

Please note: all event details were correct at time of going to press but may be subject to change. Please check online and book in advance where possible.



SailGP Great Britain

19–20 July, Portsmouth (Mainland)

SailGP's fast and furious racing finally returns to UK waters for the highly-anticipated Emirates Great Britain Sail Grand Prix. Get ready for the new location of Portsmouth, a port city steeped in British maritime history, which will see Dylan Fletcher's home team Emirates GBR gunning for victory in front of packed shoreside crowds. Fans on land will enjoy spectacular viewing from the elevated Race Stadium, while a huge on-water presence is expected to flood The Solent as the UK's passionate sailing fandom flock to the event of the summer.

sailgp.com



Sausage and Cider Festival

19 July, Robin Hill (IW)

The Sausage and Cider Festival makes its debut on the Isle of Wight at Robin Hill. With over 20 sausage flavours and 30+ ciders to try, as well as incredible live music from tribute bands, eating competitions, axe throwing, a circus workshop and a kid's stage, there's plenty of fun to keep the whole family happy! robin-hill.com

Summer Fun and Games at Carisbrooke Castle

19 July–31 August, Carisbrooke Castle (IW)

It's all fun and games this summer, with loads of activities for the whole family to get stuck into. From soft play and mini golf to archery and den building, there's all sorts of fun to be had all through the school holidays. english-heritage.org.uk



Summer in Nashville

20 July, Robin Hill (IW)

Time to don the Cowboy boots and Stetson as Nashville arrives on the Isle of Wight with a huge line up of music, games and food! You'll find the best new and undiscovered country acts, incredible tributes to iconic legends, line dancing, rodeo bull rides and a tin can alley, as well as American BBQ and street food to keep hunger at bay! robin-hill.com

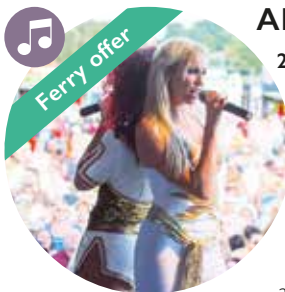


Twilight Safaris

23 July–27 August, Wildheart Animal Sanctuary (IW)

The ever-popular Twilight Safaris are back this Summer. Every Wednesday throughout the summer, experience the Wildheart Animal Sanctuary in a completely different light. As the sun sets and the lions begin to roar, enjoy the animals as they settle down for the evening. With a BBQ and live music it's an evening not to be missed. Tickets available throughout August and sell out fast, so get yours today! wildheartanimalsanctuary.org

wildheartanimalsanctuary.org



ABBA Chique Party Night

26 July, Retro Staycations, Ryde (IW)

Be transported back to the '70s and '80s with ABBA's greatest hits. Made up of a full five-piece, this dynamic act pride themselves on their authentic ABBA sound and look. Their solid gold performance will take place on Jack Up Event's silver bullet Airstream stage in a pretty meadow as an open-air concert. With a real ale bar courtesy of Island Ales and freshly cooked local produce prepared by local traders, it's the perfect way to party your way into summer! jackupevents.co.uk

jackupevents.co.uk

The Steam Railway Proms

26 July, Isle of Wight Steam Railway (IW)

Enjoy a summers afternoon at the Railway and join conductor Jonathan Butcher and the Isle of Wight Symphony Orchestra for a selection of light classics, with the odd train-related piece thrown in for good measure! Bring a blanket or pop-up chair and get set for an evening of exquisite music. Picnics welcome or visit the onsite bar and café. iwsteamrailway.co.uk

iwsteamrailway.co.uk

Friendship Day: Bracelet Workshop

30 July, The Jewellery Cabin (IW)

In this special jewellery-making class on International Friendship Day, you and your bff will each make two links to form beautiful Interlocking Circle Bracelets while spending some quality time together. You will learn basic silversmithing techniques, including shaping, texturing, and finishing and no experience is needed. Booking essential. thejewellerycabin.com

thejewellerycabin.com



Moo-Mania

29 July–26 August, Tapnell Farm Park (IW)

Every Tuesday during the summer holidays from 16:00, enjoy a fun-filled evening of family entertainment, all hosted by the fantastic AJ. Expect laughter, games, and plenty of surprises as AJ brings the farm to life with his unique blend of fun and energy. With more exciting details to follow, you can count on Moo-Mania being the highlight of your summer. Head to the event barn for dance competitions, games, magic shows, circus games, stilt walking, bubbles and more! tapnellfarm.com

tapnellfarm.com

Summer Fest

30 July–27 August, Blackgang Chine (IW)

Every Wednesday, soak up the sun at the Isle of Wight's biggest family night out! Delve into the epic foam parties, dance away to the live DJ and gaze towards the night skies for Blackgang Chine's famous fireworks displays! Break out your best moves and shake your stuff to the sounds of the summer as the sun sets. blackgangchine.com

blackgangchine.com



Barn, Boots & Beats

31 July–28 August, Tapnell Farm Park (IW)



This is not just a barn dance – it's a full-blown country showdown for the whole family! Every Thursday Night during the summer holidays Tapnell Farm Park transforms into a foot-stompin', burger-flippin', bull-ridin' country spectacular. Get ready for Barn, Boots & Beats – a high-octane evening of live music, full-throttle dancing, incredible food, street performers, and a wild ride on the rodeo bull!

tapnellfarm.com



Magic in the Skies

31 July–28 August, The Needles Landmark Attraction (IW)



Every Thursday during the summer holidays head to The Needles Landmark Attractions for Magic in the Skies – a thrilling cocktail of pyrotechnic wizardry and vibrant explosions lighting up the skies. Each display will transport you on a magical journey – the perfect way to end a family day out at this unique destination. Enjoy shopping, foodie treats, live music, and family entertainment throughout the day before the iconic firework display lights up the sky after dusk.

theneedles.co.uk

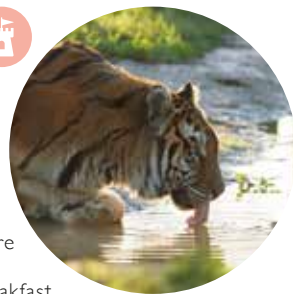
Sunrise Breakfasts

31 July–28 August, Wildheart Animal Sanctuary (IW)



If you're an early bird, then the Wildheart Animal Sanctuary Sunrise Breakfasts are a perfect way to start your day! Enter the Sanctuary from 08.30 before the crowds arrive and enjoy the peace and tranquillity of rare early morning encounters with the rescued animals. A Grab-and-Go breakfast is included to make sure you make the most of the time. Available dates throughout August on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

wildheartanimalsanctuary.org



AUGUST

Cowes Week

2–8 August, Cowes (IW)



One of the UK's longest running and successful events of its kind, Cowes Week now boasts up to 40 daily races for 1,000 boats and is one of the largest sailing regattas in the world. With 8,500 sailing competitors of all levels, a unique atmosphere and a huge range of entertainment, there's plenty for spectators to enjoy.

cowesweek.co.uk



Chale Show

2–3 August, Chale (IW)



Grown from a small scale village fair, this traditional country show now attracts thousands of visitors and guests. Enjoy a wide selection of delicious local produce, displays and presentations from monster trucks stunts and dog agility displays, to live bands and vintage vehicles, as well as stalls and fairground rides. The show also boasts the Isle of Wight's largest Horticultural Marquee with over 1,500 entries showcasing a vast array of produce, craft, floral and culinary talent.

thechaleshow.co.uk



CARNIVALS

The Isle of Wight has long been hailed as the 'Carnival Capital' of the UK and is set to host a whole range of fun and free carnival processions – many of which date back to the latter half of the 19th century and are still going strong.

Sandown

Children's Carnival	26 July from 11:00
Main Carnival	26 July from 19:00
Illuminated Carnival	27 August from 20:30

Newport

Main Carnival	2 August from 19:00
Illuminated Carnival	21 August from 21:00

Shanklin

Children's Carnival	3 August from 14:00
Grand Carnival Procession	6 August from 19:00
Illuminated Carnival	9 August from 21:15

Yarmouth

Carnival Week	9–16 August
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Ventnor

Children's Carnival	13 August from 12:00
Grand Carnival & Fireworks	13 August from 19:00
Illuminated Carnival	16 August from 21:00

Ryde

Children's Carnival	23 August from 11:00
Main Carnival	28 August from 18:30
Illuminated Carnival	30 August from 20:30

St Helens

Main Carnival	25 August from 18:30
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Please note: all event details were correct at time of going to press but may be subject to change. Please check online.

Sandown Bay Regatta



9–10 August, Sandown (IW)

Organised by Sandown Carnival, the Sandown Bay Regatta really has something for everyone. Saturday features sea and shoreside events and Sunday promises to be fun-packed with market stalls lining Sandown Esplanade and family-friendly live entertainment from the stage and on the beach!

sandowncarnival.com



Wight Proms Festival



12–17 August, Northwood House (IW)

The massively popular annual festival celebrating classical music, musical theatre and live comedy returns to glorious Northwood House. Now in its eighth year, the festival extends over six days, culminating in its spectacular finale – the 'Last Wight of the Proms' – on Sunday evening.

wightproms.co.uk

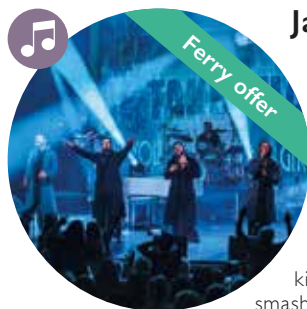
Legendary Joust



12–14 August, Carisbrooke Castle (IW)

Experience the spectacle of speed and skill as four legendary knights compete for honour and glory. See lances shatter, feel the thunder of hooves and hear the roar of the crowd as reputations are won and lost. Choose your champion and cheer them on to victory – or console them in defeat. Don't miss one of history's most spectacular sporting contests – book online and save!

english-heritage.org.uk



Jack Up Events presents Re-Take That & Party!

15 August, Retro Staycations, Ryde (IW)

The ultimate Take That party night that's currently selling out festivals, theatres and arenas across the UK. Created by Take That fans, for Take That fans, this is the first show of its kind. Dance and sing the night away to smash hits like *Greatest Day*, *Back for Good*, *Relight My Fire*, *Let Me Go*, *Shine*, *Never Forget*, *Angels* and many more.

jackupevents.co.uk

Isle of Wight Garlic Festival



16–17 August, Fighting Cocks Crossroad (IW)

The famous Isle of Wight Garlic Festival returns with live music, children's activities and lots of garlic! Playing host to star chefs, musicians, local charities and businesses and more from far and wide, the festival is a celebration of wonderful local produce. Sample garlicky goodies such as ice cream and garlic beer and get culinary inspiration in the Theatre Kitchen.

garlicfestival.co.uk



Silver Pendant Workshop

19 August, The Jewellery Cabin (IW)

During this 3 hour evening class, you will use your creativity to design and make a silver pendant. With lots of techniques available to use, you will learn the skills to personalise a pendant, attach a loop and try out different finishing techniques before popping your creation onto a chain and wearing it home. Whether you are a beginner or a jeweller in training, this course is a great for learning new skills. Booking essential.

thejewellerycabin.com



Victorious Festival

22–24 August, Southsea (Mainland)

Based on the coast in beautiful sunny Southsea, Victorious is a great family friendly music festival by the sea. Now well-established and always boasting a top line up of acts, which this year includes Queen's of the Stone Age, Vampire Weekend and Kings of Leon, as well as a range of comedy headliners. There's a whole host of food and drink, and retail stalls onsite, all in a stunning setting by the Solent.

victoriousfestival.co.uk



50th Island Steam Fair

22–25 August, Isle of Wight Steam Railway (IW)

The family friendly Bank Holiday event of 2025! The Island Steam Show celebrates 50 glorious years. Enjoy a vast collection of vintage transport, traditional fairground, live entertainment, plus majestic steam trains running along the line. Little ones will love playing traditional games such as coconut shys and hook the duck as well as a ride on the steam powered gallopers, perfect for big kids too. Hungry? Refuel at one of the onsite refreshment kiosks or cool down with an ice cream, plus there's even a real ale bar!

iwsteamrailway.co.uk



Isle of Wight International Scooter Rally

22–25 August, Various locations (IW)

The world famous Isle of Wight Scooter Rally hosts up to 5,000 riders of classic scooters, heading mostly to the coastal towns of Ryde and Sandown. With an Island-wide 'ride out' on the Sunday. The 'Best of British' evening entertainment features live music from a range of acts playing classic Britpop, ska and two tone, as well as mod, soul and punk music.

visualimpact.co.uk



Ticket to Ryde

23–24 August, Ryde (IW)

This free community event is part of the International Scooter Rally and blends local Isle of Wight talent and well-established bands and soloists on stage, visitors can treat themselves to hot food, fantastic real ales and plenty of gift, memorabilia and music stalls to check out. With a great range of kids' activities to keep every family happy.

jackuevents.co.uk



Wolverton Manor Garden Fair

30–31 August, Wolverton Manor (IW)

A special two day event hosting over 140 stunning Isle of Wight and mainland nurseries, garden and craft stalls. With classic motor vehicle displays, farmers produce markets, street food stands, live music, craft workshops, outdoor activities and even dancing displays, there's plenty of entertainment! wolvertongardenfair.co.uk

The Wight Isle – Classic Ibiza White Party

30 August, Robin Hill (IW)

Get ready to be transported to the sun-soaked shores of Ibiza at the stunning amphitheatre of Robin Hill. This magical evening features two incredible DJs spinning a carefully curated selection of Ibiza's finest tunes, from the laid-back chillout vibes to the pulsating dance anthems that defined an era. As the music flows, be mesmerized by the massive LED wall and a spectacular laser show that will illuminate the night sky.

robin-hill.com



SEPTEMBER

Chicane Sun:Sets

Chicane:Sunsets

5 September, Robin Hill (IW)

Following two sold out nights at the popular Newport venue, Strings Bar & Venue are proud to present Chicane:Sunsets at Robin Hill. Synonymous with Ibiza, sunsets and quality music, Chicane has had a number of hits including, *Offshore* and *Saltwater* and achieved worldwide success with *Don't Give Up* which featured the vocals of Bryan Adams. Now recognised as a dancefloor classic, it was one of the first dance collaboration tracks to reach such heights. This performance will feature two sets throughout the evening in a setting that is certain to provide an incredible experience.

robin-hill.com

Warrior Festival

6–7 September, Robin Hill (IW)

Warrior Festival returns for another year at Robin Hill. Raising vital funds for The Wight Brainy Bunch, a charity that provides support and financial assistance to local families affected by brain tumours. This family friendly festival is fun for all, with live music from a whole host of local Island bands plus an array of food options, bars and sideshows. There is also a large area to keep the younger guests entertained with rides, games, face-painting and inflatables.

robin-hill.com



Isle of Wight Classic Motor Show

6–7 September, Newport Quay (Saturday) and Ryde Esplanade (Sunday) (IW)

Get ready to step back in time and experience the nostalgia of classic automobiles at the Isle of Wight Classic Motor Show! Returning to Newport on Saturday, and Ryde Esplanade on Sunday, this beloved event promises a weekend filled with vintage charm and roaring engines. From sleek motorbikes to elegant cars and sturdy lorries, the Isle of Wight Classic Motor Show boasts an impressive array of vehicles from the golden years of motoring. Whether you're a passionate enthusiast or simply appreciate the beauty of classic design, there's something for everyone at this event.

iwmotorshow.co.uk



Wight Buggin'

12–14 September, Retro Staycations, Ryde (IW)

Further to the incredibly successful event in 2024 and following this year's Spring Buggin' back in May, Wight Buggin' returns, full of family fun and a lovely end-of-season opportunity to hangout with the V-Dubbers. This will be a family-friendly weekend with three nights camping, but also has some superb bands and music acts performing live for everyone's enjoyment, local trade stalls plus bar courtesy of Island Ales and hot food selection courtesy of local traders.

retrostaycations.co.uk



Exclusive Evening Garden Tour at Osborne

16 September, Osborne (IW)

Experience the stunning gardens of Osborne in this rare opportunity to explore the grounds on an exclusive early evening tour with the estate's Head Gardener and their talented team. Gain insight into how the team develops and enhances these wonderful spaces, ensuring their presentation reflects the rich history of the house and grounds.

english-heritage.org.uk

Russell Watson: The Evolution Tour

21 September, Shanklin Theatre (IW)

Russell Watson is the UK's most prolific classical recording artiste ever! His first two recordings, *The Voice* and *Encore* are the top two album sellers of the century, with *The Voice* making him the first and only classical vocalist from these shores to reach one million sales in the UK. He has reached number one status all over the globe and holds platinum album status, from here to Australia.

shanklintheatre.com



Isle of Wight Jazz Weekend

24–28 September, Various locations (IW)

Due to its growing popularity, the Isle of Wight Jazz Weekend makes a welcome return to venues across the Island in 2025. As always, the event has attracted some of the biggest names in the UK jazz scene, with a good mixture of old favourites and new names, and includes Clare Teal, one of the most celebrated jazz singers in the UK

iwjazzweekend.co.uk



Jack Up the 70s with The Zoots

27 September, Shanklin Theatre (IW)

You can't help grooving to The Sounds of the 70s! Dig out your flares and prepare to boogie all night long to the very best of T.Rex, Chic, Sister Sledge, Mud, Earth Wind and Fire, Abba, Boney M, Kool and The Gang, Dolly Parton, Bowie, The Sweet and other amazing Seventies chart toppers!

jackupevents.co.uk



Isle of Wight Steampunk Festival 2025

26–28 September, Ryde (IW)

Following last year's success, there's a feast of Steampunk festivities once again en route to Ryde, including magical music, entertainers, performers, fancy dress funzies for four-legged beasts, and all sorts of jiggery pokery. From mesmerising story tellers to Steampunk face painting, teapot racing and biscuit dunking competitions, there's even the chance to meet Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. Guaranteed fun for the whole family. Embrace your inner inventor and come in your finest steampunk attire, or just as you!

iowsteampunkfestival.co.uk



OCTOBER



Isle of Wight Walking Festival

4–12 October, Various locations (IW)

The second instalment of this year's Isle of Wight Walking Festival takes place in October beneath a canopy of fiery, autumnal changing leaves, offering a chance to discover the best of the Island at this special time of year.

isleofwightwalkingfestival.co.uk

Dash in the Dark

4 October, Seaclose Park (IW)



On your mark, get set, GLOW! Dash in the Dark, the 5K fun run, raising vital funds for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance, returns to The Royal Isle of Wight County Showground. Gather your glow gang and get ready to walk, jog, run or dance your way around this special night time mission. There will be lights, music and plenty of fun along the way, so grab your fluorescent clothing, glow in the dark paint or bring your glow sticks!

hiowaa.org



Isle of Wight Literary Festival

9–12 October, Northwood House (IW)

The festival provides a far reaching eclectic programme. Hosted at Northwood House in Cowes over four days, 60+ writers and presenters, including Sue Barker, Joanne Harris, Prue Leith and Gyles Brandreth, will share their latest works. Topics include crime fiction, history, travel, maritime adventure, gardening, medicine, technology and the social and political issues of our time

isleofwightliteraryfestival.com

Wightrider

11–12 October, The Isle of Wight Bus & Coach Museum (IW)

Organised by the Isle of Wight Bus & Coach Museum, Wightrider allows you to enjoy free classic bus rides to destinations and attractions across the eastern side of the Island over the weekend. Programmes giving full details and timetable available to buy online, with proceeds going towards the museum.

wightrider.co.uk



Beer & Steam

11–12 October, Isle of Wight Steam Railway (IW)

Head to the Isle of Wight Steam Railway's Autumn beer festival for a celebration of beer and steam. Choose from a huge selection of real ales, there are even a few ciders for those with a sweeter tooth. You'll have the opportunity to try local brews from Yates', Goddards and Island Brewery alongside ales from Yorkshire, Somerset and more.

iwsteamrailway.co.uk



Travel information

Download the Wightlink app



Book and manage your trip

View your bookings and get your e-ticket for quick check-in. Amend or cancel your booking. Get directions to the port.



Check sailing status

Use our real time sailing status function to check that ferries are running on time. Check vessel positions on our live maps.



Check timetables

Check ferry times with our live timetable look-up.



Digital ticket passes

Season Ticket and Multilink Pass holders can view their pass, show the QR Code at check-in and keep track on how many trips they have remaining. You can now also top-up within the app.



MyLink

Show your MyLink loyalty card in the app.

Available from the Apple App Store and Google Play or download at wightlink.co.uk/app



Accessible Travel Facilities

Changing Places toilets

If you have limited mobility and you can't use standard accessible toilets, we have Changing Places toilets at our Portsmouth Gunwharf and Ryde Pier Head ports.

The toilets are much larger than a standard room and come equipped with:

- Changing bench
- Height-adjustable washbasin
- Hoist
- Accessible shower
- Peninsular toilet
- Grab rails

For more information on our accessible travel facilities, visit wightlink.co.uk/accessible

Contact us

Don't forget, booking and amendments are free to make yourself online.

If you need to speak to us on the phone about your vehicle or foot passenger booking, our Contact Centre team will be happy to help.

If you give us a call and need to make a booking or make amendments to your ticket, you'll be charged a booking fee.

Visit wightlink.co.uk/contactus or call the Contact Centre on 0333 999 7333

Our lines are open Monday to Friday, 09:00–18:00 and Saturday and Sunday, 09:00–17:00.

During bank holidays, school holidays and festival periods, our Contact Centre can experience a high volume of calls.

Business customers

Visit our Business Hub at wightlink.co.uk/business where our dedicated and managed service will make sure your business needs are met.



**GET LIVE
TIMETABLES
ON OUR APP**



Useful numbers

EMERGENCY SERVICES

For urgent police, ambulance, fire or coastguard services, call 999 or 112.

HEALTH SERVICES

For non-emergency medical matters, call NHS 111.

St Mary's Hospital
01983 822099
iow.nhs.uk

DENTAL TREATMENT

For emergency dental treatment, 08:30–21:30 call NHS 111

GETTING AROUND

Wightlink
0333 999 7333
wightlink.co.uk

Island Line
0345 600 0650
southwesternrailway.com

Travelling between Ryde Pier Head and Shanklin, calling at Brading, Sandown and Lake.

Southern Vectis
0330 0539 182
islandbuses.info

Routes designed to help visitors enjoy the Island.

LEISURE CENTRES

ILeisure
Medina, Newport
01983 823882

The Heights, Lake
01983 823881

Westridge, Ryde
01983 823883
ileisure.co.uk

West Wight Sports Centre
Freshwater
01983 752168
westwight.org.uk

BREAKDOWN COVER

Stag Lane Motors
01983 522443
staglane-motors.co.uk

Bartletts Service Station
01983 865338
bartlettsservicestation.co.uk

James Garage Services
01983 521010
jamesgarageservices.co.uk

Visitor information

Isle of Wight

Visitor Information Centres can be found in the following locations across the Island.

For more details and opening times please visit:
visitisleofwight.co.uk or
f/IWTravelAmbassadors

NORTH

East Cowes Community Library
York Avenue,
East Cowes, PO32 6RU

NORTH EAST

Bembridge Community Library
Church Road,
Bembridge, PO35 5NA

Isle of Wight Steam Railway
Havenstreet, PO33 4DS

Ryde Bus Station
Ryde Esplanade,
Ryde, PO33 2HE

EAST

Brading Railway Station
Station Road,
Brading, PO36 0DY

The Holiday Shop
37 High Street,
Sandown, PO36 8DE

Vernon Cottage
1 Eastcliff Road,
Shanklin, PO37 6AA

SOUTH

Ventnor Exchange
11 Church Street,
Ventnor, PO38 1SW

WEST

Brighstone Village Shop
Main Road,
Brighstone, PO30 4AH

Dimbola Museum & Galleries
Terrace Lane,
Freshwater Bay, PO40 9QE

Yarmouth Harbour Office
The Quay,
Yarmouth, PO41 0NT

CENTRAL

Godshill Village Store
High Street,
Godshill, PO38 3HH

Newport Bus Station
South Street,
Newport, PO30 1LL

VISIT THE

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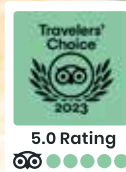
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