

Ride the cultural wave at Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate



Broadstairs – quintessential seaside resort



Quex Park - explore heritage, nature and education



Ramsgate Tunnels – protection during WWII

For group visit ideas and information go to
www.visitthanet.co.uk/groups or call 01843 577577



Viking Bay, Broadstairs

Welcome

The seaside resorts of **Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate**, are situated on the north-eastern coast of Kent. Each has their own character delivering great-value, quality attractions and facilities for the group travel trade.

The area is rich in history and heritage with strong links to great names. See if you agree with **Charles Dickens** who loved to holiday in Broadstairs and described it as 'Our English watering place' and **Augustus Pugin**, designer of the interiors of the Houses of Parliament, lived in Ramsgate in the house he designed 'The Grange'. 2017 sees the opening of the new **Pugin and St Augustine Visitor Centre**, celebrating England's first missionary and remarkable Pugin architecture.

The internationally acclaimed Margate's **Turner Contemporary**, is named after the famous artist **JMW Turner**, who frequently visited the town and described the skies here as 'the loveliest in Europe'. Take a ride through the decades on Gallopers, Big Wheel and Grade II* Scenic Railway alongside arcades, side shows, events and roller disco at 'The UK's original Pleasure Park' **Dreamland**.

Take an indoor safari and discover Major **Powell-Cotton's** extensive world class collection of his African Adventures, alongside a historic house, acres of gardens, farmers market and much more. Or get close to iconic fighter aircraft at the **Spitfire and Hurricane Museum**.



View from Margate Harbour Arm

Why Visit Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate?

- Located just 75 miles (121km) from London and 20 miles (32km) from Dover
- See world-class art at Margate's international art gallery **Turner Contemporary**
- Experience **JMW Turner's Margate (Turner Contemporary, Turner Itinerary)**
- **Dreamland Margate**, UK's original pleasure park
- Explore **Charles Dickens' Broadstairs (Dickens House Museum, Bleak House, annual Dickens Festival)**
- Learn about **AWN Pugin (The Grange, St Augustine's Church, Pugin Town Trail (self-guided walk))**
- Visit the new **Pugin and St Augustine Visitor Centre**
- Discover world class collections at the **Powell-Cotton Museum, Quex House and Gardens**
- **Ramsgate**, the only Royal Harbour and Marina in the country
- Miles of glorious coastline and 15 sandy beaches and bays with more **Blue Flag beaches** than any other district
- Itinerary suggestions – **Pugin's Ramsgate, Frontline Thanet, Beside the Original Seaside, Dickens' Watering Hole and Cultural Thanet**
- Accommodation available for groups

15 sandy beaches and bays with more **Blue Flag beaches** than any other district

01843 577577

visitorinformation@thanet.gov.uk www.visitthanet.co.uk/groups



Credit: Benjamin Beker

Turner Contemporary

See world-class art in a stunning seaside setting

Turner Contemporary is one of the most distinctive galleries in the UK, showcasing the best in contemporary and historical art. Through a rolling programme of temporary exhibitions and events, the gallery offers a space for everyone to embrace their curiosity. Inspired by Britain's best-loved painter, JMW Turner, the gallery is situated on the same site where Turner

stayed when visiting the town, with spectacular views out to sea. Original works by Turner are always on display at the gallery, from a single work to sketchbooks and entire exhibitions. The iconic building, designed by award-winning David Chipperfield Architects, has been voted as a 21st Century landmark by British Airways.

-  Entry to the gallery is free
-  There is a drop-off point outside the gallery and a coach park nearby
-  Special group packages available, including tours, creative sessions, catering and shop discount
-  Turner Contemporary's café serves delicious modern seasonal cuisine, with food and drink sourced locally where possible
-  Tuesday to Sunday and Bank Holidays Autumn/Winter 10am-5pm, Spring/Summer 10am-6pm
-  01843 233000
info@turnercontemporary.org
www.turnercontemporary.org/visit

Dreamland

It's a place where vintage cool holds hands with modern design and goes for a lovely beachside stroll...



-  Free to enter and pay to ride. Peak and off peak wristbands available from as little as £7. See website for full details
 Group discounts available (10% or more) for groups of 15+. Group discounts available for Octopus Garden and Roller Disco
 For a bespoke group booking or quote please email sales@dreamland.co.uk or call 01843 295887
-  Public pay and display car park and coach parking onsite Belgrave Road, Margate CT9 1XG
-  Sign up to their newsletter to be the first to find out about offers, events and more
-  Dreamland has a wide range of delicious food and drink around the park to suit all tastes and budgets
-  Please check the website for times
-  01843 295887
office@dreamland.co.uk
www.dreamland.co.uk

The UK's original pleasure park is full of a host of stylishly restored, recreated and retro-fitted rides and amusements from the Golden Age of British seaside hols. The amusement park is free to enter and pay to ride and for those brave enough there are unlimited ride wristbands available to enable you to make the most out of your day at Dreamland. But there's more to Dreamland than just brilliant retro rides and amusements. It's a place where vintage cool holds hands with modern design and goes for a lovely beachside stroll.

To keep those smiles wide, they've got a great range of food on offer as well as the Dreamland Shop which is selling the best in British Design as well as some perfectly crafted items and souvenirs so you can take a piece of the park home with you.

If that's not enough, why not don some skates and step into the retro Roller Room? With a glamorous backdrop of lights and a swinging soundtrack of music, guests will be whizzing round the floor like a pro.

And if the little ones are looking for something fun to do, the Octopus's Garden boasts a circus tent, beach huts, a potting shed for arts and crafts, sand pits and soft play – plus guests can refuel at the restaurant with a selection of yummy cakes, sandwiches, drinks and lunch boxes.

Finally, they have lined up a host of unmissable events, celebrating the best of British culture, each with that unmistakable Dreamland vibe. All part of the great big happy day and night out that is Dreamland Margate.

Powell-Cotton Museum Quex House and Gardens



There are acres of beautiful informal gardens to explore, including herbaceous borders, exotic trees and a woodland walk

Naturalist, explorer and collector Major PHG Powell-Cotton established a museum in the gardens of Quex House to house his extensive world class collection, consisting of 19th century natural history from Africa and Asia, oriental fine arts, antique furniture, ceramics, weaponry and local archaeology. Quex House is a Regency mansion also open to

the public and proudly displaying fascinating furniture, objet d'art and a beautiful library.

There are acres of beautiful informal gardens to explore, including herbaceous borders, exotic trees, a woodland walk, listed statues and a Victorian Walled Garden. Also at Quex Park, Quex Craft Village and Quex Barn farmers market and restaurant.

£ Visit their website for group rates or to receive a tailor-made quotation for your visit

P Free and unlimited coach parking. Coach drivers receive a complimentary refreshment voucher for £5

Group rates for 20 and over – Adults £7 and Concessions £5

Mama Feelgoods Boutique Café caters for pre-booked groups of up to 100 guests serving delicious homemade dishes from an extensive menu. Afternoon cream teas and the finest selection of tea and coffee are also available. Lunch bookings essential

Museum and Gardens open Mid-January to Mid-December 10am – 5pm (closed on Mondays, except Bank Holidays)

Quex House open from Easter to 31st October yearly 1 – 4pm (closed on Mondays, except Bank Holidays & occasionally closed for wedding functions. Please check in advance of your visit)

01843 842168
enquiries@quexmuseum.org
www.quexpark.co.uk



Hornby Visitor Centre

Fascinating displays about some of the nation's best loved toys, iconic brands of Hornby, Scalextric, Airfix and Corgi.

The Hornby Visitor Centre, features sections dedicated to the iconic treasures from the Company's archives dating back as far as the 1920s, including fascinating displays about some of the nation's best loved toys, with sections dedicated to the iconic brands of Hornby, Scalextric, Airfix and Corgi. Visitors are able to see some stunning model rail layouts and also try their skills on a Scalextric circuit.

£ Group rate for 8 and over – Adults £3.50, Concession £1.75

P Drop off and coach parking onsite. Coach drivers receive free entry

FREE guided tours of the Visitor Centre are available subject to advance booking

Open 7 days a week
10am – 5pm (April – Sept),
10am – 4pm (Oct – March)

01843 233524
visitorcentre@hornby.com
www.hornby.com/visitorcentre



Credit: John Coverdale



Credit: Michael Desbruslais

Pugin and St Augustine Visitor Centre and Shrine

NEW for 2017: the Pugin and St Augustine Visitor Centre in Ramsgate. Come and see the ideal design of Augustus Pugin, the man who designed Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament, at the home of the Gothic Revival

on Ramsgate's clifftop. The church is also the Shrine of St Augustine, the first Archbishop of Canterbury, who landed near here in AD 597. A fascinating historical and active place!

-  Free. Donations welcome
-  Drop off point and coach parking available nearby
-  Range of cafes and restaurants available nearby
-  Daily 10am - 4pm
-  01843 606756
office@augustineshrine.co.uk
www.augustine-pugin.org.uk



Pugin's The Grange

Pugin's contribution to the townscape of Ramsgate brought lasting fame to the town

Restored by Landmark Trust, a Grade I listed house designed and lived in by 19th century architect Augustus Pugin who is best known for the magnificent interiors, furnishings and fittings

of the Houses of Parliament. The Pugin family's contribution to the townscape of Ramsgate brought lasting fame to the town and can be seen from the East Cliff to the West Cliff.

-  Free access to information display in Cartoon Room on Wednesday afternoons. Weekly guided tours of main rooms at The Grange £4 per person
-  Drop off point and coach parking available nearby
-  Range of cafes and restaurants available nearby
-  Open on Wednesday afternoons from 2-4pm or by appointment. Two guided tours for a maximum of 20 people: advance booking essential to secure a place
-  Please book tour places in advance through www.landmarktrust.org.uk or 01843 596401



Credit: Kane Guy

Ramsgate Tunnels

Home to over 1,000 people during the darkest period of WWII

Reopened May 2014, this complex of underground tunnels was home to over 1,000 people during the darkest period of WWII – come and experience how life underground was for them.

Defence of the Nation Education Centre

-  Free entry with suggested donation 50p
-  Wednesday – Sunday 10am – 4pm
-  07591 049788
dotnec.org@gmail.com
www.defenceofthenationeducationcentre.org

Situated within the Ramsgate Tunnels, the museum identifies the Isle of Thanet, its people and its heritage as a location of historical and strategic military importance.



Painting by Denis Smith

Take in the sights and sounds of a working harbour as you walk around the only Royal Harbour in the country. Learn and see more about the town's maritime heritage with a visit to the **Ramsgate Maritime Museum** www.ramsgatemaritimemuseum.org

-  Adult £6.50, Senior £5, Child (3-16 years) £4, Under 3's are Free
-  Drop off point and coach parking available nearby
-  Group visit arranged by prior agreement and advance notice
-  Range of cafes and restaurants available nearby
-  Tours 1st November – 31st March
Wednesday – Sunday 10am, 12pm and 2pm
-  Tours 1st April – 31st October
Wednesday – Friday 10am, 12pm, 2pm and 4pm, Weekends 10am, 12pm, 2pm and 4pm
-  01843 588123
reservations@ramsgatetunnels.org
www.ramsgatetunnels.org



The Spitfire and Hurricane Museum

Bringing history alive for all the family

The Spitfire & Hurricane Museum is a unique site which not only displays the two iconic war planes themselves but also a whole host of objects and artefacts which help tell the story of life in, and around, Ramsgate

during WWII. In addition to the collection, the museum boasts a small shop and a fantastic café which serves teas, coffees and quality hot food. Most important of all, the Allied Air Crew Memorial

- £ Free entry
- P Free onsite coach and car parking
- ☺ Onsite Merlin Café
- 🕒 British Winter time daily 10am – 4pm
- 🕒 British Summer time daily 10am – 5pm
- 📅 Closed Mondays in January and February
- 📞 01843 821940
enquiries@spitfiremuseum.org.uk
www.spitfiremuseum.org.uk

Garden where all visitors are welcome to sit on the benches to relax and reflect in an evocative atmosphere. The Museum offers bespoke educational sessions and can accommodate group or coach bookings.

- £ Adults £2, Child 50p
- P Free onsite coach and car parking
- 🕒 March – October daily 10am-4pm,
November – February Weekends 10am-4pm
- 📞 01843 825224
info@rafmanston.co.uk
www.rafmanston.co.uk

RAF Manston History Museum



Located opposite the Spitfire and Hurricane Museum. Based on the history of the airfield from 1916 with aircraft and artefacts dating back to WWI



Dickens House Museum

Explore Charles Dickens' relationship with Broadstairs through his letters and personal items in the home owned by Mary Pearson Strong who

was the inspiration for Betsey Trotwood in David Copperfield. Also original prints, costumes and Victoriana. Guided tours available.

- £ Adults £4, Child £2
- 🕒 Daily 11am-5pm
- 📞 01843 865338
www.bleakhousebroadstairs.co.uk

Bleak House

Charles Dickens' favourite holiday home and where he wrote David Copperfield. Also features The Smuggling Museum.

Walk around unspoilt and charming Broadstairs and you'll find **Crampton Tower Museum** www.cramptontower.co.uk dedicated to Thomas Crampton, celebrating buses, trams and railwayana. Just outside Broadstairs experience a **St Peter's Village Tour** where costumed characters guide you through village history www.village tour.co.uk War Graves tour available

Explore Charles Dickens' favourite holiday resort

- £ Groups (10 – 25 people)
Adult £3.20, Under 16's £2.10,
Students £2.50
- P Drop off point and coach parking available nearby
- ☺ Range of cafes and restaurants available nearby
- 🕒 2017 season:
Good Friday 14 April to Sunday 11 June 1 – 4.30pm
- 🕒 Saturday 17 June to Sunday 10 Sept 10am – 4.30pm
- 🕒 Monday 11 Sept to Tuesday 31 October 1 – 4.30pm
- 🕒 November Weekends only 1 – 4.30pm
- 📅 Closed Dec – March
- 🕒 2018 season reopen Good Friday 30 March
- 📞 01843 861232
l.ault@btinternet.com
www.dickensmuseumbroadstairs.co.uk





Margate Museum

Learn about Margate's history

Located in the Old Police Station and Magistrates Court learn about Margate's history as part

of the Isle of Thanet, sea-bathing machines, paddle-steamers, shipwrecks and day-trippers

- £ Adult £1.50, School groups and students £1, joint ticket with Tudor House £2.50
- P Drop off point and coach parking available nearby
- ☺ Range of cafes and restaurants available nearby
- 🕒 Weekends all year plus April-September Wednesdays and Bank Holiday Mondays 11am-5pm
Wednesdays during Winter 11.30am-2.30pm
- 📞 01843 231213
info@margatemuseum.org
www.margatemuseum.org

- £ Adult £1.50, School groups and students £1, joint ticket with Margate Museum £2.50
- P Drop off point and coach parking available nearby
- ☺ Range of cafes and restaurants available nearby
- 🕒 Wednesday and Weekends all year and Summer Bank Holidays 11.30am-2.30pm
- 📞 01843 231213
info@margatemuseum.org
www.margatemuseum.org



Tudor House

Thought to be one of the oldest of its kind in Kent, it was built around 1525 and is believed to be the home of a wealthy yeoman farmer

Try to solve the mystery of the **Shell Grotto's** 70ft of winding underground passages decorated with strange symbols mosaiced in millions of shells. To plan your visit see www.shellgrotto.co.uk

EVENTS 2017 and beyond

Why not plan your visit around one of the exciting events in our annual calendar? Below is a sample of some of the larger events taking place this year. For full event information please visit our website www.visitthanet.co.uk



Kashif Nadim Chaudry, Monstrance, 2014. Courtesy the artist



Ramsgate Festival



Broadstairs Food Festival

OCTOBER 2016

JMW Turner: Adventures in Colour, John Akomfrah: Vertigo Sea and Hannah Lees (8 October 2016 – 8 January 2017)
turnercontemporary.org

NOVEMBER 2016

Kashif Nadim Chaudry (19 November 2016 – 31 May 2017)
turnercontemporary.org

JANUARY 2017

Entangled: Threads and Making (28 January – 7 May)
turnercontemporary.org

FEBRUARY 2017

Ramsgate in World War One (1 February – 26 November)
defenceofthenationeducation-centre.org

Broadstairs Blues Bash (17-19)
broadstairsbluesbash.com

GEEK – Festival of games and play (17-19)
geek-play.com

MARCH 2017

Ramsgate's 1st International Film and TV Festival (23-27)
ramsgateiftvfest.org

APRIL 2017

Broadstairs Spring Fair (15-17)
broadstairsfoodfestival.org.uk

MAY 2017

Phyllida Barlow: ARTISTS ROOMS and Michael Armitage: New and recent paintings (27 May – 17 September)
turnercontemporary.org

JUNE 2017

Broadstairs Dickens Festival (17-23)
broadstairsdickensfestival.co.uk

JULY 2017

Ramsgate Festival (22-30)
ramsgatefestival.org

AUGUST 2017

Broadstairs Folk Week (11-18)
broadstairsfolkweek.org.uk

SEPTEMBER 2017

Heritage Open Days (7-10)
visitthanet.co.uk

Broadstairs Food Festival (29 September – 1 October)
broadstairsfoodfestival.org.uk

OCTOBER 2017

Jean Arp: The Poetry of Forms; Tracey Emin, My Bed and JMW Turner, Petworth (7 October 2017 – 14 January 2018)
turnercontemporary.org

Screamland (13,14,20,21,27 & 28)
dreamland.co.uk/screamland

NOVEMBER 2017

Quexmas – Christmas Fair (26)
quexpark.co.uk

How to get here

The seaside towns of Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate are situated on the north-eastern coast of Kent and can be easily reached from London and mainland Europe via good road, rail, ferry and Eurotunnel services.



Coach Parking

Margate

Dreamland, Margate (CT9 1XG)
4 hours – £10, 24 hours - £20
Margate Lido (CT9 1RX)
All day £7

Broadstairs

Joss Bay, Broadstairs (CT10 3PG)
Prices 1 April – 31 October
4 hours – £10, 24 hours - £20
Vere Road, Broadstairs (CT10 1JF)
Prices 1 April to 31 October
4 hours – £10, 24 hours - £20
Prices 1 November - 31 March
Up to 24 hours - £10
30 minutes drop off - £1 (all year)
Millennium Way, Broadstairs (CT10 2LA)
Free on street parking

Ramsgate

Port of Ramsgate (CT11 9FT)
£18 per 24 hours or part thereof
by prior arrangement with Port Security tel 01843 587661
Until 31st March 2017

Limited on-street parking at Victoria Parade (CT11 8DU) and Royal Esplanade (CT11 0HE)

Villages

Minnis Bay, Birchington (CT7 9QR)
Prices 1 April – 31 October
4 hours – £10, 24 hours - £20

Prices shown are 2016/17

- M25 links to M26, M20, M2 then A299 into Thanet
- St. Pancras International Station, London to Ramsgate – 75 minutes
- Ferry services into Dover (approx 20 miles/32 km from Ramsgate)
- Eurotunnel into Folkestone (approx 30 miles/42 km from Ramsgate)

Planning to bring your group to our beaches & bays?



To help plan your group visit and keep safe on our beaches and bays, please take a look at this useful information

www.visitthanet.co.uk/group-travel/group-beach-info



Sunrise over Ramsgate Royal Harbour

We can provide assistance with itinerary planning and destination literature. Free images for tour planners', website and promotional material are available on request.

For more information, group visit ideas, accommodation and to sign up to receive our newsletter visit our website
www.visitthanet.co.uk/groups or call 01843 577577

Included within this brochure is just a snapshot of what there is available in Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate for group visits with lots more information on the area available on our website

For group visit ideas and information go to
www.visitthanet.co.uk/groups
or call **01843 577577**

